



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 5:45

January 17, 2025

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, we will be more than happy to announce it. However, it must be in to 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.

Interim Priest

The Rev. Canon David Clunie

Before his retirement two years ago Fr. David was the Rector of St Bartholomew's Church in New Edinburgh for fourteen years. He was in two parishes before that; first in Eganville for four years and then in Kanata for twenty. In our diocese he ran the Fresh Start program for all clergy who were coming to a new parish. (Both Fr Brian and Julian were 'graduates' of the program) Fr David's wife, Linda Hill was a co-leader with him for over

ten years in the Fresh Start program. Linda is and has been for the past five years the Executive Archdeacon of our diocese working closely with Bishop Shane at Ascension House.

They have two daughters and three grandchildren. Happily, all the family lives in or very near Ottawa.

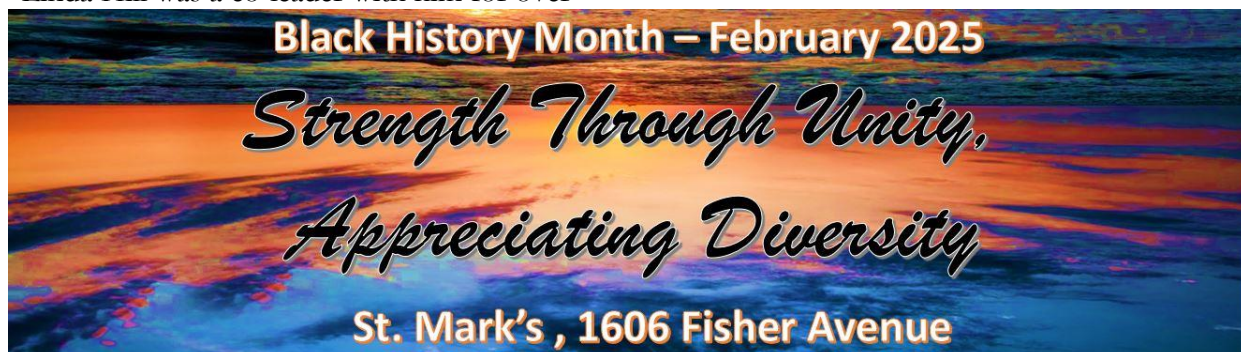
You may reach Fr David at 614-224-7431 or David@stmarksottawa.ca

Vestry

Vestry will be held in the parish hall after the 10 am service on February 23. Vestry Reports will be available at the latest of February 14, (but hopefully February 7). Anyone writing a vestry report should submit it by February 2.

Farewell Luncheon and Celebration of Fr Julian's Ministry at St Mark's

On January 12, 2025 we had a celebration of Father Julian Campbell's 5 years of ministry among us.



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We had a combined service which contained many of his favourite hymns and anthems and highlighted the youth within the parish as servers and readers. The prayers of the people were offered by different parishioners who did a section of the intercessions ending with a prayer for Father Julian as he leaves us for a new ministry in Wichita, Kansas. The service was well attended, the count by the sidespersons was 110 and there were representatives from the Bahamian High Commission including His Excellency, V. Alfred Grey, High Commissioner and some of his staff, Bishop Peter Coffin and members from other Ottawa parishes as well. More people came following the service to offer their farewells to Father Julian. The luncheon following the service was a veritable feast featuring culinary delights from the Caribbean, South America and Africa. A large card originally designed for Father Julian's Induction became the farewell card for all to sign and add their best wishes.



In the hall following the service, there was a presentation by the High Commissioner, reflections by Michael Perkin, an ode offered by Brenda Zanin and presentation of the Priest's Purse (~\$2,600). Michael's speech and a copy of the Ode may be found at the end of the newsletter. This was truly an event that will be remembered for a long time. It was fitting that thanks was offered to all who helped with putting it together.



