



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 110th Edition - May 6, 2022

From the Rector



Dear Friends:

We hear so much these days about the identity crisis of mainline Christianity and of the increasing irrelevance of the Christian message to contemporary life. Yet at the same time we are also hearing about how people are searching for deeper meaning, greater connection and a sense of transcendence in their lives. They are searching for communities in which they can ask profound questions about the meaning and purpose of life and about what resources they need to sustain lives that are truly alive, fully human and deeply

engaged with the world. They are searching, ultimately, for communities that are open and broad rather than closed and narrow, communities that will welcome them and give them room to roam and to explore.

In his book, *Fire from Heaven*, Harvey Cox writes,

"Today's seeker is often looking for some very practical results. The post-modern pilgrims are more attuned to a faith that helps them find their way through life here and now. There is something quite pragmatic about their religious search. Truths are not accepted because someone says they are true, no matter what the leader's religious authority may be, but because people find that they connect; they 'click' with their own quotidian existence."

This is a notion of Church, of being and doing Church, that those of us who are used to having our theology, spirituality, and liturgy nicely defined—to say nothing of having our denominational boundaries clearly marked—struggle to understand and accept. Yet none of these things is of first importance to those who are seeking deeper meaning, to seekers. What *does* matter to them is that the communities they encounter, no less than the people who comprise them, are authentic, open and loving.

One of the messages we hear during Easter is "Do not be afraid." Do not be afraid: Christ has gone ahead to make the way safe—not easy, to be sure, but safe—and so we can go into the future with confidence. Do not be afraid: the Church will not only survive but will

also be renewed by God's transformative grace. Do not be afraid: fear's hold on life can be broken through generosity and the power of love.

This kind of love is proved in our willingness to be open to the needs of others, and in our willingness to let people belong before they believe. It's not proved by what we say or in the creeds we confess, but in what we do, in how we put our faith into action. If we're to become the people and communities God is calling us to be, we must learn to listen to the One who calls us into the future. True, the way to the future passes through the valley of the shadow death. But never fear: beyond it is the new life of God's indescribable and liberating love.

Grace and peace,
Leighton

From the Wardens

We begin this letter with many thoughts. We are back to two services, we are seeing some parishioners returning, we are starting to see visitors not only on Sunday but during the week wandering around the cemetery and trying the church door. All very encouraging. It is understood that Covid is still prevalent in Ontario and we must be cautious. The church follows all the necessary protocols and masks are mandatory. The nicer weather we hope will encourage more of us to be in church.

This past week we had a Parish Council meeting which included two interesting presentations and some discussion. We will be sharing more in the next few months. A very positive note is that Parish Council members have agreed to be Greeters. They will be identified as Parish Council as well as a Greeter.

Counters are still needed on a rotation of only once a month. This important role takes less than 15 minutes after church. Please volunteer!

Last Saturday, the first of many weddings this year took place. It was a beautiful day, and more than 90 guests were welcomed. As expected, the beauty of our church and the grounds brought many compliments. Some photos will be on our website.

With the two summer students, the church will be open seven days a week for visitors. Donations from visitors is potential revenue we have missed these past two years.

The Cherry Festival teams are progressing very well with their preparations for July 9. Volunteers are needed both prior and on that day. Please contact the office or Andrea Douglas.

With the Canada Summer Games being held in the region from 6th-21st of August, we hope to participate in some fundraising activities.

This Sunday we will have the privilege of having Archdeacon Bill Mous as our celebrant and preacher. Bill has been at St. Mark's several times over the past four to six years. Unfortunately, due to pandemic restrictions we cannot have a coffee hour.

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

We're Hiring this Summer

St. Mark's is seeking two people to work as heritage interpreters this summer. The jobs, financed by Canada Summer Jobs, are open to youth aged 15 to 30. These are eight-week positions at the church, 35 hours a week, including many weekends. As a heritage interpreter, the successful candidate will welcome visitors to our historic church and cemetery, describe the history and lead tours. They will also assist with the Cherry Festival, parish archives, heritage work in the cemetery, communications and administrative tasks. The skills required are: effective interpersonal skills, excellent oral and written communication, dependability, organizational ability, initiative and a willingness to learn. Transportation to the church is required.

