



Mark This Word

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

Issue number 46

Advent 2017



Making a List, Checking it Twice

by Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling

Advent is a time of preparation and waiting for the Christ child to come. I know for me, the preparations for Christmas often take on a frantic quality as I obsess over which gifts to get for whom. Just when I think I'm all set and have everything I need, I think of someone else I should get something for.

Thinking back to the first Christmas, Mary's preparations and waiting would have been quite different. Mary and Joseph were on the move during the last part of her pregnancy. They had to travel to Bethlehem for the census. Heavily pregnant and riding long distances on a donkey does not sound like any fun. Knowing all the complications that can happen even today during pregnancy and birth, it is a miracle that mother and baby ended up safely at the stable.

During my own pregnancies, I tried to get into the relaxed, spiritual side of this great adventure. Each book I read told me to be calm and patient while the great miracle that is pregnancy happened. However, as with my Christmas preparations, I could not find my pregnancy 'zen'. I worried about all the things you could possibly fret over. I made lists upon lists of things that needed to get done before the baby arrived. My nesting took on a feverish and determined tone.

With my son Liam's birth, we were very prepared. We had 10 extra days to get things ready! Baby and I were both happy to keep things the same, not knowing what the future would be like together. When I was pregnant with Kyle, I knew what to expect. I had my list of things that needed to be done before the birth day. Kyle came the very night that I disinfected the crib – the last thing on my list!

My advice for you, during Advent, is to try to find the patience and calm amid the rushed atmosphere around you. Make a list of all the things you think you should



be doing this Christmas, and then try to pare it down to a more manageable size. At the heart of Advent is a call to ponder the miracle of God's son coming into the world to save sinners. Our life in Christ came about on that first Christmas morn. To find the spiritual amazement of the season we will need to pay attention to the growing desire in our hearts to find God's peace in this world and in our hearts. The yearning for God to be among us, as our Saviour and Redeemer, is what Advent is about. We wait and watch for God's saving grace to spring into new life in the here and now, just as it did in Bethlehem.

Blessings for Advent and Christmas

May your Christmas to-do list be less hectic than it was last year. May God's peace speak to you through the images of Advent as we hear how Jesus came into the world to save sinners. May the light of Christ brighten any darkness that surrounds you and bring you calm amid the storms of the season.

Advent 'to do' list

1. Light a candle, take a deep breath
2. Read over the Advent Readings (*see below*)
3. Spend time with family and friends
4. Watch and pray for signs of new birth all around us



Advent Readings for your reflection:

1st Sunday of Advent, December 3:
Isaiah 64:1-9, Mark 13:24-37

2nd Sunday of Advent, December 10:
Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

3rd Sunday of Advent, December 17:
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, John 1:6-8, 19-28

4th Sunday of Advent, December 24:
Luke 1:26-38, Mary's Song (Luke 1:46-55)



Rev Jessica's Induction

On Wednesday, September 27, the Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling officially became the rector of St Mark's parish. Bishop John Chapman presided and the Venerable Chris Dunn, Archdeacon of Ottawa West, preached. We had a good turnout of parishioners, Jessica's family and visitors, including half a dozen clergy, in attendance. Thank you to everyone who helped make the induction service a blessed evening.

The following thank you note from Rev Jessica was put in the bulletin on October 1st.

Heartfelt Thanks

I would like to thank all the volunteers for helping with the reception, those who brought in food to share and especially Georgia Roberts for organizing it. A special thank you to all the presenters and lay people who took part in the service, as well as Ariane and the choir who led the beautiful music. Thank you to the Mother's Union for helping to tidy up the church before the Induction service. To the Altar Guild and Penny Miller for arranging for such beautiful flowers! My deepest thanks to Joy Bowerman who made the beautiful white chasuble and hand stitched the gold cross and emblems on the front. It will be wonderful to wear it at the upcoming baptisms and other occasions. Thank you to Margaret Lodge who took pictures to capture this event. Thank you to Paul Greer for moving the pews so that there would be enough space for all of our guests. Thank you to Bruce Lodge, Cynthia Greer and Joy Bowerman who helped me organize all the details of this special service.



