



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

Volume 4:37

Weekly Newsletter

December 1, 2023

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

people focus. Anything is acceptable if it will help someone in need.

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.

Thank you for caring. - Cynthia

news items or announcements for the newsletter to stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca

Reflections on Advent – starts this Sunday

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.

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.

Elaine Graham is the organist this Sunday.

Fall Bazaar

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.

The updated [order form](#) is available now. Items that are available for pick-up this Sunday are shortbread cookies, Eccles cakes and turkey pies.. New on the order form are Mincemeat Tarts and Fruit Cakes. These items will be ready for pick-up December 10 or by arrangement. Soup mixes and puddings remain available as well as some preserves and Hot Sauce. Frozen Cookie Dough is available until Sunday and them will be baked for the cookie boxes.

Advent Giving Tree

As in past years, you are invited to bring gifts to send to our local charities. This week's items are hats, mitts, gloves, scarves & slippers.

Advent Soup & Chili Luncheon

Next week is socks, underwear and undershirts for all ages and sizes. We choose different things each week simply to help

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 10 after church. Sign up even though you think we know you will be there. It is a great help in estimating the amount of food required. Thank you, - Cynthia.



Advent Lunch
December 10, 2023
following 10am service

December 1, 2023

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

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).

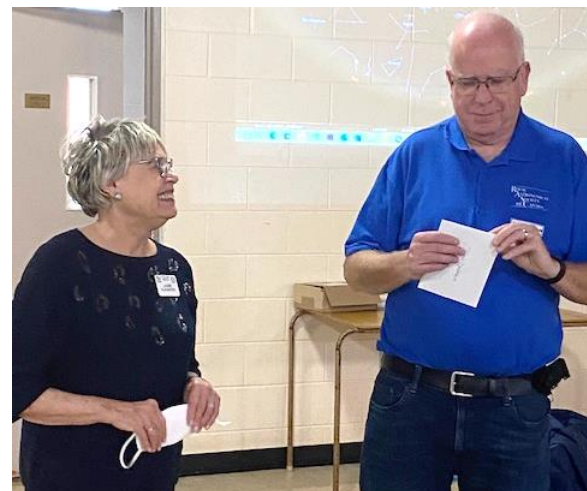
<https://pwrdf.org/advent2023/>

Coffee, Company & Conversation



On November 30 at Coffee, Company and Conversation, the guest speaker was Dave Chisholm, President of the Royal Astronomical Society, Ottawa Branch. Dave enlightened and fascinated everyone with a visit to the Galaxies and Stars in our skies. His high tech presentation covered the galaxy that includes Earth, as well as constellations, moons and the sun, and their positions to one another. It certainly highlighted the smallness of our earth and the incredible distances in light years between us and other planets. The upcoming solar eclipse in April 2024 was outlined with good information on how to

view it and the stars. There was much engagement from the group who had a variety of questions for Dave. As usual, an enjoyable spread of coffee/tea snacks were prepared by our baking team.



Next week, as well as a regular "Coffee Klatsch", the creative writing group will meet. All are welcome to join it or just enjoy coffee and conversation, a welcome place to socialize and meet new friends.!

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

Outreach

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.

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!

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. 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. 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