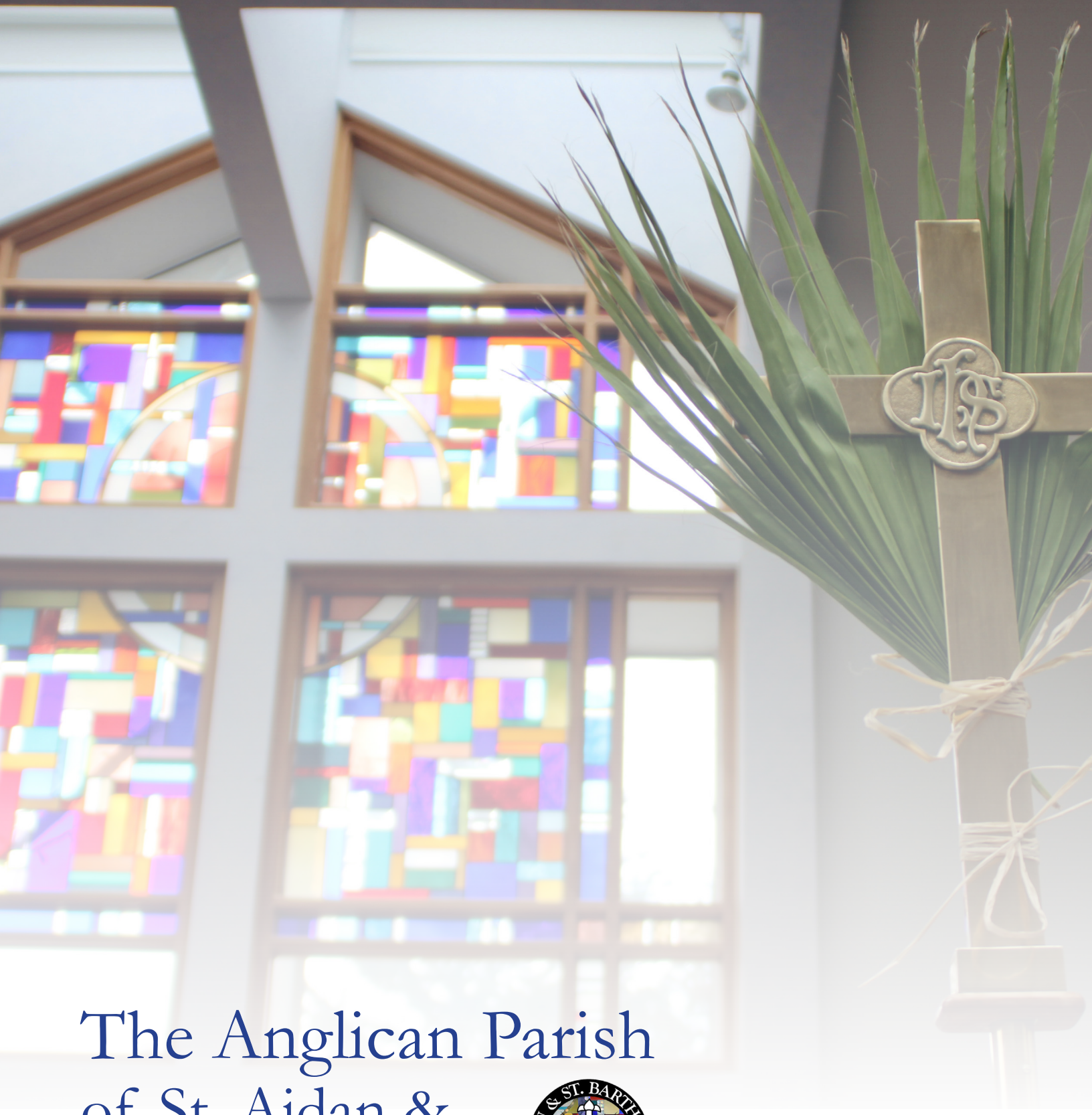

The Anglican Parish of St. Aidan & St. Bartholomew

Parish Profile 2021

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Welcome to St. Bart's!

The Parish of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew is centered on the Anglican Church of St. Bartholomew, located on unceded territory of the Skwxwú7mesh and shíshálh nations in Gibsons BC, on Canada's Sunshine Coast peninsula. Our congregation is diverse, but not large (67 on the Parish List, with pre-COVID attendance of between 35 and 50 and current weekly Zoom attendance hovering between 20 and 25).