Thanksgiving Sunday: Chisomo Nguluwe's baptism and the wearing and blessing of the new chasuble



Mark This Word

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

MTW e-mail delivery in 2018

In 2014 we asked you to sign-up to receive Mark This Word - your quarterly newsletter - in full colour by e-mail. A few signed up, but many didn't.

To help save the environment and to cut ever-increasing mailing costs, we are again encouraging those with e-mail to sign up to receive their newsletters electronically.

By becoming part of the church e-mail list you will also receive monthly information about special events.

Those without e-mail will continue to receive the black and white paper version.

So please join the e-mail list for your next MTW in **COLOUR!** email the office at stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca



Nothing is impossible ... with prayer The birth of St Mark's E-prayer – 10 years later

by Margaret Lodge, E-prayer Co-ordinator

St Mark's E-prayer was literally born as the result of a pregnancy. Using e-mail, a group of parishioners prayed in support of a family through a difficult pregnancy, weeks of anticipation, followed by joyous celebration for the early but safe delivery of ... OUR babies.

In 2007, as the unofficial e-mail-list-compiler of the parish, I was asked in a very informal way to share news of parishioners and friends, and to pass on their requests for prayers, with my St Mark's e-mail contacts. That fall I was approached to continue this service on a more formal basis, augmenting the prayers already being offered at St Mark's. I spoke with a number of people for their support in this venture. In November, St Mark's E-prayer was officially born.

We prayed for the young and the old. We gave thanks for health. We especially prayed for life, and two very traumatic events that happened that year.

In the spring we started praying for Kate and Steve Close and their unborn twins. Early in the pregnancy they were told the twins were Mono Mono - identical twins who shared the same amniotic sac within the uterus - a rare and very high risk condition.

Over months and weeks, through e-mails, we offered up our concerns to God. This was followed by joyous celebration and thanksgiving in September for the early but safe delivery of what we had come to know as ... OUR babies - Madeline and Penelope. On September 17, 2007, I was able to send out the official announcement: *Madeline Ena Close was born at 10:20 am weighing 1700 grams (3 lb 12 oz). Penelope Mary Close was born at 10:22 am weighing 1729 grams (3 lb 13 oz). The girls are in the special care nursery at the Civic Hospital, receiving excellent care. Mom is recovering at the hospital as well. Steve, Kate, Jeremy, and girls.*

On November 5, about their expected due date, we welcomed the twins to St Mark's.



Ten years later we all know our babies Penelope (left) and Madeline as Poppy and Maddy.

As Maddy's t-shirt says, **'nothing is impossible'** ... especially with prayer.

AMEN to that!



It was in June of 2007 that we started praying for Fred Graham, our former choir director (1970-75). His was an on-going drama as he returned to life following the transplant of a live liver donated by his daughter Jessica.

Fred was fighting progressive Sclerosing Cholangitis. Many of his students and friends offered living tissue, but in the end, it was 31-year old Jessica who had the appropriate DNA to supply 65 per cent of her liver, enabling her dad to return to life. Fred was out of work for eight months; Jessica suffered months of pain because of the invasive nature of the transplant.

By 2008, both were back in the mainstream of life, which for Fred included establishing Canada's first and only Master of Sacred Music Program at the Toronto School of Theology.

After his retirement from the University, he joined the staff of Eglington St. George's United Church as minister of music, and for a period of time, as Lead Minister, preaching once a month. More recently, he has provided interim music and preaching at various congregations in southern Ontario and is a Licensed Lay Leader. He was recently honoured by the Hymn Society in the US and Canada for his contribution to hymn editing, and tune composition.

Jessica lives in the USA, doing part-time studies at the University of Delaware. Fred lives with his wife Melva in a retirement community in Guelph.

Jessica and Fred



So today I'm giving thanks for two miracles of life and prayer, and to all who have been part of our E-prayer team these past 10 years, and I think of the wisdom of the late Sheila Vaudrey. When we were praying for her as she battled cancer, she called prayer the 'Power of the Plus':

**Positive Attitude + Faith in God
= Unbeatable Combination**

She said she gave "full credit to God, with assistance from all of those lovely folks" who upheld her in prayer.

AMEN to that, too!



Voicing praises for 50 years

by Brenda Zanin

Every now and then, St Mark's choir will offer up an anthem with a solo line or two, and when that solo comes from the bass section, the congregation is treated to the rich, sonorous voice and crisp diction of chorister Raymond Davidson – known to most as Ray. Some may be surprised to learn that Ray is the longest serving chorister, and has been a member of our choir for an impressive 50 years!



Singing has played a big part in Ray's life right back to his childhood in Saint John, NB, where he spent many a happy session in his grandfather's parlour singing old hymns accompanied by the family's pump organ. He first participated in a church choir in that city's historic Stone Church, on the invitation of a friend of his mother's. "I was very lucky to get involved," he recalls, as his participation meant trips all over the province, performing in the boys' choir.

Ray, with his wife Patricia, moved to Ottawa in 1956 to start a career with the federal government, and started a family in the St Mark's parish area. In 1966, one of his neighbours asked him to join St Mark's men and boys' choir, and "I said I'd give it a try." Five decades later, he's still here!



Ray shares his vocal skills in many other places as well. He's been part of the Canadian Centennial Choir, Musica Viva Singers, Cranmer Singers, St Barnabas' evensong choir, and, once a month, he sings at St Vincent's. "It's a real blessing to be able to sing," Ray says. "I love interacting with people [in a choir] with a common purpose. It's lots of fun."



Our newest junior chorister - Jessica



Jessica Robinson, pictured centre, is our newest junior chorister. After months as a probationer, she received her white surplice in September. Congratulations Jessica.

St Mark's Eucharist Ministry at the Civic Hospital



On Monday, October 30 the Ottawa Civic Hospital held a special ceremony to honour several hundred employees and volunteers who had reached milestones in their service. Among those honorees were St Mark's own **Sheila Pitt** and **Brenda Zanin**, who were recognized for 10 and 15 years respectively as volunteers.

On the fifth Sunday of any month with five Sundays, Sheila and Brenda attend the hospital chapel service, and then bring bedside communion to Anglican patients who have put in a request. It's a responsibility shared by volunteers from several other churches in the diocese, each with their assigned Sunday. Patients participate in a short service with prayers, and receive the consecrated host as part of their healing experience. Volunteers also take the opportunity to hear their prayer concerns and share the lectionary readings of the day during their visit.



Children's Card Ministry

by Kate Greer-Close

How can a child continue Christ's work?

Our St Mark's children are quick to find ways. They know that at Christmas and Easter they decorate cookies (thanks to St Mark's bakers!) for those who don't have happy homes. They know that we raise money through our Advent wreath sales and our Lenten boxes to help those nearby and in other countries who need food, clothing and hope for their futures.

And right here at home, our children love to reach out and share their love by making cards for their church family. Several times through the year, we decorate cards for parishioners (with Margaret Lodge as our card designer!). These parishioners may be ill, or unable to attend church, or lonely or have suffered a loss, or they may just be someone the children want to reach out to! The cards even travel to the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre, with our Friday volunteers, and into the hands of grateful recipients. With Cynthia Greer's help, all of these cards are shared, and the love that went into them is shared too.



We have received so many thanks from those touched by this ministry. We know it is Christ's love in action, touching those who give, as well as those who receive.



Advent Wreaths:
kits available through
the Church School



Vitality: THANK YOU everyone

by Margaret Lodge, Membership/Vitality

The Vitality Working Group has come to the end of its third year of FUN-raising. During the past two years, Parish Council asked the group to take on an extra initiative – FUND-raising. Keeping the FUN in FUN(d)raising was our main approach in whatever we did. As in the previous years, we had a mixture of meals and entertainment for which we charged admission, but we also presented activities that were just fun with no real dollar gain in sight. Even the work part of it was a lot of fun!

