



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 118th Edition - June 30, 2022

Photo Courtesy of Charlie Porter



From the Rector

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, we'll have a reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians, which is nicknamed "the epistle of Christian freedom." We generally think that to be free means having no limitations, no boundaries, no controls. But being free doesn't mean we can do exactly as we please in all circumstances - even though the supporters of the so-called "Freedom Convoy" seem to think so. Theologically speaking, freedom is as much about surrender as it is about acquiescence.

Reinhold Niebuhr once said, "Man is most free in the discovery that he is not free." Certainly the Biblical message is that none of us is absolutely free - not even those who know the glorious liberty of being children of God. Our Baptismal Covenant reminds us that each of us has an obligation to the other and together we have an obligation to use our freedom for the greater good, not for personal gain. Yet

while it is absolutely true that individual freedom only finds its meaning when checked against the needs and responsibilities of the larger society, we cannot work for the freedom of our neighbour until we know ourselves to be freed from all of our besetting anxieties, complexes and pre-occupations.

When Paul encountered Christ on the Damascus road, he didn't find the God of his religious fanaticism or of his secret fears, but the living God who accepted him as he was - not as the person of impeccable spiritual credentials and scrupulous religious observance, but *as he really was*. This encounter set him free. He was freed when he lost himself in Christ and in

the communities in which Christ was made manifest. He was freed not by discipline, but by devotion. This is not to say that discipline became unimportant to him, that he tossed it aside; of course he didn't. But what he discovered was that a life of *only* discipline is one that is shrunken and withered and pointless. But a life of devotion, trained on the trellis of discipline, is one that is full and flowering and free. The glorious freedom Paul writes about is given to us by and in and through the One who is our pattern and inspiration - and hope.

Grace and peace,
Leighton

From the Wardens

No, it is not the end of June, is it? We are into July on Friday with all the Canada Day celebrations. Here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, there will be events for everyone - concerts, barbecues, park lunches, and family gatherings. With July 4th on Monday, we should see a lot of visitors to Niagara-on-the-Lake and St. Mark's. It is great to have our Church open seven days a week.



A reminder that our live streaming is operable and, if you miss the live service, you can watch it by going to our website any time after.

Our hopes for CHERRY FESTIVAL JULY 9th are very high. Expectations about the donations of jewellery, treasures, clothing and books are being met. And more. Volunteers have really stepped forward to make this day special.

A reminder that you will also see elsewhere in E-News is that there are two services on Sunday all summer. It is a nice time of day at 8:30 a.m., pleasant temperature, sun rising, birds chirping and a pleasant walk through the Cemetery. If you haven't been back to church since the pandemic, please come and bring a family member, a friend, or neighbour.

It is a welcome surprise that requests for weddings in 2023 are being received frequently. In the past few recent weddings, we have had many compliments on our Church and grounds. All the remediation work done over the past three years is being recognized.

For those who asked about having the full service in the Sunday leaflet, we will start doing that on July 3rd. It will be easier to have everything in one place, instead of referring back and forth from the leaflet to the Book of Alternative Services. Comments are always appreciated.

Our carillon will play O Canada at noon on July 1st.. Have a great holiday weekend and see you in Church. There will be the usual lemonade and a special something after the service.

See you in church!

As always, a reminder to advise the office of anyone who needs assistance, including a phone call, food delivery or some phone companionship. Or over the fence.

Stay safe – keep well

Called to Life – Compelled to Love

Your Wardens

Parish Updates

In-Person Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Wearing a mask is now an individual's choice.

Live-Stream Sunday Services

[Click Online Worship Button on St. Mark's Website](#)



On Duty this Week

Greeter(s) - Allan Magnacca, Harriet Tunmer, Nancy Bongard

Reader - Bob Cross

Intercessor - Jim Collard

Altar Guild - Virginia Mainprize, Pat Kingdon, Mary Webster

Order of Service

The Order of Service can be found on our website: [Order of Service Web Site Page](#)

Church Bells

A reminder to all that the Church Bells play on Sundays at 12:05 pm. Enjoy!

Staying Up to Date!

Click on this link to find this and recent copies of our E-News: [View our recent E-Newsletters](#)

Click on this link to view our Calendar: [Visit our Calendar](#)

[Click here to access St. Mark's Anglican Church Facebook page](#) You can also access our Facebook (St. Mark's Anglican Church Niagara-on-the-Lake) page when on our website by clicking on the Facebook icon that looks like an "f".



Did you know...

Did You Know that the windows in St. Mark's are considered the finest collection of stained glass in Ontario?

Historically they were a way of teaching the Gospel and colours were used as codes within the stories.

In the Almas window we see Mary wearing red shoes which we interpret as foreshadowing of the crucifixion.

Thank you to Donald Combe and Ann Lindsay, St. Mark's Archives, for providing these short informational pieces on a weekly basis for E-News.

Saturday, July 9 - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

We are on the countdown to Cherry Festival and excited to be holding this wonderful community event again.

Volunteers are welcome, please contact the office (905.468.3123) or Andrea Douglas at adouglas@bell.net if you can assist.



Bible Study via Zoom

Monday morning Bible Study have now concluded for the summer. We will resume after Labour Day on Monday, September 12.

We are sending Zoom invites via Constant Contact to those who regularly join the Bible Study group. If you would like to attend Bible Study via Zoom, please contact the Rector to have your name added to the distribution. rector.stmarks.notl@gmail.com

Morning Prayer Services - Wednesday Mornings - 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday morning Zoom services of Morning Prayer have concluded for the summer. We will resume them after Labour Day on Wednesday, September 7.

Weekly Prayers

In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Jennifer Smith, David and Gene Anne Smith, Wendy Steel, and Traver Straker and their families.

We pray for those shut in their homes, Fred Habermehl, Fred Dixon, Joy Ormsby, Selina Appleby, and Joan Draper.

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for Canterbury Hill Camp, Sharon Millar, Camp Director; staff; and campers.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Rt. Rev. David Greenwood, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Athabasca, and The congregations of the southern area of the Saskatchewan Synod.

We pray for the sick, especially remembering Jacquie White, Jack Taylor, Margaret Stimson, Terry, Jan Brown, Lisa, Dorothy Walker, Sharon, Dick, Bev Garrett, Jodey Porter, Sean, Joshua, and Ben Buholtz.

**MUSIC
NIAGARA
FESTIVAL | 2022**

Music Niagara 2022 Summer Festival

Visit [Music Niagara 2022 Summer Festival](https://www.musicniagara2022.com) website to view their summer schedule and to buy tickets. Many of the concerts will be held at St. Mark's.

Support Ukraine Relief with



PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund

The Anglican Church of Canada

PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund is receiving donations for our partners in Ukraine. These include:

- Hungarian Interchurch Aid, supporting Ukrainians seeking safety on both sides

of the Hungarian-Ukrainian border;

- HelpAge International, supporting seniors and their families seeking safety on both sides of the Moldovan border;
- Initiative E+, providing medical supplies, equipment and care to Ukrainians who have been injured by Russian attacks
- Fight for Right, supporting a 24-hour hotline for people in Ukraine with disabilities receive the care they need or safe evacuation

...And more.

How you can help

To make a donation to this response online, [click here](#)

Please keep the people of Ukraine in your prayers. You may also donate by phone at 416-822-9083 or leave a voicemail toll-free at 1-866-308-7973 and we will return your call, or mail your cheque to PWRDF, 80 Hayden, 3rd floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 3G2.

Please note if you unsubscribe from any email sent from St. Mark's Church via Constant Contact, you will no longer receive any emails or information from us. If you wish to unsubscribe from a specific mailing list (ie, Bible Study, E-News), please email the office at stmarks@cogeco.net Thank you.

[St. Mark's Anglican Church Website](#)



St. Marks Anglican Church | 41 Byron Street, P O Box 582, Niagara-on-the-Lake, L0S 1J0
Canada 905.468.3123

[Unsubscribe stmarks@cogeco.net](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by stmarks@cogeco.net in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!