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 Evening for it to be included in the service for the following Sunday.

Live Streaming

The service will be streamed at 9 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>

Summer Office

During the summer, the office will only be open on Friday mornings. Joan Grayer will be editing the newsletter over the summer.

If you have newsletter items you may send it to the office or you may send it to Joan at joangrayer@yahoo.ca

Summer is Here!

For the first time in two years we are resuming our usual summer practice. This means:

- There is one service at 9 am continuing until September 4. The 8 and 10 am services will resume on September 11.
- 2. There are sign-up rosters for the whole of the summer available in the link. All of the jobs are there. The readings for August are now available

This is a great time to explore jobs that you have been thinking about but were not ready to get tied into a regular schedule. If you

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want to try serving, prayers or administering the chalice, please speak to Fr Julian first.

A Letter of Thanks from Ariane

Dear St Mark's family,

Thank you so much for my lovely retirement send-off, for the prayers, the sung blessing, the kind words from Fr. Julian and Suzanne Bisson, the very generous financial gift in the pouch made by Penny Miller, and the woolen prayer shawl knitted by Gillian Morris.

My experience at St Mark's has given me the opportunity to grow as a musician and as a human being. I learned to let go of aiming for musical perfection, but to seek well-being and harmony in making music together. The journey together began to take precedence over the end result. As a result of the impressive musical library St Mark's has, I was exposed to many different styles of music, and broadened my musical tastes. This meant I could turn to a much vaster repertoire from which to choose music that would be appropriate for the liturgy. I learned about making people feel welcome, about how working together builds community, about how we learn so much from each other.

I also learned about how change can be difficult. For example, the new (1998) Common Praise hymn book that had recently been introduced at the time of my arrival at St Mark's was a huge change from the previous 1971 "Red Book" (official name: The Hymn Book of the Anglican Church of Canada and the United Church of Canada) that had resulted from discussions between the two churches about a possible union. There was much grumbling about words being changed to reflect changes in how society perceived patriarchy, inclusivity, justice, and colonialism. The revised words would trip us up; it's hard to change the old habits of hymn singing in particular, and prayer as well. On the latter note, I was grateful that at St Mark's I could continue to say the Lord's prayer as I had learned it at a very young age.

Despite these difficulties – and there are many awkwardnesses in the updating of the words of the old hymns - I eventually found the new blue book to be a treasure trove of new musical and spiritual inspiration (including my favourite hymn, 495, Should I Rehearse with Human Voice).

A much appreciated parting gift from the choir was the recently published new supplement to *Common Praise*, full of resources that would have been very helpful for those Sundays dealing with themes for which I could find very few, or even no hymns in the 1998 book.

As the Buddhist tradition affirms, the only constant is change.

I am deeply grateful to all of you at St Mark's - parishioners, priests and staff, both past and present - for so many blessings over the years.

Thank you.

Ariane

Diocesan Day Program Donations

The Diocesan Day Programs (St Luke's Table, The Well, and Centre 454) are in dire need of several items: Razors, Socks, Toilet paper, Men's underwear (M,L), Women's underwear (S, M) and crockpots. If you have any of these items to donate, please bring them in to the church (either Friday morning or Sunday morning) and they will be taken to the drop off point.

Debra Dynes School Supplies

For the past 2 COVID years your donated school supplies have been collected in the church parking lot. This year we will be collecting in person in the church. How exciting! Please consider supporting this very worthwhile Outreach program in the month of August by donating any of the following items:

Backpack Binders Duotangs Notebooks Math sets Scientific Calculators

Lined and graph paper Glue sticks, highlighters, pens, crayons, pencil crayons and markers

This list comes directly from DDFH. Donations can be left in the blue bin in the Link. Cash and cheques are also a very good idea. If you choose this option I will make sure that your donation is delivered without delay. The DDFH can then buy school supplies in bulk. Thank you once again for your continued support during the month of August.

Joan Hounsell 613 262-4108

Debra Dynes Food Bank

Ottawa Food Banks continue to run on empty due to an unprecedented demand for food within the community.

Please consider making donations not only of food products but of cash. When you donate cash, the food bank is able to purchase food in large quantities at wholesale rates. The DDFB will spend time researching and negotiating with distributors to find the best deal on canned fruits, veggies and protein to ensure that they get the best value per dollar spent.

Every \$1 that you donate provides food for two whole meals to feed a hungry neighbour in need.

You may give your donation to me for delivery to DDFB or mail a cheque directly to: DDFB, 955 DEBRA AVE., STE 85, OTTAWA, K2C 0J5. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you,

Joan Hounsell, Outreach

Support for Ukrainian Refugees: A Request from Yuri Derkach

One of our biggest needs and most often requests has been a need for housing. We are looking for believers who are willing to host either a Ukrainian family or Ukrainian student for a short term (one month) or a longer period September to end of December, the duration of fall term. It takes time for Ukrainian newcomers to do all their paperwork, get their documents, improve English, apply to school, or find a job. It also takes time to recover from the horrors of war and to shift focus and recover in a peaceful society in Canada.

If anyone is willing to help to host Ukrainian refugees, please contact me at <u>derkacy@algonquincollege.com</u> or at 613 727-4723 ext.5341

Support for Ukrainian Refugees

Many thanks to all the people who have contributed baking, food vouchers, monetary donations and their time as English teachers for this very worthy outreach program.

There is a roster of names on the bulletin board in the link of parishioners who bring baking for the refugees. Plated baked goods can be brought to the church on Sunday or between 11:45 am and 12:15 pm.

The campus minister has let us know that there are now over 400 Ukrainian refugees enrolled in English as a second language (ESL). Because their space is limited, many are taking ESL virtually.

This support to the Ukrainian refugees will continue until August 18. If you want to contribute in any way, please contact Suzanne Bisson at 613-727-5892 or suzanne.m.bisson@gmail.com

Forward Day by Day

The Forward Day by Day booklets from August through November are now available in the link.

Paving on Fisher

The City of Ottawa has notified us that Fisher Ave. will be repaved from Meadowlands to Prince of Wales during the summer months.

Summer Camps

What's happening at St.Mark's on weekdays in July and August? We welcome back a summer camp run by Carleton Memorial Daycare Centre, they have rented the upper hall for this camp for quite a few years. You will see some of their cupboards and equipment cleared to the sides of the hall when you come in.

Change of Email Address for Fr Julian

Fr Julian has a new email address since the last one was hacked and used to send scam email. The new address is FrJulian@stmarksottawa.ca

Changes to COVID restrictions

The diocese entered into the Green stage of the Pandemic plan on June 1. In its communiqué, it states "It's increasingly clear the pandemic is not going away any time soon and entering the Green stage, rather than just saying "we're back to normal", is an important symbol that we are still operating under the pandemic plan—and an acknowledgment that restrictions could increase again if the virus resurges (as it has the two previous falls, after more open summers)."

At St Mark's, we will stay in modified yellow (status quo) during the month of June with some gradual changes throughout the month.

- Masks are still required until further notice.
- No Proof of Vaccine required to enter the church as of June 5
- The table at the front of the nave will be removed June 12 and Communion will be administered at the rail. Distance must be maintained.
- The Peace is status quo until further notice.
- ¼ of the nave will remain with "distancing tape" until further notice.

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 <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