



**St. Mark's Anglican Church est. 1792**  
**Niagara-on-the Lake, ON**  
*Hear the Good News!*  
*Hear the Good News!*

**E-News to the St. Mark's Pews**  
**92nd Edition December 31, 2021**

## **FROM THE RECTOR**

Dear Friends,

I should have something profound to say to you on New Year's Eve but I don't. Maybe the consumption too many eggnogs (homemade, of course!) over the past days have clouded my brain—who knows? But I have been thinking about what an extraordinary year it's been. If you'd told me a year ago that I would be moving here I would have laughed. But it's God who always gets the last laugh and here I am—here we are.

I'm amazed how quickly Niagara-on-the-Lake has come to feel like home. And the reason it has is because of the wonderful folks who make up St. Mark's. So, I simply want to end this year of transition and surprise by saying thank you for all that you do and all that you are. I am excited to see what awaits us in 2022 as together we discern what we are being called to do as the Anglican presence in this remarkable place. What the future holds we cannot know. But this we can know: all things work together for good for those who love God.

These familiar words quoted by King George VI in his Christmas broadcast of 1939 say it better than I ever could. Happy New Year.

*I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."*

Grace and peace,

Leighton

## FROM THE WARDENS

Once again, Christmas was different this year at St. Mark's. The much-anticipated Christmas services had to suddenly move online as the church was closed under new restrictions caused by the surging Omicron variant.

We thank Fr. Leighton for quickly adapting and leading three excellent services on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Sunday, December 26. Although we could not worship together, the online services were a great success with the number of viewers exceeding expectations. This speaks to the importance of worship at St. Mark's for our parishioners and visitors. For this we are truly grateful.

As we move into 2022, we await guidance from the Diocese on evolving COVID safety protocols. Updates will be shared promptly. We look forward to the day the church re-opens.

We thank you for journeying with us through these most difficult times and for your support of St. Mark's.

To all of you at St. Mark's and beyond, we wish you a very Happy New Year.

*Called to Life – Compelled to Love*

Your Wardens

## PARISH UPDATES

### ***Recorded Sunday Services & Order of Service***

Until we are able to return to in-person Sunday services, the recorded Sunday Services will be available on Facebook and YouTube by 10:30 a.m.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/St-Marks-Anglican-Church-Niagara-on-the-Lake-235477056649804/>

**YouTube:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozjc\\_vpYqH4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozjc_vpYqH4)

*The Order of Service for Sunday, January 2, 2022, is attached and can also be accessed through our website:*

<https://stmarksnotl.org/worship-ministry/order-of-service-bulletin>

### **Church Bells**

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

### **Church Office Hours**

Candace will be in the office Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 pm. This information is also noted on our website on the Contact Us page: <https://stmarksnotl.org/contact-us>

### **Church Envelopes**

Church envelopes are now ready for pick up in the Church Office.

### **Canadian Church Calendar (Anglican Edition) 2022**

If you would like to purchase a 2022 calendar, please email ([stmarks@cogeco.ca](mailto:stmarks@cogeco.ca)) or call the office (905.468.3123) to place your order. As per previous years, the cost would be \$10 per calendar. As soon as we receive the calendars, we will let you know your calendar is ready for pick up.

### **Year-end Donations**

In order to be eligible for a 2021 tax receipt, donations must be received by 2 pm on Friday, December 31. If you are able to participate in our "13<sup>th</sup> Month" campaign and help us close our operating deficit, we would be most grateful.

### **Bible Study via Zoom**

Starting on January 3, 2022, we will be using Amy-Jill Levine's book "Short Stories of Jesus" as we examine the parables. The book is widely available, including as an e-book. You can join the Bible Study through the Zoom invite sent out from Father Leighton.

### **Wednesday, Morning Prayer Services – 9:30 a.m.**

The weekly Morning Prayer Zoom service will resume on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.

### **Keeping in Touch On-line**

Please use this URL to watch Sunday services:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Marks-Anglican-Church-Niagara-on-the-Lake-235477056649804/>

The Order of Service is attached and can also be accessed through our website:

<https://stmarksnotl.org/worship-ministry/order-of-service-bulletin>

*Use this Link to find this and recent copies of our E-News:*

<https://stmarksnotl.org/news/news>

*On-Line Calendar:*

St. Mark's website is kept up-to-date on what is happening in the Parish.

Here is the Link to the Calendar: <https://stmarksnotl.org/events>

## **FROZEN CHERRY PIES & CANNED GOODS**

The following items are available to purchase from the Church office.

- Cherry Pies \$20 each – Frozen with easy-to-bake instructions
- Pea Soup – Frozen – 1 Litre - \$15
- Cherry Juice – 1 Litre - \$15
- Cherry Juice – ½ Litre - \$8
- Pickled Beets – Medium - \$8
- Cherry Jam – Small - \$5
- Cranberry Sauce – Medium - \$8
- Cranberry Sauce – Small - \$5
- Stewed Tomatoes – 1 Litre - \$15