



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Weekly Newsletter

February 19, 2021

Dear friends,

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

foreseeable future.

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.

- Bud Magee celebrated his **100th** birthday on February 13th. Congratulations Bud! .

Video Services

Morning Prayer for February 21 should arrive in your inbox on February 20 at 12 pm. Video services will continue every week until in-person worship resumes and thereafter every other week. The diocese has relaxed a few of its restrictions and speakers no longer have to wear masks.

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

Black History Month

February is Black History Month and we are observing it with a series of guest speakers during Morning Prayer.

You may have heard references to Preston, Nova Scotia in the sermons this month (including this week). [Here](#) is a link to an episode of Still Standing featuring the town of East Preston.

The diocese is having a Black History Month Service on Friday, February 26 at 7 pm. You may participate in the service via Zoom by

registering [here](#). Zoom participation is limited to 300. The service will also be livestreamed to the Diocesan YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ANGDIOO>. Bishop Shane will be the preacher.

Two Local Writers

by Ruth Latta

The items about Black History Month in St. Mark's Newsletter inspired me to tell you about two talented Ottawa women who have fulfilled their dreams of writing and publishing books. Both Pamela Antoine and Ainalem Tebege were in my pre-pandemic writers' workshop at the Emerald Plaza Library.

Pamela Antoine, born on the twin islands of Trinidad and Tobago, embraced her passion for storytelling when she retired from her health care career here in Ottawa. Her children's book, *Tabitha* (Ottawa, Baico Publishing, 2020, \$14.95) is a semi-autobiographical story of a young girl's perseverance. Nine-year-old Tabitha's strong, loving grandmother wants her to go on in school, but there, Tabitha is mocked and bullied because of her stammer. Pamela's illustrations make Tabitha a gem. For more information, visit her webpage, Phantoine.ca.

Ainalem Tebeje, a Canadian of Ethiopian background, is a former journalist and public servant. Her novel, *My Love Story in Broken English*, (Ottawa, Baico, 2018, \$20) is intended for grown-ups. It's about a fourteen-year-old child bride in an Ethiopian village whose kind, progressive husband defends her against her traditionalist enemies in the community. Ainalem wrote *My Love Story* as a gift to Canada for accepting her as a refugee, and donates all profits from book sales to charity. She is working on a novel about refugee women. For more information, E-mail ainatebeje@yahoo.com

As a writer, I am always pleased when aspiring authors break into print and share their

unique areas of knowledge and experience with readers.

Vestry Report

The Vestry Report is now available and may be found [here](#) and the agenda [here](#).

Vestry 2021 – February 28 11 AM

The diocese has prohibited in-person vestry meetings of any kind until further notice.

Accordingly, our vestry will be held on February 28 at 11 am via Zoom.

We are working through the steps on how to do this.

1. If you would like to attend vestry this year, you **must** pre-register with the office. You will be sent a google form which will contain your vestry declaration and information which will help us manage the meeting. **Every person in the household who wants to attend must fill out the Google Form.** So if, two people are attending, please fill the form out twice. This is so that we have the vestry declaration for each person and they will be allowed to vote.
2. If you have corrections to the reports, **please submit the full text by email** ahead of time, if possible.
3. We are including motions of thanks at the end of the meeting but please submit them to the office ahead of time, if possible.

If you are unfamiliar with Zoom but would like to attend the vestry, or you would like to practice with Zoom before the vestry meeting, please let the office know and we will set up a practice session ahead of time. You can also access the Zoom meeting via phone if you or anyone you know would prefer to participate via phone rather than computer.

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.

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. This year there is now a service available on line at wicc.org. We have also been invited to a local service at St Stephen's on Zoom on Friday, March 5 at 1 pm. (Details hopefully will be available later)

Crabbing on Cat Island

If you were at the 7 pm service on Christmas Eve 2019, you would have heard the story of going crabbing on Cat Island. This is a (somewhat odd) video looking at unusual foods in the Bahamas which includes a segment on crabbing – on Cat Island. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtGqjhFjcNQ&feature=youtu.be>

Instruments for the Ash Wednesday service

To provide the background for the meditations during the Ash Wednesday service, there were somewhat unusual instruments used. During the first meditation, the instruments were penny whistle and tuned wine glasses.

February 19, 2021



During the second meditation, the wine glasses were used again (different tuning) and a instrument which on its box is only called a music maker.



(We chose not to include the rain stick which is shown in both pictures.)

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.

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