

Christ's Church
Cathedral,
Hamilton, ON



cathedralhamilton.ca



OUR CATHEDRAL'S SACRED STORY IN 2023



DEEP
ROOTS



SACRED
SPACE



CARING
COMMUNITY



Dear Cathedral Friends

Epiphany, 2024

This Narrative Budget is the story of how God is transforming our lives; it is also the story of how God is empowering us to share God's loving transformation of our lives with our neighbourhood and beyond. We are a community with deep roots in the Jamesville neighbourhood of Hamilton. We offer our sacred space as a place of refuge and prayer for all people. We are a caring community, committed to building meaningful friendships with people inside and outside the walls of our church. We welcome everyone, without exception, because we believe that everyone is a beloved child of God.

Our understanding of generosity is rooted in the Gospel and in God's amazing generosity to us. As followers of Christ, God helps us share generously our time, skills and resources on a daily basis, especially with those in need. Generosity with our financial resources is not so much about helping the Cathedral keep its lights on; it's more about our relationship with God. God calls us to be generous in the way that God is so generous with us. This is how your Cathedral Generosity Team formed in 2021 to renew our focus on generous sharing of our resources sees it.

Abundance – God has blessed us with countless gifts and resources. In response, we approach ministry from a mindset of abundance, not scarcity.

Thanks – We are thankful for the generous spirit of our parishioners.

Spiritual habit – We give because it is what we are called to do as followers of Christ. The more we give, the more this spiritual exercise becomes a habit.

My story – Each of us has an experience to share; our generosity is part of our story.

Christian hospitality – We invite others to share in our community life, including newcomers and struggling members of our neighbourhood.

Urgency – Christ calls us to act now, not in the future.

Decisions – We all are called to give; we need to decide how much.

Convenience – We make giving easier by providing different ways to donate (pre-authorized giving, PayPal, e-transfer, credit card...)

Please read this Narrative Budget. Then read it again! Pray about it. We invite you to use the guide on the last page to reflect on your own generosity. Please fill in the Intention Form to record how you wish to support God's mission and ministry through the Cathedral. Thank you!

In Christ's love, (The Very Rev. Dr.) Tim Dobbin
Rector of Christ's Church Cathedral & Dean of Niagara



Our Mission Action Plan (M.A.P.)

Thanks to the sterling leadership of Warden Brian Kreps, Dean Tim, and all who contributed through discussion and prayer, our Cathedral MAP (Mission Action Plan) was completed in 2023.

The Anglican Diocese of Niagara has a multi-year Mission Action Plan as a result of a major planning process. To quote the Website, "*Mission-shaped planning challenges the church to think on a deeper level than mere activity... we are invited to think differently about everything we do. The goal of a mission action plan is not a church-shaped mission – it's a mission-shaped church.*" Each parish is challenged to make it real in its own community and time, in accordance with a guidebook.

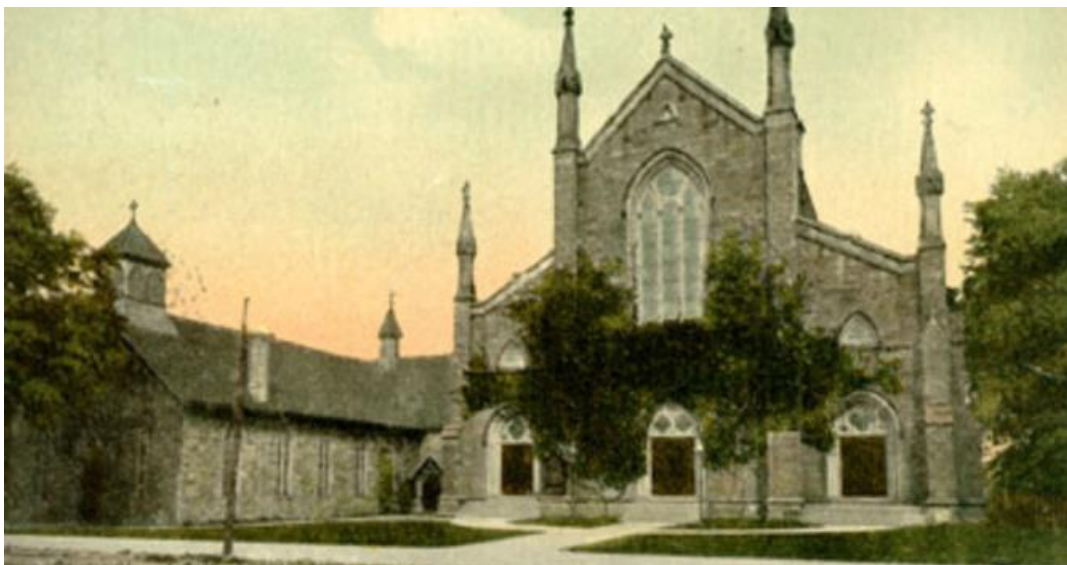
The preparation of our Parish Profile in 2019 (recruitment of our new Dean) and the community study completed by a summer student gave us a head start towards developing our MAP. This past year, we've had the generous help of consultant and fellow Anglican Michael Smith, President of Integram, who donated many hours of his time to help us be more concise and specific in our descriptions of our community and our unique ministries. Brian Kreps and Dena Thomas also facilitated four Sunday gatherings of parishioners who shared their wisdom and passion.

