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## E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 210th Edition -April 26th, 2024

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### From the Rector

On Sunday we'll hear a story in the Acts of the Apostles about Philip and a Eunuch who asks to be baptized. I wonder if the Eunuch really understood what the implications of being baptized were, how radical and counter-cultural it was?

You see, the Eunuch was an influential person who was in charge of the Queen of Ethiopia's entire treasury. He was grand enough to be driven around in a chariot. He lived and worked at the very centre of power and influence and therefore

was part of a small class of wealthy elites who had a disproportionate influence over the lives of a great many people.

One of the themes that runs throughout human history is how people who have accrued to themselves great wealth and influence come to see their status as a sign of divine favour. They forget where they've come from. Affluence causes amnesia. It turns neighbours into competitors for recognition, status, and goods. Like water dripping on a rock, it erodes the bedrock of society (which is community) in ways that are barely noticeable until the rock gives way and the whole thing collapses.

All of us, in our own way, suffer from the amnesia of affluence. And in our affluence-induced amnesia we're in danger of forgetting who we are. Most of us, in one way or another, have bought into some version of the prosperity gospel—but it's a lie. Yet the empire does all it can to make us believe it's true. It wants us to forget who we are and lure us into conformity.

Which is why baptism makes the empire nervous. It's an entry point into an alternate world which isn't subject to the greed and coercion of Caesar. People who are baptized are people with a peculiar identity, and people with a peculiar identity are inherently subversive. Which is why I asked if the eunuch knew what he was getting into when he asked why he shouldn't be baptized.

But maybe he *did*, in fact, know what he was getting into. After all, he was a eunuch—one whose manhood had been stolen from him, a person alone in the world without a spouse and without children, a functionary whose value was measured in how well he stewarded the queen's treasury. So it's no wonder that he used all the trappings of prestige and power

to console himself for being consigned to such a fate. He needed to forget who he was. He couldn't bear to remember.

All of that changed the moment those waters washed down over him. At that moment, he was called by God to a life marked by compassion not competition. His past was put away, and he was empowered to live a life of perfect freedom, because he now knew that the trappings of prestige and power were not important. And all because he'd been claimed by the love that would not let him go and would never let him forget who—and whose—he was.

Grace and peace,  
Leighton

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**The Very Reverend Peter Wall will lead both services  
on Sunday April 28, 2024.**

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**\*\*\*Please note\*\*\***

**There will be no 10:00 a.m. service or 5 p.m. service on May 1st, 2024**

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**As always, a reminder to advise the office of anyone who requires assistance, including a phone call, food delivery or some companionship. Even a chat over the fence!**

**Called to Life-Compelled to Love**

**Andrea Douglas  
Gene Anne Smith  
Wardens**

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**WE ARE NOW RECEIVING JEWELLERY DONATIONS FOR  
ST. MARK'S CHERRY FESTIVAL JULY 6TH 2024**



**Appraising, sorting and pricing of jewellery donations for  
Cherry Festival 2024  
has begun!**

**The jewellery committee starts this process in April as it is a very large undertaking, and will take until June to complete.**

**Bracelets, watches, rings, earrings and necklaces are now being**

**accepted. We look forward to receiving  
both fine jewellery and costume jewellery.  
A tax donation receipt will be given for articles valued over \$100.00.**

**Please ask friends and neighbours to think of us if they are cleaning out  
jewellery boxes!**

**Donations may be dropped off to the church office.**

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**The St. Mark's Cherry Festival  
Saturday July 6th, 2024**

**HAUTE EMPORIUM'S CATALOGUE WILL BE OUT THE FIRST  
WEEK OF MAY.**

**The Haute Emporium requests your help and support.**

We are happy to receive gently used clothing such as men's jackets, coats, sweaters, ties and trousers.

Ladies donations can include hats, purses, accessories, shoes, belts, and gently worn clothing items such as coats and jackets, sweaters, pants, blouses, skirts, pantsuits, evening gowns, sporting attire and casual wear.

