

Annual Vestry Meeting

February 23, 2025



Reports for the Year 2024

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto, Ontario

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Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting, 25 February 2024

The Annual Vestry Meeting of the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields was held on Sunday, 25 February 2024. Fr. PJ Carefoote, Interim Priest-in-Charge, called the meeting to order at 12:39 pm and began with prayer. He appointed David McKnight as Vestry Clerk.

1. Approval of Previous Minutes

Each set of minutes was considered separately. No corrections were noted for any of them.

- Vestry Meeting, 26 February 2023 Approved (Motion: C. Paxton/J. Gentry)
- Special Vestry, 26 March 2023 Approved (Motion: M. Conliffe/P. McKnight)
- Special Vestry, 3 December 2023 Approved (Motion: E. Goulden/K, Wagg)

2. The Pastoral Letter from the College of Bishops and the Report from the Interim Priest-in-Charge were included in the meeting package and recommended for individual reading.
3. Reports from the Wardens, Chairs of Management Board (Peter Chauvin) and Parish Council (Jay Haddad), were also included in the package. Jay extended appreciation and thanks to Estella Joseph who has resigned from Parish Council after many years of service. He also noted her excellent ministry of providing cakes for every occasion. (He may ask her for a cake to mark her retirement!)

4. 2023 Financial Statements

Philip Conliffe presented the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

- Philip thanked all who donate; because of them we do not need to rely on rental income as some other parishes do.
- Total funds now exceed \$2 million for the first time, \$365,226 in the General Fund and \$1,690,115 in the Memorial Fund
- Donations decreased in 2023 compared to 2022 and the operating deficit of \$52,000 is more than normal.
- The Memorial Fund received donations this year in memory of Steve Simpson, Chris Suttaby, Brenda Bodkin, Gail Renouf, Frances Jerry, Fred Leslie, Trudy Dorn, the Rev Harry & Jennifer Mansfield, and Joy Fulford. There were also proceeds from an insurance policy from Joy Fulford. The fund also performed well with good investments and higher interest rates.
- The schedule of Deferred Contributions lists various funds donated for specific purposes. Most of the amount in the Refugee fund was donated from outside the parish. Overall, these funds have decreased by about \$8,000, as money is used for the intended purposes.
 - Michael Attwood asked about the Mundy-Chandler fund. It is intended to support parishioners pursuing theological education, but it appears that we have not drawn on it for several years. It was agreed that we would re-examine the terms and be sure that we use it appropriately.

MOTION (P. Conliffe/C. Paxton) To approve the 2023 audited financial statements CARRIED

5. Investment Report

The Memorial Fund is invested in two accounts:

- Diocesan Consolidated Fund. We deposited a total of \$420,000 over three years; it is now valued at about \$480,000. The fund is currently generating about \$15,000 a year in dividends.

- CIBC Wood Gundy. This account is managed by Brian Bradstreet. It is currently earning about \$50,000 a year in interest, income that can be reinvested.

6. Renovations to the Rectory

The Rectory is generally in good condition but some work is required. A review by the Regional Dean yielded nine required items and some suggestions. These repairs and improvements will likely take several months. The largest item will be the installation of air conditioning. As the heating is hot water radiators, a separate system is needed. We can apply to the Carleton Fund for a grant which would cover 50% of expenses up to a maximum grant of \$12,000. Among other requirements, the application requires a motion from Vestry.

MOTION: (P. Chauvin/S. Brown) 1) It is moved that Management Board be given the authority to make required repairs to the rectory as set out in the report of Regional Dean, Canon Robert Mitchell, January 19, 2024, including installing air conditioning in the Rectory at 29 Indian Grove, up to a total cost of \$50,000.00 but not exceeding the Church's capital repair budget for 2024. 2) It is further moved that Management Board and/or the Wardens of the Church have the authority to apply for a Carleton Fund Grant with respect to these repairs.

CARRIED

7. Budget 2024

Philip Conliffe presented the proposed budget for 2024.

- Income: Expected income has been reduced based on the actual income for 2023.
- Expenses
 - Human Resources is the largest amount. Clergy costs are uncertain as we do not know when the new incumbent will start or what the pay level, based on seniority, will be. Permanent lay staff have been assigned a 3.5% cost of living increase and there will be some changes to work hours.
 - For the Church and Rectory, \$50,000 capital costs will mostly go to the Rectory this year. The \$400,000 for the new church heating system is separately listed. Utilities are going up, as is property tax for the Rectory.
 - Synod Allotment has decreased because of our capital spending.
 - Under Services, items are funded as usual even if not spent in the previous year.
- Overall, there is a budgeted deficit of \$513,722 including the \$400,000 for the heating system that will be initially funded from the Memorial Fund. The remaining \$113,722 is more than can be covered by the allowed draw from the Memorial Fund. Philip noted that we can cover the difference from the past surplus, but there is concern for the future.

MOTION: (P. Conliffe/J. Gentry) To approve the 2024 Budget

CARRIED

8. Appointment of Auditors

MOTION: (P. Conliffe/G. Conliffe) To appoint Peter Tsui Professional Corporation as auditor for the 2024 year.

CARRIED

It was noted that under the new Diocesan rules, we may only require a review instead of a full audit. We would still have Peter Tsui do that.

9. Elections and Appointments

The Report from the Nominating Committee with slates for the elected offices was reviewed. For each group, there was a call for further nominations, but there were none. Voting was by group.

- Parish Council **MOTION** (I. Greene/T. Stephenson) **CARRIED**
- Management Board **MOTION** (E. Goulden/S. McPherson) **CARRIED**
- Other Elected Positions **MOTION** (C. Paxton/M. Kolberg) **CARRIED**
- Non-elected positions were reviewed. It was noted that since the list was prepared, Robert Grillo is unable to do external signage, so Kathie Wagg will continue.

10. Reports from Church Groups

Reports from each group were included in the Vestry package. Some additional information was provided at the meeting:

- **Altar Guild** Roberta Laking-Kananaj The white superfrontal is being repaired by ACW needleworkers at St. Jame’s Cathedral. It is expected back in June; meanwhile we are using the green one. When the white frontal goes for repair, it will take about a year. This work is covered by the Ventham bequest. Also, silk will be obtained for a new set of white vestments.
- **Children and Youth** – Finn Keesmaat-Walsh Since the written report was prepared, two new youth members have joined, so now there are six.
- **Christmas Market** – Tim Stephenson Donations are needed.
- **Livestreaming** – Ian Greene A report has been received from the audio engineer and it is being implemented. It is hoped that sound will be improved soon.
- **The Lychgate** – Ian Greene Volunteers to be included in a Parish Profile are always welcome.
- **Missional Team** – Kathie Wagg The team appreciates volunteers as they cannot do everything just themselves.
- **Music** – Jack Hattey Thanks to the congregation and Fr. Carefoote for excellent singing.
- **Newcomers/Greeters** – Janet Reid Nahabedian We are blessed to have many visitors. It is important that we all speak to them and make them feel welcome.
- **Outreach** – Judith Kidd Thanks to the committee members. Our FaithWorks campaign this year will begin in April. The walkathon is planned for the first Sunday in June.
- **Property** – Mark Kolberg Thanks to volunteers. This will be a big year; there is lots to do.
- **Servers** – Lynn McKnight Four new servers have been welcomed. More are always needed.
- **Sidespeople** – Glen Storey Thanks to volunteers; at least one more is needed, of any age.

11. Other Business

1) Jonathan Gentry raised three items:

- a) a concern that the position of Quiet Garden coordinator is vacant.
- b) **MOTION** (J. Gentry/G. Brawn) a motion of thanks to Tim Stephenson and the now-disbanded COVID Protocols Group for work well done. **CARRIED**
- c) Thanks to Roberta and Robert for their excellent flower arrangements. [Applause.]

2) Gayne Brawn noted that no one spoke to Coffee Cohorts. She hopes that we can make the coffee hour more welcoming and that there will be more volunteers.

3) Social Justice Motion

Judith Kidd presented the Social Justice Motion for this year as in the information circulated and as discussed in the Christian Education series.

We, the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Toronto, call on all levels of government to take the following measures to protect and advance the human right to housing:

- We call on the Government of Canada to ensure that federal subsidies and incentives are targeted to those developers and projects that demonstrably address housing need and uphold the human right to housing by meeting clear conditions on affordable rents, non-displacement policies and eviction prevention measures.
- We call on the Government of Canada to end the favourable tax treatment of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and tax them at the regular corporate rate, with resulting revenues being directed toward the creation and preservation of affordable housing.

- We call on the Province of Ontario to enact rent controls and vacancy controls on all rental housing and put restrictions on Above Guideline Rent Increases.
- We call on the Province of Ontario to work with municipal governments to enact and enforce restrictions on short-term rentals to protect rental housing stock.

There was some concern that the last point could prevent people from renting out space in their homes to help cover costs. It was explained that it is not the intent of the motion to interfere with rental of part of one's own home. It is aimed at speculators. After discussion, no amendment was proposed. Judith undertook to take this concern to the Outreach Committee for possible action with the City of Toronto.

MOTION (as above) (J. Kidd/E. Goulden)

CARRIED

4) Parish Selection Committee

Nadine Barmania reported that the committee is now at the interview stage. Names have been received from the Bishop and they are good candidates. She thanks the parish for its participation.

5) Jay Haddad thanked Peter Chauvin who is ending his term as Warden.

6) Shelagh McPherson thanked Fr. Carefoote for his excellent service as Interim. [More applause.] He responded with his own thanks and noted that he has become attached to the parish.

On a motion from E. Goulden, the meeting adjourned with the Grace at 1:59 pm.

Attendance List

Fr. PJ Carefoote, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Chair

Prince Emmanuel Adjin-Tettye	Douglas Hattey	Danny Nie Ho Tie (non-voting)
Margaret Allen	Jack Hattey	Larry Palin
Michael Attwood	Lindsey Hobson	Patricia Palin
Nadine Barmania	Robert Kananaj	Cathy Paxton
Gayne Brawn	Finn Keesmaat-Walsh (non-voting)	Janet Reid Nahabedian
Sandy Brown	Judith Kidd	Ryan Samaroo
Lyall Carter	Mark Kolberg	Bernard Sanders
Peter Chauvin	Roberta Laking-Kananaj	Ian Snider
Ron Cheung	Elaine Lumley	Phil Snider
Gregory Conliffe	David Luxton	Tim Stephenson
Mary Conliffe	Mag Luxton	Glen Storey
Philip Conliffe	David McKnight	Samantha Thompson
Maryam Feleke	Lynn McKnight	Sheila Wadie
Jonathan Gentry	Patty McKnight	Kathie Wagg
Elin Goulden	Shelagh McPherson	Ingrid Whitaker
Ian Greene	Harold Nahabedian	Andrea Zinn
Jay Haddad		

The College of Bishops Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2025

To the clergy, churchwardens, and parishioners of the Diocese of Toronto:

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

"...be renewed in the spirit ..." – Ephesians 4:23

In this Season of Spiritual Renewal, the Diocese of Toronto is exhibiting a burgeoning health and vitality that inspires us daily. To God be the glory! As your bishops, as we travel around to visit our parishes, we have witnessed the Holy Spirit engaging in marvelous ways with people, groups and ministries right across this Diocese – from Mississauga to Minden, from Cobourg to Collingwood. The Season of Spiritual Renewal, this invitation to spiritual growth, has been enthusiastically received in so many ways, including the sharing of prayer resources, participation in online workshops, and our bishops' Advent study online. We are also looking forward to #LiveLent: *God's Story, Our Story*, a daily Lenten resource with a helpful guide for small group use.

