

SAINT MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH



REPORTS FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MARCH 1, 2026

OUR IDENTITY

We are a community of Christ's people from all walks of life, ages and backgrounds who love and worship the Risen Lord according to the Anglican tradition.

OUR VISION

To be a place where one can find meaningful Christian worship in the Anglican tradition, Christian stewardship being modeled, individually and in ministry, a befriending and welcoming community, transformational teaching of the Christian faith to all ages, healing for the sick, broken, downcast and those in need, opportunities to serve Christ's love to the community.

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GOVERNANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

As you prepare for your Annual General Meetings, I want to offer my thanks and encouragement to each parish across our Diocese.

AGM season can sometimes feel like a necessary task to get through — reports to finish, numbers to balance, meetings to organise. And yet, at its heart, an AGM is something far richer: it is a gathering of family. It is a moment to pause, to look back with gratitude, and to look ahead with hope, together.

Our Diocese stretches across a vast and beautiful expanse of Saskatchewan. Many kilometres separate our towns, villages, and cities. We worship in different buildings, in different communities, with different local joys and challenges. And yet, we are not isolated or alone. We belong to one another. We are part of one diocesan family, held together by our shared faith in Christ, our common prayer, and our commitment to walk together as the people of God. Your AGM is one expression of that connectedness. It is a time when voices are heard, gifts are named, leadership is affirmed, and responsibility is shared. It is a moment when stories of faithfulness — often quiet and unseen — are given space to be told. In these gatherings, the life of the Church becomes visible.

I encourage you to approach your AGM not simply as a business meeting, but as an act of community building and caring for each other. Give thanks for those who serve — wardens, treasurers, council members, volunteers, clergy — and for those who quietly sustain the life of your parish through prayer, presence, and generosity. Know also that what you do locally strengthens us diocesan-wide. When one parish flourishes, we all rejoice. When one parish struggles, we carry that concern together. We are bound not by geography, but by love — the love of God that calls us into relationship with one another.

May your AGM be marked by honesty, grace, and hope. May it strengthen bonds of trust and renew your sense of belonging. And may you be reminded, once again, that you are not walking this journey alone, but as part of a faithful, resilient, and caring diocesan family. With every blessing as you gather,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Helen Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rt Rev Helen Kennedy
XIII Bishop of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle

INTERIM PRIEST'S ANNUAL REPORT

2025 brought many changes to St. Mary the Virgin Anglican church. After 26 years of ministry, Rev. Claude Schroeder retired from ministry and moved to BC. With his departure, Bishop Helen Kennedy appointed the Rev. Paula Foster to be Interim Priest in Charge. My tenure began on August 1 and is to conclude at Easter, 2026. My mandate, besides leading worship, pastoral care and administrative duties, included helping prepare the parish for the transition to, and searching for, a new incumbent. For many worshippers, Fr. Claude's departure has enabled them to experience firsthand, the search process for a new incumbent, while adjusting to the inevitable changes in the style of ministry and gifts I have shared with you. I have known St. Mary's parishioners to be willing, kind and very helpful during this interim time. You have been faithful in sharing your ministry gifts so that the life of the parish could continue without too much disruption and for that gift, I am very grateful. It has been wonderfully fulfilling to journey with you at this time in the life of this great parish. Thank you!

St. Mary's is blessed with many committed parishioners who have stepped into leadership roles during this transitional time. It is through working together that we/you met the bishops time line for developing a Parish Profile. To do so required that a parochial committee be established. This committee worked hard to develop the document that would tell someone who you are, what you believe, how you understand and use your gifts for ministry and what kind of gifts you hope to share with a new priest. You also shared your hopes for the future of this parish as the only BCP parish in the diocese of Qu'Appelle. This process took several months and many weekly meetings to accomplish and produced an honest evaluation and forthright picture of St. Mary's. I am extremely grateful for the dedication and leadership of this committee. The profile has been posted on the Anglican Church of Canada's web site. The portion of the search where you have direct input is ended. Thank you for giving your time and attention to this project!

During this time, the parish committed to actively praying for the new incumbent (God knows who that is) as they/we discern what God intends for them and for us. Jesus reminds us that it is through prayer that we come to know who God is and what God wants for us. Through prayer, we seek the will of God for our lives. Prayer has been at the centre of our life together. To that end we have been meeting every Sunday evening for a simple prayer service with teaching time, singing and prayers. Several people have shared the leadership and music for this intimate time together, for roughly 45 minutes.

St. Mary's would not exist without the constant support of everyone involved within its walls. It takes help from everyone to run the Berry Festival and the St. Nicholas Day festival. Both events are annual fundraisers for the parish and an opportunity to invite the neighbourhood to join us. Both involve a lot of organization and time commitment to be successful. Thank you for supporting these events!

My time with you has been a blessing for me as I have been privileged to celebrate the sacraments. Sundays have included Holy Communion weekly, 5 Baptisms and 6 Confirmations as you faithfully seek to follow our Lord Jesus. It is joy to worship with you! There is so much life within this community of Christians...and generational participation. St. Mary's has a large Sunday school and the children are active participants on the First Sunday of each month as readers and greeters. They have also taught us a lovely worshipful contemporary hymn, "Here I Am to Worship" by Tim Hughes which enhances our Sunday worship. Thank you to all whose ministries focus with the children of all ages. Thank you also to the choir, small and mighty, who help lead the singing every week. There is always room for more voices in the choir and Jennifer is an experienced music director and organist.

There are many behind the scenes folks who serve within St. Mary's almost invisibly. The ministry of Hospitality ensures that we have coffee, tea, juice and goodies every Sunday morning. They organize pot luck lunches, and make sure there is cake for BIG occasions. We would go hungry if not for their care and welcome. Thank you!

Another invisible ministry is the Altar guild. Every week, the altar linens are clean and the altar is set up according to the church calendar as if by magic. However, there are two very committed individuals who take care of the details of our

worship so that I don't ever worry about it being done. Recently several more folks have volunteered to be trained for this important ministry. Thank you for your dedication!

I have been careful not to mention names because I did not want to overlook someone. But there are two people that I need to name because without their unending help and counsel I could not have done what the Bishop asked of me. My warden, John McGregor and People's warden, Mike Hauser, have worked tirelessly these past seven months to ensure the stability of St. Mary's remains. We have met weekly following morning prayer on Tuesday, to plan and discuss the workings of the parish. The vestry has met monthly insuring that all the details are addressed and made decisions that affect the church. Thank you to both wardens and the vestry for their support during this time of transition.

Lent and Easter will be our next big seasons and it is my prayer that we will keep a holy Lent as we walk in the footsteps of Jesus as he heads to Jerusalem one last time, and the Cross to lay down his life for us. And may we all gather at the tomb for His Glorious Resurrection on Easter morning.

It has been my great joy to have ministered along side you during this time. God Bless you.

The Rev. Paula Foster

REPORT OF THE VESTRY AND WARDENS

Respectfully submitted by Mike Hauser (People's Warden) and John McGregor (Rector's Warden)

2025 brought in many events to St Mary's which allowed us to Bless God, our community and our parish. We continued from 2024 with upgrading our lower hall with a licensed kitchen and beautiful golden scriptural writing on our air flow system. These upgrades to our lower hall are in conjunction with our vision of feasting, fellowship and Heavenly Praise to our Lord and Savior.

Two pressing financial challenges were pursued and decisions made to meet our 2025 Fair Share responsibilities. In the past several years St Mary's was not always in a position to meet its Dioceses financial responsibilities however this year we committed to righting this shortfall after negotiating an agreement with representatives from the financial committee.

Further, we piloted an insurance overhaul review with Cooperators Insurance and with the blessing of the Bishop were able to arrange for "replacement insurance" for our beautiful Church in lieu of "wreckage insurance." The results were a huge insurance savings for St Mary's, compared to previous years for insurance replacement costs.

On July 6th, Claude and Hilary had their last service at St Mary's. It was a sad day for everyone and yet an exciting beginning as well for their retirement and for the future development of St Mary's. After consultation with Interim pastor Paula and our Bishop, a Parochial Committee was assembled and now we await God's answer as to whom will be our rector replacement. Claude's last request prior to his retirement was that the bell tower be built, and now it sits and welcomes everyone with a loud calling each Sunday for worship.

St Mary's welcomes and thanks all those who are filling in for Claude as we await our new pastor, these being Paula, Nathaniel, Gene and Beth.

With the help of "everyone" at St Mary's, our Church continues to stand strong. With God's blessings and leadership, we once again hosted our Berry festival in July and St Nicholas Celebration in December thanks to our function leaders Starr and Katherine.

In closing we'd like to thank everyone who have stood committed and supportive of our Church, our vestry, wardens and interim pastoral leadership in prayer, and volunteer work. Together and with God's will and direction, we are keeping St Mary's strong into the future.

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Respectfully submitted by Blair Laforge

The envelope secretary issued tax receipts for a total of \$143,646 contributed in 2025. This is down from 2024. Of the 63 envelope holders and other identifiable givers, the frequency distribution of 2025 annual contributions is as follows:

Amount of Annual Donation	Number of Donors
\$1-\$99	8
\$100-\$499	11
\$500-\$999	9
\$1000-\$1999	14
\$2000-\$2999	5
\$3000-\$3999	5
\$4000-\$4999	3
\$5000-\$5999	2
\$6000 or greater	6

Total Donors: 63

Total donors decreased by 14 from the previous year. At year-end, 12 parish families were participating in the direct deposit program, and 32 families have used e-transfer for donations and 17 used envelopes for their donations. \$1,690 was contributed to the Memorial Fund. Thank you all for your patience and co-operation. Thanks to Bill, Brenda, Len, Alanna, and Yvonne for all their help.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Submitted by Alanna Schemenauer

Attachments include the December 31, 2025 year-end financial statements and the 2026 budget.

In 2025, St. Mary's had sufficient operating cash and designated reserves to meet current obligations and anticipated needs. Looking ahead, increased revenue will be necessary to fund insurance costs, a full-time rector, and continue paying our full Fair Share.

Last fiscal year, St. Mary's had a surplus of \$14,706 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$507. This higher-than budgeted surplus was primarily due to reduced ministry expenses, lower utility bills, and increased rental income, which were partially offset by increased fair share payments, reduced transfers for designated funds, and lower fundraising revenue. It should be noted that this surplus was largely the result of transitional circumstances in 2025 and should not be assumed to represent a sustainable increase in annual operating income.

2025 Revenue Highlights:

- **Pledges and Envelopes:** \$133,179 (a decrease of \$15,000 over the prior year). Donations were higher earlier in the year but saw a decrease after the departure of our rector.
- **Other Donations:** \$8,700, which includes unspecified donations, gifts in kind, and cash from the collection plate.
- **Transfers from Designated Funds:** Includes a \$4,296 transfer from the Capital Fund toward the bell tower, as well as the annual non-cash transfer recognizing roof depreciation.
- **Rental Income:** \$36,950, up from \$28,751 in the prior year, primarily due to the arrangement with Regina Latin Mass as well as increased other rentals.
- **Fundraising Income:** \$8,741, a decrease of \$4000 for the prior year, mainly due to a pause in the rototilling program. Because many fundraising expenses were generously donated by parishioners, the net cash generated by fundraising activities was \$10,824.
- Saskatoon Berry Festival: \$6,067
- St. Nicholas Day: \$2,674
- **Interest Revenue:** \$4,718 from GICs held by St. Mary's and the Rectory Trust Fund managed by the Diocese.

2025 Expense Highlights:

- **Church Property:** \$56,336 in 2025, partially offset by the \$4,296 transfer from the Capital Fund.
- **Ministry:** \$66,729, a decrease of \$20,000 from the prior year. This is due to the departure of our full-time rector halfway through the year, with our interim rector being paid half time.
- **Parish Outreach:** \$35,831, reflecting the full payment of our Fair Share in 2025.
- **Other Expenses:** Worship and Christian Education, Administration, and General expenses saw only minor fluctuations in 2025.

As shown in the year-end Statement of Financial Position, the parish maintains reserves and designated funds to support operating (in the short term) and capital needs.

In 2026, St. Mary's is in a new phase of parish life. With hope for the appointment of a new rector this year, the parish's current financial position provides a stable foundation for the road ahead. Continued generosity and careful stewardship will remain essential as we support the mission and ministry of St. Mary's in this next chapter.

As this report concludes my term as Treasurer, I would like to thank the parish for the opportunity to serve in this role. It has been a privilege to support the financial stewardship of St. Mary's during a period that included both stability and transition. I am grateful for the support of vestry, the wardens, Paula, Yvonne, and now Eleonore, and all others who assist with the administration of the parish.

If you have any questions regarding the church's financial position, please contact me. Thank you for your generous financial and non-financial support in 2025, and we appreciate your continued support in 2026. With ongoing generosity and careful financial management, we look forward to a stable and successful future.

SEXTON REPORT

The sexton takes responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the Parish buildings as well as the outside property.

General Facility Maintenance. Routinely maintain lighting, door adjustments, window repairs, recording boiler operational data, lawn mowing, back lane garbage control along with arranging contract services for snow clearing, elevator maintenance, hot water heating services, hot water heater inspections, electrical issues, fire protection checks and testing, sewer line unplugging, back water check valve tests including lawn fertilizing & sprinkler care.

In addition, the church facility experienced in 2025 the following one-off activities:

1. Sanded and stained lower hall tables.
2. Arranged electrician for pair of three-way light switches at back door staircase entrance
3. Arranged pipe fitter for heating system hot water surge tank replacement and a slip stream water filtration system
4. Salvaged pair of emergency lights from closed St Mathew's Anglican Church for repurposing in lower hall and NE stairwell exit.
5. Assisted with removal of unrepairable swing from Montague Street front lawn.
6. Monitored bell tower installation at 15th Avenue entrance.
7. Provided rectors name change on the parish sign.
8. Repaired and stained the library accordion doors
9. Assisted with installation/mounting of three emergency siren stations at main entrances
10. Patched and painted hole in ceiling of upper hall bathroom.

Each of these activities involved provides the congregation, renters and community a comfortable, presentable and safe facility in which to worship and conduct their Ministry.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Page, January 2026

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

FACILITY RENTALS

Respectfully submitted by Yvonne Schmidt-Sobek

We're excited to share some updates on the various groups and activities utilizing our facilities. Here's what's been happening:

1. **Regina Latin Mass:** The Regina Latin Mass community started in August 2024, continues to be well-attended and runs smoothly. Check their website for updates and service times. www.reginalatinmass.org
2. **Ethiopian Church:** The Ethiopian Church continues to hold Saturday morning services, with a growing congregation.
3. **Hibiki Drummers:** The Hibiki Drummers meet every Friday evening, adding energy to our building.
4. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA):** AA meetings remain a steady resource on Wednesday nights, supporting those in recovery.
5. **Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Sharing Circle:** This group continues monthly meetings, fostering open dialogue and reconciliation. (by donation)
6. **Photo Club:** The Photo Club meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening.

