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## E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 203rd Edition - March 8th, 2024

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### From the Rector

Folks have told me a number of times over the past few weeks how much they enjoy my little articles in E-News. It makes me glad to hear that they're not only read, but well-received. This past Sunday I joked that I could save myself some work by just reading them out on Sunday! (Just kidding ...)

Though Sunday's sermon is still percolating away, it's far enough along for me to realize that it's linked—thematically at least—with this week's E-

News message. I never publish the titles of my sermons (at least not before the fact) but I'll break my rule this week. It's entitled *Sometimes You Just Have to Look*. Come on Sunday to hear it—and how it picks up on this little meditation.

On Sunday we'll hear familiar words from John 3: 16. "For God so loved the world." In other words, God's relationship with the world—with us—is neither one of power nor of indifference, but of love: God so loved the world and we have ravished his heart, so much so that he became incarnate in Jesus. And by this incarnation he not only dignified the whole creation by becoming part of it, but also—and more importantly—he dignified humanity by calling us to participate with him in the making of a new creation

So just as it's true that God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, it's also true that through Christ we have been made worthy of participating in the ultimate act of God, which is the redemption of the world. And the means—both divine and human—the means by which the redemption of the world is accomplished is love and compassion, not power and coercion.

The supreme act of love, of course, was shown at Calvary and only by looking at the Crucified will we understand what it is both to be loved by God and to love like God. For the cross is the measure of love. And love is costly—no doubt about it. So if we're to participate in the redemption of the world, it will cost us much: our reputations, our notions of security, our need to be important, maybe even the respect of our friends and families. Certainly—and most soberingly—it will cost us even our lives. For to love as God loved is to put ourselves last, and to live selflessly for others.

Naturally such an idea is totally out of tune in a society where people are almost completely

consumed with getting as much as they can, and grabbing power, and being first, and right, and important, and staying young, and trying to live forever. So, in a world easily content without God, we must dare to love it enough by helping it look at the Love that lies bleeding and saying that only by daring to live after this example will we—that is, the world—be saved.

Grace and peace,  
Leighton

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**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**

**Roger Hughes, a beloved parishioner of St Mark's, died on Thursday night. His wife Susan was with him. She has asked for privacy at this time, so please be in touch through email rather than telephone.**

**Funeral arrangements will be announced when they have been decided.**

**May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace and rise in glory.**

***Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

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### **Parish Updates**

#### ***In-Person Sunday Services***

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

#### ***On Duty this Week***

**March 10, 2024 - Greeter(s)** - Trudi Watson and Earle Waugh

**Reader** - Steve Hinchliffe

**Intercessor** - Bob Cross

**Server** - Sue Baxter

**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".

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**We are planning a magnificent display of Easter flowers which traditionally are a donation from the congregation. If you would like to contribute to these, there are envelopes in the church pews. You may give your envelope to one of the sides people, or you can call the church office and speak to Erin to arrange a donation. You may indicate in whose memory or honour they are given.**

***\*\*\*Easter Donation Envelopes are back ordered and may not be received in time for Easter.\*\*\****

***Any envelope will do - please be sure to write the details on the envelope:***

***\*\*\*"In Memory Of" and "From". \*\*\****



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***Don't forget!!***

**Before going to bed on Saturday night, turn your clocks FORWARD by one hour.**



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### **A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**St. Mark's requires *volunteers* to count donations after Sunday 10:30 a.m. service each week.**

**This task should not take longer than 30 minutes, and the counters work in teams of two.**

If you are interested please contact  
**Allan Magnacca**  
**allanmagnacca@me.com**  
**or Erin in the office**  
as soon as possible.

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**A Unique Recital at St Mark's**

**Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>,  
4 pm**

**Award-winning mezzo-soprano Nicole Percifield, a member of St Mark's choir, is teaming up with another award-winner, pianist Minira Najafzade, for a one-hour recital in the church:**

**"Music of Fire and Water"**

***A musical exploration of the elements featuring works by Brahms, Duparc, Elgar, and Handel.***

We are honoured that Nicole and Minira have chosen St Mark's for this event, the first in our 2024 concert series.

