



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

Volume 4:36

**Weekly Newsletter**

**November 24, 2023**

Dear friends,  
Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We are continuing the weekly newsletter for the foreseeable future. Please send any

this Sunday, November 26, although Advent is one week away. This week's items are toiletries, shampoo, soap, hand cream or body lotion, wash cloths, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs shaving cream, razors, deodorants and whatever you see that makes sense.

news items or announcements for the newsletter to [stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca)

Next week is scarves, hats, gloves mitts and slippers. We choose different things each week simply to help people focus. Anything is acceptable if it will help someone in need.

**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.

Giving to the needy is as much a blessing to the giver, as to the recipient.

Place your gifts under the Advent tree at the front left, not in the link or cloakroom.

**Fr Julian is on leave this Sunday The Rt Rev Michele Pollesel will be covering his absence. For pastoral emergencies, please contact the office by email or call or text Joy at 613-867-7027 or call Suzanne at 613-727-5892**

Thank you for caring. - Cynthia

**Reflections on Advent**

There will be a Sunday evening reflection on Advent via zoom on the first three Sundays in December, December 3, 10 & 17 at 6:30 pm. Please contact the office for the Link.

**Glenn Keefe is the organist this Sunday.**

**Fall Bazaar**

The updated [order form](#) is available now. Items that are available for pick-up this Sunday are Pecan & Blueberry Pies. New this week are shortbread cookies.. These items will be ready for pick-up December 3 or by arrangement. In ongoing sales, there is 1 cookie box (available December 10), soup mixes and puddings as well as Frozen Cookie Dough and a few jars of Hot Sauce.

**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.

There is also a silent auction for an unused Black & Decker Bread Maker with instruction

**Advent Giving Tree**

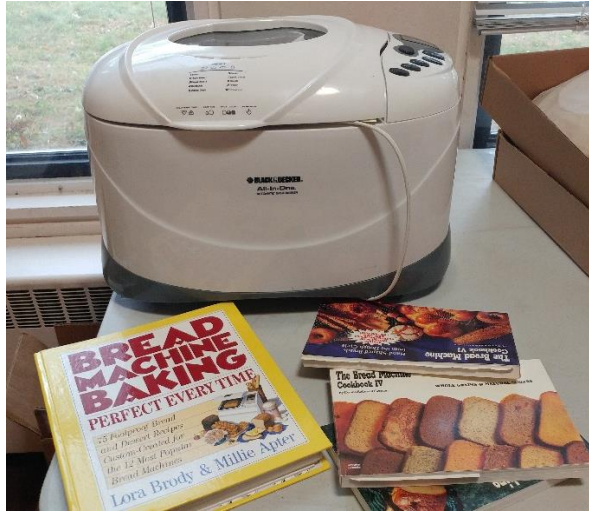
As in past years, you are invited to bring gifts to send to our local charities. We are starting



**Advent Lunch**  
**December 10, 2023**  
**following 10am service**

**November 24, 2023**

and some bonus bread maker recipe books. Opening bid \$25.



### **Outreach**

Thank you to a parishioner who generously funded a large bag of knitted winter scarves and hats from the Bazaar. I delivered these to DDFH on Monday .

At this time DDFH has a surplus of egg cartons. They do not need anymore from us at this time. Thank you for your generosity.

Anne Kirby, who sang in the choir on Remembrance Sunday, is a friend of Grace at All Saints Greely . Anne volunteered to deliver to Grace milk bags collected since my last visit. Anne told me that Grace is very pleased with our collaboration. Thank you to all who participate. - Joan

### **Looking for Volunteers for Church School**

We are looking to start a church school program, possibly every second week to start but desperately need volunteers to make this dream a reality. Please contact Janis Perkin or the office if you can help in this capacity.

[Janis\\_perkin@rogers.com](mailto:Janis_perkin@rogers.com)

### **Advent Soup & Chili Luncheon**

Please ensure that you sign up in the link or call the office if you would like to enjoy the soup and chili lunch on December 10th after church. Sign up even though you think we know you will be there. So far there are 3 names on the list. I need to let my chefs and

bakers know if they are needed or not. Thank you, - Cynthia.

### **PWRDF Advent Resource: *Hope in Action: Reflections on Farming, Family and Faith in the midst of the Climate Crisis***

Beset with climate-caused disasters, it's easy to feel helpless. But in actions both big and small we can find hope. This season of Advent you are invited to join Karri Munn-Venn – writer, climate activist and wool farmer – as she weaves together reflections, scripture readings and prayer. Subscribers to this free resource will receive an email each day that also includes a PWRDF story or video. You may also download the resource in its entirety as a PDF (you will be required to provide your email address).

