



Mark This Word

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

Issue number 54

Advent 2019

Preparing the Way

With the arrival of Fr Julian on November 1, our journey through the wilderness has come to an end! Fortunately, unlike Moses and the Israelites, St Mark's did not endure 40 years of aimless wandering. Instead, we were blessed with the special gifts of several extraordinary individuals (see below), who helped us navigate an uncertain period following Rev Jessica's serious health challenge back in September 2018. We are deeply grateful for their presence, guidance and love. Now, we look forward to making the acquaintance of Fr Julian, and to learning and growing together under God's guiding hand.

We welcome Fr Julian into our parish family as we all journey to our Promised Land.

BZ

Priests we've known and loved

by Cynthia Greer

Pauline Adams and I, your wardens, thank you for your patience during what seemed like a constant change of priests since Fr Brian Kauk left in July of 2016. This is the roster, in case you have trouble recalling who was here when!

- Summer of 2016: Rev Rhondda McKay and others
- September 2016 to April 2017: Fr Jim Roberts
- May 2017 to September 2018: Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling
- September 2018 to February 2019: Bishop Peter Coffin
- February to October 2019: Fr Rob Davis
- November 2019: Fr Julian Campbell

For all of us, this was a time not only of constant change, but of uncertainty for our future and a lack of knowledge about what was happening.

Many of us were saddened when Fr Jim had to leave for health reasons just shy of a year, especially as he had been with us during his training and Bruce Lodge and the late Dena Burley had been his mentors.



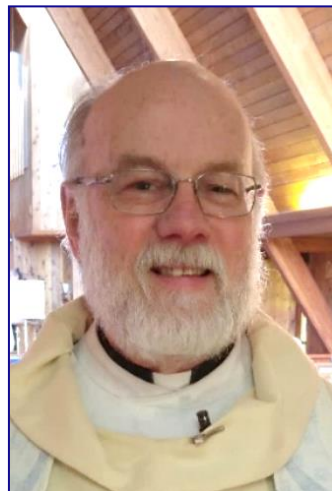
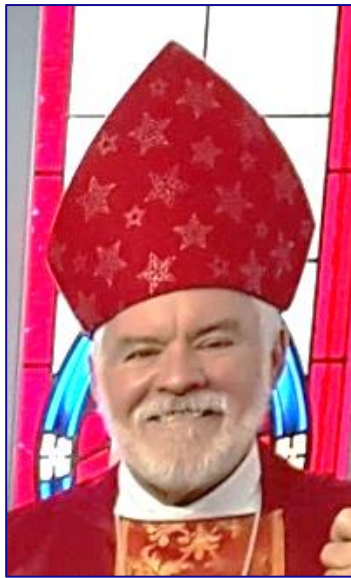
We were heartened to see a young person with a family come on board in the form of Rev Jessica, whom many of us had known as a young child of the rectory at St Mark's. We had great hopes



after our visioning exercise in April of 2018. Unfortunately, due to her serious health issues, Jessica was unable to walk that road with us.

Rev Rhondda McKay helped out during this period until Bishop Peter Coffin became our interim priest in charge.

The church school children eventually saw who a Bishop was, especially when he wore his regalia for them once. We were sorry to see him go, and wondered who could possibly replace him and help us along our faith journey.



Fr Julian Campbell arrived November 1, to become our full time incumbent.

And so we say, Father, you have some very big shoes to fill, but judging by your first homily, and early days at your enjoyable book study, we are looking forward to a stable period of growth and learning together.

God bless you as you start your journey with us.

We found out very fast that Fr Rob was a wonderful replacement, and were very upset to find suddenly that he was leaving us physically, but not in our hearts.

Thus we arrive where we are now.

Thus we arrive where we are now.



Embarking on a new journey together



Fr E. Julian Campbell, BA, BEd, MPhil

All Saints' Day 2019 marked the beginning of a new season for St Mark's Church. On this day our new journey began as I am now the incumbent of the parish. With that backdrop in mind, it is only fitting that I give you a snippet of my life.

I was born and raised on Cat Island, Bahamas. It is there that I was baptized and confirmed at St Andrew's Anglican Church, Arthur's Town. Upon completion of high school, I journeyed to Nassau, the capital of The Bahamas.

In Nassau, my involvement deepened by being involved in renewal movements, youth ministry and lay ministry. Simultaneously, I studied at the College of the Bahamas which qualified me to be a Trained Teacher of Language Arts.

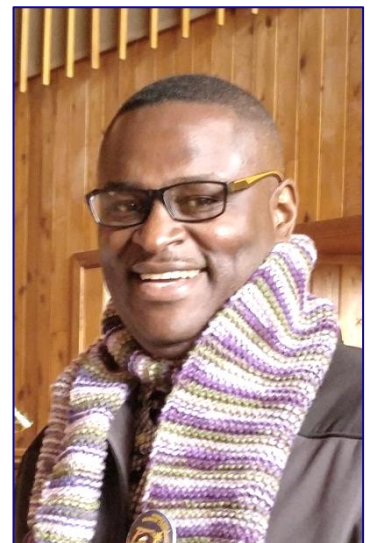
After years of contemplation, I tested my vocation to the sacred priesthood in 2004 at Codrington Anglican Theological College and the University of the West Indies, Barbados. At the culmination of studies, I worked in the dioceses of North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba, Barbados and Bahamas. Working in these dioceses were rewarding. It afforded me the opportunity to exercise honed skills by alternating between lecturing and being in parish ministry.

Personally, I am from a large family of once 14 siblings of which I am one of a set of twins. At a very early age our parents instilled in us the virtues of community-building, communication and speaking on behalf of the voiceless. These virtues are still treasured.

As we embark on this new journey, I hope it will be a time of sharing, openness and creativity. In due time there will be great sharing as I get to know each of you more personally. Let us allow the Lord to do a new thing in us. Openness brings growth which then is fertile ground for the Holy Spirit's work. I close by giving you my hashtag for the journey: #creativity:openness:energy#

May we all seek to be renewed saints for this journey!!!

+ Fr Julian



MTW Issue 53 page 2
Guardians of the Garden
In the article on St Mark's gardens and gardeners, Joyce Dunn was mistakenly identified as donating the Navy Lady roses in the link garden. The roses were donated by the late Ruth Werbin. While Joyce helped with the gardens, she is, in fact, proudly Air Force.



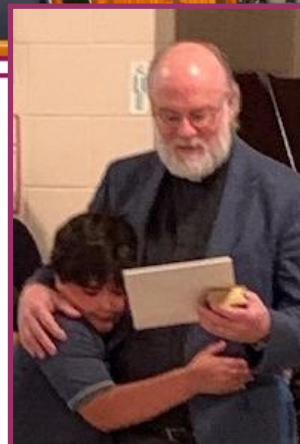
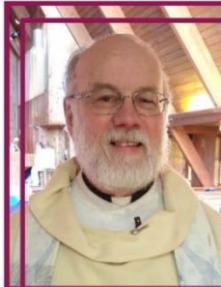
We came back, and stayed a while

I heard a story once: The boy had been walking for a long time and his journey was only half done. The snow was deep and the church was still far away. As he stopped to rest in a doorway a stranger asked, "Where are you going, son?" "Going to Dr. Moody's church," replied the boy. The stranger asked, "Why do you walk past all these other churches to go to his church?" "Because they really know how to love a fellow down there," shouted the child as he went on his way.

They really know how to love. That was what made the difference for Cathy and me the Sunday we showed up in St Mark's some forty years ago. We were immediately welcomed and made to feel as if we had come home after a long time away. Members talked to us, welcomed us, introduced us to the priest, David Stalter, showed us into the coffee hour, and several even asked whether we might like to join the choir! So we came back, and stayed a while, and our lives were changed.

The truth of it is that it is always the love, of and in the community, that makes a difference. Theology is important. Preaching, music, and facilities are all important. But none have the impact that love has on people's lives. Tertullian, one of the very early leaders of the Church, did not say that the pagans would notice our fine liturgy, or our marvellous buildings, our great teaching, or even our virtuous lives. He wrote that they would say, "Look how these Christians love one another!" as if it were something strange and unusual. Which it is, really. This is a beautiful world filled with wonders of every sort. But there is never as much love as needed. There are far too many among us who are lonely, afraid, and worried; far too many who are literally dying for lack of love.

So as I come to the end of this, my second time among you, I thank you all for the love you have shown me through these nine months. And thank you for the



St Mark the Evangelist

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Ode to Fr Rob

by Brenda Zanin

presented in full voice by St Mark's Choir
to the tune of "Red River Valley"

to
The Venerable Rob Davis
St Mark's, Ottawa - October 27, 2019

From our midst we have learned you are leaving,
And it's left us all feeling quite blue,
By this time we had started believing
You'd be with us a month more, or two.