Geographically, we are separated from the Lower Mainland by the Tantalus mountain range and the waters of Howe Sound. Getting here is half the fun. Transit is via a 40-minute cruise aboard BC Ferries from Horseshoe Bay in West Vancouver to Langdale, just outside Gibsons. A five-minute drive (just follow the flow of ferry traffic) delivers you to St. Bart's, at the corner of North Road and Gibsons Way.

The Parish serves a geographically large area with a relatively small population of about 15,000 spread out in a daisy-chain along the Sunshine Coast Highway, from Port Mellon on the southeast to Roberts Creek's boundary with Sechelt in the northwest. Gibsons is the community's business and social hub, with two shopping malls, a harbourside village popular with tourists and boaters, a community centre, arena, pool, high school, three elementary schools, 144-seat community theatre, movie house, and several private exercise facilities. There is a lovely sandy beach at Bonniebrook and a swimming area at Armour's Beach.

The Sunshine Coast is home to a vibrant arts and cultural community. The annual Arts Crawl invites the public to enjoy work by painters, sculptors, potters, woodworkers, and glass artists. The Gibsons Public Art Gallery hosts regular exhibits and summer classes for youngsters. The Gibsons School of the Arts offers a series of workshops for more mature artists with visiting instructors each summer (COVID has encouraged some work-arounds for these.) The Gibsons Public Library and Sunshine Coast Museum and Archives also present workshops and a variety of activities for all ages and interests.

Hundreds of miles of trails are open year-round for hikers and cyclists (the BC Bike Race roars through here each June). In winter, the nearby Dakota Ridge recreation area opens for cross-country skiing and snowshoe enthusiasts. As might be expected, many residents of this harbourside community—of all ages and abilities—embrace water sports, individually and as members of clubs devoted to dragon boat or outrigger racing, paddleboarding, kayaking, sailing, and swimming.

Although the Sunshine Coast has a good hospital and steadily expanding network of medical practitioners, many procedures or visits to a specialist may require a trip to Vancouver. (The BC Ministry of Health provides a Travel Assistance Pass, accessed through doctors and specialists, which allows the patient, their vehicle and anyone required to accompany the patient, to travel to medical appointments on the BC Ferries free of charge.)

Gibsons may seem quiet, But in this small community, friendships develop more quickly, and people care for one another—reaching out to ask "how can I help?" whenever a need is identified. Case in point: the St. Bart's Food Bank, which is strongly supported by local philanthropists, businesses, service clubs, school children, and individuals from all walks of life.

A move to the Sunshine Coast may be the best move you will ever make. Come home to the Coast, and help us grow as we "connect with our community."

We value …

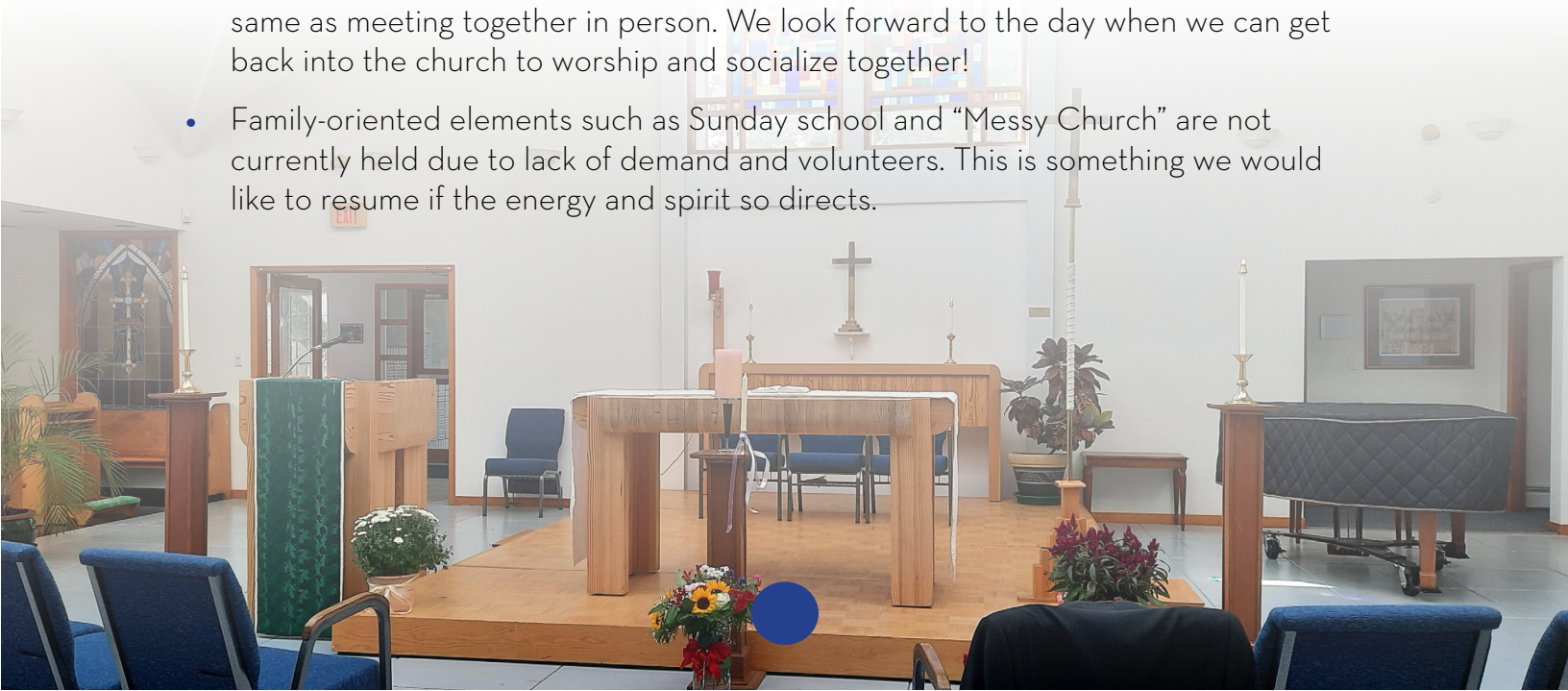
- Strong pastoral care, particularly for our elders, and especially during this time of pandemic and self-isolation.
- An engaging and empathetic preacher who brings Christ's teachings alive and shows their relevance in our evolving world.
- An outgoing leader who will help the congregation to further embrace our wider community and build connections that will allow the wider community to embrace St. Bart's.
- A priest who is a welcoming presence with creative, constructive ideas to help refresh and rebuild our congregation, bridging traditional liturgy and modern, evolving Anglican worship.
- An innovative thinker who can develop outreach to young families, youth, and persons of varied ethnic backgrounds and economic circumstances.

We're looking for a priest who will model …

- Strong leadership
- Compassionate pastoral care
- Innovative teaching
- Empathetic outreach to congregation and community
- Inclusivity, embracing diversity
- Great communication
- Good sense of humour
- Willingness to adapt to the use of new technology in worship and outreach.

Our worship

- We offer one weekly service on Sundays at 11 AM. During the pandemic the service has been held on-line using Zoom. The Book of Alternative Services is supplemented with material from other contemporary liturgies.
- The members of the congregation are very open and accepting of new elements as well as "old favourites" in the liturgy. The exploration of contemporary "Affirmation of Faith" statements has been particularly well received.
- During Advent and Lent, a mid-week "meditative service" is attended by a core group of up to a dozen parishioners.
- A Weekly Bible study group has been dormant for some years; its resumption would be welcomed.
- Education for Ministry (EfM) has been dormant since the pandemic shutdown and its resumption would be welcomed by the small group that participated—especially if there was enthusiastic leadership or support from the clergy.
- The congregation has a vigorous appreciation of classical and contemporary music under the direction of our church musician, a professional pianist who has appeared as a soloist with international orchestras and recorded with the CBC. She also directs the choir in non-COVID times. (See our YouTube channel for recordings of hymns provided for past services.)
- Sunday Coffee Service was once the highlight of the week for many parishioners, who would enjoy a time to chat and visiting after Sunday worship. Volunteers rotated responsibility for providing snacks, preparing and serving coffee or tea, and cleaning up. While we must make do with the "virtual" coffee service by Zoom, it is not the same as meeting together in person. We look forward to the day when we can get back into the church to worship and socialize together!
- Family-oriented elements such as Sunday school and "Messy Church" are not currently held due to lack of demand and volunteers. This is something we would like to resume if the energy and spirit so directs.



Outreach: "connecting with our community"

St. Bart's Food Bank is open on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 11 AM until 3 PM. Volunteers purchase, sort and pack food hampers including a variety of fresh foods, donated prepared meals, and discretionary items donated by London Drugs and other retailers. This ministry has grown since it was launched in 2009, and is now generously supported by local businesses, service clubs, philanthropists and students at the local high school (a dozen of whom are regular volunteers). In 2020 we fed approximately 1,518 people, i.e., we gave away 1,518 weeks' worth of food and other necessities to clients in need. It was gratifying to be able to provide "extras" such as: warm, used winter clothing; grocery gift cards in both July and December; and new pairs of socks to everyone in December. St. Bart's Food Bank is part of a co-operative community of support, sharing resources with the Coast's three other Food Banks.

