

Trinity-St. Paul, Port Credit

PARISH PROFILE *FEBRUARY 2023*



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Discernment Prayer

Used at the opening of every meeting.

Ever-present God, you call us to a place we do not know. We are not where we started. We have not reached our destination. We are not sure where we are or who we are. This is not a comfortable place. Be among us, we pray. Calm our fears, save us from discouragement and help us stay our course. Open our hearts to your guidance so that our journey to this unknown place continues as a journey of trust. Amen.



Trinity-St. Paul – living with joy, prayer and thanksgiving.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is with reverence and gratitude that we acknowledge that we stand on the traditional land of Anishinabewaki, Wendake-Nionwentsio, Haudenosaunee, Mississauga and The Mississaugas of the Credit River where Trinity-St. Paul stands. We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on these territories and work in these communities, and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

Trinity-St. Paul is praying for a priest who will help us continue our transition into discovering new ways of faith and liturgy and at the same time, continue to honour the past history and efforts of our long-standing, faithful congregation. We believe our new priest will enjoy the amenities of the wider community of Port Credit as well as being a good ambassador for our parish.

The original church “Trinity Port Credit” founded in 1867 is part of the West Archdeaconry supported by Suffragan Bishop, The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson. Over the years we have grown from one parish to a combination of three parishes (now known as Trinity-St Paul, Port Credit), all in the current location on Stavebank Road. For 156 years, parishioners have come together here in this sacred place with a common deep faith and devotion to Jesus Christ. We pride ourselves as being an inclusive Christian community where all are respected and welcomed.

As a result of the most recent amalgamation with St. Paul, Lorne Park in September 2017, \$500,000.00 from the sale of the St. Paul building has been invested in capital renovations to the Trinity building. The renovations included boiler room repairs, new floors on main level, stained glass window installation and repair, ceiling repairs and wall rebuild. A new sound system was added. Extensive exterior work was done to resolve drainage issues and a leaking basement foundation problem.

The renovations have created a warmer and more inviting feel to the entrance and worship space (Nave) which holds 150 people. The “lift” allows for access from the upper level to the lower level where fundraising functions and Sunday morning coffee hours are held. There are handicap washrooms on both the upper and lower levels. These newly updated facilities will be very beneficial in the future planning of mission activities with our new priest.

When COVID-19 forced the closure of the churches, Trinity-St. Paul offered services on Zoom. There was time both before and after the services to socialize and, while not an ideal situation, it kept parishioners in touch with one another on a regular basis. As the Diocese gradually opened the church to in-person worship, most of the congregation returned. The 8:30 am service remained on Zoom which allowed people, who were concerned about health issues, who were unable to travel, or who had moved away, to retain their connection with the church. Presently, in-person service attendance is growing, and parishioners are once again socializing with coffee, tea, and treats after the 10:00 am Sunday service. Individuals are free to decide their own health protocols and the parish is coming closer together and welcoming new members.

In the Fall of 2022 Trinity-St. Paul embarked on the Moccasin Identifier Project which was developed by the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nations. This was an 8-week learning experience to promote our awareness of the presence of indigenous communities. Each week during our service information was presented about significant ancestral sites and the markers of those which were the various moccasins made and worn by indigenous peoples. Trinity St. Paul had two moccasins which indicated the indigenous inhabitants in and around our church site. On Thanksgiving Sunday stencils of the two moccasins were painted on the south sidewalk.

Trustees of the Endowment Fund are currently in the process of analyzing the distribution of the assets of the fund.

The Directors of the Cemetery Board are updating records of interments, by-laws, and communicating with Bereavement Authority of Ontario, Diocese re management, of cemetery.

The Chancel Guild call themselves “God’s housekeepers”. One of the main purposes is to support the incumbent in preparing the church for the many services and functions that take place throughout the year. Also, members come together and prepare luncheons for special occasions which add to the socialization among the congregation and assist in welcoming new members to our church.

The appointment by the Diocese of Toronto to the Order of the Diocese of Toronto is awarded every four years to an outstanding volunteer in each parish. Since its inception, three members have been presented with this award, and the latest on January 1, 2023.

Trinity-St. Paul’s congregation is mostly Anglo Saxon with a small number from other ethnic backgrounds. Sunday morning services are offered at 8:30 am and at 10:00 am plus a mid-week 10:00 am service followed by Bible Study. Trinity-St. Paul plays a very committed and active role in community outreach with The Compass organization.

