



Mark This Word

The Parish Newsletter of St Mark the Evangelist, Ottawa
Anglican Church of Canada

Issue number 44

Summer 2017

Meet our new rector – Rev Jessica and her family

To the Parishioners of St Mark's

Thank you for welcoming me back to St Mark's church. I have many warm memories of being a member of St Mark's parish while my father, the Venerable Gordon Worden was rector here. Participating in the choir camp and church picnics held by St Mark's made lasting impressions. The experience of finding God in this place and community is a deep part of where my faith was formed and nurtured. I love the smell of cedar wood and I am sure it is because the sanctuary here at St Mark's is made of cedar.

I am looking forward to getting to know you as a congregation and individually. My hope is that we can come together as a community and build on our strengths. Helping people discover and deepen their faith is one of my passions. I hope to help facilitate your journey of faith and help you grow in your God-given gifts. Together, we will discover how we can continue sharing God's love with our community. Making new memories together will be fun!

*With many blessings,
Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling*



The Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling became our incumbent as of May 1, 2017. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from McGill University, and studied theology at Huron University College. Between her second and third years at Huron, she spent three months in India helping with the music program at an all-girls school that the Anglican Church owned in Amritsar, North India.

She was ordained deacon in May 2008 and as a priest in December 2008 by Bishop John Chapman. She started her ministry as the assistant curate at Trinity Anglican Church in Cornwall, Ontario, from June 2008 to June 2010 under the Ven Frank Kirby.

Jessica married Vance Bolling at St Helen's Church in Orleans in January 2010. Shortly after, she began working as the associate priest at the parish of March in Kanata with the Rev Karen Coxon. While there, her leadership focus was caring for St Paul's in Dunrobin and St Mary's, 6th Line, as well as helping with some programming at St John's in Kanata. While leading the youth ministry at the parish of March, Jessica and Vance traveled with a small group of youth and adults to Nicaragua with the SchoolBOX organization in August 2011 to help build a school there.

Vance and Jessica welcomed their first son, Liam, in July 2012. After maternity leave, Jessica took an extended leave of absence from active ministry to focus on her family. They relocated to Nepean and in August 2014, welcomed their second son, Kyle.





Rev Jessica worked at St Margaret’s Church, Vanier, covering a sabbath leave, from April 2016 to August 2016. Most recently, she was taking Sunday services at St George’s, Gatineau from September 2016 to the end of April 2017.

Jessica is no stranger to St Mark’s; her father, the Ven Gordon Worden was the incumbent here from 1984 to 1990. In fact, the Rev Canon Jim Roberts served as a student under Fr Gordon and ate many breakfasts with Jessica and her family while he was here.

with help from Joy Bowerman



Welcome back to our new shepherd Rev Jessica

Sunday May 7, 2017, was Rev Jessica’s first Sunday with us.

The readings were about the shepherd and the sheep. We welcomed her as our new shepherd and priest.

She was presented with her own shepherd's crown from the church school children, a special song of welcome and a welcome cake.

*Some time ago, our preacher's child,
You grew up in this place.
And now you're at St Mark's again,
Our pastor, through God's grace!*

front and centre – Rev Jessica as a St Mark’s chorister in 1989-90, with a few of our present choir, and her father Rev Gordon Worden far left.

Office Hours:

Rev Jessica will be holding regular office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

She can be reached through the church at
613-224-7431 ext 201
or by email at rev.jessica@stmarksottawa.ca

Daughter of the Parish

Little did I realize in February, when I wrote the article on women priests of St Mark’s in the last **Mark This Word**, that three months later we would need an addendum, as we welcome our very own daughter of the parish as our parish priest. As mentioned above and in other articles, Jessica was three years old when she came to St Mark’s with her family. It’s fun to think that what she learned within our walls was part of her path towards ministry in the church. We’d also like to think that her admirable vocal ability had its start here too.

ML

Reserve the date



Induction Eucharist
Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling
September 27, 2017 - 7:00pm
Bishop John Chapman - presiding





Finally!
 a good photo of Fr Jim's smiling face, rather than his back!
 He always turned his back just as my camera clicked - laughing at every lost opportunity to the very last day! *ML*

Fr Jim: Retirement, Thank you and Farewell

compiled by Margaret Lodge

April 23

St Mark's held its Patronal Evensong and Supper on April 23. What started out as a simple meal grew to encompass the retirement of the Rev Canon James Roberts, Fr Jim, as he retired from parish ministry.

The choir led the evensong, with guest celebrant the Rev John Stopa. Many of Fr Jim's former parishioners and friends from St John's, Smiths Falls joined us to share the celebration and give thanks.



More than 120 people attended the supper, organized by Cynthia Greer and her crew. Joy Bowerman created a quilt representing all the churches where Fr Jim had been a rector, Gillian Morris knitted a prayer shawl, Penelope Close crocheted the 'purse' with help from Madeline

and Jeremy, and Janis Perkin made the card.

April 30

We said our official goodbye to Fr Jim during and following the 10 am Eucharist. The parish gave its thanks, God's blessings and good health to Fr Jim as he started his retirement.



The Church School presented their teacher with their own gift of a pictorial Lord's Prayer. Brenda Zanin wrote an 'Ode to Fr Jim' that the choir sang to 'Ode to Joy'. An excerpt, below, sums up the thoughts of many.

*Thank you for your sense of humour
 And your caring, listening ear,
 And be sure it is no rumour
 All have come to hold you dear.*

*Who'll forget those teaching moments
 As the children gathered round?
 And the way your witty comments
 Made such laughter here abound!*

Prayers of the People, April 30:

We give you thanks today for Father Jim, a faithful servant of your word, sacraments and leadership in your Church. Father Jim's preaching of your word in this place, as well as his years of service in the Diocese of Ottawa, are a blessing. We are thankful for Father Jim's priesthood. His example, rooted in humility and filled with insight, has brought an inward response to our lives. We pray that in a well-deserved retirement, he will rejoice in your glory and be lovingly sustained and cared for in all his needs, let us pray to the Lord.



The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre Seniors helping seniors

by Margaret Lodge

In February I was given permission to be a fly-on-the-wall-with-a-camera during the Friday Eucharist at the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre, to watch our Pastoral Service Volunteers in action. It struck me at that time as a wonderful example of seniors helping seniors.

St Mark's has led this weekly ministry for over 30 years -- ever since our priest at that time, the Rev Gordon Worden, set it up at the Perley Hospital on Aylmer Avenue in the mid 80s. He and a small dedicated group of parishioners saw this need for pastoral outreach. That group has changed over the years, but the dedication has continued.

In 1996 Perley residents became part of the new Perley Rideau Veterans' Health Centre, when it merged with the Rideau Veterans Home. The old Perley was rebuilt and opened in 1999 as the Colonel By Residence, where St Mark's parishioner George May now lives.

In the September 2008 *Mark This Word* article on the Perley Rideau by Georgia Roberts, she quotes Dena Burley, a visitor of nearly 30 years before she retired, "In the spring of 1985, I became a part of St Mark's Pastoral Care Team at the Perley Hospital on Aylmer Ave. Fr. Gordon Worden led the service. The Team volunteered, bringing the patients, in wheelchairs, to the Chapel -- a room on the second floor. As the congregation grew, a new chapel on the first floor was made available, to hold 25-40 patients. Leslie Worden played the accordion for the hymns, and 3-year-old Jessica came along with her mom."

Over the years, the ministry continued under subsequent priests at St Mark's. This year we have come full circle. Fr Jim Roberts was part of the early ministry at the Perley with Fr Gordon, and now our new priest, Rev Jessica, is continuing the ministry her father started over 30 years ago, and of which she and her mother were a part.

The Perley Rideau ministry is not just about volunteering, it is about reaching out to our greater community.

The volunteers and residents of Perley Rideau are friends, and part of our congregation. As Cynthia Greer notes, "although this group of worshippers is not part of our parish list, it is in many ways similar to the closeness of fellowship we saw at the 10 am Wednesday Eucharist at St Mark's. Many are non-verbal, but the pleasure of coming together is apparent, and we feel the connectedness. It is a very fulfilling and humbling service, even as we see them become weaker and depart from us. It would be wonderful

Want to help? Come and join us. Become part of St Mark's-Perley congregation

The team is always looking for helpers. Maybe you cannot help every week, but it is good to have extras who can be called on when needed. Come and join this very important congregational ministry.

- a screening, police check and orientation program is required by the Perley Rideau, they do not require any specialized pastoral training
- volunteers accompany residents to the Chapel for the service (many in wheelchairs)
- volunteers give assistance during the service where required
- after the service volunteers take the residents back to their respective floors

The weekly Friday service is at 10:30 am, followed by coffee and a special time of fellowship.

Come and join us. If you feel you are the right person for the job, contact Jackie Sorfleet for information.



to have even a couple of extra helpers, if you feel you are the right person for the job. Come and see for yourself."

Thank you to our wonderful pastoral group of 2017: Jackie Sorfleet Ted Dale, Carol Dicks have volunteered for 22 years each. Sheila Pitt and Helen McGill have assisted for over 15 years, Jan and Ray Oswald, 3 years, Cynthia and Paul Greer, 2 years, and Pauline Adams joined this spring.

Thank you also to our longtime helpers Irene Parboosingh, Doreen Craig and Donna Cundell who recently retired.

Poppy and Maddy Close have also been a wonderful and youthful presence the past two years. They are allowed to take community time from school. Last Fall they were saddened to lose someone they cared about, and whose life was enriched by having the girls with him. Our youth sharing and caring from an early age. Seniors, and youth, helping seniors.



STEWARDSHIP
A way of life

Waiting to be inspired

by Michael Perkin
Stewardship

Often I have found myself waiting to be inspired -- just waiting for that divine spark that will provide me with the required creative juice to produce something of which I can be proud. It does not matter if it is new initiative, an old project that "I'll get to" or something as mundane as writing a report.

Consider Stewardship: I truly believe in it, whether it is stewardship of our environment, our bodies, our minds, our souls and, yes, even our finances. I was inspired by a report about the loss of pollinating insects, especially bees. One of the reasons for the decline in bees, it said, was our passion for green lawns and the extermination of the yellow plague, dandelions. Dandelions are one of first and plentiful food sources for bees in the spring. So, I stopped digging them out of the yard and have even let part of my back yard revert to a more natural state. On a personal front, putting on a bathing suit was inspiration enough for me to drop some weight (keeps coming back though). Good books, and the Good Book stimulate my mind and regular church events keep my soul fed with the good news.

We cannot forget the stewardship of our financial resources. We all can be inspired to put money aside for a rainy day or that special something. We save for vacations and Christmas and a myriad of other items which enrich our lives. But what inspires us to give to God?

Jesus is my inspiration. Often overused is the phrase What Would Jesus Do? (WWJD). I prefer "what does Jesus want me to do?" as my get-moving mantra. Jesus wants us to work together to take care of God's creation. Jesus wants us to build community together. Jesus wants us to look after the hungry, the helpless, the lost and the broken. We do this through our ministry here at St Mark's. That is why I made sure that my financial contributions don't disappear with me during the summer. I signed up to have my monies taken monthly directly from my account (Pre-Authorized Remittance PAR). I will also be giving half of my monthly GIFT contribution to St Mark's and half to the Bishop's Today 4 Tomorrow campaign.

I encourage all to be inspired.



*If you can't fly, then run.
If you can't run, then walk.
If you can't walk, then crawl,
but whatever you do,
you have to keep moving forward.*

Martin Luther King Jr

Outreach: tulips, bales and gifts for Mom

by Laurie Slaughter



About 15 St Mark's parishioners and friends walked along the canal on May 7, with many faith groups in the city, as part of the annual Tulipathon Walk for the Multifaith Housing Initiative in support of safe and affordable housing. They carried our St Mark's banner, beautifully updated by Penny Miller, and without question, it stood out in the crowd.