We are excited that the next phase in this Season of Spiritual Renewal is called "Lift Up Our Hearts." Over the coming year, large worship services will take place across the Diocese on five Saturday afternoons at 2 p.m. Each celebration of the Eucharist will feature excellent music, moving testimony, and preachers from within our own Diocese, each with their own unique approach to spiritual renewal. We hope you will plan to join us for one or more of these marvelous gatherings. Come on your own, bring a friend, or hire a bus! We will see you there:

- **March 22 – St. James Cathedral** (preacher: the Rev. Molly Finlay)
- **March 29 – Trinity Church, Streetsville** (preacher: the Rev. Canon Stephanie Douglas)
- **May 31 – All Saints, Whitby** (preacher: the Rev. Gerlyn Henry)
- **September 27 – St. James, Orillia** (preacher: the Rev. Dr. Rob Hurkmans)
- **October 25 – St. Paul's, Bloor Street** (preacher: the Rev. Dr. Alvarado Adderley)

The call to spiritual renewal, however, was just the first of 20 Calls articulated in the Cast the Net strategic vision adopted by Synod and this Diocese in 2023. Over the coming year, you will hear us repeatedly emphasising the need for each congregation to review and consider all of the 20 Calls and then choose which two or three your parish will focus on. As you gather today for Vestry, this could be the perfect opportunity to start considering the question. A small group – the Netminders – has prepared resources to help you, which you can find on the Cast the Net web page (www.toronto.anglican.ca/about-us/cast-the-net/). While it's important to remember that no congregation could possibly answer all 20 Calls, we strongly believe that each congregation can consider two or three. Leading up to our diocesan Synod in November, we hope that every parish will be able to identify which of the Calls they are living into.

We are pleased to welcome our new Executive Director, Varun Balendra ODT. A familiar face around the Diocese, Varun has served in many volunteer capacities over the years, and we look forward to working together in this new capacity. By the time of our diocesan Synod on Friday, November 7 and Saturday, November 8, we expect that we will be introducing a new Secretary of Synod and a new full-time Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisor, whose primary focus areas will be supporting the work of the Anti-Bias, Anti-Racism (ABAR) and other DEI training, and supporting individuals and parishes to grow, build community, educate and engage.

Some other new faces at Synod may include guests from the Diocese of Brasilia. This past June, at the Cathedral Church of the Resurrection in the city of Brasilia, the two diocesan bishops of Brasilia and Toronto signed the covenant that brings our two dioceses into a companion relationship. Since the signing of our agreement, a small representative group from each diocese has been meeting monthly – in both Portuguese and English – to pray together and to plan events. For example, clergy from both dioceses will

gather online for a joint study day on liberation theology on March 25. In the fall, a youth delegation from Brasilia will join our own youth at the Re-Charge youth retreat at Muskoka Woods camp. And we anticipate sending a delegation from Toronto to Brasilia in 2026. We have even developed a shared logo for our relationship that combines elements of each of our own logos: our Diocese of Toronto dove springing from their Ipe Tree. You can expect to hear more about this companion partnership as we enter into the second year of it.

Closer to home, the partnerships within our own Diocese continue to flourish. When we speak of casting the net, we are referring to the supportive, creative and collaborative ministry that occurs in each deanery and regionalization, between parishes and congregations, amongst church neighbours and colleagues. We are grateful to our hardworking and devout clergy and our dedicated lay leaders, especially churchwardens, treasurers, administrators, musicians and the countless church staff and parish volunteers who are Christ's hands and feet of ministry in our communities. We are so grateful for all of your faithful work in our parishes and beyond.

We have embarked on a feasibility study to discern if this is the right time for the Diocese to conduct a major financial campaign. Over the next six months, M&M International, a Toronto-based fundraising firm, will listen to parishes large and small, soliciting feedback on a case for support. It is proposed that if a campaign does go forward, the majority of funds raised will remain in the parishes, with a smaller portion supporting the 20 Calls at the diocesan level. Your feedback and commitment will make the difference as we look into this additional way of working together.

Lastly, we want to encourage each Vestry meeting to consider this year's social justice motion: "Protecting and Expanding Harm Reduction in Ontario." The Church has a role to play in calling on government for responsible actions in caring for our most vulnerable neighbours, to ensure life-saving protections for those experiencing addictions and other challenges. Please consider how your parish can speak up, and out, for those who require advocacy. As we anticipate going to the polls in the coming year – federally and provincially – let us remember our baptismal promises as we cast our ballots, choosing candidates who align with our values. And let us pray for them.

For it is in praying that we are drawn ever deeper into relationship with the Triune God and become more attentive to the will of our Heavenly Creator. In this Season of Spiritual Renewal, we ask every reader of this letter to commit more deeply to a life of prayer, that it may infuse your every day with Grace as you witness to the Love of Christ in your life and to the world.

In your prayers, please pray for all three of us, your College of Bishops, both in your personal daily devotions as well as your parish's weekly intercessions. Know that we are praying for you too, giving thanks for our common life together across our wonderful diocesan family.

Yours faithfully in Christ Jesus,

The Right Rev. Andrew J. Asbil
Bishop of Toronto

The Right Rev. Riscylla Shaw
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

The Right Rev. Kevin Robertson
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

Incumbent's Report

In the Book of Leviticus, ancient Israel is commanded to love “the stranger who resides with you” (Leviticus 19:34). They shall “be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the stranger as yourself.” This is rooted in Israel’s own history of salvation, their experience of God’s abiding love and faithfulness which delivered them from slavery and oppression in their time of need: “...for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

These words have been much on my heart as you welcomed me—a stranger in your midst—as your new Incumbent this autumn. I have encountered in you a community of Christians devoted to their Lord, eager to extend to one another and to others the same love you have encountered in your God who has saved you and made you his children “by adoption and grace” (see Ephesians 3:1-6).

I have also found in you a desire to deepen your devotion to the Lord and to grow further in your love for stranger and neighbour. This parish has been well-served for many years by faithful clergy along with many devoted lay leaders. How can we build upon the excellent foundations they have laid for us? I hope that we will discern this together over the coming year. As part of our Diocese’s Season of Spiritual Renewal, each parish has been asked to commit to two or three of the twenty “calls to action” (see the following page for the list) in order to strengthen and deepen their ministry. These calls may provide a helpful framework for our discernment.

There are already many signs of the Holy Spirit at work among us, seeking to strengthen our life together in Christ. We are slowly building up our complement of altar servers, restoring full and proper ceremonial to our worship; we began observing the ‘red letter’ saints’ days which punctuate the church calendar with a said Eucharist in the Chapel; there is a growing interest in establishing a lay pastoral visiting team; and our outreach and missional committees are eager for new opportunities to build upon the excellent work they already do within our community. This is just to name a few signs; and all of this is in addition to the many wonderful groups and activities and programs which already happen here, as detailed in the other Vestry reports.

We live in uncertain, confusing, and disorienting times, when all the categories of life are being challenged and taken apart. In such a world, we have Good News to share about the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our world desperately needs to hear his message of repentance, forgiveness, and love. Let us do our small part to share that message and honour God who has delivered us from all evil.

You have all been a tremendous support to me, helping me to settle into the parish over the past few months. I must, however, close my report by offering my special thanks to your wardens, Jay Haddad and Nadine Barmania, whose support and care has been unwavering. We have all been blessed by their leadership during a year of many changes and uncertainties. It has been a joy to work with Jack Hattey, our Music Director, whose thoughtfulness and care for the liturgy and the choir has been invaluable to me. Our office administrator, Andrea Zinn, stepped down from her position at the end of December and I note with great sadness her death earlier this month. Andrea was a great support to me during my first few months in the parish. She was eager to see me succeed due to her love for this parish. Let us give thanks for her life and commend her to God’s safe keeping. Finally, let me thank our honorary assistant clergy, Bishop Victoria Matthews, Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, Fr. David Luxton, and Fr. Harold Nahabedian. Each of them, in their own way, has offered wise counsel and unwavering support to me over the past few months. I also thank your former incumbent, Fr. Philip Hobson and your interim priest-in-charge, Fr. PJ Carefoote who have also been kind and supportive guides as I settled in.

Fr. Nicholas Hatt



Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, serve the world God loves!

20 Calls to all parts of the Diocese:

RENEWING SPIRITUALITY

We are renewed daily in our spiritual lives and share our faith with others.

1. Enter into a Season of Spiritual Renewal to deepen personal and collective discipleship.
2. Reinvigorate and recommit to children's, youth, family, and intergenerational ministries.
3. Share and use resources to enliven worship, faith formation, spiritual practice, and evangelism.

INSPIRING FAITH IN ACTION

We seek justice for all, walk alongside those in need, and respond with loving service and prophetic advocacy.

4. Recognize and act on opportunities to participate in God's healing work in the world.
5. Make explicit connections between following Jesus and working for justice and peace.
6. Strengthen Indigenous ministry; engage non-Indigenous Anglicans in reconciliation work.
7. Take, sustain and communicate actions that promote diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism.
8. Intensify advocacy and action in response to the climate crisis.

REIMAGINING MINISTRY

We support and encourage faithful and fruitful ministry by all who serve the life of the church.

9. Actively embrace collaboration among congregations and innovation in new forms of ministry.
10. Better reflect the diversity of our communities in both congregations and clergy.
11. Understand the changing needs of lay leaders in congregations and support them in their work.
12. Continue and enhance support for all ordained people.
13. Enable and celebrate the work of ministries focused on service in the world.
14. Rethink clergy discernment, formation, and deployment for the church of the future.
15. Introduce and use new ways to measure and nurture congregational health and effectiveness.

TRANSFORMING DIOCESAN CULTURE

We live and work as the Body of Christ, each member connected to the whole, and each valued for their unique gifts.

16. Cultivate an understanding of the diocese as a dynamic net of shared relationships.
17. Continue assessing recent diocesan leadership changes and adjust as necessary.
18. Adopt an integrated, theologically-informed approach to property management.
19. Ensure follow-through on this report, including implementation methods and metrics.
20. Invest in the vision with existing and new resources, using sound Christian stewardship principles.

www.toronto.anglican.ca/castthenet



Management Board

Management Board oversees the property, financial and operating concerns of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The Board, with delegated authorities through Vestry and in support of the Wardens, meets monthly through the year, except July and August.

Current members are Nadine Barmania (Chair and People's Warden), Larry Barwick (Secretary), Philip Conliffe (Treasurer), Peter Chauvin (Memorial Fund liaison), Mark Kolberg (Property Manager), David McKnight (Screening Coordinator), Prince Emmanuel Adjin-Tetty (IT), and members-at-large Adriana Balen, Jonathan Gentry, Piers Hemmingsen (Envelope Secretary), Ryan Samaroo and Cyriline Taylor. Fr. Hatt (Incumbent), Fr. Carefoote (Interim Priest-in-charge to August 30, 2024), Jay Haddad (Parish Council Chair and Rector's Warden) and Phil Snider (Deputy Rector's Warden) also actively participate in Management Board deliberations. Cindy Paget (Health Safety and Security Committee), Michael Attwood (Stewardship) and Lynn McKnight also contributed regularly to Management Board.

2024 has been a year of renewal for St. Martin-in-the-Fields. In May 2024 Bishop Robertson appointed Father Nicholas Hatt as our Incumbent Priest. Fr. Carefoote continued as Interim Priest-in-Charge until August 30. Fr. Hatt began his ministry here on September 1st and was formally installed on November 20, 2024.

Throughout the year, our property team made upgrades to the rectory including installation of an air conditioning system, refinishing the hardwood floors, lighting and electrical upgrades, replacing the kitchen floor and counter, replacing eaves trough, appliance replacement, and interior painting. Thank you to the property team and volunteers.

The major project at the church was the replacement of the boilers and upgrades to the heating system. Our property manager and team led us through the process working with the design engineers to design an efficient and sustainable heating system and with the mechanical engineers in the installation and implementation of the design. The work included the installing new boilers, piping and thermostats, reconfiguring the heating zones, implementing remedial measures in the boiler room to address the damp environment to increase the life of the new boilers. We are indebted to Mark Kolberg, Adriana Balan and Peter Chauvin for their expertise and leadership through this project.

The church building had several other repairs and upgrades including installation of a security camera, repairs to a stained glass window and installation of a wall-mounted live stream camera. Our physical plant and safety protocols are regularly reviewed by the Health Safety and Security Committee, and action is taken based on HSS recommendations. Our sexton Bernard Sanders diligently provided regular maintenance of the church with additional volunteers for snow removal and special projects. Thank you to Bernard.

We made several adjustments to the systems in the office to increase efficiency. Our office administrator Andrea Zinn provided invaluable support to the priests, committees and groups throughout the year. Andrea stepped down at the end of 2024. We gratefully remember Andrea for her contributions and dedication to St. Martin's over many years.

