



# St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 3:39

## Weekly Newsletter

**December 16, 2022**

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.

- Sheila Pitt celebrates her birthday on December 18<sup>th</sup>
- Carolyn Findlay celebrates her birthday on December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Patrick Findlay celebrates his 15<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### 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>

### Christmas Flowers

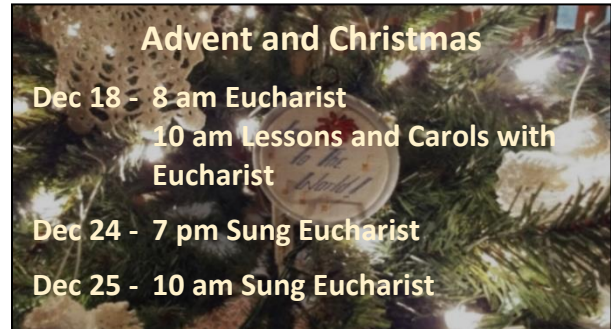
If you would like to place flowers on the altar for Christmas in thanksgiving or in memory of loved ones, please contact the office before December 20.

### Fall Bazaar 2022

Thank you everyone who was involved with the bazaar and everyone who supported the bazaar. Although the final totals are not yet in, we are already approaching \$7,000 for the year (including the Spring Market).

There are a turkey pies, a few preserves, a couple of small cookie boxes available and there are still calendars available.

-Joy Bowerman, Bazaar Convenor



### Financial Update

At the end of November, our collections income was at its lowest level since 2015. It was \$4,000 behind last year and \$19,000 below what was budgeted. Collections income normally accounts for about 80% of our income. Even though we have increased solar income and our rental income has tripled from the amount last year, with the large decrease in collections income, at the end of November, our expenditures for the current year have exceeded our income by \$33,000. A deficit this large will eat significantly into our reserves and brings sustainability into question. *Please consider making a contribution to bring our year to a hopeful end.*

### Lessons & Carols

The 10 am service this Sunday will be a service of lessons and carols. Come and join us to hear the story of our redemption told in scripture and song.

### Seeking cookie bakers and decorators!

As in years past (a few years past now!) we would like to decorate cookies to take to The Mission. If you would like to make some sugar cookies for the children and youth to ice on Sunday December 18 during coffee hour, that would be wonderful!

Any questions or offers! please call Kate at 613 421 1374 (or email [kathryn.greerclose@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.greerclose@gmail.com))

### Advent Outreach Opportunities

During the season of Advent as we prepare for Christmas, we often look around us and

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help those in the community. This year we have a couple of opportunities for this outreach.



### Gift Bags for Nelson House

I am hoping that we can make Christmas a little brighter for the women of Nelson House by preparing Gift Bags for them. I have made up a

sample bag of the following items :

Chocolates  
Hat and gloves  
Deodorant  
Toothbrush and toothpaste  
Shampoo  
Body Lotion

These items are suggestions only ...use your imagination to create your own unique Gift Bag. Bags can be left in the Link and will be delivered to Nelson House the week before Christmas.

Thank you once again for your anticipated generosity.

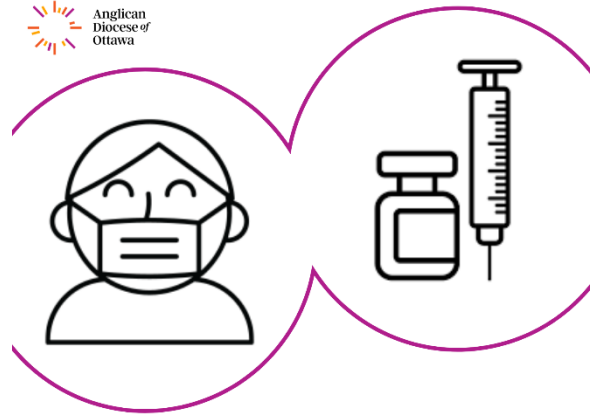
Joan Hounsell,  
Outreach Co-ordinator

### Advent Giving Tree

We will once more be delivering your gifts to various agencies, including the Mission and the Well, with St Luke's Table. We need toiletries, both regular and 'hotel' sizes, hand and body lotion, shampoo, toothpaste, combs, razors, deodorant, and also socks and underwear M-L for men and M for women. Also hats mitts and scarves are appreciated, along with small gifts including cookies chocolate and candies.

Please leave the above items in a regular bag, unwrapped, under the tree.

Thank you, for your caring, as we try to move forward.



## 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](mailto:Covid19HelpDesk@ottawa.anglican.ca)

Jenny and Cynthia.

### Coffee, Company & Conversation

CCC concluded for 2022 on December 15 with a morning of conversation and the singing of Christmas music. You may look forward to the return of CCC on January 5.



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### **Coffee Hour Help**

We are looking for several people to join the Coffee Hour teams. Each team usually consists of 3 or 4 people who share the preparation of coffee and small treats, and is on duty once every two months. Right now several groups are working with only two people.

Please call Pauline at 613-224-7608 or email [pmadams39@gmail.com](mailto:pmadams39@gmail.com), if you would like to help out.

### **PWRDF Advent Resource**

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund offers a yearly Advent resource. This year the resource is called The Gift of Hope. To subscribe to this online resource visit <https://pwrdf.org/advent2022/>

### **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.

### **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

### **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 of the type of account but you may e-transfer money to [stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca)