



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 7:9
May 15, 2026

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.

- Georgia Roberts celebrates her birthday on May 15
- Wanda Bowman celebrates her birthday on May 22

Live Streaming

The service will be streamed at 10 am on Sunday. [service bulletin](#) The link is also available on the home page of our website.

Bible Study

Bible Study will continue this Wednesday at 10 am. The reading will be John 7: 37-39.

Pentecost

On Sunday May 24 we will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. As part of our celebrations, I would like to have the Lord's Prayer read in as many languages as possible. If you speak a language other than English and would be willing to recite the Lord's Prayer along with others, please speak to the Rector



This is a photograph of the clergy of the diocese of Ottawa taken at the ordination of Bishop Kathryn. Thanks to Jenny for the photo.

[Here](#) is the link to the video of the service.

Tulipathon Walk for the Multifaith Housing Initiative

The annual Tulipathon Walk, hosted by The Multifaith Housing Initiative, is being held during the afternoon on Sunday, May 24. It starts and finishes at Commissioners Park across from Dows Lake. Registration starts at 2:00 p.m. with opening ceremonies at 2:45 and the walk starting at 3:00. People from many faith groups will be walking in support of the important mission to provide safe and

affordable housing for low-income families, veterans, and others in need of a home in a supportive community.



This year, we again had an extra incentive to donate to the Tulipathon here at St. Mark's. An anonymous and generous parishioner matched donations

up to \$1,500! With the help of this exceptional donor we have now raised \$3,030. Well done St. Mark's! But we are not done yet. Laurie and Brian will be accepting donations after the 10 o'clock service for the next two Sundays. You can also donate online (talk to Laurie or Brian for details).

Please consider walking with the St. Mark's team along the Canal and making our presence known. You can complete the walk in 20 to 30 minutes. If you can't make it to walk, then a donation towards our church's contribution would be very welcome.

See either Laurie Slaughter or Brian Harrison for further information on donating and walking. We need you!

Coffee, Company & Conversation

It was a quiet Thursday morning at CCC. The creative writing team did not meet as their facilitator was ill. Thus it was "coffee and conversation" that occupied the group, along with delicious food.

Suzanne Bisson and Georgia Roberts were the bakers of the day, and they covered the snacks table with quite an array of goodies. There were carrot bran muffins, lemon loaf, orange nut cookies, butter tart squares and chocolate banana loaf. Mini ham or red and green pepper quiches in puff pastry were warm from the oven, and brie, Boursin, jalapeno and cheddar cheeses along with salsa, complemented pita chips and crackers. In addition, there were pineapple, orange and cantaloupe slices. Thanks to two of CCC's amazing bakers, Georgia and Suzanne.



Next week, as it is Asian Heritage Month, there will be a special speaker at CCC. Miyo Brown was born in a Japanese internment camp in Canada during World War II, and her

story of her family's experience living through the war in a camp and how they coped, is not to be missed. Join the group at CCC next Thursday to hear a very personal tale of endurance and enlightenment.

Notes from Parish Council

It's so good to see flowers blossoming and buds on trees after our Ottawa Winter. Your Parish Council invites you to join us as we emerge from the colder, blustery months.

Awareness Days:

You may have noticed last Sunday that there was a red dress hanging on one of the doors into the Sanctuary. *Red Dress Day* (May 5) is a day of remembrance and action to honour Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit people (MMIWG2S). Each year on May 5, red dresses are hung in public spaces as a powerful reminder of the lives lost and the ongoing impacts of colonial and gender-based violence.

St. Mark's recognized the day by hanging a red dress on our front door on Fisher Avenue.

Moose Hide Campaign Day (May 15) is grounded in Indigenous ceremony and traditional ways of learning and healing. A cornerstone of the Moose Hide Campaign is the moose hide pin. Wearing the pin signifies your commitment to honour, respect, and protect the women and children in your life and speak out against gender-based and domestic violence. To date, over seven million moose hide pins have been distributed free of charge to communities, schools, and workplaces across Canada.

National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21): Celebrated in the Summer Solstice, the longest day of the year. For generations, many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities have celebrated their cultures, languages, and traditions at this time of year. The summer solstice holds deep spiritual and cultural significance for many Indigenous Peoples, marking a time of renewal, connection, and celebration.

St. Mark's Field Trip: To celebrate Indigenous Peoples' month and as a Parish Field Trip we invite you to join us on Saturday, June 20 to

attend a Pow-Wow organised by Mādahòkì Farm at Wesley Clover Park (near Kanata). Mike Duval has generously offered to be our 'guide' for this day. Look for posters and sign-up sheets in the coming weeks to express your interest in participating and help us organize a carpool to get to and from the event.

Additional Parish Services and Events:

Ascension Sunday (May 17): Each year on Ascension Day, we commemorate the bodily ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven. We celebrate this 40 days after Easter Sunday (which was actually Thursday, May 14), marking the conclusion of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances.

***Parish Spring Cleanup Day* (May 23)**

Spring is finally here, which means it's time once again for our annual St. Mark's Spring Cleanup Day!

This year's cleanup will take place on Saturday, May 23, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, and we are looking for volunteers to help make our church property look its very best for the season ahead.

There will be a variety of tasks available, including:

- Raking
- Gardening and weeding
- Lawn cutting and trimming
- Parking lot sweeping
- Window cleaning and organizing
- Minor repairs
- Installing hoses
- Garbage and litter pickup

No special skills are required as there will be jobs suitable for everyone. Whether you can spare an hour or stay for the whole morning, your help would be greatly appreciated.

We also encourage you to bring along family and friends as we come together to show where we worship with pride, care, and love for our church community.

Please bring gloves and any personal protective equipment (PPE) you may wish to use. Most importantly, come prepared for a great morning of volunteering, fellowship, and

social interaction with your fellow parishioners.

Coffee and snacks will be served in the morning. Then we'll celebrate coming together by christening our new BBQ with a light meal from the grill!

We hope to see many familiar faces as we work together to keep St. Mark's looking welcoming and beautiful for our community.

Pentecost (May 24): Wear red or orange to celebrate this important feast day in our church life. Join others as we say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice to help us feel the Holy Spirit around us. Please speak to the Rev. Mary-Cate Garden if you'd like to volunteer.

Don't forget to check-out the Parish Council board in the Link for our monthly financial. Look for posters and sign-up sheets around the church for some of the activities mentioned above.

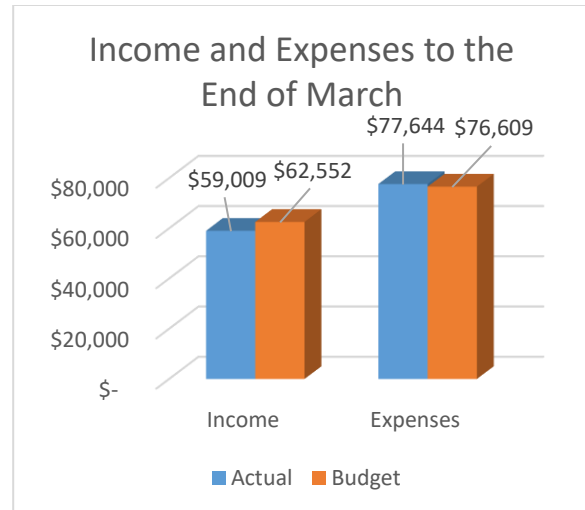
If you have questions, please connect with the Rev. Mary-Cate Garden, your Wardens (Joseph Amuah, Mike Duval, Janis Perkin and Gillian Martin), and members of your Parish Council.

We look forward to coming together in fellowship with you at these events. Thank you for your continued support!

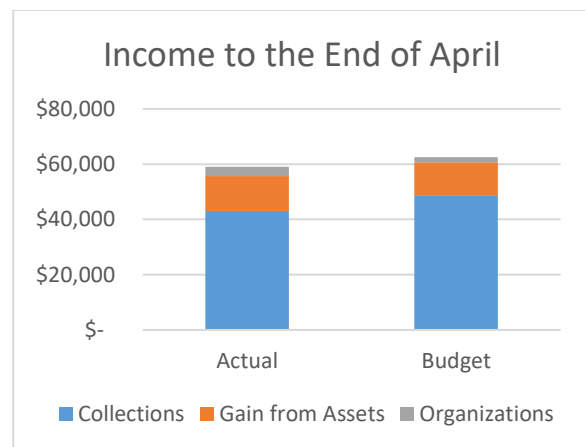
Gillian Martin
Deputy Rector's Warden
St. Mark's Anglican Church

Financial Update

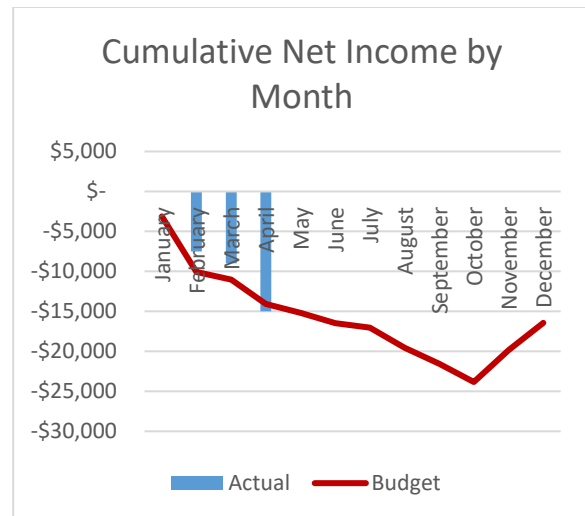
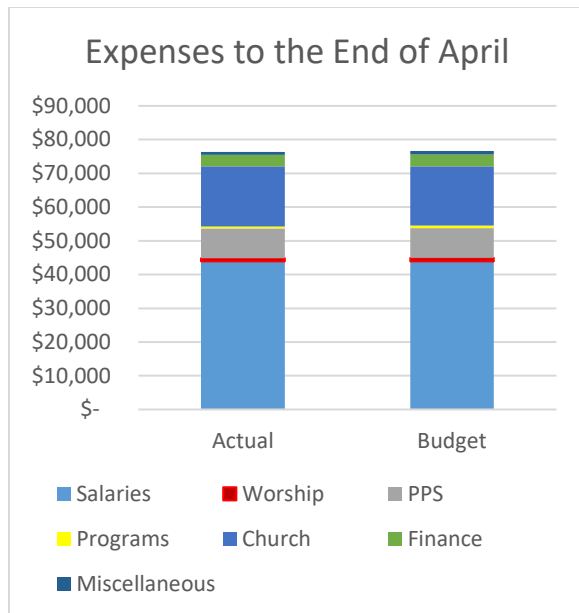
In general, we are a little under where we expected to be at this point in the year. Our expenses have been a little higher and our income a little lower. Please remember that this is expecting that our expenses will exceed our income by ~\$16,500 at the end of the year.



