



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 5:41

Weekly Newsletter

December 20, 2024

Dear friends,

Dec 25 10 am Christmas Day

[service](#) and [bulletin](#).

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

The link is also available on the home page of our website.

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.



Dec 22 - Lessons & Carols 10 am

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve 7 pm

Dec 25 - Christmas Day 10 am

End of Year Donations

To receive tax credit for 2024, donations must be received by midnight December 31. Since this year the mail would not get it to us by then, please contact the office and someone will come and pick it up. E-transfer is also an option.

2025 Offering Envelopes

These will be available soon.

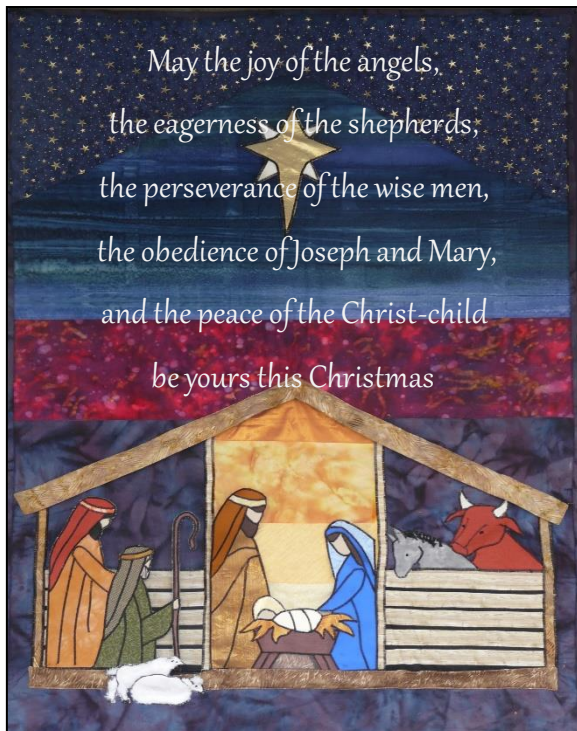
Egg Cartons needed

Debra-Dynes has an urgent need for egg cartons. If you bring them in, Joan Hounsell will make sure they are delivered.

Fr Julian's Departure

As was announced last Sunday, Fr Julian's last day at St. Mark's will be January 12, 2025. Fr. Julian leaves to be the Rector of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Wichita, Kansas. As well, the Bishop of Kansas has appointment him as the Co-Chair of the task force on Social Justice for the entire Episcopal Diocese of Kansas.

It has been a long-standing tradition at St. Mark's of offering a monetary gift, a "priest's purse" to a priest who is leaving. In this way, we offer appreciation, gratitude and the recognition of the contributions Fr. Jullian has



Live Streaming

Dec 22 10 am Lessons & Carols [service](#) and [bulletin](#).

Dec 24 7 pm Christmas Eve [service](#) and [bulletin](#).

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made to St Mark's over the last five years as our Rector. An envelope is placed at the back of the church for donations or you can put your donation (cash or cheque) in an envelope with his name on it and place in the collection plate. This is entirely voluntary and note that contributions are not tax deductible.

We will say our farewells to Fr. Julian after service on January 12 and more will follow on this as we get closer to the date. While we wish Fr. Julian the best in his new endeavours, he will be sorely missed by the parish and the many friends he has made in Ottawa.

Photo Orders Delayed

Canada Photo Services has let us know that to process photos, it takes 6 to 8 weeks and their shipping department is extremely busy. A partial order will be sent out December 20 by UPS to Joy's address. The remaining photos that you ordered will then be sent via Canada Post directly to your home.

Coffee, Company & Conversation

On the 19th, the last morning for CCC in 2024, it was a pleasant musical gathering. As now is the tradition, just before Christmas, the annual "Christmas Joy" activity was led by Joy Bowerman, our pianist and song leader. With song sheets provided, the group blended their voices in singing holiday songs and carols. Joy took requests between "sets", and people enjoyed hearing yet again, their time-honoured favourites. It is always a time of coming together in the spirit of the season with contributions to the Debra Dynes food bank, and thanks to the teams who organize each week's activities, and provide weekly snacks with tea/coffee.



The food was exceptional befitting the pre-Christmas event, with holiday cookies, cakes, Christmas fruit bread, cheese dips and crackers with fruit. CCC is a program that welcomes all people in friendship and harmony. It was a most heartwarming way to end the season. Many thanks to Joy for making it joyous each year.

The Winter season will begin on January 9 with predictions for the year 2025. Be sure to get the season's schedule in poster form, on

the St. Mark's website, or the Council on Aging's "info flash", as well as in the Anglican Diocesan monthly newsletter.

The Spirit of Christmas

Christmas is a reflection of the love and selflessness taught by the Saviour. We reach out in love to help those less fortunate. A sincere thank you to the parishioners who participated in making sure 6 little girls received Christmas gifts.



Dollar for Dollar Coupons

We still have some dollar for dollar coupons from before the pandemic. We will be selling these at coffee hour until they are gone. They can be used at participating Loblaws, Dominion, No Frills, Real Canadian Superstore, Maxi, Provigo, Extra Foods, Your Independent Grocer, Atlantic Superstore, Zehrs Markets, Valu-mart, Fortinos, Wholesale Club and T & T Supermarket. Please talk to Joy about purchasing coupons.

Latest Update on COVID 19

From now until October 28th, doses of the new COVID-19 vaccine are prioritized for high-risk and priority populations, which include adults 65 years of age and older. Starting October 28th, anyone 6 months and older can access the COVID-19 vaccine in Ontario. For more details about where you can get your updated vaccine, go to <https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/public-health-topics/covid-19-vaccine.aspx>

In the meantime, please keep using what OPH calls your layers of protection, which work for COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses like influenza (flu) and RSV. These are:

- Stay home when you are sick
- Avoid visiting people at high risk when you are sick
- Consider wearing a mask to protect yourself, to protect others, or when recovering from illness.

A detailed respiratory illness factsheet is available at

https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/public-health-topics/resources/Images/corona/mitigation/Respiratory-Illness-Factsheet_8.5x14_v2023-09-08_EN.pdf

Georgia Roberts and Michael Perkin
St Mark's pandemic team

Forward Day By Day

The new Forward Day By Day booklets, covering the months of November, December, January are now available. Nurture your life in Christ with daily Bible readings and meditations from this inspirational resource.

Booklets are displayed in the Link, and cost \$3.

Office Hours

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

Emails Addresses for Key People

The wardens, as well as the paid staff (Fr Julian, Joy and Elaine) all have email addresses in the StMarksOttawa domain. They are:

Fr Julian Frjulian@stmarksottawa.ca

Joy: stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca

Elaine: Elaine@stmarksottawa.ca

Suzanne Bisson: Suzanne@stmarksottawa.ca

Janis Perkin : Janis@stmarksottawa.ca

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Joseph Amuah : Joseph@stmarksottawa.ca
John Hancock : John@stmarksottawa.ca

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