



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 262nd Edition April 25th, 2025



From the Rector

Dear Friends,
Happy St. Mark's Day! For All the Saints, and wonderful resource of our Anglican Church of Canada, say this about Mark:

References to a person named Mark—or John Mark—appear quite frequently in the New Testament. Saint Paul mentioned him among his companions in the Letter to Philemon. In the Book of Acts Mark is described as the cousin of Barnabas the Apostle and the son of a wealthy woman of Jerusalem, whose house was a meeting-place for the disciples of Jesus. The Book of Acts also says that Mark accompanied Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey, but then decided to turn back. Paul and Barnabas fell out over Mark's decision; they parted, and Barnabas took Mark with him when he went to preach the gospel in Cyprus. In the First Letter of Peter, the author called Mark "my son"; and even if this letter was not written by Peter himself, it bears witness to a close association between the Apostle and Mark. Tradition identifies the Mark mentioned in these New Testament passages with the author of the Gospel.

It is generally agreed that Mark's is the earliest of the four gospels; scholars say that it was written around the year 68, probably at Rome. It was contemporary with the Church's first experience of persecution by the pagan authorities of the Roman empire.

And if you click the link below, you can see what I have to say about our patron and his eponymous gospel.

<https://youtu.be/SjmJVF60TJI>

**Grace and peace,
Leighton**

**There will be no livestreaming of St. Mark's services
on Sunday, April 27th,
or**

2025 ST. MARK'S CEMETERY UPDATE

SPRING CLEAN-UP AND GRASS CUTTING

Spring clean-up in the cemetery will take place the week of April 21st. Grass cutting will begin in May. This year, we are reducing the frequency of grass cutting to allow the grass to be longer, healthier, and more in line with eco-friendly practices.

TREE PRUNING

The annual pruning of the over 100 trees planted to create the cemetery arboretum will occur in late fall. This pruning is done to remove deadwood and promote the ongoing health of the trees.

CREMATION BURIALS

The cemetery will reopen for cremation interments in late May when the ground has thawed.

At the same time, the hoses will be reinstalled once the risk of frost is over.

STONE CLEANING

A refresher meeting will be scheduled in late May or early June to review the fundamentals that were taught last year.

Anyone is welcome to join that meeting to learn how to clean our historic monuments with non-toxic ingredients.

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

The cemetery is looking for volunteers to help keep it tidy. It involves walking the cemetery, picking up any debris, twigs, and branches throughout the summer. Some pruning may be required, including the ivy in and around the memorial garden.

Anyone interested, please contact Sally Mitchell @ semitch215@gmail.com.

MONUMENT RESTORATION

Al Ernest will be restoring and repairing over 30 historic monuments this summer. This will complete the five-year programme begun in 2021. By the end of this year, over 140 monuments will have been restored. There will be some that will require repairs and restoration, but the major work will have been completed.

DONATIONS

Donations for ongoing tree maintenance are most welcome. **St. Mark's issues annual charitable donations receipts for donations totalling \$50.00 or more.**

CEMETERY TOURS

Earle Waugh will conduct his cemetery tours again this summer, beginning in June. Once the dates are confirmed, an update will be provided in the E-newsletter.

Join and support the Bishop's Company

Bishop Susan Bell has put out a call to invite the parishioners of St. Mark's to join her in the Bishop's Company. As a member of the Bishop's Company, you are supporting programs and initiatives within the Diocese of Niagara, including diocesan and parish ministries, the provision of emergency care for clergy, deacons, and licensed lay leaders, and bursaries for religious and leadership education. Your commitment also strengthens the Anglican community as resources are provided beyond our diocese for our fellow siblings in Christ.



Membership benefits include:

- Support for the Bishop's important pastoral ministry.
- Exclusive invitation to Bishop's Company's members-only events, **including the upcoming Annual Members Dinner on May 13, 2025!**
- Updates from Bishop Susan on the Bishop's Company Fund and diocesan matters.
- A charitable tax receipt.

To register as a member, simply visit <https://admin.niagaraanglican.ca/bishops-company/> and join now! If you would like to join by cheque – or would like to purchase a parish table for the dinner – please ask Erin McKinley for a registration form/brochure.

Should you have any questions, please contact Hannah Keller, Registrar for the Bishop's Company. She can be reached at hannah.keller@niagaraanglican.ca or by calling **905-527-1316 ext. 380**.

MEN'S COMMUNION AND BREAKFAST

You're invited to join us at the next Men's Communion and Breakfast, set for
Wednesday, May 7th at 8 a.m.

This is a fantastic opportunity to come together for fellowship, reflection, and a delicious breakfast.

It's a chance to connect with friends, meet new faces, and strengthen our community.
Plus, who can resist a great meal at the NOTL Golf Club?

We would love to see you there—mark your calendar and come share this special morning with us!

Please R.S.V.P. Greg Walker at: gregoryfwalker@gmail.com.

DONATIONS WANTED!

St. Mark's Anglican Church is gearing up for its annual
Cherry Festival on July 5th from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
but we rely on donations from kind people like you.

