



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 190th Edition - November 30th 2023



From the Rector

Advent Sunday marks the beginning of the Christian year. This raises, in my mind at least, a question: what does the beginning of another year mean? Does it really mean anything more than a date in a calendar?

There's a school of thought that says life and time are a great wheel that goes around in a circle which eventually winds up where it began, and then begins another long rotation.

But the Christian view of life and history is not circular. The Christian view says life does *not* go around in circles, but is always moving forward with purpose. It's not like a merry-go-round; it's more like a march. Our ancestors in the faith didn't think of God as the Unmoved Mover, as the Greeks did. They thought of him as the Mover of the Unmoved. They saw him doing things, working things out, and saw him behind everything in history, whether it was the great sweep and saga of the world, or the intimate and private lives of each and every person. And when Christ was born, they thought this was the most decisive move God ever made. It was a move to heal the deepest wound in human beings, the wound made by sin and guilt. It was a move to become involved himself in the entanglements of human existence, in things like families, and religions, and violence and hatred, suffering and death, and to become so thoroughly involved in these things that he could take them up and heal the wound.

So when I say that the Christian view of life and the world is always moving ahead toward a purpose, that life is going somewhere and we are going somewhere, it is because God once went somewhere. He came here to do something for us, to heal our wounds, to give us the confidence that we need to face the future without fear. He comes here now, in very different ways, of course, in different guises, but he comes here now, and he asks us to go with him.

And that means that he asks us not to dread the future, but to live in such a way that anticipates its promise. This doesn't mean we should laugh off the present time. Indeed not! It means that since we have only this one wild and precious life, to spend it in regretful and longing lookings-back is to waste it. Who knows how much time you or I may have? We don't know. But this we *do* know: it's never too late to be loving, brave, accepting, courageous, generous and forgiving. Whatever time we have left, be it days or

months or years, we have enough time to live truly and to love fully. So let us open our arms to the Advent promise of the surprising future of God's love, which even now is born among us and within us.

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Congratulations to Jodey Porter who was installed as Tenth Chancellor of Renison University College on November 28. I was delighted to be part of a contingent of St Mark's folk who were present to support her. In becoming chancellor, she continues something of a family tradition: her father, the Right Reverend Morse Robinson, was third chancellor of Renison.

See you in Church!

Grace and peace,
Leighton

From the Wardens

This edition may catch you by surprise! St. Mark's is having a significant fundraiser this weekend-we need to focus on that major undertaking and so E-News is a day early. So enjoy, and please, if you can attend the Rotary House Tour Lunch and Christmas Sale Friday and Saturday, please do. See flyer in E-News for details.

As we move into December, we are planning the events up to and including Christmas.

Christmas Eve Services are at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Christmas Day service is at 10:30 a.m.

Please add to your calendars.

Last Sunday we were led in our services by the Rev. Ian Chadwick and we thoroughly enjoyed his participation. We received a thank you from Ian for such a warm welcome from worshippers as well as the coffee hour and treats.

The immediate focus starting next week is St. Mark's annual support for Newark Neighbours and other local charities. From all indications, the need is greater than ever for food, clothing and other items. Please see the note in below.

With a touch of snow and slippery conditions earlier this week, please take extra care driving and walking. For those who may need any assistance please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Take a deep breath, it clears the mind

CHRISTMAS FESTIVE EVENT — SIP SAVOUR SHOP

BEGINS TOMORROW!!!!

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1ST

&

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND

We expect hundreds of visitors for our **Rotary House Tour Lunch tomorrow and Saturday**, as well as for our sale. Items will include holiday decor, silver, art, clothing and more. We are also offering guided tours of our church. Details can be found below on the **SIP SAVOUR SHOP** advertisement which has also been posted all over town!

Please be sure to invite your friends and neighbours!

A reminder to please consider supporting St. Mark's operations by donating to our **13th Month initiative.**

Please know that giving an extra month's offering will be an immense help.

See you in church!

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

**Allan Magnacca
Andrea Douglas**

***Thank you to all those who contributed to our Christmas Tree Fund!
We have reached our goal thanks to generous donations! If you
planned on donating to the Christmas Tree Fund, please consider
donating to our 13th Month initiative!***

Parish Updates

In-Person Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

On Duty this Week

December 3, 2023 - **Greeter(s)**- Douglas and Colleen Hunter

December 3, 2023- **Reader** - Larry Bourk

Intercessor - Bob Cross

Altar Guild - Eve Wylie, Gene Anne Smith and Jennifer Smith

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".

Services of Wednesday Morning Eucharist and Wednesday Evening Prayer resume December 6th.