Fr. Carefoote co-ordinated deposits of Church registers with the Archives of the Diocese. Our archives team continues to organize historical church records and documents.

This year's stewardship campaign – Looking Forward with Hope – focused us on committing our time talent and treasure to St. Martin's as we are each able.

Underlying all the work of the church is the generous financial support of parishioners and the careful management of our finances by our Treasurer, Investment Managers and Envelope Secretary. We are in a healthy financial position. Our Treasurer will provide a detailed report of our regular operations.

Our Memorial Fund has grown through the years from bequests from parishioners and through prudent management. The Fund provides financial stability to St. Martin's on an ongoing basis as we can supplement our operating revenue each year by transfer of up to 4% of the Fund. In addition, as with the boiler, we can draw on the Fund for special projects subject to approval of the Vestry. Rather than deplete the Fund we have committed to maintaining the Fund to provide this stability into the future.

The boiler project and heating upgrades was paid for from the Memorial Funds in accordance with the special vestry resolution. We have undertaken to replenish the Memorial Fund for all amounts withdrawn.

The Heat It Forward capital campaign to raise \$360,000 to replenish the Memorial Fund has now formally launched. We are grateful for all those who donated to the Memorial Fund for the boiler project in 2024. As of the end of 2024, initial donations to replenish the Fund and fundraising efforts amount to about \$52,000. We have a strong start to the campaign and are looking forward to receiving pledges and to further events to successfully Heat It Forward.

Thank you to all members of Management Board and all members of committees and teams who advise Management Board and who carry out the work in the Church. The breath of expertise of our members and depth of commitment to the Church is truly a blessing to our community.

Thank you to my fellow wardens Jay Haddad and deputy Phil Snider for their hard work over the year.

We are grateful for Fr. Carefoote's steady guidance as Interim Priest-in-Charge. His gifts not only as priest and pastor, but as historian, archivist, and musician enriched our church last year.

Finally, we are so thankful to welcome Fr. Nicholas Hatt as Incumbent Priest of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Fr. Hatt has seamlessly become our priest and pastor. His teaching and guidance are deeply rooted in faith and we are looking forward to a wonderful future. Thank you Fr. Hatt.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine J.L. Barmania
People's Warden, Management Board Chair

Parish Council

Parish Council oversees the spiritual life and program activities of our Parish; we meet on the 2nd Monday of each month, with the exception of July and August.

Current members: Jay Haddad (Rector's Warden), Nadine Barmania (People's Warden), Phil Snider (Deputy Warden), Patty McKnight (secretary), David McKnight, Jonathan Gentry (lay delegates to Synod), Vicki Cooper (alternate delegate), and members at large: Elin Goulden, Ron Cheung, Tim Stephenson, Judith Kidd, Jenny Formanek, Kathie Wagg, Cathy Paxton, Bob Thornley, Finn Keesmaat-Walsh (non-voting), and Andrea Zinn (non-voting).

We hosted Pancake Supper (February 13), and had a special cake at Vestry (February 25) for Sheila Wadie and Prince Emmanuel's family becoming Canadian citizens, followed by our Resurrection Party (March 30), cake for Fr. Harold on June 9 ("Ad multos annos"), cake for the Baptism of Sophie Banks (June 16), cake for thank you and farewell to Fr. Carefoote (August 25), our Parish welcome-back barbecue (September 8), and our Advent Carol Service reception (December 8).

Reviewing my calendar, I can't believe the number of zoom meetings, and in-person meetings we had as a Parish Selection Committee (Jay Haddad, Nadine Barmania, Patty McKnight, Kathie Wagg, Cyriline Taylor, Anne Longmore, Ron Cheung, Ian Greene, and our coaches Bill and Cathy Matthews). Not only did this lead to our wonderful Parish profile, but to several interviews by zoom, and finally in-person to finally order cake on September 1, 2024, and welcome Fr. Nicholas Hatt as our incumbent. This was a thrill of a search, and an honour for us all to introduce St. Martin's to Fr. Hatt, and Fr. Hatt to St. Martin's on Sunday, September 1st.

You can see all the reports on the following pages of our many parish committees: Lychgate, Garden, Website, Facebook/Instagram, Children and Youth Ministry, Outreach, Missional, and others.

A lot of work was performed on our Rectory to have it ready for Fr. Hatt; so many of our parishioners and volunteers put in hours upon hours of work from pulling out carpet, to refinishing, to painting, to ordering appliances etc. Thank you to Glen Storey, Quinn Kennedy, Lynn McKnight, Mark Kolberg, Peter Chauvin, Nadine Barmania, Ian Wrong, Sal Bertoli and others who helped in this endeavour.

Lastly, thank you to Nadine Barmania, our People's Warden, for your work ethic and devotion to our parish, and always being a steadying voice in everything that we do together. To my friend, Phil Snider, twenty years ago I watched you and Vicki (Cooper) lead the youth group so splendidly, and now I get to watch you lead Parish Council for the next two years.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Haddad

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024
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Peter Tsui Professional Corporation

145 Royal Crest Court, Unit 33, Markham, Ontario L3R 9Z4

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Vestry of the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statements of revenue, expenditures, changes in fund balances and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields as at December 31, 2024 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Church in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

In common with many non-profit organizations, the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields derives income from donations and fundraising, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, my verification of income was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to the donations and fundraising revenue, excess of revenue over expenditures and net assets.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

The Churchwardens are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Churchwardens are responsible for assessing the Church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Church or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Church's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate to the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Church's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Church's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Church to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I also provide those charged with governance with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that my reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

February 6, 2025
Markham, Ontario

Pet. Tsui CPA, CA

Authorized to practice public accounting by
Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Statement of Financial Position For the year ended December 31, 2024

	General Fund		Memorial Fund		Total Funds	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Assets						
Current						
Cash and equivalents	234,578	256,334	568,669	521,221	803,247	777,555
Accounts receivable	639	337	12,279	3,237	12,918	3,574
Harmonized Sales Tax recoverable	4,353	3,699	22,797	-	27,150	3,699
Interfund advances (note 2)	58,898	104,856	(58,898)	(104,856)	-	-
	298,468	365,226	544,847	419,602	843,315	784,828
Investments (note 3)	-	-	976,948	1,270,513	976,948	1,270,513
Total assets	298,468	365,226	1,521,795	1,690,115	1,820,263	2,055,341
Liabilities						
Current						
Accounts payable and accruals	20,421	21,464	35,839	-	56,260	21,464
Long term						
Deferred contributions (note 5 and schedule 2)	225,550	291,260	-	-	225,550	291,260
	245,971	312,724	35,839	-	281,810	312,724
Fund Balances						
Unrestricted	52,497	52,501	-	-	52,497	52,501
Internally restricted	-	-	1,485,956	1,690,116	1,485,956	1,690,116
	52,497	52,501	1,485,956	1,690,116	1,538,453	1,742,617
Total liabilities and fund balances	298,468	365,225	1,521,795	1,690,116	1,820,263	2,055,341

Approved on behalf of Vestry:


Warden


Warden

See accompanying notes to financial statements

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances For the year ended December 31, 2024

	General Fund		Memorial Fund		Total Funds	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue						
Donations - receipted (schedule 1)	184,493	141,574	49,551	82,565	234,044	224,139
PAR receipts	75,894	70,308			75,894	70,308
Donations - unreceipted (schedule 1)	37,264	39,735	5,204	-	42,468	39,735
Rental of premises	14,370	14,195			14,370	14,195
York rectory	6,800	6,800			6,800	6,800
Investment income (note 3)	250	242	104,704	91,847	104,954	92,089
Deferred contributions recognized (schedule 2)	95,350	74,861			95,350	74,861
Miscellaneous income	25,207	10,097	25,519	-	50,726	10,097
	439,628	357,812	184,978	174,412	624,606	532,224
Expenditures						
Human resources (schedule 1)	165,243	174,217			165,243	174,217
Church and rectory (schedule 1)	139,822	91,140	354,126		493,948	91,140
Diocese	20,149	22,388			20,149	22,388
Outreach and mission	84,287	67,017			84,287	67,017
Administration (schedule 1)	37,333	24,780	851	687	38,184	25,467
Worship	14,412	15,946	2,000	851	16,412	16,797
Education	2,788	1,171			2,788	1,171
Hospitality	7,759	13,370			7,759	13,370
	471,793	410,029	356,977	1,538	828,770	411,567
(Deficiency) surplus of revenue over expenditures	(32,165)	(52,217)	(171,999)	172,874	(204,164)	120,657
Fund balances - Beginning of year	52,501	52,501	1,690,116	1,569,459	1,742,617	1,621,960
Interfund transfer	32,161	52,217	(32,161)	(52,217)	-	-
Fund balances - End of year	52,497	52,501	1,485,956	1,690,116	1,538,453	1,742,617

See accompanying notes to financial statements

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended December 31	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Operating activities		
(Deficiency) surplus of revenue over expenditures		
General Fund	(32,165)	(52,217)
Memorial Fund	(171,999)	172,874
Change in deferred contributions	(65,710)	(8,347)
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Amounts receivable	(9,344)	(625)
Harmonized Sales Tax recoverable	(23,451)	(134)
Accounts payable and accruals	34,796	11,185
	<u>(267,873)</u>	<u>122,736</u>
Investing activities		
Sale of investments	<u>293,565</u>	<u>298,023</u>
Change in cash and equivalents during the year	25,692	420,759
Cash and equivalents, beginning of year	<u>777,555</u>	<u>356,796</u>
Cash and equivalents, end of year	<u><u>803,247</u></u>	<u><u>777,555</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Schedule 1: General Fund Revenues and Expenditures For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Received income	161,255	119,655
Received fundraising	3,228	2,689
Received outreach	5,300	4,815
Received flowers	9,315	7,250
Received garden	-	200
Received festivals	5,395	6,965
Donations - Received	184,493	141,574
Open offering and external donation platforms	20,565	20,538
Unreceived fundraising	11,949	16,358
Unreceived outreach	4,750	2,839
Donations - Unreceived	37,264	39,735
Benefits and pension	10,540	12,974
Stipends	58,678	72,891
Childrens ministry staff	21,395	18,611
Clergy supply	2,977	1,531
Maintenance staff	16,441	15,394
Music staff	34,434	35,372
Office staff	20,778	17,444
Human resources	165,243	174,217
Bank, PAR and Canada Helps charges	1,605	2,103
Financial review	-	3,351
Fundraising	2,561	979
Consulting fees	4,168	1,220
Office equipment and supplies	4,599	6,245
Postage and delivery	313	1,634
Printing and stationery	1,147	1,634
Selection committee	15,247	-
Telephone and connectivity	4,237	3,174
Travel	467	771
Miscellaneous	2,989	3,669
Administration	37,333	24,780
Capital repairs	69,154	28,816
Cleaning supplies	673	868
Furnishings	6,309	1,201
Garden	522	930
Church utilities	18,154	20,220
Insurance	18,623	17,730
Repairs and maintenance	12,381	7,734
Rectory property tax	8,772	8,042
Rectory utilities	3,470	4,367
Water and waste	1,764	1,232
Church and rectory	139,822	91,140

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Schedule 2: Deferred Contributions For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024								2023	
	Music	Mundy / Chandler	Restoration	Faithworks	Our Faith Our Hope	Refugee	Children's Ministry	Jack Hattey Bursary	Total	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, Beginning of year	68,479	30,662	1,990	4,516	95,885	67,029	11,499	11,200	291,260	299,607
Receipt										
Grants				622					622	648
Donations (note)				22,454		21,362			43,816	62,014
Interest	2,859	1,314	86						4,259	3,852
	<u>2,859</u>	<u>1,314</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>23,076</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,362</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,697</u>	<u>66,514</u>
Expenditures										
Contribution to Diocese				19,056					19,056	16,810
Other expenditures				4,500	9,472	69,880	11,499		95,351	58,051
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,556</u>	<u>9,472</u>	<u>69,880</u>	<u>11,499</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>114,407</u>	<u>74,861</u>
Net contributions deferred (recognized)	2,859	1,314	86	(480)	(9,472)	(48,518)	(11,499)	-	(65,710)	(8,347)
Inter-fund transfers									-	-
Balance - End of year	<u>71,338</u>	<u>31,976</u>	<u>2,076</u>	<u>4,036</u>	<u>86,413</u>	<u>18,511</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,200</u>	<u>225,550</u>	<u>291,260</u>

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

GENERAL

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (“Church”) located at 151 Glenlake Avenue, Toronto is a parish in the Anglican Diocese of Toronto. The Church provides worship services, hospitality, fellowship, Christian education for children and adults and has an active growing program of outreach to individuals and agencies in the surrounding community. The Church is a registered charity incorporated in Ontario without share capital and is exempt from income taxes under section 146(1)(1) of the Income Tax Act (Canada) as a not-for-profit organization.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Church have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

(b) Fund Accounting

The Church follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. Revenues and expenses related to program delivery and administrative activities, including fundraising and donations, are reflected in the General Fund.

Revenue and expenses related to bequests and funds donated in memoriam are reported in the Memorial Fund. In accordance with operating guidelines approved by Vestry in February 2017, a maximum withdrawal of up to 4% of the Memorial Fund assets, using the value of the Fund as per the audited financial statements approved by the previous year’s Vestry, may be made in any year for any of the following purposes:

- Capital improvements as per the annual budget approved by Vestry or cost overruns on such work where these do not exceed 10% of the budgeted amount;
- Emergency repairs/maintenance that have not been budgeted;
- Supplementing the operating budget where all income is not sufficient to cover all expenses.

(c) Cash and Equivalents

Cash and equivalents include cash on hand, bank deposits and term deposits with maturity dates within 90 days after yearend.

(d) Revenue Recognition

Unrestricted contributions and Memorial Fund contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Amounts received that are specifically earmarked for expenditures of future periods are deferred.

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

The value of pledged donations is not recorded in these financial statements unless the amount and terms have been specifically agreed and receipt is reasonably assured.

Donated goods and services are not recorded in the accounts of the Church, except when fair value of such goods and services can reasonably be estimated and when the goods and services are normally purchased by the Church and would be paid for if not donated. Interest and other revenue are recognized on an accrual basis.

(e) Capital Assets

The Church's buildings are not accounted for in these financial statements. The Church holds these properties in trust for The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto ("Diocese"). Approval from the Diocese is required for the sale, disposition or collateralization of these assets.

Capital assets are expensed when acquired, as permitted under CPA Canada Handbook Section 4431, "Tangible capital assets held by not-for-profit organizations".

(f) Financial Instruments

The Church initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value.

Financial assets and liabilities subsequently measured at amortized cost include accounts receivable, Harmonized Sales Tax recoverable, investments, and accounts payable and accruals.

Financial assets subsequently measured at fair value include cash and equivalents.

Transaction costs are recognized in the excess of revenues over expenditures in the period incurred.

(g) Employee Benefits

The Incumbent Priest of the Church is a member of a pension plan and may receive long-term disability and health plan benefits if eligible. These benefit plans are administered by the Pension Office of the Anglican Church of Canada. Contributions to these plans are made by the Church and by the employee.

(h) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit enterprises requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates in the future and adjustments are recorded as information becomes known.

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

2. INTERFUND ADVANCES

Advances between funds are non-interest bearing and have no specific terms of repayment.

3. INVESTMENTS

	2024		2023	
	Market	Amortized cost	Market	Amortized cost
MEMORIAL FUND:				
Govt of Canada bond 0.75% due Feb 1, 2024	-	-	128,547	128,816
Prov of Ontario bond 2.40% due Jun 2, 2026	297,350	293,530	-	-
Govt of Canada bond 1.50% due Sep 1, 2024	-	-	367,050	370,274
Fairfax India Holdings Corp	66,740	48,662	59,251	48,662
GMC bond 5.95% due May 14, 2024	-	-	25,077	25,000
Ontario Power Corp bond 2.893% due Apr 8, 2025	49,920	50,037	48,836	50,000
CI Financial bond 3.759% due May 26, 2025	49,894	50,011	48,261	50,000
Toronto Diocese Consolidated Trust Fund	419,176	359,780	482,911	447,777
Enbridge shares	-	-	28,620	26,682
Enbridge preferred shares	30,630	26,024	23,820	26,024
BCE preferred shares	52,678	51,626	-	-
Pembina Pipeline preferred shares	33,510	28,500	25,515	28,500
South Bow Corp.	3,392	2,442	-	-
TC Energy preferred shares	46,015	41,648	38,773	41,648
TC Energy shares	33,495	24,688	25,880	27,130
	1,082,800	976,948	1,302,541	1,270,513

Investment income in 2024 includes \$47,548 in realized gain from sale of Memorial Fund investments (2023 – realized gain of \$19,528).

4. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

There were no amounts due with respect to government remittances at December 31, 2024 (2023: \$nil).

5. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred contributions relate to the activities of the following special purpose funds which are accounted for within the General Fund:

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Our Faith Our Hope

This fund is related to a special campaign initiated by the Diocese in 2011 to flow funds to the Church for major building construction, renewal of the organ console, music scholarships, new outreach and youth initiatives.

Music Fund

This fund is used to finance extraordinary music program expenses.

Mundy/Chandler Fund

This fund provides financial assistance to parishioners who study theology.

Restoration Fund

This fund is used primary for specific projects related to restoration of the Church.

Faithworks Fund

This fund is used to assist charities supported by the Diocese. The parish conducts annual campaigns using materials supplied by the Diocese and may retain 15% of the proceeds for their own local outreach programs.

Refugee Fund

This fund was established to assist refugees from war-torn countries.

Children's Ministry Fund

This fund supports the Children's Ministry program.

Jack Hattey Bursary

This bursary fund provides financial support to music students who participate in the Church's music program.

Schedule 2 provides details on receipts and expenditures for each of the above special purpose funds during the year.

6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT RISKS

The Church is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Church's risk exposure and concentrations at the Statement of Financial Position date.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The Church is not exposed to significant credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Church will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Church meets its liquidity requirements by monitoring cash flows from its activities, preparing budgets, and anticipating investing and financing activities.

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Market Risk

Market Risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk is comprised of interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The exposure of the Church to interest rate risk arises from its interest-bearing cash and investments. Fluctuations in market rates of interest are not expected to have a significant impact on the Church's operations.

Currency risk

Currency risk reflects the risks that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchanges rates. Approximately \$75,000 (2023: \$49,000) of the Church's cash and investments as of December 31, 2024 were denominated in US dollar.

Other price risk

Other price risk refers to the risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from currency risk or interest rate risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer or factors affecting all similar instruments in the market. The Church's investments are exposed to other price risk. The Church manages the other price risk exposure by adhering to established Investment Guidelines.

Investments Report

The total market value of the Fund at December 31, 2024 was approximately \$1.24 million, down from \$1.34 million the previous year end. The drop in market value was small given the sizeable withdrawal of funds that occurred periodically throughout the year to pay for sizeable capital improvements to St. Martin's physical assets (the new heating system for the Church). As a reminder, this Fund report excludes the investment assets of St Martin's held and managed by the Diocese. The withdrawals totalled approximately \$325,000 for the year! Fortunately, these large withdrawals were significantly offset by generous parishioner donations of securities into the fund totalling approximately \$107,000, as well as from earned interest and dividend income received of approximately \$38,000 and through net capital gains (both realized and unrealized) of approximately \$68,000 generated by the investment assets of the Fund. Of this \$68,000 amount approximately \$10,000 was realized in 2024 on the sale of the entire common stock position in Enbridge for a percentage gain of 37% over the Fund's cost. In addition to this gain, Enbridge shares provided a very attractive annual dividend yield in excess of 8% per year, so a great overall return. There remains \$58,000 of unrealized gains related to various preferred and common shares still owned by the Fund.

The market value composition of the fund at year end was: 79% fixed income (including cash) securities and 21% equity securities, virtually unchanged from last year. Equity securities are primarily invested in preferred shares or common shares of various utility type companies offering very attractive yields (approximately 8% on average at cost). These utility businesses are regulated businesses providing critical "necessity" products to consumers - natural gas, oil and electricity. So they are quite safe from a credit risk perspective

As mentioned above, the Fund's total interest and dividend income earned totalled approximately \$38,000 comprised of \$26,000 from bonds and cash, and approximately \$12,000 from dividends on common and preferred shares. This compares with a projected income level range of \$45,000 - \$50,000 range provided in last year's report. The lower level of income earned from projected was due largely to the earlier timing of the large withdrawals that occurred in the year relative to the receipt of parishioner donations as well as to the drop in short term interest rates which affected the interest earned on cash assets. Never the less, the total \$38,000 of income earned in 2024 compares favourably to the \$25,250 earned in 2023, \$18,000 in 2022 and \$16,400 in 2021.

Based on the securities owned at year end, we would expect to earn approximately \$46,000 of interest and dividend income in 2025. However, there is great uncertainty ahead for the Canadian economy and financial markets.

We fear a very difficult period ahead as a result of the bad economic and financial policies of the last fifteen years catching up to us. The Canadian private sector economy has significantly underperformed the U.S. private sector economy in so many ways and yet this is not totally visible to Canadians as the huge growth of our government sector gives the impression of strong growth. To maintain employment growth, rather than work to bolster the Canadian private sector, government officials have looked the other way and continued to grow the government sector at the expense of the private sector and have promoted a dramatic depreciation of the Canadian dollar relative to the U.S. dollar - a 33% depreciation of the Canadian dollar since 2011. In effect, we have deliberately imposed a 33% price cut on Canadian goods and services being sold into the U.S., our largest trading partner. Putting oneself in "American shoes" an argument can be made that Canada has unfairly taken market share away from domestic U.S. private sector enterprises, including many jobs, rather than fix our own domestic private and government sector problems. There is clearly some legitimacy to this argument.

The new U.S. Republican administration under President Donald Trump's leadership "has our number" and appears serious about forcing dramatic changes in the Canada-U.S. relationship which will likely require Canada to pivot from a government sector focused economy to a more competitive free enterprise private sector.

The outlook ahead looks particularly difficult for Canada so we will maintain our conservative stance of holding large amounts of short maturity government bonds and selective high dividend paying common and preferred share stocks.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Bradstreet

The Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields
Income and Expense Statement
Twelve months ended December 31, 2024

	2023	2024	2024		2024	2025
	Actual	Actual	Budget		Budget	Budget
REVENUES	12/31	12/31	12/31	Variance	12 months	12 months
Receipted Income	119,656	161,255	122,000	39,255	122,000	135,000
PAR receipts	70,308	75,894	72,000	3,894	72,000	81,800
Receipted Festivals	6,965	5,395	6,000	(605)	6,000	5,500
Receipted Flowers	7,250	9,315	7,500	1,815	7,500	9,000
Receipted Garden	200	0	0	-	0	0
Receipted Fund Raising	2,689	3,228	0	3,228	0	0
Receipted Outreach	4,815	5,300	5,000	300	5,000	5,000
Total Receipted Income	211,883	260,387	212,500	47,887	212,500	236,300
Open Offering / Canada Helps	20,538	20,565	21,000	(435)	21,000	20,000
Outreach / Mission Fund Raising	2,839	4,750	3,000	1,750	3,000	4,500
Unreceipted Fund Raising	16,358	11,949	10,000	1,949	10,000	12,000
Total Unreceipted Income	39,736	37,265	34,000	3,265	34,000	36,500
Space Usage	14,195	14,370	13,000	1,370	13,000	14,500
York Rectory	6,800	6,800	6,800	0	6,800	6,800
HST Rebate / Grants / Misc.	10,339	25,457	8,000	17,457	8,000	8,500
Total Operating Income	282,952	344,278	274,300	69,978	274,300	302,600
EXPENSES						
<u>Human Resources</u>						
Clergy - Stipend	72,891	58,678	59,500	(822)	59,500	57,736
Clergy - Pension	9,007	6,787	10,900	(4,113)	10,900	14,261
Clergy - Benefits	3,592	3,453	7,700	(4,247)	7,700	7,414
Clergy - Professional Development	375	300	600	(300)	600	900
Assisting Clergy	1,531	2,977	2,500	477	2,500	1,600
Clergy - Total	87,396	72,194	81,200	(9,006)	81,200	81,911
Maintenance Staff / Cleaning	15,394	16,441	17,500	(1,059)	17,500	18,050
Music Staff	34,671	33,659	38,000	(4,341)	38,000	37,000
Honoraria - Music	700	775	1,000	(225)	1,000	1,000
Children's Ministry Staff	18,611	21,395	21,600	(205)	21,600	22,270
Administrative Staff	17,444	20,778	20,250	528	20,250	20,878
Human Resources - Total	174,216	165,242	179,550	(14,308)	179,550	181,109
<u>Church and Rectory</u>						
Heating	13,747	10,589	14,000	(3,412)	14,000	11,500
Hydro	6,473	7,565	7,000	565	7,000	8,000
Water and Garbage	1,232	1,764	1,200	564	1,200	1,700
Property Tax - Rectory	8,042	8,772	8,900	(128)	8,900	9,377
Utilities - Rectory	4,367	3,470	4,000	(530)	4,000	3,800
Insurance	17,730	18,623	18,623	0	18,623	20,234
Capital Expenditures	9,832	69,154	50,000	19,154	50,000	50,000
Heating System Replacement	18,984	354,126	400,000	(45,874)	400,000	0
Regular Repairs & Maintenance	7,201	11,821	10,000	1,821	10,000	13,000
Organ / Piano Maintenance	533	560	1,200	(640)	1,200	1,000
Garden	930	522	1,000	(478)	1,000	3,000
Cleaning Supplies	868	673	900	(227)	900	1,000
Furniture and Equipment	1,201	6,309	3,000	3,309	3,000	3,000
Total - Church Premises	91,141	493,947	519,823	(25,876)	519,823	125,611

The Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields
Income and Expense Statement
Twelve months ended December 31, 2024

	2023 Actual 12/31	2024 Actual 12/31	2024 Budget 12/31	Variance	2024 Budget 12 months	2025 Budget 12 months
Diocese						
Synod Allotment	21,638	20,149	20,149	0	20,149	26,359
Synod Expenses	750	0	0	-	0	750
Diocese - Total	22,388	20,149	20,149	0	20,149	27,109
Services						
Worship	7,298	4,738	6,000	(1,262)	6,000	6,000
Outreach	6,873	6,670	7,500	(830)	7,500	7,500
Missional Church	2,454	2,987	2,500	487	2,500	2,500
Children's Ministry	758	975	800	175	800	900
Youth Program	117	878	800	78	800	900
Christian Education		613	500	113	500	500
Library	296	322	300	22	300	300
Newcomers			500	(500)	500	0
Servers Guild		246	300	(54)	300	300
Choir	529	509	1,500	(991)	1,500	1,200
Flowers	8,119	8,919	7,500	1,419	7,500	9,000
Heritage and Archives			500	(500)	500	500
Coffee cohorts	1,537	1,609	1,500	109	1,500	1,600
Other hospitality	11,832	6,150	3,200	2,950	3,200	3,500
Rector's Discretionary & Assist.	980	250	1,500	(1,250)	1,500	1,200
Total - Services	40,793	34,864	34,900	(36)	34,900	35,900
Administration						
Advertising & Publicity / Website	1,113	909	1,200	(291)	1,200	2,500
Printing & Stationery	1,634	1,147	1,500	(353)	1,500	1,300
Telephone / Internet	2,575	3,808	4,000	(192)	4,000	4,400
Postage	1,634	313	1,600	(1,287)	1,600	1,200
Office Supplies & Equipment	6,245	4,599	6,000	(1,401)	6,000	6,300
Fundraising expenses	979	2,561	1,500	1,061	1,500	1,500
Clergy - Travel	771	467	1,200	(733)	1,200	1,500
Bank / Credit Card Charges	748	275	600	(325)	600	500
PAR / Canada Helps / Square fees	1,355	1,330	1,400	(70)	1,400	1,450
Financial Review / Professional Fees	4,571	4,168	3,600	568	3,600	3,400
New Incumbent Moving / Admin Costs		15,247	10,000	5,247	10,000	0
Miscellaneous	3,155	2,510	1,000	1,510	1,000	1,500
Administration - Total	24,782	37,332	33,600	3,732	33,600	25,550
TOTAL EXPENSE	353,321	751,535	788,022	(36,487)	788,022	395,279
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	(70,369)	(407,257)	(513,722)	106,466	(513,722)	(92,679)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	52,501	52,501	52,501		52,501	52,501
Transfer to/from Memorial Fund	52,218	386,287	462,778	(76,491)	462,778	67,604
Transfer from other funds	18,151	20,970	22,170	(1,200)	22,170	22,270
FUND BALANCE, END	52,501	52,501	23,727		23,722	49,696

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee is responsible to identify potential nominees for elected positions and people willing to serve in appointed positions. It is led by the two Wardens (N Barmania, J Haddad) and includes the Incumbent (N Hatt) and two people from each of Parish Council (J Formanek, D McKnight) and Management Board (L Barwick, J Gentry).

PARISH COUNCIL

Position	2024 Holder	2025 Nominee	Notes
Chair (<i>Rector's Warden</i>)	Jay Haddad	Phil Snider	
Deputy Chair	Phil Snider	-----	Elected in alternate years
Secretary	Patty McKnight	Patty McKnight	
Lay Delegates to Synod	Jonathan Gentry	Jonathan Gentry	
	David McKnight	David McKnight	
Alternate Lay Delegate	Vicki Cooper	Vicki Cooper	
Members at Large	Ron Cheung	-----	Resigned
	Judith Kidd	-----	Resigned
	Jenny Formanek	Jenny Formanek	
	Elin Goulden	Elin Goulden	
	Cathy Paxton	Cathy Paxton	
	Tim Stephenson	Tim Stephenson	
	Bob Thornley	Bob Thornley	
	Kathie Wagg	Kathie Wagg	
		Patricia Boulden	
		Dianne Doughty	
		Jay Haddad	
		Kathy Mansfield	
		Shelagh McPherson	

Andrea Zinn had agreed to be a member of Parish Council. May she rest in peace.

MANAGEMENT BOARD

Position	2024 Holder	2025 Nominee	Notes
Chair (<i>People's Warden</i>)	Nadine Barmania	Nadine Barmania	
Deputy Chair	----		Vacant
Secretary	Larry Barwick	David McKnight	
Treasurer (<i>ex officio</i>)	Philip Conliffe	Philip Conliffe	Appointed by Wardens
Property Manager	Mark Kolberg	Mark Kolberg	
Screening / Safe Church	David McKnight	David McKnight	
Members at Large	Adriana Balen	-----	Resigned
	Peter Chauvin	Peter Chauvin	
	Jonathan Gentry	Jonathan Gentry	
	Piers Hemmingsen	Piers Hemmingsen	
	Ryan Samaroo	-----	Resigned
	Cyriline Taylor	Cyriline Taylor	
		Larry Barwick	
		Anne Longmore	
		Linda Markowsky	
		Lynn McKnight	
		Cindy Paget	

OTHER OFFICERS

Position	2024 Holder	2025 Nominee	Notes
Parochial Tribunal	Tim Stephenson	Tim Stephenson	
	Patty McKnight	Patty McKnight	
Envelope Secretary	Piers Hemmingsen	Piers Hemmingsen	

NON-ELECTED POSITIONS

Position	2024 Holder	2025 Nominee	Notes
Altar Guild	Roberta Laking Kananaj	Roberta Laking Kananaj	
Bookings	Shelagh McPherson	Shelagh McPherson	
Children & Youth Ministry Committee	Jay Haddad	Phil Snider	Chair Parish Council
Christian Education	Mary Conliffe & Phil Snider	Mary Conliffe & Phil Snider	Co-Chairs
Christmas Market	Tim Stephenson	Tim Stephenson	
Coffee Cohorts	Bernard Sanders	Bernard Sanders	
Counting Teams	Shelagh McPherson	Shelagh McPherson	
Facebook	Andrea Zinn	Anne Longmore	
FaithWorks Coordinator	Judith Kidd & Jenny Formanek	Jenny Formanek	
Garden Coordinators	Patty McKnight & Ingrid Whitaker	Patty McKnight & Ingrid Whitaker	
Health, Safety & Security	Cindy Paget	Cindy Paget & Larry Barwick	
Heritage & Archives	Jonathan Gentry	Jonathan Gentry	
Hospitality	-----	Dianne Doughty & Jay Haddad	
Library	Samantha Thompson	Samantha Thompson	
Livestreaming Team	Robert Snow	Robert Snow	
Memorial Fund	Brian Bradstreet	Brian Bradstreet	
Missional Team	Kathie Wagg	Kathie Wagg	
Greeters/Newcomers	Janet Reid- Nahabedian	Kathleen Manneke	
Newsletter	Ian Greene & David McKnight	Ian Greene & David McKnight	
Outreach	Judith Kidd	Kathy Mansfield	
Quiet Garden	-----	Margaret Douglin	
Readers	Bill Keel	Bill Keel	
Servers	Lynn McKnight	Lynn McKnight	
Sides people	Glen Storey	Glen Storey	
Stewardship	Michael Attwood & Peter Chauvin	Peter Chauvin & Michael Attwood	
Vestry Clerk	David McKnight	David McKnight	Appointed by Incumbent
Website	Patty McKnight	Patty McKnight	Will eventually go to Administrator

Reports from Parish Groups

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is responsible for the procurement, care and maintenance of items used in worship at St Martin's. We look after communion vessels, vestments, altar frontals, candles and candlesticks, incense and charcoal, flower arrangements, processional crosses, thuribles, communion wafers, and much else besides. We are in regular communication with the clergy, servers, treasurer, office administration, caretaker, florist, various suppliers, other churches, any group with special requests, and members of the congregation.

In April, the Christian Education Committee presented sessions by Fr. PJ Carefoote on the Anglo-Catholic tradition at St Martin's, with a video tour of items used in our worship. These included vestments, "Holy Hardware", banners and crosses, and much else. This session and others are viewable on YouTube.

In May, St Martin's took part in Toronto Doors Open 2024. The theme was "Hidden Histories". The Altar Guild provided a display of vestments, and banners from old parish organizations involved in social issues such as family support.

The St Jame's ACW Needleworkers continue their restoration of the white church frontal,. The superfrontal was finished in December, with new white silk backing and a fine mesh protective layer over the embroidered appliqué sections. The superfrontal will be used on its own over the bare wood of the altar until the lower panel is finished.

Restoration of the main panel, which was used together with the green superfrontal for most of 2024 will take about a year to complete. The white silk, blue orphrey bands, and canvas backing all need to be replaced, and the embroidered appliqué sections restored and remounted.

A replacement set of white silk dalmatic and tunic to go with the St Martin's chasuble is in progress. An attempt had been made to repair the old ones but the fabric was too weak to hold its shape. The new vestments are being made by Seanagh Murdoch at Strands Liturgical Embroidery in Cavan ON; she has made several other vestments for St Martin's. Money for both projects is coming from the Ventham bequests.

As always, there is a wish list: the silk is starting to crumble in the white St Martin's cope. Possible solutions include replacement, incorporating the old embroidered hood and facings. We would also like to purchase a new private communion kit and/or refurbish one of our present kits.

Thanks to the Altar Guild members and all who help out when needed, with special thanks to Lynn McKnight, the Servers Guild, and Bernard Sanders.

After trying different schedules, we have settled on Tuesday after the 10 a.m. Eucharist and coffee hour; this cuts down on extra trips for the team members and allows the clergy to offer input in person. Altar flowers are still done on Saturday mornings.

We are grateful to Fr. PJ Carefoote and Fr. Nicholas Hatt for their leadership, flexibility, creativity and help during this period of transition.

Respectfully submitted

Roberta Laking Kananaj

Children and Youth Ministry

Church School has been running well this year. We average six children on Sundays and had eleven children in the Christmas Pageant. We have had multiple new families join this year. The Church School spent much of the year learning about stories throughout the Old Testament and are spending the winter focusing on the Gospel readings of the week.

Youth Group meets twice a month following the 11 a.m. service to eat together, discuss our faith, and learn about the Bible. This year we have been learning about different types of prayer practices and how different people experience prayer. Many of the St Martin's youth also volunteer as servers, running the live stream, and helping with church school. In June, two of our youth graduated and we had the opportunity to bless them and send them on their way to university and college at the end of the summer. We have had three new youth join this year and have celebrated the baptism of two of them.

