

E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 225th Edition August 9th, 2024



In the month of August, the Rector's column will be guest written by Interim Director of Music Michael Bloss.

...sing lustily and with good courage.

The Wesley brothers, Charles and John, who between themselves wrote close to 6,000 hymns, were very much centered in the Hymn Explosion. This movement, starting around 1800, inspired a renewed evangelical fervour amongst Christians. Hymnals, such as we know them today, were still around a century away, the wait ending with the English Hymnal (1906) released by Ralph Vaughan Williams and Percy Dearmer. The Wesley's and others provided late 1700's churchgoers modestly sized hymn collections such as Select Hymns (1761). In this collection, the Wesleys sought to collect the "best hymns" which would focus on personal repentance and assurance common to this evangelical revival. Quite a few of these hymns have remained in

contemporary Anglican usage including titles such as, *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, Christ the Lord is Risen Today,* and *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* to name but a few. As a genre, hymn singing at this time was still in its infancy. It was thought that using familiar secular tunes would help in the use of these new texts, however, that created a confusion between the sacred and the secular in the combination of text (sacred) and tune (secular). To break this singing inhibition, John Wesley wrote as a Preface, *Directions for Singing* to help congregations energize their singing. An encouraging and motivating document, the Directions apply to today's congregations as well. Interestingly, these Directions also form preface material in the current hymnals of the United Methodist Church and United Church of Canada.

Here are just a few extracts from this list of seven directions:

• Sing All. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to

you, take it up and you will find a blessing.

- Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep, but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice nor more ashamed of its being heard.
- Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to [do] this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your Heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve of here, and reward when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

What can we draw from Wesley's words here? Our voices need to project, connecting with the ones in front, behind, and beside us. And remember, there is NO such thing as a bad voice! Everyone can sing! Singing is prayer, rendered prophetically, with "outside" voice. Most importantly, our singing together creates community together. The inspiration a community of singers in song lifts up incites our response to God's Word, resulting in an even more profound alleluia whose sum is greater than all our parts.

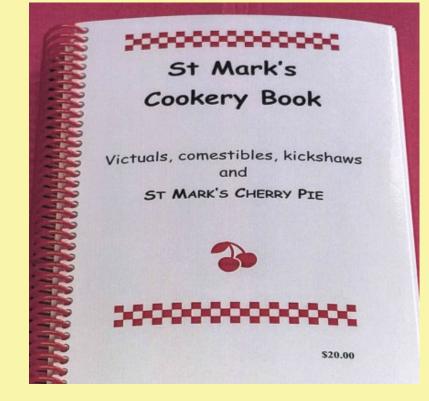
That's something to sing about!

From the Wardens

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



St. Mark's Cookery Book

Everyone knows that St. Mark's Anglican Church makes the most delicious cherry pies each year for our famous CHERRY FESTIVAL. Until now, the recipe has been a well-kept secret. Now, we are sharing our recipe with you!

St. Mark's Anglican Church NOTL presents ST. MARK'S COOKERY BOOK \$20.00

Have you ever wondered about the connection between St. Mark's and cherries? Wonder no more!

Legend has it that on one St. Mark's Feast Day long ago, His Holiness Pope Gregory I had a sudden overwhelming desire for cherries. (Like most NOTLers do every July!) The servants and gardeners were at a loss. The cherry trees were in bloom, but the fruit was weeks away. Miraculously, St. Mark appeared to one of the gardeners and when he heard about Gregory's craving, he blessed a cherry tree causing it to be covered with ripe, red cherries.

Church ladies are often good cooks, and this is certainly true of the ladies (and gentlemen) of St. Mark's who have contributed their recipes to this book.

Not only will you have access to St. Mark's famous Cherry Pie recipe, but you will also have recipes for Appetizers, Soups and Snacks, Main Courses, Salads and Sides, Jams, Chutney, jellies, Cherry Blossom syrup, and many recipes for sweet and savoury baked goods including Cherries Jubilee.

