

ANNUAL REPORTS TO VESTRY

February 23, 2020

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Parish Statistics 2019

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Households	201	185	189	186	190	186
Average Sunday Attendance	87	82	89	76	74	77
Christmas	184	171	198	161	164	163
Easter	175	146	153	126	139	171
Baptized	0	2	11	3	7	4
Confirmed	0	0	0	0		
Marriages	0	2	0	0	3	1
Deaths	12	13	7	7	12	6

Deaths

Robert Jackson
John Topelko
Ann Little
Beryl Griese
Patricia Hutton
Myrna Pfeifle

Baptized

Emily Da Silva
David Martinez-Ball
Jackson Martinez-Ball
Fiona Richards

Lay Assistants at Communion

Joy Bowerman
Les Cundell
Jeff Hall
Joan Hounsell
Gillian Martin
Penny Miller
Jenny Morphew

Gillian Morris
Janis Perkin
Michael Perkin
Sheila Pitt
Georgia Roberts
Keith Wilkins
Brenda Zanin

Rector's Report

Baptism by fire! This is an apt way of describing my first few months in the parish. I arrived at a time when there were several services that were conducted differently from the standard liturgy. For example, there were the Remembrance Day, Advent and Christmas services. This “baptism,” although ruthlessly hectic, added the excitement that I thoroughly enjoyed. Managing the “excitement” was attainable through the able assistance of the wardens, parish council, parish administrator and all of you who chipped in when the need arose.

Subsequently, I have been able to visit and administer the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist to those who are housebound or otherwise needed pastoral care. These times proved helpful, as these parishioners shared helpful information about the life and times of St. Mark's Church. However, from among those sick and housebound two (2) have transitioned to their eternal reward. We continue to uphold their respective families in prayers.

Beside the two (2) masses on Sunday, there is the Book Study which is held every Wednesday at 1 pm. The response has been phenomenal in numbers (up to 18) and interest. Although a few men attend the study there is still room for more. Albeit, we owe a depth of gratitude to my predecessor, Fr Rob Davis, who recommended the book, “The Bible Tells Me So...Why Defending Scripture Has Made Us Unable to Read It” by Peter Enns. It has piqued the “students” curiosity and now they have been catapulted to places they have never gone before.

New Initiatives

1. Birthday Masses was an idea conceived to take “church” into the intimate spaces of parishioners, their homes. I hope that this ministry can create greater koinonia (spiritual communion) among people and priest alike. So far, five (5) parishioners have booked birthday masses. If you wish to have more details about this ministry initiative, please do not hesitate to speak with me.
2. Black History Month (BHM) was celebrated during the month of February 2020, under the theme, “Let our Rejoicing Rise.” The theme was deduced from, “Lift Every Voice and Sing.” It is a yearly affair which empowers us to build relationships, thereby creating space for further dialogue. It is also a vehicle to evangelize the world around us. The achievements in this regard was only made possible by a committee that worked cohesively for a few months. Your determination and zeal are commended.

Let me add that a church that is truly incarnational is the one that Christ will be proud of because we will be taking his admonition seriously, by going out into all the world in His name (Mt. 28;19-20).

I hope this is just the beginning of a productive and healthful relationship for us all. Let us continue to pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance to undergird all of our efforts as we work in this vineyard for the upliftment of God's kingdom.

Rev Julian Campbell

Warden's Report

As year 2019 began, Rev. Jessica was unable to return to St. Marks, and Bishop Peter was still our Priest-in-Charge. As usual, the Christmas season extended into January, with Epiphany and Crèche Sunday. We had the first Parish breakfast of the year, and the annual Ecumenical service with Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church and Madonna della Risurrezione. This event is always much enjoyed by everyone who attends.

Coffee, Company and Conversation resumed, with varying programs each week, and with attendance somewhere between 20 and 40 people.

At the end of January we sadly bid Bishop Peter farewell as he had a previous commitment in the Parish of Huntley ... and we welcomed our new Priest-in-Charge, Ven. Rob Davis and his wife Rev. Cathy into our midst. They had just retired three months before, but were happy to come to St. Marks, which is where they were married thirty nine years before. We were uncertain how long Rob's stay with us would be, but he fitted in quickly and our parish life continued smoothly. We all enjoyed his meaningful, moving sermons.

Lent began early in March with Kate and Steve Close's Pancake Supper. With their crew of young people they do a great job, also of burning the palms preparing for Ash Wednesday. The focus of our Lenten Outreach this year was Cornerstone. April was a busy month. The annual Card Party, run by Carol Russell and Pat Sinclair, was another big success. St. Marks Day Patronal Lunch in April was most enjoyable. The Easter services were well-attended, and always seem to serve as a sign of the coming spring.

There are two Seniors' Eucharist and Lunches held annually, in May and November, and they were both enjoyed by all who participated. After the Church Picnic in June, the Carleton Memorial United Church Day Care moved into Bishop Reed Hall for the summer, and most of the groups in the church have a well-earned rest. There is only one Sunday service during the summer, at 9 o'clock.

Everyone returned in September, hopefully renewed and full of energy for the busy time through till Christmas!

The fall season starts with a Parish Breakfast. Brian Harrison, who had looked after these breakfasts for many years, decided it was time to retire; he helped the new crew (Cynthia and Paul Greer, Karen and Bill Barber and Suzanne Bisson) to organize it, and they have done the last two breakfasts. Many thanks to Brian for his good work. Then there was the BBQ, and the weekly Coffee, Company and Conversation resumed, with Laurie, Georgia, Penny and Suzanne at the helm. On October 26, St. Marks celebrated the 70th anniversary of the church's very first service which was held in a local school, with a very pleasant lunch.

In mid - October St. Marks received the news that we were getting a full time priest in two weeks. We feel that we were most fortunate to have had Bishop Peter for a short time, and Rev. Rob for nine months. We had settled down into a very comfortable feeling, even though we knew that Rob was "temporary." We felt our church had been well served during a very unsettling time, when we didn't really know what was ahead for us. On October 27 we had a special coffee hour, to say farewell and thank you to Rob and Cathy.

Rev. Julian Campbell arrived on November 1. And the next day was the Bazaar! That gave Julian a chance to buy woolen scarves to try to keep warm! I think he bought five or six. He is adapting to life in Canada, and at St. Marks. He has settled into our parish life and seems at home, getting to know the parishioners, while bringing his own style. He is to be inducted by the Bishop in March.

For Remembrance Day we had a lovely service, attended by the 72nd Scouts. December came and the lovely Christmas season. The Advent Carol Service and the Nine Lessons and Carol Service were both beautifully carried out by the choir and readers, as were the services on Christmas Eve and morning. The junior choir sang carols for Father Antonio at one of his services. He is interested in sharing time with St. Mark's people.

Of course, there are many aspects to the church beyond the regular programs. We are lucky to have some very good renters; they are here in the building mostly when we are not. We accommodate them quite reasonably, and they help us financially. Our newest one is the Kiwanis Music Festival, with two grand pianos, in the spring.

We seem to have good relationships with our renters, thanks to Penny Miller, who looks after them. We are soon to lose the St. Mesrob Armenian Church. After 40 + years with us, they are moving to their own building.

St. Marks held Communion services weekly, and then every two weeks, at the Perley Rideau Health Centre for many, many years. This past year it became more difficult to get enough volunteers to manage the wheeling of all the patients to the Chapel. We tried to find more volunteers, both at the Perley and from the church, with no success. Sadly, we held the last service there on November 15.

We continue to support the Debra Dynes Family House, by supplying food to the food bank, school supplies in September, Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day gifts, and through the year school lunch snacks and other items as they are requested.

The biggest project of the year was the new kitchen. Many thanks to Suzanne, Penny, Cynthia and all those who offered suggestions. A lot of time was spent discussing "what we wanted," getting quotations, looking at appliances, choosing colours, and checking on work in progress. We were lucky with the company we chose – they were most helpful.

There are a lot of people to thank: people who keep the church running well, who make sandwiches, cakes, cards, who plan coffee hours, lunches and so on and on! Here are just a few:

*Our two most helpful church office volunteers, **Karen Barber and Gillian Morris**, who man (or woman) the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. **Lynn Mani** who runs the weekly bulletin.

***Joy**, our office administrator and bookkeeper, who, along with **Georgia Roberts** our Treasurer, spends a lot of time keeping us on the straight and narrow.

***Karen Roberts**, our envelope secretary.

***Margaret Blakeney** who keeps St. Marks' gardens looking so nice, and who provides most of the flowers outside.

***Margaret Lodge** who produces beautiful posters, and a very attractive Newsletter four times a year.

***Penny Miller** who arranges the church flowers, and the rest of the Altar Guild for the great job they do.

***Kate Greer-Close** who does a super job with the children and Sunday School; who spends time cutting, colouring, gluing, preparing, reading, listening, teaching the children.

***Ariane** and the choir for the lovely sounds they produce every Sunday.

***Laurie, Penny, Georgia & Suzanne** for their work with CCC.

***Paul Greer, Steve Close, Russ Wilkins, Joe Tracz:** who all do jobs around the church to keep things working and looking good.

***Members of Parish Council** who attend monthly meetings, and who are responsible for making decisions that affect the church's well-being and progress.

My personal thanks to Cynthia. When I became Rector's Warden I didn't know a lot about the job; she has helped me tremendously, and I have benefitted from her forty years of experience at St. Mark's. This year, as warden, she is serving under her fifth priest, and I under my fourth, in two years. Surely this must be an unusual if not unique situation.

Thank you to everyone who attends St. Marks: you all give something to make it the lovely, friendly place it is.

Respectfully submitted,

Your Wardens,

Cynthia Greer and Pauline Adams

Synod Report

We – Pauline Adams, Gillian Morris and Georgia Roberts – thank you for the opportunity to attend Synod as your members from St Mark's. Here is a description of what some of the highlights were for us.

Opening Eucharist and Bishop's Charge

The 138th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Ottawa took place October 24 to 26, 2019 and had the theme *Many Congregations, One Body* "the harvest is abundant but the workers are few" – Matthew 9:37.

The Rt Rev John Chapman opened Synod at Christ Church Cathedral with recognizing that "we gather this night on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Nation". As this is his last synod before he retires in six months, he said he would not be giving Synod a Charge but would leave us with a prayer: to walk with Abraham knowing God is with us on our journey; to fight with Deborah for the marginalized, to remember Moses as we step out of church every Sunday and gaze on the promised land of Jesus; to think of Mary and show the world our love of Jesus; to embrace Tabitha and not be afraid of death remembering there is always resurrection. Five great Biblical Friends to keep with us every day as we walk through life.

Keynote speakers

a. Sue Garvey

Sue Garvey, was born and raised in Ottawa and recently retired after serving as executive director of Cornerstone for 23 years. She spoke of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa's news stories. She said that we are inviting people of all ages and backgrounds to explore their relationship with God in a safe environment. We need to find new ways to take our experience of community, belonging and ministries that are happening in every parish of the diocese and to tell these stories beyond our walls.

She recommended the YouTube video by Carrie Newcomer "Room at the Table for Everyone", a musical rendition of being open minded and welcoming.

b. Albert Dumont

Albert Dumont, poet, artist, activist and Algonquin Spiritual Teacher in Residence at the Cathedral gave a down to earth, moving account of the racism that Indigenous people have faced in Canada historically and which still continues today. He spoke of how much the apology from the Anglican Church meant to him personally. Albert also talked about family and how his dad had to go and see the Indian Agent to get written permission if he wanted to leave the reserve to guide or work in the lumber mill.

He outlined some of harm caused by the Indian Act, such as the right to worship, because the Indian Act outlawed Indigenous Spirituality until the 1950s. "It never hurt anyone," he said. The Act affected many people, making them feel inferior, but he noted that the builders of a birch bark canoe have the same advanced skills and talents as the engineers who built the London Bridge.

Albert called for the old Indian Act to be destroyed and the creation of a new Indian Act to revive and help them come alive again.

Ceramic Feather

At Synod, through the All My Relations working group, each congregation was given a special gift of a white ceramic feather. These feathers were originally made in 2017 for an outdoor art installation at the Canadian Museum of Nature called Populace, marking Canada's sesquicentennial.

The symbol of the feather, which has a special significance in most indigenous tradition, was chosen by the local Algonquin community as a representation of their presence on this land at the time of confederation.

The hope behind this gift is to show commitment to building relationships with all indigenous peoples in the Ottawa area in a new way and to symbolize the church and congregations' journey towards truth, justice and reconciliation.

Finances

At this Synod, a 3-year balanced Diocesan budget was unanimously passed for 2020 to 2022. With all the work that has been done on the priorities of the Embracing God's Future Roadmap and the success of the GIFT campaign in establishing new ministries and activities, the Budget needed to take account of a number of new programs that require ongoing funding. The presentation, by Archdeacon Chris Dunn, divided the Episcopal budget into 8 different ministry areas and gave a narrative of how the Diocese will receive and spend resources in each of these areas. The level of resources for each area that will come from Parish Fair Share was given. In the budget, the total Parish Fair Share amount required from all parishes has been kept at the 2019 level for 2020, will increase by 2.34% in 2021 and then increase by just .23% in 2022.

Some Outreach Ministries reported on at Synod

Throughout Synod, we learned about the amazing outreach work that is being carried out by parishes, the Diocese and the national church. There were formal presentations and excellent videos about some of them and informative staffed displays to visit during refreshment breaks. Here is a sampling of what we learned:

a. Community Ministries

Our longer-standing community ministries are Centre 454, Cornerstone Housing for Women, Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre, St Luke's Table and The Well. Fr Brian Kauk made a presentation for the Community Ministry Committee and gave a few details of how the various Ministries had changed over the past year. A video called "Diocesan Ministries of

Ottawa – Know Us Better” was shown as part of the presentation. This video can be seen by everyone at www.communityministries.ca. What we do in Community Ministries is Church, is ministry!

b. Centre 105

Rev Deacon Peter Cazaly, director of Centre 105 Drop-in in Cornwall, gave a summary of the growth of this outreach ministry during the past year. Daily visits have more than doubled, with an average of 40-60 people coming for breakfast, social activities, counselling and social services referral. A legal aid lawyer and a public health nurse have been added as regular outreach partners. The Centre continues to grow into a potential future community ministry for the Diocese.

c. Homelessness and Affordable Housing Working Group

This working group was one of the new initiatives from Embracing God’s Future and Sue Garvey, a member of the group, said this was their 5th Synod presentation. The goal of the Diocese is to provide 125 new affordable units by the year 2021. Forty-two units are completed (i.e., the 42 Cornerstone units on Princeton Ave) and more than 135 units are in progress - 100 units by Julian of Norwich, 35 units by Christ Church Bells Corners (CCBC) and another 5-10 parishes are engaged in conversations. In the presentations by both Julian of Norwich and CCBC, it was made clear that there has been fear involved in stepping forth with these projects and that they will only come about by having many partnerships in the community. A number of resources are available and are being developed to support parishes to become involved in this effort. (see www.ottawa.anglican.ca/homelessness)

d. Refugee Ministry Development Task Force

The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa is a leader in refugee resettlement in Canada. In 2018, the diocese sponsored nearly 1 in every 100 refugees resettled in Canada. We learned that the Refugee Ministry Development Task Force has made recommendations for a new structure for this ministry which will ensure that it is sustainable in future years.

e. PWRDF

Jane Maxwell announced that it is the 60th anniversary of the Primates World Relief and Development Fund. It has done much to bring aid and Christ’s message of love, caring and healing to the most vulnerable in the world. The display area had a variety of material, including some intended for children. Also, the website <https://pwrdf.org/> is colourful and full of information.

f. Hospital Ministries.

Sheila Granger spoke of the good pastoral work in hospital that is offered by the Diocese. If you are admitted to hospital remember to indicate that you are Anglican to ensure you get a visit from the pastoral care team.

Workshops

This year, the Synod agenda allowed time for members to attend 2 workshops, with a view of offering tools to take back to parishes. We each had to pick 2 from the 3 being offered, and it was encouraged that different members from the same parish would make different choices. Among the three of us, all 3 workshops were covered.

a. Workshop 1: Managing Change instead of Letting Change Manage You

Change is inevitable. This workshop presented tools for understanding change in a parish – how to see it coming (or even bring it on purpose) and how to use it creatively instead of destructively. The facilitators presented models, in particular a model of the life cycle of

organizations, and then helped attendees apply them to the real-life situations from their parishes.

b. Workshop 2: Beyond the Bake Sale – Rethinking our Fundraising and Building our Community Relations

This workshop focused on looking at new ways to fundraise when the traditional events are not working—they're too labour intensive, volunteers are unable to continue to support, or the community is not responding. The seminar discussed successes in the Parish of the St. Lawrence, where they intentionally sought out people who wouldn't normally attend church to find out what they thought of the Anglican church in their midst and how the church could meet their needs. They discovered that people are looking for experiences over possessions: more community and pub events, fewer yard sales. They were very successful and helped to cultivate better relations with the community, even if they did not fill the pews. Participants shared other best practices. One person noted that we have to realize that the way that people pay for things has changed; we might be stopping folks from paying if we insist on cash or cheques. So, introduce "the square" at fundraisers (which St Mark's has done for some fundraisers) and make it possible for people to get on their phone and make a donation during collection time in a service. Another person said that fundraisers will be more successful if they are for outreach; and pay the church bills from other sources of funding.

c. Workshop 3: Having Difficult Conversations: Boundaries, Behaviour and Bullies! Oh My!

This workshop explored unhealthy behaviours in parish life, described what healthy boundaries and expectations look like, and outlined some practical skills on how to manage personal and group behaviours, as well as healthy group norms.

All three workshops were developed and facilitated by people involved in the **Ottawa School for Parish Development**, an initiative that has come out of Embracing God's Future. The intention of the School is to equip parishes to become healthier, more flexible and more faithful, so that they can hear and respond to God's call with boldness and joy. During a presentation about the School, Arran Thorpe, Rector of Trinity Anglican Church on Bank Street, told about how the School has formed and informed him. The first 2-year cycle of the School had finished before Synod and the next 2-year cycle was being organized, with 2 different modes of taking the course being offered in 2020: 3 weekends or 1 weeklong session. Parishes are encouraged to have more than one person attend.

Amendment to Bylaw 3.01

Bishop Chapman is retiring on April 30, 2020. An amendment to Bylaw 3.01 passed at Synod means that we will be the Synod members electing the new bishop in March.

In closing

From Pauline: This was the first time I had attended Synod, so everything was new to me. I think the strongest overall impression I had, was that of so many people in so many parishes in the Diocese, all doing so much work to improve the quality of life and community, and all through the Anglican Church. It gave me a sense that everyone is a small but important piece in a very large ongoing puzzle.

I think we all really enjoyed being at Synod.

Submitted by Pauline Adams, Gillian Morris and Georgia Roberts

Property report

As in other years the typical concerns of keeping the system running involved using the basic tools, since bits and pieces are frequently coming apart, such as screws out of chairs, light bulb replacement, leaks and running water in the kitchen, bathroom and through the roof and constantly the temperature in the building as a whole. The 3 sump pumps have given excellent service all year.

The roof having given a problem in December 2018, continued into this year and still causes trouble. Paul carefully removed as much snow as he could but later we called in the roofers who cleared off more snow since this past winter was exceptionally snowy. There were no leaks after the snow went, but until then the altar guild members were constantly emptying buckets in the sacristy, and trying not to trip over them. Many thanks for their support.

In October we had a roofer assess all the flat roofs, since we couldn't actually discern when the south flat roof had been replaced before. The flat roof over the office, sacristy and south side will definitely need replacing in 2020, and we have a quote of \$ 11,000 for the office, and \$32,000 for the south flat roof in the link, as it is very damaged. Please keep these facts in mind, since we cannot wait beyond spring 2020. We will obtain other quotes also.

Our fabric chairs in the hall are wearing out, not before time, but Alex from the Armenian church welded over a dozen of them free of charge, in the spring. We will need to ask him again.

The biggest project by far was the renovation of the kitchen in the spring, with a small window of time between our usage, and the day care usage. We have received many positive comments on it, although people have differing opinion of what should go where, and it's sometimes hard to find things! Well at least people feel ownership of the kitchen.

At last spring came, and we were able to get a crew together for the outside clean up. The pathfinders who use our hall came out and helped along with some of our young people. This warmer weather also brought out our brave and hard- working gardener Margaret Blakeney who was often to be found early in the mornings Thank you Margaret for all the work you do. The gardens looked lovely, as well as the flowering tubs. More helpers are needed. Thanks go also to Russ Wilkins for his pruning of anything that is prunable, which keeps our hedges trees and shrubs under control.

Windows were another item long awaiting help. The south facing windows in the 2 offices were at the end of their useful life, and were not able to be opened. This prevented any air exchange in the office. The new ones solve that problem and I'm sure they will be much appreciated. Father Rob's brother Guy put a window into the priest's office door, as per the diocesan rules. The window in the front door was also replaced. It was probably broken when the snow shovels hit it one time too many.

The office/ choir entry steps needed to be replaced because the bricks had sunk lower than the wooden edges, leaving a raised lip to trip over. Guy once more came to our rescue, and he and Father Rob took it apart and levelled it with sand. Thanks to both of them.

Steve and Paul helped to set up the little library in its location on the front walkway. Paul removed it over the winter. When it reappears you will know spring is here.

I couldn't leave the property report without an honourable mention for the toilets. Despite my 'jiggle the handle' suggestion there were many calls about the toilets. Letting the toilet flow constantly is both expensive and wasteful. Paul replaced the flushing system in the ladies' washroom,

and then replaced one whole toilet in the basement because it used a lot of water, and was always left running. Our water bill should be considerably less.

During the past year we noticed that we were receiving less money from our solar panels. Steve, who understands these things far better than the rest of us, looked into it. He found that the monitor was not working, so we had no information on the system, and also that about 12 of the panels were not working any more. Parish council has asked for a committee to study what to do, and how much it will cost to repair or replace the system. If your interests lie in this direction, even though you may not know much about it at present, please speak to Steve Close.

There are also a few things that aren't expensive, but need working on, such as exterior painting, and red mats at the entrance. Soon we will need to consider replacing the floor in the church, and the sacristy ceiling. I could make up a lengthy list.

Many thanks to Paul Greer and Steve Close who have so frequently fixed things silently, and without anyone being aware of what they were doing. Property is a thankless task, and they do not seem to be appreciated, although they are, probably because they solve problems without a fuss. So once more many thanks for your work and dedication.

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Greer,

People's Warden with responsibility for property matters.

Vision 2020 Stewardship Campaign

The cover letter provided by our interim priest-in-charge at the time we launched the campaign, the Ven. Rob Davis, addressed the subject by speaking of the biblical roots of why we give money to the church.

He said we should begin by looking at one important reason God has given as to why we should give at all.

*"Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, and thereby put me to the test,
says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you
and pour down an overflowing blessing!"*

(Malachi 3: 10)

"Generally we are told **not** to test God but here, God specifically **tells us to test him**; "Try it and see," he says, "See if I don't pour down too much blessing for you to hold it all!" Or, as Jesus said:

*"Give and it will be given to you;
good measure, pressed down, shaken together,
running over will be put into your lap."*

(Luke 7: 38)

Hard to see how this could be more clear! Giving opens our hearts and lives so that we are able to receive all the blessing God pours out. Really the only question then is: How much blessing do we have room for in our lives?"

Introduction

The campaign was based on the previous one of 2018, with some revisions to parts of the text. It was launched on the Sunday after Labour Day, September 8, 2019, with a very supportive sermon from the pulpit as well as a brief description of the chronology of subsequent events. Pledges could

be weekly, monthly or even annually. Information was also provided on how to join the pre-authorized remittance (PAR) program.