Applications should be emailed to Andrea Douglas at adouglas@bell.net no later than May 10.

Parish Updates

Mary Hazell Funeral Service

Saturday, May 14 at 11:00 a.m.

A reception will follow in the Hampton Court room at the Prince of Wales Hotel. Everyone is most welcome.

In-Person Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

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

On Duty this Week

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

Reader & Intercessor - Jane DeMunnich

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](#)

Altar Flowers

The Altar flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Yvonne Playle, a long-time parishioner and invaluable member of the Altar Guild by Christopher Kim Playle and Diane Zorn.

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](#)

Queen's Jubilee Concert - June 4, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.



Celebrate the Queen's Jubilee at St. Mark's with The Newark Singers and Orchestra. **They will be performing the four Coronation Anthems by G.F. Handel.** Poetry of Royal substance will be interspersed between the Anthems, read by Donna Belleville and Jamie Mainprize.

Reminder that all Concert attendees must wear a face mask. At the time of ticket purchase, the purchaser will need to leave their name, email, and telephone number in case the Concert has to be cancelled due to any Covid protocols that may arise and tickets will be refunded.



Tickets are \$20 each and St. Mark's "Box Office" will be open to purchase tickets **in person only** (cash or cheque) in Addison Hall on the following days and times in May (when tickets are sold out, we will announce this in E-News and on the website):

Addison Hall

Mondays in May – 9:30 am to Noon

Tuesdays in May – 9:30 am to Noon

Thursdays in May – 9:30 am to Noon

Between Sunday Services

Sunday, May 8 – 9:15 am – 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, May 22 – 9:15 am – 10:15 a.m.

Please note that we cannot take ticket pre-orders or orders by telephone or email. In-person only on dates noted above. Thank you.

Cherry Festival 2022 Saturday, July 9 - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Cherry Festival plans are moving ahead with many former group leads agreeing to carry on with their tasks.

Donations of:

- **Good quality clothing** including **hats, scarves, gloves and purses** will be accepted in Addison Hall starting June 20
- **Treasures** - Can be dropped off to Joan Bourk now - please contact Joan at jbourk@beemont.ca or call 905.468.0835 to arrange
- **Jewelry** donations are welcome now (see below)
- **Book donations are welcome** and starting June 20 books can be dropped off at Addison Hall



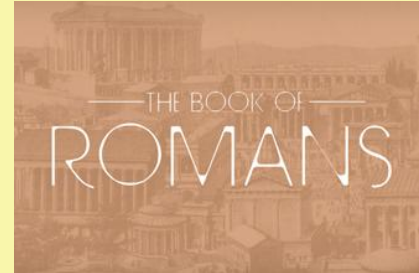
Please contact the office if items must be dropped off before June.

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) at (905) 357-0159 if you have any questions; OR Anjulika Chand (Jewelry Team Co-Leader) at (905) 347-1711. Thanks to everyone as we look forward to a wonderful Cherry Festival this year.

Bible Study via Zoom

Bible Study is suspended this week. We resume on Monday, May 16 at 9:30 am. The relevant chapters are Romans 7-11.

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.

You can join the weekly Morning Prayer Zoom service through the Zoom invite. Note that the Service Sheet is on the [Website](#) as well as included in the Zoom email.

Weekly Prayers

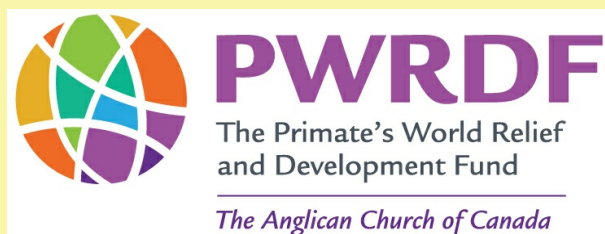
In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Craig MacLean, Donald MacLeod, Allan Magnacca, and Jamie and Virginia Mainprize and their families.

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 St. Luke's, Smithville, The Reverend Eleanor Clitheroe, Rector and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Rt. Rev. Susan Bell, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Niagara, and Bishop Sid Haugen, the people and rostered ministers of the Saskatchewan Synod.

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



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

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St. Mark's Anglican Church Website



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