We'll even pick up your donations!

Spring is here, and you're probably feeling the urge to purge!

That's right, it's time to tackle the clutter that's hiding in your cupboards, closets, garages, AND jewellery boxes.

We can drag that old garden gnome out of your garage!

We'd be thrilled to take all those unwanted garden pots, statuary, artwork, and festive decorations that only see the light of day once a year—yep, we're looking at you, Christmas decor and Halloween spiders!

Got books that you've read so many times you can recite them in your sleep? Let us

take those literary relics off your hands!

We will even accept those gently used hats, purses, and scarves!

Just a quick note: we cannot take shoes or boots!

And don't forget outerwear—vests, coats, and jackets are welcome! Just think of us as your **clutter rehab center**, helping you declutter and find new homes for your beloved items faster than you can say "spring cleaning!"

OH! And jewellery!

We're happy to take costume and fine jewellery. (Tax donation receipts will be issued for items appraised and sold for more than \$100.00)

So, let's purge with a smile and find new homes for your treasures.

If you have something to donate, please contact Trudi Watson at trudi4566@gmail.com or call her at 905-468-3314.

If you have costume or fine jewellery donations, please contact Carolyn Porter at carolyn.porter@sympatico.ca or call her at 905-242-6028

You are also welcome to drop off your items at the church between 9 am-2 pm.

But please call ahead

905-468-3123





Join Us for Pie Making!

**We are calling on
all volunteers
to help make delicious pies for the upcoming Cherry Festival.**

**The second session kicks off Monday, April 28th, and we would be
thrilled to have you on board.**

**Every pair of hands counts.
We truly need your support.
Whether you're a seasoned pie maker or a complete beginner, your
contribution will be invaluable.**

If you can lend a hand, it would mean the world to us!

**Please let Diane Turner know if you can attend:
289-362-1827 or email at 19ab39@gmail.com.**



**There will be three pie-making sessions held in
Addison Hall from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM
on the following
Mondays:**

**April 28th,
May 5th.
and
May 12th**

Donations of funds would also be appreciated.

**If you have any questions, contact Diane Turner at 289-362-1827 or email
at 19ab39@gmail.com.**

Thank you for your support!

Allan Magnacca answered the call for photos of **Life at St. Mark's** and submitted
this delightful gem he titled

"A FEW PIE LADIES"

You know, while most people are busy exercising in the spring to look and feel fit for summer,

The St. Mark's Pie Ladies

are training for the real Olympic sport: pie-lifting!

They've been logging serious hours (for years), perfecting their cherry pie-making skills.

They don't need personal trainers...they can hold a dozen pies in one hand and a whisk in the other!

I mean, where would we be without them? Probably eating sad, store-bought pies that taste like regret! Who needs a gym membership when you can get a workout by lifting and transporting all those delicious pies?

"Forget the salad and pass the pie"

has officially become our community motto.

These ladies know exactly how to turn fruit into happiness!
And let's be real: fruit is health food, right? So technically St. Mark's cherry pies are part of a balanced (and flaky) diet.



(Be like Allan - send us your pictures of Life at St. Mark's)

Send us your old photos!

Who doesn't relish a delightful journey down memory lane? There's something magical about flipping through old photographs—they can transport us back to moments filled with laughter and nostalgia.

If you have captured a moment that tells a captivating story, brings a smile to your face, or showcases something wonderfully unique, we're eager to see it! And let's not forget the rich history of St. Mark's; we would love to see your treasured old photographs featuring the people that make our St. Mark's community special. Share your memories with us and celebrate the moments that shaped our lives!

Send your pictures to the office, and we will spotlight them in our upcoming issues.

Parish Updates

In-Person Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

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

On Duty this Week

April 27th - Greeter(s) -Carolyn Porter 8:30 a.m.

Chris Bjorgan and Marilyn Bardeau 10:30 a.m.

Reader - James Mainprize

Intercessor - Donna Belleville

Altar Guild - Virginia Mainprize and Jennifer Smith

Server - Bob Cross

Order of Service

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

Church Bells

A reminder to all that the Church Bells play on Sundays at 12:05 p.m. Enjoy!

Staying Up to Date!

Click on this link to find this and recent copies of our E-News: [Visit our recent E-Newsletters](#)

Click on this link to view our: [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".

Prayer Cycles - We pray for:

In St. Mark's parish: Eve Wylie, Gary and Tammy Zalepa, Gary Zanner, and Phebe Appleton and their families.

In the Niagara Diocese: St. John, Elora, The Reverend Canon Paul Walker, Rector; The Reverend Canon Robert Hulse, Rector Emeritus; The Reverend Judy Steers, Honorary Assistant; The Reverend John Lockyer, Honorary Assistant; and the people of that parish.

In the Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer: The Rt. Rev. Todd Townshend, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Huron; the congregations of the Western Manitoba area of Manitoba of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod; and for our full communion partner churches The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the US-based Episcopal Church (TEC).



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