



## Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

St. Mary's Church    St. Stephen's Church

St. Mary's Anglican Church  
1973 Cultra Avenue  
Saanichton, BC V8M 1L7  
250-652-1611  
stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca

We'd like to thank all those of you who have reviewed the content on the new parish website (<http://www.ParishCS.ca>), including using your ID and password to access the Member's Area.

- We have received a number of comments about how easy it was to navigate through the website, and that each page was "to the point", brief and clear while providing some rich content.
- We have even heard that the website is the reason that some new visitors chose to give St. Mary's a closer look to becoming a member.
- With feedback like that, we remain energized to continue to offer new content, and to keep the existing content fresh and changing about every 3 months. We have already changed some content, and will continue to have the Events, Outreach, and Ministry areas change to focus on upcoming points of interest. Check out these areas to stay current with the many parishioners who are finding the website a very effective information tool.
- Still others, who have occasionally not made it to church for one reason or another, have enjoyed listening to the sermons that are recorded (thanks to Don Wilson) and posted on the website within a day or two.

Then still others have successfully made it through the security screening to gain access to the content that is more private for parishioners.

- In this area, they have found the weekly bulletins (for both St. Mary's and St. Stephen's) to catch up on the announcements, or readings.
- If you aren't sure who your Warden, or Synod Delegate, is – you'll find the list of all appointed and elected holders of office within the parish.
- There are the minutes of Council and Operations Committees, the Annual Reports, and many more reports to help you keep current with the running and decision making of each church and the parish.
- And of course there is the consolidated calendar for the Parish.
- Some have already started to form their small groups on the website and find it to be an effective communication tool.
- We have also been able to send out an "email" to everyone in the parish who has provided us with their email address. This has proven to be very effective and efficient!

So, at this stage your website team feel that the website has effectively met the two key objectives for the website that were identified last fall.

1. The **first objective** was to focus on the potentially new parishioners. These are the group of people who use the internet to help them select a church to attend that would have interests and practices that closely matched their own. While people used to visit a church on a Sunday and perhaps talk to the minister, they now use the internet. We therefore shifted our focus from having a freshly painted entrance to the church, to offering a clear, concise and focused presence on the internet - our "front door" has become a meaningful presence on the internet. We need to excite the web surfer to want to revisit our website and progress to being a casual drop-in, and ultimately become a member of our parish who has chosen to continue along their spiritual journey with us.
2. The **second objective** was to provide new and improved ways for our parishioners to enhance the communication between and amongst parishioners. By doing so, we would help each parishioner along their spiritual growth and path. The information shared amongst our parishioners is more private and confidential, and must be kept private.



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However, for those of you who have not yet fully explored our new website, we would like to encourage you to do so. If you have lost your temporary password, or can't find the Parish Calendar, or whatever questions you may have about your parish website, email Derek Osman ([Derek.osman@shaw.ca](mailto:Derek.osman@shaw.ca)) and he will be more than happy to help you out. He can also arrange to get you another copy of the instructions to get on to the website.

Finally, look for another email that will help you to update your profile on the website, and then to have others see it (with your permission) in the Directory. Soon, everyone in the parish will have their picture and profile accessible from within the Directory.

Join the fun – get onto your parish website, to see what everyone on the internet can see, and to view the more private parish information. And for those who have successfully done this, please help out your fellow parishioners when you can.

Your Website Support Team,

John Beresford, Derek Osman, Sandra Scarth, and Rob Szo