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## E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 234th Edition October 11, 2024

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### From the Rector

The idea of feasting is Biblical. "On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things," Isaiah writes. And the psalmist sings, "They feast upon the abundance of your house." In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul says it with his usual directness: "Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast." And finally, right at the end of scripture, John the Divine, being granted a vision of the consummation of all things, writes, "Let us rejoice and triumph and give him praise: the

time has come for the wedding-feast of the Lamb."

I'm not normally one for proof-texting from the Bible, but in this instance, I make no apologies. We're *meant* to gorge ourselves on the goodness of the Lord. Yet this is something we have difficulty accepting. Good manners and modesty suggest that we don't order the most expensive thing on the menu when we've been invited to dinner. No—we've been taught to be modest and not to risk raising our host's eyebrows.

But the divine host's eyebrows go up when we *won't* accept his invitation to have as much as we want, *can't* believe that there are no strings attached to this invitation, and *don't* understand why ordinary folk like ourselves would even be invited.

Isn't it strange that we Christians have difficulty accepting the invitation or seeing ourselves as worthy? We talk about the wonderful things God has done for us, yet somehow we can't quite believe that there aren't some serious strings attached to those great things. And the odd thing is, we know how distressing it is for someone to refuse *our* genuine offers of hospitality and kindness. "Oh you shouldn't have," is, in fact, a very dismissive thing to say! It's much better to receive gratefully—and gracefully—by simply saying, "Thank you."

One of the fundamental Christian teachings is that all that we have belongs to God. And even though we are only passing through—here for a short while—God gives to us with abundant generosity, not because we merit it but because he loves us, and he wants us to enjoy the bounty of that love so freely bestowed on us. We often struggle with what we can do to be worthy of such an amazing gift, and of course there isn't anything we can do, except live lives of graceful gratitude, lives in which we give freely of ourselves to those we

love, lives which reflect—no matter how imperfectly—the sacrificial love of Christ. Lives which are, in a very real sense, a "thank you" to the One who is both giver and gift. So, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.

Grace and Peace,  
Leighton

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The flowers in the church are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of

**John MacBeth  
and  
Joan Draper**

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#### **From the Wardens**

**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**

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**The Chili Supper** is to be held on All Saints Day, **Friday, November 1 at 6 p.m.** Kathy Taylor and her team will cook the chili in the kitchen in Addison Hall. ( **This is different than what was originally announced - it was decided it would be much easier to cook onsite rather than transport the chili**).

Please help us to celebrate and thank all the volunteers who support St Mark's, both in the parish and in the wider community . **Parish members are asked to bring a dessert to share.** Salads will be provided. If you would like to contribute, please call or email Erin in the church office. (stmarks@cogeco.net/905-468-3123)

**Please remember to mark your calendars for our upcoming events.**

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ENTHUSIASTIC FOR **SINGING** IN AN ENSEMBLE?



INTERESTED IN **EXPLORING**  
REPERTOIRE OLD AND NEW?

MOVED TO **SHARING** LITURGY  
AND MUSIC IN COMMUNITY?

CONSIDER **JOINING**  
**THE ST. MARK'S SINGERS!**

CONTACT INTERIM DIRECTOR OF  
MUSIC MICHAEL BLOSS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

[MICHAELBLOSS@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:MICHAELBLOSS@HOTMAIL.COM)

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### **Men's Communion and Breakfast**

**Wednesday, November 6th, 8:00AM**

Quiet spoken Eucharist in the Church at 8:00 a.m. followed by breakfast at 8:45 a.m.

If you would like to join, please contact:

**Greg Walker by email: [gregoryfwalker@gmail.com](mailto:gregoryfwalker@gmail.com) by Noon on Tuesday prior** so that numbers for breakfast can be confirmed.

We look forward to seeing you!

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### **Ladies Discussion Group**

It will be a wonderful thing if you could join us. Susan MacLaren will be leading a ladies discussion group at 10AM during Wednesdays in October and the first Wednesday in November. Up for discussion will be The Lord's Prayer. What does it say? What does it mean? Why do we care? Format will be just like last year's discussion group. There will be coffee!!!! Come and see!!

**Wednesdays**

**October 16th, 30th and November 6th at 10:00 am.**

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**The Teddy Bear Tea** is organized by Trudi Watson in response to a generous donation to St. Mark's of 30 collectible teddy bears to be used for fund raising. You will not be surprised to learn that Trudi has expanded the idea to include a lovely tea and sale of treasures, clothes and Christmas decor, in addition to the sale of teddy bears! Please note the full announcement below and plan to bring a friend and enjoy this event. **The dates are Friday and Saturday, November 29th and 30th 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

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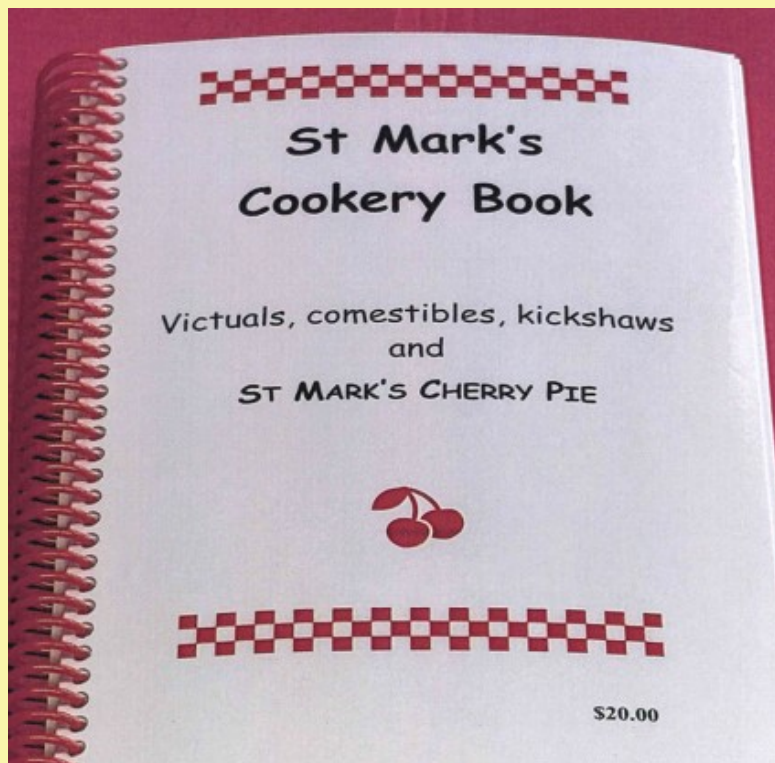
## Christmas Fundraising Tea and Sale

A tea and sale of Christmas items will be held **Nov. 29-30, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, in Addison Hall. It is a fundraiser for St. Mark's operations, and an outreach to the community to enjoy tea and some festive shopping.

The event, **Tea with Teddy**, gets its name from 30 collectible teddy bears that were donated to St. Mark's. They will be for sale along with an array of Christmas items.

**We need your help to fill the sales tables with Christmas items. Donations sought include holiday season clothing, Christmas decorations, linens, china, crystal, and jewelry. We'd welcome more teddy bears, too.**

Donated items will be picked up. Please call Trudi Watson, 905-468-3314, or Elizabeth Jamieson, 416-577-0750 to arrange.



**St. Mark's Cookery Book**

Everyone knows that St. Mark's Anglican Church makes the most delicious cherry pies each year for our famous

**CHERRY FESTIVAL.**

Until now, the recipe has been a well-kept secret.

**Now, we are sharing our recipe with you!**

**St. Mark's Anglican Church NOTL**

**presents**

**ST. MARK'S COOKERY BOOK**

**\$20.00**

**Have you ever wondered about the connection between  
St. Mark's and cherries?  
Wonder no more!**

Legend has it that on one St. Mark's Feast Day long ago, His Holiness Pope Gregory I had a sudden overwhelming desire for cherries. (Like most NOTLers do every July!) The servants and gardeners were at a loss. The cherry trees were in bloom, but the fruit was weeks away. Miraculously, St. Mark appeared to one of the gardeners and when he heard about Gregory's craving, he blessed a cherry tree causing it to be covered with ripe, red cherries.

Church ladies are often good cooks, and this is certainly true of the ladies (and gentlemen) of St. Mark's who have contributed their recipes to this book.

Not only will you have access to St. Mark's famous Cherry Pie recipe, but you will also have recipes for Appetizers, Soups and Snacks, Main Courses, Salads and Sides, Jams, Chutney, jellies, Cherry Blossom syrup, and many recipes for sweet and savoury baked goods including

**Cherries Jubilee.**

**If you would like to purchase a copy of St. Mark's Cookery Book**

**Call St. Mark's at 905-468-3123**

**or email us at**

**stmarks@cogeco.net**

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**How much do you know about St. Mark's Cemetery? Why not take a tour with Dr. Earle Waugh and learn all about Ontario's oldest operating cemetery? Afterward, you can enjoy some nibbles, a glass of wine, and a discussion about what you have just learned!**

***Tour Ontario's oldest burial ground***

**At**

**St. Mark's Anglican Church in Niagara on the Lake**

**Dr. Earle Waugh**

**leads the tour which is followed by refreshments and informal discussion**

**The \$25.00 admission fee supports our on-going Monument Restoration Programme**

**Tour group is limited to 10**

**Last tour of 2024 takes place on**

**Tuesday October 22**

**3:30-5:00 pm**

**For more information and to purchase tickets please call St. Mark's office at 905-468-3123**

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## 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

**October 13th - Greeter(s)** - Chris Bjorgan and Marilyn Bardeau

**Reader** - Jane De Munnich

**Intercessor** - Penny-Lynn Cookson

**Altar Guild** - Virginia Mainprize and Jennifer Smith

**Server** - Bob Cross

### Order of Service

The Order of Service can be found on our website: [Order of Service Website Page](#)

### Church Bells

A reminder to all that the Church Bells play on Sundays at 12:05 p.m. Enjoy!

### Staying Up to Date!

Click on this link to find this and recent copies of our E-News: [Visit our recent E-Newsletters](#)

Click on this link to view our: [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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## Prayer Cycles – We pray for:

**In St. Mark's parish:** Marilyn Bardeau, Susan Baxter, Donna Belleville, and Candace Bennett Walker and their families.

**In the Niagara Diocese:** St. Luke, Oakville, The Reverend Garfield Adams, Rector, and the people of that parish.

**In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer:** The Most Rev. Lynne McNaughton, Archbishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Kootenay, and the dean, council, and congregations of the Vancouver Island Region of the British Columbia Synod.

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





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