



# St. Mark's Anglican Church

## A Parish Profile



St. Mark's Anglican Church  
268 Main Street  
Barriefield Village  
Kingston ON, K7K 6W4

Visit us @

<http://stmarksbarriefield.com>



## Let us pray.....

*Heavenly Father, we come together as members of the body of Christ, Your church, to seek Your face and Your guidance in our search for a new shepherd for St. Mark's.*

*The thoughts and prayers in this document articulate who we are and what we are about from our own understanding. We realize that we are imperfect and that we fall far short of Your glory, therefore, our vision may be somewhat askew or incomplete. But in trusting You, Father, "we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."*

*We ask, Father, that You prepare the heart, mind and spirit of the person You have chosen for this position. Prepare us too, with the eyes to see and the ears to hear, that which You declare to us throughout this process. Indeed, Father, show us Your way, teach us Your paths and open our understanding to Your will.*

*This is Your Church, Father, and we are Your people through the completed work of our risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He alone is our eternal Great High Priest. May we ever deepen our walk with Him through learning and declaring sound, biblical doctrine, fellowship with one another, the breaking of bread and effective prayer as we take Your gospel, Your truth, in word and good works, into the world around us. May we never cease to be Your salt, Your light and Your love to those who are lost, to those who are seeking and to one another.*

*We ask that Your Holy Spirit continually empower our lives to bear the fruit that You have prepared for us to bear and to do the works that You have prepared for us to do. Use us all, Father, this body of Jesus Christ, with Him as our head, for Your Glory. Empower us, through Your Holy Spirit, to fulfill our risen Christ's commission, to go into the world and to make disciples of all nations.*

*We give this document to You with joy, and with thanksgiving, as we wait for Thy will to be done in all things. All glory is Yours, now and forever.*

*In Jesus' Name - Amen*

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## Introduction

Welcome to St. Mark's Anglican Church, a place of **Courage, Faith and Love.....**

Over the last decade the character of this parish has changed dramatically and positively. We want to capture and maintain that momentum so we can continue to "Faithfully Move Forward".

We are a strong and faithful community; alive with Spirit, filled with Spirit and guided by Spirit.



### A letter to the candidate:

*We are excited to invite you to lead our family of faith here at St. Mark's, and to guide us on our spiritual journey as we follow and serve Christ our Lord.*

*St Mark's is a welcoming, inclusive, loving, compassionate and spiritually guided congregation. Our parish family is very active and involved in numerous events that connect us to our Christian community. Our Sunday Eucharist Services are celebrated in a beautiful 176 year old stone church in Barriefield Village overlooking the City of Kingston.*

*We have an attitude of generosity and positivity and are amazed at what wonderful things we are able to accomplish when we reach out to others and ask for God's blessing and guidance.*

*East Kingston continues to grow rapidly and we yearn to share the Lord's message with the many families that now live within our parish. To achieve this we would like to expand our ministries: by offering programs for children and youth; by becoming more involved in the community; by leading Prayer and Bible studies and by connecting with other Churches.*

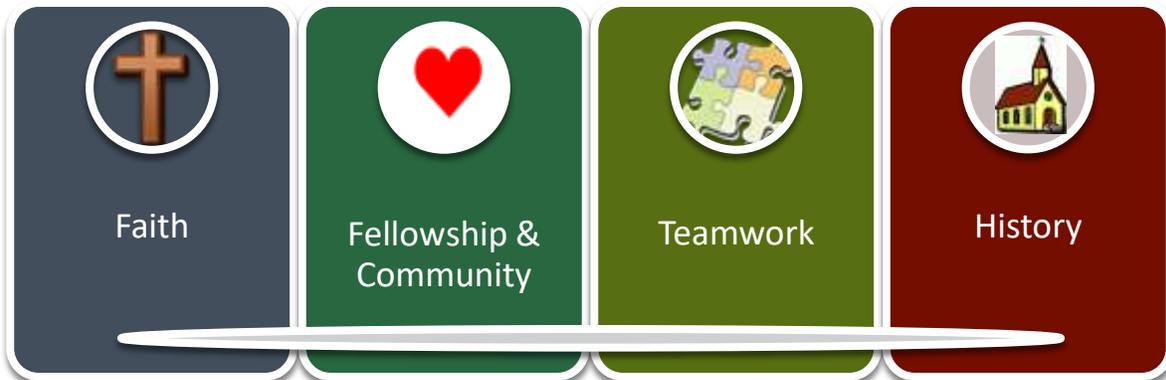
*Ultimately, we want to share the "Good News" of Jesus Christ. We have been praying for God to touch the heart of an energetic and inspiring person who has a passionate commitment to undertake this type of ministry. This person needs to be enthusiastic, persuasive and able to inspire leadership potential in other people; this person has the ability to recognize and motivate potential leaders from within the group.*

*Does the idea of this exciting challenge touch your heart? We pray it does! Please read through these pages and you'll find that we are simply asking you to walk with us to do the Lord's work. We'll be with you every step along the way.*

*Yours in Faith,*

*The Congregation of St. Mark's*

## WE ARE A PLACE OF.....



### Faith

**Acts 2:42** “They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer”.

**1 Peter 3:15** “The church is called to be faithful in sharing the gospel through word and deed; to be a “lighthouse” in the community, pointing people toward our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; it is to both promote the gospel and prepare its members to proclaim the gospel”.

With this statement we find a defining moment in our Holy Eucharistic service as Anglicans and we cherish it. Hearing the words of the liturgy spoken with loving reverence and humility; hearing the welcoming and inclusive message that all are welcome at the Lord's Table; hearing the reminder that in our open hands we have nothing to give but our faith and love, and we come to Him to be given the gift of life.

- **8:30 am BCP Communion Service** - This early morning service has an intimate feeling and is valued by those attending.
- **10:00 am BAS Communion Service** - Is one of fellowship and spiritual preparation; both the organ and the grand piano are used for this very inclusive service.
- **Prayer** - Church Community Prayer, Walking Community Prayer and Friday Morning Prayer (9:30 am).
- **Music and Worship** – The hymns are chosen from 'Common Praise' and more contemporary hymns are used on occasion to augment the hymnal.
- **Children's Ministries (Sunday School)** – Our children's program is called Lighthouse Children's Ministries and is administered by two professional educators.
- **Bible Studies** – A variety of bible studies take place over the course of a year. The bible studies are led by the Incumbent and/or laity.



## Fellowship and Community

**Matthew 18:20** “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them”.

Here at St Mark's fellowship takes many forms with activities involving the congregation and our surrounding community. Everyone is welcome to participate. We love to share our faith and our gifts and sometimes there is food involved...

- **Sunday coffee & treats** – every Sunday after the 10:00 am service everyone is invited to come to the parish hall for refreshments and food. This venue does not only allow for good conversation and getting to know newcomers, we also get to share the excellent lunch treats provided by our Refreshment team members.
- **Summer BBQ & special lunches** – throughout the year the congregation gets together to celebrate community and special occasions (i.e. anniversaries, birthdays etc.) or just because we want to share a meal together with family and friends.
- **Annual Celebration Dinner** – in November the congregation comes together to celebrate our parish family, recognize individual achievements, share stories and reflect on events from the past year.
- **Annual Golf Tournament** – annual golf tournament held in July at 'The Landings Golf Course' in memory of Mike Elkins. A day of fun, food, fellowship and fairly good golf.
- **Coffee House** – provides an evening filled with music and song, featuring local talent and invited guest musicians through the fall and winter months.
- **Pancake Supper** – every year on Shrove Tuesday our Men's group prepares the best Pancake Supper, while the ladies look after the desserts. This event also welcomes the East Kingston community and serves as a fundraiser for special projects.
- **St Mark's Car Rally** – this event has become an annual favorite. Usually held in the fall, it involves a scenic drive with numerous fun challenges and ends with a meal shared at the Hall and prizes for the winners. This event welcomes members of the congregation, their families, friends and the East Kingston community.
- **Senior's Group** – meets once a week during the winter months in the Parish Hall for a few hours of fun and games.
- **Men's Group** – meets every Monday morning for coffee, prayer and casual conversation.



Sunday Fellowship – Welcome Back BBQ lunch after busy summer – September 2019



## Teamwork

**1 Corinthians 12:14** “We are one, we are strongest working together in unity. Teamwork is the key to living life in harmony, so that we can do God's will”.

St. Mark's is a place of activity and action. We work collaboratively and collectively to do the work of our Lord. We have a number of energetic members who form teams that enable us to reach into our community, into the surrounding neighbourhoods and far beyond to try and make a difference (big or small) and share the gifts we have been given. Currently, our teams are:

- **Altar Guild** - serves the church by seeing that all is ready for the celebration of the Eucharist for both services. They also prepare the church for weddings, baptisms, confirmations and funerals. Decorations in the church for Advent, Christmas, Easter and Harvest Sunday are accomplished beautifully and elegantly.
- **Special Projects** - St. Mark's Special Projects Group was “revived” in 2018 through the efforts of several members with a desire to raise funds for projects above and beyond the financial ability of St. Mark's. Our current fundraising efforts are for the realization of the Access Ramp for St. Mark's and the benefit this feature will have for many years ahead.
- **Anglican Church Women (ACW)** - ACW today is probably one of the oldest existing components of the Anglican Church ministries dating back to 1885. We at St. Mark's can be proud to say “roots must grow deep” because the Women's Auxiliary (AW) organized here in 1893 remains strong and dependable as ACW.
- **Newsletter Team** - St Mark's Newsletter: “**The Mark**” – issued three times a year, available electronically and in print; providing a review of past and coming events as well as various stories, comments, humor and photographs of parish life.
- **St Mark's Website** – provides up-to-date information on the parish, events and programs. Please visit us at: [stmarksbarriefield.com](http://stmarksbarriefield.com)
- **Stepping Out In Faith ~ Community Engagement** – formed following our 2019 Retreat, this team was driven to reach out into the community: assisting in the schools, offering community groups (Seniors Group, Moms & Tots) and engaging in community activities (Pitch-In Kingston).
- **Lay Ministries** – chosen by the gifts the person possesses or interest shown for the work; they are recruited through written material (i.e. newsletter, pew sheet) personal ask and by volunteering to offer their gifts. They are trained at the committee/team level, supported by the team and accountable to the incumbent.
- **Missions & Outreach** - The Mission and Outreach Committee at St. Mark's was initiated in April 2014. Its members typically include the incumbent and 9 parishioners, who are dedicated to supporting the mission goals of the local, national and worldwide Anglican Communion.



ch 25, 2020



*Our Mission & Outreach support extends to local, provincial, national and international projects, by providing assistance with monetary and goods donations, rendering a helping hand and prayer.*



## History

**Deuteronomy 32:7** "Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you".

Our beautiful and historic limestone church built in 1843 sits within the village of Barriefield Historic Conservation District. Have a look around the lovely village and the goings-on outside our walls. St. Mark's is a beacon on the hill for all those in the village and surrounding community.

Preservation of St. Mark's precinct continues to be an integral priority for us. The buildings and grounds are lovingly maintained by volunteers and specialized groups.

The interior of St. Mark's is gothic revival by design accentuated by beautiful stained glass windows and carved furnishings. The Chancel is adorned by a bas relief Angel.

*Did you know that we have a Pope in our basement.....*

## WE STRIVE TO BECOME.....

Isaiah 55: 8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord".

We feel that God is nudging us to become more, to do more and offer more. And so, we wrestle with our faith as we seek answers to difficult questions in our lives.



### A Strong and Viable Member of the Community:

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go".

Consolidate our place and presence in the heart of the community by becoming a focal point.

- Provide accessible facilities and a place of meeting
- Become the Church of choice, celebrating the Sacraments
- Host Cultural and Social Justice Events
- Grow our outreach



### A Place of Growth:

2 Peter 3:18 "Grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity".

Encourage growth by developing opportunities for discipleship with a focus on children, youth and community.

- Revitalize Messy Church, Sunday School and Youth Group
- Reach out to new members of the community
- Develop partnerships within the community; including other faith groups and organizations



## A Place of Diversity and Inclusivity:

**Ephesians 2:21-22** “In Jesus Christ the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God”.

Challenge ourselves to embrace diversity and inclusivity by building bridges within our community through collaboration with parishioners and the leadership of the incumbent concentrating on the following areas:

- Education
- Outreach
- Prayer



## A Place of Action and Innovative Thinking:

**Ephesians 1:17-19** “I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give a you spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of His great power”.

Revitalize our ministries by:

- “Thinking outside of the box”
- Developing dynamic programming
- Integrating art, music and worship
- Recognizing and responding to the needs of the community (Seniors programs, Storytime for Tots, Child and Youth Programs)



Youth Group bakes cookies for our Barriefield Neighbours – Spring 2019

## Mission Statement:

**As followers of Jesus Christ we at St. Mark's are called to worship, grow in faith, and serve the community with understanding and respect, while sharing the good news about Jesus.**

## Administratively Speaking

**The Team** – St. Mark's employs a part-time Administrator, Bookkeeper, Choir Director/Organist, Sunday School Leaders and Building Caretaker. We have a number of members who offer their gifts to assist with the leadership and work of the church: team leaders, corporation leaders and many others who volunteer their time and talents.

**Financial Stewardship** – we have a Financial Officer who audits our accounts monthly and works closely with the Wardens, Rector, Office Administrator and Bookkeeper. We have a Visioning Team who looks after financial planning, planned giving and financial education to ensure that we thoughtfully and intentionally move forward.

**Projects** – we are community based and desire to become accessible to all those who wish to enter our buildings: our own members, members of the community and those wishing to utilize St. Mark's buildings for rental opportunities. We have committed, as a community, to construct an accessibility ramp providing all those who wish to enter the church the ability to do so. Through donations, fundraising and community grants the ramp project will commence in the spring of 2020.