**TOMORROW AND SATURDAY
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Addison Hall**

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

Rotary 
Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake

St. Mark's Anglican Church
is offering a Lasanga Luncheon
(with salad, garlic bread and choice of tarts
wine/tea/coffee)
11:00 am-2:00 pm
December 1st and 2nd

NO RESERVATION REQUIRED



TOMORROW AND SATURDAY
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Addison Hall

Please invite your friends and neighbours!

A Festive Event

ST. MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

SIP

41 Byron Street Niagara-on-the-Lake

Friday December 1 – 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Saturday December 2 – 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM



SAVOUR

Lasagna Lunch

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

with salad, garlic bread and choice of tarts

wine/tea/coffee

NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

SHOP

- Jewellery, Christmas Decor, Gift Baskets, Silver, Art and more...
- Gourmet Soups

FREE GUIDED CHURCH TOURS

The last Men's Communion Breakfast of 2023

Wednesday December 6th at 8 a.m.

followed by breakfast and great conversation at the NOTL Golf Club Restaurant.

Please R.S.V.P.:

Greg Walker

(905) 262-6605

gregoryfwalker@gmail.com



***St. Mark's Anglican Church
Christmas Food and Gift Drive***

Christmas will soon be upon us and, once again, St. Mark's is working with Newark Neighbours to bring some Christmas joy to those in need.

The Food and Gift Drive

begins Monday December 4th, hot on the heels of our SIP SAVOUR SHOP event.

Newark Neighbours Christmas 2023 support program is as follows:

A clearly marked bin will be available in Addison Hall for toy donations from December 4th to December 13th.

Toys will be available to parents to pick up on December 12th and 14th from Newark Neighbours.

Please do not gift wrap your toy donations. Please label with the gender and suggested age range.

Food for Christmas dinner

will be distributed the week of December 18th. Newark Neighbours will provide fresh turkey or ham. Donations of non-perishable foods to accompany the meat would be appreciated. These could include stuffing mix, canned vegetables, canned gravy, bottled juice, cookies or candy etc.

*******Grocery gift cards*******

from either NOTL Independent Grocers, in any amount, would be greatly appreciated.

A Newark Neighbours yellow bin will be available in Addison Hall for food donations of *non-perishable food items from December 4th-17th.*

Gift cards can be dropped off to the church office.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY NEEDING HELP!

Gary Burrough's Kitchen

has been busy once again!! Delicious items for sale include

Lasagna, Chicken-Vol-Au-Vent and Pea Soup, Stewed Tomatoes and

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

SOUPS ARE AVAILABLE BEGINNING DECEMBER 1ST - INQUIRE IN OFFICE



St. Saviour's Anglican Church, Queenston,
presents

CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS
with

THE NEWARK SINGERS
Conductor: Michael Tansley

Sunday December 17
at St. Saviour's 4 p.m.

Please join us to enjoy and participate in
the music of the season.

Freewill offering.
Proceeds to St. Saviour's

In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Willard and Anita Miller, Hazel Milne, Sally Mitchell and Julian Trachsel, and Chris Morgan and their families.

We pray for the sick, especially remembering Margaret Stimson, Terry, Jan Brown, Lisa, Sharon, Dick, Bev Garrett, Jodey Porter, Joshua, Ben Buholtz, Maggie Hammerling, Gail and Murray Paton, Elizabeth Channing, Peter Manning and Donna Wybrew.

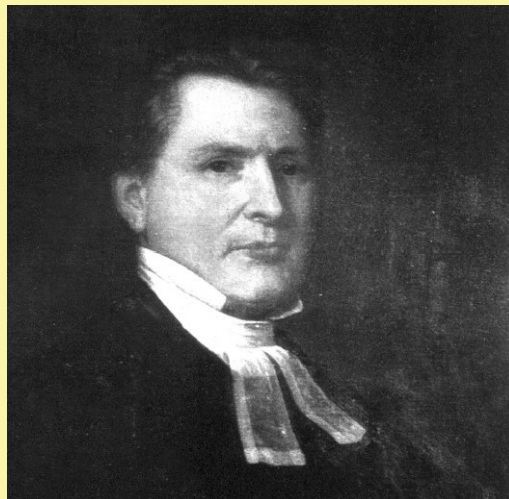
We pray for those shut in their homes, Fred Habermehl, Fred Dixon, Selina Appleby, Joan Draper, and Alexander Hood.

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for St. Andrew's, Grimsby, for the interim priest; the Reverend Deacon Jean Ruttan-Yates, Deacon; the Reverend John Ripley, Honorary Assistant; and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the people of the Anglican Church of Canada, and the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Did you know.....

that while the Rev. McMurray was in England raising money for Bishop Strachan's university, the Rev. William Thomas Leacock, (1800-1884) rector of Christ Church in New Orleans, who was in disfavour with the politics of the time, came as interim rector to St. Mark's (1864-1865)? He lived at 244 King St.



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](#)



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