If you would like to purchase a copy of St. Mark's Cookery Book Call St. Mark's at 905-468-3123 or email us at stmarks@cogeco.net

> Please join us this Sunday August 11th for a MIDSUMMER MUSIC concert by our very own Michael Bloss. "A Canadian Roadtrip" 2 p.m.

> > **FREE ADMISSION**

MIDSUMMER MUSIC AT ST MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

AUGUST SUNDAYS AT 2 PM

AUGUST 11 A CANADIAN ROADTRIP MICHAEL BLOSS, Organ and Piano

41 BYRON ST, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE • (905) 468-3123 FREE ADMISSION

How much do you know about St. Mark's Cemetery? Why not take a tour with Dr. Earle Waugh and learn all about Ontario's oldest operating cemetery? Afterward, you can enjoy some nibbles, a glass of wine, and a discussion about what you have just learned! 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, 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

Join us for the final Chiming Concert of the summer! Bring a blanket or lawn chair and listen to The Bells of St. Mark's



St. Mark's first rector, the Reverend Robert Addison, arrived in July 1792 with a collection of over 1,500 volumes, which is the oldest library in Ontario. In 1862, Addison's grandsons presented the library "To the Rector of St. Mark's Church, Niagara, And his Successors in perpetuity." Two of the volumes in the Addison Library are manuscripts. One of them, a collection of 18^{th} century sermons, has already been published by St. Mark's Archives Committee. The scholars who catalogued the Addison Library said about the other, "One of the most interesting and valuable items that may have been added to Robert Addison's library before his departure for Canada is not a printed book, but a MS (No. 1254) filled with notes on sermons and records of sermons preached from early in 1756 to the end of 1780, kept in a neat 18^{th} century hand."

St. Mark's Archives Committee plans to publish the Notebook, as a companion to the 18^{th} Century Sermons to make it more available to scholars studying the English Dissenters, and particularly their community in Hackney in the latter half of the eighteenth century. Like the Sermons, the Notebook will be published as a limited edition. Carruthers will print the 188-page text on 70 lb. natural text stock and Van Huizen will complete the volumes with Smyth sewn pages and marble endpapers, bound and trimmed to $8-3/8 \times 10-7/8$ with calf leather and gold stamped spines.

We invite those interested in supporting this project to become patrons. Patrons' names will be listed in the front of the limited-edition publication of the Notebook. Patrons may choose either to sponsor the donation of a copy to a library, or archive, or to receive a copy for their personal library at a reception for all patrons in St. Mark's Addison Hall.

PATRONS: Two Hundred Dollars

For further information please contact:

Susan Peacock at 905-262-0869 speacock23@hotmail.com

Donald Combe at 905-932-4175 donaldcombe@me.com

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Enigmatic Graffiti found on inside cover of the manuscript

Parish Updates

In-Person Sunday Services 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist <u>Watch the livestream on YouTube</u>

On Duty this Week

August 11th - Greeter(s) - Douglas and Colleen Hunter

Reader - Wendy Steel Intercessor - Wendy Steel

Altar Guild - Eve Wylie, Gene Anne Smith and Jennifer Smith

Server - John Shaver

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: <u>Visit our recent E-</u> <u>Newsletters</u>

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: John Northfield, Daryl Novak, Deborah Paine, Joe Patchell, and Susan Peacock and their families.

In the Niagara Diocese: In the Niagara Diocese: St. George, Lowville, Campbellville, The Reverend Stephen Blackmore, Priest-in-Charge, and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer: The Rt. Rev. Geoff Woodcroft, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, and the dean, council, and congregations of the West Central Area of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

* Looking for VOLUNTEERS for READERS and INTERCESSORS group * An important part at St. Mark's is the involvement and participation of our Readers.

I am hoping to hear from a few parishioners who may be interested in joining our R&I group. The next schedule begins in September. Please contact me at tammy@garyzalepa.com

St. Mark's Anglican Church Website



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