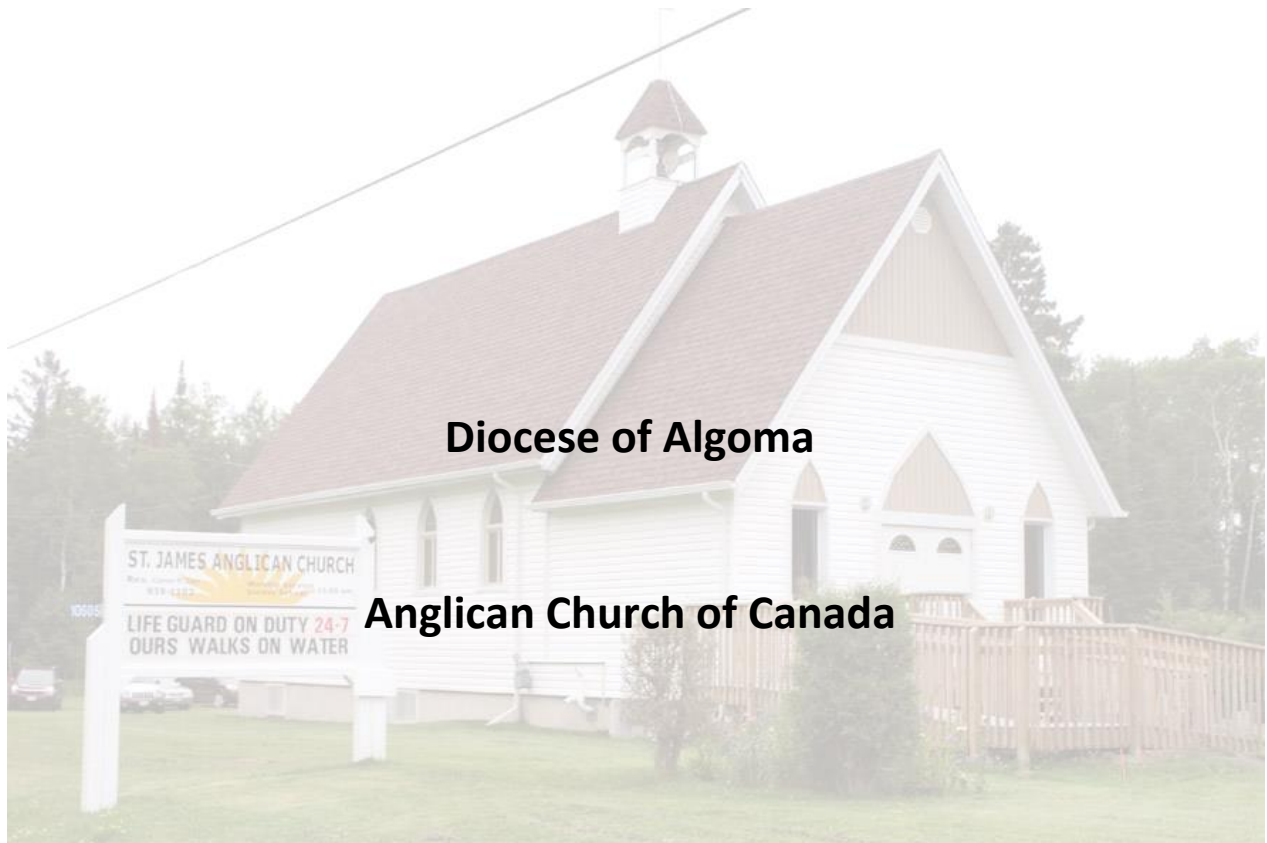


The Parish of West Thunder Bay

**St. Mark's
St. James**

Parish Profile

Summer 2020



Diocese of Algoma

Anglican Church of Canada

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Our Churches.....	5
The Rectory.....	7
History.....	8
Financial Summary.....	8
Ministries.....	9
Community Outreach.....	10
Parish Activities.....	12
Future and Vision.....	13

The Parish of West Thunder Bay

Introduction

Fueled by the flame of God, surrounded by the love of Jesus and consumed by the Holy Spirit, we strive to demonstrate our *Country Warmth in Christ* to all.

The Parish of West Thunder Bay is a two-point parish, home to St. Mark's and St. James' churches. The parish is located in the Township of Oliver Paipoonge on the western edge of the City of Thunder Bay, in Northwestern Ontario. Oliver Paipoonge is primarily a rural residential area with a population of 6000 and 2065 households. It is the most westerly parish within the Diocese of Algoma.