Community Dinners: St. Bart's volunteers also participate in "community dinners" as part of an ecumenical outreach. During COVID these have been organized as Christmas or Easter dinners "to go." The meals are provided free to all who sign up (delivered to those unable to pick up in person).

Jazz Vespers, a contemplative service held in conjunction with the annual Gibsons Landing Jazz Festival, combined readings of poetry and scripture with music to follow a particular theme.

Vespersong, a community choir that includes members of St. Bart's, uses the sanctuary as a practice space and conducts Evensong for the community periodically.

Lenten Workshop offered in 2018 (see *The Topic* article in appendix) brought people in from the community and could be revisited in future years.

Messy Church is designed to draw families into the church for an afternoon of crafts, a short worship service and a shared meal. St. Bart's hosted this program for several years, but it did not meet our expectations and was discontinued. It may be revived in future if there is sufficient volunteer commitment.

ST. BART'S
Today
FOOD
BANK
11:00 - 3:00

AA, Al-Anon, 3Cs Weight Watchers, Qi Gong and Osteo Exercise Groups used to meet regularly in the Church Hall (during the pandemic, only AA as a recognized medical therapy program is still meeting here.) These groups all expect to return when the public health officer and Diocese permit, observing all protocols and with approved plans in place.

Future outreach opportunities may be identified by the congregation's volunteer base working with the vicar and community leaders. Ideas have included turning a portion of the property into a community garden, and offering regular community meals to supplement the Salvation Army's twice-weekly lunch program.

National outreach has been minimal; some parishioners have provided financial support for the Diocese of the Arctic and various national ministries over the years. There is an opportunity for growth, here.

International outreach is mainly to our twinned Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines and our partner parish of St. Bernard, remembered weekly in our prayers. Again, there is an opportunity to grow this outreach and this connection. Some parishioners contribute to the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund.

Growing forward

We conducted a survey of the congregation recently to assess our priorities as we anticipate welcoming our next priest. These are the key themes that emerged:

Pastoral Care

The survey feedback showed this is a high priority. Many felt the church was underserved in this area for an extended period. The aging congregation, particularly in this time of self-isolation for vulnerable and fearful parishioners, needs careful attention. During this interim period, a pastoral care program has been implemented and comments have been uniformly positive.

Community engagement

St. Bart's is seen as a hub and a model of caring for our community (mainly due to our no-barrier, volunteer-run Food Bank). Leadership is needed to help the community participate in worship as well as offer secular support.

New Members

Making our worship relevant and attractive to our wider community is an important component of future growth. This includes young families moving into the area, persons of various ethnic backgrounds (such as our Indigenous and Filipino community) and those facing personal struggles striving to connect with the Spirit. Leadership and communication skills will be essential.

New technology for worship

COVID, and the Diocese's response to the challenges it has presented, has resulted in several new initiatives that have energized many in the congregation, who now regularly meet for Zoom worship by computer or phone. Our "Tech Team" faced a steep learning curve, becoming familiar with equipment for livestreaming and recording, mastering the software and upping our game on social media and the website. Currently one member of the Tech Team is working to migrate our existing website to tithe.ly and reformat the design to make it more informative and user-friendly.

Leadership

Bringing new leaders forward from the congregation to assume the roles held by current volunteers is key to sustainability. Many members of the current Parish Council have been serving for a decade or more, are seniors with a variety of health challenges, and need to pass their knowledge and skill sets to a new, enthusiastic base under an equally enthusiastic parish leader.

Stewardship

Financial stewardship is part of the leadership package. Regularly communicating areas of need to the congregation and the community to encourage financial support is important.

Justice

Restorative justice and reconciliation have not been embraced by the congregation to this point, mainly due to lack of leadership and direction. Drawing on existing resources through the Diocese, on the experiences of other parishes, and on interested and committed parishioners will help to build inclusivity and encourage Indigenous members of the wider community to feel welcome at St. Bart's.

Building and maintenance

Parishioners, and the wider community, value St. Bart's as a building of historical importance. The recent parish survey placed "keeping our building in good shape" as of primary or secondary importance to the majority. As the "new" building is now 30 years old, and the original structure (now Bethlehem Chapel) is more than 125, we are facing a series of expenditures to renew or replace components such as roof, boilers, and plumbing. Volunteers are eager to fundraise or source grants, but need direction and leadership with a capital campaign to support their efforts.

History and context

St. Bartholomew's was the second church to be built in the settlement of Gibson's Landing (the Methodists got here first). The original 1892 building still stands in its original location, connected to present-day worship as the Bethlehem Chapel. Its on-site Memorial Garden—a contemplative space shaded by towering cedars—has provided rest eternal for parishioners' ashes over the decades.

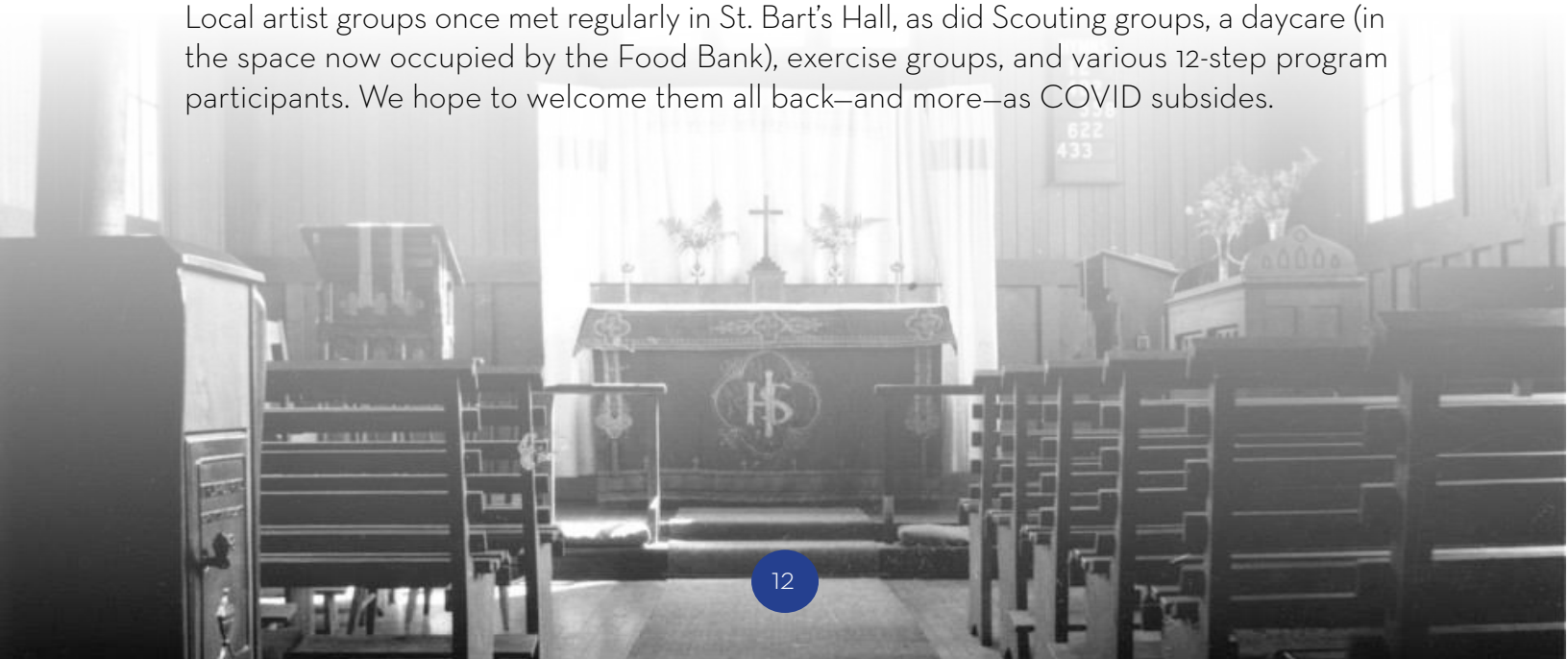
In 1987 the congregation of St. Aidan's in Roberts Creek merged with St. Bartholomew's in Gibsons. The St. Aidan's church building was sold and the funds were used in part to construct the new St. Bart's sanctuary.

The Sunshine Coast is home to a vibrant community of artists and musicians and St. Bart's reflects that. The sanctuary, with its widely-celebrated acoustics, is a favourite venue for local choral and instrumental performances. Filled with natural light from the cross-shaped skylights and bathed in colour filtered through the stained-glass window created by local artist Susan Furze, the sanctuary walls are adorned by a stunning portrait of Jesus painted by internationally-renowned portraitist (and former parishioner) Pat Logie, and a gorgeous quilted wall-hanging created by fibre artist Pat Crucil.