<https://pwrdf.org/advent2023/>

### **Coffee, Company & Conversation**



**November 24, 2023**



The Thursday morning Coffee Company and Conversation team.

Next Thursday, November 30 CCC is happy to host David Chisholm, President of the Ottawa Branch of the Royal Astronomical Society, "The Next Presentation". Come and join us for an interesting presentation as well and tasty snacks.. All are welcome!

### **.Synod Highlights**

Over the next few weeks, there will be selections of the highlights of synod. (See later in the newsletter for this week's. The full highlights of synods can be found [here](#).

### **Church Calendars**

The latest report is that Anglican church calendars will not be available until early January 2024. If you have signed up and change your mind because of the lateness, please remove your name from the list. This will help with the decision on whether it is worth ordering. I'm not sure how much they will charge, but hopefully we will charge \$7.00 unless they charge us more than that. - Cynthia 613-723-2680

### **Windborne Concert November 24<sup>th</sup> 8 pm**

This 'a capella' quartet returns to Ottawa after a highly impressive performance here in 2022.

Windborne's captivating show draws on the singers' deep roots in traditions of vocal harmony, while the absolute uniqueness of their artistic approach brings old songs into the present. Known for the innovation of their arrangements, their harmonies are bold and anything but predictable.

"Music of Midwinter" is a joyful and heartfelt celebration of song. Windborne's lush vocals and unique arrangements bring light to a dark season, as they draw on midwinter music from traditional, classical, and folk from the US, British Isles and beyond.

BBC Traveling Folk describes Windborne as "subverting expectations and redefining the genre... just absolutely phenomenal!" Audiences and critics lavish praise upon the singers not only for their technical mastery, but for the passion, engagement, and connection with each other.

Tickets \$30. For Tickets and info: [www.oldsod.ca](http://www.oldsod.ca)

### **Forward Day by Day**

Prepare yourself for Advent with daily devotions from Forward Day By Day. Readings from the daily office are provided, as well as suggestions for your Christian journey. The newest edition is now available, covering November, December and January. The cost is \$3 per copy.

### **PWR World of Gifts**

This annual PWRDF gift-giving campaign allows you to support PWRDF partners working to accompany refugees, improve security and livelihoods, provide clean water, empower women and support Indigenous programs in Canada and around the world. We have exciting updates this year, including a newly-designed gift guide, online and in-print.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, every gift will be matched up to \$110,000!

Watch for the 2023 World of Gifts guide in the November and December editions of the Anglican Journal, or shop our [online gift guide](#) 24/7!

### **Synod Highlights - Budget**

Synod approved a balanced budget for the three-year cycle 2024 to 2026. In the presentation to Synod, Tracy Albert, chair of the Property and Finance Committee, said this budget is projecting an overall increase in revenue by about 5% in 2024 to \$4.5 million. “We are assuming revenues will decline a little bit in 2025 and 2026. And on the expense side, so true to its name, a balanced budget assumes expenses are kept in line with revenues. And we do assume a growth rate of 5% over 2023, then decrease slightly from 2024 levels in 2025, 2026.”

Of key interest for parishes was the reduction in Parish Proportional Share (PPS renamed from Parish Fair Share). In keeping with a resolution from Synod 2022, PFS was reviewed and reduced by 22% (or about \$460,000 collectively.) Albert explained that this decrease is expected to be more than offset by a projected increase in revenues from the diocesan central funds and distributions from the Cathedral Hill Foundation and property income.

Sanjay Grover, director of financial ministry, offered Synod delegates assurance that any money used is from diocesan-owned funds, and parish funds are not involved. More detailed information and graphs are available on the ADO website.

### **Office Hours**

The office will be open Monday and Friday mornings from 9:30 am to noon and Wednesday morning from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Please call ahead to make sure someone is there.

### **COVID Status**

In his most recent communique, our Bishop announced a revision of the Diocesan COVID restrictions. Parishes can now observe normal social and liturgical practices, with one exception, 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.

The one liturgical exception to normal practices is that LAC's must wear masks when administering communion.

An easy tool for determining whether you are eligible for a new COVID booster, and how to book one, is found at <https://www.ontario.ca/booster-recommendation/>

### **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>.

### **Contacting the Church**

You may contact the office at 613-224-7431 or [stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca). Messages are being monitored. Email is faster.

### **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)