- **April - St Mark's Evensong and Supper:** What started out as a lunch for St Mark's patronal festival became a farewell Evensong and supper for 120 people that marked the retirement of Rev Jim Roberts – Fr Jim – with guests from his former parish in Smiths Falls.
- **April - Card Party:** This lunch and bridge fund-raiser event drew nearly 100 card players from around Ottawa.
- **May - Capital Chordettes:** Vitality's first FUND-raiser of the year featured an Ottawa ladies' choir and a musical evening in four-part harmony.
- **May - Clean-up day:** A lively team made our church sparkle – hard work but a great example of community in action!
- **June - Big Give / Doors Open Ottawa:** Generosity and history came together as we opened our hearts and doors to the greater community. It was a weekend of hard work but also of tremendous enjoyment.
- **June - Church Yard Sale:** Our efforts for this event were well worth it, socially and financially.
- **June - Canada 150 concert and tea:** 110 people came for our major FUN and FUND-raiser for the year - what a wonderful way to celebrate Canada's special birthday.
- **October - Songs for the Soul 2:** Participants enjoyed an afternoon of songs and spirituality, run jointly between the Choir and Vitality. This event was purely a community builder for the parish.
- **October - Valley Men in concert:** This was our last FUND-raiser for 2017, a fun afternoon with a real mixture of music.

We took on the challenge to raise \$5000, and raised \$5600. We are so grateful for the amazing support from you, our church family, and also from the greater community through the non-parish concerts. All these events have drawn in not just our own parishioners but friends and outsiders too. Together, we reached out to nearly 500 people.

Teamwork is an important part of the Vitality Group, but it would be impossible for five or six people to do alone. We are grateful to all parishioners who have supported and participated in so many different ways, attending, donating, baking, cleaning up, not just for these events but for everything that our church does to help make St Mark's a vibrant, vital community within a greater community.

THANK YOU!



Brief Financial Update

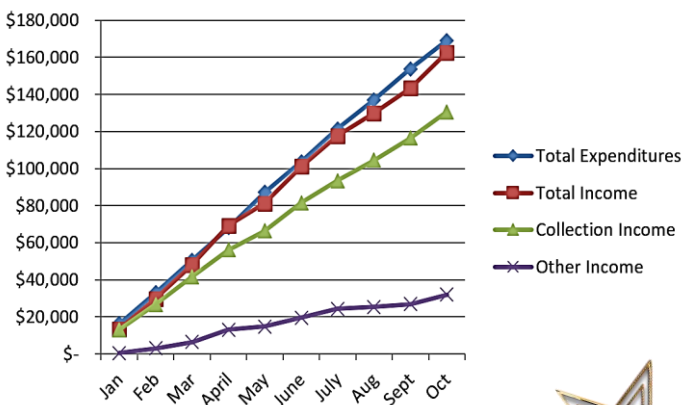
by Georgia Roberts, Treasurer

The 2017 financial figures to the end of October for St Mark's are now available.

As can be seen in the graph below, our total income and total expenditures have tracked each other closely over the year.

While expenditures have hovered a little higher than income, the difference (which was just over \$6500 to date) has been much smaller than expected from the deficit budget passed at Vestry in February. This is due to careful spending, generous giving, and higher-than-expected income from such sources as fundraising and rents.

The importance of parishioners' giving is also illustrated in the graph, where collection income represents a large proportion of our total income. However, income from other sources (such as fundraising, rent, and solar) is still an essential component of our financial well-being.



Keep up the good work!



2018 Financial Stewardship Campaign

by Bruce Lodge, Rector's Warden & Campaign Chair
Karen Roberts, Envelope Secretary

The campaign report is still a work-in-progress, as some data must be reanalysed to achieve a proper comparison with pledges from the previous 2016 campaign. A supplementary report will be published as soon as the work is completed.

In 2016 we received 50 forms.

In the 2018 campaign we received 34 forms, with 26 being from individuals/households that also submitted forms in 2016. The 34 individuals/households that submitted forms during the 2018 campaign gave 44% of all the envelope/PAR donations for 2016 (the last year for which we have complete records). The pledges provided by these 34 individuals/households represent a 19% increase over their 2016 giving totals.

Of the 24 individuals/households that submitted forms in 2016 but not in 2018, three have left or passed away. The remaining 21 contributed 16.5% of the total envelope/PAR givings for 2016.

Although we do not have forms from all parishioners, we are optimistic that the information provided by the 2018 campaign, supplemented by the 2016 campaign figures, will provide a good basis for the finance committee to set the 2018 budget.

