



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 256th Edition March 21st, 2025



From the Rector

Dear Friends,
This Lent, my Friday meditations are coming to you as short videos. Click the link below to view this week's.

<https://youtu.be/gQ3rYRqKPhs?si=PSOKi4euUfxyX4Gv>

See you in church.

**Grace and peace,
Leighton**

An Important Message From the Rector

On Wednesday, March 19, Gene Anne Smith resigned as People's Warden.

The Canons of the Diocese of Niagara require a special vestry be held within 30 days. Palm Sunday is April 13, so would be inappropriate to hold a special vestry on that day or on any of the subsequent days in Holy Week.

The election will happen on **Sunday, April 6** following the 10:30 service.

No other business will be considered or conducted at the meeting.

Though Wardens are called "Rector's Warden" and "People's Warden," this does not imply any priority or distinction of duties. The two wardens, along with the rector, form the Corporation of the parish with perpetual succession. The difference in nomenclature simply describes how the wardens arrive in office: one is appointed by the rector and the other is elected by the people.

Nominations are now being sought from the parish for this important role. Nominations forms are available in the office. If you would like to nominate someone, please make sure you have their permission.

If you want to know more about the work of the Corporation in general and the Wardens in particular, contact the office.



Lent is a significant period in the Christian faith dedicated to reflection and penitence. During Lent many people engage in daily devotional readings to foster deep soul-searching. Music, too, offers a powerful non-verbal means of accessing one's inner emotions and facilitating a profound introspection of the soul.

To support a musical approach to your Lenten journey, I am providing a daily musical reflection video for each of the 40 days of Lent.

These videos were released on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and will continue until the evening of Palm Sunday. Please click on the photo on St. Mark's website to enjoy a daily organ piece inspired by Lenten hymns and scriptural themes, composed by musicians from the early Baroque period to contemporary times. You will see and hear the organs of St. Mark's, and I will provide a short introduction to each piece for context.

Sundays in Lent are less somber as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. To represent this, videos of organ music recorded in some of the larger churches in London, Guelph, Toronto, and St. Catharines will be shown.

I invite you to take a moment to share your thoughts on the music we've experienced together. Consider the emotions the pieces stirred within you—did they evoke joy, nostalgia, or perhaps reflection? Did any melodies resonate with a biblical story or touch upon a significant moment in your journey? Your insights are incredibly valuable, and I genuinely want to hear from you.

Your thoughts matter! We invite you to take just a minute to share your comments at michaelbloss@hotmail.com. Your insights can significantly deepen our understanding of the music's impact and help shape the conversation around it.

I hope these musical vignettes become a meaningful part of your Lenten practice.



Michael Bloss
Director of Music

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS

We graciously invite you to consider donating your unwanted garden pots, statuary, artwork, china, household items, and decorative pieces for any occasion.

We are also pleased to accept gently used hats, purses, and scarves. (However, we ask that you refrain from donating shoes or boots.)

Additionally, we welcome outerwear, including vests, coats, and jackets. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and your contributions will make a positive difference. Thank you!

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

Thank you for your kind consideration and support. Together, we can make this year's Cherry Festival the best yet!



And.....



**DONATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR
FINE AND COSTUME JEWELLERY**

The Jewelry Committee begins the job of appraising, sorting, and pricing donations in April to be ready for

St. Mark's Cherry Festival on Sat. July 5th.

Donations of fine and costume bracelets, watches, earrings, necklaces and rings can be dropped off at the church office.

**A tax receipt will be given for articles
valued and sold over \$100.00**

Please ask family, friends, and neighbours to think of us when cleaning out their jewelry boxes.

**This is a significant task, and we are always pleased to welcome
volunteers.**

Please consider volunteering.

**Your contribution will have a powerful impact!
If you can help please contact Carolyn Porter at:**

carolyn.porter@sympatico.ca

**We are thrilled to announce that the
St. Mark's Cherry Festival takes place on
Saturday, July 5, 2025.**



This year, we have organized
a team to make cherry jam!
This begins in late February.

We need volunteers to help
make our famous cherry pies!

There will be 4 pie-making sessions held in
Addison Hall from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM
on the following
Mondays:

**April 14th
April 28th,
May 5th.
and
May 12th**

We do require volunteers. When contacted by Bev Lees or Sue Baxter, please respond with a **"YES"** if you can help.

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!

