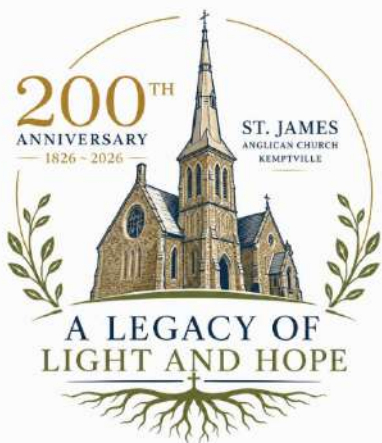




PRAYER FOR OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR:

O Lord God, the keeper of all our days,
We give you thanks and praise for all the ways
You have watched over and cared for St. James' parish.
May we continue to serve in your name;
Steadfastly proclaim your goodness;
And readily testify to all your blessings;
So all the world may come under your loving banner.
This we ask through Jesus Christ the Lord,
Who with the Holy Spirit is ever One God, world without end.
Amen.

St James News & Notes, Friday, September 4, 2026

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 6, HOLY EUCHARIST, 8:00am and 10:30am

Readings: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

MID-WEEK HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE, Wednesday, September 9, 10:30am

LITANY OF RECONCILIATION, every Friday, 12noon at the Church Doors.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday – Friday, 9am – 1pm

FROM THE RECTOR:

What Does It Mean to Be a Good Christian?

We live in a time when we often confuse being a Christian with belonging to a church, knowing the Bible, defending a particular doctrine, or correctly following certain religious practices. All of these things may have value. But is that really what defines a good Christian?

The theologian Leonardo Boff, in his book *Christianity at Its Minimum*, invites us to return to the essentials of faith. When we set aside what has been added throughout history—structures, traditions, disputes, customs, and differences between groups—we can ask: what remains absolutely essential to Christianity?

The answer leads us back to Jesus.

Being a Christian means, above all, learning to live as Jesus lived: with compassion, mercy, justice, simplicity, and love. It means looking at others not as people who need to be judged, but as people who need to be welcomed. It means recognizing the pain around us and refusing to remain indifferent to it.

Jesus summarized the entire Law in two commandments: love God and love your neighbor. Perhaps this is the true “minimum of the minimum” of our faith. Not a minimum in the sense of a poor or superficial faith, but the essential foundation that gives meaning to everything else.

We may know many things about the Bible and still not know how to love. We may attend church every Sunday and remain indifferent to the suffering of those around us. We may defend our religious convictions with great enthusiasm while forgetting kindness, forgiveness, and compassion.

Therefore, perhaps the most important question is not, “Am I a good religious person?” but: “Does the way I live reveal something of Jesus?”

A good Christian is not a perfect person. A good Christian is someone willing to continually learn the way of love. It is someone who acknowledges their mistakes, asks for forgiveness, forgives others, begins again, and seeks to turn faith into concrete actions.

Being a Christian also means caring for life: caring for people, the most vulnerable, the community, and creation itself. Faith cannot remain confined within the walls of a church. It must leave through the door with us and appear in the way we treat our families, neighbors, coworkers, strangers, and even those who think differently from us.

Perhaps this is the great challenge for us today: to return to the essentials without losing depth.

We need less judgment and more mercy. Less religious competition and more service. Less concern with proving that we are right and more willingness to love. Fewer words about God and more actions that make God’s love visible in the world.

In the end, perhaps being a good Christian is something very simple and, at the same time, very difficult: to love as Jesus taught us to love.

And perhaps that is precisely where true Christianity begins.

The Reverend Rogério de Assis, M.Ed .

NOTE FROM FR. ROGÉRIO:

Beloveds,

Our friend Richard Bole will be helping me as a Lay Reader starting this coming Sunday, until John returns or another person is interested in this ministry.

I am very grateful for Richard’s willingness to serve, and I ask for your prayers and

support.



Fr. Rogério is always available for pastoral visits, either in home or in hospital. He can be reached at revrogerio.assis@gmail.com, or (437) 299-5057.

✠ FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

Choir practice will start this Wednesday, September 9th, at 7 pm in the chancel. Everyone is welcome. Speak with Wendy Earl for more information.



Our Bible Study Program is starting!

Beginning on September 10 at 7:00 p.m., our Bible Study will meet every second and fourth Thursday of each month.

We will use a method called Indaba, a model of respectful and participatory conversation developed within the Anglican Communion and highlighted through the Lambeth Conference. This approach gives everyone an opportunity to participate, listen to one another, and share their thoughts and reflections on Scripture.

Each session we will study the Gospel reading appointed for the coming Sunday. This will give us the opportunity to go deeper into the Gospel, hear different perspectives, and prepare our hearts and minds for our Sunday worship.



Everyone is welcome! Come, listen, share, and grow together in faith.



First meeting: Thursday, September 10

Gospel Reading Conversation: Matthew 18: 21-35

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: St. James Anglican Church

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." — Psalm 119:105

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

At our meeting this week, the wardens and rector discussed the new St. James Parish website, www.stjameskemptville.com. Take an opportunity to look it over and make use of the information on it!

We were excited to learn that the Brazilian BBQ has been sold out. This will be a wonderful opportunity for fellowship as well as a fundraiser for our parish. The plans are well underway for this event.

We re-visited the proposal to add a handrail to the middle of the backdoor entrance stairs. In accordance with provincial AODA legislation (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) and with the diocesan policy of making our churches safe and accessible to all, we unanimously voted to install the handrail. We have directed the Property Committee to seek quotes for this project and undertake the work. The Toonie Tube donations will be designated to help with the expense of this project.

In the absence of any new business for PAC, we decided to postpone the September PAC meeting to November. Monthly financial news will appear in the News & Notes, and anyone requiring further financial information can contact the treasurer with questions until the next PAC meeting.

200TH ANNIVERSARY JIGSAW PUZZLES

Get your orders in for the St James 200th Anniversary puzzle.
At the back of the Church you will find a sign-up sheet, more details, and two sample pictures to choose from -- or get both!

Each 500-piece puzzle is \$35.00 with \$5.00 going to the St. James 200th Anniversary fund.

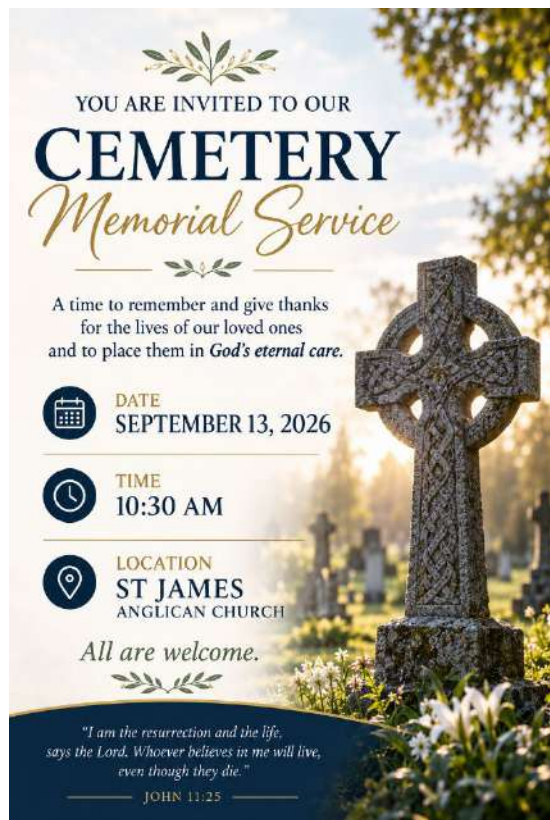
Deadline October 1 for payment and orders.

A fabulous gift idea for Christmas, Birthdays or a thank you gift.

FROM THE TREASURER:

	01 August	Income	Expense	31 August
ACW:	\$ 4,550.83	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 977.89	\$ 4,572.94
Altar Guild:	\$ 2,319.06	\$ 0.00	\$ 63.98	\$ 2,286.44
Capital:	\$ 586.43	\$ 0.00	\$ 11.71	\$ 574.72
Cemetery:	\$ 3,363.21	\$ 0.00	\$ 749.25	\$ 2,613.96
ECCO:	\$ 646.89	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 646.89
Operations:	\$ 41,205.09	\$ 8,839.34	\$ 16,036.58	\$ 34,007.85
PWRDF	\$ 670.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 670.00

The church deficit appears to be holding steady around \$ 69,000.00 for 2026. Income is up about \$ 9,000.00 from 2025 thus far, but expenses are up nearly \$ 71,000.00 from 2025. A withdrawal of \$ 30,000.00 from our investments in the Diocesan Central Fund was made in June as all local cash reserves had been used up.



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

CEMETERY

Memorial Service

A time to remember and give thanks
for the lives of our loved ones
and to place them in *God's eternal care.*

DATE
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

TIME
10:30 AM

LOCATION
ST JAMES
ANGLICAN CHURCH

All are welcome.

*"I am the resurrection and the life,
says the Lord. Whoever believes in me will live,
even though they die."*

JOHN 11:25



BRAZILIAN BBQ
ALL YOU CAN EAT

SOLD OUT

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH
35 Clothier St W, Kemptville, ON

Everyone is Welcome!

ENJOY AN AUTHENTIC BRAZILIAN BBQ FEATURING:

 GARLIC BREAD (LINGUIÇA)	 SAUSAGE (LINGUIÇA)	 PORK (CARNE DE PORCO)	 CHICKEN (FRANGO)	 THE FAMOUS PICANHA
 FAROFA	 VINAGRETE	 RICE	 SPONSORED BY ACW	

\$50 PER PERSON
(\$50 for All You Can Eat)

GREAT MUSIC | FELLOWSHIP | REFRESHING DRINKS

CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:
revrogerio.assis@gmail.com
437 299 5057

Come hungry, leave happy!

Many thanks for your support in purchasing tickets! 🙏 And a special thank you to our brave team who helped sell the tickets. Your support and

dedication are truly appreciated!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Voices of St. James – Fall edition: Group reports and news items to Carole by Sept. 4

ACW Meeting, Tuesday, September 8, 10:30am at St. James

Bible Study, Thursday, September 10, 7pm (see announcement above)

Cemetery Memorial Service, Sunday, September 13, 10:30am (see announcement above)

Brazilian BBQ, Saturday, September 19, noon-3pm (see announcement above)

Parish Advisory Council Meeting, **postponed until November**

Bible Study, Thursday, September 24, 7pm

Open House at St. James, Saturday, September 26, 10am-12noon

Evensong Service, Sunday, September 27, 7pm

ACW Regional Meeting, Wednesday, September 30, at St. James, Kemptville



WHAT'S NEW in the ST JAMES DIGITAL WORLD? Follow us!

St. James website - <https://stjameskemptville.com/>

St. James Instagram account - <https://www.instagram.com/stjamesanglicankemptville/>

St. James Facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/StJamesKemptville>

St. James YouTube account: <https://www.youtube.com/@StJamesAnglicanKemptville>