



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 212th Edition -May 10, 2024



From the Rector

I went to see Cherubini's rarely-staged masterpiece *Medea* at the COC last night. It's a musically and emotionally searing work whose title character kills her own children in a fury because her husband left her for another woman. She's not exactly a candidate for mother of the year!

Isn't it curious that our artistic canon is filled with depictions of terrible mothers from Mama Rose in *Gypsy*, to Joan Crawford in *Mommie Dearest*? You have to wonder why this particular trope should

be so powerful—and so artistically compelling. It certainly seems that many of our personal and societal dysfunctions are projected onto these characters. Maybe that's why they endure.

Certainly the idea of "Holy Mother Church" as a dysfunctional and abusive parent endures. But how much of that is borne out of our own psychoses and failings? A clergy friend of mine is often upset with the Church—and his perceived mistreatment by the Church. And I must constantly remind him that "The Church is not your mother."

That may sound strange, especially since lots of us look to the Church for "maternal" things like solace, strength, and affirmation. But the Church can't be the locus of these things anymore than our own mothers can be. We alone are responsible for ourselves. Yet the old idea that psychiatrists always blame the mother dies hard, as if you and I bear no responsibility for our choices, actions, and responses.

But we *do*. So instead of focussing on what our mothers have or haven't done for us, what if we focussed on what we've done—or haven't—with what they've given us? Because what our mothers—be they earthly or spiritual—give us is life. What we do with that life is largely up to us.

For here's the thing: we're all called to be mothers, in the sense that we're all called to bring to birth in our lives the Godly seeds of love and compassion that have been planted in our hearts. The Church may not be our mother, be we are all God's children.

This past Wednesday was Julian of Norwich's feast day. Let me close with these wise and warm words of hers:

*As truly as God is our Father,
So just as truly is God our Mother.*

*In our Father, God Almighty,
We have our being;
In our merciful Mother
We are re-made and restored.*

*Our fragmented lives are knit together;
And by giving and yielding ourselves
Through grace, to the Holy Spirit
We are made whole.*

Grace and peace,
Leighton

PLEASE NOTE:

**Live streaming of this Sunday's service, May 12, will be unavailable.
Live streaming will return on Sunday May 19th.**

**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**

**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING JEWELLERY DONATIONS FOR
ST. MARK'S CHERRY FESTIVAL JULY 6TH 2024**



**Appraising, sorting and pricing of jewellery donations for
Cherry Festival 2024
has begun!**

**The jewellery committee starts this process in April as it is a very large
undertaking, and will take until June to complete.**

Bracelets, watches, rings, earrings and necklaces are now being accepted. We look forward to receiving both fine jewellery and costume jewellery.
A tax donation receipt will be given for articles valued over \$100.00.

Please ask friends and neighbours to think of us if they are cleaning out jewellery boxes!

Donations may be dropped off to the church office.

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

HAUTE EMPORIUM'S CATALOGUE WILL BE OUT THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY.

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 [Watch the livestream on YouTube](#)

On Duty this Week

May 12, 2024 - Greeter(s) - Jo-Anne and Ian Hill

Reader -Donna Belleville

Intercessor - Bob Cross

Server - John Shaver

Altar Guild - Peggy Walker, Susan Baxter and Diane Turner

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".

In appreciation of St. Mark's and its support over the years, Music Niagara is offering parishioners, their families and friends \$20 tickets to a piano recital on Monday May 13. Internationally acclaimed pianist Sofia Gulyak will perform at 4 p.m. in the church.

To receive this special rate of \$20 - please click on the link below to buy tickets.

<https://www.musicniagara.org/concerts/sofya-gulyak-special/>

**MUSIC
NIAGARA
FESTIVAL | 2024**

An Evening of Piano Excellence

Join Sofya Gulyak, Winner of Leeds International Piano Competition for an unforgettable evening in Niagara, featuring Atis Bankas on violin, and Jonathan Tortolano on cello.