At the turn of this century, St. Bart's regularly hosted a cross-cultural Advent Concert, an annual Christmas Bazaar featuring legendary mincemeat and baking, and an ecumenical Christmas pageant. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service regularly drew a full house.

After the Food Bank was launched in 2009, the daughter of a former parishioner organized a Fashion Show benefit that was so popular, it became a semi-annual event (pre-COVID). During the pandemic it was replaced with an online auction, mainly organized by this same supporter.

Local artist groups once met regularly in St. Bart's Hall, as did Scouting groups, a daycare (in the space now occupied by the Food Bank), exercise groups, and various 12-step program participants. We hope to welcome them all back—and more—as COVID subsides.



About our clergy and support team

The COVID shutdowns and uncertainties have had an unsettling effect on the St. Bart's congregation, and our new Vicar will find that, while parishioners are yearning to return to regular worship with full communion, many are very hesitant to take that step. Providing congregants with the encouragement, reassurance and motivation to re-enter and reembrace the gathering and rituals will be a challenge of primary importance. Modelling confidence and positivity will certainly assist in bringing back the hesitant ones, and may also encourage other community members to join our numbers.

Our two most recent vicars (Rev. Ian Nestegaard-Paul and Rev. Brian Heinrich) served the congregation for about four years each, and it was unfortunate that each experienced ill health which required them to take extended medical leave, followed by retirement some months earlier than planned. St. Bart's enjoyed Rev. Ian's affability and pastoral care, and Rev. Brian's inclusive and Socratic teaching style.

Since October 2020, the congregation has been served by the Ven. Stephen Muir, Regional Archdeacon, appointed by Archbishop Melissa Skelton as our temporary Priest-in-Charge. With the assistance of our Deacon and non-stipendiary Associate Priest as celebrants, a roster of Sunday Supply preachers on Zoom, and the evolving expertise of our volunteer "Tech Team", regular Sunday services have continued to meet the needs of our congregation.

Our worship team is enhanced by our Church Musician, a professional pianist who has recorded with the CBC and performed with philharmonic orchestras in Europe and across North America. The congregation regularly remains seated to enjoy the Postlude and finishes the service with a round of applause (to the surprise of visitors).

The worship team is supported by a recently-hired Parish Administrator (currently working 10 hours a week in partnership with an office volunteer working 6 hours a week), and a very committed, hands-on 12-member Parish Council. The Parish Administrator functions include preparation of the Order of Service and slides for Zoom worship under the direction of the Worship Team, and will soon be maintaining our website, weekly parish newsletter, and social media presence.

We are fortunate to have a Parish Council membership with a strong understanding of Anglican worship, knowledge of the broader Sunshine Coast community and a wide range of professional expertise and connections—providing an invaluable resource in the administration of church and congregation.

Volunteers support the church's Food Bank, garden, maintenance, and fundraising committees. Many of the committees were dormant during the Covid shutdown but a core group of enthusiastic organizers have begun planning to revitalize their committees in the fall and winter of 2021. Mindful of our vulnerable parish members, all church related activities are in strict accordance with our Diocesan approved Pandemic Safety Plan.

Useful links

St. Bart's website:	www.stbarts-gibsons.com
St. Bart's YouTube:	St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church Gibsons B.C.
St. Bart's Facebook:	www.facebook/stbartsgibsons
Town of Gibsons:	www.gibsons.ca
Sunshine Coast:	www.sunshinecoastcanada.com

EXIT
Crayola

Appendix A: 2021 Annual Budget

INCOME

Parish giving	77,300.00	
User Groups (Rent)	18,000.00	
Fundraising Events	3,000.00	
Other Income	2,000.00	
Interest Earned	4,000.00	
GST Rebates	500.00	
TOTAL INCOME:		**$ 104,800.00**

EXPENSE

Priest's Stipend	49,000.00	
Sunday Supply Honorarium	6,000.00	
Church Musician / Choir Dir.	6,350.00	
Deacon Education Stipend	600.00	
Synod & Other Travel	400.00	
Diocese Assessment	14,181.00	
Accounting/Legal	5,000.00	
Utilities	7,000.00	
Phone/Internet/Zoom etc	2,000.00	
Property Tax / Water Rates	3,300.00	
Insurance (Hub)	7,250.00	
Security	1,000.00	
Advertising	1,000.00	
Janitor/Cleaners	2,000.00	
Building Repair / Maint.	9,000.00	
Garden Maintenance	800.00	
Office / Altar / Kitchen Exp.	1,050.00	
Miscellaneous	700.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		**$ 116,631.00**

