



## St. Mark – Ocean Park Anglican Church

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### **E-PULSE** NEWSLETTER OF ST. MARK OCEAN PARK **DECEMBER 13, 2020**

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**Reverend Philippa Segrave-Pride's email address is:** [philippastmarks@gmail.com](mailto:philippastmarks@gmail.com)

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Sadly, our worship will have to remain online only until at least 8<sup>th</sup> January.  
This means that there won't be an opportunity to gather in-person for our Christmas services.

We are working hard with new technicians to try and get our Internet stable enough for live streaming, but this has proved far more complicated than first thought.

We expect to be pre-recording our worship again this week  
and hope to have it online by Sunday morning.

If we do get the new wiring in place before the weekend we will try and livestream on Sunday.

Please check the parish website for updates.

Thank you for your patience.

#### **To access the online Service:**

- onto the Church's website: [www.stmarkbc.org](http://www.stmarkbc.org)
- on the page that opens, click on where it says: "St. Mark Ocean Park Online Sunday Worship Services"

Although this news is frustrating, ultimately it is to help keep us safe from COVID -19.  
Visits to the church are possible, but we please ask that you call ahead and make an appointment  
(604.535.8841) so we can keep a record of who is in the building at any time.

#### **Advent Prayer:**

God of Love, Your Son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us. He is a sign of your love. Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent, as we wait and prepare for his coming. We pray in the name of Jesus our Saviour.

*Author Unknown*

## Never fear the Holly Berry Fair is still near!.

Owing to the limited quantities and to avoid disappointment, orders cannot be placed online. To order please contact Linda O'Donovan at [lindaodee@hotmail.com](mailto:lindaodee@hotmail.com) or by phone at 604-536-7983 or Pam Hamilton at [pamhamilton@telus.net](mailto:pamhamilton@telus.net)  
Personal shopping appointments can be arranged by contacting Linda or Pam.

Although the physical fair has had to be cancelled; several of our groups have taken the initiative of moving their sales online. Ladies Guild and ACW are looking for your business!! The links listed below will take you to details of their online sales and order forms. Please take note of the deadlines for orders. Homebaked goodies, crafts, holly and gift baskets are all available!  
Please support them if you can!!

<https://tinyurl.com/Holly-Berry-Fair-Online>

A) Ladies' Guild Baking Sales - click below for an order form - please order by **Tues. Dec. 15**  
<https://tinyurl.com/Ladies-Guild-order-form-Dec-15>

B) Ladies' Guild Baskets, Crafts and Preserves Sale - click for photos and prices of items for sale - **please order by Tues. Dec. 15** (first come first served)  
<https://tinyurl.com/Baskets-Crafts-and-Preserves>  
Please order by Tues. Dec. 15 by contacting [Isabelchernoff@telus.net](mailto:Isabelchernoff@telus.net) 604-531-6828  
or [Lindaodee@hotmail.com](mailto:Lindaodee@hotmail.com) 604-536-7983

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR** are given today by Les and Jean Edmonds to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of James.

Flowers are also given today by Robyn Kniel "to my Dad Bill McKnight - in fond memory".

Anyone wishing to donate Flowers for the Sanctuary after please contact Kathryn of the Altar Guild at [hkmasmith@shaw.ca](mailto:hkmasmith@shaw.ca) or phone the office at 604.535.8841 and leave a message.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** – If you wish the Intercessor to include the name of a loved one in Sunday's prayers, please drop an email to the Office – Monday to Thursday – and the name will be forwarded to the Intercessor in time for Sunday's Service. [office@stmarkbc.org](mailto:office@stmarkbc.org)

**PRAYER CHAIN** – The Coordinator for the Prayer Chain is Lynne Hurd who can be reached at [lynneh1@telus.net](mailto:lynneh1@telus.net) or at 604-542-2772. Please give your prayer requests and updates to Lynne who will forward them to the twenty men and women on the Prayer Chain to pray for your requests daily. Prayers are continued for two weeks or longer with updates as needed

## Financial Update

### **Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15**

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to all of St. Mark's generous supporters. Our church family has remained faithful throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and although our donations have declined somewhat, fortunately our expenses have also decreased (as illustrated in the chart below).

<b>PARISH OF ST. MARK - OCEAN PARK " OPERATING ACCOUNT "</b>				
<b>FINANCIAL STATUS AT November 30, 2020</b>				
	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Adj Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>28,373.25</b>	<b>247,620.80</b>	<b>336,446.67</b>	<b>(88,825.87)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>30,557.86</b>	<b>239,673.10</b>	<b>336,446.67</b>	<b>96,773.57</b>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$ (2,184.61)</b>	<b>\$ 7,947.70</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 7,947.70</b>

This is in part due to the number of parishioners who use Pre-Authorized Donations (PAD), as well as many more who donate using envelopes, eTransfer and the Electronic Donation Station (EDS). We understand that many people have experienced changes to their income during the past few months, so all donations of any size are needed and greatly appreciated.

As we celebrate this season of Advent, remember the gifts that God has given us. Please review your support for December and into 2021. All donations receive a tax receipt, which is issued annually, and available early in February of each new year. If you wish to make changes or sign up for PAD, please contact our Donation Secretary, Brenda Horner. Her contact information is available via the office (Ph: 604-535-8841 or email: [office@stmarkbc.org](mailto:office@stmarkbc.org)). Thank you.