During the summer months of July and August, we merge our services, alternating locations weekly. The services are well attended by members of both churches and are followed by fellowship gatherings. The Parish also enjoys joint services in the months having five Sundays.

The Parish prides itself as one congregation, as St. Mark's and St. James' members will participate and help at either locations events and services. We consider ourselves to be a church family and it shows in the way in which we engage with one another. We also are happy to welcome attendees from communities from further away who are drawn to our country warmth.

Oliver Paipoonge is known as a great place to live and do business as well as being a popular tourism destination for families, artists, nature lovers, history buffs and anyone looking for a getaway. Renowned for its farmland, rivers and rolling hills, Oliver Paipoonge contains several communities within its boundaries including Kakabeka Falls (home of the "Niagara of the North"), Murillo, Rosslyn, Slate River Valley and Stanley.

Located on the north shore of Lake Superior, under the protective watch of the Sleeping Giant, Thunder Bay is the largest community on the lake. With a population of 109,000, it is also the most populous municipality in Northwestern Ontario. The 4th Annual Demographia International Housing Affordability Survey ranked Thunder Bay number one out of 227 international cities in major urban markets for affordable housing.

The City of Thunder Bay provides a balance of services that improves the quality of life of its residents and supports the local economy in a responsible manner. From parks and recreation to transportation, clean drinking water or waste management, Thunder Bay strives to live up to its motto, Superior By Nature.

St. Mark's is in Rosslyn Village, 5 km. from the western limit of the City of Thunder Bay. The village is a bedroom community featuring a large community centre, museum, hardware and convenience stores, a museum. Numerous new housing developments have been established in the area between the Village and the neighbouring city.

St. James' is on the outskirts of the Village of Murillo, about 20 km. from St. Mark's and 20 km. west of the City of Thunder Bay. Murillo is home to, a community centre, school, and numerous small businesses. Housing has developed throughout the region surrounding this community.

The rectory for the parish is located in the heart of the Village of Rosslyn, directly across from St. Mark's. The neighbourhood is safe, quiet and attractive.

An all-brick, three-bedroom bungalow that is 2,000 square feet in size, the rectory features one and a half baths, a separate den or office and a large open-concept kitchen, dining room and living room. There is a full basement with one finished room, a separate laundry area and plenty of storage. Heating is supplied by a gas-heated hot water boiler system.

Appliances include a stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer and dryer. There is also a large two-car garage beside the house. The property has its own well and septic system.

The rectory is currently leased until fall, 2020; however, the tenants may opt to leave earlier provided they give 60 days' notice. The rectory housing allowance is \$800/month.

Our Mission Statement is:

The Parish of West Thunder Bay exists to proclaim, celebrate and be a living witness to God in Jesus Christ.
It strives to meet the needs of the community by providing a nurturing, caring environment, strengthened by commitment and faith through the power of The Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Financial responsibilities for the parish are as follows:

St. Mark' 67 %
St. James' 33 %

The Parish Budget for 2020:\$114,850

Average Sunday Attendance 2019 (January - September)

St. Mark's: 24 St. James': 16

Our Churches

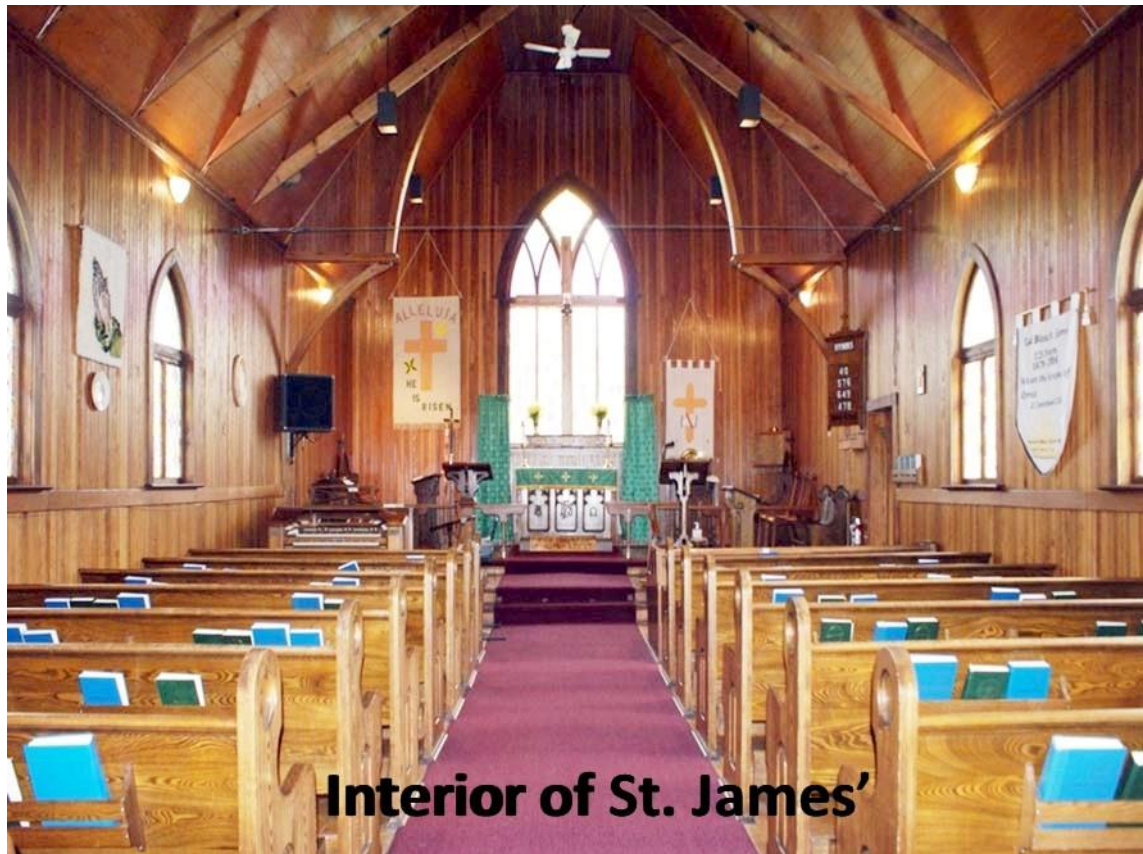


St. Mark's



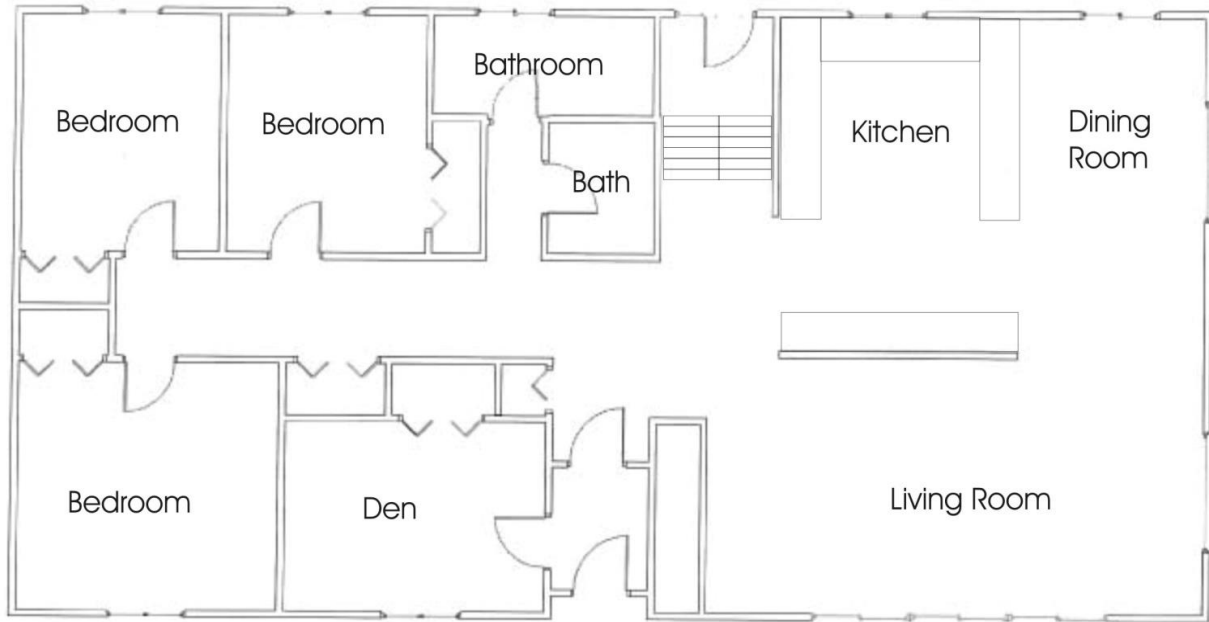
Interior of St. Mark's

St. James'



Interior of St. James'

The Rectory



Parish History

The Parish of West Thunder Bay is a two-point parish, home to St. Mark's and St. James' churches. The parish is in the Township of Oliver Paipoonge on the western edge of the City of Thunder Bay, in Northwestern Ontario. It is the most westerly parish within the Diocese of Algoma.