In Advent, the youth and church school kids joined together to lead the lighting of the Advent Wreath at the beginning of the Sunday services. This was a wonderful opportunity for the teenagers and younger kids to come together.

I feel very honoured to have the privilege of working with these children and youth. They are an amazing group of kids and teens. Getting to know them gives me so much hope for the church's future, knowing it's in their hands.

I am blessed to have an amazing volunteer team. Ian Greene, Mary Conliffe, Elaine Lumley, Rebecca Eacho, Brian Hagood, and Brent Campbell have all helped church school run smoothly all year. Ella Kennedy was our wonderful nursery assistant until she started collage in September. Phil Snider is my partner in crime in leading the youth group. There are no words to express the depth of my gratitude to this invaluable group of people, none of what I do would be possible without them.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the St Martin's Children and Youth Ministry.

Respectfully submitted in resurrection hope,

Finn Keesmaat-Walsh
Children and Youth Pastoral Associate

Christian Education

This year was another fascinating year of learning together. We hosted several series on most Wednesday nights at 8 p.m over Zoom. Our format, for the uninitiated, involves some kind of presentation, discussion and ends with the service of Compline.

Last year, our series included a **Lenten Study on the Psalms**, which explored the 'song book of the Early Church' by Fr. Carefoote, Dr. Walter Deller of Trinity College, Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan and Dr. Lissa Wray Beal of Wycliffe College.

Our next series dealt with **Anglo-Catholicism** both in the wider Church, in Toronto as a Diocese, but also in St. Martin's, including sessions on the emergence of Anglo-Catholicism, exploring the liturgical traditions of St. Martin's through the vestments and liturgical vessels we use as we move through the liturgical year and reflections on the Anglo-Catholic tradition in Toronto by clergy from other Anglo-Catholic parishes such as St. Mary Magdalene's, St Matthias', Bellwoods, St. Thomas', Huron Street and St. Bartholomew, Regent Park.

Then, we moved into our traditional **Summer Book Club** in which we explored Elizabeth Goudge's novel, **The Dean's Watch**, and Sarah Bessey's book **Miracles and Other Reasonable Things**.

In the fall, we got to know Fr. Hatt better in a revival of our popular **Sacred Spaces** series in which Fr. Hatt took us through the places which nurtured his faith journey.

In Advent, we joined the rest of the Diocese in the **Advent for Everyone** online series in which our bishops reflected upon this season of preparation for Christmas.

By the time you read this, we will have also completed our Vestry Motion series, organized in conjunction with the Outreach Committee, which looks at this year's **Vestry Motion on Protecting and Expanding Harm Reduction in Ontario**, which will explore the issue of harm reduction in our city and community.

We are very grateful for all of our speakers for sharing their expertise and enthusiasm this year. We also want to thank our committee members, Judith Kidd, Ian Greene, Tim Stephenson, Peter Chauvin, and Finn Keesmaat-Walsh for their help in preparing these events. In the coming year, we are working on a Lenten study on Acts, a series on the Anglo-Catholic understanding of the Incarnation as the foundation for mission and outreach, and, of course, another Summer Book Club!

Mary Conliffe and Phil Snider
Co-Chairs, Christian Education Committee

Christmas Market

The Christmas Market was held a week earlier in the church calendar and was held on November 23, 2024, the last Saturday before Advent. It raised \$10,753 which is about \$500 more than 2023. Traffic was up from last year and we had an active person (Anne Longmore) doing the Marketing which made a big difference to awareness in the community and within the parish. We had significantly more volunteers than in previous years and many of the tables were sold out by the end of Saturday. Our MP and MPP both attended and Fr. Hatt had the role of greeter to meet many of the people from the community. We had three Square devices so customers could purchase with debit/credit cards.

This year we had the auction fully online which was much less work and raised more money.

The committee members were pleased with how smoothly it ran and have a few suggestions to improve for this coming year.

Thanks to the chairs for each of the tables: Bake Table (Kathie Wagg, Patty McKnight), Children's Activities (Finn Keesmaat-Walsh), Craft and Books tables (Nadine Barmania), Jewellery (Anthea Wilkinson), Online Auction (Susan Goddard, Nicky Banks), Surprise Sacks (Gayne Brawn), Food outdoors (Glen Storey)

External Signage

External signage at St. Martin's has two components:

1. The two changeable signs – the two sided one located close to the Lychgate and the second one on the outside wall of the church facing Indian Grove;
2. The various banners that are displayed on the fence from time to time.

This signage is important for communicating events and other positive messages to our local community.

I would like to especially thank those who have participated in both of these in the past year – Ian Wrong and Gregory Conliffe with the changeable signs and Glen Storey with the banners. Unfortunately, Ian has not been able to complete the 2024 schedule and is not able to commit to 2025 – leaving just Gregory Conliffe and myself. We thank Ian for his past work with this signage.

We require new volunteers to assist with both. Please indicate interest to Kathie Wagg.
Thank you.

Respectfully submitted

Kathie Wagg

Garden

Thanks to all who donated spring bulbs in the fall. These were planted in October and early November and they should add to the much-needed, wonderful colour in the garden, which is the splendour of April and May, as we celebrate spring.

Our small group of dedicated volunteers worked steadily through the year as we met every week to weed, plant and maintain what is now the mature garden of St. Martin's.

We try to establish shrubs and flowers that give long-lasting colour throughout the year and we are happy that so many in the neighbourhood as well as our own parishioners appreciate our efforts.

Our garden is well used by locals (mothers and their children, seniors and dog-walkers alike). We are proud to provide a welcoming area to everyone, but it is not without effort and it does not happen by chance.

Please continue to support and encourage our gardeners as they go about working hard to maintain this valued space.

New volunteer gardening enthusiasts are always welcome to join us

Ingrid Whitaker

Patty McKnight

Greeters/Newcomers

"All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, who said: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me". ~Benedict of Nursia in The Rule, section 53

The role of Greeter began at St. Martin's during COVID protocols, but is now integral to our parish ministry every Sunday as we extend a warm welcome at the door to one and all, especially those who visit for the first time. In the past year, the parish has invited in not only those new to the area, but also those who are here for special occasions or have come to us from other parishes where doors have sadly had to close permanently.

Greeters continue to have a special focus on visitors and newcomers by interacting for as long as may be needed to make the newcomer comfortable, from initial welcome through to an invitation to join in the fellowship after the service. The committee continues to provide "newcomer bags" for all those receptive to taking one, so that they might have information about our faith community and contact numbers/addresses should they choose to reach out again.

This past year, Janet Reid Nahabedian has stepped down as coordinator of the Greeter/Newcomer Committee. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Janet for helping to establish this ministry at St. Martin's and showing us the way to embrace the Body of Christ in the stranger and each other.

With thanks for the continuing work of the Greeter/Newcomer Committee members, for those who have so kindly stepped forward to join the Greeter team this month, and for all parishioners who have

introduced new arrivals and contributed to making first impressions such warm and pleasant experiences.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Manneke

Heat it Forward

The Heat It Forward capital campaign arose from the resolution at last year's Vestry meeting to fund the repairs and upgrades to the church's heating system from the Memorial Fund. At that time as a parish we undertook to initiate a capital campaign to replenish the Memorial Fund.

We are grateful for the contributions through bequests to our Memorial Fund and for the careful management through the years. The Memorial Fund provides financial stability to St. Martins. On an ongoing basis as we are permitted to supplement our operating revenue each year by transfer of up to 4% of the Fund. In addition, we are able to draw on the Fund for special projects subject to approval of the Vestry. Replenishing the Fund and maintaining it for St. Martin's future is a cornerstone of our stewardship of the church.

\$360,000 was drawn from the Memorial Fund to fund the heating system upgrades.

The fund-raising committee was formed in the spring of 2024. The committee members are Nadine Barmania (Chair), Fr. Hatt, Peter Chauvin, David McKnight, Lynn McKnight, and Kathie Wagg.

In 2024 we held some initial fundraising initiatives including marmalade sales and Soup Sundays to raise awareness of the project. We continued to update the parish on the progress of the heating project. Fr. Hatt blessed the boiler.

We are grateful for all generous donations to the Memorial Fund for the boiler project/heating upgrades. At the end of 2024 we had raised \$52,000 from donations and fundraising efforts. We are off to a great start.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Memorial Fund and to all who have supported the fundraising events. We look forward to a successful campaign and to Heat It Forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine J.L. Barmania, Chair

Library

This past year the St. Martin's Library was pleased to introduce itself to our new Rector. Fr. Hatt has been provided with a listing of our holdings, as well as draft foundational documents such as our statement of purpose and our collection development policy. All of these are under review for refreshing. Fr. Hatt also advised on several new book purchases in the library's acquisitions for 2024. These include a set of Bible study guides by N. T. Wright on the Gospels, and a volume linking the church year to writings from thinkers in the early church. Other purchases include books on mental health, singleness, leaving atheism, the body in worship, and unanswered prayer. (All of these should be available on the shelves soon.) The librarian is seeking to recall books that have been out for very long periods so that our database of available books can be fully updated over the next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Thompson

Livestreaming

It's been a pleasure to take on the role as chair of the livestreaming team in 2024, and I look forward to continuing that assignment over the coming year.

The average number of concurrent viewers during our livestreams in 2024 was 10, compared with 12 in 2023, and 20 in 2022. This reflects an ongoing downward trend in live viewership following the resumption of in-person worship. While the average number of live viewers has decreased, between 80 and 160 viewers regularly watch the recorded services at a later date. The number of views was highest in December, particularly on Christmas Eve. This means our services received nearly 7,400 views in 2024, locally and around the world. However, this is still a 52% drop from our total viewership in 2023. One thing we might consider to increase viewership is to update the sign outside the church to remind passersby that the services can be streamed on YouTube. This could appeal to people who would like to know what the services are like without attending in person.

In 2024, we achieved two milestones with the installed equipment in the church. Firstly, we brought in an audio engineer to perform an analysis of how best to place microphones around the church to improve the quality of the sound for the livestream. With the engineer's report, we determined that the best position for the microphones in the sanctuary was to mount them on a wire above the choir. This will help with the sound quality captured by the microphones, and also to allow us to remove the obstacles caused by the cables and stands currently situated in front of the choir stalls. This project is in the early planning stages and will be carried out in the coming months.

Our second major milestone was the purchase and installation of a second remote-controlled camera for the church. This enabled the team to remove the tripod-mounted camera and platform from the back of the church, which helped tidy up the area significantly and created more room around the Madonna and votive rack. The new camera opened up new angles for use during the livestream, including better coverage of the centre and side aisles during processions. This installation would not have been possible without the efforts of Mark Kolberg and Lynn McKnight.

We are fortunate at St. Martin's that we have a team of talented and enthusiastic volunteers to ensure that we can offer livestreams every Sunday. These are Ian Greene, Girum Greene, Gregory Conliffe, Ian Snider, Lynn McKnight, Prince Emmanuel Adjin-Tettey, Jaby Mathew, Aidan Keyser-Howe, Rebecca Eacho, and Kathy Mansfield, in addition to myself. Four of our live streaming volunteers are also servers, and so they do double-duty. We thank them for their dedication.

Our team combines adults and youth, and we can always welcome more volunteers. Adults can learn new skills that are not difficult to learn and are fun, and youth can earn volunteer hours for high school. Please contact me with inquiries.

The St. Martin's YouTube channel has 273 subscribers, an increase from 242 in 2023. Please consider subscribing to the St. Martin's YouTube channel if you haven't done so already. The advantage is that as soon as we schedule a livestream on Sunday morning about a half hour before the service, you will receive a notification in your email that the service has been scheduled. Then all you need to do is to click on the link in your email to watch the service. This is particularly helpful when there are services scheduled other than Sundays, such as during Advent, Lent, or for a wedding or funeral. To subscribe, simply click on "subscribe" below the live stream of the service you are watching. The link to all the livestreams is on the St. Martin's website, and here: <https://bit.ly/3QgvaTp>

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Snow

The Lychgate

Since Vestry 2024, four issues of The Lychgate have been published, on March 17, June 30, September 24, and December 8. The next issue is scheduled to be released on April 6, 2025, with submissions due by Sunday, March 23.

In 2024, The Lychgate was distributed as an email attachment. We will continue to mail hard copies to those who do not have an email address. An advantage of the electronic version is that the photographs are in colour. The current and past electronic versions, since Easter 2016, are available on the St. Martin's web site under the "parish life" link.

We would like to thank the many parishioners who contributed to the 2024 editions of The Lychgate. In particular, we would like to thank those who agreed to be featured in Parish Profiles. **Please let us know if you would like to be featured in 2025, or if you would like to suggest someone we could feature.**

We also welcome articles or suggestions for future topics.

The Lychgate needs more volunteers, especially for writing articles. Contact Ian at if you would like to contribute to a future issue of The Lychgate.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Greene and David McKnight, Co-Editors

Missional Team

What is Mission? *"It requires an outward focus, rather than inward. It calls us out of the building into the neighbourhood, and invites us to serve as Christ's hands and feet, and heart and mind"* Fr. Andrew MacDonald.

The Team planned and implemented a successful Blessing of Bicycles, our ever-popular Neighbourhood Fun Fair, re-introduced a Strawberry Fair, a well-attended Blessing of Pets and the popular Caroling in the Garden on what was clearly the coldest evening of 2024. The Team maintained the Blessing Box and managed 3 sessions of Pickleball each week. Net revenue from Pickleball in 2024 resulted in \$2400 being donated back to the parish for Missional activities, making this group financially self-sufficient and not requiring funding from the parish budget.

The Team met recently to plan activities for 2025 and planning is now underway for more activities we hope will attract our neighbours. The Missional Team are the planners of these events but we rely on members of our Parish Family to participate in the implementation and make these successful. The Team is so grateful for that participation. You do not disappoint us.

The Missional Team consists of Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, Melissa Frost, Jay Haddad, Bernard Sanders, Tim Stephenson, Glen Storey, Alex Tinius and Kathie Wagg. Thanks to all for their dedication to our Mission. If this group interests you, please speak to any member about joining us.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Wagg, Chair

Music

This has been another year of transition. We have been so fortunate to have had such fine priests for so many decades. Our interim priest, Fr. Carefoote was outstanding, and now we have another fine incumbent in Fr. Hatt. How lucky St. Martin's is.

We have had a few special services this year – the Celebration of New Ministry for Fr. Hatt in November and the Advent Carol Service. How fortunate we are to have the help of Ron Cheung as a conductor

when we are doing repertoire that needs both an organist and conductor. It is hard to find an organ scholar right now, although we are looking to teach a young musician. And for the Advent Carol Service, John Tuttle offered to play. He has taught several of our organ scholars (not to mention many celebrated organists) as former head of organ studies at the University of Toronto. We are also grateful for the instrumentalists – Paul Sanvidotti, trumpet, Nancy Nourse, flute, and Zoe Thiessen, violin. Again we were happy to have Rob Hamilton play for several weeks in the summer, and that his sister, Sarah has joined the choir this fall.

We have been able to do more difficult repertoire this past year as our breath support recovers from the pandemic. It takes a while to build up skills to where they were before the scourge.

I must thank all of our dedicated choir members. Also Kathie Wagg and Lexi Brennan for their work in the music library-a thankless but essential job. Another of these thankless but essential jobs is the reporting for the music livestream license. Thanks to Samantha Thompson for picking up where Lexi Brennan left off. Thanks as well to Andrea Zinn, Fr. Hatt, Finn Keesmaat-Walsh and Margaret Allen for their work on the bulletins. And of course to the Wardens and Rector for all of their support.

It is a privilege to serve the musical needs of a congregation, which Sunday by Sunday sings God's praises so joyfully and beautifully.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Hattey

Organist and Director of Music

Outreach and FaithWorks

The Outreach Committee is committed to reaching out to those who are vulnerable, marginalized or disadvantaged as we are directed through the Gospel, to love not only in words and speech but also in actions.

We have tried to do this both directly by providing support and resources to organizations in our neighbourhood who are serving these communities and to make all our parish community aware of that need for our partner support. As in past years, we have been able to meet those requests through the contributions from the whole parish - donations of money and 'in kind' supports such as towels or food or peoples' time. Thank you all very, very much. For instance, we were able to take several large bags of towels to PARC last spring thanks to so many of you. Did you know that PARC is the only drop-in in the west end of the city that has accessible showers for those in need? But they still need towels! And, we took five large bundle buggies of food to the Bloor West Food Bank at Thanksgiving. While it was greatly appreciated, their need continues to grow! By staying connected to organizations such as these we are also able to add our support to the advocacy work that they do for their communities.

Some of us participated in a fun 5 km walk or run for Romero House and through that were able to help them raise funds for new (to them) housing for refugees. And, with the increased number of residents the parish is now helping them with weekly program space for their kids' programs. The Creative Inclusion program for Ukrainian families with children with special needs met regularly in the parish hall along with help from committee volunteers until the end of December. At that time, the original program was terminated by the organizers as it had met the original goals for socialization and support. Some of the organizers are continuing to use the space but it is no longer part of Outreach. Another means of support involved The Redwood. They asked us to circulate a survey they were undertaking related to family violence. As it seemed to apply more to counsellors or advisors, we sent it to our clergy and to the diocesan office for circulation. In this way we were able potentially to collect more data for

the Redwood. Again this year we organized the Advent tree project and the proceeds go to The Redwood. Another project in December was purchasing Christmas gifts for a family of six at Romero House.

Again, this year we participated in the Christmas lunch that St. Olave's Parish organized in December. In addition to hosting two tables of guests from the Food Bank and the community, about eight of us from St. Martin's volunteered for the event. Earlier in the year several of the committee met with people from St Olave's to explore how we could do more joint efforts and that is still a work in progress.

Through the chairmanship of Jenny Formanek, we continued to support FaithWorks, the diocesan wide program that supports Ministry Partners as they serve the needs of people who are Indigenous, homeless, at-risk women, youth, immigrants, refugees or struggling with HIV/AIDS. We had a successful campaign over several months starting in April and finished in early June with a walkathon on Toronto Island. During the campaign we had a guest speaker from AURA and thanks to the donations at the Advent Carol Service we were able to provide additional support to the Toronto Urban Native Ministry, one of FaithWorks' Ministry Partners.

None of these activities could take place without the time and energy of an amazing group of Outreach Members. I want to extend my sincere gratitude to: Adrienne Beecker, Glen Storey, Jay Haddad, Jenny Formanek, Kathy Mansfield, Linda Markowsky, and Mely and Larry Barwick for all your support, your hard work and your time and enthusiasm for what we have accomplished this year. Thanks also to Aster Samuel, Almut Brenne-Davies, Sheila Wadie and Elaine Lumley for their valued contributions over the past years but for various reasons have had to resign. And, a special thanks to Kathy Mansfield for agreeing to take on the chair of this great team.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Kidd

Parish Selection Committee

The Parish Selection Committee (PSC) was formed to advise Bishop Robertson on the selection of the next Incumbent Priest at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, following Fr. Philip Hobson's retirement.

In 2024, the PSC continued their work by reviewing and interviewing candidates for the position. We met candidates virtually and in person.

Through prayerful discernment, the committee was pleased to make its recommendation to Bishop Robertson. Bishop Robertson wholeheartedly accepted our recommendation. Fr. Nicholas Hatt was appointed by Bishop Robertson as Incumbent Priest at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in May 2024. Fr. Hatt began his ministry at St. Martins on September 1, 2024.

I am grateful to the talented and dedicated members of the Parish Selection Committee – Rector's Warden Jay Haddad, Ron Cheung, Ian Greene, Anne Longmore, Patty McKnight, Cyriline Taylor and Kathie Wagg.

We are so pleased that Fr. Hatt is our priest as we move forward as a community in Christ, praying always to be mindful of Our Lord's voice.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nadine J.L. Barmania, Chair and People's Warden

Property Management

The heating system replacement project was successfully completed in 2024; the system is operational and working well. The project was approved by a Special Vestry Meeting on December 3, 2023. Management Board was authorized to pay for the Project using funds from the Memorial Fund. A capital campaign is underway to replenish the Memorial Fund and otherwise pay for the project.

The heating system project consisted of two new boilers, creation of an additional heating zone, new pumps, control valves, piping and insulation, ancillary equipment, exterior air shaft enclosure, metal grates over old furnace pit and sump pump pit, and one new electrical panel. We retained professional engineering consultants (Dialog) to undertake the assessment, design and tender process. Detailed plans and specifications were prepared and an industry-standard form of contract was used. Five known, qualified heating and mechanical contractors were invited to submit bids. We included a performance bond as part of the construction contract. Three bids for the boiler replacement project were received; two of the bids were extremely close to each other in price and the third was about 15% higher, indicating the tendered value was representative and fair. All three bids were within budget. Superior Boiler Works and Welding Limited was the lowest bidder and they were awarded the contract. The final cost for the boiler replacement contract was as follows:

-Original contract \$255,381.00

-Change orders (change model of pumps due to inability of the existing electrical infrastructure to accommodate a combined primary/secondary pump; new programmable thermostats compatible with new boilers) \$14,195.94 (increase of 5.6% over original contract)

-Additional work (new electric domestic hot water tank to eliminate the need to rehabilitate the chimney liner; existing gas water heater rental contract terminated) \$4,684.90

Subtotal \$274,261.84

Total \$309,915.88 including HST

Dialog reviewed the construction progress and the payment certificates. The total cost for Dialog for heating system final design, tendering and construction administration was \$44,549.12 including HST.

Capital expenditures included the completion of many necessary repairs and renovations to the Rectory. A joint inspection of the Rectory by representatives of the Parish and the Regional Dean pursuant to Canon 20(4)(3) was completed on January 19, 2024, in anticipation of occupancy by our new Rector. A list of required improvements was developed. The following items were completed:

-Air conditioning (2 ton heat pump, 2 ton air handler located in attic, supply ducts to all bedrooms and to living room and entrance hall, return air duct, thermostat, \$26,881.67 including HST)

-Hardwood floors throughout were refinished (carpeting removed from stairs and second floor)

-Patching and repair of plaster and drywall; new drywall on ceiling of one bedroom

-Full interior painting

-In the kitchen, new flooring, tile backsplash, counters, LED under-counter lights, boxing in range hood vent pipe, and new dishwasher

-Electrical work including, some new light fixtures and dimmer switches, repairs to some existing outlets

-New washer and dryer

-New eavestroughs for entire house and downspouts (\$11,300 including HST. Fascia boards did not need replacement)

-Demolition of partially finished room in the basement and removal of remaining asbestos (this room will have to be refinished in the future; estimated future cost about \$15,000 for removal of wooden subfloor, new flooring, insulation, drywall, and electrical)

-Fireplace and chimney has been cleaned and inspected. Chimney exterior work will be required in the future (approximate future cost \$5000).

Outstanding items at the Rectory include rectifying an issue with hot water in upstairs shower, some finish painting of the porch interior and painting of the porch doors; painting will be deferred until 2025 when warmer weather returns. Management Board applied for and received a Carleton Fund Grant for \$12,000 to help offset the costs of the Rectory renovations. Many people volunteered their time and talents to help with the renovations and they deserve a great big thank you.

Regular repairs and maintenance expenses in 2024 included replacement of all fire extinguishers, repair of stained glass window over main door (broken by vandals), miscellaneous minor repairs (light bulbs, emergency lighting batteries, replacement of the emergency exits signs and lighting with modern LED units) and ongoing services (e.g., lift license, alarm monitoring).

In 2025, we propose to again pursue replacement of the clerestory roof membrane, downspouts, and repair the flashing around the clerestory windows; this work is required to address leaks that have been occurring for several years along the hallway outside the classrooms and music room. Other projects identified in previous Vestry reports will be considered based on the expenditures for the Rectory and the urgency of the required work, funds available and the ability to engage appropriate contractors.