Parishioners were asked to return their completed pledge forms no later than Sunday, October 14, 2019 (Thanksgiving Day) in the addressed envelope provided. Reassurance was given that these envelopes would only be opened by the Envelope Secretary, who would be responsible for collating the pledge information and preparing summaries to be used later by the finance committee in preparing the 2020 parish budget.

Commitment of one's treasure to the ministries at St Mark's is but one aspect of Stewardship. Equally important are offerings of time and talent. In order to update the parish talent bank, a form was included to capture all present and potential future activities of parishioners. As well, opportunity was provided indicate any other talents which could be of assistance to the ministries of St Mark's.

Results

Thirty-two (32) forms were eventually returned. The total amount pledged for 2020 by these 32 responders was \$81,088. All 32 responders were on the parish list as of December 31, 2019.

For comparison, the total collection income in 2019 contributed by the 32 survey responders was \$74,860, implying that their intended givings in 2020 are an increase of 8.4%.

Respectfully submitted:

Georgia Roberts
Treasurer

Karen Roberts
Envelope Secretary

Bruce Lodge
Campaign coordinator

Footnote: it is probably appropriate to report that Bruce, since he has coordinated the last three financial stewardship campaigns, has advised the Wardens that he feels it is time to step down from this role. However, he has agreed to be available in an advisory capacity to support whomever takes over.

Prayer Ministries

St Mark's E-Prayer

E-prayer is prayer sent via e-mail for people who have requested prayers.

St Mark's E-prayer celebrated 12 years of e-mail prayer in 2019. What started in 2007 with a few requests for prayers for parishioners, evolved into 50 E-prayers being sent to 56 pray-ers in 2019.

Our prayers were not only for the church family, but for our own families and friends: some were for people many only knew by name; some were with simple information and some with a lot; some with follow-up and some with none.

The majority of our prayers were for the sick. We prayed for 68 parishioners and their families, for health, surgery and recovery, and we gave thanks for four who were 'healed'. We were saddened by the loss of 19 parishioners, family or friends. We gave thanks for their life, and prayed for comfort for their families.

We also gave prayers of thanksgiving for 19 new parishioners, for St Mark's 70th anniversary as a parish, the birth of a grandson, four baptisms, one marriage, one 10th and five 50th wedding anniversaries and one for being cancer-free for 40 years. We also gave thanks for our ministers this

past year, Rev Jessica, Bishop Peter, Fr Rob and Fr Julian, and all who helped us in our parish ministry.

Over the past 12 years the E-prayer circle has worked as a conduit between pray-ers and those being prayed for. It has helped provide an instant prayer link of support and comfort when it was needed. Another aspect of the E-prayer circle is that those we pray for can use it to give updates on their situation and also give their thanks.

My thanks to all who have been part of our E-prayer team these past 12 years, who have added all these people to their own personal prayers. I also thank those who have put their trust in us, by using the E-prayer for their own prayer requests.

If you want to join the E-prayer list of pray-ers, or have prayers said for you, St Mark's E-prayer can be reached via drblodge@sympatico.ca ... or just let me know.

Please join us.

Margaret Lodge
E-prayer Coordinator

Prayer and Praise Group

Our P&P group meets regularly at 7:30 pm in the Choir Room at the Church. The leadership rotates among the members. The program consists of the singing of two hymns, and Worship, Thanksgiving, and Intercessions (from the bulletin and our own personal prayers. Each evening we have Scripture reading and study based on the scripture read. In 2019 six members comprised the group. All are welcome to attend.

For more information please speak to Carol Dicks at 224-0858 or Ann Matthews at 822-3405.

Prayer Cycle Calls

In 2019 there were four people who in turn weekly shared the calls that were made to people on the Prayer Cycle list in the bulletin, asking if they had any special requests for prayer for themselves, relatives or friends. The response was usually favourable, especially if the people were not church-goers and did not know that they were being remembered in this way. This present year there are only three persons making the calls, due to the recent death of Patricia Hutton.

Perley–Rideau Ministry

Ministry to the residents at the Perley-Rideau Veterans Health centre, began over 30 years ago with our pastoral care team under the guidance of Father Gordon Worden. It was then located on Aylmer Avenue. When the new building was ready we moved our ministry to the much larger Centre.

Until the Fall of 2018 we provided a Eucharistic service to the residents every Friday. This unfortunately changed to bi-weekly because we had less volunteers.

Most of our resident congregation is Anglican, but not all. They enjoy time to chat with the priest.

The team consists of Sheila Pitt and Carol Dicks who provide the liturgical part along with our priest, Pauline Adams, Helen McGill and Paul Greer, who get their exercise pushing wheelchairs, down the long hallways, and Cynthia Greer who stays in the room to make sure no-one goes off wandering, and she helps them find their place in the service book.

We need 7 volunteers to provide the service. If one person is missing from the team, it is very difficult to fetch the residents. Unfortunately the inevitable happened, and our team shrank. At the same time our congregation was shrinking, and we realized that our ministry had run its course.

With heavy hearts, and a portion of guilt we held our closing service on November 15 2019, which happened to be the first service there for our new priest Father Julian.

We read the obituaries carefully, so that we know before going to their room, that someone has passed on. Otherwise it is a sad strange feeling. We are still reading, and have found that 4 of our group have passed on since November. That means that only 3 or 4 are still alive.

We provided a much needed ministry for a long time, and to all the others who helped at the Perley in years past, we say a big thank you, you good and faithful servants, for showing us the path of service.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Greer

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We continue to make prayer shawls and pocket prayer shawls as well as baptismal shawls. Each shawl is knitted or crocheted with love and prayer. New shawls are blessed on the first Sunday of the month, during the 10 am service.

Pocket prayer shawls are easily carried in a pocket, purse or tucked into a helmet. These shawls and a copy of the prayer can be obtained from the basket at the back of the church.

The shawls represent the love and prayers of our church community and have many uses, for example comfort or celebration. Full size shawls are available upon request.

I would like to thank Betty, Ada, Janis, Karen and Diane for their help in making this ministry possible. New knitters are always welcome, patterns and yarn can be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Gillian Morris.

Music Ministry

There are three choirs at St Mark's: the regular senior choir, the junior choir and the Requiem choir. The Senior Choir sings on Sunday mornings, as well as for any additional services, including those during Lent, Holy Week, Advent and Christmas. Choir practice is on Thursday evenings, with a break for the summer months. In summer we have a pick-up choir that meets before the Sunday morning service to practice the service music as well as an anthem chosen as a function of the choir members in attendance.

This year the ecumenical service marking the week for Christian unity and reception was celebrated at Madonna della Risurrezione on January 20. The service brought together clergy and parishioners from the Greek Koimisis (Dormition of the Virgin Mary) Orthodox Church, Madonna della Risurrezione and St Mark's. We were represented by our interim priest, Bishop Peter Coffin, who was replacing our incumbent Rev. Jessica Worden, who was on sick leave at the time. A number of St Mark's choir members took part, singing both the Anglican hymns and the Italian songs.

On Ash Wednesday, March 6, we sang our first evening Eucharist of the year to mark the beginning of Lent, which culminated in the Holy Week choral services including Maundy Thursday, Good

Friday, Easter Vigil, and the April 21 Easter morning service including the Hallelujah Chorus in the “come up to the front of the church and sing with us” format.

Our last choir practice before summer was on June 13. As the optional “pick-up” choir for our summer services was very well-attended this year, we sang 3 or 4 part anthems most Sundays. Choir practices resumed on September 12.

Sunday October 6, 2019, was a day of celebration for St Mark’s, commemorating 70 years of an Anglican parish in the community. At the 10:00 am Eucharist we worshipped using the old liturgy and Merbecke, and music of the day. This was followed by a parish lunch.

On Sunday November 10 we commemorated Remembrance Day, joined again by trumpeter Marc Descloux who played the Last Post, Reveille and some of the hymns.

This year we were able to schedule our Lessons and Carols services three weeks apart, on the mornings of Advent I, December 1 and Advent IV, December 22, as the Sunday School Pageant was presented December 16. The Junior Choir sang with us on both occasions, and we were joined by violinist Leslie Wilbur. Gillian Martin’s parents, Tony (bass) and Susan (alto) joined us for the Advent Carol service. John Scholberg (bass) and Fran Slingerland (mezzo-soprano) joined us for the Nine Lessons and Carols service. The Advent Carol service was followed by a chili and stew lunch. At the 9 pm Eucharist on Christmas Eve, we sang the traditional Merbecke music for the ordinary of the Mass. This was preceded by the traditional half hour of congregational singing of Christmas hymns, led by Bruce Lodge.

The choir, under the lead of Joy Bowerman, also sang at various seniors’ events, the Eucharist and Lunch and for Coffee, Company and Conversation.

On a social note, Sheila Young, assisted by her son David hosted our winter choir party on February 8, in the spacious party rooms of their apartment building. Our new priest-in-charge, the Venerable Rob Davis, joined us, and this was an opportunity to get to know him better.

As for membership, two choir members have left the choir: long-time member Lindsay Setzer (alto), who was deeply dismayed by the vote of the Anglican Bishops on gay marriage, and bass Gerry Sheehan. Jeremy Close joined the tenor section in the fall. His changing voice has made it difficult to sing treble, but he has continued to help out in the junior choir as well, singing in whatever octave works, and sharing his musical knowledge and experience.

St Mark’s Requiem choir, which includes former and current senior choir members and others, gathers to sing for funerals, occasional weddings and other events. The choir is sometimes led by our organist parishioner Carol Dicks, and also occasionally by our former organist and choir director Don Marjerrison, as I am often unavailable to play for these services.

Our Junior Choir continues to flourish. We have seven members: Jeremy, Madeline and Penelope Close, Patrick Findlay, Jessica Robinson when her ringette schedule permits, Anabella and James Martinez-Ball. James is now a full chorister.

The junior choir sings an anthem as well as the first verse of the communion hymn on their own just about every Sunday. They very competently led the hymns and service music at the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Family service, singing two anthems. This year again, they were joined by former junior choristers Sarah and Alex Dee. At the request of our new incumbent priest, Fr. Julian Campbell, Alex played the calypso-style rhythms of “The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy” on a Middle-Eastern derbouka.

On the afternoon of Saturday November 2, St Mark's junior choir made a special trip to St John's Anglican Church, in Kanata. They joined the youth choirs from St John's, Kanata (director: Laurel O'Connor) and Christ Church Bells Corners (director: Pat Haunts), to sing a special joint Youth Choir Evensong for the feast of All Saints. In addition to leading the congregational singing of the hymns, the choir, under the baton of guest conductor Kurt Ala-Kantti, sang the Magnificat by Elaine Schram, a simple plainchant Nunc Dimittis, Natalie Sleeth's Everywhere I Go, David Ouchterlony's I See the Love of God in Every River, and the Diocesan Litany of the Saints, in two and three-part harmony. The service was followed by a reception in the church hall.

Thank you to Kate Greer-Close for contributing her considerable organizational, pedagogical and musical talents to the choir's functioning. Thanks also to Carolyn Findlay, who helps out every Thursday and Sunday as well, Ann Matthews who helps out during choir practice, and Cheryl Robinson who has also on occasion joined us for choir practice. The junior choir welcomes new members; the only requirement is an ability to read English.

The organ is still holding up very well since the major electrical circuit repairs of 2016 and the speaker repairs a few years before that. We had a brief repeat episode of the instrument failing a few times, but with the long distance help of organ repair master Arie van den Berg and a local team including John Hancock, Fr. Rob Davis, and Joy Bowerman, we were able to find the appropriate connections that needed to be juggled and all was well again.

Many thanks to Carol Dicks, Don Marjerrison, and Frances Macdonnell, who have all substituted for me at various times this year.

