



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

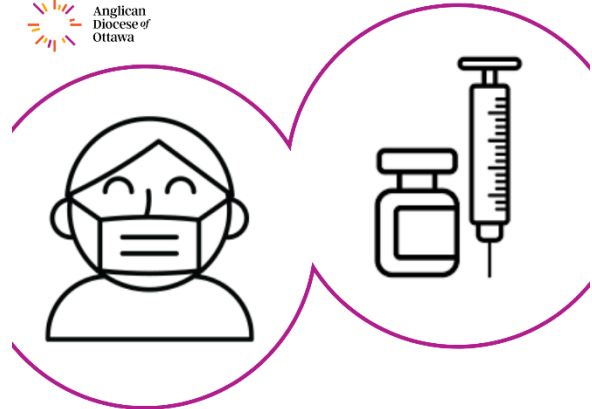
Volume 3:36

November 25, 2022

Weekly Newsletter

Dear friends,

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



REMINDER

- **Masks are strongly encouraged.**
- **Wear a mask during coffee time.**
- **Get your COVID-19 Booster & Flu Vaccine!**

For inquiries and concerns, please email Covid19HelpDesk@ottawa.anglican.ca

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 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>

Lessons and Carols

There will be a service of Lessons and Carols on December 18 at the 10 am service. Six readers will be needed. If there is anyone who does not normally read but would be willing to read on that Sunday, please contact the office.



Fall Bazaar 2022

The online order form is [here](#) and you may place your orders for pick up on Sunday. This Sunday, there will be a display of items for sale in the hall after church as well as pick up of any pre-ordered items.

Cherry and pecan pies will be available this Sunday as well as the second round of Eccles cakes. The Eccles cakes on November 27 have all been sold but in a delightful surprise, Eccles cakes are graciously being offered on December 11. Don't wait around to order! Frozen cookie dough and hand towels are now available.

The Christmas cookie boxes are sold out so any help baking cookies for the cookie boxes would be greatly appreciated. This involves baking 4 doz cookies of each kind of cookie you are offering. No need to package them up because they are packed into the larger boxes. If you are baking for the boxes, please get the cookies to Joy or the office by December 9 as the boxes will be packed on December 10. Depending on the number of

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cookies received, there may also be small boxes available on December 11.

-Joy Bowerman, Bazaar Convenor

Stewardship Campaign – Week 5



STEWARDSHIP
A way of life

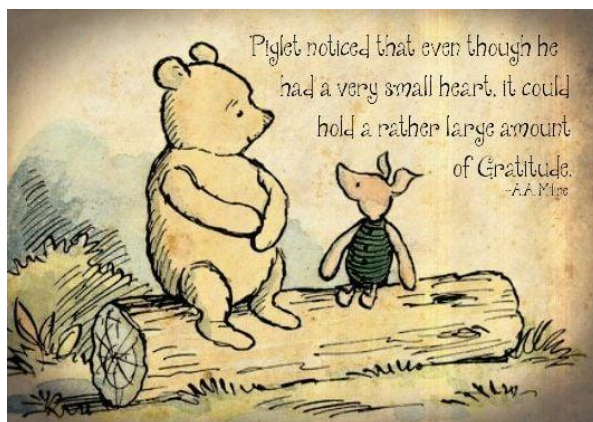
Nov 27

Gratitude/Giving

Luke 6:38 (New International Version)

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

Over the past four weeks we have been exploring the different aspects of Stewardship. This week is our last installment. I must admit this is the most difficult for me. In researching this week, I have been overwhelmed by the references to Gratitude. In the bible gratitude is expressed as giving thanks. We give thanks to God for all the gifts that have been provided and all the gifts that will come. How do we show our thanks, is it by prayer, volunteering and sharing our wealth whatever currency that may be?



I know as a congregation we are thankful for St. Mark's. We already contribute to the wider community through our volunteers, Coffee Company and Conversation and through our full participation in the

diocesan fair share. In doing what we feel is our faithful support of all our ministries and activities we find ourselves short of full funding. You might remember that we passed a deficit budget in February 2022. We have been frugal in our expenditures, but our anticipated donations have not kept up with our projections and we will, if nothing happens, finish the year with a significant deficit.

If you are anything like me, you will have received in the mail numerous envelopes from different charities seeking your financial support. It is no secret that they ask at this time of year, a season of gratitude and willingness, to support their activities and allow us to show our gratitude for their work, not to mention the associated income tax relief. For example, if you donate \$100 you will receive \$20.05 in tax credits, if you donate \$1000 the credit is \$361.38.

I have difficulty asking people to give more, however when we believe in something sometimes it is necessary to dig into our wealth and give to our church. I urge you to take some time in prayer and contemplation and consider a gift above and beyond what you normally give. It is my prayer that through your generosity, as we come to the end of the year, we will have much to be grateful for.

Michael P

Michael Perkin

St. Marks Stewardship Officer

Budget Submissions

If you know of any project or would like to propose any project for inclusion in the 2023 budget, please submit them to the office by the beginning of December.

Coffee, Company & Conversation

CCC continues on Thursday, December 1 with cards and games. Join the CCC

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gathering for a morning of fun. All are welcome.

Forward Day by Day

The November to January Forward Day by Day are now available. The cost of them has risen and \$3 would allow us to actually cover the cost of the booklets.

COVID Communique from the Diocese

Respiratory viruses in Ontario and Quebec are sending young children to emergency rooms at double or triple the usual rate due to a combination of the highly contagious RSV, COVID-19, and influenza. It is a situation that calls for a response by all who care for the vulnerable in our midst. Throughout the pandemic, our response to the reality of public health concerns has been science-based, and this latest challenge must be met the same way.

Last month we implemented the requirement of masks for those in liturgical leadership. Masks are an effective tool for combating respiratory viruses as well as the flu.

Keeping that in mind, we ask each congregation to:

- ask people to stay home when they are symptomatic
- strongly encourage mask-wearing
- have masks available for those who forgot theirs
- **encourage people to wear masks during coffee time**
- encourage COVID boosters and flu shots

Bible Study

This past Fall we didn't have any Bible Study. This was due to the fact that many of us were involved in the reconstruction of the parish's Pastoral Care Team. As a result, people who are still doing the Ottawa Pastoral Care Counselling course (which is mandatory) each week. I will be on vacation from 16th November 2022. Upon my return, we will schedule a time for Bible Study via zoom.

Peace,
Fr. Julian

Workplace Violence and Harassment Policy

After attending several Safe Church seminars last week I was reminded of the importance of making our diocesan Workplace Violence and Harassment Policy (2021) more accessible. So, since our new diocesan website is not yet up and running, and the policy is a bit hard to find on our current website, I have included a direct link to it here. It replaces a previous policy that was limited to sexual misconduct.

<https://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/images/human-resources/Workplace-Violence-and-Harassment-Policy-Final-May-9-SP.pdf?type=file>.

This policy covers all activities that take place on church property including rentals, worship, and parish ministry of all kinds. Page two notes that it applies to "all clergy, lay employees, volunteers, students, contractors, clients, parishioners, visitors, and others who may be on, or have access to, any diocesan premises."

The hope is that no one in your parish will ever need to make either an informal or formal complaint. May the policy serve to reassure people that our Church seeks to provide a healthy and respectful environment for all. – Linda Hill, Executive Archdeacon

Office Hours

The office will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 to noon.

Changes to COVID restrictions

The masking requirement was reinstated for all liturgical leaders on Sunday, October 30. The following procedures remain in place

- Masks are still recommended for all members of the congregation but required for all liturgical leaders.
- 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

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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