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## E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 127th Edition - September 9, 2022

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**REVISED - to include documents from the Diocese instead of links.**

### From the Rector

Dear Friends,

Today is a day of great sadness as we mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II. On Sunday our service will begin with a brief liturgy to give thanks for her life and service. We will then sing "God Save the King"—something we must all get used to singing. People have wondered about having services in our parishes, and Bishop Bell has sent a letter out explaining the protocol about this. Here it is in brief: No memorial services are to be held until after the funeral in Westminster Abbey, the Canadian State Funeral in Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa, and the National Anglican service in St James

Cathedral in Toronto. You can read her letter to the clergy and wardens about this and the bishop's pastoral letter below.

The St. Mark's bells will toll in remembrance of the Queen immediately after the Sunday 10:30 service, 96 times, once per minute.

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This Sunday, at which the choir and servers return and the common cup is restored, will hopefully feel like we are well and truly back to normal—even if it's a new normal. So with the idea of the liturgy in mind, I want to write about a couple of liturgical issues folks have asked me about over the last little while.

The first is my using the pulpit on the north side of the chancel. I am not preaching from there because I want to look down on you (either literally or metaphorically.) But I can indeed look down on you insofar as I can see all of you. And that's very important. Preachers learn to "read the room" (as it were) and this helps with delivery and inflection and all sorts of things. But you can also see me—and hear me. At St Mark's we are blessed

to have a set-up where the preacher can be easily seen and heard. An unexpected bonus of using the pulpit is that it's very effective for services which are live streamed. I know it's fashionable for clergy to preach ex tempore and from the centre aisle. This has never been my practice; it would not be a success if I tried it. I strongly believe that preaching is a ritual act which means it is delivered from a full manuscript and from a place set aside for its delivery.

Folks have also wondered about the instruction in the service "please do not applaud the voluntary." This is not because we don't appreciate the music and the Director of Music's talents. We do. But the voluntary is both a part of the liturgy—the concluding part—and the musician's offering to God. Since we do not applaud other parts of the liturgy (like a sermon or anthem) we also shouldn't be applauding voluntaries. By all means go and talk to the Director of Music after the service and thank him. That's both lovely and appropriate. But it's also lovely and appropriate that the whole of our Sunday service be devotional and prayerful.

As you've all discovered by now, my approach to liturgy is a conservative one. The People of God aren't edified by disorganized services or by services which are casual and conversational. And if services are in many ways routine, that's a good thing since familiarity with the rite frees us to pray and meditate rather than being tied to constantly changing liturgical texts.

So as the autumn term progresses I hope that more and more our services will be both joyful and prayerful occasions, the beauty of which is a worthy offering to the author of all things.

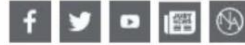
See you in church!

Grace and peace,  
Leighton

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## A Message to Clergy & Wardens



### In Memoriam: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

It is with profound and immense sadness that we share the news that The Queen has died, [as announced earlier today by Buckingham Palace](#).

Bishop Susan Bell joins with the Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, in extending our deepest sympathy to The King and all members of the Royal Family as they mourn the passing of The Queen, and offers prayers of gratitude for the lifetime of selfless service. May Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II rest in peace and rise in glory.



"For over seven decades The Queen led us: she has represented us, comforted us, shaped her nation, and upheld the values and beliefs of the Global Anglican Communion and of the Commonwealth she loved so much. She served her people faithfully with the whole of her life." [Please read the Bishop's full statement here](#).

You can also find statements shared by [the Archbishop of Canterbury](#), and [the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada](#).

The Bishop asks that clergy and wardens make arrangements for their church bells to toll, 96 times, once per minute, as soon as practically possible. Flags on church properties are to be lowered to half-mast until sunset on the day of the funeral.

There is normally a 10-day period between the death of the monarch and the funeral during which prayers as part of regularly scheduled liturgies are welcome.

After The Queen's funeral, the national Canadian memorial in Ottawa, and the national Anglican service of Evensong in Toronto, it is appropriate that special commemorative services be held in all parishes. The Bishop respectfully asks that no such services be held before these three important milestone events.

Additional guidance and liturgical resources will be provided in the coming days, as they become available.