Thanks to donations from our own congregation and others who wished to support the walkers. The children raised \$170 and the adults contributed more. We are making a difference in providing homes for people who need them most, such as low income families and homeless veterans.

As well, in April and May we continued our giving to three other worthy causes. For our Lenten Outreach, we collected funds for both the Ottawa Mission Hospice and Ancoura. Both groups are very grateful to receive these funds. They also enjoyed the cookies that the church school children iced and decorated for them at Easter. Kate Greer-Close says thanks to all the bakers who made this project possible.

As in past years, our church members were very generous in their contributions to the diocesan Bales for the North drive. These were shipped to eight different communities in the far north.

The children of the Debra Dynes community were able to buy small gifts for their mothers on her special day, for a nominal amount, thanks to our support of Debra Dynes Family House, our local outreach over the last seventeen years. In carrying out this gift of caring each year, we make it special for the children as well.

Last year the Community Ministry Committee conducted interviews with community leaders and agencies to determine local needs. As a result, the committee is now considering a focused mission, in partnership with other groups, to support seniors in our area. When options have been identified, our church will choose an appropriate outreach mission.

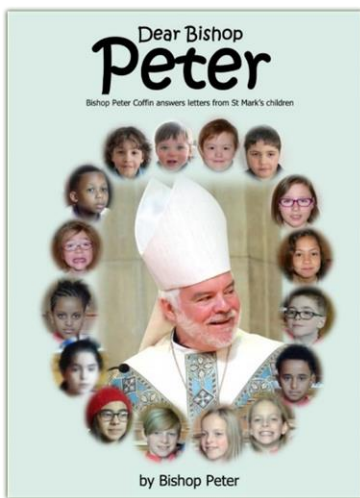


Sunday school: Letters to Bishop Peter

by Kate Greer-Close

In the fall, Betty Caughlin gave a great book to the Sunday school, entitled “Letters to Pope Francis”. It is a wonderful book of letters from children across the world, who wrote to Pope Francis to ask him questions that were on their minds. Pope Francis replied to their letters and the book shares those questions and answers with us.

Our St Mark’s children were intrigued by the questions, by the different languages and countries, and started asking questions of their own...



Fr Jim took up the challenge and contacted retired Bishop Peter Coffin, who agreed to read and answer the questions from our Sunday school.

Our children wrote and illustrated their personal questions to Bishop Peter ... waited ... and received their replies! We now have a book of our own questions and answers about God and his world and our place within it.

The published book “Letters to Pope Francis” is available in our church library – do borrow it for yourself and for your children or grand-children! (see Parish Library column)

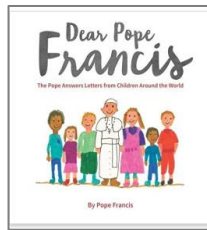
If you’d like to see our book, do ask the children, they will be pleased to share it with you during coffee hour.

Kate and the children reading Bishop Peter’s letters



Parish Library

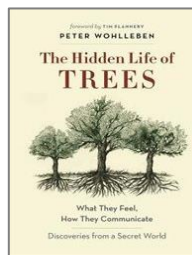
by Betty Caughlin
Parish Librarian



Dear Pope Francis, 2016

In this book, Pope Francis answers letters from children around the world. The universal questions raised could be asked by people of any age. Pope Francis responds with wisdom and compassion. The artwork is beautiful.

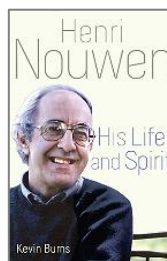
Look for it in the third unit of the Parish Library in Bishop Reid Hall. (see Sunday School column)



The Hidden Life of Trees

by Peter Wohlleben, 2016

We’ve heard about this book. Now is a time to enjoy the author’s insights about what trees can tell us about life. See Spirituality section in the center unit of our Library.



Henri Nouwen, His Life and Spirit

by Kevin Burns, 2016

Another great book about a great man and his writings. Find it in Spirituality.

Note: We have more donated books which will be on the shelves soon.