Overall we feel the campaign just ended has been very successful, and augurs well for the financial stability of St Mark's.

THANK YOU for your continuing support.



Service

STEWARDSHIP
A way of life

by Michael Perkin, Stewardship

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no "brief candle" for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

George Bernard Shaw

This is one of my favourite quotes. When I was working with the military, it got a prominent place on the wall of my office. It generated quite a few discussions about service, and in the military context, these usually revolved around duty, dedication and fortitude, but sometimes they extended to discussions about sacrifice.

November is an appropriate time to think of the ultimate sacrifices people made in times of war and conflict. I had the privilege to attend a Remembrance Day service when I was in Kandahar. We gathered at the boardwalk, military men and women from around the world, civilian support personnel and Afghan advisers. In all, there were over a thousand people. We assembled to the sound of a military band, a lone bugler and a dozen Blackbird helicopters protecting the perimeter. We gathered to remember our fallen and the service and sacrifice of others.



Now that I am retired, I don't have those conversations any more, but I do have more opportunities to experience service. I took a year to decide what I wanted to do in retirement. I did some soul searching, some researching and Bible searching. Jesus became and continues to be my perfect example of service. Modeling his life of service helped me decide to use whatever talents I had to benefit charities. I confess that I take great joy out of volunteering my time. We all serve in a myriad of ways. Some are so natural we don't even think about it: opening a door for someone, listening to a troubled friend or cooking dinner for the family. We also volunteer at church, in our community and in the world. We give of ourselves and our talents but we also sacrifice our time in the service of others.

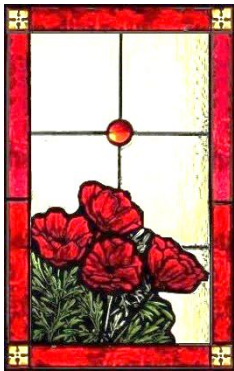
I leave you with two verses from Hymn 584, The Church of Christ in Every Age. It was one of the hymns sung at the Bishop's charge to Synod and also the foundation for the Primate's reflection to the full Synod. The following two verses seemed to speak to me particularly about service;

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord; to care for all, without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

A special circle of friends

Post-war Ottawa saw the formation of new veteran communities, including our area of Carleton Heights in 1947. With new homes, new neighbours and new friendships came new needs. All of this came together with one connection – having survived the war.



The new homeowners were mostly young, with children. Schools were needed. Sunday schools were important too, and they started in a small school house at Dynes and Prince of Wales.

People were also seeking places of worship. To work towards this, on January 31, 1949, the first inter-denominational congregation met in Carleton Heights school, where people worshiped together with ministers from the Anglican, United, Baptist, Presbyterian and Salvation Army churches taking turns leading the services.

This is how the neighbourhood prayed together.

Then in October 9, 1949 an unnamed Anglican parish held its first Anglican communion service. The United Church neighbours established their own congregation, which became official a year later. Both built their respective churches in 1954. These were to become the churches of St Mark's and Carleton Memorial United.



A year earlier, in 1953, the Catholic community established an Augustinian monastery on Baseline Road, which later became St Augustine's church.

Seventy years later, this past November 8, 2017, St Mark's held a Remembrance Eucharist service and lunch for our seniors. Among the 50 who attended were seven special guests from our neighbouring church Carleton Memorial, joining us in fellowship and remembrance.

The invitation to Carleton Memorial was also extended as a possible lead in to the New Ministry Initiative/Exploration program (see Outreach, p.8).

We welcomed our neighbours, and hoped they felt at home, and that in the future we can work together for and in the community -- an extension of our circle of neighbours and friends with one faith. *ML*

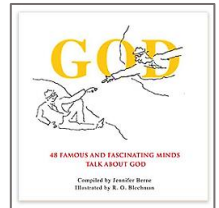


Parish Library

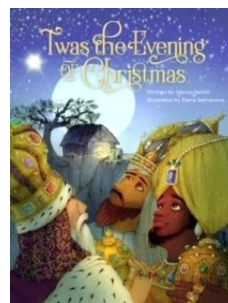
by Betty Caughlin, Parish Librarian

GOD, compiled by Jennifer Berne and illustrated by R.O. Blechman, 2017

Here we find "famous and fascinating" quotes about God from "48 of the world's most interesting minds – from Galileo to Einstein, Rumi to Pope Francis, Helen Keller to Maya Angelou". Each thought is beautifully illustrated. Look for this book in the centre unit of the Parish Library in Bishop Reed Hall.