where the income came from was slightly different. We have had increased income from Gain from Assets (mostly User Fees) and Organizations (mostly Bazaar and Pancake Supper) and less than expected Collections income. We are now about \$5,500 less than expected in our collections income. While there was increased income in Gain from Assets from User Fees. We have not been receiving our cheques for solar income so have received almost \$2,000 less than expected there. I have spoken to Hydro Ottawa about this but have not yet heard back.



When we look at our expenses, we find that the categories are very close to our budgeted amounts. Some amount of variation is expected.



Salaries – All staff salaries and any fill ins

Worship – Altar guild supplies (bread, wine, polish, etc) piano/organ upkeep, Music, Flowers

PPS – Proportional Parish Share (Fair Share, Apportionment)

Programs – Black History Month, AED (Defibrillator) upkeep, conferences & memberships, synod

Church – Facility Maintenance and Upkeep including electricity, gas, water, cleaning, cleaning supplies, etc

Finance – Bank Charges, Insurance

Overall, we are doing about the same as expected. The graph below shows cumulative net income throughout the year. The red line shows where we expect to be at the end of each month. The blue bars show where we actually are. Please note that all numbers shown on this graph are negative, which is pretty typical. If we break even, this would normally not happen until December with Christmas and the end of the tax year. Also not that we are slightly below where expected due to low collections and solar income.

Parish List

If you have changed your home address, email address, landline or cell number that you previously gave us, please send the changes to the office so we are able to put out an up to date directory. Thank you to those who have already done so.

If you are a recent member who may not have filled in a membership form, please ask for one from a sidesperson, the office or membership chair, Cynthia Greer.

E-Prayer

E-prayer is now managed jointly by Cynthia Greer and Joy Bowerman. If you have a concern for which you would like prayer, you may contact Cynthia Greer at 613-723-2680 or greercynthia69@yahoo.com or send an email to Eprayer@stmarksottawa.ca. Likewise, if wish to be included on the E-prayer list, you may use the same contact information.

Rev Mary-Cate’s contact information

Mary-Cate’s email is MaryCate@stmarksottawa.ca You may call her at 613-231-7451 or 416-709-3487.

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,

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Zehrs Markets, Valu-mart, Fortinos, Wholesale Club and T & T Supermarket. Please talk to Joy about purchasing coupons.

Emails Addresses for Key People

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

Rev Mary Cate: MaryCate@stmarksottawa.ca

Joy: stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca

Elaine: Elaine@stmarksottawa.ca

Janis Perkin : Janis@stmarksottawa.ca

Joseph Amuah : Joseph@stmarksottawa.ca

Mike Duval : Mike@stmarksottawa.ca

Gillian Martin: Gillian@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 unable to get to church, putting a cheque in the mail is always an 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.



May 15, 2026



SPRING SEASON 2026

a weekly gathering for seniors
in the community
coffee, goodies & featured activities

**Every Thursday
10:00am - 12noon
April 2 - June 18, 2026**

SENIORS – COME & JOIN US



**St Mark's Anglican Church
1606 Fisher Avenue, Ottawa**

For more information contact:
St Mark's at 613 224-7431



UP-COMING ACTIVITIES

- April 2** Games and Koffee Klatsch
- April 9** Guest: **Davina Pearl** - much in demand Ottawa saxophone player and band leader, with guitar partner, **Gino Scaffidi** in a duo presentation of popular classic standards and light jazz
- April 16** Creative Writing Group and Koffee Klatsch
- April 23** **Jamie Anderson** – guitarist, songstress and songwriter – a CCC favourite
- April 30** **Laurence Wall** – well-known former CBC radio broadcaster presents ***Canada's History in the 20th Century through the Magic of Radio***
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- May 7** Guest: **Russell Wilkins** - on ***Challenges and Surprises in Genealogical Research***, a presentation of 20 to 25 minutes
- May 14** Creative Writing Group and Koffee Klatsch
- May 21** Guest: **Miyo Brown** - presenter on her family's Internment experience as Japanese Canadians during WWII
- May 28** Games and Koffee Klatsch
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- June 4** Guest: **Glebop Jazz Trio** – a return visit by a popular group presenting well-loved favourites in music and song
- June 11** Games and Koffee Klatsch
- June 18** End of Season **Luncheon** hosted by the CCC Team

BACK ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2026, WITH A NEW FALL SEASON!