



14St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church
1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 4:5

April 21, 2023

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 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>

St Mark's Day

St Mark's Day will be celebrated this Sunday, April 23. There will be a soup and chili luncheon in the parish hall at noon. If you wish to attend, please contact the office by email or phone at 613-224-7028.

Thank you from Rev Rhondda

Last Sunday, Rev Rhondda brought us a thank you note. "To my friends at St Mark's. In times of sadness, the warmth and compassion of those who care makes the difference. Much appreciation for your love and support, Rhondda MacKay"

Kiwanis Music Festival

The Junior Piano portion of the Kiwanis Music Festival will be taking place in the sanctuary of St Mark's from Monday, April 24 through Saturday, April 29. This will take place most days from 9 am to 6 pm. On Wednesday, there will also be an evening program. You may visit <https://www.ottawakiwanismusicfestival.com/> to look at the programme.

For us, this means that we cannot go through the church at these times and should be careful not to make noise while the young performers are at work. You will also see a rearrangement of the piano and an extra piano in the church.

Forward Day by Day

The May to July 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.

Upcoming Inductions

The Rev Simone Hurkmans will be inducted as incumbent at Church of the Epiphany (1290 Ogilvie Rd) on Thursday, April 27 at 7 pm.

The Rev Matthew Brown will be inducted as Incumbent and the Rev Nicholas Forte as Associate Incumbent for the Area Parish of the Valley at Holy trinity Pembroke (68A Renfrew St) on Monday, May 8 at 7 pm.



St Mark's Patronal Day
April 23, 2023

services: 8 am & 10 am
parish lunch: 12 noon
freewill offering

April 21, 2023

Coffee, Company & Conversation

This coming Thursday, April 27, Riley Brockington, Municipal Councillor for River Ward is coming to speak on the new mayor and council's vision for the life of seniors in Ottawa. As always, congenial company and coffee, tea and delectable treats will be on offer.

As a rule, if school buses are not running, CCC will also be cancelled.

Organ Recital

There will be an organ recital this evening, April 21 at 7:30 pm featuring organist Sarah Svendson from Toronto playing Neil Weisensel's Tableau for Organ which was commissioned by Sarah. The recital takes place at Notre-Dambe Cathedral-Basilica. For more information, contact http://rcco-ottawa.ca/pro_organ.html

Debra-Dynes Outreach

Here's a little snapshot of the reality of food needs at the moment. Feel free to share whatever you find most impactful/relevant!

Pre-COVID, the Debra Dynes Food Bank served approximately 1,500 people per month. In April 2020, that number doubled to 3,000 and has not gone down since. We are now providing food to 3,500 people each month.

Snapshot of February:

On Tuesday Feb 28th, 2023, in the middle of a snowstorm, we served 59 people in a 2 hour period, with food for their families. The following day, 106 individuals were served in a 5hr period with food.

In total, 3,406 individuals received food in February. 1484 of them were children and 90 were 65 years and older.

Key information:

Our food bank is open 5 days a week. Food deliveries received on Tuesday mornings are often depleted by Wednesday afternoon and we struggle to provide meaningful amounts

of quality food to people on Thursdays, Fridays, and Mondays. At Debra Dynes we are doing everything we can to partner and provide consistent and adequate amount of food to people in need.

The constant need for food is overwhelming. We have serious concerns that infant/child/youth nutrition needs are being seriously impacted by rising prices.

At the present time, food bank use is due to the impact of inflation, rising food prices, high rental costs and no affordable housing alternatives.

A recent email highlighted some of the issues in the private rental market. A person receiving ODSP had only \$180.00 left for all other expenses after paying rent each month.

**Note - All government benefits are very low leaving people in constant risk of losing what housing they have and living with daily stress as they cannot meet basic needs and keep up with rising food prices.*

The need goes beyond food and extends into household basics. We received an email saying: "I really need stuff that you don't have in the food bank-shampoo dish soap laundry, hand soap and garbage bags".

**Note - We do have these items but very limited quantities and inconsistent supply. In addition to food items, we rely very heavily on donations for diapers, toilet rolls, toiletries, and hygiene products.*

The reality is quite severe and we really appreciate everything St. Mark's does to help address this. Let me know if you have any questions at all!

Jordyn

Please consider donating to this extremely worthy Outreach Program.

As you have read food, diapers and hygiene products are all in great demand.

April 21, 2023

No donation is too small.

Thanks, Joan H.



COVID Update

In his most recent communique, our Bishop announced a revision of the Diocesan COVID restrictions. Parishes can now observe normal liturgical and social practices while following the three main public health recommendations. These are:

- asking people to stay home when sick;- encouraging mask-wearing in indoor spaces; and
- -keeping up-to-date on COVID boosters
- LACs must wear masks while administering

Office Hours

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

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