Vitality entertainment: Capital Chordettes at St Mark’s

by Brian Harrison

St Mark’s is starting to be known for concert events, as we have held three concerts in the past year, including Tales and Tunes in June 2016, the Stairwell Carollers in December 2016 and the Capital Chordettes just recently in May. About 90 people were in attendance to hear this delightful women’s chorus sing a medley of upbeat and joyful songs which brought smiles to music lovers, both young and old. Snacks and beverages were also a hit during the intermission. These concerts are organized by the Parish Vitality Working Group, with help from parishioners who provide food and beverages, from the Altar Guild who put the sanctuary back in order after the performance, and from the church office.

Congratulations to everyone who made this concert such a success!! Next event June 24. Stay ‘tuned’ for more.



June 3, 2017
10am - 12 noon



DOORS OPEN
OTTAWA
PORTES OUVERTES **2017**

June 3: 10am - 4pm + June 4: 12 noon - 4pm

by Margaret Lodge

The first weekend of June is a busy time for St Mark's. The last few years Kate Greer-Close has spearheaded our activity in the **BIG GIVE** project. Every year, churches across the country are encouraged to bless their neighbourhoods through a unified day of giving extravagantly – **EVERYTHING IS FREE!**

This year Kate and St Mark's reaches out even further to share our church through **Doors Open Ottawa**, a free annual architectural event that celebrates our community's built heritage. On the weekend of June 3-4, over 150 historically, culturally, and functionally significant buildings are featured in honour of Canada's 150th birthday! And St Mark's is part of it!

We are proudly opening our doors wide to Ottawa



In 2015 St Mark's celebrated its 60th anniversary of the church. At that time I put together a presentation called "*St Mark's: this beautiful and significant house of God*" that was made into a video by Ray Davidson. The graphics used and architectural drawings are part of Doors Open. Here are a few pictures of our beautiful and significant church from its dream to the present day.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcZYanxxMyU&feature=youtu.be



1954



1954



1955



1966



1955



Calendar of Events



St Mark's Seniors' Eucharist & Lunch
 a time of fellowship and celebration of Canada's 150th birthday
 Wednesday June 7, 2017 + Eucharist: 11:00 am followed by lunch and entertainment

June 10, 2017 9am-2pm
St Mark's Church YARD SALE
 1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa




Parish Picnic
June 18 - 12 noon
 hot dogs & sausages supporting outreach



JUNE 24, 2017
 4:30PM - HIGH TEA & SONG
ST MARK'S CELEBRATES
 CANADA 150




4:30 pm Parish Tea Party & Entertainment
 wear your maple leaf – red and white
 tickets: 150 dimes (\$15) - children under 12 - free


Safe and Happy Summer

Sundays in Summer
9:00 am service
 July 2 to September 3
inclusive


Tuesdays in Summer
7:30 pm Prayer & Praise - Choir room

Welcome Back - September

September 10	regular worship time
Holy Eucharist	8:00 am
Sung Eucharist	10:00 am
September 17	
Parish Breakfast	8:45 am
September 24	
Parish BBQ	12 noon



Induction Eucharist
Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling
 September 27, 2017 - 7:00pm
 Bishop John Chapman - presiding



St Mark's Roll Call

<p>Births Brayden - grandson for Maria Padin Braylee - granddaughter for Ray Davidson Karter - grandson for James & Carmen great-grandson for Lorne & Veda</p> <p>Baptism Gemma Kelly Cruickshank daughter of Adam Cruickshank & Ashley Lauzon</p>	<p>New Parishioners Rev Jessica & Vance Bolling, Liam & Kyle</p> <p>Moves Rev Jim Roberts</p> <p>Deaths George Foster Rev Noel Payton</p>
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 Anglican Church of Canada

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Mark This Word is published 3 or 4 times a year.
 It is available in various formats:

- you can have it in hard copy – in black and white
- you can have it sent direct to your e-mail – in colour – contact the office
- you can also view it on-line at
www.stmarksottawa.ca/annex/newsviewsindex.html

Mark This Word is also a blog at
www.stmarksottawa.wordpress.com/
 This gives you weekly/monthly updates, and allows you to add comments, or even opt for delivery to your inbox.