The Diocese, upon receipt of our plan and meeting notes, granted us a \$5000 credit in our financial arrangements with them. Good news!

<p>Vision Statement - The Vision Statement describes the future state we wish to achieve together. It should be grounded in the Mission.</p>
<p><i>We are a growing, vibrant community of compassion and hope gathering in our beautiful historic building, virtually and in the neighbourhood. Our fervent commitment to spiritual growth and responsiveness to needs within our congregation and city make us a beacon for those searching for a place to belong, grow in faith and serve.</i></p>
<p>Mission Statement - The Mission Statement describes why we exist</p>
<p><i>Sharing God's loving transformation of lives with our neighbourhood, the diocese and the world through inspiring worship and music, spiritual formation and leadership development, compassionate service alongside our neighbours, and a warm, inclusive hospitality. We are a sacred oasis in the heart of the city.</i></p>
<p>Values and Practices - These values and practices describe how we live out our Mission. Decisions about parish life should reflect these values and practices.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Practicing expansive hospitality to one another, our neighbours and the Diocese of Niagara.</i> • <i>Faithful in prayer and worship, pursuing musical and liturgical excellence.</i> • <i>Growing spiritually as followers of Jesus.</i> • <i>Supporting and empowering emerging leaders within the congregation and Diocese.</i> • <i>Offering compassionate pastoral care in times of need.</i> • <i>Working for ecological and social justice through personal action, partnership and advocacy</i> • <i>Giving generously of our time and talent.</i>
<p>Our Promise - As a community, the commitment that we make to everyone we encounter.</p>
<p><i>Whatever you seek, we welcome you with open hearts and invite you to journey with us.</i></p>
<p>Tagline - The tagline is a quick descriptor we can use to describe Christ's Church Cathedral. It is intended to be a teaser that would be intriguing and encourage people to learn more.</p>
<p><i>Deep roots, sacred space, caring community in the heart of Hamilton</i></p>

