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



Weekly Newsletter

Dear friends,

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

news items or announcements for the newsletter to <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>

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 <u>service</u> and the <u>bulletin</u>. The link is also available on the home page of our website.

2024 Envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2024 are now available for pick up. If you would like envelopes and don't see any for you, please contact the office.

Black History Month, February 2024

2024 is the final year of the United Nations' "International Decade for People of African Descent." For the past four years our church has observed Black History Month in February. This year St Mark's is once again

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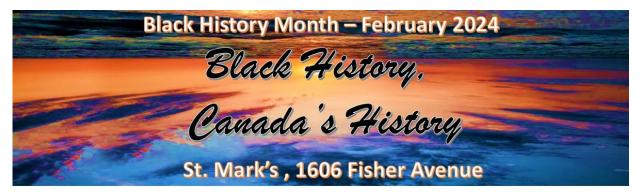
celebrating BHM with guest speakers, tasty ethnic food, music and much more. We have 4 dynamic guest speakers who will share their thoughts and perpectives on our theme for the month which is "Black History, Canada's History".

Stay tuned to our Facebook page, website and newsletter for up-to-date news on this special month.

Joan Hounsell, BHM Committee Chair.

Celebrating Black History Month (BHM) 2024 with a Fashion Show.

St Mark's and St. Thomas are partnering to celebrate Black History Month. A fashion show will be held on Saturday, February 10 at St. Thomas starting at 2:00 pm. To make this a true collaboration, St. Thomas would like to include anyone from St. Mark's who could model items of clothing with African themes or designs. These could be traditional garments worn by people of particular African cultures or they could be items designed by Black designers. If there is anyone interested, please contact Dr. Joy Mighty at joy.mighty@carleton.ca or 613-854-3565



Coffee, Company & Conversation

The new year for Coffee, Company and Conversation returned on the 11th with 35 people, including some new attendees who had heard of CCC through the Nepean Rideau Osgoode Community Resource Centre. As usual, we got off to a convivial start with lots of conversation over coffee and tea and the usual delicious morning snacks.

Next week is cards and games day, including bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, Cribbage and Euchre. For the non-gamers, coffee and conversation takes place as always.

In two weeks our special guest speaker will be Right Reverend Bishop Peter Coffin (retired Anglican Bishop of Ottawa and to the Canadian Forces), who will be sharing his experiences and adventures as a long-serving Chaplain in the Canadian military.

A reminder that if school buses have been cancelled due to inclement weather, CCC will also be cancelled.

Come and enjoy good company in a welcoming atmosphere.

Project AntiRacism: Culture & Food, Field Trip to T&T Supermarket

Have you always wanted to explore an Asian Supermarket with a guide? We will host a series of Food and Culture where we will visit culturally diverse supermarkets to spark conversations about stereotypes and to celebrate diversity. See the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information. You can register <u>HERE</u>

Turkey Pies

There are a few turkey pies left from the last batch. Speak to Joy if you would like to purchase some.

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 February, March and April. The cost is \$3 per copy.

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

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 <u>https://www.ontario.ca/booster-</u> <u>recommendation/</u>

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 <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>. 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 <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>. 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 <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>

Joint Anglican and Lutheran Project Anti-Racism & Community Conversations Series

Culture and Food: Field Trip to T&T Supermarket



Friday, January 26, 6 p.m.

Have you always wanted to explore an Asian Supermarket with a guide? We will host a series of Food and Culture where we will visit culturally diverse supermarkets to spark conversations about stereotypes and to celebrate diversity.

- 6 p.m. T&T Supermarket shopping 224 Hunt Club Road
- **7 p.m. St. Mark's Anglican Church** potluck feast and conversations 1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa



Register at https://bit.ly/3H7MGEC