Thank you to all choir members, who faithfully and diligently gather to practice and sing for the services every week. Special thanks to Kate Greer-Close, our choir president; to Joy Bowerman for help with sectionals, for occasional keyboard accompanying and recorder playing, for leading the choir at various seniors' events; to Jenny Morphey for taking care of our substantial music library, for posting the hymn numbers on the hymnboard, for keeping our choir robes organized; to Karen Barber who represents the choir at Parish Council; to our convenor Cynthia Greer for making all those phone calls and looking after the signing and sending of cards of congratulations or sympathy from the choir when needed; to Coralie Sheehan for keeping track of our finances; Janis Perkin for restoring books that need it; Brenda Zanin for straightening our choir robes when they don't look right on us, for penning the texts of songs of welcome and farewell to the priests who have led us in worship at St Marks this year, and for playing the recorder; to page-turners John Hancock, Joy Bowerman, Gillian Martin and Brenda Zanin; to Gillian Martin for flute-playing; to Bruce Lodge who also leads sectionals on occasion. Thank you to Margaret Lodge, our past president.

I am very grateful to all clergy who looked after the parish in 2019, especially Bishop Peter Coffin, and the Ven. Rob Davis, and our new incumbent Fr. Julian Campbell, who have all been so supportive of the choirs' contributions. And as usual, many thanks to Joy Bowerman who is a knowledgeable, attentive, indefatigable and skillfull presence in the church office, both musically and otherwise. Thanks as well to all church office volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

Ariane Dind

Wellness Committee

Through 2019 the committee met several times. We continue to review the well being of our parishioners and were in touch with many. We hosted two luncheons, spring and fall, beginning with the Eucharist followed by lunch. Our average attendance was about 40 guests, 8 helpers and 6-8 choir members. Everyone seemed to enjoy visiting with friends they had not seen in some time. Both spring and fall an invitation was extended to Carleton Memorial members to join us and in the fall we invited the participants from the Thursday coffee gathering to join us. It is the plan to continue this activity in 2020.

Judy Darling for Georgia Roberts, Gillian Morris, Margaret Lodge, Carol Dicks and Cynthia Greer

Screening in Faith

What is screening? Screening involves assessing the risks involved in a particular position or ministry; finding an appropriate match between task and volunteer (or candidate for a job); providing sensitization and training, and sometimes altering the setting and arrangement of ministry delivery to minimize risks and maximize the ministry's success.

(<http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/SIF.html>)

The Screening in Faith Committee is comprised of Les Cundell, Georgia Roberts and Michael Perkin. It continues to work on the screening process and procedures at St. Mark's.

Our records show that we currently have 16 parishioners with Police Records Check (PRC) for the year 2019 of which we added 4 PRC in 2019.. We will have to update 4 Police Records Checks in 2020

The Ministries and positions designated as High-risk are:

-Rector (Diocesan responsibility) -Pastoral Care (Perley Visitors not included) -Church School (Head and Teachers) -Rector's Wardens, Rector's Deputy Warden -Nursery (Head and Helpers) - People's Warden, People's Deputy Warden -Friendly Visitors -Instructor of Servers -Junior Choir (Leader) -Home Communion Visitors -Screening in Faith Committee (4) -Parish Administrator (not a volunteer) -Parish Nurse (not a volunteer)

Plans for 2019 include: 1) Continuing work on the Screening program – with new Police Records Checks applications/Reference Checks etc. for volunteers in High-risk ministries; 2) Notifying volunteers who need to have their records updated. 3) Updating Job Descriptions files (from 2002) 4) Contacting Heads of Groups for up-to-date lists of group members for inclusion in St. Mark's Volunteer list.

I would like to thank Michael Perkin, Georgia Roberts for their help and guidance.

Respectfully submitted, Les Cundell

St Mark's Communications

Mark This Word – MTW:

In January 1975, I was part of a team to form the first official newsletter for St Mark's – 'The Lion's Mark'. This was followed by 'St Mark's Matters'. In the Fall of 2004, Sheila Vaudrey became the editor of what was to become the present newsletter in 2005. The chosen name 'Mark This Word', was submitted by Brenda Zanin. In the Fall 2013, Brenda Zanin and Margaret Lodge became the co-editors of MTW. Issue 54 of MTW was produced in Advent 2019. Margaret is compiler/graphics and Brenda is editorial/proof reader.

The format of MTW is not meant to be editor-run, but by in-put from various parts of the parish. You will get articles from the priest, the church school, the treasurer, seniors' programs, events, activities – you name it. We do sometimes write historical editorials, or personal articles on parishioners. We also welcome articles from the parish in general. This is YOUR newsletter.

www.stmarksottawa.ca/annex/newsviewsindex.html here you will find all MTW issues, since the first in 2005, available on the web.

respectfully submitted
Margaret Lodge, on behalf of MTW editors

St Mark's Web, Blog and Facebook - St Mark's electronic information on-line sites.

www.stmarksottawa.ca St Mark's web, and its forerunner at magma.ca, was started by the late Lorne Bowerman in 1996. It was one of the first Anglican webs in the diocese. It is the link to our parish calendar, news and history. It was dedicated in his memory in 2015.

I became assisting webmaster in 2006, to augment the site with a changing calendar and graphics. I took over in 2015, following Lorne's death.

In recent years we have realized that the old format doesn't work very well with new technology. We are in the process of change – slowly – and for many reasons over these years, it has not advanced to a new working site. We have parishioners who are interested in helping, and hope to soon revamp and bringing St Mark's web into the 2020 decade.

www.stmarksottawa.wordpress.com/ this is the **St Mark's blog**, where you can post church news and comments, and sign up for automatic delivery of the newsletter and more.

www.facebook.com/stmarksottawa/ **St Mark's Facebook** information page.

respectfully submitted
Margaret Lodge – Communications

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union is a world-wide sisterhood within the Anglican Church, with 4 million members in 83 countries. The aims are:

- ❖ to share Christ's love and teaching by supporting and nurturing marriage and family life,
- ❖ to maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians, united in prayer worship and service,
- ❖ to seek justice for all,
- ❖ to support individuals and families in troubled circumstances.

St Mark's branch was re-established in 1983. We wear many hats, and provide many services, generally connected to our Aims and mandate. One of those hats is the church Membership Committee, and through that the Vitality Group. We help with the parish Seniors' lunches. We also support the Church School and Nursery whenever possible. As a group, or individually, we are very involved in the life of St Mark's.

2019: Our year started with an Epiphany Dinner in January attended by 19. Our monthly meetings have been sporadic this past year, and are usually held on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the conference room, starting at 1:00pm. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend. We presently

have 12 active members and 2 supporting members, plus Bruce, Paul and Steve, who are acting auxiliary members and setter-up-ers and BBQ-ers.

Outreach: Mothers' Union is not a fundraising organization, but everything that we are involved in on a social or community level, requires funds or donations in kind. We have been very fortunate at St Mark's to have the support of a very giving parish. Without this help our programs would not be as successful as they are. Some of our outreach is within the parish, with annual and even weekly events, and some reaches around the world.

- ❖ **Bales for the North:** Bales for the North is an annual project of Anglican women for over a hundred years. Parishioners provide items for the bales. MU - Jenny Morphew and Gillian Morris - helps sort and Jenny helps pack them.
- ❖ **Advent Giving Tree:** Each year this outreach reaches more people than the year before. We collected hats, mitts, scarves, socks, and underwear, toiletries, special seasonal foods, and small gifts. These were shared out among Hope Outreach, the Mission, Centre 454, Cornerstone, Operation Come Home, Nelson House and St Luke's Table.
- ❖ **Bazaar:** We ran the candle table, funds go towards MU Mothering Sunday outreach of giving flowers to parish ladies. We also ran the Calendar and Christmas pudding tables and added Christmas buttons this year. As in previous years, we managed the boutique, and children's clothing with help from our church youth, plus the Christmas table and rummage table.
- ❖ **'Buck a book' table:** this weekly table raised \$600, divided between PWRDF; Akany Famonjena orphanage and a day teaching centre for teens in Madagascar; MU travel fund; and to our special MU outreach, the Northern Clergy Families Fund. Extra funds were sent to PWRDF for the March Cyclone and Bahama Hurricane. This project has raised \$15,700 since 2000, and all for outreach. Jenny Morphew takes care of the table every Sunday. Many thanks Jenny.
- ❖ **Card Party:** Organized by Carol Russell and Pat Sinclair, based on the card parties from the past, 92 people came to play bridge and eat fancy sandwiches. It was a lot of work, especially for MU members preparing the sandwiches, but fun was had by all. It raised \$1015, with the profit being shared between St Mark's and Cornerstone.
- ❖ **Christmas Puddings & Church Calendars:** MU took on the Christmas puddings project and selling parish calendars in 2018. We initially made 2 batches of puddings (30 large per batch) and had to make a 3rd. Smaller puddings were popular. We ordered less calendars, but had to order more, and eventually sold about 50.
- ❖ **Diocesan Calendars 2019:** MU took over the Anglican church calendar project from the Diocesan ACW in 2015. There was the normal work of phoning and emailing parishes, but as with the previous year with the many changes of church amalgamations and closures, it was harder keeping a tally of who's who and where, and some smaller churches decided to order their own rather as part of the greater parish. We received 74 parish orders of 2260, but had to reorder for a few parishes with a final total of just under 2300 calendars. The calendars had to be distributed at Synod, due to them not being printed for the Altar Guild AGM. It has been a wonderful experience for outreach getting to know all the churches and deaneries in the Diocese, and who's who in each church, and they getting to know St Mark's MU too.
- ❖ **Mothering Sunday:** the 4th Sunday of Lent, and as we have for many years MU served Simnel cake and coffee and gave carnations to the ladies of the church.
- ❖ **Picnic June 23 & BBQ September 22:** Each year a new charity is chosen for each event. Some charities are local, others far reaching. This year the funds were combined to donate \$465 to Carleton Heights School Kindergarten play structure, as a 70th anniversary thanks-offering for

the years our 'new' parish had held its services in the school. Over \$8700 has been raised through these fun events for outreach.

I would like to take this opportunity, which I know I repeat every year, to thank you our parishioners who support all our endeavours. It is your generosity, your concern and your support that allow us to be God's hands in the neighbourhood, our city, and around the world.

May God bless you for your love and caring.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Greer, Mothers' Union Branch Leader

Membership

The present St Mark's Membership Committee was formed in 2007/8, and made up of Mothers' Union members (MU), since Cynthia Greer, the MU leader, took over the vacant position of Membership. MU agreed to be the working committee. Cynthia moved to the Peoples Warden's position, and I became Chair of Membership at Vestry 2016.

To reassure you, Membership is not just a women's group, it is open to anyone who would like to serve, however parish life is more or less covered, as MU members wear many hats: Altar Guild, choir, LACs, communications, prayer, pastoral care to name a few, and in 2019 seven members were on Parish Council, including two in Corporation positions, which envelopes all parish activities. Your interests are well represented!

The parish demographics are always changing.

A good question in planning for any organization's future, would be to ask the question of what brought you here, with a follow up question of what keeps you here. For St Mark's the second question already has been answered by many – they felt at home and welcomed into the family.

Our parish was founded by returning veterans in 1949, but very few of the early families still belong to the parish. Also, less members live within the geographical parish. About 50% live within, or close to, the parish. The rest come a distance, by choice rather than just proximity. As happens in any group situation, parish membership fluctuates. Presently we have 186 member units, ranging from singles to couples to families with children. We had 13 (family) newcomers in 2019, 7 of which live outside the parish. Five families moved, and we lost 6 parishioners through death.