Four Last Things

**Women of St. Mark's, are you familiar with the concept of the
Four Last Things?**

**Join Susan MacLaren's series on the
Four Last Things
and discover more!**

**Join Susan at St. Mark's Addison Hall
to hear the fascinating and informative talks.**

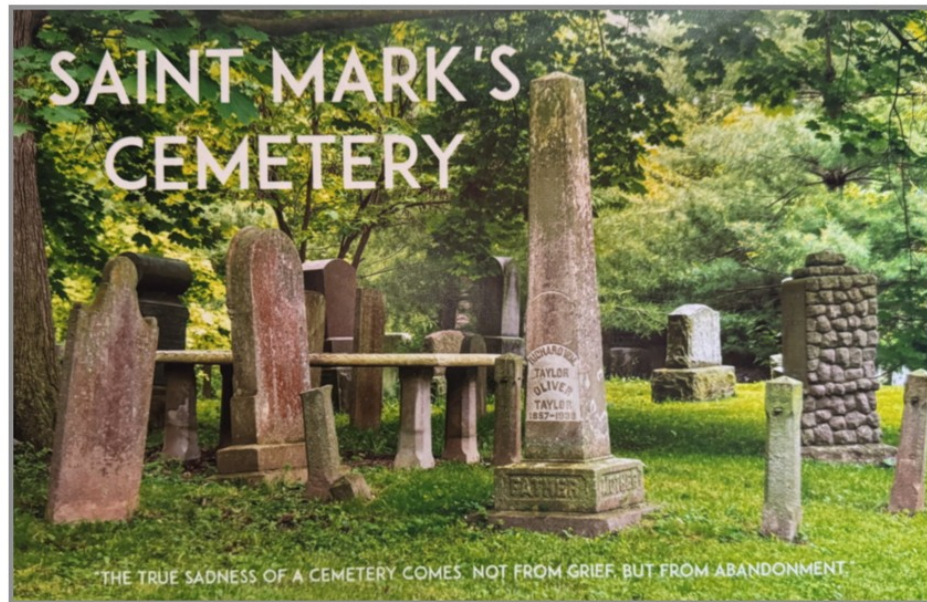
Session dates are:

**MARCH 26 10-NOON
APRIL 2 10-NOON**

Coffee will be served.



A new St. Mark's publication



A New St. Mark's Publication

There has been a burial ground in this location since at least 1782, when Leonard Plank, a retired soldier of Butler's Rangers, was interred here. It was, until the mid 1830s, the final resting place of all the town's people, young and old, ordinary, and prominent. More than 2,000 of them lie here in this idyllic plot of land, not far from Fort George and overlooking the mouth of the mighty Niagara. Monuments of every size, of marble, granite, slate, and of many styles proclaim the stories of lives lived. This is an extraordinarily historic, and beautiful place and one of significance for all Canadians.

Cosmo Condina, a prominent photographer of international reputation, grew up in our town and knows the cemetery well. During the summer of 2024, encouraged by Sally Mitchell, his trusty Hasselblad in hand, he focused his trained and astute eye and so captured images, not only of the essence of our cemetery, and its history, but more importantly, he caught the spirit of the lives of those here interred.

This superb fifty-page publication will be digitally printed by Carruthers Printery of Smithville on 100 lb. Creator Silk paper and hardbound with hinge pages stab-stitched by Van Huizen Bindery of St. Catharines. Never has our cemetery been so perfectly captured on film and so professionally presented. Profits from the sale of this publication will aid with St. Mark's Cemetery's ongoing tree maintenance and monument restoration programmes.

We invite interested, and supportive individuals, to become patrons of this unique publication. Patrons' names will be listed in the front of the editioned volumes, a significant portion of the patron's donation will be eligible for an income tax receipt, and patrons will receive their unique copies at a formal reception in St. Mark's Addison Hall from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. on Thursday May 22, 2025.

Patrons Contribution: Two hundred dollars

To ensure your patronage, and for further information,

[Please email Donald Combe](#)

or call him at 905.932.4175

Your two hundred dollar cheques can also be given to Erin in the office

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

March 23rd - Greeter(s) - Douglas and Colleen Hunter

Reader - Wes Turner

Intercessor - Diane Turner

Altar Guild - Eve Wylie 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: [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: In St. Mark's parish: Dave Roberts, Joy Rogers, Patty Rowland, Ian Russell, and John and Michelle Scott and their families.

In the Niagara Diocese: All Saints, Welland (Dain City), The Reverend Canon Nirmal Mendis, Rector; and the people of that parish.

In the Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer: The Rt. Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Montreal; the Assistant to the Bishop and the staff of the Manitoba – Northwestern Ontario Synod; and the elimination of racial discrimination.

[St. Mark's Anglican Church Website](#)





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