



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Weekly Newsletter

April 24, 2020

Dear friends,

Welcome to the sixth edition of our weekly newsletter. We expect this newsletter to continue as long as

we cannot meet in person. A limited number of paper copies will be placed at the link doors for people who do not have access to email.

Sunday Morning Service

Although we cannot attend Sunday morning worship, we have put together a recording for April 26. It should arrive in your inbox on April 25.

Accompanying the recording will be a file which has the complete service including the readings if you would rather read them. Unfortunately, the sermon will not be transcribed and you will need to listen to the video to hear the sermon. Many, many thanks to Alex Dee who is doing the video production for this endeavour.

Because of the method of recording different sections at different times and then melding them together, we are able to follow the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa guidelines on Physical Distancing. There are no more than three of us in the church at any one time and we maintain a distance of 2m between us.

Update on Sewing for Ottawa

By the morning of April 23, Sewing for Ottawa had donated 3170 scrub caps and 4136 headbands. That is 14,612 buttons!! The caps and headbands have been donated to primarily to hospitals and nursing homes. The requests for scrub caps and headbands are slowing down and the focus is shifting to sewing fabric non-medical masks. There have been approximately 1700 requested so far. If

THE VIRUS

What wisdom is there to inspire us
As we confront Coronavirus?
You'd think most people would be wiser
Than those stock-piling sanitizer,
And rushing to the grocery shelves
To hoard the kleenex to themselves.
Some know to cough into a sleeve,
And from large groups to take their leave,
And others, to the news addicted,
Say Armageddon is predicted!
Let's all be thankful for the folks
Who cheer each other and share jokes,
Extend a hand -- inside their glove --
To show compassion, even love.
We'll all come out of this, in time,
(Cause COVID can't turn on a dime)
And realize the world's okay,
We helped each other make our way.
So wash your hands, avoid your face
And -- maybe -- save the human race!

B. Zanin

anyone would like a fabric mask, there are sewers at St Mark's who can make you one. Just let the office know.

Turkey Pies

A batch of turkey pies was finished just before services stopped. I got busy and didn't sell on March 8. If you are interested in turkey pies, please contact the office and we can arrange a porch pickup at my (Joy's) home. (There is no one at the church.) The turkey pies are \$5 each. I also have soup mixes at \$4 each. - Joy

Forward Day by Day

If you are regular reader and would like your new copy. Please let the office know and we can arrange a pick up either at the church or at Joy's house.

A message from the Rummage Coordinator

I hope you are all cleaning out things you no longer need during this down time. However, please store them at home, where you will neither lose them nor trip over them. As soon as we are open for business at church, we'll be pleased to see them. The church is presently closed, so they would simply sit outside and get wet or worse.

Thank you, and happy cleaning.

Cynthia

Sharing Coffee Hour

Joanne Pagani suggested a new section for this newsletter where people who would have been on coffee (or anyone else who would like to share) could share a photo, a recipe of what they would have made for coffee hour and/or a short hello message from them with a few details of what they've been up to. The editor will not seek out people but would be happy to receive submissions. This week, Joy has contributed a message.

Dear St Mark's Family

This Sunday would have been the patronal luncheon at St Mark's. It is hard to believe how much time has gone by as I compile the sixth newsletter. I initially thought that I didn't have anything to say because you hear from (and see) me all the time but I then thought you might be interested in the video production.

We are doing well. Alex and I are keeping busy with the church videos. Alex studied Music Industry Arts at Algonquin College and among other things, learned how to do music recording. He has a good ear and is very fussy about how things sound... which actually works out very well for us. Another part of his course was a class on audio for video so he learned how to do some video editing as well.

When we record, Alex records the video separately from the audio and joins them together when assembling the final video.

This requires a "clap sync" so there is a distinct sound and action that can be used as a reference point.



Figure 1 Alex starting the video for a hymn



Figure 2 Alex doing the "clap sync" for the final hymn

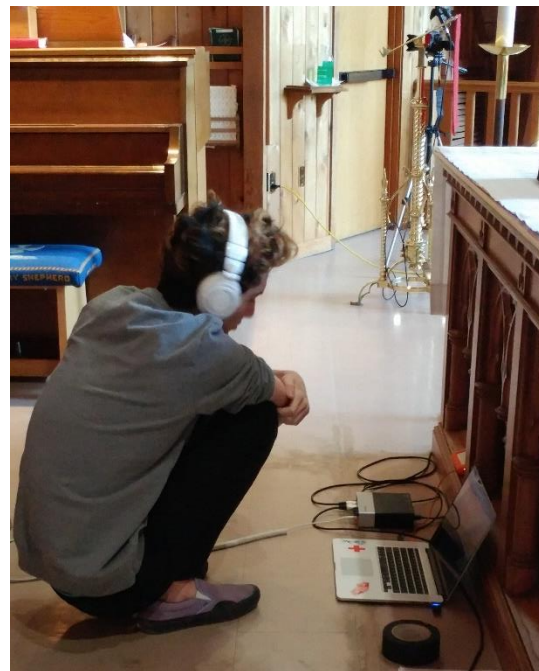


Figure 3 Alex listening to audio while recording Ariane.

When we record the hymns, only the organ is recorded and I (and sometimes Alex) add the vocals in later at home. When the psalm is recorded, both the vocals and organ have to be recorded at the same time. Here is my view while the psalm is being recorded. Note the mics on the altar.



Figure 4 Alex starting the video for the psalm



Figure 5 My view while the psalm is being recorded (looking down) and yes, I didn't change all the panels in the altar.

When we are recording the spoken parts of the service, we use the lectern mic and the wireless mic so the computer and the camera are both on the table at the front.

Although Alex has a good background, he had not done many videos so it has been a real learning experience for all of us. The process has been getting easier as we go. Alex has learned what makes it easier for him to edit and Mom has learned what Alex needs to set up the video and has learned how to make video titles. Fr Julian has learned to wait so that people are out of the frame before he starts speaking. (If you look very carefully at the first couple of videos you may see flickers as Fr Julian starts while Alex or I running

out of the screen from the clap sync.) Alex has figured out how Ariane and Joy can both be recorded at the same time with a good balance and we have all learned how to do the same thing again if we messed it up the first time.

Trevor is working from home so he walks down the hall from the bedroom and starts work at his more or less usual time. He has brought computers home to work on and they can get really noisy so he wears headphones and keeps the door closed.

Sarah does not live with us but is doing well, learning how to teach remotely and doing live story times with her kinder classes two or three times a week.

Connie is having a much more difficult time adjusting to the isolation. I go and visit her every day, take her food, eat lunch with her and keep her company for a while. Bob, her son, is calling more often which I know she appreciates, but it makes her think that he has come to Ottawa and somehow is at Joy's house. People from the church are calling her which is truly appreciated. She usually calls me at least 2 to 4 times every day and it would not be unusual for her to end up in tears on at least one of those occasions. We have reached a point where if she stops and thinks, she does know that people can't move around and she can't go shopping. It was difficult for her to understand that the restrictions were not from the weather but if you ask her to think about it, she can now tell you that it is due to a virus. She will be extremely glad to be able to move around again and see people.

Joy!

Donations to the Church

We are extremely fortunate at St Mark's that there are a number of people who use Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). That gives us some source of income during this time that there is no public worship. If you are not on PAR, I would encourage you to continue your donations. Of course, putting a cheque in the

mail is always a great option for getting your donation to us. If you wish to make a donation by credit card, you may do so at CanadaHelps.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/47820>.

You will have to remember when you go to do your taxes for 2020 where you have put your receipts from CanadaHelps. If you cannot find them, contact CanadaHelps and they will be happy to issue duplicate receipts. All money donated will be put in to the appropriate income category when it comes to us.

Contacting the Church

Contacting the office has actually not changed at all. You may contact the office at 613-224-7431 or stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca.

Messages are being monitored and the business of the church is continuing, albeit remotely.

Comments and Suggestions

If you have anything you would like to see in next week's newsletter, please email the church at stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca.