



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 4:46

February 2, 2024

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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca with the word newsletter in the subject line.

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.

Bring your palm crosses back this Sunday or next Sunday. We burn them to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday this year will be on February 14. There will be a service with imposition of ashes at 7 pm.

Sheila Pitt Receives Award

Last Saturday, Sheila Pitt received a United Way Eastern Ontario Community Builder

Award for her contributions to Black History Month. Sheila has made her mark championing causes for over 40 Years

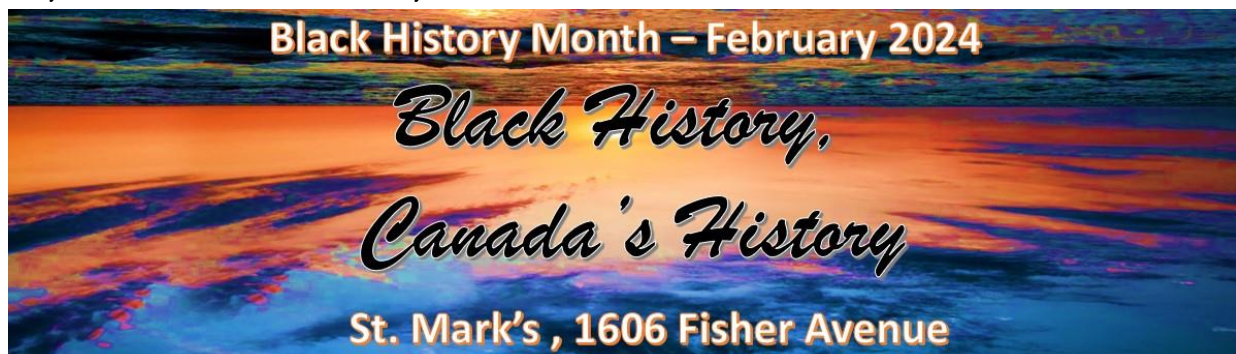


[Read more](#) in the article in the Ottawa Citizen



Guest Speaker February 4

Our first guest speaker is Paul Mugarura. Paul is a pastor, worship leader and musician based in Ottawa, who currently splits his time between Greenbelt Baptist Church and Trinity Anglican Church. For the past 20 years he has worked at various congregations in the city as a pastor, music minister, church planter and preacher. Paul's calling is to spark movement



in the body of Christ through worship, teaching, and equipping leaders. Paul is passionate about the transformation that faith can have, both at the individual level and within communities.

Our guest speaker next week will be Rev Dr Anthony Bailey, Coordinating Minister at Parkdale United Church.

**Black Fashion: Evolution & Diversity
February 10 at 2 pm St Thomas’.**

A display of Black fashion in collaboration with St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church. Location: St Thomas Church Hall. Models will wear traditional African garments or clothing with African themes or designs.

Arts & Crafts Display: Black Influenced arts and crafts will be on display before and after the fashion show.

**BHM Panel Discussion
February 11 2 pm at St Mark’s.**

Panelists will discuss the final year of the UN’s Decade for People of African Descent, as well as explore the rich diversity of theology, views and practices across the Anglican Communion. This discussion will also be livestreamed.

[Here](#) is the link to further information on the Panel Discussion which also contains a link to the livestream.

**BHM Movie: Black Panther
February 17 2pm at St Thomas’**

Black Panther is a 2018 film based on the Marvel Comics character of the same name. The first Marvel Studios film with a Black director (Ryan Coogler) and a predominantly Black cast.

When it was released in 2018, **Black Panther** became a cultural phenomenon with Blacks the world over attending movie theatres in droves, proudly dressed in outfits symbolizing Black communities and culture. It became the highest-grossing film directed by a Black filmmaker. It was nominated for seven Academy Awards, winning three, and received numerous accolades for its direction, writing,

acting, costume design, production values, and soundtrack.

In honour of Black History Month 2024, everyone is invited to join us for a free viewing of **Black Panther** on Saturday, February 17 at 2:00 pm at St Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church, located at 2345 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa. This event is co-hosted by St Thomas’ and St Mark’s.



On Saturday, January 27, Chris Robertson and Lisa Lewis were married at St Mark’s in a lovely service. There was a reception in the hall following hosted by St Mark’s.



Coffee, Company & Conversation

February 1 was a very special morning for the 45 attendees at Coffee, Company and Conversation. The Right Reverend Peter Coffin, Retired Bishop to the Diocese of Ottawa and Chaplaincy for the Canadian Armed Forces shared his experiences as a Chaplain to the Military. His responsibilities included overseeing the work and being the head of the Chaplaincy, as well as serving as a chaplain to the people in the field both at war and in other situations. His slides of chaplains working and living in many places at home and abroad outlined the history and the vast spectrum of their service to our military personnel and to our country. Historically, the people who served in a spiritual supportive way were Christian ministers and priests. Today, the military is served by religious leaders of all faiths who support and assist all members of the Forces.



It was a fascinating, and at times, very touching or emotional “look” at the lives of those men and women who serve on behalf of their faiths. Bishop Coffin provided an insight into a part of our Canadian Forces that people seldom hear about. He spoke with much personal experience of their commitment, and also with much fondness for the people that he worked with.



Casualties being brought home,



Bishop Peter in the field being present in the lives of military personnel.



The baptism of a chaplain's child on board ship – using the ship's bell as a font.

It was a morning of enlightenment and one that left those present with a gratitude for their service as spiritual leaders and comrades in the service of our country.

February 2, 2024

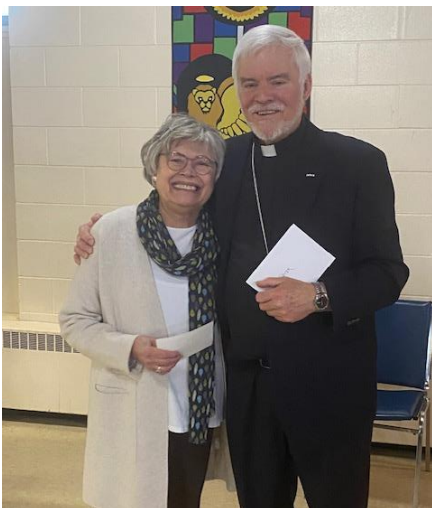


"The Light shines in darkness and the darkness has not overcome it." *John 1:5*



Bishop Peter & Georgia Roberts with the military chaplain's scarf gifted to him by Georgia's late father-in-law, Matt Roberts.

We are grateful to them, and to Peter for giving generously of his time and for sharing so passionately with us.



On February 8, both Creative Writing, Cards & Games and Koffee Klatsch will take place. All are welcome. Come and enjoy good company in a welcoming atmosphere.

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

Project Anti-Racism: Community Conversations



On January 26, Rev Chung Yan Lam led a trip to T&T followed by a potluck meal at St Mark's where we shared our purchases. Chung Yan explained some of the symbolism and history of the food we were eating. She also spoke about our expectations and perceptions about T&T and Asian food. About 30 people were present for the meal.



February 2, 2024



Vestry Reports

Our annual vestry will be held on March 3. I would like to get the vestry reports out the week before that. Could everyone submitting vestry reports make sure they are submitted before February 18, 2024. I would prefer not to hunt people down, but I will if necessary.

New Directory

I will soon print a new directory. If you have changed your phone number, perhaps by giving up your landline, please let the office know so our list can be accurate. If you wish to receive a copy of the new directory, please contact the office. You are eligible to receive a copy of the directory if you have given permission for your name to be included in the directory.

PWRDF 2024 Lenten Resource

Daily reflections begin February 14!

Health and well-being – without one, the other simply isn't possible. Likewise, the well-being of humans isn't possible without a healthy planet; something we are discovering every day as we face a growing and global climate crisis.

This theme is at the centre of PWRDF's 2024 Lenten Resource.

Throughout the Lenten season, you will receive a daily email with a reflection from Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat, on what health, well-being and good living require of us in our lives and our relationships with one another, with creation and with God.

As you will read, things begin to break down when human beings separate themselves from

creation, exploiting it as a commodity, or separate from and exploit one another. In so doing, we separate ourselves from the Creator.

And so, on this journey through Lent, PWRDF invites you to join Dr. Keesmaat as she walks with us, meditating on our current climate crisis and the well-being of ALL of creation, human and non-human, and offering us lessons in repair and restoration that are both profoundly ancient and current.

[SUBSCRIBE](#)

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.

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/>

February 2, 2024

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