**Next Sunday's Service** - The Lessons for the Fourth Sunday in Advent, Lessons & Carols, December 20 are:

- Genesis 3:1-15
- Jeremiah 23:5-8
- Isaiah 11:1-10
- Isaiah 9:1-6
- Luke 1:26-38
- John 1:1-14
- Matthew 28:16-20

### **A LOOK AHEAD to CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

All of our Christmas Services will be online: We hope to be able to live stream them, but if not they will be pre-recorded.

<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am</b>	<b>Carol Service</b>
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> December 7.00pm</b>	<b>First Eucharist of Christmas</b>
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am</b>	<b>Christmas Day Eucharist</b>
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>

We will also be producing a pre-recorded Blue Christmas Service.

**THE LUNCH BASKET FOR HUNGRY CHILDREN** provides funding for lunches to five single Mothers and nine children. Please help support these families by choosing a 2021 date (see chart below) to support these families and have a dedication in the weekly E Pulse. email or phone Darlene W. or Barb G. with your dedication. The suggested donation of \$60 can be made by e-transfer, the Donation Station, or by dropping off a cheque in the mailbox at the church office.

January 2021		February 2021		March 2021		April 2021	
3	Mari Anne and Roger Hussen	7	Catherine Featherstone	7		4	
10	Isabel Chernoff	14	Kathy Chambers	14		11	
17	Robyn Kniel	21	Pauline Blachford	21		18	
24	Norma and Alan Marsh	28		28		25	
31	Pauline Blachford						

**THE LUNCH BASKET** for Hungry Children is provided this week by Elizabeth to the Glory of God and with my grateful thanks to the members of St. Mark's, friends, neighbours and family who are attending to my welfare in every possible way.

**A Look Ahead:**

- **VESTRY MEETING** – is on Sunday, February 21, 2021

**Attention All Ministry Leaders** – The Ministry Report deadline for the 2020 Annual Report is: Monday, January 18, 2021. Please email your report to the office: [office@stmarkbc.org](mailto:office@stmarkbc.org)



Dec. 4, 2020

Dear Members of St Mark's,

This is an update on the search for a new rector for our church.

As you may know the Parish Profile is a document the Search Committee (also known as the canonical committee) has worked hard to create, and acts as our advertisement for the position of Rector of St Mark's.

This document was posted to the Diocese of New Westminster website on Nov 10, 2020 and will remain on site until Dec 15, 2020.

At that point, or some time shortly after, the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Appointments (BACA) will meet to review all applications received and short list those they feel would be good choices for our parish. Two representatives from the Search Committee will attend that meeting.

Once a shortlist has been drawn up; those applicants will then go through an interview process with our Search Committee.

Once the applicant has been fully vetted they will then be offered the position and will give notice to the parish they currently serve.

Typically a 3 month notice period is expected.

If this process follows the normal timeline and brings the results we have hoped for we can look forward to induction of a new Rector in approximately 4 months or around mid April.

This year has brought many challenges for all of us, especially the challenge of patience. This process for many feels like it has taken far longer than 11 months due to the disconnection we have all experienced due to the pandemic.

We look forward with anticipation to see what individuals God will bring our way.

Perhaps the wait into the year 2021 was all His plan, so a smooth transition and new connection can be made as we will hopefully begin to be emerging from this pandemic cloud.

Yours in Christ

Heather Higginson  
Search Committee Chairperson

## ***The Saga of our Internet Issues:***

The short story is we are actively working on fixing our Internet and phone issues. You should already see that you can phone the church and leave a message or get to talk to the office manager. If that is all you need to know stop here.

The long story has been a struggle to update the phones and fix our poor Internet connection. Past wardens have worked with TELUS to fix the system and then packed it in as the process was frustrating and we were able to limp by with what we had.

This year it became evident our phone system needed to be replaced and it was time to improve our Internet. After a month of phone calls with TELUS, hours on hold, talking to one after another person only to be passed along to someone else we understood why this keeps getting dropped. Then....we were directed by a parishioner to Clearlines and met Camille. Camille took over talks with TELUS and Shaw and within 24 hours we had Shaw onsite checking out our system.

Meanwhile new phones had been purchased and programmed by Camille and installed. These phones were used, but were less than a year old and were offered to us with the usual warranty. You can now phone the office and leave a message. Unlike the old system where the message would sit until the next office day. This system can forward an audio file to the intended recipient. Emergencies can be dealt with sooner than later.

In this time we have learned both Shaw and TELUS have lines that run down the east side of our property and then west to a telephone pole in our parking lot. From there Shaw went to the Rectory. TELUS ran down the pole, through a 1&1/2 inch conduit under the driveway and into the building. We soon learned that the conduit is most likely compromised and the TELUS cables are old and stiff. Both of which may be the cause of our poor connection.

Shaw tapped the line in the back. Ran the line overhead and into the building and installed a new router. The first big hurdle for Internet has been overcome.

### **Where are we now?**

Our next goal is to have the steaming for services robust and reliable. We can do this by running Ethernet Network cables to the sound booth and to have our network moved to the Shaw High-Speed Package. We have an electrician who streams the services for his church and understands exactly what we need.

### **Where are we going?**

The gradual growth, upgrades and expansion of the Church's computer, alarm, and camera security systems over a long period of time have resulted in a patchwork of various wires running around the building.

This would be a good time to evaluate our older wiring and to explore centralizing the locations and pre-wiring for future growth.

Thank you for your patience. It has been a real challenge to get this far.

Mari - Anne Hussen