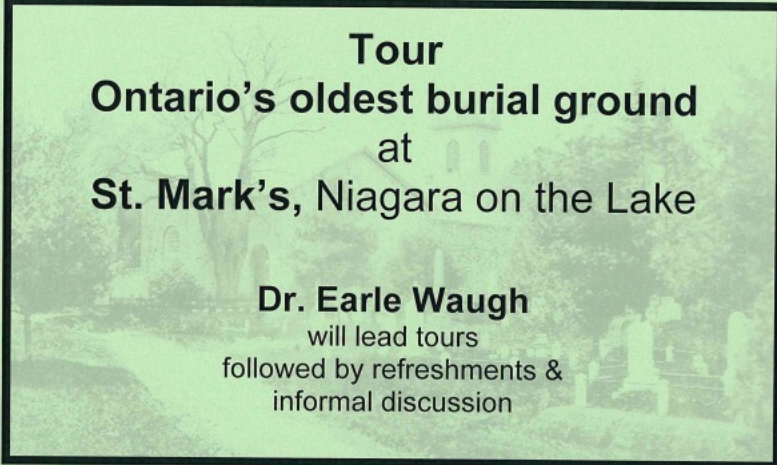
MAY 13, 2024 • 4:00 PM

ST MARK'S CHURCH
41 BYRON ST, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

About the Artist:

Sofya Gulyak made history in September 2009 as the first woman to receive the 1st prize and the Princess Mary Gold Medal at the Leeds International Piano Competition. Since then, she has performed worldwide, consistently impressing audiences with her

exceptional talent. Her performances with major orchestras and her highly praised recordings have earned her acclaim across the globe.



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, May 28
Tuesday, June 18
Tuesday, July 23
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

Tickets are available to purchase at St. Mark's Anglican Church office
(10 people per tour maximum)

D-DAY HEROES

A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO OUR D-DAY HEROES, 80 YEARS ON

FRIDAY **7** JUNE

7:00 PM

ENJOY SPECIAL D-DAY READINGS, ALONG WITH THE
BEST-LOVED AND TIMELESS MUSIC FROM THE 1940'S FEATURING SONGS
MADE FAMOUS BY VERA LYNN, BING CROSBY, THE ANDREWS SISTERS,
AND MANY OTHERS

FEATURING:
MELISSA-MARIE SHRINER, SOLOIST, MICHAEL BLOSS, PIANO
& NARRATOR JAMES MAINPRIZE



St. Mark's Anglican Church
Tickets available through the church office
Tickets are \$25.00 each

(We expect these tickets to sell out quickly so please purchase yours as soon as possible)

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](#).

St. Mark's Kitchen
offers:
Hunter's Chicken with Rotini

Introducing
Kathy Taylor's Chicken Lasagna

(selling out fast - get in to get yours before they are gone)

SOUPS ARE AVAILABLE - INQUIRE IN OFFICE

Pea Soup
Curried Butternut Squash

Prayer Cycles – We pray for:

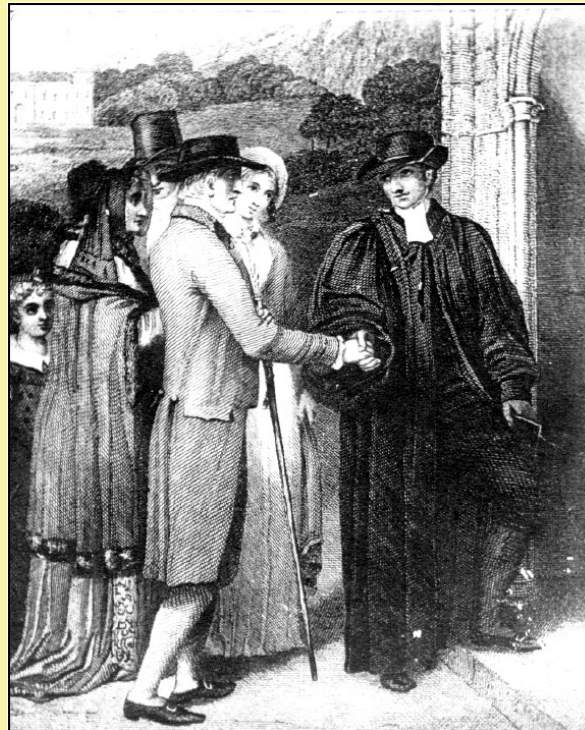
In St. Mark's parish: Jane DeMunnich, Arlene Dolynski, Andrea Douglas, and Lesley Dukes and their families.

In the Niagara Diocese: Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton, The Reverend Allison Courey, Priest-in-Charge; The Reverend Leon Burke, Honorary Assistant; The Reverend Bob Linklater, Honorary Assistant, The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray, Honorary Assistant, and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer: The Rt. Rev. William Cliff, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Ontario, and The Assistant to the Bishop and the staff of the Saskatchewan Synod.

Did you know.....

.... that this image has been widely used and accepted as a depiction of The Reverend Addison? It was created by English artist John Westhall and entitled "Going to Church" but in fact this is *not* a picture of Rev. Addison, as there are no known images of The Reverend Robert Addison.



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.



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