Income less Expenses: **$ -11,831.00**

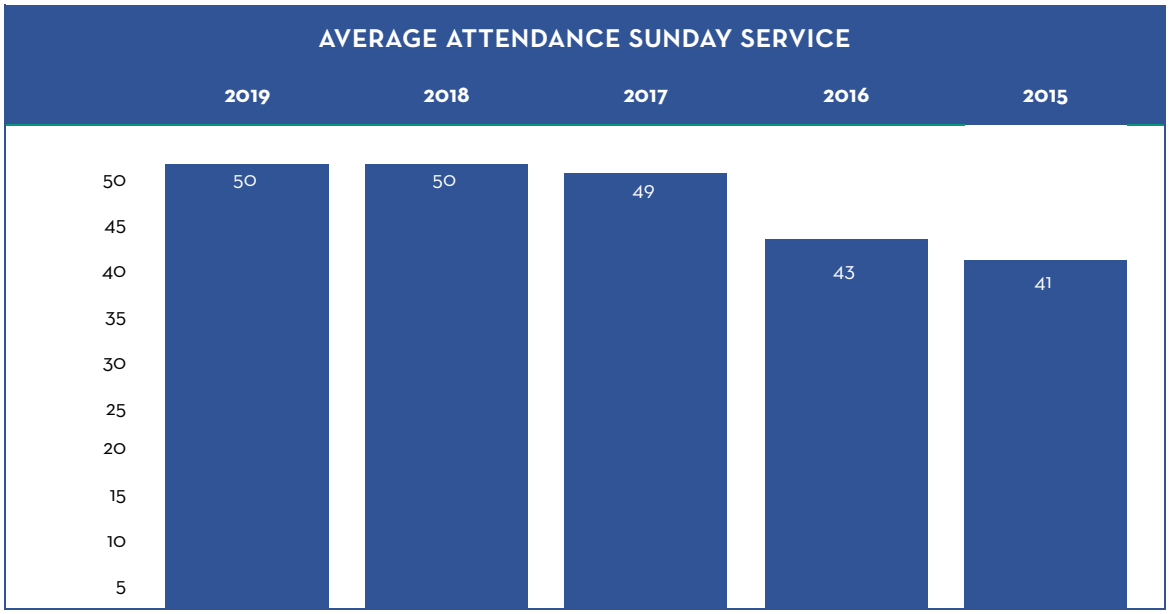
ASSETS AS AT 28 Feb 2021:

Sunshine Coast Credit Union chequing account (Operating Funds) balance:	$25,853.18
Sunshine Coast Credit Union savings account balance:	$48,903.59
Sunshine Coast Credit Union Term Deposits (redeemable in 2021):	$26,256.22
Diocese of New Westminster Consolidated Trust Fund:	$28,000.00

NOTES:

- This budget was prepared in December 2020, based on the assumption that the Church would re-open for worship and activities earlier this year. For January, actual income was $9,024 (about $300 over the budgeted amount) and actual expenses were $6,619 (or $3,100 less than we budgeted for).
- Diocesan Assessment has been waived for three months in 2021, which is not reflected in the above figures.
- Building Repairs budgeted do not include major capital expenditures, e.g. for replacement of the roof on Bethlehem Chapel, identified as a priority item.
- CEWS Wage Subsidy of $10,814.14 received and deposited on March 5 was not anticipated in this budget.

Appendix B: Attendance charts



PARISH STATISTICS

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE					
Sunday Eucharist	50	50	49	43	41
Contemplative Wednesday Service	12	11	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lent Contemplative Wednesday Service	12	10	N/A	N/A	N/A
Advent Contemplative Wednesday Service	8	15	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ash Wednesday	N/A	14	24	26	N/A
Holy Week Services					
Palm Sunday	51	52	60	35	44
Maundy Thursday	17	15	18	N/A	N/A
Good Friday	20	30	36	N/A	49
Easter Sunday	76	73	81	57	60
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	78	67	72	73	69

Appendix C: 2020 Financial statements

The Parish of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, Gibsons

Financial Statements

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

December 31, 2020

The Parish of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, Gibsons
Statement of Financial Position

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

December 31	Operating Fund	Food Bank Fund	Restricted Fund	2020
Assets				
Current				
Cash	$ 30,387	$ 113,522	$ 44,332	$ 188,241
Accounts receivable	12,084	576	-	12,660
Interfund receivable	-	380	2,503	2,883
	42,471	**114,478**	**46,835**	**203,784**
Investments	**-**	**-**	**57,595**	**57,596**
Tangible capital assets (Note 3)	**991,654**	**12,303**	**-**	**1,003,956**
	$ 1,034,125	**$ 126,781**	**$ 104,430**	**$ 1,265,336**
Liabilities				
Current				
Accounts payable	$ 13,701	$ -	$ -	$ 13,701
Interfund payable	2,883	-	-	2,883
	16,584	**-**	**-**	**16,584**
Fund balances				
Invested in tangible capital assets	**991,654**	**12,303**	**-**	**1,003,956**
Unrestricted	**25,887**	**114,478**	**-**	**140,366**
Restricted (Note 4)	**-**	**-**	**104,430**	**104,430**
	1,017,541	**126,781**	**104,430**	**1,248,752**
	$ 1,034,125	**$ 126,781**	**$ 104,430**	**$ 1,265,336**

Approved on behalf of the board

Director pamela mcelheran

Director _____

The Parish of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, Gibsons
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

For the year ended December 31	Operating Fund	Food Bank Fund	Restricted Fund	2020
Revenues (schedule 1)	**$ 130,071**	**$ 112,214**	**$ 2,478**	**$ 244,763**
Expenditures				
Accounting and legal	4,810	-	-	4,810
Advertising	1,586	-	-	1,586
Amortization	20,604	1,367	-	21,971
Diocesan assessment	9,977	-	-	9,977
Management fees	-	-	66	66
Gift cards	-	1,425	-	1,425
Groceries	-	40,666	-	40,666
Insurance	7,738	-	-	7,738
Office	2,197	2,734	-	4,932
Repairs and maintenance	10,151	-	76	10,225
Salaries and related benefits	64,197	-	-	64,197
Supplies	400	6,968	-	7,368
Telephone	1,305	-	-	1,305
Utilities	9,633	-	-	9,633
	132,598	**53,160**	**142**	**185,899**
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures before other items	**(2,527)**	**59,054**	**2,336**	**58,864**
Other income				
Wage subsidy	10,814	-	-	10,814
Gain on investments	-	-	3,728	3,728
Prior period revenue adjustment	30,876	-	-	30,876
	41,690	**-**	**3,728**	**45,418**
Excess of revenues over expenditures	**$ 39,163**	**$ 59,054**	**$ 6,064**	**$ 104,282**

The Parish of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, Gibsons
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

For the year ended December 31	Operating Fund	Food Bank Fund	Restricted Fund	2020
Balance, beginning of year	$ 926,985	$ 67,727	$ 149,759	$ 1,144,471
Excess of revenues over expenditures	39,163	59,054	6,064	104,282
Interfund transfers	51,393	-	(51,393)	-
Balance, ending of year	$ 1,017,541	$ 126,781	$ 104,430	$ 1,248,753

1. Incorporation and purpose

The Parish of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, Gibsons (the "church") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Society Act of British Columbia. As a registered charity the church is exempt from the payment of income tax under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The church is in the Diocese of New Westminister, the Anglican Church of Canada.

2. Basis of preparation

These financial statements are prepared for internal reporting and income tax reporting purposes only. As these financial statements have not been prepared for general purposes, readers may require further information.

3. Tangible capital assets

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2020 Net book value
Land	$ 550,000	$ -	$ **550,000**
Buildings	1,092,933	665,329	**427,604**
Equipment	50,967	50,174	**793**
Musical Instruments	38,475	28,155	**10,320**
Computer equipment	6,455	3,873	**2,582**
Signs	3,265	2,910	**356**
Food bank equipment	13,670	1,368	**12,303**
	$ 1,755,765	**$ 751,809**	**$ 1,003,956**

4. Restricted Funds

	2020
Memorial Fund	$ 1,654
Altar Guild Fund	80
Major Gift Fund	23,710
Outreach Fund	5,859
Capital repair	35,189
Renovation Fund - Kitchen	7,000
St. Aidans term deposit - Capital repair	30,938
	$ 104,430

The Parish of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, Gibsons
Operating revenue

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

For the year ended December 31		2020
Revenue		
Christmas	$	1,920
Donations		6,900
Easter		70
Envelopes		75,038
Food bank forwarded		(4,605)
Food bank income		4,605
Grant		2,000
Miscellaneous other income		9,838
Onward transmissions collected		100
Onward transmissions forwarded		(70)
Open collections		431
PAD - Diocese		16,614
Parish bazaars		617
Primates World Relief collected		1,028
Primates World Relief forwarded		(1,033)
Thanksgiving		2,240
User group contributions		14,378
Total operating revenue	**$**	**130,071**