The aim of the Membership committee: to work with and for the people of the parish, and to encourage participation in parish life. Technically, Membership covers all aspects of parish life. It has a specific position on Parish Council, representing parish members. However, for example, it does not represent groups like the choir or altar guild as such, but is there to support and work with the members and their activities, in more of an unstructured, unspecific way. It works with the church office, in relation to the official church membership list, and was instrumental in what we now have for all participating members, the smaller Church Directory. In the past few years it has produced information leaflets for the pews, including the main 'welcome' one for visitors and 'get involved' with more specific information and contact names. These have been up-dated quite a few times in the past year.

The role of the Membership committee functions more out of specific needs rather than a set structure. One need was the formation of a sub-group under Membership - the **Parish Vitality Working Group**. This was a new initiative in 2014 and became very active in 2015, and more so in

2016 - 2018 when it took on a very successful FUN(d)raising role. It is still active, but has toned down its activities. However, with new people and new ideas, it could become very active again. (*see Parish Vitality Working Group Report*)

Inter-generational Church: We know we are an aging and aged parish, but youth was a very positive part of our church membership in 2019 as it has been in the past. We are very thankful for our young people, the vibrant church school and junior choir, both the youth and their leaders. In 2018 we started specific inter-generational services, where the children took a more active part in the services. We held one in 2019 for Mothers' Day, spearheaded by Ven Rob Davis and church school leader Kate Greer-Close. We hope for more in the future. Not only is our church school thriving, but so is our junior choir, and both bring great joy to our 'older' members. Future new-comers with young families will see a younger and active community for their children, one where the children actually take part in the worship.

2018 Visioning – Making our Mark: From those visioning sessions, the **Coffee, Company & Conversation for seniors** is well into its second full and very active year. The **Little Free Library** was commissioned, built and erected last Fall, offering free books to the neighbourhood, and is now fully registered internationally.

Vision 2020- Financial Stewardship: following the fall stewardship campaign, 23 'time and talent' forms were return. These 'talents' will be compiled into categories and shared with those who will welcome them.

Feeding the Hungry: As in past years, one of the unofficial roles of Membership was to feed parishioners. Food is a very important part of our fellowship here. Anything that involves gatherings involves food. Not all food gatherings are Membership/MU events, but the chances are you'll find most of us there along with a very supportive group in the parish.

Some of our parish gatherings, sponsored by various groups in 2019.

- ❖ **Coffee Hour:** thanks to Helen McGill and Joy Bowerman (8 am) and Suzanne Bisson (10 am) who coordinate the coffee hour rosters, and also to the many individuals that take part
- ❖ **Parish Breakfasts:** held 4 times a year, the Greers & Barbers took over from Brian Harrison
- ❖ **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper:** run by Kate and Steve Close, family and friends.
- ❖ **Card Party:** bridge lunch organized by Carol Russell and Pat Sinclair, catering assistance by MU/Membership, with help from others
- ❖ **St Mark Patronal + Welcome Newcomers Lunch in April:** part of Membership /Vitality
- ❖ **Seniors' Lunches in June and November:** organized by the Health/Wellness group
- ❖ **Church Picnic in June and BBQ in September:** both sponsored by MU/Membership
- ❖ **Coffee, Company & Conversation:** a seniors' outreach initiative, organized by Laurie Slaughter, Georgia Roberts, Suzanne Bisson and Penny Miller and friends
- ❖ **St Mark's 70th Anniversary in October:** special service with lunch organized by Vitality
- ❖ **Fall Bazaar:** organized by Joy Bowerman and her many workers
- ❖ **Advent Carol service:** lunch organized by Cynthia Greer all MU/Membership members
- ❖ **Many Good-bye / Welcome events:** organized and supplied by many

As a parish, St Mark's has a group of very active and hard working core members who make sure things keep going and get done, but helpers for all parish events are down each year. We are always looking for new 'hands' to share the load. The more helpers we have the less we all have to do.

Thank you to those who have contributed in some way to the well being of St. Mark's. One of the easiest ways of helping out is to join a group or volunteer directly for coffee, church school, altar guild, or sides-people or help set-up or clean-up from an activity, supper, bazaar, or rummage sale. The demands are not onerous, but you get to know people better, and it's a good way to get involved. Read the leaflet in the pews *'get involved'*. Maybe you will find something to interest you.

This is what makes our church a very welcoming place.

Respectfully submitted
Margaret Lodge
Membership Committee Chair 2019

Vitality Working Group

The Vitality Working Group was formed at the beginning of 2015. Its purpose *"to enhance parish life, particularly through activities and events that increase the sense of being part of the St Mark's Community"*. The group reports to Parish Council through Membership (Margaret Lodge).

Members of the group in 2019 were Cynthia Greer (Chair), Kate Greer-Close, Margaret Lodge, Penny Miller, Suzanne Bisson and Pauline Adams.

In the first year, our projects were mainly for the parish with a possible invite to family and friends. In effect relatively low key, mostly in-reach but also with some out-reach, and all FUN. In 2016, the group was asked to take on an extra initiative, to help raise funds specifically for the church, while still maintaining our original mandate. We undertook this challenge with some trepidation as the goal was \$5000. Over the next three years we raised over \$16,000!

In 2018 Vitality informed Parish Council that it was our last year as fundraisers. The committee continued to work with FUNraising for the parish in 2019.

Projects for 2019 were:

- **Card Party on April 2:** Although not organized by Vitality, this event had been part of our overall fund-raising initiative. The bridge lunch was organized by Carol Russell and Pat Sinclair, with catering assistance by Mothers' Union/Membership. The profit of \$1015 was shared between St Mark's and Cornerstone.
- **St Mark Patronal lunch and Welcome to Newcomers on April 28:** During the 10am service we welcomed, through Baptism, three children into our parish family. Celebrating our patronal saint has become part of the Membership/Vitality group's annual program. A fun happening just for us. As part of this day, we invited and welcomed 16 family units who had joined us since 2016. Ten families were able to join us. We had 75 people at the lasagna lunch.
- **Annual Clean-up Day:** a small but faithful group, including Guides, turned out to do a bit of Spring Cleaning on May 11.
- **St Mark's – 70 years as a parish, October 6 lunch:** In celebration of this milestone, the 10am service was from the 1962 BCP, a format similar to that used in 1949. Vitality sponsored the sandwich lunch that followed, assisted by Parish Council and Mothers Union.
- **Advent 1 Lunch:** a hot lunch of chili and stew was provided following the Carol Service.

A big THANK YOU to past and present members of the Vitality group, and all who helped us with the various events. We're looking for volunteers for 2020.

A big THANK YOU to everyone. We are grateful to all parishioners who participated in our church events and helped to make St Mark's a vibrant, vital community. We look forward to sharing this vitality with you on a smaller scale in 2020.

Margaret Lodge (Membership)
on behalf of

St Mark's Vitality Working Group 2019

Cynthia, Kate, Margaret, Pauline, Penny and Suzanne

Altar Guild

The purpose of the altar guild is to work in the church to set and clean up for services. We also work to beautify the church for special occasions, both happy and sad.

The members are a dedicated group of women and men who work in teams, taking it in turns to fulfill their duties. When the sanctuary is used by other churches we have to ensure that it is ready for them by totally clearing out, our set up.

We are always looking to increase our numbers so if anyone is interested please feel free to talk to one of us.

Penny Miller

Flowers

Flowers add an element of beauty to the church and can be used as a memorial, a thank offering or to mark a significant event. To order flowers please complete one of the forms, found on the flower notice board in the link and submitting it with a cheque or cash to the office or by placing it in an envelope on the collection plates. On the form you can specify how you would like to word the bulletin announcement.

Penny Miller and Joy Bowerman

Nursery and Sunday School

Kate Greer-Close has been the main teacher supported by Carolyn Findlay, Julia Fogg and Cynthia Greer. Margaret Lodge and Janis Perkin help with our card ministry and fundraising. Thank you all!

We continue to refer to several on-line sites for our lesson planning, including a Virtual Church program originally designed for the diocese of Keewatin <http://churchschool.info/>, the Episcopal Church <http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/> and Sermons4kids <http://www.sermons4kids.com/>. In general, we follow the lectionary and church calendar and teach on the lessons read in church that week.

With Father Rob, we enjoyed a few more intergenerational services – where the children remain in church for the entire service. For these “in-church” multigenerational Sundays, I ask children to be readers, crucifers/servers/acolytes, and help with sidesduties and collection of the offering.

On regular Sundays, we begin in the church, for the opening hymn and prayers, and Junior choir anthem, followed by the children's story (Janis Perkin). Janis' story is always a great lead into our lesson! Thank you, Janis.

Then we exit to the Hall where the nursery and school-aged children remain together for a prayer and song. The youngest children can go into the nursery (and be supervised) at any time but most of the children stay in our circle to listen to the story and then do an activity. I like to begin

together, as I see how the diverse ages benefit from each other. Our activities commonly include crafts, discussion, dramatic representations, songs and prayers.

We have begun returning just after the Offertory Hymn so that we can prepare for the Eucharist all together. The celebrant welcomes the children, and the children enter singing (e.g. Halle Halle, Give me oil in my lamp, Prepare the Way of the Lord). They then rejoin their families or remain together in the front pews to prepare for communion.

Thank you to the sidespeople who cue us to prepare to return!

Kate regularly plans and leads Sunday school with that week's helper as hands-on support. Sunday school is planned for each Sunday (10AM service) unless it is a school break or Kate is unable to attend. On average there are 12 children, ranging in ages from 2 to 16. We have a very regular core group of 10 children.

In terms of our outreach, we continued our Sunday school card ministry - preparing and sending cards to our seniors and shut-ins at Valentine's, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. We decorated cookies (baked by parishioners) and took them to Centre 454 as our part of St Mark's Lenten outreach. The children had Lenten collection boxes that they put money in when they were helpers at home, so we sent \$88.20 to Centre 454 also.

The children were again well represented at the Tulipathon in May, where we walked to raise money for the MultiFaith Housing Initiative.

We sold Advent candles and cards this year. The cards were made and donated to the Sunday school by Janis Perkin (huge thanks!) Through this, the children raised over \$220! The children thoughtfully considered how to best direct these funds. We have directed \$100 to "girl power", \$35 towards beekeeping and \$10 for bednets with PLAN, and through PWRDF, \$30 for a goat and \$65 for a well.

Sunday school children and their families also participated throughout Advent by reading for the lighting of the Advent wreath (a different family/group for each Sunday and Christmas Eve).

On the fourth Sunday in Advent, we had our Christmas party where we sang at Madonna (to begin their 12 o'clock service), lunched and decorated cookies (thanks to our generous bakers). We donated these cookies (about 6 dozen) to St Luke's Table.

Our Christmas preparations culminated with our pageant on Advent 3, December 15, (10 am) with 21 children and youth participating. The pageant was again developed in such a way as to allow older children and youth to read, and younger children to listen and participate in costume. We used the Advent/Christmas readings from Isaiah, Matthew and Luke, and relevant verses from many hymns/carols as we considered how each person prepared for their role in Christ's birth.

Again, this year, we participated in the crèche Sunday on Epiphany. This year, we put together a few small crèches, and sang and read stories about each person in the crèche scene.

Although we do not have a youth group, our Sunday school does include youth, and we seek out the older youth to help at church events (e.g. pancake supper, bazaar and rummage sale) and at Sunday school.

I continue to enjoy growing in faith with the children and youth. We are so fortunate to have the loving support of our St Mark's family.

respectfully submitted by Kate Greer-Close

Coffee, Company and Conversation

St. Mark's community outreach mission for seniors, which runs from September to June celebrated their first year anniversary in September 2019. This event is held from September to June, when we break for the summer. Thursday mornings from 10 am to noon, seniors from St. Mark's and from the local community drop in for activities, entertainment and conversation.

Regular visitors' activities ranged from dance movement to Halloween fun, to joyful Christmas music. The Council on Aging regularly provide speakers to present topics of interest to seniors. A number of new guests have joined us this year; our attendance is between 20 and 45 on a given morning. Besides St Mark's parishioners, about one third are people who have read or heard about us and who enjoy the positive, warm atmosphere.

