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.

Livestreaming

The service will be streamed at 10 am on Sunday. Here are the links for the <u>service</u> and the <u>bulletin</u>. The link is also available on the home page of our website: <u>http://www.stmarksottawa.ca</u>

The stream is automatically recorded so it can be watched later. The stream is available to watch immediately.



An Easter Message from Fr Julian

Easter is here! This is the first in-person worship experience that I am having with you as your shepherd. The all-too-often heard story of the pandemic interfering with our "regularly scheduled" lives can be applied here as well.

Nonetheless, we are grateful for the resurrection of our Lord. To use an archaic expression of the importance of the

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.

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resurrection, we can say, the Queen of all Feasts. In this feast, we are encouraged to "run" like the women (Luke 24: 1-12) at the tomb to spread the good news to the 11 disciples. Joy, which is a theme of Easter, filled the hearts of these women. This joy says that we have faith because Christ lives. This is beautifully captured in the gospel hymn, "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow...All fear is gone." Christ's resurrection also says to us that we have joy because He has gone ahead of us and this guarantees us the greatest form of continuity.

We are called to journey with each other. The women fled with joy and became Christ first evangelists walking alongside the 11 disciples. From this small beginning of joy, the world has never been the same. In our own lives, we are being asked to imitate that joy and peace the resurrection brought to the human race by walking alongside each other for the sake of the kingdom.

As we journey through Easter, let us be people of joy in all spheres of our lives.

He lives!

Peace!

Fr. Julian

Did you know?

The word paschal is derived from the Hebrew word for Passover (Pesach). The Christian church connected this word with the death and resurrection of Jesus which took place at the time of the Jewish Passover. "Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, therefore let us keep the feast" (1 Corinthians 5:7)

This thick candle symbolizes the Risen Christ who is the Light of the world. It has 5 marks containing incense grains representing the 5 wounds of Jesus, the Alpha and Omega, Christ the beginning and the end and the year marked on the wax indicate the Christ is the Lord of all times.

Formerly this candle was lit during principal services (it is extinguished during

Benediction) from Holy Saturday until immediately after the gospel on Ascension Day when it was stored away after mass; however, in recent times this candle is placed at the font throughout the year in some churches because of its association with the blessings of the baptismal waters on Holy Saturday.



This is a picture of our paschal candle set for 2020 – you might notice that we do not have the five grains of incense on ours.

Coffee, Company & Conversation

Coffee, Company and Conversation is reopening this Spring on Thursday, April 21 at 10:00 am. CCC is a place to share and enjoy coffee and snacks (in accordance with protocols). All people attending need to have been vaccinated at least twice and wear a mask. Please call and inform one of the following coordinators if you plan to attend as numbers are limited. We are looking forward to welcoming people back to our morning gatherings that reaches out to seniors in our community and are welcoming to all.

Laurie Slaughter - 613 596 0660 Suzanne Bisson - 613 727 5892 Georgia Roberts – 613 226 5693

Donations for St Luke's Table

St Luke's table has put a call out for gently used bath towels. They can use mugs, even gently used socks, shorts, t-shirts, light jackets, jogging pants, ball caps etc. If you have any of the above items, please bring them to the church before the end of April and they will be taken to St Luke's.

In-person Services

- 8 am and 10 am services have resumed.
- The far right side of the church will be maintained as distanced seating for those who feel more comfortable that way. The left side and middle 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 Moldava. 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 <u>here</u>

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

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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca