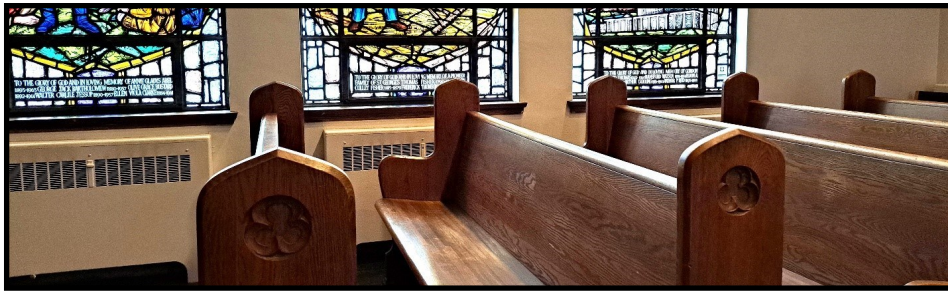


Did you know?

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH PEW RENTALS

While the practice of pew renting in the Anglican Church was quite common in the early 1800's, it started to decline by the mid-century. The renting of pews was a contentious subject at St. George's on-the-Hill from the beginning. At a meeting held to discuss the building of the church structure in the early 1840's, it was resolved that "the sittings therein shall be free". Upon completion of the church, there remained a significant financial deficit resulting in great discussions as to whether the free pews could in fact be enacted.



After the Vestry of 1850, a compromise solution was reached where eighteen of the twenty-eight pews would be rented and the remaining ten would be free. The first two pews at the front were rented to William Gamble and Thomas Fisher for an annual fee of two pounds per quarter-year (approximately \$600 Cdn 2024 dollars), while the remaining sixteen rented pews were one pound and five shillings (approximately \$300 Cdn 2024 dollars).

This system continued until Vestry of 1895 when rentals were abolished, at which time the following notice was placed on each pew.

*"All seats are free and the church is supported by
voluntary subscriptions"*

Signed, H. O. Tremayne, Rector

Brought to you by the Heritage & Archives Committee