We take this opportunity to thank all the people who generously volunteer and support this popular outreach activity.

Submitted by:

The Coffee, Company and Conversation Organizing Committee
(Laurie Slaughter, Georgia Roberts, Suzanne Bisson and Penny Miller).

Outreach

In 2019, St. Mark's Outreach focus continued to be the Ottawa Food Bank/Debra Dynes Family House.

School Supplies: There were 152 families who registered in the school supplies program at DDFH in 2019. For the Kindergarten to Grade 8 group, Debra Dynes served 108 and Caring and Sharing served 167. Debra Dynes also provided 63 High School supplies. In total, there were 348 school supplies given out this year. The school supplies donations from St. Mark's helped to support this worthwhile activity.

Baby Items: The donation of clothing and other items for new born babies to Debra Dynes Family House continues under St. Mark's Outreach Program. Doreen Matweow donates large bundles of gently used baby items to DDFH several times a year

Mothers' Day Gifts: Parishioners generously donated gifts that the Debra Dynes children could "purchase" for their mothers.

Food Donations: Weekly donations of food items were provided to DDFH.

Postage Stamps: Doreen Matweow collects, processes and sends postage stamps to the Leprosy Mission where they are eventually sold to art dealers, with the proceeds going to third world countries to help with the challenges of leprosy. Doreen continues this Outreach program single-handedly. Many thanks and appreciation to Doreen.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Bisson,
Outreach Coordinator

Stamps

For the year 2019, I mailed seven large shoe boxes of postage stamps to the Leprosy Mission. We are also sending stamps from the rest of the diocese.

Doreen Matweow

Lenten Outreach

As part of our Lenten program since 1999, we have provided almsgiving envelopes to support outreach initiatives. This has allowed us to broaden our outreach in a way which our church budget will not allow. We are planning to continue this program for the year 2020. This year at parish council, there were 2 projects brought up for consideration: PWFDF's "Buy the Farm" and Multi-Faith Housing's Veterans' Home.

Offering envelopes are available at the back of the church during Lent. These should be used in addition to your regular offering envelopes or PAR. If you wish your offering to be directed to one of the projects or a different project (which is a registered charity with the CRA), please write the name of your choice on the blank line at the bottom of the label on your lenten offering envelopes. If nothing is filled in on this line, it will be assumed that the money should be divided evenly between the two projects. Don't forget to write your name or envelope number on the envelope to receive tax credit for your donation! Thank you for your ongoing support for those in need.

Previous Projects Supported

- 2012 Debra-Dynes Family House, Ancoura
- 2013 Debra-Dynes Family House, St Luke's Table
- 2014 Centre 454, St Jude's Cathedral, Iqaluit
- 2015 Diocese of Jerusalem (Princess Basma Centre), St Luke's Table
- 2016 Cornerstone, Refugees
- 2017 Ottawa Mission Hospice, Ancoura
- 2018 Cornerstone Princeton Project
- 2019 Centre 454, PWRDF "Water Project"

Primate's World Relief & Development Fund

We are proposing *Gifts of Food Security and Livestock*. We hope to be able to specifically donate to "buy the whole farm", but depending on the amount we receive and the PWRDF needs at that time it could be re-directed to another similar agricultural project.

Buy the whole farm: When you buy all the items in the agriculture category, you support several farmers from Tanzania, Uganda, Colombia, Rwanda and Mozambique! One cow, one goat, two piglets, 20 kg bag of seeds, organic farm supplies, farm tools (which all receive a 6:1 match from the Government of Canada to make up the full cost of the item) plus 40 chickens and 10 pineapple seedlings.

Multi-Faith Housing

Veterans' House: the Andy Carswell Building is Canada's first community house built for homeless veterans. This project targets the needs of the rising number of homeless veterans who are "living rough" in Ottawa, and combines safe housing with essential on-site rehabilitation services. Veterans will have immediate access to support services from a variety of partner agencies. This supportive "Housing First" model will give our veterans on-site recovery from health, mental health and addiction-related issues.

This Veterans' House project will provide supportive housing for 40 veterans, and is located on Mikinak Road, on the site of the former CFB Rockcliffe Airbase. The facility will offer mental health and addiction services, gathering spaces, (including a communal kitchen and outdoor barbeque facilities) an indoor gym, and a dog park for service dogs.

The Mission of this group is to bring people of many different faiths to work together for the good of all.

Pancake Supper

Shrove Tuesday fell on March 5 in 2019. It was a snowy night. There were 39 advance tickets sold; 34 were redeemed; 55 adults paid at the door. Advance ticket sales amounted to \$338, door sales amounted to \$668.25.

There were many families with children - again hard to count but at least 30 children. There was a Hall full of folk or about 100 adults plus children, for a total of about 130 attendees.

We made a profit of \$870 for St Mark's. Last year we made \$930.

We charged \$8 per adult and children 12 and under were free - same as last year.

There was a positive hum of chatter and visiting with large family groups as well as smaller groups and singles joining together at the long tables. It was a very convivial event with many parties staying and visiting throughout the supper.

Kate Greer-Close and Steve Close

Parish Breakfasts

In early summer Brian Harrison spoke to Corporation, and said that he would like to be replaced as breakfast co-ordinator. We accepted this, and asked for people to replace him, as a team.

Unfortunately people did not jump out of the woodwork and say, 'choose me', although if you are interested we would love to hear from you. The result was that we agreed that it shouldn't be dropped if at all possible, since those who attend, enjoy it, and there are more 10 o'clockers than a few years ago.

Brian had it all organized very carefully. In September we took over exactly as he and his group did it, and he and his daughter Leanne helped us set up. Thank you to Brian, Leanne, Jane and Sheila for their past work.

We each took on a part, so Georgia buys croissants, yogurt and actually makes muffins. Bill and Karen Barber set up with Paul and Cynthia Greer. Suzanne helps with clean up and kitchen work, and Cynthia buys whatever else is needed. Many thanks to those who help with the clearing away, especially to Mani Mani, and Paul, Steve, Bill, and those whose names aren't here, since Karen and I leave for choir practice, and don't see the workers. If anyone would like to join the team, that would be wonderful.

At the time I said I wasn't willing to find speakers, so that is one part lacking. I feel uncomfortable asking for a 10 minute speaker, who has to travel for 20 minutes each way, and I know that I'll be leaving for choir while that person is speaking. There may be parishioners who would like to speak and show photos of a trip, or something they are interested in. It doesn't need to be 'religious'. We would like your ideas.

We had a speaker in November, Father Julian, not long after his arrival among us. It was a very timely opportunity for us to learn about him.

There are usually between 35 and 40 parishioners at each breakfast, so it is certainly worth- while. I thank all those who come for breakfast, and all those who help in any way to make this ministry successful.

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Greer, for Georgia, Bill, Karen, Suzanne and Paul.

Sunday Coffee Times

After Sunday service, parishioners gather to chat and enjoy coffee, tea and sweets provided by volunteers. The eight o'clock service's coffee time is coordinated by Joy Bowerman.

Suzanne Bisson coordinates the roster for coffee time after the 10 am Eucharist.

Working together in the kitchen or serving coffee and tea provides a wonderful sense of camaraderie and fellowship. New parish members are always welcome. If you would like to help-out, please contact Joy or Suzanne.

The volunteers have been steadfast in their support of this parish ministry and we are most grateful to them. We are particularly grateful to Helen McGill who coordinated the 8 am coffee roster for many years.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Bisson and Joy Bowerman

Bazaar

In 2019, we returned to our traditional date of the first Saturday in November. Fr Julian started at St Mark's on November 1 and, as his first official act among us, opened the bazaar on November 2. Our usual mini-bazaar was held on December 1. Turkey pies were made in both the spring and the fall. As a result, the grand total for this year's bazaar was \$7,656.

We were joined for the eleventh year by CanHave, a local charity making a difference in Africa

The success of the bazaar depends on the commitment and participation of the people within the parish, both in helping to prepare for the event and in coming out to support it. The bazaar would simply not be possible without the knitters, sewers, crafters, bakers, preservers, soup makers, pie makers and sorters of second hand treasures. Also required are greeters, servers, pricers, sellers and setters up and takers down. To run a successful bazaar, almost one hundred people are involved - truly a community event and one whose revenue is necessary to help balance the books. A sincere thank you to all of those involved.

Special thanks to all of the area convenors: Attic Treasures - Janis Perkin; Baking- Penny Miller; Books – Bruce Lodge & Bill Barber, Café - Georgia Roberts; Doreen's Treasures – Doreen Matweow; Clothing – Cynthia Greer, Crafts – Gwen MacLean; Jewellery – Kate Greer-Close & Diane McCaul; Knitting – Coralie Sheehan; Lion's Needleworks -Joy Bowerman; Preserves – Margaret Pirnat; Rummage – Margaret Blakeney and Toys - Jeremy Close. Thanks are also due to Pat Sinclair (and Heather & Tim) as the chief instigator(s) of turkey pies. As well, the Mothers' Union sold puddings and calendars.

Submitted on behalf of the Bazaar staff by Joy Bowerman, Bazaar Convenor 2019

Slim and Trim

Slim and Trim numbers were down considerably towards the end of the year, mainly due to ill health and people moving away. We are still providing a service and hoping to increase our numbers.

We donated \$300 to the church and \$25 to the PWRDF.

Thank you to Gail for providing carrot cake and coffee on the last day of each session.

Once again we would like to express our thanks to Gail Denton our instructor, and to Rose who keeps the floor clean for us.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M. Morphew.

Dollar for Dollar

What is the Dollar for Dollar program? You may purchase gift cards from us at face value and spend them in all participating grocery stores listed on the card. Independent and Loblaws are the ones closest to us. The balance of the card decreases as you use it. The cards come in a variety of denominations. We usually stock \$250, \$100 & \$50 cards. They're quick and easy to use and very easy to carry.

So how does that generate profit for the church? Although you give us \$100 and we give you \$100 to spend in the grocery store, we actually paid less than \$100 for the certificate. Depending on the amount we order at the time, we get usually get a discount of 4%. We had considerable difficulties in obtaining the gift cards during 2019. The Gift Card program changed how they were doing business and it took a considerable length of time and an hour and a half on the phone to finally get it straightened out. Because of the delay, only \$549 was contributed to general revenues through the Dollar for Dollar program. At the end of the year, we had \$6,000 of cards on hand.

The big advantage of this program, in my opinion is that it is "Money for Nothing". You don't have to give a donation; there is no money out of your pocket. The money that you spend on groceries is the same money you would spend on groceries anyway but this way, the church gets a percentage of it! It is an easy and convenient way of paying for groceries. In our house, my husband, or son will pick up things from the grocery store if I give them the card! You can also use the card in Loblaws garden centre in the spring to pick up your annuals or at Christmas to buy your tree!

Thanks must be extended to the sales team who have so conscientiously carried out their jobs. The coffee-hour team members, as of the end of 2019, were Georgia Roberts, Coralie Sheehan, Penny Miller and Margaret Pirnat. Gillian Morris and Karen Barber also sold gift cards in the office during the week. I wish to thank this team for their dedication to their task in this fund-raiser for our parish.

Joy Bowerman

Dollar for Dollar Coordinator

Financial Report

Overview of 2019 Finances

The treasurer is just one member of a diverse team that all contribute to the financial management of the parish. Joy Bowerman, our office administrator and bookkeeper, has been provider of top-notch financial material as well as a constant mentor. Les Cundell and his teams of counters made sure that the weekly income was recorded and deposited. Our envelope secretary, Karen Roberts, entered and double-checked the income data and managed PAR. Parish Council reviewed the financial statements each month and Stephen Coaker and Joanne Pagani audited the books at the end of the year. Thank you to all of them.

