## St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church 1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

# Weekly Newsletter

Dear friends,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We are continuing the weekly newsletter for the foreseeable future.

#### Shout Outs

If you would like some special occasion like an anniversary or birthday acknowledged in the Sunday service, Fr Julian will be more than happy to announce it. However, it must be into either Father Julian or the office by **Wednesday noon** for it to be included in the service for the following Sunday.

- Fr Julian celebrates his birthday on November 13 – in the Caribbean with his twin!
- Coralie Sheehan is delighted to announce that she is a grandmother! On November 10, Léa was born to Deirdre & Simon. (Also, Coralie is excited that her new fridge is being delivered.)

### Vacation

Father Julian will be on vacation from November 9 through November 30. Canon Rhondda MacKay will be taking the services during this time. Welcome to Rev. Rhondda!

### Upcoming Changes to Worship

On October 22, the Ontario government considerably loosened COVID regulations that would allow parishes to dispense with capacity limits during church services provided that they restrict attendance to those who show proof of full vaccination (or valid medical exemption) and personal ID.

The Diocese is thus asking us to consider carefully 2 different options for each of our services and is urging us to take the time needed to decide what is best for our parish:

Option 1: No proof of vaccination required, but continue with capacity limits and physical

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distancing. Restricted social time after the service is allowed.

Option 2: Require proof of vaccination but possibly loosen up on capacity limits and physical distancing, and having a social time indoors after the service.

Both options still require masking during the service, except when receiving the sacrament.

Based on discussion by both the pandemic team and Corporation the following will be the course of action for St Mark's:

1. Maintain the status quo at both services until December 5, the second Sunday of Advent, when Fr Julian will have returned from vacation. This means that for both services on November 14, 21 and 28 there will be masking, capacity limits, physical distancing, and contact tracing, but no proof of vaccination will be required. Advance registration is advised.

2. Beginning on Dec 5, the 8 am service will remain unchanged, so no proof of vaccination will be required. However, the 10 am service will require proof of full vaccination and personal ID. Physical distancing will still be strongly encouraged.

3. There will be no indoor social time after either service until further notice.

More details of the upcoming changes will be provided as December 5 draws nearer.

#### Livestreaming

The livestream will begin this week at 9:55 with a short act of remembrance

The stream is automatically recorded so it can be watched later and I will add captions before the middle of the week – all things being equal. I have to confess that last week all things were not equal, nothing distressing, just an overload. - Joy

The link for this week's stream is here.

#### **In-person Worship**

In person worship continues at both 8 and 10 am. When you register to attend, please specify which service you would like to attend. Please register ahead of time with the office by calling 613-224-7431 or email <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>

Details of the restrictions in place will be found <u>here</u>.

We will be following the same protocols as we did last September.

- Make sure you are feeling well
- Confirm that you do not have any of the COVID indicators. Questions are on the link door
- Wear a mask
- Sanitize your hands on entry
- Maintain social distancing while in the church and in the pews. (Family groups may sit together); and
- Depart church as quickly as possible after the service.

#### **Office Hours**

The office will be open most Friday mornings from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon. Please call ahead to make sure someone is in.

#### Forward Day by Day

The Forward Day by Day is now available for November through January. Copies are available at the table in the link.

#### **Church Directories**

A new church directory will be printed shortly. If any of your contact information has changed, please notify the office. If you wish to have a copy of the directory, please notify the church office. You many receive the directory in paper or electronic form. To receive a directory, you must have given permission to have your own name printed in the directory.

#### Bazaar

<u>Here</u> is the bazaar order form. Check the order form carefully, there are all sorts of new and exciting things this week. Apple and Cherry Pies will be delivered on Sunday. If you missed ordering, there is still time **BUT** you must order by the end of today, November 12.

I think the full line of baked goods is on offer with a timeline for availability.

There are more types of frozen cookie dough on offer. It is a different supplier than last year and the cookies are smaller so the price is also different from last year. There are six types of cookies and a variety back of 2 dozen cookies with 4 of each type.

There are 150 jars of delicious preserves for you to choose from although some items have sold out. There are a few delicious new additions highlighted in yellow on the order sheet.

Knitted dishcloths are available, although the supplier has changed.

Soup mixes and turkey pies are currently available. (Turkey pies are not on the order form).