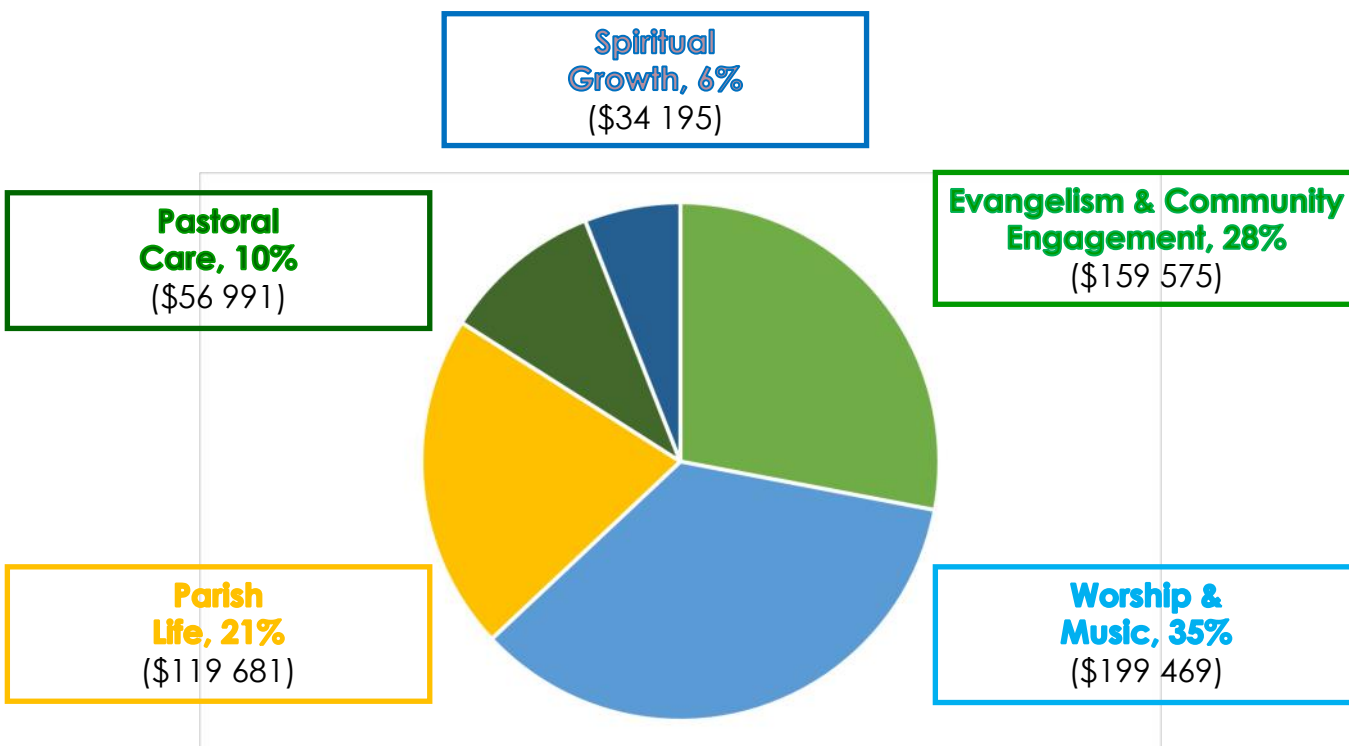
Our Mission and Ministries

As the Cathedral church of the Anglican Diocese of Niagara in downtown Hamilton since 1835, we welcome all as beloved children of God. Our historic building and grounds enhance our ministry of inspiring worship, beautiful music, Christian spiritual and leadership formation, solidarity with the marginalized, and warm hospitality within and beyond our parish.



Our Investment in Mission and Ministries

Our ministries are supported by your contributions of time, talent, and treasure. Our total budgeted expenditure for ministry in 2023 is \$569 913.



Worship and Music (35%)

Cathedral worship is at the core of our Christian life and practice. We share it online now! We aspire to excellence in liturgy, preaching, and music. All three are beautifully combined in the historic setting of our magnificent building. Our Dean, The Very Rev. Dr. Tim Dobbin, provides leadership for Sunday worship services, mid-week Eucharists, on-line Morning Prayer and Diocesan Services. He is assisted Rev. Monica Romig Green (Deacon - since August 2023) and a team of honorary assistants include Bishop Terry Brown, Rev. Canon Dr. Sharyn Hall, Rev. Canon J. Lefebvre, Ven. Lynne Marchant and the Right Rev. D. Ralph Spence. In 2023, we welcomed Dr. Bruce Burbidge to lead the choir and all of us in musical worship.



Evangelism and Community Engagement (28%)

Through live streaming and social media, we share the Good News and welcome our community and the world. We enjoy hosting Doors Open and Art Crawl/Supercrawl. We've formed new relationships with local justice-seeking organizations in urgent priorities like the housing crisis. In June, we hosted "A Spotlight on Mental Health" panel discussion bringing Mental Health Professionals/Agencies from across the city for us to learn about services available to community members in need of assistance. Our volunteer-staffed Cathedral Café is a place of refuge, welcome, and compassion. Our "Climate Justice Cathedral" group informs us about climate justice issues and spurs us on to personal/community action and advocacy. In November, we hosted a community event with Lynda Lukasik, Director of Hamilton's Office of Climate Change Initiatives. As the mother church of the Diocese, we host diocesan celebrations, including ordinations, confirmations, and other special events. We support vital ministries such as St. Matthews House and the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund.



Parish Life (21%)

Our weekly Chronicle, quarterly CONTACT, and website keep our busy Cathedral informed and up to date. Sunday worship with its Liturgical Teams and livestreaming, community engagement through the Cathedral Café and Out of the Cold, volunteer groups including the Altar Guild, Brass Monkeys, Archives, Lay Weeders, offering counters, members of committees and Corporation - all benefit from timely communication and coordination. Our Parish Administrator, plays a key role in communication. This autumn we refreshed Myler Hall and the Choir Room. These are now inviting and tidy spaces that can be used for a variety of community/parish functions. Our community continues to encounter God through the beauty of the historic sacred spaces we love and maintain.



Pastoral Care (10%)

Our dedicated Pastoral Care Team includes our clergy and Parish Coordinator. They make or facilitate phone and in-person visits; oversee newcomer welcome; provide confidential pastoral counseling; offer compassionate funeral and grief support; and support our parishioner phone tree. If you, or someone you know is in need of pastoral care, please reach out to the parish office to make arrangements for a call or visit.



Spiritual Growth (6%)

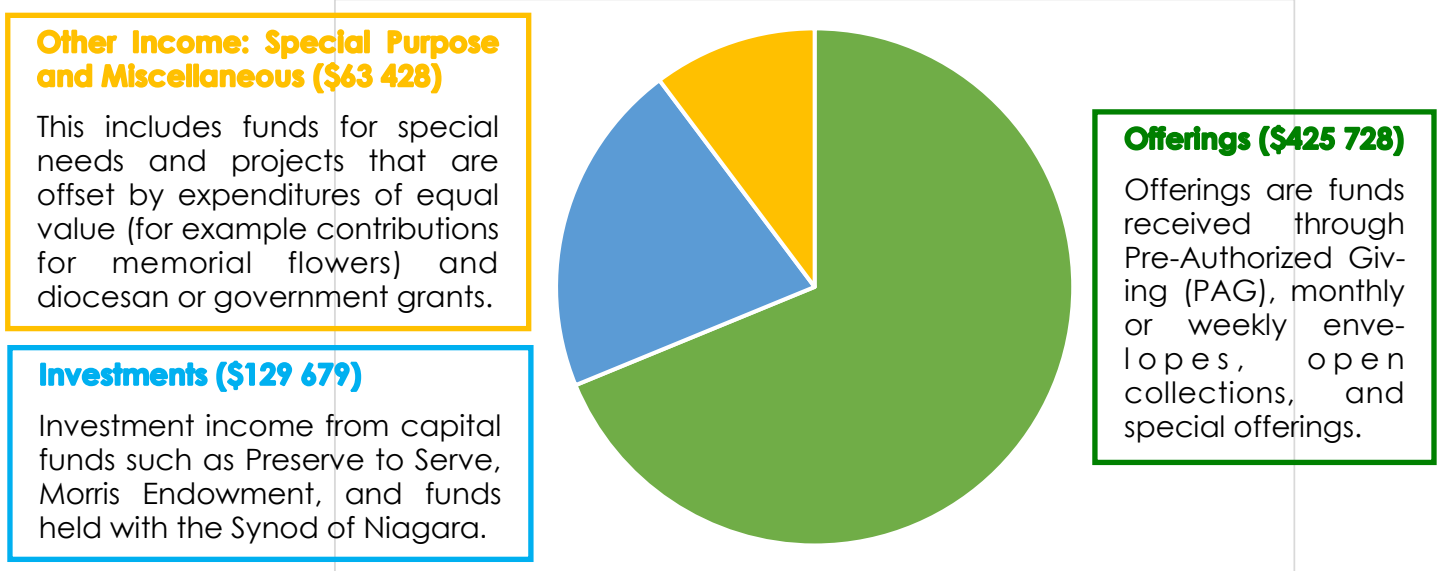
We learn and grow in our understanding of our calling as Christians. Our education programs include Centering Prayer, Community of Prayer, "Digging Deeper" (Sunday Lectionary Study series), Cathedral Chats, Movie Nights, Lenten and other seasonal programs. Baptism, Confirmation, and Marriage preparation programs are offered as needed. Our clergy teach in worship settings and informal conversations. Our Spiritual Growth working group, comprised of our Dean, clergy and lay leaders, develops a year-round curriculum for spiritual development and education. Our commitment to leadership development includes a role in forming and training emerging leaders in our Diocese.



WHAT WE RECEIVE

Our Sources of Revenue for Ministry in 2023

Our anticipated budget deficit for 2023 was \$68 253. The generosity of parishioners resulted in a \$25 399 surplus at year end! The surplus was possible due to one-time expense savings and donations. While regular parishioner giving was above budget, without these one-time events, we would have ended the year with a deficit of approximately \$15 000.



WHAT AND HOW WE GAVE IN 2023

Range of Annual Gift	# of Givers	# of Givers Cumulative	Total Given by Group	Average Given by Group	% of Total Donations
\$15,000+	7	7	\$121 053	\$17 293	29.6%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	5	12	61 693	12 339	15.1%
\$7,500 - \$9,999	3	15	25 416	8 472	6.2%
\$5,000 - \$7,499	9	24	49 827	5 536	12.2%
\$3,000 to \$4,999	11	35	41 096	3 736	10.1%
1000-2999	44	79	74 432	1 692	18.2%
\$500 - \$999	32	111	22 301	697	5.5%
\$100 - \$499	45	156	11 493	255	2.8%
\$1 - \$99	20	176	1 155	58	0.3%
Totals		176	\$408 465	\$2 321	100%

NOTE: Does not include visitor donations, one time special donations, PWDRF, St. Matthew's House, P2S, or Memorials

SUMMARY OF TRENDS FROM 2019 to 2023

	2019	2020	2022	2023
# of Donors	149	122	130	176
Total Giving	\$315 264	\$263 223	\$303 453	\$408 465
Median Gift	1 191	1 200	1 145	785
Average Annual Gift	2 127	2 158	2 334	2 321

NOTE: Totals for 2021 not available



LEGACY GIVING

Our beautiful Cathedral and our life-giving ministries in a weary and spiritually hungry world are in many ways the gift of all who have gone before us since 1835. They sustained these ministries through good times and hard times, bringing community, compassion, and hope to our neighbourhood and our city.

Here's an example of the impact of legacy giving. The Morris Fund, a bequest of then parishioners Caroline and Clifford Morris in 1989 of \$212,000, which was set up to support the maintenance of the Cathedral, its balance now stands at over \$369,250. Over the years, the Cathedral has been able to comfortably draw \$25,000 each year from this one carefully managed fund. Just one example of how a legacy gift can grow and keep on giving! "More than we can ask or imagine."

Would you like to ensure that the light of Christ continues to shine here on James Street North? Please consider a special gift during your own lifetime, or talk with your family and your financial advisor about a gift in your will. Our Dean (Tim Dobbin) and our Treasurer (J. Lefebvre) welcome your inquiries.



YOUR TURN

As followers of Jesus, and because God has so generously blessed us, we are called to be generous. As a parishioner, how can I be more generous to the work of Christ's Church Cathedral? What does God's generosity to me mean and how do I respond? What prompts us to be generous? What is Christian hospitality? How can I practise and strengthen generosity as a spiritual habit? In asking those questions we come to understand that our generosity as Christians is more about our spiritual values than our money.

Now money is important. As humans, we connect money with our sense of security. Henri Nouwen wrote, "Jesus knows our need for security. He is concerned that because security is such a deep human need, we do not misplace our trust in things or people that cannot offer us real security."

While we don't want to push, there is some urgency to our financial situation at the cathedral. Despite the generosity of so many, our expenses continue to be greater than our income. This deficit can limit the impact of current and new ministries. We are asking all parishioners to consider how they can generously give more.

How can I contribute? We try to make it easy! We promote PAG (Pre-Authorized Giving) because it's convenient for parishioners and it ensures steady and reliable revenue for the Cathedral. You can also contribute online or by placing cash or cheque on the offering plate.

