

E-Pulse: Newsletter of St. Mark, Ocean Park for Jan 8, 2023



The Prayer Corner

“They entered the house and saw the child in the arms of Mary, his mother. Overcome, they kneeled and worshiped him...and presented gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” *Matthew 2:11*

Meditation: As you hear again the familiar story of the magi – the wise men – the scholars from the east, do you wonder, as I do:

- How did they know that the star was a sign?
 - What gave them the desire and courage to make the long journey to an indeterminate geographical destination?
 - How much did it cost them to prepare for, and make the journey to give their gifts?
 - How much did they truly understand?
 - How were their lives changed by the encounter?
 - What does all of this have to say to my life and to our parish life at St. Mark Ocean Park?
- ...Speak Lord, your people are listening...

Praise and Petition: Wonder-working God of mystery, we know that you are the same yesterday and today. You and your good purposes will be the same tomorrow. So, though there is much we do not understand, we work out our lives by faith in your gift of your son, Jesus Christ. Guide us, as you guided the Wise Men.

We thank you for the house of faith here on 20th Avenue where we gather to worship you. Give us discernment and generosity to bring gifts that honour you to this community. We praise you that you cannot be contained by a building. We are awestruck that you choose to dwell in every heart open to receive The Holy Spirit. Give us courage to open ourselves more and more to The Spirit so that Christ might dwell more fully in us.

We believe there are others you are calling. May they see and respond to the sign of your call as the magi did. May they find their way to Christ despite barriers of history, distance, or culture. Make us a truly welcoming community of disciples so that those who come to St. Mark Ocean Park find you here.

Parish Life Announcements

Readings for next Sunday, January 15th



Isaiah 49:1-7,
Psalm 40:1-11,
1 Corinthians 1:1-9,
John 1:29-42

Ministry Reports for the 2022 Annual Report

Thank you to the three Ministries Leaders who have kindly submitted their 2022 Reports. The deadline for submission of 2022 Ministry Report to office@stmarkbc.org has been extended to: Monday, January 16th.

St. Mark's Men's Club – Meets this Tuesday, January 10th with drinks and appetizers at 6:00 PM and meal served at 6:30 PM. The speaker will be John Finley speaking on the railways and the use of signals. Rev. Steve will MC this particular meeting.

SAVVY Seniors Get Together with chat, and a variety of games that include cribbage, scrabble, bridge and rummicube. in the



Parish Hall. The next gathering is **Wed. January 18** from 1pm-3:30pm. Contact: Sue Indridson, email: sinder@shaw.ca or phone 604-531-4931

To Reach Rev Stephen Laskey, our Priest in Charge, send an email to: PinCStephenLaskey@outlook.com or call him at the Church Office (604.535.8841). If your call goes to voicemail, leave a message and your telephone number for Reverend Laskey. He will check voicemail messages and will return your call.

St Mark's Family, Youth and Children's Time

Do Subscribe to our youtube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLHs8LO-SfLI0_i0FX3hJNg

or follow the link from our webpage. <http://stmarkbc.org/>



We Live Stream our Sunday Worship

To access the online Service go to our Church's website:

www.stmarkbc.org On the homepage, click on the service's



video, where it says: "St Mark Online Worship Services". To watch or listen to older services, go into the YouTube archives through our Parish website www.stmarkbc.org and click on "St Mark Online Worship Services".

Alternatively you can use these links: tinyurl.com/St-Mark-Online-Video-Channel OR https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLHs8LO-SfLI0_i0FX3hJNg