



Voices of St. James —

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

REPORT FROM FR. ROGÉRIO

Dear friends,

Since I arrived in Canada in July 2023, I have come to observe and appreciate the seasons of the year even more deeply. Having now gone through three winters, I am beginning to better understand why we need to make the most of spring and summer. Winter, of course, is a season well suited for quietness and reflection — something that closely resonates with Lent.

On the other hand, the joy and renewed energy of “coming out of our shelters” that arrives with spring also echoes the joy that the Resurrection brings us. Have you ever thought about that? Winter connects with Lent: a time of silence and reflection. Spring, however, speaks of Easter, of new life, of going out and proclaiming the Good News.

I praise God for these simple reflections and for the beauty of each season — both in nature and in the liturgical calendar — as they help us better understand the movement of our own lives.

In this spirit, I invite you to contemplate the beauty of creation, even in a simple wildflower, and to praise God through Jesus for giving us a new opportunity to begin again. After all, as we know: if we have died with Him, we will also rise with Him.



Let us be grateful for all that we are and all that we have. But especially in this springtime, let us reflect on the joy and the lessons this season brings, as we rejoice in the Resurrection we are celebrating. Yes, the birds are singing again, the colors of the flowers are returning — it is Easter! Alleluia! He is risen!

I conclude with gratitude for all that we have walked through so far, and for all that lies ahead, guided by the One who calls us each day to become a little better. Our Bicentennial celebrations are approaching — a time to give thanks for a legacy of light, while moving forward with active hope, leading our church into its third century as beacons of hope here in Kemptville and beyond.

For all this, thanks be to God.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Rogério de Assis, incumbent



Voices of St. James –

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

THE FRIENDSHIP LUNCH

Report not submitted.

David Finnie, Friendship Lunch Coordinator

200TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING GROUP

The 200th Anniversary Planning Committee is continuing to meet and set event dates, and a list of the events currently scheduled is in this newsletter. The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 23, from 7 - 8 pm, at the church. As the events come up, we will be asking for volunteers to help. One thing that everyone can help us with at the present time is gathering names and addresses for former parishioners. If you are still in contact with former members, please email their names and addresses to Martha at tim.martha.smith@gmail.com. Thanks for your help!

BICENTENNIAL EVENTS

MAY 10, 2026 BISHOP WILLIAM CLIFF TO OPEN OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

MAY 16, 2026 STRINGS & IVORY CONCERT, 7-8:30PM, TICKETS AVAILABLE, DAVID FINNIE CHAIR

MAY 30, 2026 ART IN THE CHURCH PAINTING & SKETCHING EVENT, 10AM – 4PM, BILL KILFOYLE CHAIR

JUNE 7, 2026 EVENSONG, 7PM

JUNE 21, 2026 PARISH BBQ, AFTER THE 10:30AM SERVICE

JULY 19, 2026 SERVICE ON THE LAWN AT CHRIST CHURCH, BURRITTS RAPIDS FOLLOWED BY A POTLUCK PICNIC

AUG 23, 2026 BLUE SKY SERVICE AND PARISH PICNIC AT RIDEAU PROVINCIAL PARK (rain date Aug. 30)

SEPT 6, 2026 EVENSONG, 7PM

SEPT 13, 2026 CEMETERY MEMORIAL SERVICE, 10:30AM

SEPT 19, 2026 BRAZILIAN BBQ FUNDRAISER

NOV 21, 2026 ACW BAZAAR, 9AM-2PM



Voices of St. James —

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

JANUARY GUEST SPEAKER

FEBRUARY GUEST SPEAKER

MARCH GUEST SPEAKER

APRIL PARISH DINNER

MAY 15, 2027 BICENTENNIAL TEA

MAY 30, 2027 CLOSING SERVICE FOR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS.

Martha Smith, Deputy Warden

ECCO QUARTERLY REPORT.(APRIL 2026)

Since January the Entertainment Coordination and Community Outreach committee (ECCO) has held monthly meetings to discuss upcoming plans for the Stew Sunday March 15th and the Strings and Ivory Concert May 16th.

The March 15th warming stew Sunday was a great success with 6 Crock Pots of stew prepared by Robert Angi, Josie Butler, David Finnie, Mandy Nicholls, and Annette Caldwell and buns from Sharon Parkes and Diana Finnerty and desserts from Josie Butler and Frank Forbes. A big thank goes out to you to all.