At our Vestry in February 2019, we passed a budget with a deficit of \$10,890. It was a time of uncertainty as to when and whether Rev. Jessica would be able to return to us. Being cautious, we budgeted for having a full-time priest for the year, using the financial figures provided by the Diocese. Soon after that Vestry meeting, the Diocese informed us that Rev Jessica would not be returning and that, for the next few months, our ECOPS would be reduced and we would not be paying a housing allowance while we had a half-time retired priest. It was not until November of 2019, when Fr Julian joined us, that we returned to paying the ECOPS and housing allowance required for a full-time priest. Mainly due to the difference between actual and budgeted staff expenses, instead of ending the year in “the red”, as budgeted, we finished with a surplus of \$51,274 which was \$62,164 ahead of what was budgeted. What is more, if we had actually paid the budgeted amount for staff expenses in 2019, we still would have had a surplus of \$4,186 at year end.

While collection income was a large proportion of our total income in 2019, income from other sources such as user fees (i.e., rentals), solar panels, investments and the bazaar were also an essential component of our financial well-being. Also, events such as the pancake supper, the card party, parish breakfasts, and Slim and Trim all contributed to our treasury as well as being fun. Thank you to those who organized these events and to those who came out to support and enjoy them.

More Comments about 2019 Finances

The “Budget 2020 ” table included in the Vestry Report contains 2019 Actual and 2019 Budget figures in the first 2 columns. My comments will mainly refer to numbers that you see there.

Income

Total collections for 2019 were \$169,636, which was \$1,636 over the budgeted amount. Total collections consisted mainly of envelope givings (including PAR).

The income donated from various organizations (\$10,011) and the fundraising income (\$508), which came from a card party organized by the Vitality Committee together exceeded budget by \$2299.

The gain from assets of \$33,826 was approximately \$7,426 over budget. User fees made up 65% of this gain from assets and far exceeded the budgeted amount due to more regular renters. Solar income was less than budgeted due to some equipment problems that were not detected until late in the year. Dollar for Dollar income was also less than budgeted because the grocery coupons were not available for several months.

Directed income totaled \$5,492 in 2019, while, as is our custom, none was budgeted. More will be said about directed income and its expenditure later in this report.

No income was taken from reserves in 2019, although \$1,000 had been budgeted for a possible capital project of lowering and capping the chimney.

Expenditures

Expenditure of \$79,379 in the Staff Salary category was lower than budgeted by \$47,088. This was due to a reduced ECOPS commitment and no housing allowance commitment for the first 10 months of the year.

Of the actual worship expenditure of \$3145, \$1475 was covered by directed income so that only \$825 of the \$2300 budgeted for Worship needed to be spent.

Expenditures in the Outreach category were totally covered by directed income. The “Not specified” Lenten Outreach donations were divided equally between PWR and Centre 454.

Actual and budgeted total Programs expenditures were small, as can be seen in the table, with budgeted programs either not spending at all, or underspending their budget.

Of the various expenditures related to the church, all were reasonably on budget. Finance and miscellaneous expenditures were approximately as budgeted as well.

Directed Income

When you look at the Actual and Budget figures for 2019, there is the complicating factor of directed donations. We look as if we spent a lot on flowers, for example, when nothing was budgeted, but really the flower expenditures were offset by directed donations for flowers. In 2019, since the income amount directed towards flowers was so much higher than the amount spent on flowers, the remaining money was used to offset other expenditures in the worship category.

To remove these complicating factors, the table below shows how close we came to actual budget, in the large categories, by subtracting the directed income from actual income.

Year 2019	Actual - Directed		Budget	Difference from Budget
INCOME				
Collections	169,636		168,000	1636
Fundraising	508		0	508
Gain from Assets	33,826		29,300	4526
Organizations	10,011		8,220	1791
Other Income	600			600
Directed	0		0	0
Income from Reserves			1,000	-1000
Total Income	214,581	*	206,520	8061
EXPENSES				
Salaries	80,912		128,381	-47469
Worship	1,683	*	2,300	-617
Programs	1,513	*	3,995	-2482
Fair Share	33,421		33,421	0
Outreach	0	*	0	0
Finance	5,936		5,998	-62

Church	36,827		36,915	-88
Miscellaneous	3,109	*	3,500	-391
Total Expenses	163,401		214,510	-51109

* (Actual-Directed) is smaller than Actual

2020 Budget Report

The proposed budget for 2020 can be seen in the third column of the same table that contains the Actual and Budgeted quantities for 2019. The budget, while the responsibility of the wardens, is developed from the input from many sources, including reports on income and expenditures from recent years, known quantities for 2020, and amounts requested from various people and organizations who contribute to or spend money for the church. Some comments and explanations related to 2020 budget items are provided below. As it stands, this is a deficit budget, with budgeted net income at -\$17,371.

Income:

Collections income is the main source of income for the parish, and the main component of this is envelope (which includes PAR) giving. Because the budgeted amount for 2019 envelope income was close to what was actually attained, and because there has been little change in our parishioners over the past year, it was decided to budget the same amount (\$157,000) for 2020.

Since identifiable open collections vary so much from year to year, a conservative estimate (compared to both the 2018 and 2019 actual amounts) is being proposed for 2020. The approximate 2019 amounts for open and special collections are being used as budgeted amounts for 2020.

As requested by the Vitality Committee again this year, the budgeted amount for fundraising has been set to \$0. The committee may, however, still carry out some fundraisers for the parish.

The gain from assets overall is budgeted to be approximately \$3000 higher in 2020 than what was budgeted for 2019, but approximately \$4500 less than what was actually attained in 2019. While we are budgeting \$18,000 for user fees, due to our many steady renters, we are not budgeting as much as was actually attained in 2019 since we know already that the St Mesrob congregation, which has been with us for close to 40 years, will be leaving in the spring since they have purchased their own building. The amount budgeted for Dollar for Dollar is down by \$400 from the 2019 budgeted amount since it will take time to rebuild clientele now that grocery coupons are again available. The amount budgeted for solar income is also reduced from the budgeted amount for 2019 since needed repairs have not yet been scheduled.

There is a slight dip in what is budgeted for income from organizations since the organizer of Slim and Trim has requested that the budgeted amount be set to \$0 for 2020.

Nothing is being budgeted to come from Reserves, although some capital projects requiring Reserve money may be carried out later in the year.

As is always the case, no directed income is included in the budget for 2020.

Expenses:

Our biggest expense item for the 2020 budget, called staff salaries, is \$129,375. This amount is for 2 lay staff salaries (for organist and office administrator), plus equalized cost of priestly services

(ECOPS), plus clergy housing allowance less income of \$12,070 from the Rectory Trust Fund (which is taken off at source by the Diocese).

Our Parish Fair Share of diocesan expenses is \$38,325 for 2020. This is considerably higher than the 2019 amount, which was the last year where our PFS was reduced due to our large capital expenditure on a boiler and furnaces in 2015.

Very little has changed from 2019 in the budgeted amounts for various programs.

The budgeted amount for church expenses has changed a little from 2019. Repair and upgrade has increased by \$3000 because there is expected to be higher costs for regular repairs and there are plans to purchase some paint and carpet. The snow removal budget is also up because it now includes funds for Tegano Roofing to clear some snow from our flat roofs as well as our regular contract with Blue Teal for cleaning of the parking lot and sidewalks. On the other hand, the budget for telephone is much reduced due to the negotiation of a new contract in June 2019. Nothing is included in the budget for special projects, although there are likely to be a couple this year – repair of the solar panels and repair/replacement of some of the flat roofs; however, neither project has been costed at this time. (See Property Report p 9)

Georgia Roberts
Treasurer

Balance Sheet

7:18 PM
2020-01-25
Accrual Basis

St Mark's Church
Balance Sheet
As of 31 December 2019

	31 Dec 19
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
TD BANK	100,018.65
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>100,018.65</u>
Other Current Assets	
Dollar for Dollar	12,400.97
HST Receivable	2,026.03
PST Receivable	4,926.05
Total Other Current Assets	<u>19,353.05</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>119,371.70</u>
Other Assets	
Investments	
Gladys O'Ray CTF 2654	14,000.00
Judy Corbishley CTF	6,000.00
Memorials CTF 2534	5,804.37
Rectory Trust CTF 4053	327,787.49
Total Investments	<u>353,591.86</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>353,591.86</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>472,963.56</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
RESERVE ACCOUNT	
Seniors Outreach	270.00
Funeral Receptions	133.43
Capital Projects	7,874.75
Choir Fund	2,282.15
Choir Gowns	810.07
GIFT Funds	28,533.01
Key Deposits	412.04
Memorials	9,264.76
Ministry	8,633.35
Pastoral Care Support Fund	875.00
Rector's Discretionary	-23.54
Sunday School	456.89
Tree Care	900.00
Total RESERVE ACCOUNT	<u>60,421.91</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>60,421.91</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>60,421.91</u>
Long Term Liabilities	
Gladys O'Ray Bequest	14,000.00
Judy Corbishley Bequest	6,000.00
Rectory Trust	327,787.49
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>347,787.49</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>408,209.40</u>
Equity	
Retained Earnings	13,480.71
Net Income	51,273.45
Total Equity	<u>64,754.16</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>472,963.56</u></u>

2020 Budget

	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>	
<u>Income</u>				
GENERAL				
Collections				
Envelope	156,186	157,000	157,000	
Identifiable Open	9,580	8,000	8,000	a
Open	1,910		2,000	a
Special Collection	1,960	3,000	2,000	
Total Collections	169,636	168,000	169,000	
Fundraising	508	0	0	
Gain from Assets				
CTF Dividends	880	1,000	1,000	
Dollar for Dollar	549 A	1,200	800	b
Investment Income	1,741	1,200	1,500	
Solar Income	8,516 B	10,000	8,000	c
User fees	22,140 C	13,000	18,000	d
Total Gain from Assets	33,826	26,400	29,300	
Organizations				
Bazaar	7,656	6,000	6,000	
Breakfasts	466	300	300	
Pancake Supper	870	800	800	
Slim & Trim	300	400		
We Kicked the Habit	720	720	720	
Total Organizations	10,011	8,220	7,820	
Other General Income	400			
Weddings	200			
Total GENERAL	214,582	202,620	206,120	
DIRECTED				
Altar Guild	50			
Centre 454	113			
Cornerstone	533			
Debra-Dynes	200			
Flowers	1,425			
Forward Day by Day	93			
Lenten Outreach				
PWR	52			
Not specified	1,246 D			
Total Lenten Outreach	1,298			
Prayer Shawl	60			
PWR Fund	1,720			

	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>	
Total DIRECTED	5,492			
INCOME FROM RESERVES				
Capital Projects		1,000		
Total INCOME FROM RESERVES	0	1,000	0	
Total Income	220,074	203,620	206,120	
<u>Expense</u>				
SALARIES				
Clergy Fill-in	933	1,314	1,350	e
Organist Fill-in	600	600	600	
Staff	79,379	126,467	129,375	f
Total SALARIES	80,912	128,381	131,325	
WORSHIP				
Flowers	826			
Music	325	300	300	
Piano/Organ	460	1,000	1,000	
Service & Altar Supplies	1,547	1,000	1,200	
Total WORSHIP	3,158	2,300	2,500	
FAIR SHARE	33,421	33,421	38,325	g
OUTREACH				
Centre 454	736			
Cornerstone	533			
Debra-Dynes	200			
PWR Fund	2,395			
Total OUTREACH	3,864	0	0	
PROGRAMS				
AED	196	370	370	
Christian Education		250	250	
Church School	36	100	100	
Coffee, Company & Conversation	125	900	300	
Conferences & Memberships	289	900	900	h
Library	48	150	150	
Membership	23	150	150	
Outreach Coordination		125	125	
Prayer Shawl	43	50	50	
Publicity		200	200	
Screening Process	150	F		
Synod	320	450	450	
Wellness - Seniors' Hospitality	343	350	350	
Wellness - AED				

