



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 3:40

Weekly Newsletter

December 23, 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.

- Michael Perkin celebrated his birthday on December 22nd.

Live Streaming

Here are the links for the two scheduled Christmas services:

[Christmas Eve](#) service and [bulletin](#)

[Christmas Morning](#) service and [bulletin](#).

The links are also available on the home page of our website: <http://www.stmarksottawa.ca>

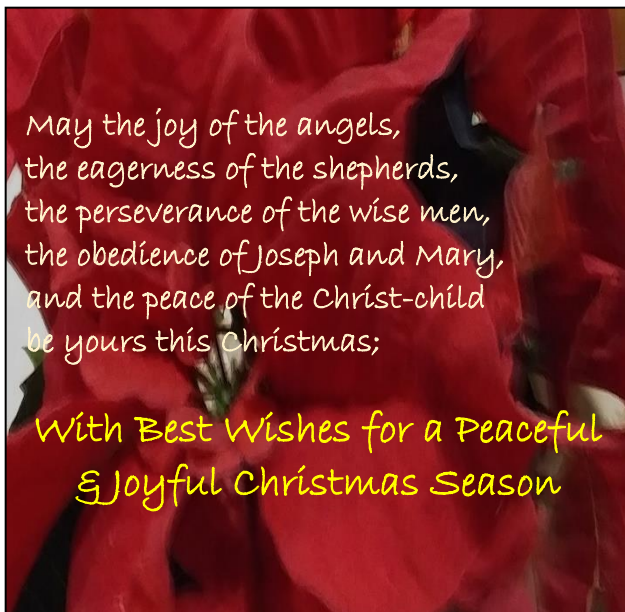
There is no 8 am service either December 25 or January 1.

Church Calendars

There are still some church calendars remaining. They will be available for purchase in the Link at the weekend, using the freewill system.

Youth Outreach

For the past few years, before Covid, the church school children prepared outreach projects of different kinds. They iced cookies and delivered them to St. Luke's table, The Mission or another Centre. This year is no exception. On Sunday, organized by their last teacher Kate Close, they gathered with great pleasure to ice about 150 cookies, made by Brenda, Gillian, Pat and Penny, to be delivered to St. Luke's Table. They looked so beautiful when we packed them, I wanted to share them with you, visually. Their icing abilities and originality have developed during the long time of Covid. Well done and thank you bakers and decorators.



Another outreach project which started when these same youth were much smaller, was to colour cards, for Christmas and Easter to be mailed to those of our parishioners who could

no longer attend, or might enjoy a surprise card. This continued during Covid, and again this year, by Joanne Pagani and her children. It's a pleasure to receive calls from parishioners, asking me to pass thanks along, and gives me a chance to chat with them.

Lastly, the class previously earned money for outreach, and this year they have found a spare \$50.00 to send to help provide baby animals or seeds, for people struggling in another country.

Thank you to the children, teens and adults who have enabled all this this and allowed our youth to continue serving God, by helping others.

Cynthia

Advent Outreach

Thank you to those who contributed to Nelson House. Your generosity enabled me to make a delivery this week of 10 very full Christmas gift bags. All the bags contained a wide variety of personal items and a hand knit scarf from Doreen Matteow.

I also made a delivery to DDFB of egg cartons, food and two very generous cash donations. St Mark's generosity will help to stock their food bank during this difficult time of rising prices.

Merry Christmas to all.

Joan Hounsell,
Outreach Coordinator

Many thanks to those who placed gifts for the Mission, the Well and St Luke's table under the Advent tree. Your caring and generosity are amazing. Without you we couldn't pass on God's love to those in need.

Jenny and Cynthia for Mothers Union.

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.*

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.



I went to visit Sheila Pitt on Sunday and she wishes everyone at St. Mark's a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.
Suzanne

Coffee, Company & Conversation

You may look forward to the return of CCC on January 5.

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

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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, if you would like to help out.

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.

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. 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