



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 3:1

Weekly Newsletter

March 18, 2022

Dear friends,

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

Update on COVID Protocols

There have been significant changes to the protocols this week since the distancing requirement has been dropped. The right side of the church will maintain distancing for those who feel more comfortable that way. The left side of the church will have the tape removed and distancing is not required. There is no longer any need to pre-register although proof of double vaccination is still required and proof of triple vaccination for readers, LACs and choir.

Excitingly, coffee, tea and water will be served in paper cups in Bishop Reed Hall after the 10 am service.

Bible Study

Bible Study continues this Wednesday, March 23 at 7 pm via Zoom. It will continue the study of the gospel of Luke. Please contact Fr Julian if you are interested in participating.

St Mark's Spring Market

The first items from our spring market will be available Sunday. You can pick up your orders at church on Sunday or make other arrangements with Cynthia Greer. There will be a display of marmalade, cards and the unsold muffins in the hall. (You can browse while you drink your tea or coffee!) Check out the exciting new spring table runners!

Next week is Mothering Sunday and in celebration, we will have Simnel Cake on offer. We know you have missed your Simnel Cake for the last two years so here is a way to take some home. Order ahead for a selection of cake baked by members of the Mothers' Union. The order form is [here](#).

We have lots more exciting treats coming your way in the weeks ahead, including Hot Cross Buns, Mini-Tarts, Eccles cakes, Lemon Loaf, Lemon curd, cupcakes and other beautiful and/or tasty things.

Silent Auction

A never-used Ralph Lauren handbag has been offered to us for Silent Auction. The bag will

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.

- Gillian Martin celebrates her 40th birthday on March 21st

Livestreaming

The service will be streamed at 10 am on Sunday. Here are the links for the [service](#) and the [bulletin](#). The link is 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. The stream is available to watch immediately.

Numbering of the Newsletter

The electronic newsletter was started 2 years ago this week as a way of communicating with each other in the unprecedented times we found ourselves in and initially were simply numbered. Last year, after the decision was made to retain the weekly newsletter, I changed the numbering to have a volume number to reflect the year. You may notice that this newsletter is the first newsletter in Volume 3, being the first newsletter after March 15 when the churches were closed in 2020.

March 18, 2022

be at church on Sunday to be examined along with the auction sheet. The winning bid will be announced at noon on Sunday, March 20. Sign the sheet on Sunday or send in your bid to the office. The current bid is \$80.



St. Mark's Lenten Offerings:

Two suggestions for donations during lent were approved at Vestry. Lenten envelopes are available at church or donations can be made via e-transfers to stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca



The Well is one of five Community Ministries operated by the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. The Well takes a holistic approach and provides programs to ensure that all women who face homelessness, poverty, physical and mental health issues and addictions have access to effective tools, resources and support services required to build their lives.

The Lytton Fire Response. There have been many challenges for a community that was completely and totally destroyed. Donations support future rebuilding of the community that was destroyed by fire in 2021.

Leaking Roof

With the warmer weather, the melting snow has caused water dripping in the sanctuary.

Many thanks to John Hancock, Georgia Roberts and Russell Wilkins who have been removing snow from the church roof as a means of stopping the leakage. Bill Barber has spoken with the roofer who is sending his workers to the church to remove the ice on the roof and to assess the issue.



Note from editor: Roofers were observed on the roof Wednesday morning.

A message from Fr Julian

As the palms burned on Shrove Tuesday, a thought came to mind: why not make use of this process of burning, to signify what we would have given up during these 40 days? Hence, on Good Friday 2022, I will invite

March 18, 2022

parishioners to bring a sheet of paper to the liturgy. During the season, please write all the things you would've given up during Lent. It doesn't necessarily have to be a sin. It might be, "sweating the small stuff," indiscipline and anger." During the liturgy those sheets will be destroyed and you may write as many items as you desire. As time progresses, I will share in more detail what will be expected.

In-person Services

- 8 am and 10 am services have resumed.
- The right side of the church will be maintained as distanced seating for those who feel more comfortable that way. The left side of the church will have no distancing requirement.
- Anyone with COVID symptoms should assume that they have the virus and stay home
- Provide proof of double vaccination, if you have not shown it to us before. Booster shots are strongly encouraged.
- Masks must be worn when you enter the building and throughout the service, except when taking communion. Three-layer, medical or N95 masks are encouraged.
- Come warmly dressed since some windows will be open to improve ventilation.
- All leaders in the service, readers, LACs and choir must show proof of triple vaccination.

We anticipate further loosening of our diocesan COVID protocols in the coming weeks. Consult the St Mark's website (www.stmarksottawa.ca) for updates.

PWRDF and Ukraine

PWRDF is supporting Ukrainians forced to flee their homes due to the Russian invasion. The initial grant of \$20,000 issued to an ACT Alliance appeal has been increased to \$50,000. The grants will fund the work of Action by Churches Together (ACT) member Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA).

This is a rapidly evolving situation, please monitor PWRDF's website and social media to stay up to date on new developments.

How you can help

To make a donation to this response online, click [here](#)

Stamps

Doreen Matweow reminds everyone that she is still processing used postage stamps for the Leprosy Mission Canada, Effect Hope a Christian development organization. These stamps are sold to collectors and the proceeds are used for medical treatment, education and rehabilitation of leprosy sufferers.

Doreen thanks Mani Mani for his part in delivering stamps to the church and hopes that more people bring in their used postage stamps.

PWRDF Lenten Resource

As PWRDF's Creation Care: Climate Action education focus moves into its second year, now centering on gender, we have invited three women who participated in COP26 to enter into a Lenten conversation.

Our resource begins on the first Sunday in Lent, March 6, 2022 and goes until Easter Eve, April 16.

Each day our writers invite you to read their selected scripture, reflect and pray with them. Subscribe below to receive the daily reflections in your inbox and deepen your connection with PWRDF. Learn more about the resource at pwrdf.org/Lent2022

Photo Backgrounds

I continue to look for photo backgrounds for online services and the bulletins. Nature shots in landscape format (wide rather than tall) are best for our purposes. – Joy!

Office Hours

The office is open from 9:30 am to noon on Wednesdays and Fridays.

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

March 18, 2022

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