The church was a busy place, and our total rental income from returning and one-time renters was \$33,450. Alanna will provide the confirmed final number.

We are happy to support all groups using our facilities. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Column4	Column1	Column2	Column3
Income from renters in 2025		Income from returning renters	
Aboriginal Potluck (Donation)	\$ 270.00	AA One way group	\$ 700.00
Regina Japanese Cultural Club	\$ 300.00	Hibiki Taiko	\$ 2,640.00
Cities Church	\$ 620.00	Latin Mass	\$18,000.00
Community Paint Programm	\$ 720.00	Regina Photo Club	\$ 1,350.00
Birthday Party church member don	\$ 230.00	St.Marys Ethiopian	\$ 4,800.00
Rent by donation	\$ 40.00		
Birthday Party	\$ 150.00		
Baby Shower	\$ 150.00		
Baby Shower	\$ 150.00	Total	\$27,490.00
Fundraiser	\$ 250.00		
Confirmation Celebration	\$ 110.00		
Polling Station /Federal Election	\$ 600.00		
Cathedral Festival	\$ 500.00		
Flatland Fiddler	\$ 240.00		
Birthday Party	\$ 110.00		
Fundraiser	\$ 150.00		
Blakey Irish Dance group	\$ 110.00		
Zeey's Mart	\$ 150.00		
onam celebration	\$ 150.00		
Rugby Fundraiser	\$ 250.00		
Family Christmas Gathering	\$ 185.00		
Halcyon Chamber Choir	\$ 120.00		
Family Christmas Gathering	\$ 250.00		
Forza Soccer Winter gathering	\$ 155.00		
Total:	\$ 5,960.00		

SAFE CHURCH

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. Philippians 2:3-4.

The Diocesan Safe Church initiative encourages parishes to be good stewards by caring for both their property and people. It emphasizes the importance of ensuring safety and well-being, reflecting faithfulness to God's call to care for others.

Background

In 2025, in my role as Diocesan safe church officer, I developed a new safe church resource kit for each parish. Learn more by visiting [Diocese of Qu'Appelle Church Initiative](#). The new kit includes a policy requiring all vestry members to watch our safe church video and make a commitment to review parish safe church policies and procedures at least once a year. We are also currently working to revamp our harassment and sexual misconduct policy in the Diocesan office which will be shared with parishes once it is completed.

Safe Church at St. Mary's

In 2025, I assisted the Wardens with completion of an Emergency Response Plan and Incident reporting policy and procedure. Our Emergency Response Plan is almost finalized and details will be shared with the parish shortly. I have also begun developing a more robust safety training for those working with children and ministry position expectations as well as a regular feedback process. Completion of this work needs to wait until we have a new incumbent in place. We continue to seek criminal record/vulnerable sector checks for all children's ministry volunteers and criminal record checks from all staff and volunteers who work with money in the parish.

Our 2026 priorities include:

- Finalizing safety training for those working with children
- Finalizing ministry position expectations and implementing a regular feedback process
- Kitchen cleaning and safety standard policies and procedures
- ensuring that employee contracts properly drafted and include a regular feedback process
-

There are always more ways that we can work towards better caring for our property and people. We will continue to make this a priority as capacity allows. Your prayers for this ministry are much appreciated. If you have any questions about Safe Church, please contact me anytime.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Berringer
306-530-7312

WORSHIP

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Many of you have expressed to me how you appreciate the organ and piano music I provide for weekly and special services, and also for the choral music. Thank you for your kind words of gratitude.

Sunday mornings: 9:30 am choir rehearsal, 10 am Morning Prayer, and 10:30 am Worship and Eucharist service where the choir leads the congregation in song during the Eucharist. I encourage the congregation to join in song during the Eucharist.

The choir joins with the children's song for the first service of each month.

The organ was tuned prior to Easter.

The choir, joined by Starr and Katherine (thank you), presented two anthems in four-part harmony for the Service of Lessons and Carols, and for Christmas Eve. Many thanks to Shirley and Rem for their faithful participation in the choir throughout the year.

God bless St. Mary's as we join together to worship Him.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Klippenstein
Director of Music

ALTAR GUILD

Respectfully Submitted by Gwyn Crozier-Smith

As there is just one member on this team, I fulfill my duties the best that I can. I come over to the church on a Saturday afternoon and set the altar for Sunday morning services, change the Altar frontals for the different Seasons, decorate the church for Christmas and Harvest Thanksgiving and other tasks that may need to be done. I must say a very BIG thank you to Sharon for helping to decorate for Harvest and for continuing to launder all the linens. What an Angel she is.

If anyone is interested in knowing more to what I do please come and ask.

SERVER GUILD

respectfully submitted by Gwyn Crozier-Smith

On September 14 2025 I was very honored to present Joshua Ortman to be commissioned as our new Altar

Server. It is wonderful to have another member on the team who is very dedicated to the service. It is an honor to be able to serve at the Lord's Table on a Sunday morning. Now both Lyndon and myself are able to enjoy the service from the congregation more often, and are ready to aid in other services as need.

I would like to say thank you to children for coming to be torch bearers: you do a great job.

COUNTING AND DEPOSITING OUR OFFERINGS

Respectfully submitted by Len Gendall

As more of the offerings are being given by direct deposit, the need to meet weekly has changed to bi-weekly. Usually, three members of the congregation – Bill Trim, and Len and Brenda Gendall – meet to count the cash and cheques from the previous two Sundays. We were joined this year by three more volunteers – Shirley Josephson, Katherine Gilks, and John Stark. While the need to call on them has not been on a regular basis, it's comforting to know they are available to help if necessary. The offering amounts are recorded on a summary sheet which is provided to the Envelope Secretary to ensure each offering is attributed to the correct person, and to the Treasurer. Then the amounts are recorded on a bank deposit form and taken to the bank. The receipts from any special events such as the Berry Festival and the St. Nicholas Festival, amounts that are in the thousands of dollars, are also counted and deposited.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

For several years, there has been a small gathering of women who have regularly studied scripture, prayed, and supported one another. Over the past couple of years, the current study group of 8, has worked their way through a series of four Christian books by Sharon Garlough Brown. We began with "Sensible Shoes" which engaged us with the four main characters who met at a retreat centre. We continued to journey with them through the next three books as they faced life challenges, prayed together, developed lasting friendships, and grew in faith – something we could all relate to.

With this book series completed, we are now journeying into a Lenten study with a focus on the discipline of imaginative prayer in the style of Ignatius of Loyola. We will continue to meet at Brenda Gendall's home on Thursday mornings. We are excited to begin Dan Heavener's book and experience a new level of "Friendship with Jesus" as we practice this discipline.

Our ongoing hope is that more women will be inclined to join – or create – a study group. There is genuine joy, fellowship, prayer, and love when we come together as sisters in Christ.

Submitted by Shelley Baron

PASTORAL CARE

HOME COMMUNION AND SPECIAL CARE

I began the Home Communion Ministry 23 years ago under the direction of Rev. Claude Schroeder. I was joined by Lois Martin and Carol Mars during that time.

Annual reports are usually only about the past year events. I'm taking the liberty to say 2025 was a difficult year for me to carry out this ministry as I would like, so I am retiring/resigning from this role.

I continue to keep in touch by phone, mail and prayers with the shut-in folks in our parish, some I have known for decades and have visited in this capacity well over 10 years. Some are able to enjoy the services on-line when available and most like to get the bulletin and any other reports and announcements mailed to them each week. There is a list of these people in the office.

This is a very life-giving ministry both for the recipient and for the ministry. I have found it a very rewarding experience.

When the new minister arrives and gets settled in, if this is something they would like to start, I am happy to discuss what has been done and introduce the shut in people to them.

With blessings to all.

Sharon Klemke

COFFEE MINISTRY

The members of the After Sunday Morning Services Coffee Ministry arrive at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings to prepare: the area, beverages and cookies. They host, serve, replenish and clean up after the coffee time.

The teams serve once every month all year long. The teams are:

1st Sunday of the month - Yvonne and Christian Schmidt

2nd Sunday of the month - Chelsea and Gabriel Lashinski

3rd Sunday of the month - Li and Derek Elliott

4th Sunday of the month - Sally and Ernie Klinger, Alvin Der

5th Sunday of the month - Lorna Cross, Eileen Barrie, Kate and Rob Knox

Spares who can be contacted to fill in are:

Ann Knutson, Grace Tubello, Kate and Rob Knox "We do this because Jesus loves us And we follow him."

(from The Rev. Gene Packman's sermon Sunday December 14, 2025) and we enjoy serving our fellow parishioners!

Respectfully submitted

Eileen Barrie (co-ordinator of The After Sunday Morning Services Coffee Ministry teams and spares)

THE GRAPEVINE: Telling our story, sharing our faith

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Cross and Shelley Baron

The 2025 edition of the Grapevine has again been a blessing. The wide range of stories has continued to show the depth of God's love and interest in our everyday lives, regardless of our age or situation.

Thank you to those who shared their stories with us. Also thank you to Shelley Barron and Yvonne Schmidt-Sobek for editing and completing the Grapevine for distribution.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The prayer shawl ministry was started in Lent 2008 by Hilary Schroeder. Over the years many prayer shawls have been knitted and crocheted by members of the congregation. These shawls are blessed during church, tagged and distributed to people in the parish when the need arises. Some reasons for giving them out include: a new baby, leaving town, bereavement, having surgery, in crisis, requiring treatment, terminally ill, etc. At the moment there are a large number of prayer shawls available and I regret I don't know who made them but bless the people who did this work.

Anyone can pick out one of these shawls (with tag on it) and give it to someone they feel would benefit from the gift. They are stored in the store room beside the kitchen in bins and bags, the scrapbook and pen are with them.

If you wish to deliver a shawl to someone, please select one that has been tagged (meaning that it has been prayed over and blessed), record the recipient's name, your name, and date in the scrapbook. If you have any questions, please talk to Sharon Klemke or Ann Knutson.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Klemke

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Respectfully submitted by Ann Knutson

The purpose of prayer chains, as written in the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer pamphlet for intercessory prayer, is to offer ourselves as channels of God's Grace. St. Mary's has a group of nine dedicated individuals who will pray for healing when asked. Confidentiality is maintained. In 2025 the group responded to 45 initial requests and offered follow up prayer to those requests. Thank you to Lorna, Janice, Lois, Dorothy, Merrillyn, Paulette, Shelley and Judy. Requests can be forwarded to Ann Knutson who will notify the Chain for prayer.

Psalm 147.3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SPIRITUAL FORMATION

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Respectfully submitted by Starr Davis

- We have continued to offer regular children's programming at St Mary's this year and our numbers continue to grow.
- Several volunteers have stepped up to help with shepherding, leading and scheduling. Thank you so much!!!
- The Family Service on the first Sunday of every month provides an opportunity for children to become familiar with the liturgy and participate in the service. It also has lightened the load on our leaders who usually only have to lead once per month now.
- On the other weeks, children's time generally begins with music time with Katie in the lower hall. We then split into Worship Centre (ages 3-6- off the upper hall) or Faith Quest (ages 7-13- off or in the lower hall). Infants are cared for in the nursery (also just off the upper hall).
- Faith Quest almost always has at least 9 children and often more than 12. Worship centre usually has between 4 and 7 children, and nursery numbers vary but are currently low.
- Faith Quest operates on a 'rotation' where children consider stories for several weeks in a row. So far this year we've covered Loving your enemies, Lazarus, Isaiah's prophecies fulfilled by Christ, and the 10 Commandments. In the Worship Centre, children hear and explore Bible stories, pray and of course play together.
- We are also trying to support the domestic church and family prayer. Over Advent each family with children was given a package with a Jesse Tree project. We are hoping to do a similar 'package' idea for families over Lent.
- It is a real joy to see our children grow in friendship and faith. Please pray for our children's ministries at St Mary's. Specifically, we request prayer for guidance regarding youth ministry for those children who are 'aging out' of Faith Quest, wisdom in planning for our Summer Programming, the volunteers we need to continue offering programming, and especially that the children in our parish would continue to grow in their faith, secure in God's love, gifted with his peace, and that they would continue to learn how to carry their Christian Faith into their daily lives throughout the week. Please also pray for their parents!

- We are hoping to plan a cleaning bee of our children’s ministry spaces sometime during lent. Stay tuned!



SPECIAL EVENTS

SASKATOON BERRY FESTIVAL

Respectfully submitted by Starr Davis

The Saskatoon Berry Festival was held in July. Once again, we were able to source Saskatoon berries from a local producer. Our advertising efforts paid off, and we sold significantly more berries than in previous years, though our profits don’t really reflect this as we had a smaller profit margin than the previous year (the cost from Prairie Berries had gone up). The event brought 704 people through the doors of our church, and many more who just stayed out on the lawn!

Aside from the berry sale, the day’s events included a bake sale (which sold out completely), a coffee house, children’s activities out on the lawn, and a grill which was also a big success. We were blessed with beautiful weather, and many people stayed quite a while. It was great to see so many non churchgoers attend. Some people toured through the church and asked questions, and a few great conversations occurred.

Being held so soon after Claude left, this event was really a step of faith for us during an uncertain time. The overwhelming success of the day served as a good reminder that the Lord “will supply all [our] needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19).



ST. NICHOLAS FESTIVAL 2025

Submitted by Katherine Gilks

Overall, the 2025 St. Nicholas Festival was a successful fundraiser. We made approximately \$4300. It was also a successful outreach opportunity and, most importantly, an opportunity for parish fellowship. This was a test of our parish working together as a team without the Schroeders and we did a good job. This was also my first year of coordinating the event. All of the team leaders did an excellent job of managing each area of the festival and it made my workload less stressful. As I was circulating around the event, I was able to take photos as I have in previous years. This year, we made a major change to the service at the end of the day, and we added a used book sale to the marketplace. We also added more live music to the café, including having Lucy Der and her band perform. We also tried to have more youth involvement (see below). Otherwise, we kept most of the event the same. Regarding the used book sale and market items, it was wonderful to have so many parishioners contribute. For future years, the recommendation has been to streamline the market to eliminate used items other than books, toys, games, and puzzles, as the other used items compete with craft items.

St. Nicholas Service: The day concluded with a shortened Lessons & Carols for Christmas service. The readings were done by youth from the Diocese Youth Group, whose overall participation in the St. Nicholas Festival was arranged by Kate Berringer. The role of St. Nicholas of Myra was played by Eli Der. Rev. Paula Foster did a short interview with 'St. Nicholas' as part of the children's talk, followed by questions from the children.

Thank you for the opportunity to coordinate the event for 2025. I would like to do so again for 2026. Here are a couple final suggestions:

1. Have the Vestry commit to doing the Berry Festival in July and the St. Nicholas Festival the first Saturday of December at the beginning of each calendar year or at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting. That way, people can plan throughout the year, especially for baking, canning, and craft items.
2. Consider asking the city for special event parking on the 2300 block of Montague Street for our events so that people can park on the east side of the street. (This may be dependent on snow for St. Nicholas.) Lots of older parishioners and visitors parked illegally and quickly went in and out to do drop-offs or pick-ups, but did not stay for the event. This may not be feasible and may have already been inquired recently on the part of the Vestry, but it came up in the feedback.
3. Invest in a new barbecue.

Finally, while fundraising and outreach are important, the festival as a fellowship event is equally so. This is an opportunity for us to come together as a parish, share our talents, and get to know each other in a different capacity

SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Cross

This year St Mary's has enjoyed many happy events all involving food. We celebrated baptisms, special birthdays and some time just celebrating our church family. We also had two farewell events to say good bye to Sandra Dowie and later on for Rev. Claude and Hilary.

Thank you to the volunteers for your help and your friendship. A special thank you to Sharon Klemke who partnered with me in so many ways and Mike Hauser who always had time to help especially with the set ups.

My mother-in-law told me many years ago that a church kitchen is a good place to make friends. And working with St. Mary's Special events has proven it to be true.

OUTREACH/CITY MINISTRIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

WORLD VISION

Respectfully submitted by Yvonne Schmidt-Sobek

If you would like to send Jonathan a message or gift, please contact Yvonne in the office or email office@stmarysregina.ca Yvonne can set you up with the World Vision website login.

Here is a message from Jonathan, written with the help of a community member it's a recipe they enjoy as a yummy festive treat!

Cajetas de Coco

A sweet and crunchy coconut treat, typically enjoyed during special occasions and celebrations.

To make:

1. Stirring over a low heat, cook 1 cup milk, 500 g sugar, and ground cloves to taste. Cook until a pink-hued caramel forms.
2. Mix in the flesh of three coconuts. Remove from the heat and spread evenly on a lined baking tray. Cover and allow to cool, then chill.
3. To serve, cut into chunks and enjoy. Serve chilled for breakfast or at any time of the day with a cup of tea or coffee.



NEWCOMER/REFUGEE COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Nathaniel Deng Mayen

BACKGROUND: South Sudanese Mission is instituted at St. Mary's through the relevant canons. Rev. Nathaniel Athian Deng Mayen is licensed as the Missioner for South Sudanese Community and Honorary Assistant at St. Mary's effective May 22, 2025. He will grow the Mission in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle through the oversight of St. Mary's Vestry. Bishop Helen met with the Vestry about the New Mission at St. Mary's, and the project was received with great joy and prayers.

Ministry to the South Sudanese community in Regina and relevant activities in 2025.

- (a) Hosting community volunteer tax clinic in the months of March and April, resulting in completing about 65 income taxes for newcomers and students in the local community.
- (b) Organizing the South Sudanese and Nubian youth graduation on July 12, 2025. The event engaged 23 youth volunteer leaders from April to July and celebrated about 52 graduates, including 17 graduates from Grade 8; 19 from Grade 12; and 16 from postsecondary. There were about 197 family members, supporters and guests in attendance.
- (c) Facilitating Dinka language and cultural camp, August 10 – 15, 2025 at Camp Harding. 44 participants attended: 37 youth, with 12 participants from Regina and Moose Jaw, the rest from Brooks and Calgary. 12 participants Vestry book for Sunday August 10, 2025.
- (d) Dinka language training in Regina. Beginning of learning and worship. Attendance of 29 participants is entered in Vestry Book for Sunday September 28, 2025.

- (e) Pastoral care for the South Sudanese community in Regina and Saskatoon:
- (i) visit to family after death of Mangok Dut Akol on March 22, 2025. Attendance for burial April 26, 2025, at Little Flower Roman Catholic Parish.
 - (ii) Death of South Sudanese Community Association Chairman on September 29, 2025. Burial scheduled for November 8, 2025. Donation of \$1000 from Diocese of Qu'Appelle to help with funeral and burial expenses.
 - (iii) Presiding over memorial prayer for Anger Kouch Ayol, mother of Dr. Abel Akon and Akon Deng, on November 15, 2025, in Saskatoon, Sacred Heart Church.

Ministry to St. Mary's and the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and relevant activities in 2025.

- (a) Attendance at and presentation to the Synod on May 22-25, 2025, at Immanuel Anglican Church. South Sudanese Mission is a project of the Diocese at St. Mary's (host parish).
- (b) Presiding and preaching once or twice monthly. Payment of honoraria was instituted with consultation with the bishop when Claude retired.
- (c) Leading the church tour with Dave during St. Nicholas Day – December 6, 2026. A separate report is submitted to the Coordinator of St. Nicholas Day.
- (d) Baptism of Mavis and Ursula on December 28, 2025, ending the year with a wonderful celebration of new birth into the family of Christ.
- (e) Coordinating a Lenten Appeal within Dioceses of Qu'Appelle, Calgary and Edmonton for the Bishop Nathaniel Garang Training Centre in Juba, South Sudan. The total amount raised in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle was \$2,610, with \$1,312.90 from St. Mary's.
- (f) Travelling to preach, preside and talk about the partnership for theological school, the Bishop Nathaniel Garang Training Centre, at All Saints, Weyburn, on August 3, 2025.