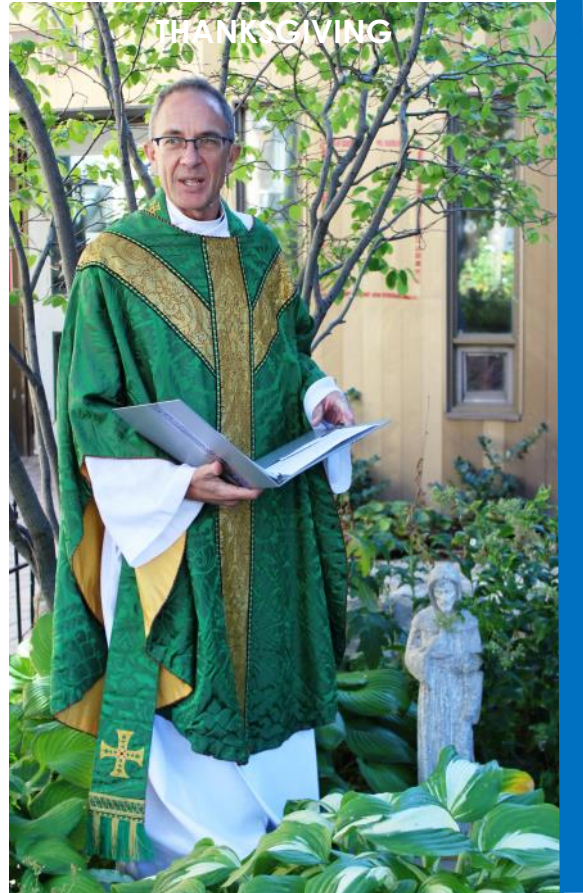


AND NOW...

Thank you for reading this Cathedral story. The next step is yours. On the next page you'll find a guide: "Reflecting on my story of generosity" and an Intention Form for 2024. Please fill it in and return it as requested, and come to the Cathedral Vestry **February 18, 2024** as we affirm our plans and commit ourselves to action in the world God loves. And for all you continue to offer, in time, talent, and treasure, THANK YOU

Questions? Please contact any member of your Generosity Team.

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Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2L3
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Email: cathedral.admin@niagaraanglican.ca
Web: cathedralhamilton.ca



REFLECTING ON MY STORY OF GENEROSITY

We invite you to take a few moments to reflect privately on your story of generosity.



Imagine us living from a place of sheer, heart-felt, bone marrow deep gratitude even in times of challenge and darkness.
What am I thankful for? How does it influence my story of generosity?

For some, generosity was learned as a child and became a spiritual habit at a young age. For others, generosity grew as they aged.
Has generosity become a spiritual habit in my story? How can I further develop this spiritual habit?



Christian Hospitality is evidence of our generosity. By reaching out to “the other”, sharing out of our abundance, we practice true generosity.
How is Christian Hospitality part of my story?

I recognize that I serve a God of abundance and blessing. This compels me to commit to deepen my spiritual habit of generosity.
I value the parish's ministry to me, to other parishioners, and to the community. What can I do to help support these ministries?
How will I personally demonstrate my commitment to generosity through what I give to Christ's Church Cathedral in 2024?
What is my monthly net income?
What proportion of my net income will I give? 2%, 5% or 10%
How much will I give each month?
Will I give through pre-authorized giving (PAG) so that my gift to God's ministry at the Cathedral is received whether I am able to attend in person or not?



**ONCE YOU HAVE COMPLETED THIS REFLECTION EXERCISE,
 PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE INTENTION FORM WHICH
 IS FOUND ON THE BACK OF THE PAGE**

2024 INTENTION FORM

GIVING INTENTION FOR 2024:

Our gift is our response to God's mission. We are grateful for the compassion and generosity of God's gifts in our lives and thankful for the hope in which God has blessed us.

Please indicate New giver Continuing giver 1
 Same amount Increased amount

Name(s) _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

My/our financial gift to CCC will total \$ _____ in 2024.

METHOD OF GIVING IN 2024 (please check one):

All or part of my/our gift will be given by Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) 2
 \$ _____ weekly or \$ _____ monthly.

If you are giving using PAG for the first time, **please attach a void cheque** *and* complete the information below.

Bank _____ Type of Account _____

Branch _____ If monthly, withdraw on 1st 15th

Signature _____ Date signed _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing of initial or changing PAG transactions.

I/we prefer to use weekly offering envelopes.
 Please indicate if you need us to issue offering envelopes.

PLANNED/LEGACY GIVING:

Have you included Christ's Church Cathedral in your will? Yes No 3
 If you have included CCC in your will, it would help us with planning and we would like to thank you. We recognize Prefer not to answer
 this is a sensitive question that you may not wish to answer.

**Kindly return this form in an envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL" to the attention of -
 Envelope Secretary, CCC, 252 James St. North, Hamilton, ON L8R 3J3**

You can do this by regular mail, placing it in the offering plate or handing it to one of the greeters or wardens on a Sunday morning.