Starting in mid-April the ECCO team will be setting up posters, canvassing sponsors and selling tickets for the St. James Anglican Church 200th Anniversary Concert scheduled for May 16th at 7pm. Tickets are 25.00 per person and are available from Brewed Awakenings, B&H and all members of the ECCO Team- Mandy Nicholls, David Finnie, Robert Angi, Jim Chapman and Rose Marie Hustins.

ECCO is also looking into creating a St. James Jigsaw Puzzle to be sold as a fundraiser for the 200th Anniversary. Options for the design of the puzzle will be available to view and vote on by the end of May. For the rest of the year ECCO will be supporting other 200th Anniversary events such as the Blue Sky Service and Picnic in August, the Brazilian BBQ in September and the Speaker Series starting in January 2027.

Mandy Nicholls, ECCO Chair

WARDENS REPORT FOR EASTER AND SPRING

Report not submitted.

Vanessa Skelton, Martha Smith, Stephen Willets and Terry Nicholls, Wardens

LAYREADERS

Report not submitted.

*Humbly submitted in the name of our risen, and Saviour
Frank Forbes, Heather Hyland and John Lindsay.*



Voices of St. James —

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Report not submitted.

Margaret Greenwood, Sunday School Teacher

MEN'S STUDY GROUP

The men of St. James have had a very positive and encouraging start to the new year. Our meetings every week have included discussions on various readings from scripture Things to do with knowledge, understanding and wisdom, the true definition of love and what does the bible have to say about world events. Other subjects we entertain might include how to fix a car, how tired we can get of shoveling snow and favorite pastimes, sports and anything else guys like to talk about.

We're looking forward to a joint breakfast with the men's group of the St. Lawrence parish in Brockville in early May, as well as beginning our New Commandment ministry helping those in need of a little assistance with household chores on the weekends.

We meet every Saturday morning at 8:00 at the church. The men of St. James are all most welcome to join us as you are able.

***Men's Study Group Coordinators,
Jim Chapman and Bill Haldenby***

ENVELOPE SECRETARY

On a weekly basis, Graeme and myself count the Sunday cash and cheque collection donations. This enables Graeme to deposit the balanced donations in the bank, and I can enter the individual amounts in the Donation software to generate and provide income tax receipts at the end of the year.

Carole Perkins, Envelope Secretary

P/T PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

As the p/t Parish Administrator, my duties vary from day to day and year to year. To summarize my various responsibilities, I input the envelope donations weekly into a database, which is used to generate your income tax receipts. This year I collected the information from the Parish groups to prepare the Vestry report. I have now created this newsletter from info from the various groups and designed the layout. Monthly, I prepare a church calendar for Rev. Rogério, and weekly I prepare the slides for the church service. On an as needed basis, I am responsible for the PAG program, adding, revising or deleting parishioner's requests. If anyone is in need of a name tag, I'm your contact. As well I add, revise or remove information from the Parish List. I prepare the Proclaimer's List and at the beginning of the New Year, I generate your income tax receipts. As well I pick up the mail at the post office and distribute accordingly.

Carole Perkins, P/T Parish Administrator



Voices of St. James —

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

FROM THE ALTAR GUILD:

The role of the Altar Guild is to prepare the altar for worship each and every Sunday. Part of this ministry is to help support the priest in preparing the altar for Eucharist and decorate the church for our major holidays and events. Preparing for weddings, baptisms and funerals is also a function of the Altar Guild's ministry.

Have you ever noticed that the communion veil, banners and hangings also change colour with the liturgical season? Have you wondered why there are no flowers on the altar during Lent and Advent? There are so many Anglican church traditions that are learned through participation in the Altar Guild and can help you glean a deeper understanding of the Anglican faith and the symbolism behind it.

At the 2024 Vestry meeting in 2025, it was brought to the attention of the congregation that the Altar Guild was functioning with 8 members. At that time, four people volunteered and which helped to ease the burden on the team. Since that time, we have lost three members and are essentially in the same position as we were a year ago.