'Twas the Evening of Christmas, written by Glenys Nellist and illustrated by Elena Selivonia, 2017



"'Twas the evening of Christmas, When all through the town, Every inn was so crowded, No room could be found," begins this re-telling of the biblical story about the birth of Jesus. The words are engaging and the illustrations are awe-inspiring, the message eternal. Look for this book in the third unit of the Parish Library in Bishop Reed Hall.

Please note that you can borrow books from our Parish Library simply by signing the Sign Out card that you'll find inside the front cover and placing this card in the Sign Out box found in the centre unit. When you return the book, find the Sign Out card, replace it in the book and put the book back on the shelf. The borrowing period is three weeks.



Outreach

by Laurie Slaughter

Welcoming and Sharing Sunday:

For the second year, on October 22, St Mark's held a Welcoming and Sharing Sunday. Parishioners were encouraged to attend and to welcome guests if they were not able to bring one themselves. Following our service a beautiful mini-luncheon hosted by our Parish Council replaced our usual coffee hour, and around Bishop Reed Hall, 14 of our committees and church groups created table and wall displays describing what each group does. Everyone made a real effort, worthy of all our members' support. It is a special opportunity to ask someone to come to church with us for one day, experience our welcoming atmosphere and share our worship and contributions, through church work, to the community. We hope more people will come on future Sundays so we can highlight our church in a time of diminishing population/membership. Many thanks to the members of Parish Council for good food, to all the St Mark's groups who made the displays and to Rev Jessica for her wholehearted support and enthusiasm.



Debra Dynes:

Shortly after working on Welcoming and Sharing Sunday, our own Georgia Roberts, a member of the Debra Dynes Family House Board, plus Penny Miller and myself, worked to set up for the 'Soupalicious' fundraising event. Penny and I took on the job of decorating the tables. The event is held each year at Carleton Heights Community Centre, and local restaurants present a medley of soups, created with the freshest locally grown ingredients. Helping is our way of supporting the DDFH Board's efforts to fundraise for needed items. It is always a pleasure to be part of this event. Many thanks to the members of St Mark's who attended to support Debra Dynes and enjoyed the evening. Throughout the year, St Mark's continues to provide a variety of items and funds for their needs.

New Ministry Initiative/Exploration:

Since the last newsletter, members of this committee have met with community workers in the seniors' outreach/ services field.

Georgia Roberts has met with Brad Spooner from NROCRC (Nepean, Rideau, Osgoode Community Resource Centre) who shares our interest in helping seniors in the area. He suggested that we meet with Zeba Taj, a coordinator/facilitator of seniors' outreach at several sites.

Rev Jessica and Georgia met with Zeba in October. She is enthusiastic about our offer of space for seniors' services. She has set up a twice-monthly outreach program at Stirling Place, where community seniors can socialize and participate in various activities, to counteract senior isolation. Other sites with similar programs are Tanglewood and Manordale community centres. Zeba would be very willing to help establish a site at our church. Funding would be needed to cover expenses, but we can apply for several grants if we design a concrete plan upon which the membership of St Mark's agrees. Georgia and Rev Jessica met with Brad Spooner and volunteers from the Manordale and Tanglewood programs to learn more about grants offered by the Social Planning Council of Ottawa and some possibilities for collaborating.

Rev Jessica also spoke with municipal councillor Keith Egli at a Parkwood Hills Stakeholders' Association meeting. He recommended we meet with his seniors' staff member.

The committee will explore these connections and draft an implementation plan for the consideration of Parish Council and the membership.

St Mark's Roll Call

Baptisms	Chisomo Nguluwe Karter James Scott Duggan
Deaths	Veda Kelly

May God's blessings be with you and your loved ones throughout the coming year



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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.