We also hope to receive artwork, sculptures, silverware, China and crystal, treasures, garden statues, small pieces of furniture, lamps and collectibles, blankets, tablecloths, and books.

**When you are cleaning out your closets and cupboards please remember us!**

Tax receipts will be issued for things valued over \$100.00. Donations will be professionally appraised.

We will happily arrange for pick up closer to the date.

If you require pick up please call one of the ladies below:

Trudi Watson 905 468 3314  
Elizabeth Jamison 416 577 0750  
Dana Lutton 705 349-0324

**Please let your friends and relatives know we are accepting donations!**

**Be sure to share the date of St. Mark's Cherry Festival - July 6th - with your  
families, friends and neighbours.**

***We hope to make this year's Cherry Festival the best ever!***

Kindest regards,

Trudi, Elizabeth and Dana

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### **Parish Updates**

#### ***In-Person Sunday Services***

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist [Watch the livestream on YouTube](#)

#### ***On Duty this Week***

**April 28, 2024 - Greeter(s) - Chris Bjorgan and Marilyn Bardeau**

**Reader** -Wendy Steel  
**Intercessor** - Wendy Steel

**Server** - Deborah Paine

**Altar Guild** - Virginia Mainprize and Jennifer Smith

***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!

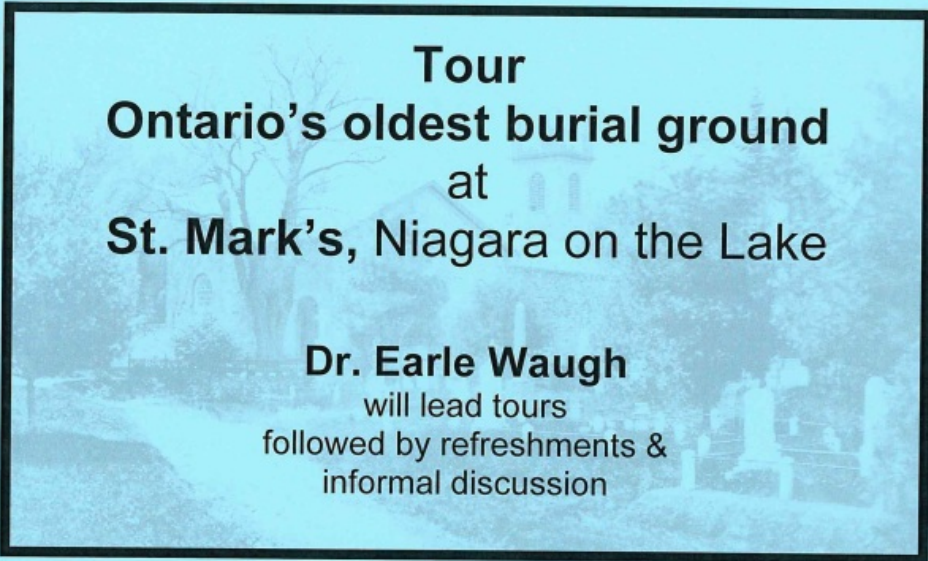
***Staying Up to Date!***

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

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**Tour**  
**Ontario's oldest burial ground**  
at  
**St. Mark's, Niagara on the Lake**

**Dr. Earle Waugh**  
will lead tours  
followed by refreshments &  
informal discussion

**2024 tour dates**

Tuesday, May 28  
Tuesday, June 18  
Tuesday, July 23  
Tuesday, August 13  
Tuesday, September 24  
Tuesday, October 22  
at  
3:30-5:00 in the  
afternoon

The \$25 admission fee will  
support our on-going  
**Monument Restoration**  
**Programme**

**Tour group size limited**

**Information & reservation**  
Phone St. Mark's  
**905 468 3123**

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH ST. MARK'S OFFICE**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Volunteers are needed to help keep the cemetery tidy. This includes trimming around the church building and memorial garden, branch and twig clean up after high winds, watering newly planted trees and assistance with shoveling earth into holes around the cemetery. Periodically we do require help laying sod in certain areas of the cemetery as well as the removal of large tree limbs after heavy winds.**

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Sally Mitchell [here](#).

