



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 207th Edition -April 5th, 2024



From the Rector

My friends, last week's services - to say nothing of the services on Easter Day - will not soon be forgotten. We had strong congregations at every service, dignified liturgy, beautiful music, and (I hope!) meaningful preaching. There are too many people to thank for making it all happen: the office and administrative staff, the greeters, the altar guild, the flower arrangers, the servers, the musicians (may I single out my colleague Tim Pyper who played with great aplomb on Easter Day?), the wardens. And, most of all, you. For

there's no point in celebrating these solemn and majestic liturgies without a community of faithful people who make them come alive. So it was truly heartening to see so many of you at these services.

But now what? This coming Sunday is nicknamed "Low Sunday" because after all the exhilaration of Easter Day, it's traditionally a "low" celebration—simpler, plainer, less exuberant. But it's a Low Sunday in another way, too. On Easter Day it's easy to pretend that every day is just like it—full of triumph and joy, with not a cloud to darken the sky of faith. And the reason it's easy to do on the Easter Day itself is because of the apparatus of celebration: the music and the flowers and the alleluias. But it's much harder to in the cold light of reality with most of those beautiful props taken away.

This is why the apostle Thomas, so often derided as "doubting Thomas," is a representative of all of us. But when you think about it, the other disciples weren't much readier to believe. Thomas was simply the one who spoke their doubts out loud.

And we doubt, too. Which isn't to say that we sometimes *do* say a resounding, "I have seen the Lord," especially when we are carried along by the enthusiasm of the crowd. More often, however, we say, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

Even so, we can see him, although not in the way Thomas did. Rather, he appears to us in the surprising faces and hands of folks who reach out to us and help us walk through the open door of adventure and possibility. He comes to us in the fortresses of our solitude and fear as the loving touch of one who, having been wounded in the house of his friends, is able to reach out and touch us with tenderness and empathy. He comes to us in the prisons of our uncertainty and unbelief as the driving force that breaks the locks of our confusion

and loneliness and nudges us out to experience the truth of Easter in the wonder and glory of living.

So the challenge for those of us who hear these Easter stories from the other side and with all of the cultural apparatus of Church and Faith behind us, is to see him in all of these unlikely actions and places and people. In the faces of those who meet their end with courage and grace, or in those who fight for human dignity without weighing the cost to themselves, sometimes, improbably, in the faces of passers-by. Sometimes, thank God, even in our own faces.

Grace and peace,
Leighton

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**

LIVE STREAMING OF 10:30 SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY

St. Mark's is happy to announce that beginning this Sunday, our 10:30 a.m. worship service will be live streamed on **St. Mark's YouTube channel.**

Go to the **Worship and Ministry page on our website: stmarksnotl.org** and click on the link under the 10:30 service.

There are also links on every page of the St. Mark's website that take you directly to our YouTube channel. Look for the YouTube icon beside the Facebook icon.

TUESDAY APRIL 16TH at 2 p.m. in ADDISON HALL

**How Canadian Aerospace Scientists
helped save
Apollo 13 Astronauts from certain death.**

Doctor Rod Tennyson Professor Emeritus was part of a team from the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies that helped the Apollo 13 spacecraft astronauts land safely back on Earth on April 17, 1970.

Rod will walk us through the gripping survival story of three courageous astronauts who were attempting a third lunar landing. Unfortunately, the Apollo mission had to be aborted due to a severe malfunction of both the electrical and life-support systems of the spacecraft. Instead of landing on the Moon, the astronauts looped around it and Rod and his fellow team members were able to help these courageous men return safely to Earth -their faith in God also inspired them to survive.

Despite unfortunate setbacks, the Apollo 13 expedition has since been regarded "as a successful failure" because valuable technical experience was gained in rescuing the crew.

If you are interested in brave human beings and how faith plays into the wish to survive, please join us on Tuesday April 16th, and enjoy fellowship, cookies, and coffee:
Please contact Dorothy Walker @905 262 6605 or email walkerdorothy2021@gmail.com

LARD COUNTDOWN

NEEDED: 200 1LB PACKAGES OF TENDERFLAKE LARD

RECEIVED: 180

ONLY 20 MORE PACKAGES OF LARD ARE REQUIRED!!

**CHERRY FESTIVAL 2024
SATURDAY JULY 6TH 2024**

The St. Mark's "Pie Ladies" plan to make 700 cherry pies for this year's Cherry Festival!

Donations of Tenderflake Lard in 1 lb. packages would be greatly appreciated.
Please drop off your donation to the office.

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

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

Parish Updates

In-Person Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

On Duty this Week

April 7, 2024 - Greeter(s) - Jo-Anne Hill and Ian Russell

Reader -Bob Cross

Intercessor - Wendy Steel

Server - Bob Cross

Altar Guild - Keith Bullen and Mary Webster

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".

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 four sessions from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon on

April 15th, April 22nd, 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 Kathy Taylor here or call 905-468-2536

NEWCOMERS WELCOME



MEN'S COMMUNION BREAKFAST

**The next Men's communion Breakfast is scheduled for
Wednesday May 1, 2024
please contact Greg Walker
gregoryfwalker@gmail.com
for details**

**St. Mark's Kitchen offers
Hunter's Chicken, Beef Cottage Pie, Lasagna, Pea Soup, and
Stewed Tomatoes**

**and
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*****

SOUPS ARE AVAILABLE - INQUIRE IN OFFICE

Roasted Tomato

Split Pea

In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Jeanne Bradford, Jodi Bradford, Grant and Linda Brooks, and Joyce Brown and their families.

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for St. John the Divine, Cayuga, The Reverend Canon Dr. Catherine Crawford Browning, Priest-in-Charge, and the people of that parish.

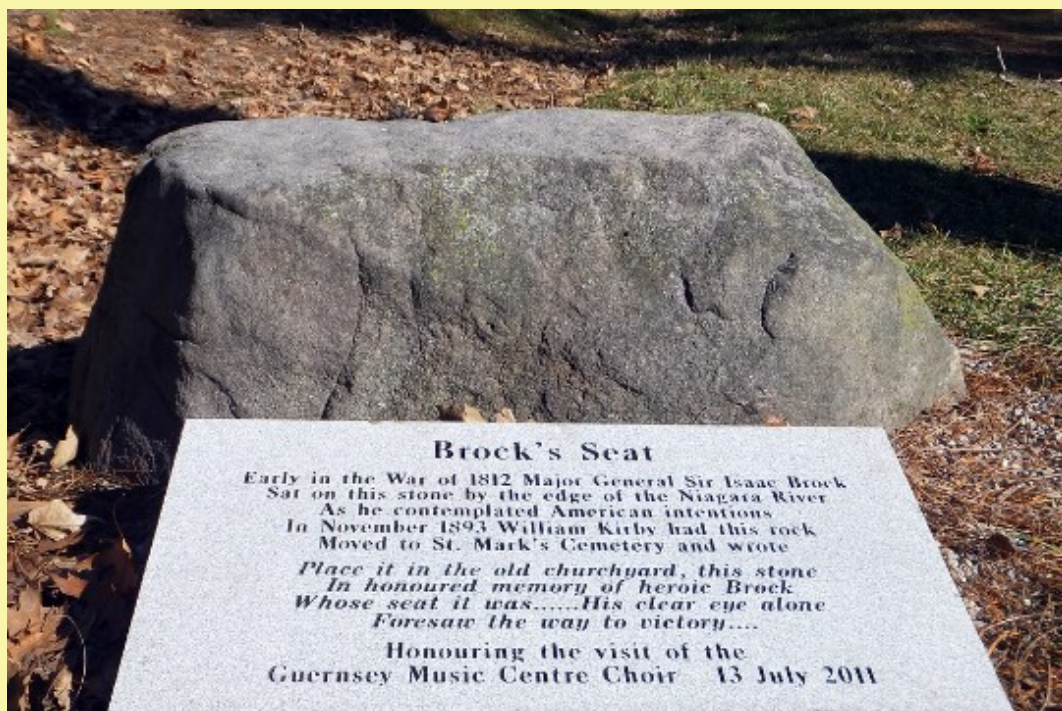
In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, and the congregations of the Central Manitoba area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod.

Did you know ...

.....that the story of Brock's Rock is a mixture of fact and folklore?

At the beginning of the War of 1812, General Isaac Brock would spend hours down by the Niagara River looking across to the US. He knew it was inevitable that the Americans would attack, and much of his time was spent imagining how he would counter the invasion.

It was on this rock, it is said, the Brock planned his strategy for the war. We do know for sure that Brock sat on a rock, but it is impossible to know with *certainty* that he sat on *this* particular rock. A NOTL local resident *was* certain that Brock sat on this particular rock, and when he learned that a huge dock was going to be built along the river, he was intent on saving it. He had the rock brought to St. Mark's cemetery, where it remains to this day.



Monday April 8th - SOLAR ECLIPSE

In Niagara, the eclipse starts at 2:07 pm and ends at 4:32 p.m.

The moon will cover 100% of the sun at 3:18 p.m.

How does the moon, which is 400 times smaller than the sun, completely block it

out?

In a wonderful bit of cosmic luck, the sun is also about 400 times farther away from earth than the moon is. This relationship makes the two disks the same size in Earth's sky. It gives the eclipse its perfect fit so that the bodies exactly overlap. (Albert Einstein used to say, "Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous.")

The last time the path of a total solar eclipse crossed Canada was in 1979. After this year, the next time a total solar eclipse will be visible from Canadian soil will be in 2044, when the path of totality will pass through British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

If you intend on watching the eclipse please remember it is imperative to wear the proper viewing glasses. Taking a photo of the eclipse with your cell phone is also not recommended.

The safest way to view the eclipse? Watch the coverage on television!

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

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 Thank you.

[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

[Unsubscribe stmarks@cogeco.net](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data
Notice](#)

Sent by stmarks@cogeco.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!