Refugee Sponsorship

St. Mary's is blessed with a heart to create belonging and support the refugees and newcomers. St. Mary currently hosts eight South Sudanese Christian families of Dinka ancestral origin. In January 2023, we welcomed a family of five from South Sudan and continue to support them.

Future ministry projects and plans

- The Refugee and Newcomer Support Committee hope to welcome more newcomers and sponsor new refugee families as finances and volunteer capacity allow.
- Facilitating a third Lenten appeal for Bishop Nathaniel Garang Training Centre. Bishop Helen and Diocesan staff have graciously designated donations from Lenten book read.
- Coordinating a third Dinka language summer camp, July 19 – 25, 2026 at Camp Harding.
- South Sudanese youth conference in July (dates to be communicated once confirmed).
- Facilitating a congregational forum on the BCP at St. Mary's on February 22, 2026. *What Does It Mean to Be a Book of Common Prayer Parish? Exploring our pilgrimage of Faith.*

Conclusion: We give thanks and glory God for granting us good health to love and serve each other and his kingdom through the above community and congregational activities and services that uplift.

South Sudanese Mission and Refugee and Newcomer Support Report

Below are selected photos from our ministry at St. Mary's and in South Sudanese community.



Youth graduates posing with their appreciation certificates



Nathaniel and the ministry of the altar at St. Mary's



Baptism of Ursula and celebration with her family



Baptism of Mavis and celebration with her family



Campfire stories during Dinka language camp



Nathaniel teaching Dinka class at St. Mary's

FOREVER IN MOTION

Respectfully submitted by Yvonne Schmidt-Sobek

I'm excited to share that our group is growing, and the energy has never been better! Our new members are loving the music and vibrant atmosphere, and everyone—old and new—is having a blast.

We meet every Tuesday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 AM for a fun, supportive session that focuses on endurance, strength, balance, and flexibility. Whether you prefer sitting or standing, all fitness levels are welcome!

Best part? It's totally free! Feel free to email me at yvonne.sobek@outlook.com for more info. I'd love for you to join us!

APPENDIX

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church
Draft Statement of Financial Position
as at December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	71,927.66	73,816.30
GST Receivable	1,015.99	2,687.34
Total Current Assets	72,943.65	76,503.64
Non-Current Assets		
Capital Assets	127,927.62	141,608.36
Investments	130,979.49	126,263.97
Diocese of Qu'Appelle Receivable	81,088.45	81,088.45
Total Non-Current Assets	339,995.56	348,960.78
	412,939.21	425,464.42
Total Assets		
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	4,419.36	11,449.02
Altar Guild Fund	817.44	900.00
Christmas Advent Fund	-	210.00
Easter & Thanksgiving Fund	-	30.00
Miscellaneous Fund	35.00	130.00
New Horizons Community Kitchen Fund	645.93	6,485.23
Alongside Hope Fund	97.00	100.00
Refugee Support Fund	8,038.50	8,038.50
Total Current Liabilities	14,053.23	27,342.75
Non-Current Liabilities		
Capital Fund	124,685.98	125,395.75
Evangelical Trust Fund	9,157.04	10,057.46
Nancy Bailey Bursary Educ Fund	1,278.11	1,241.35
Rector's Discretionary Fund	307.17	1,099.86
Rectory Trust Deferred Revenue	123,126.62	136,807.36
Rectory Trust Fund	78,119.89	78,119.89
Total Non-Current Liabilities	336,674.81	352,721.67
Total Liabilities	350,728.04	380,064.42
Equity	62,211.17	45,400.00
Total Liabilities and Equity	412,939.21	425,464.42

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church
Draft Statement of Operations
for the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025	2025 Budget	2024
Revenues			
Pledges and Envelopes	133,179.00	130,000.00	147,861.00
Other Donations	8,699.67	7,500.00	9,037.65
Transfers from Designated Funds	17,976.24	31,697.00	40,188.74
Rental Income	36,950.50	32,800.00	28,751.00
Net Fundraising	8,740.64	15,500.00	13,096.65
Interest	4,718.04	1,553.00	9,321.90
Other	996.25	-	939.51
Total Revenues	211,260.34	219,050.00	249,196.45
Expenses			
Church Property	56,336.05	66,471.00	110,390.37
Ministry – Rector	66,729.35	89,627.00	86,753.40
Parish Outreach	35,831.30	26,088.00	20,406.56
Worship and Christian Education	15,470.38	15,050.00	14,206.91
Administration	17,699.21	16,094.00	13,519.82
General	4,487.61	5,213.00	4,621.08
Total Expenses	196,553.90	218,543.00	249,898.14
Operating Profit/Loss for the Year	14,706.44	507.00	-701.69

2025 Fundraising Events

Event	Revenue	Expense	Profit
Saskatoon Berry Festival	25,650.42	19,583.46	6,066.96
St. Nicholas Day	4,525.61	1,851.93	2,673.68
Total	30,176.03	21,435.39	8,740.64
In-kind Donations (included in fundraising expenses)			2,083.63
Total cash			10,824.27