To function effectively, we need a total of 12 Altar Guild team members. Each team of three people would be responsible for one Sunday a month. Occasionally, there are five Sundays in a month. (This occurs 4x/year, showing how great God is at math!) Each team takes responsibility for one of these fifth Sundays.

Having 12 members of the team would easily divide the work. Less members mean more work and increased responsibility. Last Sunday's unfortunate example is a direct result of not having enough people to fully support the Altar Guild. The addition of 3-4 more dedicated people can help us to share the load and minimize the risk of the altar being unprepared. The time commitment is not heavy. Perhaps an hour to prepare before church (usually Friday or Saturday) and about 30 minutes after the service. If you feel that you have this kind of time to support this essential church ministry, please speak with Jo-Anne Black.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Black, Altar Guild Coordinator,

sjblackrn@gmail.com

613-614-9364

ST. JAMES'S OPERATIONAL FINANCIAL UPDATE

During the first quarter of 2026, the financial performance of the St. James operational budget has generally followed the donation and expense cycle of previous years. We have experienced an income reduction of \$899.57 over the same quarter of 2025. However, our expenses have risen by \$19,366.65 over the same quarter of 2025. This has resulted in an operational deficit of \$14,407.95 for the first quarter of 2026.

To provide a context on donations, we will spend at least \$ 8,733.29 per month just to cover the cost of priestly services in 2026 or \$26,199.87 for the first three months of 2026.. So far the entire income of the parish for the first three months of 2026 is \$1,254.41 less than that required to pay that one expense alone. Nothing for heat, light, water, music, administration, supplies, CMM, or insurance. All these other expenses must be covered from our local cash reserve which is now ~\$14,500.00 less than it was at the beginning of the year. We can still look



Voices of St. James – EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

forward to a bill for ~\$13,000.00 for insurance. To sum up, we receive an average of \$10,158.68 per month (including investment income) and spend an average of \$13,325.70 per month – a 23.8% shortfall in income.

The status of active fund centers as of 31 Mar 2026 is as follows:

	01 Jan 2026	Income	Expenses	Balance
ACW	\$ 3,232.24	\$ 250.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,482.24
Altar Guild	\$ 2,299.37	\$ 455.00	\$ 175.84	\$ 2,578.53
Capital	\$ 11,379.29	\$ 3,711.95	\$ 674.81	\$ 14,416.43
Cemetery	\$ 2,964.40	\$ 300.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,264.40
ECCO	\$ 4,422.60	\$ 9,375.00	\$ 14,395.99	\$ -598.39*
*Note: There is a deposit for the gift card program of \$1,150.00 still to be deposited that will bring the ECCO balance back to \$551.69.				
Ops (Income VS Expenses):		\$ 25,241.73	\$ 39,649.68	\$ -14,407.95
Ops (2026)	\$ 31,608.12	\$ 25,241.73	\$ 39,649.68	\$ 17,200.17

ACW

Report not submitted.

Annette Caldwell, ACW President

CEMETARY

Report not submitted.

Robert Angi, Cemetery Chair

HOSPITALITY

Report not submitted.

Colleen Sampson, Hospitality Coordinator

PROPERTY COMMITTEE QUARTERLY REPORT

- Exterior door trim to be refinished. Colour swatches to be placed at back of church (4 to choose from);
- Sacristy renovations to resume and be completed over the summer;
- ACW room in basement to be enclosed with door entrance;
- New stopper installed in Font. Water will not drain away now during Baptisms;
- Investigating replacing all building fire extinguishers;
- Altar carpet repaired. Tripping hazard eliminated;
- In process of acquiring quotes for interior lighting (bulb replacement);
- Eavestrough repair to commence, weather permitting, at south corner of roof;
- Looking at installing middle handrail on stairs leading to main entrance;
- Looking at installing weatherstripping on all outside doors.

Terry Nicholls, Property Committee Chair



Voices of St. James —

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

NEW COMMANDMENT MINISTRY

Report not submitted.

Bill Haldenby, New Commandment Ministry Chair

TECH

Report not submitted.

*Andrew McNeil and Terry Nicholls,
Tech Group Coordinators*

Please take a moment to reflect on our beloved parishioners who are no longer with us. Please remember and keep in our prayers.



Voices of St. James –

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

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Voices of St. James —

EASTER/SPRING EDITION 2

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