#### **A Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Life of The Queen**

Loving God,  
we give you thanks and praise for the life and reign of Queen Elizabeth II:  
for her constancy, humility and service;  
for her compassion, wisdom and steadfast faith.  
Her race now run, may she rest in the peace of Christ.  
Give comfort to her family and friends in this time of grief.  
Grant grace to this and every nation,  
that we may live together in the hope and peace to which,  
in her life and work, she bore witness.  
In sorrow, in thankfulness, we pray all this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.


**CALLED TO LIFE  
COMPELLED TO LOVE**

**Anglican Diocese of Niagara**

Cathedral Place

[252 James Street North](#)

[Hamilton, ON L8R 2L3](#)

 [905-527-1316](tel:905-527-1316)

 [email us](#)

 [niagaraanglican.ca](http://niagaraanglican.ca)



## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP OF NIAGARA ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

### A Statement from the Bishop on the Death of The Queen September 8, 2022

Dear friends:

"Grief is the price we have to pay for love." These words were written by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as she comforted those who'd lost loved ones in the tragedy of 9/11. They are words that now have a different resonance as we acknowledge her death today.

For over seven decades The Queen led us—she has represented us, comforted us, shaped her nation, and upheld the values and beliefs of the Global Anglican Communion and of the Commonwealth she loved so much. She served her people faithfully with the whole of her life.

Her Majesty The Queen articulated a deep faith that informed her life of service—for which we give thanks. It is a matter of historical record that the Queen rooted the character and quality of her service in her coronation vows. She understood her reign to be a sacred trust given to her by God and her people. Her faith has been foundational to the exercise of leadership. Her relationship with the Anglican Church of Canada was deep and abiding as her many visits to our shores and our churches demonstrated.

Throughout her reign, the Queen encouraged us to seek after the common good in all things—and her unparalleled example of service will continue to inspire us to pursue this end with our whole being. In her letter to the Lambeth Conference this past summer, she said that the teachings of Christ had been her guide all her life and that in them she found hope. It was her "heartfelt prayer that {we} would continue to be sustained by {our} faith in times of trial and encouraged by hope at times of despair."

It is then with sorrow, but with gratitude, to that same God that sustained her hope, that we acknowledge that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has run the race marked out for her with perseverance—and more, with love and great dedication. We give thanks to God for all that she has meant to us and we commend her soul to Almighty God.

Loving God,  
we give you thanks and praise for the life and reign of Queen Elizabeth II:  
for her constancy, humility, and service;  
for her compassion, wisdom, and steadfast faith.  
Her race now run, may she rest in the peace of Christ.  
Give comfort to her family and friends in this time of grief.  
Grant grace to this and every nation, that we may live together in the hope and peace  
to which, in her life and work, she bore witness.  
In sorrow, in thankfulness, we pray all this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sincerely,

Bishop of Niagara

*The Right Reverend Susan J. A. Bell*  
Cathedral Place, 252 James St. N., Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2L3 Tel: 905-527-1316  
Email: [bishop@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:bishop@niagaraanglican.ca) Twitter: @BishopSBell

## From the Wardens

YES, we are back as promised along with all our commitments to begin our Fall Services with our choir, full Eucharist, smiling faces and happy Greeters.

A lot has happened since we last chatted In July ,we had a very successful parish picnic with close to 100 parishioners and Cherry Festival volunteers. The weather was great and the warmth of friendship and coming together were a wonderful start to our Fall events. The picnic was organized by Parish Council.

We had regretfully accepted the resignation in July of Candace Bennet-Walker as our Administrator. We were so fortunate that Candace had stepped out of retirement to very ably assist us in many ways. Our search time was quite short as a strong candidate expressed interest in the position. So, on August 28<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Erin McKinley to be our Administrator. The office hours have been extended to five days a week from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. We thank Candace for her continuing support and training for Erin.



The Fall brings us to a great deal of consideration for Thanksgiving and Christmas. There are plans for a concert, and several other events. More to follow as plans come together.

Greeters are still needed. This is a very important part of welcoming people to the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services and a wonderful opportunity to meet parishioners and visitors. There is a brief training session and a schedule is provided well in advance.

Counters are also needed after the 10:30 a.m. service. Counters work as a team of two and the task takes only 15-20 minutes at the most.

We said goodbye to our summer student Nicholas on Sept. 2. He was a great asset to St. Mark's, and will be missed. We wish him well as he continues his studies at Brock University.

Thanks to a generous individual the cemetery fence along Byron Street has been repaired and replaced. It was certainly time as most posts and support parts were rotted. By shortening the pickets by a minimum amount, most of the existing pickets could be used. Thanks to Gary Burroughs for supervising and working along with our contractor. We have now decided to fix the rest of the fence in front of the rectory where the same work was needed. This work is funded through donations and HPF.

Which brings us to the subject of financial support for St. Mark's operations. Thank you to all who have continued their givings during the pandemic, especially those who opted to pay regularly by debit or credit. Also, thank you to those who dropped off their envelope at the office or mailed it to us. The very successful Cherry Festival has certainly helped in reducing the current losses. However, Corporation and Parish Council have reviewed the estimates for the balance of the year, and we are still faced with a significant deficit. Operating expenses have been maintained or reduced where possible. The summer open plate from visitors touring the church was very helpful as mentioned above. Fall fundraising plans are badly needed. Although it is only September we will once again request a special 13th month donation. We are confident that working together as we have shown as a vibrant and welcoming parish that all will consider doing what they can to help ensure a balanced position by year end.

*It's OK to get angry with God, He can take it.*

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

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## 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) - Ann Lindsay, Gill Bryan

Reader - John MacBeth

Intercessor - Jim Collard

Altar Guild - Eve Wylie, Gene Ann Smith, Jennifer Smith

### ***Celebration of Life for Gillian MacKay***

Monday September 26th, 2022 - 1 p.m.

### ***Order of Service***

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

### ***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 page when on our website by clicking on the Facebook icon that looks like an "f".

## ***Did you know...***



That during the renovations in 1965 Kathleen Drope organized the ladies in the community who were interested in needlework? This project was professionally designed by the Royal School of Needlework in London. The chairs and kneelers reflect our history and our agricultural surroundings.



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.

## Weekly Prayers

In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Larry and Joan Bourk, James Bourne, and Catherine Bovaird and their families.

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

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.

We pray for those who have died, especially Liz Fischer and the ten victims in Saskatchewan.

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for St. Paul, Caledonia, The Reverend Cheryl Barker, Rector; The Reverend Deacon Nancy McBride, Deacon, and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Most Rev. Lynne McNaughton, Metropolitan, and the clergy and people of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon, and The staff of the British Columbia Synod.

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### Bible Study via Zoom

Our Zoom Bible Study begins again on Monday September 12th, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. We will continue to use Zoom as a number of our participants do not live in town, or are often travelling. I am hoping we can have a discussion about topics we would like to explore this autumn, as we look forward to more exciting and stimulating discussions.

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](mailto:rector.stmarks.notl@gmail.com)

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### Wednesday Morning Eucharist - 10:00 a.m.

In person Eucharist resumes Wednesday September 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Church.

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### Eucharist on Sundays

Beginning on Sunday, September 11, the common cup will be re-introduced at the Eucharist. There are a variety of points of view about this throughout the diocese and, indeed, the wider church. The House of Bishops of the Province of Ontario commissioned a paper which addresses the perceived risks and it can be read [here](#). Of course, anyone who is disquieted about receiving the wine may simply receive the eucharistic bread. This has always been the case. Those who wish to receive the bread only may simply depart from the communion rail after they have done so.

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### Men's Communion and Breakfast

It is with great pleasure that we can announce the restart of a long-time men's program that has been sorely missed during the pandemic. Starting on Wednesday, September 7 and every first Wednesday of each month thereafter, men of our congregation and their guests will participate in a quiet spoken Eucharist service in the church at 8:00 am, followed by breakfast at 8:45 am. If you would like to join us, please contact Greg Walker by [email](#) or phone (905) 262-6605 by Noon on Tuesday prior so that we can confirm numbers for breakfast.

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## The Choir Returns

After a long Covid-19 hiatus, we are delighted that the St. Mark's Choir will be back beginning on Sunday, September 11 at the 10:30 service. Choral music has always been an important part of the services at St. Mark's, and all of us have keenly felt its absence. The Director of Music is always happy to meet with prospective choristers. Previous choral experience, an ability to blend in a choral ensemble, and proficiency sight-reading are assets.

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## Counters

Counters are needed to collect and record the envelope and open plate funds after the 10:30 a.m. service each week. On a rotation basis, a counter would need to volunteer only once a month. Counting takes about 15 minutes and always requires two people. Please call the office or Allan Magnacca 416-727-0839 to volunteer or if you have questions.

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***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](mailto:stmarks@cogeco.net) Thank you.***

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[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

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