Church of St Mark the Evangelist
Annual Reports to Vestry February 24, 2019

	<u>Actual 2019</u>		<u>Budget 2019</u>		<u>Budget 2020</u>
Total PROGRAMS	1,573	G	3,995		3,395
CHURCH					
Cleaning Service	16,050		15,200		15,200
Electricity	4,195		5,500		5,500
Heating	4,100		4,000		4,000
Operating Supplies	931		1,000		1,000
Repair & Upgrade	6,426		5,000		8,000
Security	224		250		250
Snow Removal	2,418		2,565		3,638
Special Projects			1,000		
Telephone	760		1,300		250
Water	1,723		1,100		1,100
Total CHURCH	<u>36,827</u>		<u>36,915</u>		<u>38,938</u>
FINANCE					
Bank Charges	375		350		360
Insurance	5,048		5,048		5,048
Supplies	513		600		150
Total FINANCE	<u>5,936</u>		<u>5,998</u>		<u>5,558</u>
MISCELLANEOUS					
Computer & Internet	790		800		750
Forward Day by Day	130				
Office Supplies	271		200		200
Photocopier	1,455		1,500		1,500
Postage	363		600		600
Rector's Hospitality			200		200
Wardens' Discretionary	99		200		200
Total MISCELLANEOUS	<u>3,109</u>		<u>3,500</u>		<u>3,450</u>
Total Expense	<u>168,800</u>		<u>214,510</u>		<u>223,491</u>
Net Income	<u>51,274</u>	H	<u>-10,890</u>		<u>-17,371</u>

Footnotes for 2019 items

A: \$\$ income was below budget since coupons not available for several months

B: Solar income was below budget due to undetected problems with the equipment

C: User fees were higher than budgeted due to more regular renters

D: \$1246 was divided equally between PWR and Centre 454

E: Staff salaries were \$47,088 lower than budgeted due to reduced ECOPS and no housing allowance commitments for 10 months

F: The window was enlarged in the door to the Rector's office

G: All budgeted programs spent less than budgeted

H: Actual Net Income was \$62,164 ahead of budgeted net income. If salary expenditures had been as budgeted, net income would still have been +\$4,186.

Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Budget 2020
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Footnotes for 2020 Budget

- a: Showing budgeted amounts separately for identifiable open and open
- b: Budgeting less for \$for\$ since time is needed to rebuild clientele
- c: Less expected from solar income until system is repaired
- d: Budgeting less than 2019 actual since losing one big renter mid-year
- e: This is the per diem rate for 6 days taken from the 2020 Stipendiary Scales and Allowances. Does not include a travel reimbursement.
- f: This amount is 2 lay staff salaries, plus ECOPS and clergy housing allowance for a full-time priest, less earnings from the Rectory CTF. There is an increase of 2.01% over 2019 for lay staff, in line with clergy salary increases.
- g: Our 2020 Fair Share has increased \$4,904 over the 2019 amount. This is due to our average assessable income for the most recent 3 years (2016-2018) being a higher percentage of the average assessable income of all parishes than it was last year
- h: Includes Anglican Foundation, Multifaith Housing and Council on Aging of Ottawa
- i: Budgeting for some paint and carpet as well as increased regular repair expenses
- j: Snow removal budget includes Blue Teal contract for parking lot and sidewalks plus payments to Tegano Roofing to clear parts of flat roof.
- k: Special projects are not yet determined or costed.
- l: Budget for telephone is much lower than 2019 budget due to reduction in number of lines and negotiation of new plan in June 2019.
- m: Lower than 2019 since no need to order cheques in 2020

Reserve Account Activity

	Credit	Debit	Balance
ACW			
Close out of ACW bank accounts	7602.68		7,602.68
New Dishwasher		5763.47	1,839.21
Kitchen Flooring		1410.71	428.50
Kitchen Renovation		428.5	0.00
Capital Projects			\$7,874.75
Choir Fund			\$2,326.05
Choir Plaques		43.90	\$2,282.15
Flo Clarke Bequest			\$5,000.00
Kitchen Renovation		5,000.00	\$0.00
Funeral Receptions			\$133.43

	Credit	Debit	Balance
GIFT Funds			\$29,629.06
Greening Sacred Spaces Membership		50.00	\$29,579.06
Tables for Coffee, Company & Conversation		878.70	\$28,700.36
Little Library		167.35	\$28,533.01
Joan Knight - Kitchen Renovation			19,644.00
Kitchen Renovation		19,644.00	\$0.00
Key Deposits			\$412.04
Memorials			\$9,344.36
Memorial Donations	100.00		\$9,444.36
Mounting of Plaster Feather		179.60	\$9,264.76
Ministry			\$8,633.35
Rector's Discretionary			\$276.48
Lenten Study Books	96.50		372.98
Lenten Study Books		146.52	226.46
Outreach		100.00	\$126.46
Seniors' Outreach			\$500.00
Donation	10.00		\$510.00
Crosstalk Advertising		240.00	\$270.00
Sunday School			\$356.89
Donations	100.00		\$456.89

Funding of Kitchen Renovations

In 2019, the kitchen at St Mark's underwent extensive renovations on which \$40,842.71 was spent. The kitchen expenditures, however, do not appear among the expenses detailed in our operating budget for the year. This is because the funds came from reserve accounts, with the remainder from retained earnings. In particular, the Joan Knight Kitchen Reserve Fund provided \$19,644, the Flo Clarke Bequest provided \$5,000, and the ACW Reserve Fund (formed from the close-out of ACW bank accounts) provided \$7602.68, which depleted all of these accounts. The activity in these 3 reserve accounts can be seen in the table above. The remaining expense (\$8,596.03) was covered by retained earnings.

Statement by Financial Reviewers

January 26, 2020

To: The Parish of Saint Mark the Evangelist
Anglican Church of Canada
1606 Fisher Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 1X6

A review of the financial record of St Mark's was performed for the year ending December 31, 2019. Our review consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to financial information supplied to us by the officer of the parish.

All transactions provided have been captured accurately on a modified cash basis but have not been prepared on a full accrual basis or presented in accordance with the current CPA standards and guidelines in accordance with the 2012 Guideline for Non-Profits issued by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and reissued by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Professional Accountants. It is recommended consider moving to a full accrual basis of accounting.

Reviewed by:

Stephen Coaker Stephen Coaker

Joanne Pagani J. Pagani

Nominations/Appointments for Parish Council

The Nominations Committee consists of Cynthia Greer (chair,) and Bruce Lodge. There was discussion with Pauline Adams and Membership chair, and we spoke with members of the congregation. Each position has been tentatively filled by a parishioner who accepted to be nominated. Nominations may also be made from the floor by a proposer and seconder.

Positions to be filled		Nominee
People's Warden	2 years	Bill Barber.
Synod Member	2 years	Gillian Martin
Alternate Synod Member	1 year	Rev. Jeff Hall
Member at large	2 years	Terry Frederick

The following people will make up the balance of Council. Those marked with an asterisk are appointed by the priest (rector's warden) or Corporation, except the choir rep position ** which is appointed from within the choir, by the choir members.

Balance of Parish Council after Vestry February 23rd 2020

Rector	Rev. E Julian Campbell
Rector's Warden*	Pauline Adams
Deputy Rector's Warden *	Suzanne Bisson
Outgoing Deputy People's Warden	Cynthia Greer
Treasurer *	Georgia Roberts
Synod Member 2 nd of 2 years	Gillian Morris
Membership chair 2 nd of 2 years	Margaret Lodge
Outreach chair 2 nd of 2 years	Suzanne Bisson
Member at large 2 nd of 2 years	Judy Life.
Stewardship *	Michael Perkin
Church school/Youth *	Kate Greer-Close.
Choir Representative **	Karen Barber

Those retiring from the past Council, with many thanks for your work and sharing:

Synod member	Georgia Roberts
Alternate Synod member	Julia Fogg
Member at Large	Janis Perkin

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Greer/Bruce Lodge

Vestry Minutes, February 24, 2019

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST
ANNUAL VESTRY
FEBRUARY 24, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Vestry was called to order at 12:06 a.m. The chairperson for the meeting was the Ven. Rob Davis.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Ven. Rob Davis.

APPOINTMENT OF VESTRY CLERK

Janis Perkin was appointed as vestry clerk. Moved by Cynthia Greer, seconded by Margaret Lodge. **CARRIED**

APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

The motion to accept was moved by Gillian Morris, seconded by Michael Perkin. **CARRIED**

RECTOR'S REPORT

Ven. Rob offered thanks to Rt. Rev. Peter Coffin for his love and care of the parish.

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT

Margaret Lodge asked for an update on Rev. Jessica Worden-Bolling. Rev. Rob assured the vestry that updates would be given when there was information to be shared.

A motion of reception of the Wardens' Report was made by Pauline Adams seconded by Cynthia Greer. **CARRIED**

2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENT & REVIEWER'S REPORT

We finished in the black with \$13,479.00 in surplus. Our total equity was \$22,076.74. The total general Income was \$208,872.00 and the total expenditures was \$231,196.00. It should be noted that 52% of the expenditures is for staff salaries. A large expenditure in 2018 was the paving of the front parking lot and link sidewalk. The cost of paving came in at \$25,059.00. The funds came from the Gladys O'Ray CTF, Directed income and from our previous-year surplus

Acceptance was moved by Joy Bowerman and seconded by Les Cundell. **CARRIED**

THE PRESENTATION OF 2019 BUDGET

Georgia Roberts reviewed how the income projection had been set. It was noted that we are in the 3rd year of a three year reduction in our Fair Share due to the furnace replacement. The proposed deficit is \$10,890, based on ECOPS and clergy housing amounts for a full-time priest for the full year. However, we expect that we will soon hear that there will be a reduction in our commitment to the diocese for both ECOPS and the priestly housing allowance for the months that we have a part-time retired priest. Georgia estimated the reduction to be about \$5,000.00 per month.

Approval was moved by Georgia Roberts and seconded by Judy Darling. **CARRIED**

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

A motion to accept the slate as put forward by the Nominating Committee was moved by Bruce Lodge seconded by Les Cundell **CARRIED**

Thanks were offered to the Nominating Committee for their work.

RECEPTION OF ALL 2019 REPORTS

A motion to receive was moved by Bruce Lodge, seconded by Margaret Lodge.

The following additions and corrections were noted:

It was noted that the following sentence should be removed from Lenten Outreach on page 27, "All money received in these envelopes will be directed to the Cornerstone Princeton Project."

Brenda Zanin pointed out that the following reports were missing or should be included: Parish newsletter, Civic Hospital Visits and the Website. She also mentioned how inspirational the reading of the reports was.

A motion for approval as amended was moved by Gillian Morris, seconded by Georgia Roberts. **CARRIED**

LENTEN OUTREACH 2019

The charitable outreach projects chosen are: PWRDF-The Water Project and Centre 454.

Parishioners were reminded that they can direct donations to other charities of their choice.

Acceptance was moved by Less Cundell and seconded by Pauline Adams. **CARRIED**

APPOINTMENT OF BANK

Georgia Roberts moved that St. Mark's continue using TD Canada Trust at Emerald Plaza as the financial institution of choice for the coming year. Motion was seconded by Joy Bowerman. **CARRIED**

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS/ REVIEWERS

The Reviewers for 2019 are Joanne Pagani and Steve Coaker

MOTIONS OF THANKS

Margaret Lodge offered thanks to the Wardens and Joy Bowerman for "keeping the ship afloat". Also, thanks to our priests, Ven. Rob Davis and Rt Rev. Peter Coffin for covering for Rev. Jessica Worden-Bolling.

Ven. Rob Davis offered thanks for the warm welcome from a lovely community.

Cynthia Greer offered thanks to Georgia Roberts, Joy Bowerman and Karen Roberts for their care of the finances. She also thanked Margaret Lodge for her hard work in publicity and communications.

MOTION OF ADJOURNMENT

A motion of adjournment was made by Judy Darling at 1:12pm. **CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted by **Janis Perkin**, Vestry Clerk February 24, 2019