The older demographics are giving way to an increasingly more multi-cultural population. The area around the core of the Village of Port Credit (part of Mississauga) is a unique mix of modern urban development consisting of individual dwellings, condominium and rental units with more construction on the go.

As our prayer says, “we are not in a comfortable place but we trust in God to lead us to where we should be”.

We are very excited to meet our new priest and begin to grow in the areas God is leading us and feel settled again.



Parish Selection Committee Members

Rt. Rev. Bishop Kevin Robertson

Graeme McKechnie, Rector’s Warden

Lesley Yendell, Deputy Rector’s Warden

Judy Tutty, People’s Warden

Linda Rankin, Deputy People’s Warden



1. WORSHIP, LITURGY, AND MUSIC

Worship Services

<i>Service Time</i>	<i>Type of Service</i>	<i>Zoom or In-person</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Attendance</i>	<i>Service Style</i>
Sunday, 8:30 am	Said Eucharist	Both	Every week	12	BAS Eucharist
Sunday, 10:00 am	Sung Eucharist	In-person	Every week	42	BAS Eucharist
Wednesday, 10:00 am	Said Eucharist & Seasonal Study				
		Both	Every week	8	
Prayers for anointing	Last Sunday each month			7	
Christmas Eve	7:00 pm and 10:00 pm				
Easter	Ash Wednesday, 10:00 am, 7:00 pm Palm Sunday, 8:30 am, 10:00 am Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm Good Friday, 10:00 am Easter Day, 8:30 am, 10:00 am				



Music

Instrument	St. Patrick's Organ, Rodgers Classic Keyboard Marshall & Wendell, baby grand piano
Choir	3–6-member volunteer choir
Hymn Books	Book of Common Praise and GATHER

2. LEARNING AND SPIRITUAL NURTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Sunday school is presently not available

Mid-week study following the Wednesday, 10:00 am Said Eucharist
Advent and Lenten studies

Serenity Prayer

*God, grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot
change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to
know the difference.*

3. MUTUAL SUPPORT AND FELLOWSHIP

- Everyone is welcomed to our Parish by sidespeople
- TSP Café after 10:00 am service
- Big Boys Breakfast
- Divas at Dinner
- Young People's Lunch



4. PASTORAL CARE

- Clergy is responsible for scheduling home, hospital and nursing home visits, primarily directed towards parishioners and their families.
- Some parishioners voluntarily visit and deliver altar flowers to shut-ins or at retirement homes.

5. HUMAN, PHYSICAL, AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Parish Statistics

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Donations (envelopes/ PAG/e-transfers, CanadaHelps)	79,411	74,573	\$75,890	\$79,145	\$84,713
Baptisms	0	1	4	2	5
Weddings	0	0	1	0	1
Funerals	0	0	3	2	6
New parishioners 10 over last few years					

Staff Positions Paid

- Incumbent, full time
- Organist, part time

Key Volunteer Positions

- Rector's Warden, Deputy Rector's Warden, People's Warden, Deputy People's Warden
- Co-Treasurers (2)
- Worship Coordinator
- Envelope Secretary
- Cemetery Board of Directors
- Endowment Fund Trustees
- Rental Coordinator



Leadership Style

Current priest and leadership team demonstrate consultative, collaborative, inclusive, and consensus-building approach.

Physical Resources

Building Upper Level

- Constructed of brick and shingles, with stained glass windows
- Main worship space has permanent pews with kneelers, p/a system
- Sanctuary, raised platform beyond Communion Rail with Altar, Tabernacle, credence table, pulpit, lectern, font located in front of the sanctuary
- Choir stall located to the right of the Sanctuary, opposite the organ
- Sacristy located next to Sanctuary
- Incumbent's office with washroom – located next to Sacristy
- Washroom, wheelchair accessible and close to front doors

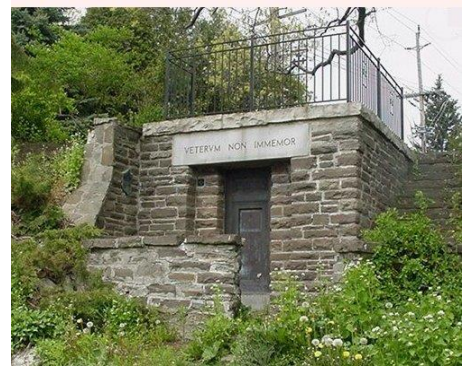


Building Lower Level

- Main Hall, multi-purpose, seats 130, used by rental groups
- Three other meeting rooms, commercial-size kitchen, store rooms, washrooms
- Lift/Elevator to three levels

Cemetery

- Historical cemetery with well-maintained garden
- Space available for cremations
- Historical Adamson Crypt, dated 1918, see photo



Church Maintenance and Repairs Concerns

- The floors in all of the rooms in the lower level need to be upgraded, some wall repairs and painting required, and new signage created for the front of the church.
- A full building assessment was performed and matters being addressed.
- Note: see Capital Fund expenditures, page 6, Financial Resources for recent upgrades.

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient bearing with one another in love.
Ephesians 4:2

Financial Resources

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
<i>Revenue</i>					
Operating fund	170,771	176,936	\$171,118	\$146,933	\$179,495
Cemetery	9,718	4,649	9,603	3,631	6,743
<u>Endowment fund</u>	<u>102,386</u>	<u>15,577</u>	<u>107,071</u>	<u>116,081</u>	<u>43,244</u>
Total	282,875	197,162	\$287,792	\$266,645	\$229,482
<i>Expenses</i>					
Operating fund	180,371	173,287	\$202,065	\$194,475	\$172,518
Cemetery fund	1,069	4,282	10,914	5,656	5,273
<u>Endowment fund</u>	<u>8,569</u>	<u>26,184</u>	<u>7,780</u>	<u>96,840</u>	<u>3,149</u>
Total	190,009	203,753	\$220,759	\$296,971	\$180,940
Excess of revenue					
<u>Over expenses</u>	<u>92,866</u>	<u>-6,591</u>	<u>\$67,033</u>	<u>-\$30,326</u>	<u>\$48,542</u>

Capital Fund

On September 27, 2015, Trinity Church, Port Credit amalgamated with St. Paul, Lorne Park to become Trinity-St. Paul, Port Credit. In 2016, the St. Paul, Lorne Park property was sold and \$500,000 of the proceeds was held in trust by the Diocese of Toronto for Trinity. These funds could only be used for capital renovations of Trinity's property. The capital repairs and renovations are now fully completed and all the funds have been used. The renovations included boiler room repairs, replacement of floors on main level, stain glass installation and repair, ceiling repairs and wall rebuilds, new sound system, and extensive exterior work done to resolve drainage issues.

6. OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND OUR MISSION FIELD

Picturesque Port Credit (Village on the Lake) is located in the south-east section of the City of Mississauga and is one of Mississauga's top cultural, entertainment and culinary Districts, boasting world-class restaurants and award-winning festivals and events. See Appendix 1 for statistics.

Amenities

- Several schools, parks, sports facilities and salmon fishing on the Credit River
- Wide range of health facilities, two hospitals and a number of social agencies
- Abundance of shopping for all amenities in and near the village
- Religious affiliations include Anglican, Roman Catholic, United, Baptist, community, and Presbyterian right next door. The closest other Anglican Church, St. Hilary's, is approximately 3 km away.



Our Mission Field

Our mission field encompasses Municipal Wards 1 and 2, stretching along the Lakeshore Road from Dixie Road in the east to Shawnmarr Road in the west. This area consists of a mix of residential, high-rise rentals and condominiums. Several new developments of the same nature are currently being constructed along this corridor.

7. OUTREACH

Outreach programs include

- Special focus on The Compass, a local food bank
- “Kans For Kids”, a Lenten program, provides swimming passes for youth
- Community Living Mississauga through proportional giving to FaithWorks
- Retirement homes, monthly mid-week service at two separate retirement homes
- St. Margaret’s Guild, a community outreach

8. PRESENT REALITY AND FUTURE VISION

PRESENT REALITY

- 50% are over the age of 65 years
- 50% of women are over the age of 75 years
- 50% walk to church; 50% drive to church
- 55% attend on their own
- 65% attend every week
- 87% attend the 10:00 am service
- Reasons for staying: worship service, friends, part of community, location
- Experiencing growth



What we see as strengths

- History
- Faithful volunteers
- Strong foundation of faith
- Open to diversity
- Inclusive and inviting community
- Weekly newsletters
- Periodic mailings
- Zoom services extends to shut-ins and those out of town

What we see as challenges next 3 to 5 years

- Volunteers are tired and dwindling
- Balanced budget
- Growing congregation
- Competition from other faiths (6 churches within 1 mile radius)

What we see that makes our parish unique

Familial style parish, conscientiously caring for each other and encouraging newcomers to want to join us.