The first service for what is now known as the Parish of West Thunder Bay was held in the home of Isaac Ryde, Oliver Township, by Rev. J. K. McMorine of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Port Arthur, in 1879. In 1884 St James was built with area for a cemetery.

Outstations were formed at Slate River and Stanley in 1898 followed by the opening of the Church of the Advent in Hymers, the Church of the Good Shepherd in Slate River Siding (Rosslyn Village) and the Mission of Kakabeka Falls in 1912.

Two new churches joined the Parish. First the Church of the Messiah was established in Kakabeka in 1937. St Mary's in 1945 in Vickers Heights. St. Mark's Anglican Church, Rosslyn Village, as we know it now, had its in 1953. In 1958, the West Thunder Bay Mission became the self-supporting Parish of West Thunder Bay.

Due to its location in a hazard area, St. Mary's, Vickers Heights, was closed in 1982. In 1987, the Church of the Messiah closed due to the decline in the number of parishioners. The building was later moved to the Founder's Museum, a pioneer village. Finally, in 2008 The Good Shepard closed in Slate Valley. Demographics and building closures have changed the Parish to currently be with two church buildings, as the Parish of West Thunder Bay being a two point Parish.

Financial Summary Over the Last Five Years

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Income	\$ 104,027.00	\$ 106,881.00	\$ 104,419.00	\$ 97,367.00	\$ 119,265.00
Expenses	\$ 90,265.00	\$ 94,232.00	\$ 104,971.00	\$ 101,083.00	\$ 109,977.00

2020 Parish of West Thunder Bay Ministries

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

- two organists (one at each church)
- organists share responsibilities throughout the year (filling in for one another as needed, Advent, Christmas, Easter, sing song get togethers)
- occasionally joined by musicians (soloists and groups) for special events
- both contemporary and traditional music are enjoyed by the congregation

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

- weekly Children's Time led by the Rector is enjoyed by the children and congregation
- based on the week's lectionary
- offered by both churches based on fluctuation of child attendance
- pageants for Christmas and sometimes Epiphany are prepared (all ages welcome to participate)

LECTIONARY READERS:

- many parishioners participate in the weekly services as lectionary readers
- annual schedule is prepared ahead of time to allow for preparation and thought around the assigned scriptures

SERVERS:

- although there are currently no youth servers at the present time, it is a high priority to once again involve our young people in this ministry

EUCCHARISTIC ASSISTANTS AND LAY READERS:

- currently each church has one lay reader
- currently each church has one eucharistic assistant
- the goal is to have a lay reader at each worship to participate as an assistant to deliver the Prayers of the People
- occasionally may deliver the homily
- occasionally may officiate a service of Morning Prayer
- always looking for and encouraging more people to become involved

PASTORAL VISITING:

- the family nature of the Parish has negated the need for formal visiting teams
- this is performed by the ministry by simply being kind neighbours and exhibiting Country Warmth
- requests for home visits and personal phone calls from the rector or a church representative are always welcome and honoured
- lifting spirits in a time of need

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK:

- supports families within the rural area bounded by the City of Thunder Bay
- in the east to Upsala
- in the west and south to the US Border
- showing our support by volunteering as well as food and monetary donations
- it is our hope, that in doing so, the Parish of West Thunder Bay will become more visible and better known in the communities in which we live

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP:

- averages between 18-25 men
- meet ups on the third Saturday of the month beginning at 8:30 a.m
- starting with morning prayer led by the rector and breakfast at 9:00 a.m
- followed by a guest speaker
- a free will offering is collected and funds are distributed to various missions

GRACE PLACE:

- Grace Place is a street mission located in one of the poorest areas of Thunder Bay
- as a result of an assessment process book study in September of 2013, we entered into an agreement with the Grace Place pastors to provide a meal for the hungry
- 3rd Monday of each month (excluding July and August)
- the volunteers noticed how strong the Spirit is during this time of working together
- the work is hard and tiring but well worth it

MISSION TO SEAFARERS:

- the Mission building is a place of refuge where seafarers can visit, enjoy coffee and snacks, use a computer or telephone to keep in touch with their families and find comfort in the onsite Chapel
- most of the seafarers are from warmer climates therefore do not have proper winter attire, used clothing is distributed as needed
- our parish contributes cookies and clothing to this effort

RECYCLING AND COLLECTIBLES:

- trying to do our part for the environment
- many items are collected and recycled
- saving room in our landfill sites as well as collecting money for outreach initiatives

COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICE:

- monthly church services are provided at Hogarth Riverview long-term care residence

DEANERY BAR-BEQUE:

- each summer all churches come together to host the Deanery Day Picnic
- By hosting a bar-beque at the Thunder Bay Shelter House
- a day of fun and food for the hungry
- about 200 people are served
- our parish provides the delicious “secret recipe” lemonade (made with country warmth)

CAMP GITCHIGOOMEE:

- the parish provides support for this youth ministry by participating in the annual bake sale
- assisting in its ongoing maintenance projects
- in the past, our Parish designed and constructed a new canoe storage building and a double camper cabin

KARATE:

- chowa dojo
- takes place in St. Mark’s basement
- hosted by Sensei Rob Purdon, Sensei Karen Holroyd and Sensei Kevan Holroyd, all three rank Sandan (third degree black belt) in Isshinryu
- assisted by Sensei Keira Purden who ranks Nidan (second degree black belt)
- follow Hanshi Albert Mandy who ranks Kudan (ninth degree black belt)
- affiliated with Isshinryu Karate International
- classes held Monday’s from 7-8pm and students are welcome to stay from 8-9pm while instructors train
- not for profit, however, were able to contribute to the operation of the parish

PARISH ACTIVITIES

THE KELLEY HANNAH MEMORIAL FUND:

- established by Chad and Roberta Hannah in loving memory of their daughter
- in support of St. Mark's youth (birth-24) presenting physical, emotional, financial, or spiritual need within the church community
- in recognition of Kelley's love for children and building close and meaningful relationships

CEMETERY SPIRIT WALK AT ST. JAMES' CHURCH:

- community gathering
- history about the people known to be laid to rest in the cemetery
- followed by an evening service and a time of fellowship

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE EVENING:

- the rural community loves attending the pancake supper at St. James' annually
- pancakes, sausage and fruit are served
- in preparation for Lent

PARISH WORSHIP COMMITTEE:

- a committee brainstorms ideas for worship during special church seasons
- this includes the rector, lay readers, organists and wardens

Vision and Future

The Parish of West Thunder Bay has as its Mission Statement to proclaim, celebrate and be a living witness to God in Jesus Christ. It strives to meet the needs of the community by providing a nurturing, caring environment, strengthened by commitment and faith through the power of The Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. We strive to fulfill our mission by:

- Offering meaningful and fulfilling worship
- Providing education for all who seek to learn
- Serving our parish and our communities through outreach
- Sharing fellowship

We have demonstrated that we have both the human and physical resources to move our parish forward. We now seek to work with a leader who can help us to grow even stronger, especially in the following areas:

- Grow our youth programs, especially a vibrant Sunday School
- Attract new, younger families
- Appeal to those who have only a nominal connection to the church
- Reach into the community in a more recognizable way
- Have more “Christ-mases” (celebratory events)
- Plan and implement a program to visit present, former and potential parishioners
- Make use of the resources that we have access to e.g. Camp Gitchigoomee

To achieve this, we are seeking a spirit-filled rector who offers:

- Good business and people skills
- Strong theological training
- An ability to use all available resources to grow the church
- The ability to connect with all age groups
- Excellent communication skills
- Open mindedness and a willingness to explore and implement new endeavors
- The ability to blend the traditional with the new

Like many parishes, our congregation is in a season of change.

For our Parish to grow we strive to meet the needs of our church community by providing a nurturing, caring environment, strengthened by commitment and faith through the power of The Holy Spirit within our current congregation. With the greater goal to develop renewed strategies to bring our country warmth in Christ to the community of Rosslyn, Murillo, Oliver Paipoonge, and the greater areas of Northwestern Ontario.

Together, we believe we can continue to achieve our Mission.