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## E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 186th Edition - November 3 2023

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### From the Rector

I wonder how many people dressed as a saint for Hallowe'en this past Tuesday? None, I suspect. Which in a way is too bad, especially since the gruesome fates of many of the saints would actually make appropriately grotesque costumes for those whose tastes run in that direction! That being said, when most people think of a saint, they think of someone who was morally pure, unendingly patient, unfailing self-sacrificing, unattainably good. In short, most people think saints are boring—and maybe even off-putting

with all of their perfection and purity. You don't need to be a cultural anthropologist to see that this doesn't fit in with the Halloween zeitgeist which is all about dressing up like a monster, or zombie, or one kind of ghoulish creature or another. But dressing up as a saint?—well that's just plain silly.

Conventional piety seems to suggest that on All Saints' Sunday (which we celebrate this coming Sunday, November 5) we should not only remember, but also take a page out of, the book of generations of pious supermen who were so good, so pure, and so God-like as to make them unlike the rest of us. But how did the people we call saints become saints? By what means did they become so close to God's own holiness? Despite what you may think, it *wasn't* because such people were blessed with an overabundance of piety, or a heroic dedication to the poor, or even a deep commitment to the life of prayer. It was for one reason only: they were people who were able to open themselves up to God, and thereby given grace to receive some of his fullness—his holiness. In other words, they became more real.

The process of being filled by God's holiness is called sanctification. You and I can do nothing to transform ourselves, to sanctify ourselves. But we can be open to God, whose working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. And even though we can't achieve holiness by ourselves, there is something we *can* do to help it happen, and that, as I just said, is to be open to God.

We sometimes say that the Church of God is a "holy nation." Its citizens are saints. They are holy—we are holy—by virtue of the fact that God has *chosen* us to be his holy people and *clothed* us in his own holiness.

Yet our journey toward sainthood, toward sanctity, is not yet complete, and though the saints who have gone before us reign in glory, we below still toil on the way; though they have been filled with all the fullness of God, we still seek that same fullness; though they now behold his countenance unveiled forevermore, we pray with them, and they pray with us—not because their prayers are better than our own, but because they are still bound to us in mutual service as members of the one body of Christ.

So we work and watch and wait for that great day when we become truly ourselves, whole, and complete. In the meantime, we pray that we may be given grace to live in eager expectation and earnest openness. We pray that we may have the strength and courage to do the work we are commanded to do, which is to love one another as God has loved us. We pray, perhaps most of all, that we may be given grace to find the courage to allow God to fill our emptiness with the fullness of holiness.

See you in Church!

Grace and peace,  
Leighton

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### **From the Wardens**

This Sunday we celebrate All Saints Day when we remember those we have lost, especially over the past year, but previously as well. With all that is going on in the world, we must not forget those who are departed. If you wish to have a name read at the Sunday services as part of the Prayers of the People, please email Leighton at:

[Rector.stmarks.notl@gmail.com](mailto:Rector.stmarks.notl@gmail.com)

before 5 p.m. today, Friday November 3, 2023.

The local **Poppy Campaign** has begun. You will see veterans and Legion members at many locations. Please donate generously to the work that supports our veterans and their families in many ways.

There will be a **Remembrance Day Service** on Saturday November 11th at the Cenotaph at 10:45 am. The wreaths are placed on the Cenotaph starting at 10:15 am. (There will be a program handout).

At St. Mark's immediately following the Cenotaph ceremony, **Music Niagara, St. Mark's and the Silvestre Revueltas Orchestra** from Mexico will present a concert with the soul-stirring melodies of Beethoven. Admission is free, and donations collected will support the Last Fund, dedicated to helping veterans and their families. As well, the tiny Museum from Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum will be set up outside the church, providing a link to our history through its displays.

On October 27, 2023, we lost a long and faithful member of our Parish, Judy MacLachlan. Judy was always a spark wherever she went. Her contributions to her church and the community are well recognized. Please see her obituary in the local paper or on Morgan's website. Her memorial service is today at 1 p.m.

### **LEST WE FORGET**

**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 phone companionship. Even a chat over the fence!**

**Called to Life-Compelled to Love**

Allan Magnacca

Andrea Douglas

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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***

November 5, 2023 - Greeter(s)- Colleen and Douglas Hunter

November 5, 2023- Reader - Donna Belleville

Intercessor - Jamie Mainprize

**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".

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**The St. Mark's Directory 2023 will be available soon. We will announce in the E-News when the directories are ready for pick up.**

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**Services of Wednesday Morning Eucharist and Wednesday Evening Prayer are suspended until December 6.**

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# MUSIC NIAGARA FESTIVAL

A Morning of Musical Splendour with Music Niagara  
And  
Silvestre Revueltas Orchestra

**REMEMBRANCE DAY CONCERT**  
**St. Mark's Anglican Church**  
**41 Byron Street**  
**NOTL**

**November 11, 2023, immediately following the  
Cenotaph ceremony in Niagara-on-the-Lake.  
(approximately 11:30 a.m.)**

Begin your day with a moving tribute to Canadian history as the Silvestre Revueltas Chamber Orchestra from Mexico, conducted by Antonio Garcia-Aguilar, fills St. Mark's Church with the soul stirring melodies of Beethoven. In honour of Remembrance Day, this heartfelt performance follows the cenotaph ceremony in NOTL.

*Admission is free, and your generous donations will support Last Fund, dedicated to our veterans and their families.*

Plus, explore the captivating Tiny Museum from NOTL's Museum, specially set up at St. Mark's Church, providing a unique way to connect with local history through innovative display cases.



# 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



# 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

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### The Annual Bethany Bazaar

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH 10:00 A.M. until sold out!**

**Brown bread, jars of borscht, baked goods, preserves and quilts will be available for sale in the church auditorium.**

**All proceeds help support mission work.**

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### **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 Cottage Pie**

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

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In the parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Richard and Lynne Liptrap, Susan Lower and Henry Vens, and Timothy and Dana Lutton and their families.

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

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

We pray for those who have gone before us, Judy MacLachlan.

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for Church of the Apostles (St. James and St. Matthias), Guelph, The Reverend Naomi Miller, Rector; the Reverend Deacon Joseph Noseworthy, Deacon; the Reverend Canon Fran Darlington, Honorary Assistant; and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Principal, faculty, students and staff of the Vancouver School of Theology, and the Principal-Dean, faculty, students and staff of Martin Luther University College. Remember those who died in war and pray for renewed commitment to work for peace.

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

that Madeline (Pattison), wife of the fifth rector, C.H.E. Smith, was the widow of the son of the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick?



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### **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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