



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews

257th Edition March 28th, 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/waqidZgm88w>

See you in church - next week. I'm on a brief break this weekend. I'm delighted that my brother-in-law, The Rev Dr Marc Jerry is able to take the services for me. Marc is the President of Renison University.

**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 it 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

Canadian folk singer-songwriter Abigail Lapell has released her latest album, "Anniversary", **recorded at St. Mark's in March 2024.**

And guess what? This incredible album is nominated for a Juno Award, happening this weekend!

Abigail won the Canadian Folk Music Award for Contemporary Album of the Year at the 13th Canadian Folk Music Awards in 2020 for her album "Getaway".

Have a look at the video below where Abigail shares her journey of recording this fantastic album, **complete with behind-the-scenes footage from our beloved church!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vITR5JjVqTQ>

St. Mark's is cheering her on as she embarks on this amazing journey—congratulations and best of luck to Abigail! Let's make some noise! □ □ □

ST. MARK'S MEN'S COMMUNION AND BREAKFAST

Please join us on
Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025

We will begin with Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. in the church - a beautiful way to come together in community and reflection.

Afterward, we'll continue the fellowship over breakfast at the Waterfront restaurant at the NOTL Golf Club.

Your presence would mean so much! Please let me know if you can attend as soon as possible, so I can finalize our breakfast numbers.

Just click on Greg's name below to R.S.V.P.

Greg Walker
905-262-6605

This Easter, we have a wonderful opportunity to create a breathtaking display of flowers that will not only beautify our church but can also honour the loved ones we hold dear.

Traditionally, these stunning floral displays are made possible through generous donations from our congregation.

If you would like to be a part of this meaningful gesture, please consider donating. There are envelopes conveniently located in the church pews. You can place your envelope in the hands of one of our friendly greeters, or if you prefer, contact Erin in the church office to arrange your donation.

**Be sure to include
***"In Memory Of" and "From" ***
on your envelope**



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!

**Join Susan at St. Mark's Addison Hall
for the final presentation**

of

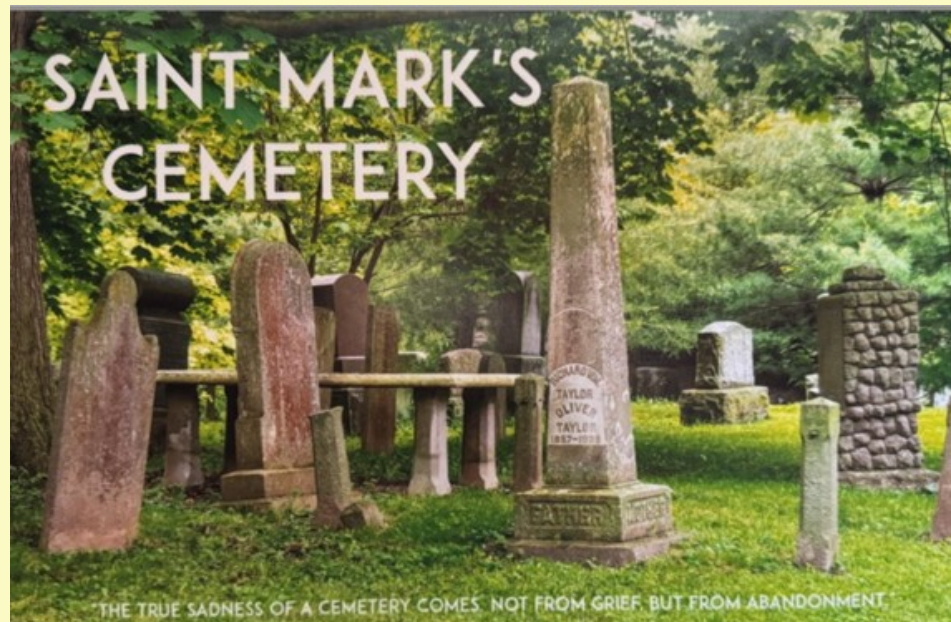
Four Last Things

APRIL 2 10-NOON

**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!**

Coffee will be served.



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. Until the mid-1830s, it served as the final resting place for all the town's people, young and old, as well as ordinary and prominent individuals. More than 2,000 lie here in this idyllic plot of land close to Fort George and the mouth of the mighty Niagara. Monuments of various sizes of marble, granite, slate, and many more 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, with 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 50 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 before has our cemetery been so perfectly captured on film and 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. Patron's names will be listed in the front of the editioned volumes. A large portion of the patron's donation will be eligible for an income tax receipt. Patrons will receive their unique copies at a formal reception to be held in

St. Mark's Addison Hall
3:00 pm-5:00 pm
on
Thursday, May 22, 2025.

**To ensure your patronage, and for
further information, contact:**

Donald Combe at
donaldcombe@me.com
905 932 4175

or

Sally Mitchell at
semithcell@cogeco.ca
905-468-5801

Patron's Contribution: Two hundred dollars

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

Remember when.....

Do you remember the St. Mark's choir boys from the late 1960s? It

would be interesting to know what they're up to now!



Bottom row L to R - Martin (Moe) Bjorgan, Bill Krahn, Paul Garrett, Greg Watson
Middle row L to R - Tim Bolton, Donald Lees, Rod Waldron, Bob Krahn
Back Row L to R - Ricky Mills, Andrew Waldron, Jimmy Mills, David Garrett

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 30th - Greeter(s) - **Chris Bjorgan and Marilyn Bardeau**

Reader - **Steve Hinchliffe**

Intercessor - **Penny-Lynn Cookson**

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: John and Faye Shaver, Brett Sherlock and James Booty, Jennifer Smith and their families.

In the Niagara Diocese: Holy Trinity, Welland, The Reverend Rob Towler, Rector; The Reverend Deacon Mark McGill, Deacon; and the people of that parish.

In the Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer: The theological colleges and training programs within the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada: The Atlantic School of Theology, Montreal Diocesan Theological College, and Queen's College; the congregations of the Northwestern Ontario area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod; and the Rt. Rev. M. Blair Couch, Bishop of the Unity, residing in the Northern Province.

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



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