



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 213th Edition -May 17, 2024



From the Rector

This Sunday we'll celebrate Pentecost, the feast when the Holy Spirit gave God's people the ability to understand one another, despite differences in language and culture. The folks who were there were astonished. In the *Acts of the Apostles*, Luke puts it this way: "All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'"

Well, one thing it means is that when the Spirit comes among God's faithful people, the deleterious effects of Babel are reversed. It means that despite differences of language, practice, culture, preference, and experience, there is unity for those who follow Christ and have experienced the liberation of spirit that is found only in following him. And it means there is one divine language: the language of love.

There's no doubt that in our journey of faith we will encounter many things which seem odd and incomprehensible—and even repellent. They may jangle our sense of privilege and calm, and challenge our beliefs and practices. When we're confronted by new ways of thinking, acting, and believing we find ourselves both amazed and perplexed and ask, "What does this mean?". It's precisely at these moments, in these encounters, at these crossroads, that the Spirit meets us and, if we're open, begins to mould us so that we may grow up spiritually.

But in order for this to happen, we need to cultivate the fine art of *listening*. The divine language of love is intelligible only to those who actually *listen* to those around them and truly hear the stories of their lives, their deepest longings, and their wildest hopes. For only when we listen can we begin to *understand* that despite the perplexing differences between people, there's one commonality that overrides all. And only love can take us and join us together with what is deepest in ourselves: our shared humanity.

Learning to listen, and learning the divine language of love, takes patience. God's glorious truths don't descend upon us in a blinding flash which obviates at once doubt and ignorance. Too literal an interpretation of the Pentecost event may lead us to believe that these gifts will come upon us in the twinkling of an eye.

Pentecost is about waiting and watching prayerfully and patiently for the Spirit of God to teach us, to fire us up, and to reveal to us yet again what God's will is for us and for the

Church. And it won't be what we thought it would be. The answer to the question, "What does this mean?" will be surprising and challenging. But as we learn more and more the divine language of love, we'll hear harmony in the voices we thought discordant. We'll see beauty in the things we thought ugly. And we'll grow to love those things we thought hateful.

There's a famous passage in Thomas Merton's writings in which he describes walking along the street in Louisville, Kentucky:

"At the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the centre of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realisation that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world, the world of renunciation and supposed holiness. The sense of liberations from an illusory difference was such a relief and joy to me that I almost laughed out loud."

That is what this means. It means, to paraphrase Teilhard de Chardin, that when, in a world of perplexing brokenness, staggering incomprehension and painful division, we learn to harness for God the energies of love, we will, for a second time in the history of the world, have discovered fire.

Grace and peace,
Leighton



**The flowers in the church are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
John Steel
from
Wendy Steel**

From the Wardens

We wish everyone a happy Victoria Day weekend and time to enjoy this glorious spring weather.

Parish Council met on Thursday with much of the discussion focusing on the Cherry Festival. Intense work is underway by the pies, Haute Emporium and jewelry teams. Leaders are in place for all the booths, and planning is well advanced.

Thanks to Trudi Watson and Sally Mitchell, online sales of clothing and treasures started Tuesday. The Haute Emporium catalogue is filled with wonderful items at great prices — art and fine treasures, silver, china and crystal, clothing and accessories, jewelry, linens and gift certificates. Go to the St. Mark's website and click on Events.

Diane Turner, who leads the pie team, gave a comprehensive overview of the work that goes into creating St. Mark's prized cherry pies. Forty people are involved over five days a week for the month of pie making. The pie makers, 25-28 people including three men, worked on Mondays in the hall making 647 pies. Others sourced the ingredients and

supplies, while still others transported the cherries and completed pies back and forth from cold storage. Costs increased substantially this year so pies will be \$25 each. Fifty pies will be available for purchase on Sunday June 30 after church, primarily for festival volunteers who will be too busy to purchase a pie on festival day.

Greg Walker and Ian Russell updated Parish council on the D-Day Heroes concert set for Friday, June 7 at 7 p.m. Plans are coming along well. The concert, with soloist Melissa-Marie Shriner, pianist Michael Bloss and narrator Jamie Mainprize, will feature timeless music from the 1940s and special readings. Tickets are \$25, available through the church office.

St. Mark's Heritage Interpreter program starts this weekend, with a guide available in the church to welcome visitors and explain the history of St. Mark's. If you haven't taken a tour yet, we urge you to do so.

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**

PLEASE NOTE THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY MAY 20TH FOR VICTORIA DAY

We invite you to explore the great variety of items in our catalogue which is now posted on the St. Mark's website. Click link below to find the catalogue.

[2024 Haute Emporium Catalogue](#)

[St. Mark's Cherry Festival Webpage](#)

Kindly forward the catalogue to your family and friends. If you wish to purchase from the catalogue please contact semitch215@gmail.com. Our catalogue is the presale to St. Mark's Cherry Festival which takes place on July 6, 2024.

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**

The Haute Emporium requests your help and support.

We are happy to receive summer clothing and women's purses.

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



******CALLING ALL BAKERS******

ST. MARK'S CHERRY FESTIVAL BAKE SALE 2024

It is time once again to gear up for the Cherry Festival Bake Sale. Anjulika Chand and Gene Anne Smith are this year's Bake Sale co-chairs.

PLEASE CONSIDER BAKING FOR THE CHERRY FESTIVAL THIS YEAR.

As our congregation ages, the need for new bakers increases.

We welcome a wide range of goodies including **cookies**, **squares**, **tarts**, **muffins**, **loaves**, **brownies** and **cakes** etc.

Pull out your favourite recipe and please help us make this years Bake Sale the best ever.

(Baked goods must be delivered to St. Mark's on Friday July 5th between 1 pm-4pm)

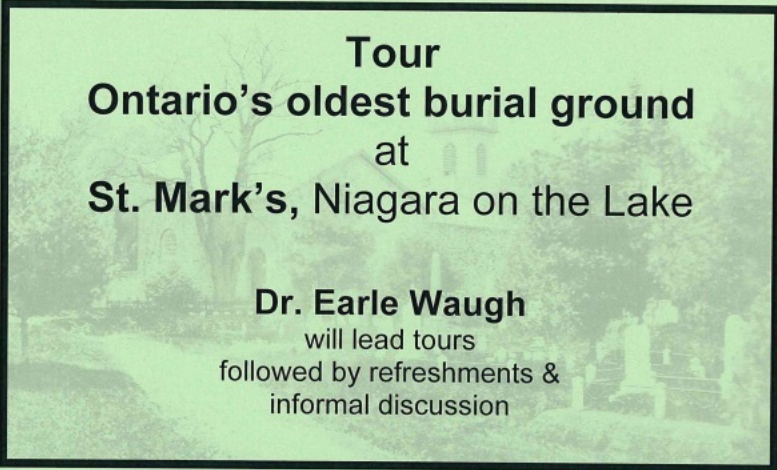
WE ALSO REQUIRE VOLUNTEERS TO WORK AT THE BAKE SALE TABLES

If you can contribute by baking and/or working the tables please contact

**Gene Anne Smith
gsmith103@cogeco.ca
289-686-0382**

OR

**Anjulika Chand
bubbins3@yahoo.com
905-347-1711**



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
your tickets 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](#).

Prayer Cycles – We pray for:

In St. Mark's parish: David and Valmai Elkins, Fred and Judy Evans, and Brian Fiedler and Christy Chia and their families.

In the Niagara Diocese: St. Michael, Hamilton, The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell, Interim Priest-in-Charge, and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer: The Rt. Rev. Shane Parker, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Ottawa, and Jerusalem and the Holy Land Sunday; The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, and for peace in the Middle East.

Did you know.....

...there are several islands in Lake Ontario that people actually live on; the largest being Wolfe Island, which covers 48 square miles, has a population of approximately 1400 (this number can double or even triple during the summer months) and includes restaurants and a bakery? Wolfe Island sits at the entrance of the St. Lawrence River and is easily accessible by a free ferry from Kingston and from Cape Vincent, New York.

Wolfe Island's roots date back to 1675, when it was settled by people of European origin, and governed by France. It was called Grand Island. On July 16, 1792, a proclamation by the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada John Graves Simcoe, renamed Grand island to Wolfe island, after British General James Wolfe.

There are three churches on Wolfe Island; a Roman Catholic Church, Trinity Anglican Church and a United Church. Trinity Anglican Church was the first church to be built on the island and was completed on October 6, 1845.



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.

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



St. Marks Anglican Church | 41 Byron Street, P O Box 582, Niagara-on-the-Lake, L0S 1J0
Canada 905.468.3123

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