



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Weekly Newsletter

March 27, 2020

Dear friends,

Welcome to the second edition of our weekly newsletter. We expect this newsletter to

continue as long as we cannot meet in person.

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.

Caring for our parish community

Georgia and Cynthia have set up a phone list, so that those who don't have email, or sometimes even if they do receive the emails from St Mark's, can feel connected to each other and to the church. At least one caller has been assigned to each person on the list.

It seems to be working very well. We have heard from the callers that they have reached their assigned people, and have also heard from those being called that they are grateful to be remembered.

Thank you to those who are calling. Don't hesitate to call others not on your list. And those of you receiving calls could also call those whom you generally chat with. Why not make a cup of coffee or tea, and have a virtual coffee hour / tea party? If you do not have the phone number of a particular parishioner that you would like to contact, and if both your name and that of the parishioner are in our parish directory, then we can provide you with the needed phone number. If you would either like to be contacted or be willing to phone people, please get in touch with Cynthia at 613-723-

2680 greercynthia69@yahoo.com or Georgia Roberts at 613-226-5693
georgia.roberts@ncf.ca.

Caring for our wider community

A reminder that food banks are hurting during this time. If you wish to donate to our local foodbank, the easiest way to make a donation is by going to the DDFH website <http://debradynes.ncf.ca/> and donating through CanadaHelps. You can specify that you want your donation to go to their food bank there. And you get your tax receipt right away

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.
We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.
We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.
We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs
For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.

Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference

Sunday Morning Service

Although we cannot attend Sunday morning worship, we have put together a recording of Morning Prayer for Sunday March 29. It should arrive on March 28. We continue to learn about the process so please ignore any continuity errors you may find. 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 video to hear the sermon. Many thanks to Alex Dee who is doing the video production

for this endeavour. We will endeavour to continue this every week for as long as we can.

Praying at home

It is interesting to see the number of online church and prayer resources that have sprung up in the last week or at least have become more visible in the last week.

Our own diocese has a webpage devoted to Pandemic News which can be accessed at: <http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/index.php/co-vid-19>

That webpage also has a link to General Synod resources which has a list of links to dioceses across the country. The Diocese of Algoma almost always has interesting things. If, in the past years, you have participated in the Prayer Vigil on Maundy Thursday, you may have seen the print out of Lenten Poetry which originated in the Diocese of Algoma. <https://mailchi.mp/national/anglican-church-of-canada-update-for-march-17-2020?e=aa8116157b>

The Church of England has a webpage of Prayer Resources for at home use and for use in liturgy. The Prayers of the People in this coming Sunday's service is from their resources: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

The Anglican Journal also has a number of interesting articles which you can access at: <https://www.anglicanjournal.com/>. There was an article this week from the Primate. Another of interest might be an article from the churches on the churches in Europe called

“Europe’s churches bring light to lockdown”. <https://www.anglicanjournal.com/europes-churches-bring-light-to-lockdown/>.

Here is a short excerpt from that article:

““We are not without the church—not ever,” the Rt. Rev. Mark Edington, bishop-in-charge of the convocation (of Episcopal churches in Europe), wrote to parishioners in Europe. “We have always said, and it is no less true for our saying it, that the church is the people of God, and not the house in which they dwell; and so we are still the church, even if we cannot be in the church.”

In that vein, Edington compiled a Convocation Companion e-book of prayers and devotions based on the Daily Office readings from March 22 to April 17, 2020, with contributions from lay and clergy leaders across the continent. It’s called [Prayers for Days of Isolation](#)”

I found the e-book fascinating to look through. It is not always in English but quite a few of them are.

If you use facebook, there are also a couple of interesting links on our facebook page. The Taizé monastery is doing a daily watch party for prayer and St George’s College in Jerusalem is taking people on a virtual pilgrimage of the Holy Land.

If you find any interesting resources, let us know and we can share them next week.

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.