



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Weekly Newsletter

March 5, 2021

Dear friends,

Welcome to the forty ninth edition of our weekly newsletter. We are continuing the weekly newsletter for the foreseeable

future.

Next week's newsletter will have a retrospective of the past year to mark the First Anniversary of the Pandemic Declaration. If you have any words or thoughts you would like to contribute, please send in by Wednesday March 10.

Shout Outs

If you would like some special occasion like an anniversary or birthday acknowledged in the Sunday service, Fr Julian will be more than happy to announce it. However, it must be into either Father Julian or the office by **MONDAY EVENING** for it to be included in the service for the following Sunday. We are now recording on Tuesday to accommodate Stephanie's schedule of classes.

- Bill Barber celebrates his 83rd birthday on March 9

Letter from the Metropolitan

The House of Bishops for Ontario has issued a letter on the First Anniversary of the Global Coronavirus Pandemic Declaration. An excerpt from the letter follows. The full text of the letter may be found [here](#).

“In a year of many firsts for our generation, we are approaching the first anniversary of the declaration of the pandemic by World Health Organization on March 11th. Only two days later this was followed by an announcement from the bishops that church buildings would be lockdown and in-person worship would be suspended as of March 15th.

Calendar

- Mar 5 – World Day of Prayer Zoom service at 1 pm. Contact Cynthia or Jenny for link
- Mar 10 – Lenten Study. Details p 2
- Mar 11 – Pandemic Declaration Anniversary, 11: 35 am
- Mar 17 - Lunch and Learn for the Thousand Doves project. Details p 2

The scripture verse that we have chosen to mark these anniversaries in our common journey is Jesus's arrival at the grave of his friend Lazarus -John 11.35, “Jesus wept.”

We invite you to join us in marking the year that has passed by observing March 11th as a day of fasting and prayer. We invite you to ‘stand together’ with us and observe 3 minutes of silence at 11:35 am on that day as we call to mind the loss, the pain, the grief, the resilience, the compassion, and the extraordinary sacrifices that have been hallmarks of the past year. “

Video Services

Morning Prayer for March 7 should arrive in your inbox on March 6 at 12 pm. Video services will continue every week until in-person worship resumes and thereafter every other week.

Many, many thanks to Alex Dee who is doing the audio editing for this endeavour.

World Day of Prayer

This year the service should have been at St Mark's. This is not possible so we have agreed to host the service next year. The world day of prayer service, which is an ecumenical event ,takes place this year on Friday March 5th at 1 p.m. We at St Mark's had offered to organize

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it, but when Covid took over, we decided against holding it.

However, Rev. George Kwari from St. Stephen's, has organized a Zoom service, with participants from several churches. If you are interested in attending virtually, please let Jenny or Cynthia know, so that we can let you have the Zoom connection which we won't receive until this weekend. The women of Vanuatu, an island in the South Pacific North East of Australia have prepared the service. There is also a service available online at wicc.org.

Lunch & Learn Virtual Event The Thousand Doves Project

Interested in supporting the Diocese's Refugee Ministry through The Thousand Doves Project but afraid making paper origami doves is too difficult? On March 17th come and see how simple it really is! Have some square pieces of white paper ready (any size paper cut into a square will work), and Karen McBride, from our Refugee Ministry Panel, will lead us step-by-step through the dove-making process and talk about how you or your group can get involved in spreading their wings of hope above the nave of Christ Church Cathedral for Pentecost Sunday.

REGISTER [here](#)

Lenten Outreach Projects

At the Parish Council Meeting on January 20, it was decided that the projects for this year's Lenten Outreach would be St Luke's Table and the Diocesan Refugee Ministry.

Lenten Study

The Lenten season will offer 30-45 min. reflection/Bible study via Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7pm beginning on February 24. We will do a thematic approach to the Collect of the day along with two lectionary readings for each upcoming Sunday of Lent. The readings will be sent to you in advance. If you want to be a part of this exercise, please confirm by contacting the office.

One of the blessings of these strange and unusual times is that time and space are not barriers to participation. Even if you don't live in the city, even if you don't drive at night you are welcome to join in.

Call for Readers

In planning ahead, we will do a dramatic reading of the Passion according to Mark for the Palm Sunday recording (even if we are in-person at that time). If you can record a part at home (which is safest and doable no matter what restrictions we may be under), please let me know. This year we have a more time to prepare and I have a **lot** more video skills that I did last year at this time. Thank you the two **(2!)** people who volunteered to do part of the dramatic reading. In fact, there are ten (10) readers required. You do not have to be on the list of readers to do this. – Joy!

Video Backgrounds

Whenever you see a particularly photogenic sight which you think would suit as a background, please feel free to share. Landscape pictures are the best. I can't guarantee I will use every picture but I do enjoy every picture. – 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). If you are not on PAR, we 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 into the appropriate income category when it comes to us.

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Contacting the Church

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

City Councillor Riley Brockington invites you to be his guest at his annual

Women's Day Speaker Series

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

6:30pm On **Zoom**

Guest Speakers:



Suzanne Obiorah

Director of Gender and Race Equality, Inclusion, Indigenous Relations, and Social Development Services
City of Ottawa



**Her Excellency
Natasha Smith**

High Commissioner to Canada
Australian High Commission



Kathleen Wynne

Ontario Provincial Parliament, Don Valley West
Former Premier of Ontario



City Councillor Theresa Kavanagh, the Council Liaison for Women and Gender Equity, will co-host the event with Councillor Riley Brockington.

All are welcome! Please join us on Wednesday, March 10
RSVP at tinyurl.com/RiverWardWomensDay or by calling 613-580-2486



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