

Enews to the St. Mark's Pews
87th Edition November 25, 2021
St. Mark's Anglican Church est. 1792
Niagara-on-the Lake, ON
Hear the Good News! Hear the Good news!

The Rector is on vacation this week.

WARDEN'S LETTER

We start this week's Enews with very sad parish news. Bob White died suddenly on Monday. He was a longtime parishioner, Finance chair, Deputy Warden and strong supporter of St. Mark's along with his wife Jacquie. Kathy Taylor lost her sister Sarah Drope, sister of Pat Balasiuk. Ethel Keith, a longtime parishioner, also died this week. Our condolences and prayers go out to all their families at this sad and difficult time.

This Sunday we start Advent and into the Christmas spirit when we should remember what it all means especially as we continue to be under restrictions of Covid. We pray that we may be able to celebrate Christmas with family and friends we have not seen for a year or more. This is also the time to give Christmas Flowers on behalf of your family and in remembrance of loved ones. Special Envelopes are in the Church pews or please email the office with the information and amount of your donation.

Those who watch the Sunday Service online will have noticed the marked improvement in the audio quality. There are more improvements to come. Your comments are much appreciated. Our online guests and parishioners are an important part of our communication.

St. Mark' Church is on the Rotary Christmas Tour December 3 and 4 and we will be selling our famous Cherry Pies along with church prepared jams and special canned items. To avoid crowding during the tour, we ask those who want to buy a pie to order by emailing the church office. Pickup will be arranged on either day or at later convenient time. Volunteers are needed to help to sell pies, canned items and other treats on Friday, Dec. 3 and Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9 am to 5 pm as well as for the Church Tour. Please contact Andrea Douglas at adouglas@bell.net.

You are receiving the Enews a day early as Thursday is Roxanne MacBeth's last day as Parish Administrator. We thank her for all she has done over the past three and a half years to support our Parish. In retirement, she will be able to do

her favourite hobbies, travel and to spend more time with her granddaughter. Until we have a new administrator, volunteers will be helping in the office. If you wish to contact the office, emails would be best. Phone calls will likely require leaving a message than speaking with someone. Any urgent needs will be responded to as quickly as possible. You may also contact the Wardens directly. Gary Burroughs, our bookkeeper, will be in the office part of the day.

Last Monday members of the Bishop’s Company were treated to a virtual presentation with our Bishop Susan and Archbishop Stephen Cottrell in discussion on many topics. Archbishop Stephen is the Archbishop of York and Primate of England. With the assistance of donations, St. Mark’s will be arranging access to the video for one month for all our parishioners. A separate note will go out next week with the link.

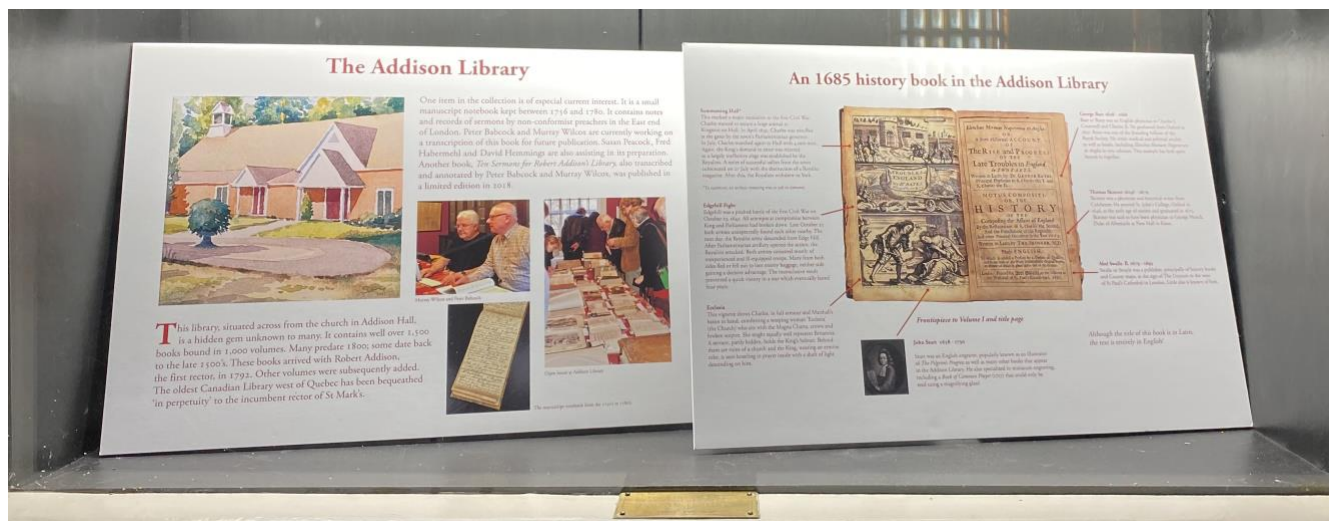
Starting in January, the Wardens Letter will include a brief description of one of the many hard-working committees at the church. They are always looking for volunteers and you will enjoy the participation. A sample of what the Archives Group has completed is below and is in the Church display window.

As always a reminder to advise the office of anyone who needs assistance in any way, including a phone call, food picked up and delivered or some companionship through phone, Facetime or over the fence.

Stay safe – keep well

Called to Life – Compelled to Love

Your Wardens



PARISH UPDATES

Keeping in Touch On-line

Our Sunday morning services are uploaded on Facebook after 10:30 am service. Simply go to St. Mark's Niagara-on-the-Lake Facebook page.

Please use this URL to watch:

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

Our Enews and Order of Service can also be accessed through new website:

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

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

FROZEN CHERRY PIES SALE

Please order by emailing Diane Turner at 19ab39@gmail.com.

Pies are \$20 and are sold frozen with easy-to-bake instructions.



Christmas with The Newark Singers

Sunday, December 19th at 4:00pm or 7:00pm

Carols and Readings for the Festive Season

Free Admission, please registered by 12 noon Friday, December 17th by emailing Church Office to book a place as we are limited to 50 spectators per Concert.

There will be a freewill Offering plate at the back of the Church as you leave.
Come and enjoy some live music for the Season!



WORSHIP:



Diocesan livestream service is available at [livestream service of our Cathedral](#).

READINGS FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, November 28, 2021 – First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Jeremiah spoke of God's love for humankind at a time when the citizens of Jerusalem had suffered great adversity. He has predicted that the city will be rebuilt. Now he foretells that the line of kings of which David was the founder will continue.

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Paul has heard of the persecution of Christians living in Thessalonika. He has sent Timothy to comfort them in their adversity. Timothy has returned with news of the steadfastness of their love for Christ and for one another, and also for him as he faces persecution.

Luke 21:25-36 Our reading is part of Jesus' answer to two questions: when will the Temple be destroyed? What signs will there be that this is about to happen? People expected calamities at the end of the age, but Jesus tells us that he – the Son of Man – will come from heaven at that time.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Jane De Munnich

In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!"
O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

We give thanks for the presence in this community of Nancy Bongard, Anne Bookbinder, Larry and Joan Bourk, and Jim Bourne and pray for them and their families.

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

In the Cycle of Prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for Christ Church, Niagara Falls, the Reverend Rob Duncan, Deacon in Charge, the Reverend Canon Jim Powell, 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.

We pray for the sick, especially remembering Jack Taylor, Margaret Stimson, Gillian MacKay, Terry, Jan Brown, Lisa, Dorothy Walker, Sharon, Dick, Doug Garrett, Bev Garrett, Jodey Porter, Sean, and Joshua.

We pray for those who have gone before us, Sarah Drope, Ethel Keith, and Bob White.

Eternal God,
you have warned us that your Son the Bridegroom will come at midnight,
at an hour we are least aware.
Let us ever hear the cry, "The bridegroom is coming,"
so that we may never be unprepared to meet him,
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**