



E-News from the St. Mark's Pews 321st Edition June 26th, 2026



Dear Friends,

My meditation this week is "Close the Doors!" where I speak about no matter how hard we try, we can't shut ourselves away from life's challenges. You can watch it [here](#).

If you prefer to read, the text can be found [here](#).

Remember that this Sunday, June 28, the service at 10:30 will be Morning Prayer and Sermon, something many of us remember fondly. There will be familiar prayers, grand hymns and, yes, a sermon! So I hope you make every effort to be there. The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated (as always) at 8:30.

Grace and peace,
Leighton

We invite you to read this week's E-News all the way through to the very end, where a special treat awaits.

[Music Niagara](#)

has generously extended an *exclusive offer* to St. Mark's parishioners, as well as their family and friends. We encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

You will also find an important announcement regarding our [summer office hours](#), so please be sure to note the updated schedule.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

RESCHEDULED

SAT. AUGUST 8 3PM-5PM

St. Mark's

*presents the launch of its
newest publication*

Willows · Wreaths · Urns

**& other symbols
found on
St. Mark's gravestones**

created by

**Dr. A. Montgomery, historian
D. Combe, sexton**

Saturday, August 8th 3 pm-5 pm

All Profits Benefit St. Mark's Monument Restoration



**Meet the Authors
Book Signing
Mini Tours**

**132 pages
150 images
\$20**

**At the Front Of
St. Mark's
Byron Street
Niagara-on The Lake**



CHERRY FESTIVAL



Saturday, July 4 • 9:00 AM–2:30 PM

St. Mark's Cherry Festival is almost here — and we need your help!

Items Needed

Emporium Items

- Linen – tablecloths, etc.
- Garden items,
- **New or gently used clothing** – coats, sweaters, blouses (no pants, skirts or dresses)

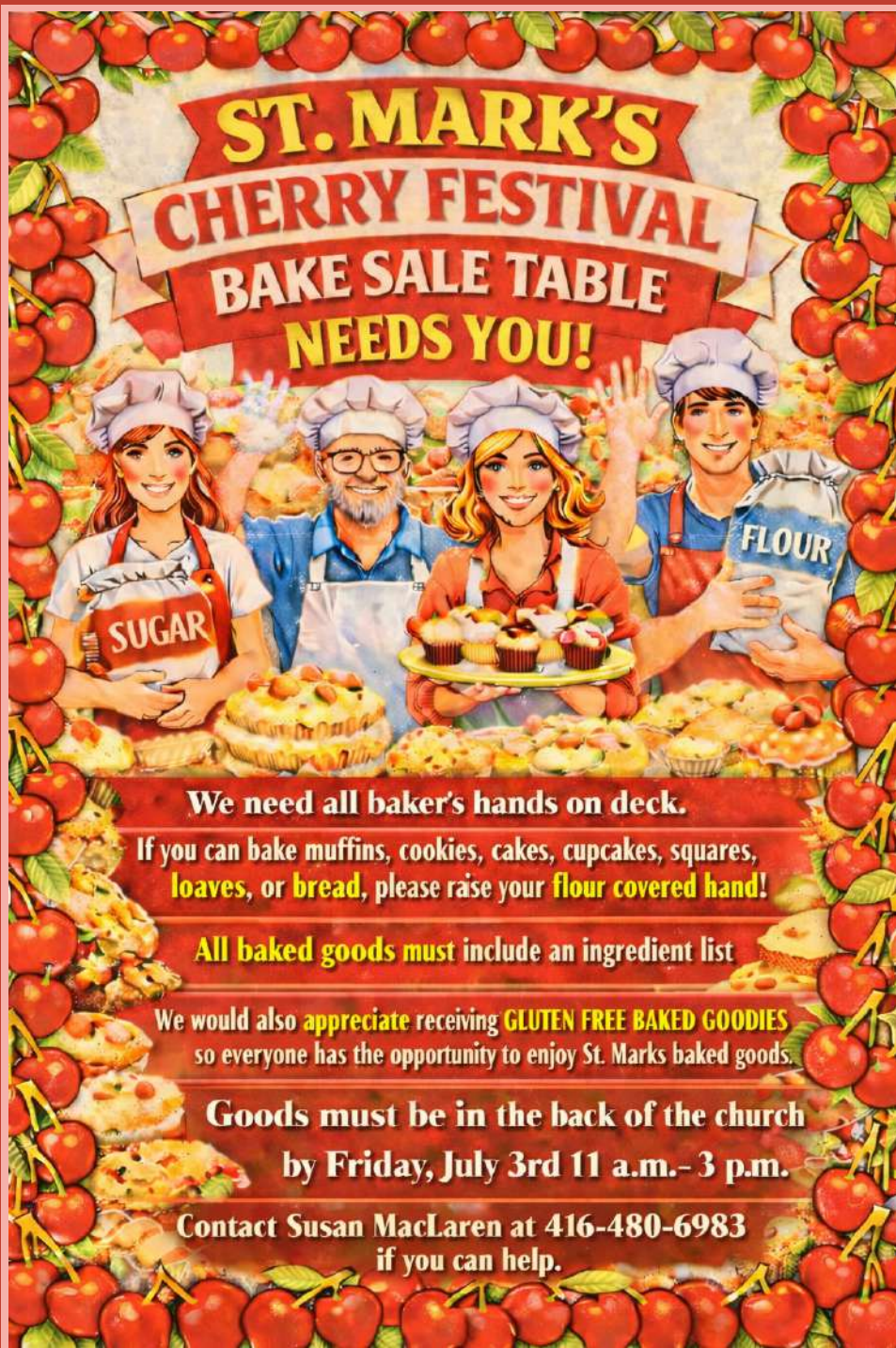
Volunteer Help Needed

- **Moving volunteers** needed **Monday, June 29**, 9 AM – 12 noon
- **Tear-down volunteers** needed starting at **2:30 PM** on **Saturday, July 4**
 - **Volunteers** needed throughout the day on **July 4** in different areas
 - **Photographer** needed to capture the day



***Please invite your friends, family,
and neighbours to join the fun***





**ST. MARK'S
CHERRY FESTIVAL
BAKE SALE TABLE
NEEDS YOU!**

We need all baker's hands on deck.

If you can bake muffins, cookies, cakes, cupcakes, squares,
loaves, or bread, please raise your flour covered hand!

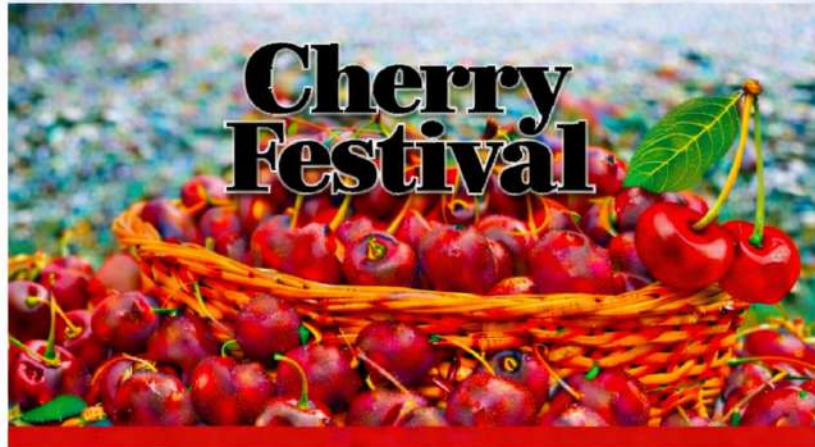
All baked goods must include an ingredient list

We would also **appreciate** receiving **GLUTEN FREE BAKED GOODIES**
so everyone has the opportunity to enjoy St. Marks baked goods.

**Goods must be in the back of the church
by Friday, July 3rd 11 a.m.- 3 p.m.**

**Contact Susan MacLaren at 416-480-6983
if you can help.**

Emporium Pre-Sale:
Thursday, July 2nd, 4 pm - 7 pm in
Addison Hall



Saturday, July 4, 2026
Gates open 9 am

St. Mark's Church, 41 Byron St, Niagara-on-the-Lake

A summer celebration for the whole family



- Cherry pies, BBQ
 - Jewellery, treasures
 - Bake table, books
 - Children's area, music
-

*Volunteers and Parishioners
can purchase cherry pies
this Sunday
after the 10:30 service*



\$27.00 Cash Only
no limit
St. Mark's Cherry Pies

People of St. Mark's

Please join Susan MacLaren on
July 8th at 10 a.m. in Addison,
to discuss our

UPSIDE DOWN WORLD
and enjoy

*Anjulika's **UPSIDE DOWN CAKE**
and coffee.*

*This may be the only time you will be encouraged
to speak with your mouth full!*

**Please take advantage of this special
offer from Music Niagara for St. Mark's
parishioners,
friends and families.**

MUSIC NIAGARA FESTIVAL

Music Niagara is delighted to offer St. Mark's parishioners, their friends and family 50% off tickets for this weekend's upcoming concert.

Glory to Ukraine: Solomiya Ivakhiv in Recital – Sunday, June 28th
5 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased **at:** [Glory to Ukraine Tickets](#)

In the small print at checkout (in cart), click **add discount** and enter the code **Music** to receive
50% off
either the regular ticket price or the senior ticket price.

Our senior rate is **already just \$19**, so it is a wonderful opportunity to attend this special performance.

NOTICE TO PARISHIONERS

Please be advised that beginning **July 6**, our Parish Administrator will transition to *summer office hours*.

During the week of **July 6**, and continuing each week throughout the summer, the Parish Administrator will be ***off every Wednesday.***

This adjusted schedule will remain in effect until ***September 6***, at which time regular office hours will resume.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	6 X	7	8	9
9	9	10	11 X	13	14	15
	16	17	15 X	19	20	21
	23	24	25 X	26	27	28
		30	31 X			



Canada's Great Flag Debate

Why Canada Wanted a New Flag

Before 1965, Canada mainly used the Red Ensign, a flag tied to British heritage. Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson believed the country needed a symbol that represented Canada on its own, especially for peacekeepers abroad.

Canadians Send in Their Ideas

A parliamentary committee reviewed 3,541 public submissions, including:

- 2,136 with maple leaves,
 - 389 with the Union Jack,
 - 359 with beavers,
 - 212 with the fleur de lis.
-

The Two Final Options

The Pearson Pennant, with three red maple leaves and blue bars, vs. George Stanley's design, with a single red maple leaf on a white field and borders.

Why Stanley's Design Stood Out

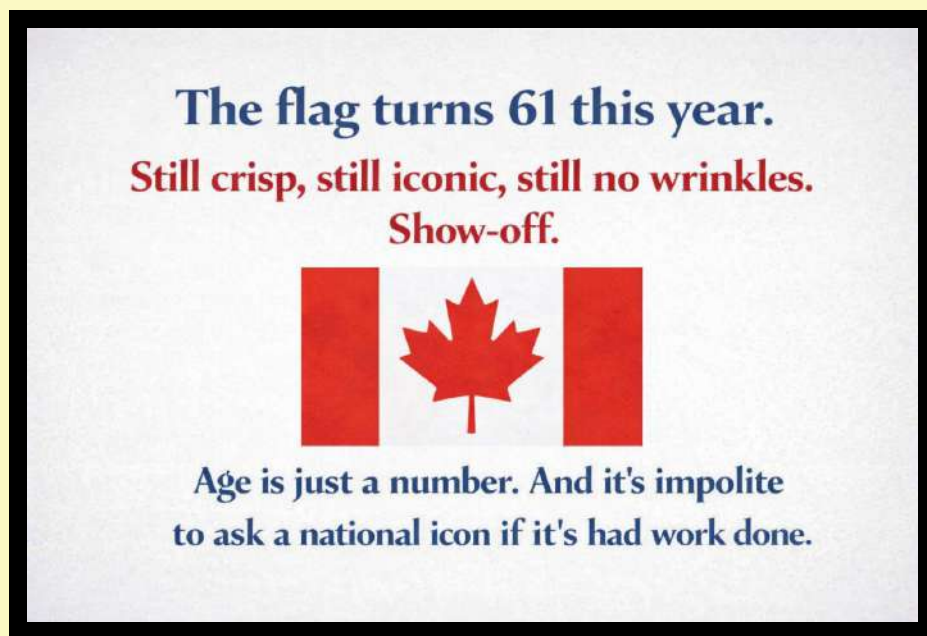
- Red and white were declared Canada's national colours in 1921 by King George V.
 - The maple leaf had long been a widely recognized Canadian symbol, used since the 1800s and on military insignia in both World Wars.
-

How the Decision Was Made

During committee voting, the Conservatives supported Stanley's design to block Pearson's preferred option. The Liberals unexpectedly joined them, resulting in a unanimous 15—0 vote.

The Flag Becomes Official

Parliament approved the new flag on December 15, 1964. It received Royal Proclamation in January and was first raised on February 15, 1965—now celebrated as National Flag of Canada Day.



Parish Updates

In-Person Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist [Watch the live stream on YouTube](#)

On Duty this Week

June 28th, 2026

Greeter(s) -

8:30 a.m. -

10:30 a.m. - Jo-Anne Hill and Ian Russell

Reader - Donna Belleville

Intercessor - Donna Belleville

Altar Guild - Virginia Mainprize

Flowers - Marsha Howe

Server - Virginia Mainprize

Hospitality Servers - Rita Brown and Mona Bailey

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 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".

Prayer Cycles - We pray for:

In St. Mark's Parish: Brian Harrison, Jack Hazell, Lynne Heaman, and David and Rosamund Hennessey and their families.

In the Niagara Diocese: For our diocesan leaders, The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, bishop; The Most Reverend Colin Johnson, assistant bishop; The Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin, Dean of Niagara; The Venerable Bill Mous, executive archdeacon and secretary of Synod; Ms. Christine Morrow, treasurer and director of finance; and Canon Greg Tweeney, chancellor; as they lead our diocese; and for all the staff as they faithfully and diligently seek to serve us, and all parishes and missions.

In the Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer: The Rt. Rev. Alexander Pryor, Bishop; the Rt. Rev. Ann Martha Keenainak, Suffragan Bishop; the Rt. Rev. Jared Osborn, Suffragan Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of the Arctic, and the congregations of the South area of the Saskatchewan Synod.

We invite you to honour the memories of your loved ones by donating memorial flowers at any time throughout the year.

Please submit your request to the office no later than the Wednesday before the Sunday you want the flowers displayed. This allows us time to include your tribute in both the Order of Service and the E-News.

If you wish to donate, please call Erin in the office.

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



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