Coffee, Company & Conversation

Thursday's CCC was a Bridge and Games morning with some opting to just chat with tablemates over coffee. A bridge table played a serious game, while at the tables, people were challenged by a quiz brought in by a regular member. They enjoyed working out the challenge in a group effort. As usual, the food accompanying coffee and tea, was exceptional, all homemade and a real treat. All who attend have decided that it's the best coffee house in town!

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Next week, on the 22nd, to celebrate Robbie Burns Day on the 25th, CCC will hold its own Robbie Burns morning. The special guest will be Neil Emberg, lead singer and guitarist for the well known Celtic group, Hadrian's Wall. Neil has performed with the band not only in Canada, but also internationally in the U.S. and Scotland among other places. He'll be making the morning a real Scots celebration of the Bard with Celtic songs and stories. As always, the food made by CCC's wonderful bakers will be in keeping with the theme.



Come wearing tartan or plaid if you are of Scots descent or wish that you were.

A reminder - if the school buses are not running on a Thursday due to inclement weather, then CCC will not take place.

Black History Month

February is Black History Month and at St Mark's we will be celebrating this year's events under the theme: Strength Through Unity, Appreciating Diversity.

Events during the month will include:

February 8: Fashion Show at St Thomas

Members of African descent at St Mark's will participate in a Fashion Show being organized by St Thomas. Come and experience cool African fashion on display.

February 9, 10 am Service: Guest Speaker

February 15, 3-4pm: Panel Discussion at St Thomas

You are invited to a Panel Discussion being organized by St Thomas. One of our community members, Joseph Amuah, will participate in the Panel Discussion.

February 16, 10 am Service: Guest Speaker: Yolande Parsons

After the 10 am service on February 16, there will be an augmented Coffee Hour, featuring Afro finger foods and snacks.

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.

Free Forward Day By Day

Have you thought about trying daily devotions with the help of our small guide, Forward Day by Day? Each day the designated readings from the church calendar are provided, with a thoughtful commentary about a chosen verse and a related question to ponder. In addition, special prayers to inspire

you each day, advice on how to use the guide, and information on the writers for each month are provided.

The guide comes out four times a year, comprising three months' readings in each copy. Several copies of the current guide are still available on the table in the Link. They cover November, December and January, so it will soon be out of date! However, anyone who wishes to give Forward Day By Day a try is welcome to take home a copy for free while quantities last. Soon the new edition will be available for February, March and April at a cost of \$3 per copy.

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 David David@stmarksottawa.ca

Joy: stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca

Elaine: Elaine@stmarksottawa.ca

Suzanne Bisson: Suzanne@stmarksottawa.ca

Janis Perkin : janis@stmarksottawa.ca

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

Michael's Perkin's Reflection at Fr Julian's Farewell:

Welcome to our distinguished guests, friends and fellow parishioners.

Just over five years ago a tall dark stranger came into our midst and chaos ensued. Just four months into his ministry with us Father Julian had to guide us through the pandemic, and we all know the chaos that caused. What a way to begin a ministry, not even getting used to the cold Canadian winter and having to navigate a brand-new way to church.

Fr. Julian and a dedicated team quickly initiated a YouTube ministry that took us through services and a celebration of a virtual Holy week and Easter. You Tube led to live streaming which continues today. As a result, we were able to continue worship services and expand the good news well outside our traditional St. Mark's borders with viewers in the Bahamas, United States, Great Britain and beyond and is an integral part of what we continue to do.

Live stream allowed Fr Julian's preaching to reach out beyond the doors of St. Mark's but his preaching also brought about a deeper insight into our faith. Sermons took on a deeper insight into God's plan for us. Insights into his childhood reinforced and enlivened our understanding of the gospel and favourite bible stories and food. I personally enjoyed

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the salt and light aspects of his homilies. For me he reinforced the idea of salt as an enhancer to our relationships, that we as salt have a purpose in our community and in the world. And light, light illuminates that which is hidden and many of his stories and examples shone a light on the substance of our lives and showed the way forward to walk in faith.

But I don't want you to think that this is all, for some of you it will ring some bells, we were introduced to dynamic bible studies, the reinvigorating of our pastoral care team and reinitializing pastoral visits, introducing us to our Bahamian brothers and sisters and helped celebrating Bahamian independence days and their 50th anniversary New signage for our church, outreach for Ukrainian relief in Ottawa, and initiating a robust and immensely successful Black History Month and he was instrumental in a successful St. Mark's 75th anniversary celebration . He encouraged our youth and those interested to participate in services either as servers, readers or as assistants at communion, he opened our doors to University students to study the architecture of our church and in doing so opened up a continuing relationship. On the diocesan front he facilitated the Diocesan Anti racism effort and spent many hours on call at the Ottawa hospitals. He also brought his personal touch to the hatching, matching and dispatching (baptism, marriage and funerals). What a surprise to receive a blessing and a bath at baptisms (asperging the whole congregation as well as the choir). I am informed that at one of the weddings that he officiated the guests were more enamoured with him than they were with the bride and groom. Funerals were always a solemn occasions and he insured the families were comforted.

But Fr. Julian was not just about ministry, leadership and faith journeys. He also enjoyed fellowship. Over the 5 years with us we have had numerous opportunities to experience fellowship and community, always willing to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. Food was an important aspect for Fr. Julian, I don't

think he ever refused a dinner invite or a goody bag to take home. One of his endearing features was his challenges with Canadian winters, often he would be in full winter attire while some us were still in shorts and short sleeved shirts, And his selection of head gear to keep his brain warmed up for service was a sight to behold. I wonder if he will have the same challenge in Kansas, or will he be saying I don't think I'm in Ottawa anymore.

I think I speak for us all when I say that the past five years have been a wonderful and eventful experience. Fr. Julian your time with us has been a wonderful, worshipful and exhilarating adventure. I for one will miss you and your ministry and I know that your picture on our rogue's gallery will always elicit a smile and pleasant memories. We wish you well on your continued ministry and pray that you are surrounded by a loving and supportive community in Wichita.

Let gratefulness ascend, courageous deeds extend

From isle to isle. Long let us treasure peace,
So may our lives increase, our prayers never cease.

May God's blessing follow you as you find new journeys to travel. May you walk safely along the pathways of your dreams. May His gentle hand guide the decisions you will make and the passions that you follow. May your heart and life always reflect His love and truth and may hope be a light within you that you carry into each new day.

Amen

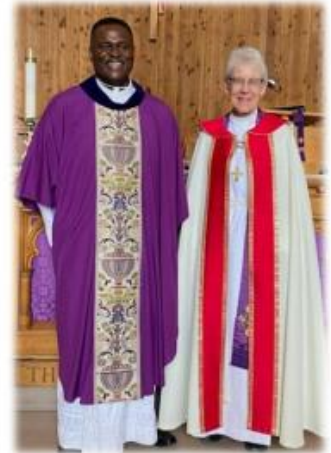
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ODE TO FR. JULIAN
On the Occasion of His Departure



From your island home with sun-bleached sand
You traveled to this wintry land
Where breeze would through the palm trees blow
Now gales would heap great mounds of snow!
And yet, once warmed with polar fleece,
With Canada you made your peace.
Five years have passed in Ottawa,
And now you're off to Wichita.
Some memories you're sure to take
To later share for old time's sake,
Like how we spoke of our "trespasses"
And mentioned "services", not "masses".
At coffee hour, the fare was moot
As long as one plate offered fruit,
The drinks were off the mark, I fear,
Because there was no ginger beer!
To bells St. Mark's was introduced,
With holy water we were sluiced.
When the pandemic closed our doors
You took on taped performance chores.
In those months one could not determine
Who took a nap amid the sermon,
Unlike today where there's no choice
To doze while hearing that rich voice!
We've stretched our muscles theological
When answering questions pedagogical.
Last year you helped us plant a tree
For St. Mark's anniversary,
Through all the seasons that have passed
We've come to say farewell at last
God bless you as you leave this place
And shed on you His holy grace.



— Brenda Zanin
January 12, 2025