FUTURE VISION

- Growth will be a more diverse congregation including younger families
- With growth, we will experience more financial stability

9. OUR NEW PRIEST

Qualities, skills, talents of Priest

- Is easy to approach and talk to; makes an effort to put people at ease; is sensitive and patient with the interpersonal needs of others
- Preaches the Gospel message which is challenging and relevant to life in today's world
- Promotes and organizes spiritual renewal efforts and programs
- Exhibits concern for the broader aspects of mission and ministry that exists within and beyond the parish
- Spiritual guide who is adaptable in teaching individuals, small or large groups
- Integrate current technology into services, zoom, recorded music, in traditional form of service

Other attributes

- Be diligent in balancing the demands of self, family, parish, surrounding community and Diocese

Expectations of our new priest

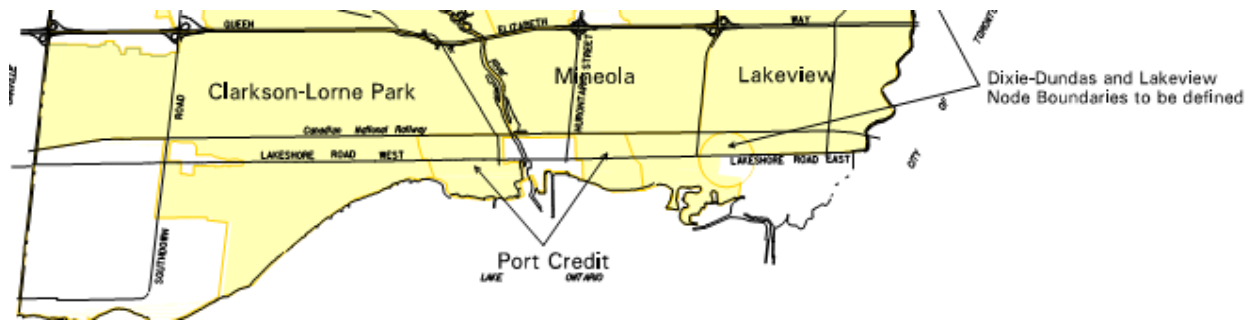
Trinity-St Paul is a one hundred fifty plus year old parish steeped in history. We are familial in size, predominantly Anglo Saxon and beginning to see some growth from other nationalities. The majority of our congregation is older adults. We are looking for a priest who will be willing to take time to understand our current style of worship and parish rhythm before making changes.

You will be sensitive to the needs of an older established congregation, while finding ways to attract new younger adults and families. You will work collaboratively with our parish leaders, and continue to encourage and mentor lay members to be Communion Assistants, Acolytes, Lectors, etc., and support the music program which is a very important part of our worship experience. Although we do not have any children of Sunday School age, we do have space to accommodate the need should it arise.

We do not always embrace change easily, but with love and patience we will do our best to understand and accept changes.

We have discerned and prayed that God has heard us and knows our needs. We believe He has already chosen someone who fits the needs we have articulated! Is it YOU?

Appendix 1 – Statistics



Mississauga

- Canada's 6th largest city; Ontario's 3rd largest city; 2nd largest municipality in the Greater Toronto Area
- Population expected to grow to 930,800 by 2051
- Communities are set in a variety of environments from urban to waterfront to green belts
- A diversity of linguistics.

Port Credit

Transportation: GO Rail stations at Clarkson, Port Credit and Long Branch; each has a bus terminal.
Buses have schedules along the Lakeshore Road, Hurontario Street, and into urban areas.

Accommodation: Blend of apartments, condominiums, single family dwellings, town homes, subsidized housing; to satisfy every income level.

Population growth: With several housing developments in the area, it is expected that by 2031 there will be substantial increases in population. It is forecast that our area will grow to 100,000 by 2031.