Weekly Schedules	
Mondays	
9:00 am	Slim & Trim - Hall
6:30 pm	Cubs - St Rita's
Tuesdays	
6:30 pm	Beavers - St Rita's
7:30 pm	Prayer & Praise - Choir Room
	third Tuesday Prayers for Healing - Chapel (see <i>Quiet Christmas December 12</i>)
Wednesdays	
9:00 am	Slim & Trim - Hall
7:00 pm	Scouts - St Mark's or St Rita's
Thursdays	
9:00 am	Slim & Trim - Hall
6.15 pm	Junior Choir
7:00 pm	Senior Choir
Fridays	
10:30 am	Eucharist - Perley Rideau
Monthly Schedules	
1st Sunday	12 noon Prayer Shawl
1st Monday	12 noon Circle 2
1st Thursday	7:00 pm Scout Group
2nd Wednesday	7:30 pm Parish Council
4th Tuesday	1:00 pm Mothers' Union

Advent & Christmas 2017



December 3	8:00 am	Advent 1
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist
	4:30 pm	Sung Eucharist
		Lessons & Carols for Advent followed by light supper
December 6	10:00 am	Advent Windows reflection and art making / lunch
December 10	8:00 am	Advent 2
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist
		Sung Eucharist
December 12	7:00 pm	Quiet Christmas a time for healing prayer and remembering those who have died
December 17	8:00 am	Advent 3
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist
		Lessons & Carols for Christmas with Eucharist
December 24	8:00 am	Advent 4
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist
		Church School Pageant with Eucharist
December 24	4:30 pm	Christmas Eve
	8:30 pm	Family Service with Eucharist
	9:00 pm	Carol singing
		Christmas Eucharist
December 25	10:00 am	Christmas Day
		Christmas Eucharist

**St Mark's
Advent Giving Tree 2017**

Every year the small tree in the corner of the church near St Mark's window becomes our Advent Giving Tree. You are invited to help 'decorate' it with your gifts for those in need in our diocese. Each week of Advent we have a different gift suggestion.

Week 1
November 26
Personal Toiletries
wash cloths, soaps,
toothbrushes, toothpaste,
shampoo, conditioner,
deodorant, combs,
hand/body lotion,
disposable razors

Week 2
December 3
hats, mitts,
knitted or otherwise,
scarves, slippers,
for all ages

Week 3
December 10
socks, underwear,
undershirts,
for all ages and all sizes
men, women,
and children

Week 4
December 17
Operation Come Home
drink boxes, fruit bars,
granola bars, bottled water,
small treats



they saw the child with
mary his mother, and
they bowed down and
worshipped him

December 17-10:00 am
Lessons and Carols
with Eucharist

December 24 -10:00 am
Church School Pageant
with Eucharist



Calendar of Events



Advent Lessons & Carols
Watching for the Light: a service of scripture and music to prepare for the coming of our Saviour
December 3, 2017 - 4:30pm
 followed by light supper



Advent Windows
 a time of reflection and art making on when darkness gives birth to Light
 led by Rev Dr Linda Privitera
Wednesday December 6, 2017
10am - 2pm
 Registration: church office 613-224-7431 - \$10 per person
 lunch provided



Quiet Christmas Service
December 12, 2017 - 7:00pm
*a time for those who find Christmas a difficult time to come and worship
 a time for healing prayer
 a time to remember those who have died replacing the regular Prayer and Praise service*

2018



Creche Sunday
January 7, 2018

Bring your favourite nativity scene and share

Parish Breakfast
January 14, 2018
*same good food,
 same good fellowship,
 same time - 8:45 am*



SAVE the DATE




Vision for St Mark's future
 share your thoughts about our church and how we can grow into our future together
SAVE the DATE January 28, 2018
9:00 am Joint Eucharist
 10:30 am Visioning discussion + lunch



St Mark's Annual Pancake Supper Shrove Tuesday
February 13, 2018
 continuous sittings from 5-7pm

LENT



ASH Wednesday
February 14
 Imposition of Ashes
 10:00 am & 7:00 pm
 remember you are dust and to dust you shall return

Wednesdays in Lent
February 21 - March 28
 10:00 am & 7:30 pm
 a time of fellowship, focus and study

Lenten Study on the 5 Marks of Mission:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth