

# COMMON SUPPLICATIONS

## New Wardens

Peter Barr, Rector's Warden.  
Diana Spearn, People's Warden.  
Jeff Ostic, Deputy Warden.  
Pam Gradwell, Deputy Warden.

## Looking Ahead

What vision do you have for a flourishing ministry at St. John's that will take us in to the 2030's? You are invited to participate in a process this spring through several online workshops to help us discern what significant investments we need to consider now to build capacity for future ministry into the 2030's. Our vision seeks to uphold all that is good from our past, incorporate all that we are learning about our ministry during the pandemic, and identify strategies for welcoming new people and partnering with the community in the future. Peter Barr, Pam Gradwell, Thomas Littlewood, Colleen Murray and Mark Haslett are joining the Rector on the Visioning Team. We hope to present a Vision Plan to a Special Vestry in the early summer.

## Parish Choir

We are grateful to Jurgen and members of the Parish Choir who are capably taking on responsibility during the interim period while we seek a new Director of Music. Christina is looking after payroll; Jurgen is looking after scheduling, creating audio

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## Imagine

A year ago I could not imagine where we would be today after living through a full year of a global pandemic. I could not imagine a Vestry Meeting on Zoom, or a Book Club or the Knitters and Quilters meeting regularly, or Coffee Time or the Choir all working to engage us as well as they have through online opportunities. I could not imagine teams delivering porch flowers or Sunday bulletins

to people who are not online. It is all quite remarkable. As I look with hope towards being together in the church to sing and pray out loud with you in the same sacred and beautiful space once again, I begin to imagine what else may be possible and what I have learned.

To engage our imagination I have invited a small group to help us identify what we have learned during the pandemic and imagine what we need to invest in now for ministry into the 2030's. Many of you have participated in some soundings with the Vision Team this spring to help us develop a Vision for the future that is expansive, that partners with our community, and upholds all that is good from our past. It has been an exciting process.

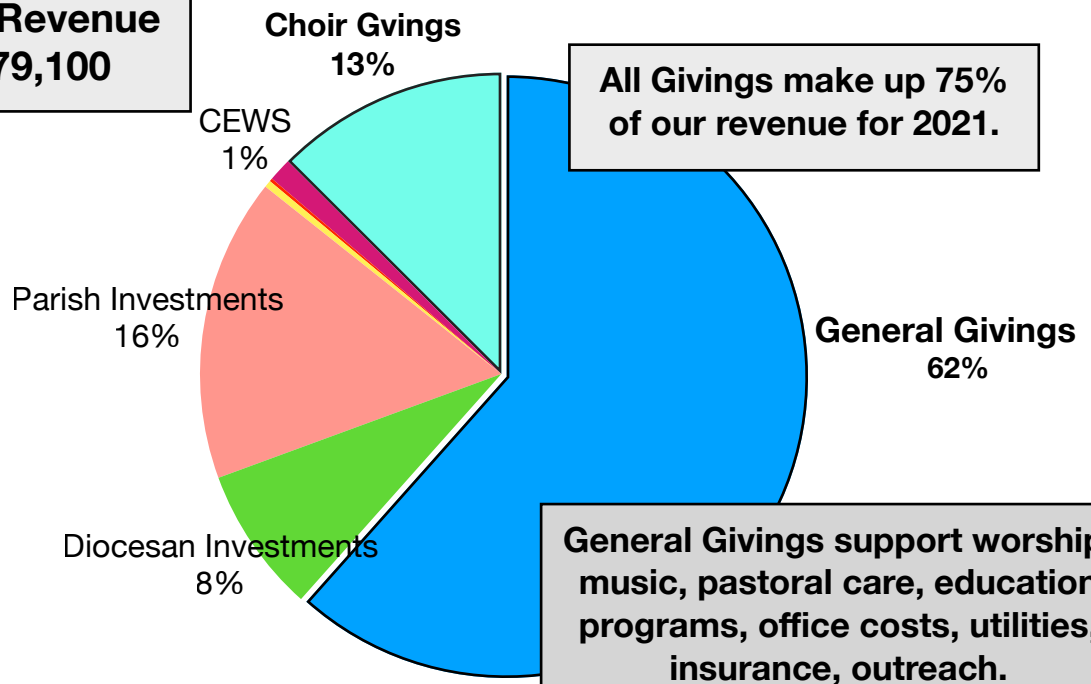
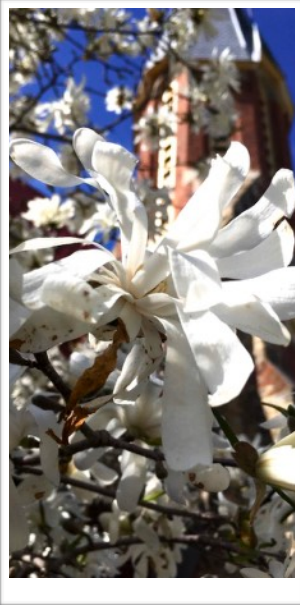
After encountering some angels where the body of Jesus lay, the earliest gospel record of St Mark records that the women fled the tomb in terror. It's not the usual response of "Alleluia, He is risen!"

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# What We Decided at Vestry 2021

**Total Projected Revenue for 2021 \$479,100**



**All Givings make up 75% of our revenue for 2021.**

**General Givings support worship, music, pastoral care, education programs, office costs, utilities, insurance, outreach.**

## Support St. John's through:

- Weekly Envelopes (hand delivered or mailed through Canada Post)
- Monthly Pre-Authorized Giving (contact Barbara Gow for a form)
- E-transfer to treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com
- Online at [www.niagaraanglican.ca/donate](http://www.niagaraanglican.ca/donate)

Rector: Canon Paul Walker  
 rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com  
 Curate: Rev Judy Steers  
 curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com  
 Organist: Jurgen Petrenko  
 Sexton: Patrick Ellis

### Knitters and Quilters

The Knitters and Quilters meet every week on Zoom over the winter months and all being well, with nicer weather, they will meet outside at Station Square Park on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am. Since January 2020 the Knitters and Quilters have distributed 21 Prayer Shawls to people and we have just blessed new teddy bears made by Doreen Wilson.

### Gratitude

A new member of the parish shared during Vestry: "Because of the pandemic I have never met you people in person, but what I have learned about you online, and what I see in the video review of the year at this meeting, I think you are exceptional group of people! I am so glad to be here."

### Property and Gardening

As the warm weather comes we need to care for our gardens and do some property maintenance indoors and out. If you are interested in helping in any way contact Jon Warland at 519-846-5911.

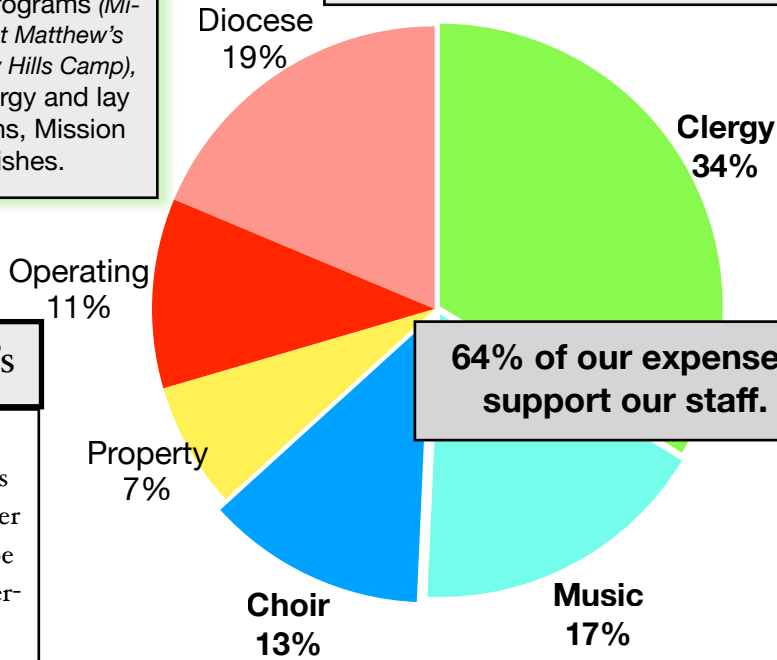
### Ministry Online

We are grateful that the diocese awarded us a Technology Grant of \$1,665 which will support some new mics to improve our audio quality. For assistance with accessing online resources contact Steve Hornett at [geek.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:geek.stjohnselora@gmail.com) or Rod Murray at [socialmedia.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:socialmedia.stjohnselora@gmail.com). Visit the COVID -19 Resource Hub at [www.niagaraanglican.ca](http://www.niagaraanglican.ca) for the latest diocesan guidelines.

# Looking to 2021 and through to the 2030's

**Our assessment to the Diocese**  
 19% of our expense supports the Bishop, diocesan staff, diocesan outreach programs (*Migrant Farm Workers, Justice Niagara, St Matthew's House, Mission to Seafarers, Canterbury Hills Camp*), the National Church, training for clergy and lay leaders, Synod, support for Wardens, Mission Action Plan, resources for parishes.

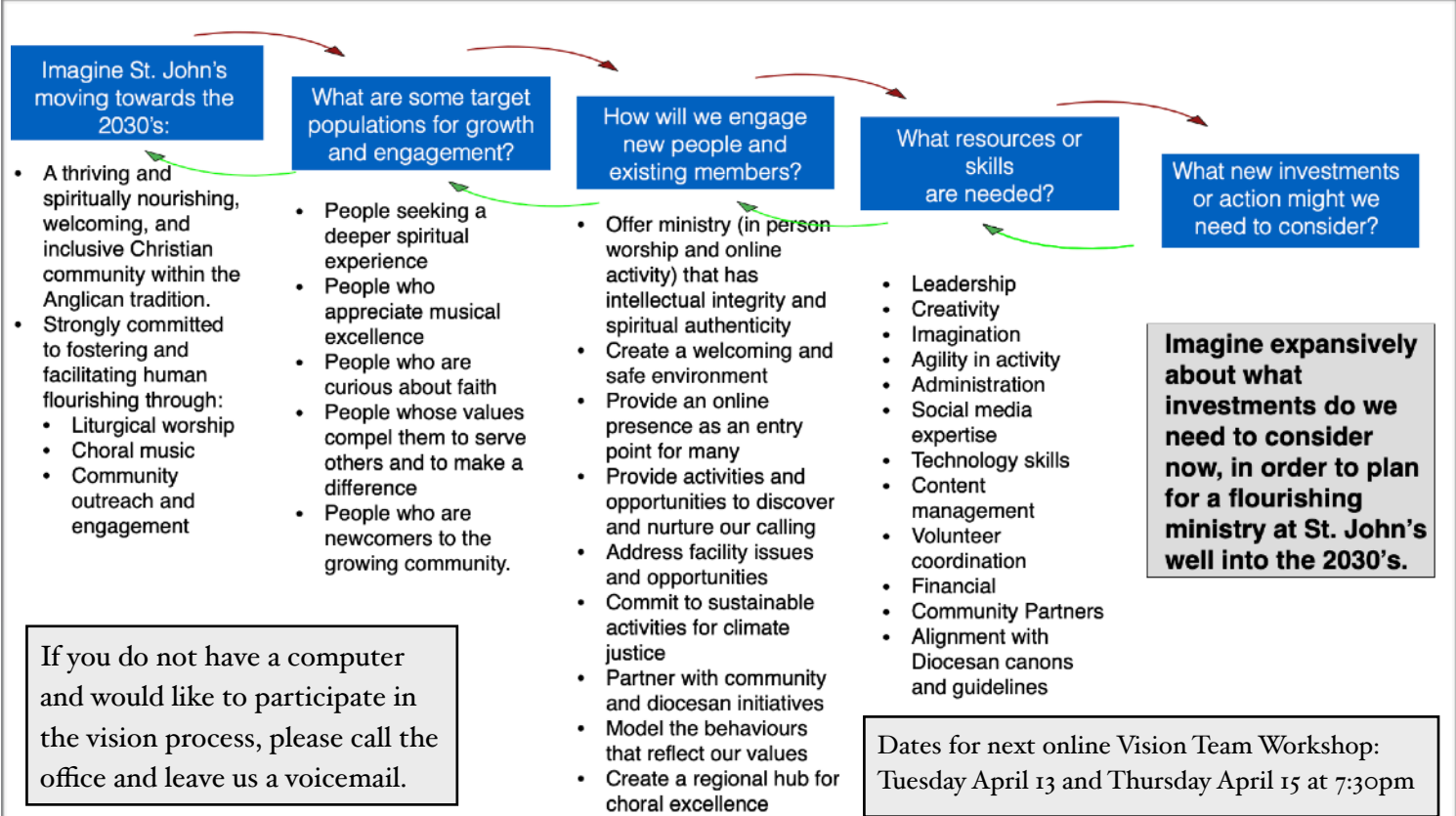
**Total Expenses for 2021**  
**\$478,315**



**64% of our expenses support our staff.**

## A Vision of St. John's to the 2030's

Below is the template of the cascading steps that the Vision Team is presenting to groups online this spring. The answer to each step informs the answer to the next step. Your input on the last step will be key for determining what we want to start considering now for a flourishing ministry in the future.



guide tracks, and repertoire; Emily is looking after creating a virtual choir which we are looking forward to enjoying for the first time on Easter Sunday; and Lesley is our communication person. We are blessed with an extraordinary group of gifted singers who are incredibly dedicated to the ministry of St. John's.



## Music Director Search

Christina Stelmacovich is chairing the Search Committee for our new Director of Music and is joined by Michael Cressman, Janelle Santi, Peter Barr, Charlotte Logan, and Paul Walker. Presently the job posting is online with various organizations, including our own website, and we are looking forward to receiving applicants and discerning who might be best for our music program in the future. You can send a message to the committee at [music.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:music.stjohnselora@gmail.com)

## Parish Council

Treasurer: Andrew Hirst  
 Givings Secretary: Barbara Gow  
 Property Chair: Jon Warland  
 Synod: Thomas Littlewood, Ian Rice, Colleen Murray (alternate)  
 Members at Large: Donna Keating, Patricia Reimer, Mark Haslett, Jane Rajantie, Dawn McClure, Ian Hornsby, Dave Tinker, Rod Murray.  
 Next Meeting: April 8, at 3:00pm.

It is a reaction of fear. It is the primal response of “fight or flight.” In processing the trauma of Good Friday, and living in the raw emotion of their grief, I sympathize with their response to run from the tomb in terror even while the angels were trying to announce some good news. The first recipients of this news couldn't hear it. They weren't ready to receive it yet. Sometimes that is how I feel when I encounter something new and unexpected.

During the Easter season we are invited to claim the promise of God's great act of deliverance. God, through Jesus Christ, has driven away the darkness and swallowed up the power of sin and death. It is a remarkable and unique event, that after centuries of being told and retold it has perhaps lost its raw edge of striking terror in our hearts, as it did for those women who were the first to encounter the news of Jesus' resurrection. This news has become as domesticated as omelettes and coffee. We have had centuries to process the women's trauma and grief of the initial event and we now think of it all as rather mundane or normal. But there is nothing mundane or normal about the resurrection. It is God's great act of the undoing of death that we might be free to serve one another without fear. It is in this Easter promise that we are invited to imagine.

I pray that God sustain you by his grace and inspire you to opportunities of service and love that we might have a bold imagination for our future.  
 - *Canon Paul Walker, Rector*



St. John's Church, 36 Henderson Street, Elora, ON, N0B 1S0

519-846-5911 [www.stjohnselora.ca](http://www.stjohnselora.ca)



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