A catalogue of Janis's amazing cards is back. New this year are packages of Christmas note cards. They are at the end of the cards section.

Exciting and new this year, we have a catalogue of knitted hats and scarves which you can peruse. There are some lovely luxurious and elegant little scarves, some sturdy scarves and some warm and cozy hats with a double-thickness ear band.

Please contact the office to place your order. Order forms will be available at the table in the link as well. Cynthia Greer and Pauline Adams will be fulfilling the orders. Any orders received during the week will be ready for pick up the following Sunday, or by arrangement with Pauline and Cynthia.

This year you may pay by cash, cheque or etransfer to the church. (See instructions on etransfer below) If you e-transfer, please let the office know so that it can be retrieved from spam, if required.

If you offered to bake for the Cookie Boxes, please have your cookies to Joy by December 10.

If you have any contributions, comments or suggestions, please contact Joy (or the office).

#### **Turkey Pies**

Turkey Pies are now available. They are still \$5.00 each with a limit of 4 pies (unless you are a family of 5). If will be at church on Sunday and you would like turkey pies, you may pick them up by speaking to Cynthia or Pauline. If you will not be at church, you may contact the office at 613-224-7431 or <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u> and place your order. Payment may be made in cash, cheque or by e-transfer to stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca.

#### Puddings

Puddings are now available: 400 grams \$7.00, and 800 grams \$14.00.

To order puddings, please contact Cynthia Greer. There will also be a sign up sheet in the Link. Cynthia will try to give them out on Sundays. Please put the cheque or cash in an envelope with your name on.

Cynthia Greer 613-723-2680 greercynthia69@yahoo.com

#### Safe & Warm for DDFH

DDFH is launching a community outreach event called "Safe and Warm" during the week of November 25. They will be distributing little packages of hats, mitts, gloves, scarves and socks particularly to the children in the community. I am therefore asking any knitters at St Mark's if you are able to help with this project.

Please contact me or Gillian for additional information.

In addition the collection box is still in the Link for food donations.

Joan 613 262-4108. joan.hounsell@gmail.com

#### Ancoura

Ancoura is looking for volunteers to visit the residents of our seven homes to bring them companionship and social activities. Ancoura is a community that provides supportive housing for adults living with mental health challenges. Our volunteers build up a relationship with the residents over a period of time, offering support, varied activities and friendship. We are hoping to find volunteers who are able to commit to the role for a year. Training will be given.

For more information, please email our Volunteer Coordinator: Antonia Weetman, 613 233 8130 <u>antonia@ancoura.ca</u>

#### St. Matthew's Online Treasures Auction:

Art, Books, Fashion, Food, Travel, Beautiful Things

St. Matthew's The Anglican Church in the Glebe's online auction is back for a second year. Like last year's fun and successful event, it will feature art, fashion, travel, home cooking and more. The site will open for bidding on Friday, November 12 and run until 4 pm on Saturday, November 20. The selection of items on offer is extraordinary and, as is usual for St. Matt's auctions -eclectic. More than 350 items are listed. This year will be the use of a large Québec cottage for a week in 2022.

This year's outreach partner is the FACES refugee group representing First Avenue churches and community members. The group, which has sponsored and supported families from the Middle East and Africa, is in the process of arranging a sponsorship for another family. More than 20% of the net profits will go to help FACES raise the money needed for this initiative.

To see the catalogue or register: <u>www.stmatthewsottawa.ca</u>

Thank you for your continued generosity.

#### E-Transfers to the Church

W can accept e-transfers to the main church account. We cannot do autodeposit because of the type of account but you may e-transfer money to <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>. You will be required to give a question. Please either make the answer obvious or email the office and let them know the answer to the question. This option has no cost to the church.

#### Donations to the Church

We are extremely fortunate at St Mark's that there are a number of people who use Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). If you are not on PAR, we would encourage you to continue your donations. Of course, putting a cheque in the mail is always a great option for getting your donation to us. If you wish to make a donation by credit card, you may do so at CanadaHelps.

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/47820.

#### Contacting the Church

You may contact the office at 613-224-7431 or <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>. Messages are being monitored.

#### **Comments and Suggestions**

If you have anything you would like to see in next week's newsletter, please email the church at <a href="mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca">stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</a>