

Enews to the St. Mark's Pews
67th Edition July 9, 2021
St. Mark's Anglican Church est. 1792
Niagara-on-the Lake, ON

Hear the Good News! Hear the Good news!

Dear Friends,

"Taste is the only morality," John Ruskin once said. "Show me what you like and I will tell you what you are." Some of you have seen pictures on social media of the rectory as it slowly comes together and have no doubt discovered that my tastes run to the ... sparkling and gilded! So, following Ruskin's logic, does this mean I'm the human equivalent of a magpie?

All joking aside, our tastes do reflect our personalities and reveal who and what we are. And so this summer, I thought I could share a little bit of what I like as a means of introducing myself a little more to all of you.

But I'm not going to start with antiques and porcelain and auctions—though these things do occupy my thoughts much of the time. No: I'm going to start with the one thing I can't live without which is music. Classical music—or what a composer friend of mine now prefers to call "Art Music"—is the soundtrack of my life.

The composer I first fell in love with, and who remains my great love, is Handel. In the popular imagination he is known for a handful of works (like *Messiah*) but there is so much more. The fecundity of his musical and artistic imagination was astonishing, as the "re-discovery" of his operas (which had languished in obscurity for 200 years) has proved. Listen to one of his late masterpieces like *Hercules* or *Theodora* and you'll hear what I mean.

My musical horizons expanded in junior high when my cello teacher Helen, who is a dear friend to this day (and NOTL resident), exposed me to all kinds of music. I remember one afternoon in particular when she introduced me to Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*. Even now, hearing the plaintive bassoon solo which opens that tremendous masterpiece brings me back to that memorable day.

And so it has been ever since. Like all of you, not having live music and arts performances has been the hardest part of this pandemic. But now, being so close to Toronto I am eagerly looking forward to being able to hear the TSO and attend COC performances.

And then there's church. There's nothing like a thundering hymn or a sublime piece of vocal

polyphony to elevate one's spirit. What a day it will be when we're all back in church singing together! Of course there are those who think music in church is there simply for our enjoyment. In this I am in total agreement with Handel who, when he heard people enjoyed his oratorios, said, "I should be sorry if I only entertained them. I hoped to make them better."

Every blessing
Leighton

PARISH UPDATES

Migrant Farm Workers Ministry has two on going needs:

- due to the pandemic more people are outside on their bikes, which is wonderful, but it has led to shortages for the Bike Ministry. We need repair parts, if anyone has an old bike that we could use for parts to repair newer bikes your donations would be greatly appreciated. And we will always accept used bikes we can refurbish for the Migrant Workers in our area, it is the most reliable transportation they have. Bikes can be dropped off at St. John's in Jordan, or at St. Alban's in Beamsville. If you need someone to pick up the bikes please phone either church and we will arrange for them to be picked up or email Fr. Antonio. Thank you for your continued support.

If you have any questions about the Bike ministry please contact Fr. Antonio Illas at migrantfarmworkers@niagaraanglican.ca

- the Grocery Bag Ministry for the Migrant Workers is in need of a few 'younger' volunteers who can help with the 'unloading' of cars, every Friday night for an hour, between 4-5 at St. John's in Jordan. If students are in need of volunteer hours we can fill out the paper work. Please contact Fr. Antonio to coordinate.

migrantfarmworkers@niagaraanglican.ca

Keeping in Touch On-line

*Our Sunday morning services are **streamed** on Facebook at 8:00 am. Simply go to St. Mark's Niagara-on-the-Lake Facebook page. The service will be uploaded to YouTube also by 8:00 in the morning.*

Please use these URLs to watch:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Marks-Anglican-Church-Niagara-on-the-Lake-235477056649804/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-vVgNf0GbuxrfIjW4sOXzQ>

Our Facebook and YouTube channels can also be accessed through our website:

<https://stmarksnotl.org/>

WARDEN'S LETTER

What should be summer holiday family visits and travels, restrictions are lifting so we are able to do some of our annual plans. If you can please enjoy and be safe.

We await updates from the Diocese on changes that would allow us to be more active in our parish activities.

We continue with our online services as well as Bible Study on Mondays. The parish office will be open on a limited basis with Roxanne being on vacation from July 12th to July 19th. Gary Burroughs will be in part of the time. All messages will be picked up daily. If urgent please call Fr. Leighton or either Warden.

We encourage as always our parishioners to keep their givings current. There are many ways to do this through credit card, debit or automatic withdrawals. Please also consider St. Mark's in your estate planning.

Our letter is short due to our restricted activities and holidays. Keep everyone in your prayers and for a safe early return to what will be a new normal.

Enjoy your week-end, stay safe

Called to Life – Compelled to Love

Your Wardens

WORSHIP:

Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan

Every week, the Bishop continues to lead Sunday Prayers at 10:00 am on our [Facebook page](#). An order of service is posted on our online [diocesan COVID-19 resource hub](#) on the Friday before. Join a few minutes beforehand and say hello to friends from your church and across the diocese! Afterwards, the service is posted [on our YouTube channel](#) and the Bishop's homily is available on the resource hub.



READINGS FOR SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

[Sunday, July 11, 2021- Seventh Sunday After Pentecost -LINK](#)

2 Samuel 6:1-5,12b-19 With God's help, David has won battles over the Philistines; but in one, they captured the Ark. While it was in their hands, the Philistines suffered a plague which they blamed on the Ark, and so returned it to Israel.

Ephesians 1:3-14 Paul gives thanks to God for the spiritual blessings which are bestowed on the Christian by virtue of baptism. He also exhorts his readers to recognize the purpose of these blessings of the Christian life: to live "to the praise of [God's] glory."

Mark 6:14-29 Jesus' disciples have gone out, preached repentance, cast out demons, and cured many sick people but, while the crowds mill round him, the authorities are beginning to reject him. Herod has heard of the miracles done by the disciples, or of Jesus' fame – or both.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Submitted by Jane De Münnich)

Let us pray to God, the Lord of hosts, the King of glory.

God of all Creation, we turn to you in reverence and awe. Through our faith in Christ, purify our hearts, so that we might lead lives reflecting your goodness and glory. **Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

We give thanks to You for the presence in this community of John and Roxanne MacBeth, Barbara MacDonald, Gillian MacKay, and Judy MacLachlan. Thank you for the unique gifts you have given each of them, which in turn they have given us at St. Mark's. We pray for them and their families. **Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for the Church of the Epiphany in Oakville, led by The Reverend Ronda Ploughman, Rector who in fellowship with the people of that parish give you thanks and praise. **Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Rt. Rev. William Cliff, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Brandon. We also pray for Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, the people and rostered ministers of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, and the National Anglican & Lutheran Worship Conference. Guide them so that they may worthily magnify your name. **Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

We pray to You for the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially remembering Gillian MacKay, Terry, Don Dicarlo, Jan Brown, Lisa, Dorothy Walker, Sharon, Dick, Doug Garrett, Bev Garrett, Ross Tomlinson, Peter Ford, Jodey Porter, Sean, Gail, Jackie Johnson, and Joshua. And for those shut in their homes, Fred Habermehl, Fred Dixon, Joy Ormsby, Selina Appleby, and Joan Draper. Bring comfort and healing to their lives. **Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

We remember also those who have gone before us, especially Yvonne Playle, Mimi McEwan, and Sam Kingdon from our own parish. Give grace and strength to those who mourn their passing. **Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. May we find peace in your service, and in the world to come, see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hear now the words that Jesus taught us,

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**