Appendix 2 – Other Activities



Some of our other activities include, and not limited to,

- Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day services alternating with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
- Blessing of the Animals
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Occasional celebrations, e.g., 100th birthday of parishioner
- Fall fundraiser
- Spring fundraiser
- Parade of Easter Hats



Come and join us in 2023!



Appendix 3 – Brief History

Our Church in Port Credit The First 150 Years ...

By Margaret Parker

The Trinity Church Port Credit founded in 1867, would grow from one church to a coming together of three churches all in one place and for 150 years parishioners have come together with the same faith and devotion.



The first church was a small white board and batten structure, built on the brow of a hill overlooking the marshy banks of the river in the settlement of Port Credit. This was an area full of the early history of Canada. Archeologists have shown that 10,000 years ago, there had been Aboriginal settlements. By 1700, the Mississauga, part of the Ojibwa tribe, were living by the mouth of the Credit River. They referred to the river as “Missinih” or “Trusting Water”, but later due to the custom of trading on credit, it came to be known as the Credit River.

Early on, most trade was with the French, then the British who by 1798 had built a trading post on the east bank of the river. As trade declined, Indigenous peoples tended to settle into farming. After the American Revolution, the British government began purchasing large tracts of land forcing Aboriginal groups into specific areas along creek beds and waterways.

The British were relentless in their pursuit of rich land and by 1820, the Mississauga were left few acres of their own. Land for the village of Port Credit was surveyed in 1834 and construction of the harbour began. By 1847 due to disease and illness, the Mississauga relocated to the New Credit Reserve near Brantford, Ontario.

With the departure of the Mississauga, the Credit River opened up to commercial expansion through the growth of a busy harbour. By the end of the century, the economy improved. Stonehooking was a lucrative if dangerous business and larger industries such as the brickworks moved in to provide employment. Port Credit became a police village in 1909 and was incorporated in 1914.

1867 - The Church of Trinity Port Credit is established on the Brow of the Hill

It was during this last half of the century that villagers met in private homes or meeting halls for religious services. Some travelled as far as St. Peter's, Erindale, established in 1825, for Church of England services. Ultimately, a strong movement began for a church in Port Credit. In 1866, villagers approached The Rev. Charles Bethune to hold occasional services in Port Credit. At first, services were held in a hall above a livery stable but soon, this was too small. It was time to build a church.

Local merchant James Hamilton gave land along the edge of the Credit River as the site for the new church. The congregation enthusiastically helped both with the building and the fundraising and soon Trinity, Port Credit was completed and opened for divine worship in the fall of 1867. The Rev. Bethune wrote enthusiastically - *The contributions at the opening services were sufficient to pay off all liabilities and we began free of debt!* Trinity continued as a mission of St. Peter's for 47 years. By 1914, the Diocese of Toronto recognized that the church could function on its own as an independent parish.

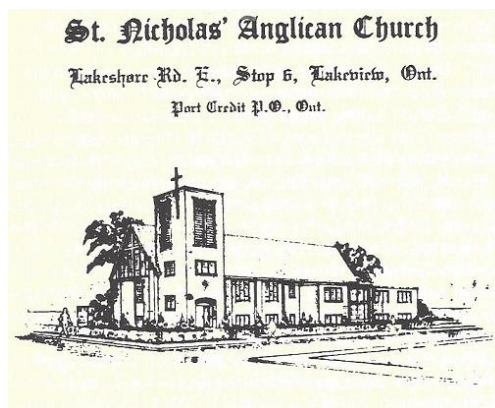
Almost immediately, it was clear that the church had to be modernized and enlarged. It was raised on a basement foundation and covered with brick. Funds were raised as families were asked to “buy” 500 to 2000 bricks depending on their circumstances. By 1926, the rector, the Rev. Henry Earle asked the congregation to consider a new church! Gradually, the building we know today was begun. The entrance porch at the base of the tower and the first unit of the stone nave were built in 1931. Post war, the present chancel was completed in 1949, but expansion of the main building was desperately needed. With the arrival of the Rev. John Langstone in 1950 came fresh energy and construction began on the new church in 1954 and completed in 1955.

As Canada celebrated its Centennial in 1967, so did Trinity Church. In 1968, we welcomed the parish of St. Nicholas, Lakeview which had been forced to close its doors.

1968 - St. Nicholas, Lakeview joins Trinity

The history of St. Nicholas was all too brief - just 50 years. From the very beginning, parishioners had to work hard to raise funds to build a small frame church on Lakeshore Road at Edgeleigh Avenue. In 1930, it was replaced by a yellow stucco building which was finally completed in 1956. But in 1959, after the years of WWII and Hurricane Hazel, St. Nicholas was still a mission parish and unable to support itself.

By 1968, after years of trying to keep their church going, St. Nicholas, Lakeview was deemed unable to continue, was dissolved and amalgamated with Trinity, Port Credit. The Gallery Chapel of St. Andrew in Trinity was renamed and dedicated in honour of the Church of St. Nicholas. Trinity was enriched by many gifts from St. Nick's. Of special note is the red Sanctuary Lamp which hangs in the chancel.



2015 - St. Paul, Lorne Park and Trinity, Port Credit become an Amalgamated Parish

As early as 1902, Anglicans were meeting in a mission house on Lorne Park Road. By 1913-14, a tiny frame church, 17' by 38', was built on a small piece of donated land. By 1915, it was dedicated as St. Paul's, Lorne Park and a brass cross was presented to the church. The congregation grew, while services were often conducted by divinity students and Holy Communion was administered by their professor every fourth Sunday. It wasn't until after the end of WWII that a full-time incumbent was appointed.

In 1947, a rectory was built and construction began on a parish hall with kitchen and washroom and almost finished by February 1951. Tragically, fire broke out, probably in the new kitchen, and swept through the whole church. Lack of water to fight the fire meant almost all was lost. The cross, Communion vessels, and church records were saved.



As the congregation met in a garage, donations of money and furnishings came in from all over the country. Plans were underway for a new more substantial building. Digging started in the fall of 1951 and the finished church was dedicated in February 1952! Members were raising funds to equip the new church. Land was acquired for parking and by 1962 work began on enlarging the Narthex and adding a Christian Education wing; in January 1965 St. Paul, Lorne Park celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Towards the end of the century, winds of change began affecting St. Paul and so many other churches throughout the country. Numbers diminished and funds were slow to come in to keep the church alive. One hundred years after it began with such promise, parishioners saw the doors of their church close.

In September 2015, St. Paul, Lorne Park and Trinity, Port Credit were amalgamated. It has been a process of change and growth for both congregations. With the addition of gifts from St. Paul, our building is made more beautiful and there is a feeling of unity as we approach our 150th anniversary.

The bell from St. Paul came from the old Mission Church built in 1902 on Lorne Park Road, near the present Lorne Park Community Hall, which had its demise in 1962. But in 1915 property was donated on Lorne Park Road and a small frame building was dedicated as St. Paul, Lorne Park and furnished from various sources, but the bell came from the Mission Church which had been used as a school and community hall. In 1952, after a fire the previous year, "at the main entrance, the bell from the first church sat on the doorstep, an irresistible temptation to small boys with pebbles." In 1963, "at long last, the bell was hung in a belfry above the narthex, a less obvious but much more fitting location." Currently the bell is in storage awaiting installation.



Cemetery

Trinity-St. Paul is one of the few churches in Mississauga to have its own cemetery, interment section, and crypt. In 2014, the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry dedicated a plaque at the Adamson Crypt to commemorate its 100th anniversary and in memory of their C.O. Lt. Col. Agar Adamson, O.C. one of the first commissioned officers. Between the gardening group, the property committee, and the cemetery board, the grounds are well kept and a place of serenity.

Symons Stained Glass

Above the altar in the original Trinity Church was the Symons Memorial stained glass window “the Good Shepherd”. Somewhere along the way during renovations and rebuilding, the window disappeared; however, it eventually made its way above the altar at St. Paul, and now rejoices above the altar at Trinity-St. Paul – a homecoming and fitting tribute to the amalgamation. A plaque to accompany the glass reads “In Memoriam Esther Muriel Symons, 1885-1892”.



2017 - Trinity-St. Paul, Port Credit – the Rest of the Story ...

In 156 years, three churches and three congregations have come together - in worship, faith and devotion. Today, there is renewed hope and excitement as united; they look at all the wonderful possibilities which lie ahead.