Here's a man who is seldom complaining,
And he thinks in such positive ways,
When it's cold and torrentially raining,
He'll declare "What a beautiful day!"

Few forget when the whole congregation
Blew balloons up and then let them go,
What a brilliant and fun demonstration
That the Spirit can set us aglow!

We all pray that this Spirit will guide you
As your path takes you far from this place,
May you feel all our fondness inside you
As our Lord blesses you with His grace.



farewell party, the Ode, the shawl, the wonderful card from the Parish and all the other cards and gifts that will continue to remind me of that love (you can never have too many reminders at my age!).

And my prayer is that by God's grace you continue to grow in your love for each

other and for every stranger who comes through your doors. May you continue to be a place of blessing and one where lives are changed, a very tangible expression of the Kingdom of God.

With my love and gratitude.

+ Fr Rob Davis



St Mark's: 70 years young and many days of blessings

by Margaret Lodge

October 9, 2019 marked the 70th anniversary of the first Anglican communion service in what became the parish of St Mark's. It was held at Carleton Heights School. For five years our services and Sunday school classes were held at the school, until our church was built until 1954.

On October 6, we held a special Eucharist service using the Book of Common Prayer and the music of Merbecke as in the earlier days. This was followed by a parish lunch.

It was not only St Mark's anniversary, but we also had four couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries.



Congratulations to Rachel & Mathai Joseph, Karen & Bill Barber, Cynthia & Paul Greer, and Coralie & Gerry Sheehan

The week before the parish celebration, Fr Rob blessed the church's new Little Free Library and the new kitchen.



For those who use the entrance to the office or choir, you might have noticed that the paving has been tweaked. Thanks goes to Fr Rob, and his brother Guy, who managed to pull it together in his last week.

Who said kneeling and prayer didn't work?

Parish raises funds for school

As part of the celebration of this 70-year milestone, St Mark's Mothers' Union decided to sponsor the Carleton Heights School kindergarten playground fund, as a community 'thank you'. A total of \$465 was given to the school in October, from the MU's June picnic (\$145) and September BBQ (\$320), thanks to the continued support of the parish.

Bazaar Weekend

The fall bazaar is always a busy time for the parish. This year it was held on November 2, the day after Fr Julian arrived as our new priest. He was quickly recruited to do the official opening, and even bought a new scarf against the cold!

Joy Bowerman notes the total for the day was \$5,788 but we are up over \$6,000 with sales of soup mixes and turkey pies and the mini bazaar on December 1 is yet to come.

The bake table was sold out!



Sunday November 3 was our chance to officially welcome Fr Julian to St Mark's, with cakes.



On Fr Julian's first Wednesday he started the Fall study program, and the following study day he celebrated his birthday, with more cakes!



November 15: St Mark's ends its 30 year ministry at the Perley

A deep and sincere 'thank you' to our present pastoral group, Helen McGill, Sheila Pitt, Carol Dicks, Pauline Adams, Cynthia and Paul Greer, many giving over 20 years service, and to all who have shared with you in this amazing weekly ministry during the past 30 years. To the young and not so young - God bless you all.

by Cynthia Greer

Many years ago, when Fr Gordon Worden was a young priest new to St Marks, he saw a need for our pastoral care team to have a more formal arrangement with the Perley Hospital on Aylmer Avenue. With this new plan, our team would visit in the hospital on Thursdays, and then on Fridays would help in a Eucharistic service. His wife Leslie played her accordion, and took their daughter Jessica along.

The Junior choir used to walk through the halls singing carols at Christmas.



When the new Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre was built, our team moved out there. That would have been more than 25 years ago. Jackie Sorfleet's husband lived there. For well over 25 years a team has helped clients to and from the Anglican service. This made a lot of sense because we were a Veterans' parish, full of servicemen returning from World War II, and starting their families.

Now we have only a few veterans still in our parish, and the same applies to the Perley. For several years we have asked for more volunteers, but in the end the people helping were in many cases older than the people they were helping!

Very sadly this summer, we realized that we could not continue. We needed seven volunteers at least each week, and there were fewer residents attending services. We had done our best for as long as possible.

Our last service there was on November 15, when we said goodbye. On a personal note, it means we can no longer share the service with Lorne Kelly, who moved there this year. Paul Greer had driven him to St Mark's for a long while, and we were pleased to see him there on a Friday. Lorne is one of our last St Mark's veterans and was able until last year to carry up the wreath on Remembrance Day, which he was proud and humbled to do.



One door closes and another one will open but come what may, the people of St Mark's will be serving God in action in the neighbourhood.

St Mark's Roll Call

New Parishioners Robert Mellon
Joan Hounsell
Robert & Iris Porter
Rev Julian Campbell

Special Anniversaries
St Mark's 70 years as a Parish
50th wedding: Karen & Bill Barber
Cynthia & Paul Greer
Rachel & Mathai Joseph
Coralie & Gerry Sheehan



St Mark's Junior Choir blends its voice

The Junior Chorister 2018-19 awards

Chorister Achievement: Madeline Close & Penelope Close

June Armstrong Chorister: Anabella Martinez-Ball

Dot Kirby Chorister: Jessica Robinson

Congratulations to you all. Jeremy Close is still lead chorister, even though he has also joined the ranks of the Senior choir as a tenor, and Patrick Findlay and James Martinez-Ball complete the present Junior Choir.

We are very proud of our young people, and all the hard work they put into their choral ministry for the parish.

Evensong for All Saints: On Saturday November 2, our junior choir represented St Mark's at a special Youth Choir Evensong for All Saints at St John's, Kanata North. Well done choristers Anabella, James, Jeremy, Patrick, Madeleine and Penelope, who with juniors from St John's and Christ Church Bells Corners, under the baton of guest conductor Kurt Ala-Kantti, led the congregation with the Magnificat and Nunc Dimitis, two choral anthems, and the Diocesan Litany of the Saints, in two and three-part harmony.

Thank you Ariane Dind, our choir director, who also accompanied on the flute, and Kate Greer-Close, junior choir mother and assistant, for all the work you do for our young choristers. ML



Sunday school

by Kate Greer-Close

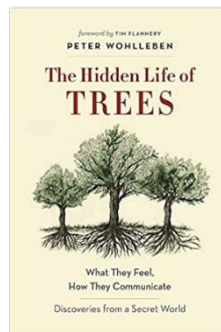
Pageant Sunday December 15: Our Sunday school pageant will be on December 15, Advent 3, during the 10 am service and, as we do at St Mark's, the children will present the story of Jesus' birth in scripture and song. Since we are presenting it a bit earlier than in past years, we will truly be preparing ourselves for his coming, rather than moving right to rejoicing over his birth. I hope that has you all singing "Prepare the Way of the Lord" along with John the Baptist, and preparing room in your hearts for the Prince of Peace. There will be chance for everyone to sing along and room in the pews for friends!

Crèche Sunday January 5: Due to this earlier time frame, the Wise Men may not make much of an appearance at the pageant, but come January 5, we should be ready to welcome them to our crèche display. If you have a crèche, please bring it to create our world tour of crèches, and we'll see what the Sunday school can create to augment our St Mark's collection!



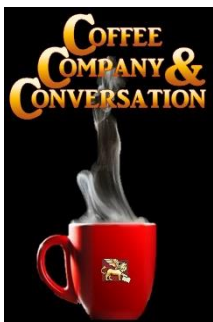
Parish Library

by Betty Caughlin, Parish Librarian



The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben

While in Queensway Carleton Hospital this fall, I welcomed several Spiritual Care visitors, one of whom recommended reading *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben. To share that with people at St Mark's, I'm ordering a copy for our Parish Library. Watch for it in the third book case along the far wall in Bishop Reed Hall. It will be with 'New Additions to the Library'.



Local seniors find a home at CCC

by Laurie Slaughter

When a notice about an upcoming Instant Pot demonstration at Coffee, Company and Conversation appeared in *The Citizen*, the hosts of St Mark's weekly gathering for seniors found

themselves welcoming visitors from across the city. Such is proof of the success this outreach program is experiencing as its second year unfolds.

Community seniors in growing numbers are enjoying our Thursday morning gatherings from 10:00 to 12:00 each week, which offer entertaining and informative features interspersed with less structured days of casual coffee and conversation.

On one morning, our resident dance/seniors fitness instructor, Lionel Doonan, taught steps to enthusiastic attendees. In mid-October, Martha Greatrex and her assistant Carol held the above-mentioned Instant Pot demonstration to a very interested group of 35.



On October 24, from the Bytown Dog Obedience Club, the dog demonstration team of nine dogs entertained, amused and interacted with a delighted group of 45 people.

October 31st was, of course, Halloween, with activities and clever disguises. The CCC regulars and newcomers, some 38 in all, got into the spirit and all were treated to a display of amazing costumes - witches, cats, Dracula, Jack Sparrow the pirate and even two Queens, Elizabeth I and the Queen Mother. People got prizes and enjoyed some scary stories and poems. Each week the number of community and regional attendees grows.



In late November, a speaker from the Council on Aging brings a presentation on "Walking Safely in Winter" and in December, Christmas music and "Christmas Joy", a morning singalong with Joy Bowerman and St Mark's choir members, our last day on December 19, will take us into the holiday season.

The New Year's roster for CCC mornings starts January 30, 2020 and has both new features and favourites from last year, alternating a scheduled theme and mornings with our popular cards and games or just quiet coffee and conversation.

We are so grateful to our faithful St Mark's regulars and their dedicated support. As this program continues to grow and evolve, we are enhancing St Mark's outreach to the community enriching and fulfilling our ministry.

Join us for fellowship and friendship, as well as wonderful coffee/tea and homemade goodies.



*"You will be enriched in every way
for your great generosity"*
2 Corinthians 9:11

We are pleased to submit the preliminary report from the recently completed Fall financial stewardship campaign, Vision 2020.

This is an analysis of completed forms that were submitted. A tallying of the actual pledged amounts is now under way and will be combined with current givings of identifiable givers. This data will be reported later by the Envelope Secretary to Parish Council.

Thirty completed forms were submitted, compared to 34 from the previous campaign. Of these 30, 18 were submitted by parishioners who had previously submitted pledges in each of the previous campaigns, and seven were received from individuals who had never before participated. One new person signed up with PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance), and nine current PAR contributors elected to increase their commitments.

We suggest it would be useful to keep copies of the program documentation from Vision 2020 on hand, and offered them to new parishioners as they sign up to become members of the parish.

Karen Roberts
Envelope Secretary

Bruce Lodge
Coordinator, Vision 2020



Advent & Christmas 2019



December 1 8:00 am 10:00 am	Advent 1 Holy Eucharist Lessons & Carols for Advent with Eucharist
December 8 8:00 am 10:00 am	Advent 2 Holy Eucharist Sung Holy Eucharist
December 15 8:00 am 10:00 am	Advent 3 Holy Eucharist Sung Holy Eucharist with Church School Pageant
December 22 8:00 am 10:00 am	Advent 4 Holy Eucharist Lessons & Carols for Christmas with Eucharist
December 24 4:30 pm 8:30 pm 9:00 pm	Christmas Eve Sung Holy Eucharist Carol singing Sung Holy Eucharist
December 25 10:00 am	Christmas Day Christmas Eucharist



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

Wednesdays

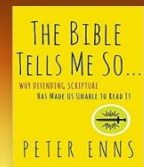
9:00 am Slim & Trim - Hall

Thursdays

9:00 am Slim & Trim - Hall
10:00 am Coffee, Company & Conversation - Hall
6:15 pm Junior Choir
7:00 pm Senior Choir

Monthly Schedules

1st Thursday 7:00 pm Scout Group Committee
2nd Wednesday 7:00 pm Parish Council
4th Tuesday 1:00 pm Mothers' Union



St Mark's Fall Study
Wednesdays at 1:00 pm
December & January dates TBA
'The Bible Tells Me So' by Peter Enns

January 19, 2020 - 4.30 pm

WEEK of PRAYER for CHRISTIAN UNITY 2020

"They showed us unusual kindness" Acts 28:2

Dormition of the Virgin Mary - 1315 Prince of Wales Drive

COFFEE COMPANY & CONVERSATION

WINTER SEASON 2020

a weekly gathering for seniors in the community
coffee, goodies and featured activities

Thursdays 10:00 am to 12 noon
starting January 30, 2020

St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church
1606 Fisher Avenue

For more information, contact St Mark's at: 613 224-7431

St Mark's Annual Pancake Supper

Shrove Tuesday - February 25, 2020

continuous sittings from 5-7pm

2020

Creche Sunday

January 5, 2020

Parish Breakfast

January 19, 2020 - 8:45 am

a time of fellowship



Compilers:
Margaret Lodge
Brenda Zanin
Penny Miller
Rev Julian Campbell

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613-224-7431

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 online 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.

