



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 105th Edition - April 1, 2022

From the Rector

Dear Friends:

Yes, How do you know you're going in the right direction? These days it's likely to be because you're using GPS—even if it isn't necessary. A few years ago, I was going from Boston to Tanglewood with a friend who had never been. She was driving and as we got into the car, she put the address into the GPS. "You don't need that," I said. "I know how to get there."

"Well, I feel more comfortable having the navigation on."

"There's nothing to navigate! We simply head west on the Massachusetts Turnpike. It takes us right there. No turns or anything." I did not prevail. The GPS was engaged. And wouldn't you know it?—the journey was exactly as I'd said it would be. Then, just as we arrived, came the final insult.

"That was easy—just like you said."

"I know. Why didn't you trust me?"

"I thought you'd be wrong."

Sometimes we simply need to let go and trust that those we're journeying with to get us there.

I've always marvelled at the fact the disciples were not only willing to leave everything and follow Jesus on a crazy three-year adventure but were also willing to go with him to the place he said it would all end badly. When we read the gospels, it seems they didn't believe—or refused to hear—what Jesus taught them over those three years. But maybe they did believe and hear, even if their belief was only half apprehended and their hearing so often tuned to the voices of their own desires. And even if they didn't understand the full extent of Jesus' teaching, they were aching to live life more fully and authentically and somehow knew Jesus could show them the way.

Dear friends, in one week's time we will be on the threshold of Holy Week, the sacred time when we must again contend with the great themes of leadership and loss. It's a time when



we place our hand into the wounded hand of the One who will show us the way—not only out of this present moment of uncertainty but also out of this troubling existence. Dare we follow in faith? Can we believe the end of the story isn't, in fact, the end of the story? Do we hear the eternal words of welcome beyond the present words of goodbye? We do. We do—so let's steel ourselves to follow and to find the ecstasy of surrender.

Grace and peace,
Leighton

From the Wardens

St. Mark's fully opened last Sunday with a snowstorm and freezing rain; many appropriately stayed home. It was very nice to welcome back those who did come. As Liz Fischer said Sunday's church is an event that makes her week. Thanks to her driver! A service with no pew ropes makes a big difference.

A good amount of St. Mark's revenue is rentals and events, and we are pleased to say the office phone is ringing for available dates.

We are happy to announce that Music Niagara will once again be holding many of its concerts at St. Mark's this season. For 24 years we have had an excellent relationship, and both recognize the unique qualities of our Church.

Yes, we are working on the streaming service, and we expect everything will be a go by Palm Sunday. We are very aware of our online audience that has been with us for almost two years, and we do not want to disappoint or not have you with us. Our Rector's sermons are available on our website. They are truly excellent and on topic.

As we prepare for Easter, last month we included the service times for Easter Week. Please note on Easter Sunday the first service is at 8 am!

Our "calling group" under chair of Kathy Taylor are busy and are ensuring everyone receives a call, a message or a visit when needed. Those in church will notice the flags on the right are missing. As the flag poles have gradually started to bend, new poles have been obtained and they will be back up for Easter.

Cherry Festival plans are moving ahead with many former group leads agreeing to carry on with their tasks. Donations of treasures and good quality clothing including hats, scarves, gloves and purses will be accepted in June as storage space is limited. Jewelry donations are welcome now. Books are gratefully declined as we already have many more than we can sell. Please contact the office if items must be dropped off before June.

We had exciting news from the Government of Canada. St. Mark's has received a New Horizons for Seniors grant for a video series about Robert Addison, the British missionary who founded St. Mark's. Addison was a remarkable man who over 37 years played a pivotal role in the history of Upper Canada and helped shape the province where we live today. The series will be written and produced by Barbara Worthy and will feature Donald Combe. Filming takes place this summer, and the videos will be ready by fall.

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



Holy Week and Easter Services

Sunday, April 10 **Palm Sunday**

Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist at 10:30 am

Monday, April 11

Holy Eucharist at 10:30 am

Tuesday, April 12

Holy Eucharist at 5:00 pm

Wednesday, April 13

Holy Eucharist at 10:30 am

Thursday, April 14 **Maundy Thursday**

Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar at 5:00 pm

Friday, April 15 **Good Friday**

The Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 12 noon

Sunday, April 17 **Easter Day**

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am

Sung Eucharist at 10:30 am

Parish Updates

We are Open for In-Person Sunday Services

Please remember that wearing a mask at all times continues to be mandatory.

Email: stmarks@cogeco.net.

Tele: 905-468-3123.

On Duty this Week

Greeter - Chris Bjorgan

Reader & Intercessor - Larry & Joan Bourk

Altar Guild - Patty Rowland, Jennifer Smith, Virginia Mainprize

Live-Stream Sunday Services

Sunday Services are Live-Streamed and currently available on [Facebook](#).

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!

Church Envelopes

Church envelopes that still need to be picked up are now available in the Church.



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](#)



Easter Flowers

Lent has just begun but we are already planning for a glorious, festive and flower-filled Easter celebration. If you would like to make a donation towards Easter flowers, there are two ways of doing so. You will find Easter donation envelopes in the church pews; you can return these to the alms basins at the back of the church or deliver

them to the office. Or you can telephone the office to arrange your donation. In both cases you can ask the the donation be in memory or in honour of whom you wish.

Bible Study via Zoom

Our Lent Bible study concludes on Monday morning. We will be reading the second part of John's narrative, and the relevant text is chapter 19. The Zoom link will be sent out on Sunday.

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

You can join the weekly Morning Prayer Zoom service through the Zoom invite sent from Father Leighton.

Weekly Prayers

In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Gavin and Joyce James, Chris and Jeanne Jennings, Laura Kelley, and Peter and Nancy Kemball 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 Church of the Apostles, Guelph; the Reverend Naomi Miller, Rector; Canon Frances Darlington, Honorary Assistant, and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Most Rev. Anne Germond, Metropolitan, and the people and clergy of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, and the congregations of the Eastern area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod.

We pray for the sick, especially remembering Jackie White, Jean Baker, Jack Taylor, Margaret Stimson, Gillian MacKay, Terry, Jan Brown, Lisa, Dorothy Walker, Sharon, Dick, Bev Garrett, Jodey Porter, Sean, and Joshua.

Newark Neighbours Food Bank Donations!

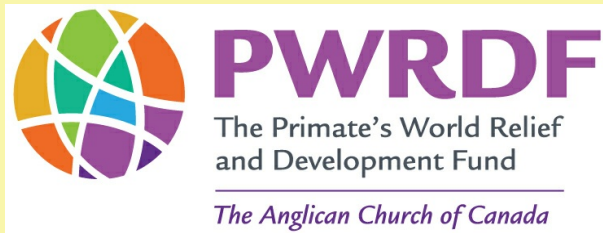
A "yellow" collection bin is in Addison Hall for you to leave donations to the Newark Neighbours Food Bank. [Click here](#) for a list of needed items. Bill Ford will again deliver the

donations to Newark Neighbours, who serve 60 needy families in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Your assistance is always appreciated!

Cherry Festival 2022

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

Cherry Festival 2022 Jewelry Donations: The Jewelry Team is asking for you to drop off your jewelry donations to St. Mark's Church Office. They can be left in the office for the Jewelry Team to pick up. Kindly note, we are asking for jewelry that is in good condition, and, that has been cleaned, prior to donation. We also ask you donate the jewelry on or before June 15th deadline, as our team will need enough time to sort, price and organize the pieces. We are always looking for extra help on the Jewelry Team if you would like to volunteer. Please contact Donna Bell (Jewelry Team Co-Leader) @ (905) 357-0159 if you have any questions; OR Anjulika Chand (Jewelry Team Co-Leader) @ (905) 347-1711. Thanks to everyone as we look forward to a wonderful Cherry Festival this year.



PWRDF is [supporting Ukrainians forced to flee their homes](#) due to the Russian invasion. The initial grant of \$20,000 issued to an ACT Alliance appeal has been increased to \$50,000. The grants will fund the work of Action by Churches Together (ACT) member Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA).

As the war began on February 24, tens of thousands of Ukrainians fled for safety elsewhere in Ukraine or to neighbouring countries. Yelena was one of hundreds of Ukrainians in line at a border crossing into Hungary, waiting with her three children while her husband is on the frontlines. She told ACT, "We heard that the Polish border is completely jammed, so we decided to cross the mountains and try to make it into Hungary. My sister is still on the way, I have no idea where she or my nieces are."

On February 27, HIA set up a 24-hour refugee support point on the Hungarian side of the border at Beregsurány, where the line of refugees trying to cross into Hungary is kilometres long, says an ACT communiqué. HIA is providing hot tea, sandwiches, refreshments, blankets and basic hygiene items for Ukrainians, including many elderly and children who are waiting long hours to cross the border into Hungary.

"We've been standing here at this border checkpoint for more than five hours," says Yelena. "It is cold and my children are freezing. It is amazing to see that people are here to help, and even just talking to you gives us hope for a better future."

This is a rapidly evolving situation, please monitor PWRDF's website and social media to stay up to date on new developments.

How you can help

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

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

Frozen Cherry Pies and Canned Goods

The following items are available now to purchase from the Church Office. Pass it on!



- Frozen Cherry Pies - \$20 each
- Frozen Pea Soup - 1 Litre - \$15
- Cherry Juice - 1 Litre - \$15
- Cherry Juice - 1/2 Litre - \$8
- Picked Beets - Medium - \$8
- Cherry Jam - Small - \$5
- Cranberry Sauce - Medium - \$8
- Cranberry Sauce - Small - \$5
- Stewed Tomatoes - 1 Litre - \$15

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



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