

# St. John's, Bradford West Gwillimbury, Ont.

Sharing the love of Christ since 1819.

by [Donald McGugan](#)

photographed by Janice Symons and Donald McGugan

posted on March 1, 2011 in [Beautiful Church](#) | [Be the First to Comment](#) | [Print](#)

Share : 



St. John's Presbyterian Church, built in 364 days and dedicated November 2004.

St. John's has been a Christian faith community since 1819 when displaced Scottish settlers from the Red River area of Manitoba arrived in this area. Today, we are a growing congregation worshipping in a building that was dedicated five years ago. Our members come from as nearby as next door, and as far away as Barrie and Newmarket. The congregation reflects the mix of people who live in this part of Ontario. We exist to share the love of Christ through worship, education and service. While we have been serving Bradford and area for 190 years, our story has just begun.

Declining attendance, declining revenues and rising costs brought about the inevitable for the rural churches in the Bradford charge. Automobiles and better roads enabled people to travel greater distances. Two churches closed and their members attended Bradford Presbyterian. The increased membership, together with 110 years of use and a lack of parking, brought about a decision to build a new church home. Sod was turned for that home in November 2004, and the service of dedication held the next November. The more encompassing name of St. John's Presbyterian Church is now used. We are located in the town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, about 45 minutes due north of Toronto.

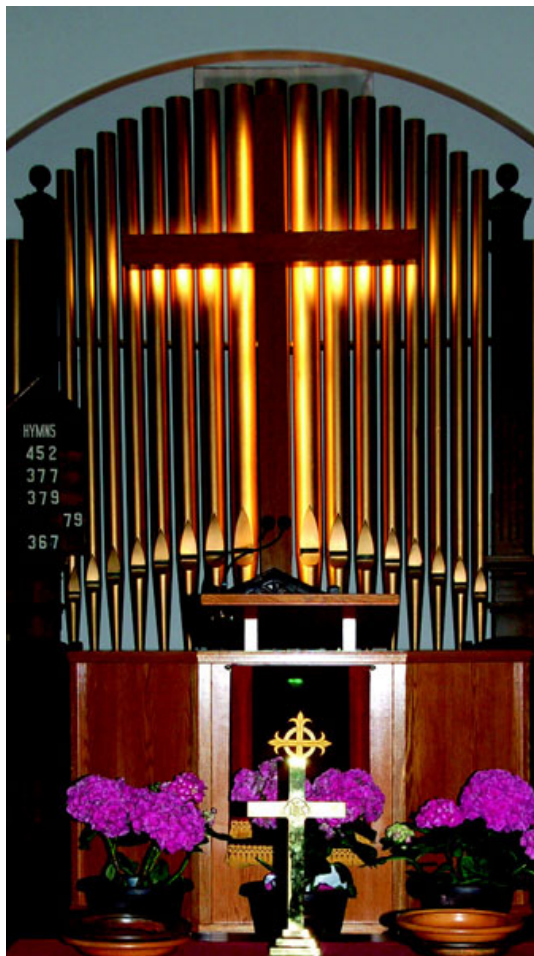
<http://www.presbyterianrecord.ca/2011/03/01/st-johns-bradford-west-gwillimbury-ont/>



Maple tree planting on Canada Day Sunday.



Workers at the Arbour Day event.



St. John's interior featuring the organ pipes donated by the Carnegie Foundation in 1915.

<http://www.presbyterianrecord.ca/2011/03/01/st-johns-bradford-west-gwillimbury-ont/>