



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 2:36

Weekly Newsletter

December 24, 2021

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.



May the blessing of the Christ Child be with you and yours this Christmas season and throughout the year.

A Christmas Message from Fr Julian

A good old Christmas Carol titled, It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, by Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876), states in verse 2:

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains,
They bend on hovering wing,

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

- Dec 24 7:30 pm [Choral Eucharist](#) (Stream) [Bulletin](#)
- Dec 26 10 am [Choral Eucharist](#) (Stream) [Bulletin](#)

In person worship has been suspended until further notice. The underlined services and bulletins above are all linked.

And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Sears could have been speaking to us today. During the last Sunday of Advent, I felt and saw the “weary world” on many of your faces. Re-entering Code Red as a result of Omicron and the overall lingering impact of the pandemic on the way church is conceived, is taking a toll.

However, amidst this weariness, I am encouraging all of us to also look at those people, places and things that still bring us joy and peace. Here are a few examples, and you can add yours to it: family Christmas bubbles, meals, telephone calls, emails, texts, WhatsApp, Messenger, Telegram, Facebook etc. Let us allow these media to break through the “sad and lowly plains” of our current lives.

To one and all, I wish you a merry Christmas and a rewarding New Year, where we can join the angels “sing” despite what is happening around us.

Peace.

Latest News

It is sometimes difficult to decide when to send an email. When the news comes late on Wednesday, is it better to wait until Friday and make sure you all the information is there or is it better to send another email. I think you can probably figure out which I decided to do. Regardless of when the newsletter comes out, the website is updated as soon as the information is available. Towards the bottom of the screen is a section entitled Latest News.

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The information is added there as well as in the sliders at the top. I try to change the photo which accompanies the news whenever there is a significant change in news.

Livestreaming

There are two livestreams this week: one on December 24 at 7: 30 pm and one on December 26 at 10:00 am. They are available in the box listing the Christmas services. Notice that the bulletin is now also available. They are also available on the home page of our website: <http://www.stmarksottawa.ca>

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.

Last year's Christmas Services

If you are feeling the need for a little more Christmas, our services from last year are also available to watch. We had a little more flexibility in some of the music since it was all recorded separately with minimal people in the church.

[Lessons and Carols for Christmas 2020](#)
[Morning Prayer for Christmas morning 2020](#)

Offerings for 2021

To receive credit in 2021, donations must be received by the church for midnight December 31, 2021. If you wish to make a donation in 2021 but are in doubt about the mail, there are a number of other options. You may contact the office and arrange to drop it off. There is a mail slot at the Fisher Ave door of the church and you can drop it off there. You can make an e-transfer or you can use CanadaHelps. (See below for instructions)

Changes to PAR

It is simple to change your monthly PAR. Just contact Karen Roberts by phone or email and let her know. 613-236-7992
graniteseven@yahoo.ca

2022 Offering Envelopes

If you do not currently have envelopes and would like them, or have them and no longer

want them, please contact the office. If you currently have envelopes and have made a contribution in the past year, (even if not in an actual envelope), your envelopes will automatically be re-issued.

Office Hours

The office will remain closed until further notice.

Church Directories

The new directories are actually printed. If you wish to arrange to pick up your copy, please contact the office. If you would like an electronic copy, please email the office.

E-Transfers to the Church

We 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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca. 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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca. 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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca