

**Enews to the St. Mark's Pews
77th Edition September 17, 2021
St. Mark's Anglican Church est. 1792
Niagara-on-the Lake, ON**

Hear the Good News! Hear the Good news!

Dear Friends,

Earlier this week I had a long conversation with an old friend via Facebook Messenger. I mentioned it the next day to another friend and she said, "Why would you do that? Why wouldn't you just pick up the phone?" I don't know why—the conversation just seemed to flow naturally, so there didn't seem to be a reason to stop it.

Maybe it was because we've grown comfortable with different kinds of communication over the last year-and-a-half. Things we swore we'd never do before the pandemic have turned out to be life-saving.

Online services are an example. True, they're no substitute for the real thing, but they have their place. They've allowed us to keep connected as a spiritual community and reach out to others be they locals or folks hundreds of kilometres away. So however things look when this pandemic is behind us, online worship will continue. It's now a vital part of our ministry.

There are two other online options for worship and fellowship: Bible Study on Monday mornings at 9:30 and Morning Prayer on Wednesday mornings at 9:30. Both have a small and dedicated group of participants, and we'd love to have more. If you wish to join the Bible Study, please email me directly (rector.stmarks.notl@gmail.com) and I'll make sure you get the Zoom coordinates. If you wish to join Morning Prayer all you need to do is to click on the link which comes out on Tuesdays. Both are well worth your time!

I'll see you in church - either in person or online.

Grace and peace,
Leighton

PARISH UPDATES

Keeping in Touch On-line

Now that we are back to Church in-person our Sunday morning services are **live streamed** on Facebook and YouTube at 10:30 am. Simply go to St. Mark's Niagara-on-the-Lake Facebook page.

Please use these URLs to watch:

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-vVgNf0GbuxrfIjW4sOXzQ>

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>

WARDEN'S LETTER

Thanks to all who assisted last Sunday. We had a 47 and included a Baptism as part of the Service. This Sunday will be another Baptism as part of our Service. It is so nice to be celebrating these events.

As has been announced, effective Sept. 22nd, vaccination certificates will be required for 57 of our parishioners who are leaders or members of specific committees. Those affected have been advised to provide that information to the office by Sept. 22nd.

Last January, the Federal Government sent seniors a \$300 assistance cheque/deposit. We asked if you felt you did not need it, to please donate to St. Mark's operating fund. Many did and it certainly helped our finances. A further \$500 was to be sent in July! The button was pushed and we received the \$500 on or about the 3rd week of August. So once again we are asking for your assistance for the operating account with some or all of the \$500. The amount will have a donation receipt for this year and donors will also receive a CHERRY PIE when they are baked.

Monday Bible study and Wednesday Morning Prayer have resumed. Please join in, especially Bible Study that is very interesting and sometimes entertaining as Fr. Leighton leads our discussions.

On Sunday Sept. 19th, starting at 2 p.m., members of The Royal Canadian Legion-Branch 124 will be placing Markers at all the veterans' graves in our Cemetery. We have 100 graves. This is done annually as part of the Remembrance for those who are buried here. Take time to walk around and see how many veterans there are.

Parish Council meets on Tuesday Sept. 21; information package has been sent out. Corporation will meet on Monday Sept. 20. If there is anything you feel should be considered by Corporation, please contact one of the Wardens prior to Sunday.

October is becoming a busy month for Celebrations of Life. Due to the restrictions in effect many are coping with large families attending and as a result may not be able to invite as many friends as they would like. Please respect the difficulty this causes.

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

WORSHIP:



Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan

The services begin at 10:00am on [diocesan Facebook page](#) and then will be posted on [YouTube channel](#).

READINGS FOR SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

[Sunday, September 19, 2021 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost](#)

Proverbs 31:10-31 The book of Proverbs ends with a poem about a capable wife. Many of the qualities are those of wisdom herself, so this is also a summary of the book.

Mark 9:30-37 Jesus has told the disciples something they find hard to accept: he, the Son of Man, the Messiah, will suffer. Now he adds that he is to be betrayed and handed over to people who will treat him harshly.

Prayers of the People (submitted by Diane Turner)

God invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as close to us as our own needs; loving our neighbours as ourselves. In the power of the Holy Spirit let us offer prayers to God for the needs, concerns and hopes of all the world with the response.... HOLY SPIRIT HELP US.

Loving God, we ask for the gift of your Holy Spirit to help us pray as we ought. Saying “**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”.

We ask for the energy and vision of your Spirit, for those who are tiring in the battle against injustice and oppression, for those exhausted by the struggles of poverty, hunger and homelessness. For our Frontline health care workers during this Covid-19 pandemic God, reinforce their ranks and strengthen them with supernatural energy. Saying.....”**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”.

We ask for the hope and comfort of your spirit, for those whose lives are overshadowed by illness or pain in body, mind or spirit and for those whose lives are darkened by sorrow or bereavement.

The sick, especially remembering Gillian McKay, Terry, Don Dicarlo, Jan Brown, Lisa, Dorothy Walker, Sharon, Dick, Doug Garrett, Jodey Porter, Sean, and Joshua.

The shut-ins, Fred Habermehl, Fred Dixon, Joy Ormsby, Selina Appleby, and Joan Draper. And we pray for those who have died, Ross Tomlinson, Peter Ford, Tony Dolynski and Jackie Johnson. Saying.....”**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”.

In the Cycle of prayer for the Niagara Diocese we pray for the Church of Ascension in Hamilton, the Reverend Dr. John Stephenson, Interim Pastor, the Reverend Canon, Barry Randle, Honorary Assistant, and the people of that parish.

In the Anglican–Lutheran Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon, and the dean, council, and congregations of the Southern Interior Region of the British Columbia Synod. Saying.....”**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”.

We ask for the peace and joy of your spirit, for those living in the shadow of war and violence especially those oppressed in Afghanistan and for the joy of children as they return to school. God, give them the necessary caution to keep them from spreading the disease. Saying.....”**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”.

We ask for the guidance and strength of your Holy Spirit for those uncertain how to use their time, talents and gifts, for families with young children at home for the unforeseeable future. God help the mothers and fathers to partner together creatively for the care and flourishing of their children. Saying.....”**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”.

We ask for the love and courage of your Spirit, for those reaching out to comfort the distressed and for those reaching out to others with the Good News of Christ.

We give thanks for the presence in this community of Trevor Straker, Barbara Stratton, Michael Tansley and Barney Farkas, and Tim and Kathy Taylor and pray for them and their families.

Saying “**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”

Loving God

We ask for the assurance of your spirit to know your presence with us in our daily lives ,

In our relationships,

In our work and service,

In our worship,

In our times of joy and pain

Saying “**HOLY SPIRIT HELP US**”

Loving God

Open our ears to hear your word and draw us closer to you, that the whole world may be one with you
as you are one with us in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**