In closing, I would like to thank all the volunteers who contributed their time and talents, especially all the hard work at the Rectory.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kolberg
Property Manager

Servers' Guild

As all who attend in person or online will have noticed, the serving team continued to evolve in 2024. We had four team members step down, one head off to university and we welcomed three new servers. Peter Muller and Joseph Mangina stepped down from the 8:30 a.m. servers group, while Alexandre Miguela and Danny Nie left the 11 a.m. servers team; Alexandre in pursuit of a soccer career and Danny to Texas for new work. Both may return some day and we would welcome them back if they chose to serve again. Ian Snider is at University of Waterloo and occasionally still serves, as he did at Christmas while home between terms. Peter Muller and Joseph Mangina continue as parishioners with Joe also being an active choir member and occasional homilist.

Our new servers are Sophie Banks, Melissa Frost, and William Lightheart. They are all keen servers who have learned quickly and are among the group learning to be Crucifer now. They are all very welcome additions to our team.

We welcomed Fr. Hatt when he became our new incumbent at the beginning of September and were happy to get to know him better soon thereafter when we held a full team lunch and discussion about his expectations of the team. Since then, we have all been adapting to the minor changes he has implemented while also returning to almost always having three sacred ministers behind the altar and at least three servers every Sunday. This has involved some extra training and beginning in January we moved to four servers at all 11 a.m. services with an MC/Acolyte (more experienced), Acolyte (newer to serving or the team), Thurifer, and Crucifer.

The team now consists of fourteen servers in total with David Fleming, Tim Stephenson and Larry Barwick as 8:30 a.m. Sunday servers; two taking turns at the 10 a.m. Tuesday service (Lynn and Larry),

with Finn Keesmaat-Walsh covering sometimes when Lynn and Larry are both away; and eleven servers who serve at the 11 a.m. services with Phil Snider, Robert Snow, Gregory Conliffe, Matthew Snider, Elaine Lumley, Nadine Barmania, Lynn McKnight, Larry Barwick, Melissa Frost, Sophie Banks and William Lighthouse. Larry serves regular at all three services and Lynn at two of the three, so just fourteen different servers in total, though more are certainly welcome if interested.

We have returned to having the full team of Thruifer, Crucifer and two Acolytes, Deacon and Subdeacon in the nave aisle for the reading of the Gospel. Our subdeacons (Mary Conliffe, Jay Haddad, Phil Snider and Lynn McKnight) hold the book while the Deacon (usually Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan) reads. It is very good to be back to our pre-pandemic practices.

We are fortunate to have our strong team of servers for our three regular services and I give my thanks to all of them for their dedication to the team.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn McKnight, Servers Guild Leader

Sidespeople

The Canons of the Diocese of Toronto state that the Sidespeople “receive and seat the Congregation in the Church and maintain order in and about the Church during divine worship.”

We have been very busy this past year especially during our Easter and Christmas celebrations. We also had our annual evacuation review with the Parishioners back in October and participated in the First Aid training that was sponsored by the Health and Safety Committee in November.

I would like to thank our seven teams of Sidespeople that have volunteered their Sunday mornings and the Clergy, Servers, Staff and Parishioners that support us year round.

We are actively seeking volunteers to join one of our Sides teams and will provide training in this important ministry. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions please contact me.

Respectfully submitted

Glen Storey
Committee Chair

Stewardship

The mission of the Stewardship Committee is to develop a strong stewardship culture at St. Martin’s, remembering that stewardship is a complete lifestyle based on gratitude for and the eager sharing of the gifts we have been given. Stewardship is about far more than money. It is also about offering our Time and our varied Talents to build our community. We strive to make stewardship top of mind throughout the year.

We held our annual Stewardship Campaign on the theme “A Future with Hope” in October/November. The Parish’s future with our new Incumbent is certainly full of hope, but we recognize that challenges remain. In addition to a colourful brochure mailed to parishioners, we heard an uplifting lay address on Stewardship from parishioner Phil Snider on November 3rd.

During November, under the auspices of the Christian Education Committee, we hosted a well-attended Zoom session on Stewardship on November 13th. The session included a presentation by Lynn McKnight about the Servers Guild, a group that performs such a crucial role in our worship at St. Martin’s. Afterward we had a rousing discussion of stewardship.

The Committee consists of Cyriline Taylor, Janet Reid-Nahabedian, Nadine Barmania, Jay Haddad, Michael Attwood (Co-Chair) and Peter Chauvin (Co-Chair). This year, we faced a number of logistical challenges in planning and executing the Stewardship Campaign. We are particularly grateful to Fr. Hatt for the valuable support he gave to the Committee, beginning before he even arrived in the Parish, as well as to Fr. Carefoote for the guidance he provided while serving as our Interim.

The Stewardship Committee is a small but committed group. We look forward to working with Fr. Hatt to refresh and strengthen stewardship at St. Martin's. In that light, the need for new members to the committee is pressing. So, if you have an interest and might be prepared to join with us, we would love to hear from you.

Michael Attwood and Peter Chauvin
For the Stewardship Committee

Social Justice Vestry Motion 2025: Protecting and Expanding Harm Reduction in Ontario

“Jesus met people on the margins where they were, with compassion and respect. Everyone we meet is made in the image of God and loved by God.” (Keren Elumir, Anglican Nurse, Moss Park Supervised Consumption Site)

Background

Ontario is currently in the midst of a deadly overdose crisis, which claims an average of seven lives every day.¹ These Supervised Consumption Sites (SCS) are on the front lines of this crisis. They have reversed more than 21,000 overdoses in the province between March 2020 and January 2024.² The sites offer an indoor, supervised space for people who use drugs to do so safely, with clean equipment and boxes for the safe disposal of used needles. These supervised consumption sites (SCS) also have healthcare workers such as RNs, Social Workers, and Counsellors, to reverse overdoses, and connect people to valuable support services.³

These sites not only keep people alive to get treatment, but offer a place of community, compassion and support that meets people where they are in order to respect the inherent dignity of each human being, recognizing that some people use drugs. They may not be ready, willing, or able to stop doing so entirely, but harm reduction focuses on meeting people where they are, without ignoring or condemning them. These sites should not be seen in opposition to addiction treatment, but as part of a continuum of care available across Ontario.

In August 2024 the provincial government announced a ban on Supervised Consumption Sites within 200 metres of schools and childcare centres. On November 18, 2024, the province introduced Bill 223, the “Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act,” which, in addition to implementing this geographic ban, prohibits municipalities or any other organizations from starting up new sites. Ten Supervised Consumption Sites are slated to close by March 31, 2025, five of which are in Toronto. Another Toronto Supervised Consumption Site, the Moss Park site on Sherbourne Street, will also close, despite being one of the busier sites in the city with up to 100 visits per day.⁴ In June 2023 alone, the Sherbourne Street Site saw 268 unique individuals using their services. The location is slated for redevelopment. A move to a new location would count as a “new site” under the ban. Obviously, with Bill 223, there will not be a Moss Park SCS.

The province claims that crime rates are higher near supervised consumption sites but has not provided statistics to back up this claim, despite repeated requests to do so. Rather, analysis of data from the Toronto Police Service indicates that incidents of most types of crime dropped in neighbourhoods with Supervised Consumption Sites, often to a greater degree than in neighbourhoods without sites.⁴ Crime rates were not impacted between neighbourhoods with safe consumption sites and neighbourhoods without them. It is also worth noting that supervised consumption sites are located where they are

¹Office of the Chief Coroner, Ontario, “Suspect Drug-Related and Drug Toxicity Deaths in Ontario,” *Ontario Drug Policy Research Network*, 2024, <https://odprn.ca/occ-opioid-and-suspect-drug-related-death-data/>.

²Addictions and Mental Health Ontario, “Addictions and Mental Health Ontario Calls for Community-Driven and Evidence-Based Approach to Expanding Addictions Care,” *AMHO News* (Ottawa, Ontario), August 20, 2024, <https://amho.ca/amho-news/addictions-and-mental-health-ontario-calls-for-community-driven-and-evidence-based-approach-to-expanding-addictions-care/>. Note: These figures are a lower estimate than that given by the Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario.

³David Rider, “‘What does it mean to me? Everything’: One of Toronto’s busiest safe injection sites is being replaced by condos. Doug Ford says it can’t reopen,” *The Star* (Toronto, Ontario), August 22, 2024, https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/what-does-it-mean-to-me-everything-one-of-torontos-busiest-safe-injection-sites-is/article_306518d8-60a0-11ef-a03e-0b13ab253e31.html.

⁴Centre on Drug Policy Evaluation. Supervised Consumption Services in Toronto: Evidence and Recommendations (Toronto, Ontario), November 2024, <https://cdpe.org/publication/scs-in-ontario-evidence-and-recommendations/#>.

because these are areas that already see high levels of drug use. Closing these sites will not change that fact. This does not equate to greater safety for anybody in the community.

Unfortunately, concerns about safety near the sites reached a fever pitch after a mother of two was killed by a stray bullet, not far from the South Riverdale site, in July of 2023. This is, indeed, a tragedy. Yet, the external review commissioned by the province, in the wake of the shooting, did not recommend the closure of the site. The provincial review noted “a clear need for the services” in that location and recommended that the site continue to receive provincial funding.⁵ In addition, the review commission did make recommendations concerning safety, security, and community engagement.⁶

Supervised Consumption Sites reduce the strain on first responders and emergency services, saving taxpayer dollars. Without these sites, demand for ambulances and emergency rooms will only increase, leading to longer wait times for anyone who needs emergency medical treatment. In 2019, there was a 54% increase of calls for paramedics related to overdose.⁷ Another example of this is the overdose crisis that happened in Belleville, Ontario in February 2024.⁸ In an attempt to offset the impact of closing Supervised Consumption Sites, the province invested \$378 million to open nineteen “Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment” (HART) hubs, with ten HART hubs slated to open in March 2025.⁹ By conflating homelessness with addiction, the province overlooks those who access Supervised Consumption Sites while housed. For example, more than half of the 427 overdose deaths in 2023 were of individuals living in private homes.¹⁰ Many people experiencing homelessness do not have substance use disorders. The proposed HART hubs would be barred not only from providing supervised consumption, but also from providing sterile injection equipment. This equipment is a proven public health measure in preventing the spread of blood-borne disease and infectious complications. The \$378 million dollars to be invested in the HART hubs is insufficient to meet the need of either program. By declining to provide the services and equipment found at Supervised Consumption Sites, HART hubs will be unable to address the increases in public injection, blood-borne diseases, and overdose deaths that will occur in neighbourhoods that once provided Safe Consumption Sites.

We, as Anglicans, need to be proactive in preventing the Ontario Provincial Government from closing Supervised Consumption Sites to save lives.

Motion:

We, the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in the Diocese of Toronto, urge the Province of Ontario to reverse the planned closure of safe consumption sites in Ontario, and to lift the ban on the creation of new sites, in order to expand life-saving harm reduction services to Ontarians.

⁵ Unity Health Toronto. South Riverdale Community Health Centre Consumption and Treatment Service Review (Toronto, Ontario), February 28, 2024, <https://www.ontario.ca/files/2024-08/moh-consumption-treatment-service-review-unity-health-en-2024-08-19.pdf>.

⁶ Centre on Drug Policy Evaluation. Supervised Consumption Services in Toronto: Evidence and Recommendations (Toronto, Ontario), November 2024, <https://cdpe.org/publication/scs-in-ontario-evidence-and-recommendations/#>.

⁷ Ali Raza, “Toronto reports highest-ever daily opioid overdose count during August long weekend,” *CBC News* (Ottawa, Ontario), August 9, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/paramedics-opioid-overdoses-toronto-1.6134919>.

⁸ Dan Taekema, “Overdose emergency’ prompts warning to avoid downtown Belleville” *CBC News* (Ottawa, Ontario), February 6, 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/overdose-emergency-14-overdoses-downtown-belleville-paramedics-police-1.7107007>.

⁹ Desmond Brown, “‘A lot of interest’ for HART hubs, Ontario health minister says, as Sanguen Health urges rethink” *The Star* (Toronto, Ontario), December 6, 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/hart-hubs-ontario-sanguen-criticism-consumption-sites-1.7403404>.

¹⁰ Ben Spurr and Alyshah Hasham, “Opioid deaths in Toronto up sharply over pre-pandemic numbers” *The Star* (Toronto, Ontario), May 29, 2024, https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/opioid-deaths-in-toronto-up-sharply-over-pre-pandemic-numbers/article_d2680476-1d37-11ef-890c-f7cec31a9dc5.html.