**Tickets are just \$10, payable at the door.**

**PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT THESE WONDERFUL MUSICIANS!  
TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS!**

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**ST. MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

**INVITES THE LADIES OF THE PARISH TO**

**JOIN**

**PASTOR SUSAN MacLAREN**

**MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> – 10 A.M.**

**MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup> – 10 A.M.**

Ever wonder how our faith addresses what we see and hear on the morning news?

Let's talk about it!

The wonderful women of St. Mark's are invited-encouraged-to come together for consecutive Thursday morning meetings in Addison Hall. Come armed with a copy of the Beatitudes Matthew 5:3-11. We will use those as a jumping off point.

3- Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

4- Blessed are the patient; they shall inherit the land.

5- Blessed are those who mourn; they shall be comforted.

6- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for holiness; they shall have their fill.

7- Blessed are the merciful; they shall obtain mercy.

8- Blessed are the clean of heart; they shall see God.

9- Blessed are the peacemakers; they shall be counted the children of God.

10- Blessed are those who suffer persecution in the cause of right; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

11- Blessed are you, when men revile you, and persecute you, and speak all manner of evil against you falsely, because of me.



*Please R.S.V.P. Erin in the church office.*

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**MUSIC NIAGARA  
and  
ST. MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
PRESENT  
THE CANTILON CHAMBER CHOIR  
performing at**

**ST. MARK'S  
MARCH 26th, 2024 AT 7 P.M.**

**TICKETS ARE ONLY \$20.00 + HST**

# An Evening of Choral Excellence with Cantilon Chamber Choir

**MUSIC**  
NIAGARA  
FESTIVAL | 2024

Immerse yourself in the exquisite soundscapes of the Cantilon Chamber Choir, hailing from Edmonton, Alberta. Under the visionary leadership of Heather Johnson, this choir has not only won international competitions but also touched hearts with their vibrant and emotive performances. This concert, symbolizing the deep-rooted partnership between Music Niagara and St. Mark's Church, promises an evening of sublime musicality in one of Niagara-on-the-Lake's most historically rich venues.

\*All proceeds from this special event will be shared between Music Niagara and St. Mark's, supporting our shared mission to enrich cultural life in the community

17 March 26, 7 PM

St. Mark's Church, 41 Byron Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake  
Tickets only \$20 + HST

Scan QR code for tickets or go to [www.MusicNiagara.org](http://www.MusicNiagara.org)



St. Mark's Anglican Church  
Niagara-on-the-Lake



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO  
an Ontario government agency  
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

## **ST. MARK'S CEMETERY UPDATE**

### **MAINTENANCE**

Spring appears to have arrived early this year. Cemetery spring clean-up is scheduled for April.

Once the ground settles and the grounds have been cleared of leaves and branches, the tree inventory will be updated.

Tree pruning, required for maintenance of healthy trees and the safety of anyone who visits our cemetery, will be assessed. Pruning is normally done by Arborwood in late fall.

Graves that require additional earth and grass will be assessed and looked after once the ground settles (normally mid-summer).

Grass cutting will begin in May and continue until the end of October.  
All other maintenance is undertaken by volunteers.

### **STONE RESTORATION**

Al Ernest and his team will begin the fourth year of the stone restoration programme in late spring. All money for this programme was received from fundraising events and activities.

## **STONE CLEANING**

Al Ernest will provide a training session in late spring to teach us how to clean the stone monuments in a non-invasive, eco-friendly manner. Tools required include a bucket for water, a very soft bristled brush, a soft toothbrush and some elbow grease. Stone cleaning can be done at your own pace and according to your own schedule.

**[Watch E-News for the training session date!](#)**

## **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  
[semitchell@cogeco.ca](mailto:semitchell@cogeco.ca)**

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## **CHERRY FESTIVAL 2024** **SATURDAY JULY 6th**

**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.**

## **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 contact **Kathy Taylor**  
**905-468-2536**  
**kathytaylor2536@gmail.com**

## **NEWCOMERS WELCOME**



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**MEN'S COMMUNION BREAKFAST**  
**The next Men's communion Breakfast is scheduled for**  
**Wednesday April 3rd, 2024**  
**please contact Greg Walker**

**Gary Burroughs' Kitchen**  
**made a fresh batch of delicious lasagna and cottage pies!**  
**Be sure to get yours before they are gone!**

**Delicious items for sale also include**  
**Chicken-Vol-Au-Vent and Pea Soup, Stewed Tomatoes**  
**and**  
**Cottage Pie**

**\*\*Pop into the office to get your meals\*\***

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**SOUPS ARE AVAILABLE - INQUIRE IN OFFICE**



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We pray for those who have died, especially Roger Hughes.

In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Eve Wylie, Gary and Tammy Zalepa, and Gary Zanner and their families.

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for St. John the Evangelist, Thorold, The Reverend Canon Katherine Morgan, Rector; and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Rt. Rev. Bruce Myers, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Quebec, and Bishop Jason Zinko, the people and rostered ministers of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod.

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***Did you know....***

...that The Reverend William T. Leacock was a staunch supporter of the South? He was the rector for Christ Episcopal Church in New Orleans until 1862. After refusing to pray for President Lincoln during the Episcopal church service, Leacock was arrested and incarcerated in Lafayette Prison Camp in upstate New York. Leacock was released from prison in December of 1864 and decided to live in Upper Canada to wait out the remainder of the American Civil war. Towards the end of the Civil War,



many Confederate officers were fleeing the U.S. Fearful that if caught they would be hanged for treason, they sought refuge in Canada, Mexico and the far western areas of the continent not yet claimed by the United States. **One of those fleeing men was the Reverend, Doctor William T. Leacock. Leacock lived at 244 King Street after arriving in NOTL in December 1864.**

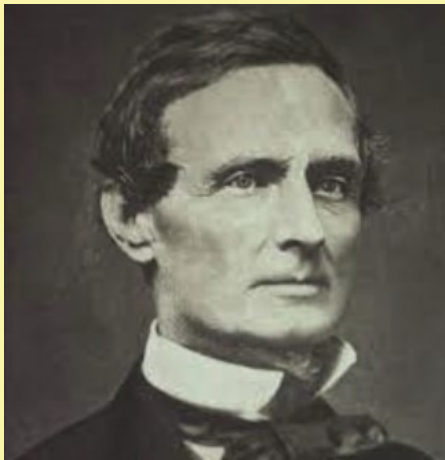
William Kirby, a known Confederate sympathizer, noted that Niagara was very welcoming. The Niagara Mail reported that it was a "subject of pride to Canadians that they can offer the hospitality...to so many worthy men who are proscribed and banished from their homes for no crime". Many of the town's Black residents may not have felt the same way. Some of these residents had escaped slavery, and living among Confederates who championed slavery, could not have been easy.

Leacock was a friend of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States. Jefferson Davis lived in Montreal, but would often visit NOTL to meet up with his Confederate officers and politicians.

**During his time in NOTL, Rev. Dr. Leacock took over as rector at St. Mark's Anglican Church for one year while Rev. Dr. McMurray was away in England.**

Although the American Civil War was over by May 1865, Leacock did not leave Canada until December 1865. He then returned to New Orleans and was granted his post at his old church.

He died on December 28, 1884 at the age of eighty-four.



**The Reverend William T. Leacock**



**244 King Street  
Niagara-on-the-Lake**

### **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](mailto:rector.stmarks.notl@gmail.com)

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***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](mailto:stmarks@cogeco.net) Thank you.***

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



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