



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 3:3

April 1, 2022

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.

- Greta Robinson celebrates her 88th birthday on April 9th

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.

Readers for Palm Sunday

I could still use a couple more readers...even, perhaps especially, if you don't normally read. They are small parts in the dramatic reading. You will need to move to speak into a mic set up at the back of the church. This is necessary to make sure the sound can also be heard on the livestream.

Easter Flowers

If you would like to contribute to flowers for Easter, please contact the office at 613-224-7431 or stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca.

Holy Week

April 10	Palm/Passion Sunday 8 & 10 am
April 12	Evening Prayer (said) 7 pm
April 13	Tenebrae 7 pm
April 14	Maundy Thursday 7 pm with stripping of the altar followed by overnight vigil
April 15	Good Friday 1 pm
April 17	Easter Sunday 8 & 10 am

Most services will be livestreamed.

Links will be available next week.

Prayer Vigil on Maundy Thursday

It has been a tradition at St Mark's, following the Maundy Thursday commemoration of the Last Supper, for members of the congregation to hold an overnight vigil of prayer and meditation. The practice reminds us of Jesus' night of prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane in the hours before his crucifixion.

In pre-COVID times, participants came to the church for the hour of prayer that they signed up for, and the vigil took place in the Peace Chapel, where the elements of bread and wine are placed, following a solemn procession at the close of the Maundy Thursday service. The vigil ran hour by hour from Thursday evening to early on the morning of Good Friday. Last year, due to the pandemic, participants kept the vigil in their own homes instead. We are offering a similar arrangement this year, with the option of coming to the church for those who would prefer to do so.

A sign-up poster is available so those interested can choose the hour for their devotions. We will be asking that they also indicate whether they will stay home or come to church. If you would like to be part of the vigil but will not be at the church to sign up, just contact Cynthia or Brenda. For further information or to sign up, please contact Cynthia Greer at 613-723-2680

greercynthia69@yahoo.com or Brenda Zanin at 613-878-3547 brenda.zanin@gmail.com.

Diocesan Communique for this week

The practice of sharing the common cup is an ancient and revered part of Christian tradition which, when it was reintroduced into our diocese last August, was a welcome return to normal that brought spiritual strength and comfort to many. However, it did prove to be outside some people's comfort zone during the pandemic and of course receiving bread alone is considered a full communion.

Still, although not every worshipper chooses to drink from the chalice, it is important everyone be offered the opportunity to do so. Those who do not wish to drink from the cup can be encouraged to honour it when it is in front of them. They can do this by crossing their arms across their chest as they listen to the words of administration: 'The blood of Christ, shed for you' or similar words. Saying 'Amen' at that point can be an important statement of faith.

If you have questions about the safety of sharing the common cup, be sure to read [this paper](#): prepared by the Reverend Michael Garner, our public health advisor

Update on COVID Protocols

There have been significant changes to the protocols 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. Even though the mask mandate has been removed by the province, **the diocese still requires all activities in the church to be masked.**

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.

Bible Study

Bible Study continues this Wednesday, April 6 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 next 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 items in the hall. (You can browse while you drink your tea or coffee)

Next week is our last week. There are a number of exciting things are on offer. Unfortunately, the Eccles cakes are sold out. They are not on the order sheet but if you have already ordered, they will be available for pickup either this week or next week. Don't forget the mini lemon or lemon & blueberry loaves available this week! There are also a limited number of jars of Lemon Curd available this week.

Next week, Hot Cross Buns will be available, along with cupcakes, white & chocolate and a selection of mini-tarts – French lemon, Maple, Chocolate and Strawberry Jam – all very tasty according to the testers. [Here](#) is the order form for this week.

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.

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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 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 has allocated \$50,000 to HelpAge Canada to support seniors in Ukraine trying to seek safety in Moldova. Help Age International has been working in Moldova since 2000 and is building up its humanitarian presence there now. The country of 2.6

million has already welcomed 250,000 refugees.

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

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

Office Hours

The office is open from 9:30 am to noon on Wednesdays and Fridays. The office will not be open on April 6.

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>.

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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