**CHERRY PIE MAKING**

Pie makers are needed for three sessions from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon on

**April 29th and May 6th.**

If you are interested in joining a pie making team, please come to **Addison Hall** on the



dates listed above. Please bring an apron and a rolling pin.

We also require **volunteers** to transport cherry pails and frozen pies to and from St. David's storage.

If you can help please email Diane Turner at 19ab39@gmail.com or call 289-362-1827

### **NEWCOMERS WELCOME**



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### **MEN'S COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

**\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\***

**The next Men's communion Breakfast is scheduled for  
Wednesday May 8, 2024  
please contact Greg Walker  
gregoryfwalker@gmail.com  
for details**

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**St. Mark's Kitchen  
offers:**

**Hunter's Chicken with Rotini, Beef Cottage Pie,  
Regular Meat Lasagna and Chicken Vol au Vent**

**Introducing  
Kathy Taylor's Chicken Lasagna**

*(selling out fast - get in to get yours before they are gone)*

**\*\*Pop into the office to get your meals\*\***

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**SOUPS ARE AVAILABLE - INQUIRE IN OFFICE**

**Pea Soup**

**Curried Butternut Squash**

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**In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Alexandra Clarkson, Jim and Pat Collard, Donald Combe, and Penny-Lynn Cookson and their families.**

**In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for Christ Church, Flamborough, The Reverend Naomi Kabuki, Rector; and the honorary assistants and people of that parish.**

**In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Most Rev. Anne Germond, Bishop, the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews, Episcopal Administrator, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Moosonee, and the congregations of the Winnipeg area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod.**

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

**that the Military Reserve, known as The Commons to NOTL locals, has a history dating back more than 200 years? Shortly after Confederation, a military reserve for the defense of Canada was established in NOTL. This served as a summer training ground for infantry, cavalry and artillery. Camp Niagara Soldiers who trained here served in the Boer War, WWI, WWII and the Korean War.**

**When WWI began in 1914, The Commons and Camp Niagara had some training trenches patterned after the trenches in France. The most elaborate trenches were on The Commons, and featured barbed wire, look outs and connecting passages. There were also trenches on the Lake Common, where the NOTL golf course is now located. Outlines of these trenches can still be seen today.**

**In 1914, Camp Niagara trained more than 14,000 soldiers of the 2nd Division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. In 1915, 21,000 men and women received basic and special training here, with another 16,000 being trained in 1916. Many of the soldiers who died at Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele and the many other horrific battles of the Great War were trained at Camp Niagara.**

**Camp Niagara sat vacant during 1917 as recruitment dropped off. In September 1917, the United States sanctioned the creation of a Polish Army, and Butler's Barracks (known as Camp Niagara in the 20th century) was chosen as the location to train a Polish Army-in-exile. This part of the camp became known as Camp Kosciuszko. 22,395 expat Poles and Polish Americans trained here from October 1917 to March 1919, before being shipped off to fight in France and to free Poland from 123 years of foreign occupation.**

**Camp Niagara reached its greatest development during WWII when buildings, tents, parade grounds, streets and other necessary facilities covered much of The Commons.**

**With the end of the WWII, Camp Niagara was used as a summer training grounds. It was also the location of the 1955 World Boy Scout Jamboree. The camp was formally closed in 1966, which ended NOTL's identity as a modern military town.**



**Troops training at Camp Niagara 1914-1918**



**Tents in Camp Niagara during WWII**



**Troops arriving by train to Camp Niagara**

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### **Bible Study via Zoom**

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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***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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