**Evaluation** – we review our work monthly at administrative meetings with the Rector, Wardens and Financial Officer, at Parish Council meetings and Team meetings to ensure we stay on course and thoughtfully discern what we are doing and how we are doing them. We discuss topics and decisions made with the congregation. We solicit feedback through surveys, conversations and meetings to ensure we are fully representing our larger community.

**Pastoral Care** – the Rector is responsible to provide pastoral care and prepare people for Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and Marriage.

*.....Rev John Pope, first rector of St. Mark's, was laid to rest in 1846 in the crypt beneath the church.*



Annual Vestry Meeting 2019

## Our Community ~ Offerings and Attendance

The 2019 Parish List of **83** families, the total number of identifiable families/members who made donations to St. Mark's Barriefield in 2019 was **80**, using either offering envelopes, pre-authorized giving, or open offering.

Offerings	Parish Families	Envelope Offerings	Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)	Both Envelopes and PAG
	80	50	33	6

Average Service Attendance	8:30 am BCP Communion Service	10:00 am BAS Communion Service	Home Communions
	11	64	26

Special Services	Christmas Eve Family Service 5:00 pm	Christmas Eve "Midnight Mass" 10:00 pm	Christmas Day Service 10:00 am	Easter Service 8:30 am	Easter Service 10:00 am
	115	72	31	11	113

## Our Community ~ Kingston and the Area

**The City of Kingston** - was first settled in 1783, incorporated as a town in 1838 and as a city in 1846. It was Canada's first Capital and is located approximately 175 km southwest of Ottawa, 290 km west of Montreal and 260 km east of Toronto. Kingston is nicknamed the "Limestone City" because of the many heritage buildings constructed using local limestone. Kingston's economy relies heavily on public sector institutions and establishments. The most important sectors are related to health care, higher education (Queen's University, the Royal Military College of Canada and St. Lawrence College), government (including the military and correctional services), tourism and culture. Pittsburgh District, a former township in Ontario, was amalgamated into the city of Kingston in 1998 and is located in East Kingston, separated from downtown Kingston by the Cataraqui River. East Kingston includes single family homes, townhouses, apartments and condominiums as well as offices and shopping centers. The community we serve is also a growing community, with many new housing developments presently under construction.

City of Kingston: <https://www.cityofkingston.ca/> Tourism Kingston: <https://www.visitkingston.ca/>

**Canadian Forces Base Kingston and the Royal Military College (RMC)** – St Mark's has a strong historical connection to the Military. Its founders were the workers of the British Royal Navy Dockyard (now the location of RMC). When the Dockyard was resolved and RMC established, the connection remained and resulted in the gift of the RMC Colours to the church in exchange for the Church Bell (but this is a story for another time....). It is also the immediate neighbour of Canadian Forces Base Kingston, which is one of the biggest Training Bases in Canada.

CFB Kingston <http://www.army-armee.forces.gc.ca/en/cfb-kingston/index.page>

Royal Military Collage <https://www.rmc-cmr.ca/en>

## In Closing.....

*Now that you have read about our congregation at St. Mark's you will know more about us, our past, and our aspirations for the future. As you can tell, we are firmly grounded in tradition and at the same time are looking for ever-new ways of reaching out to our parishioners and touching the wider community, too. We seek to keep the best of what is tried and true at the same time as we welcome creative, innovative ideas. St. Mark's may have existed for 176 years -- a ripe old age -- yet it is forever moving forward in faith with the guidance of the Spirit; expanding its horizons while preserving the bonds of close-knit fellowship that unite us. So, come alongside, be our faith leader, journey with us in this new decade as we seek the Lord's guidance in this corner of His vineyard.*

## The Parish Profile for St. Mark's Anglican Church was prepared for you by:

### The Parish Selection Advisory Committee

People's Warden – Anne Patterson

Rector's Warden – Alison Lines

Deputy Warden – Andrea Muralt

Choir Director & Organist – Sharon Beveridge

Mission & Outreach Member, Building & Grounds Coordinator – Paul Yaxley

Mission & Outreach Member – Mary Running

Representative of the 8:30 Service – Pierre Du Prey



Tower Restoration – Fall 2018



Dry Stone Festival – Rebuilding the Wall – Fall 2017

## Annexes

We invite and encourage you to read through the appendices to gain a more detailed and appreciation of our ministries.

Annex A - Financial Information

Annex B - Written Reports

Annex C - Recommended Reading

Annex D - Picture This



Youth Group and Mission & Outreach members help pack food bags for Isthmus Kingston. Food bags are given to children in North Kingston.

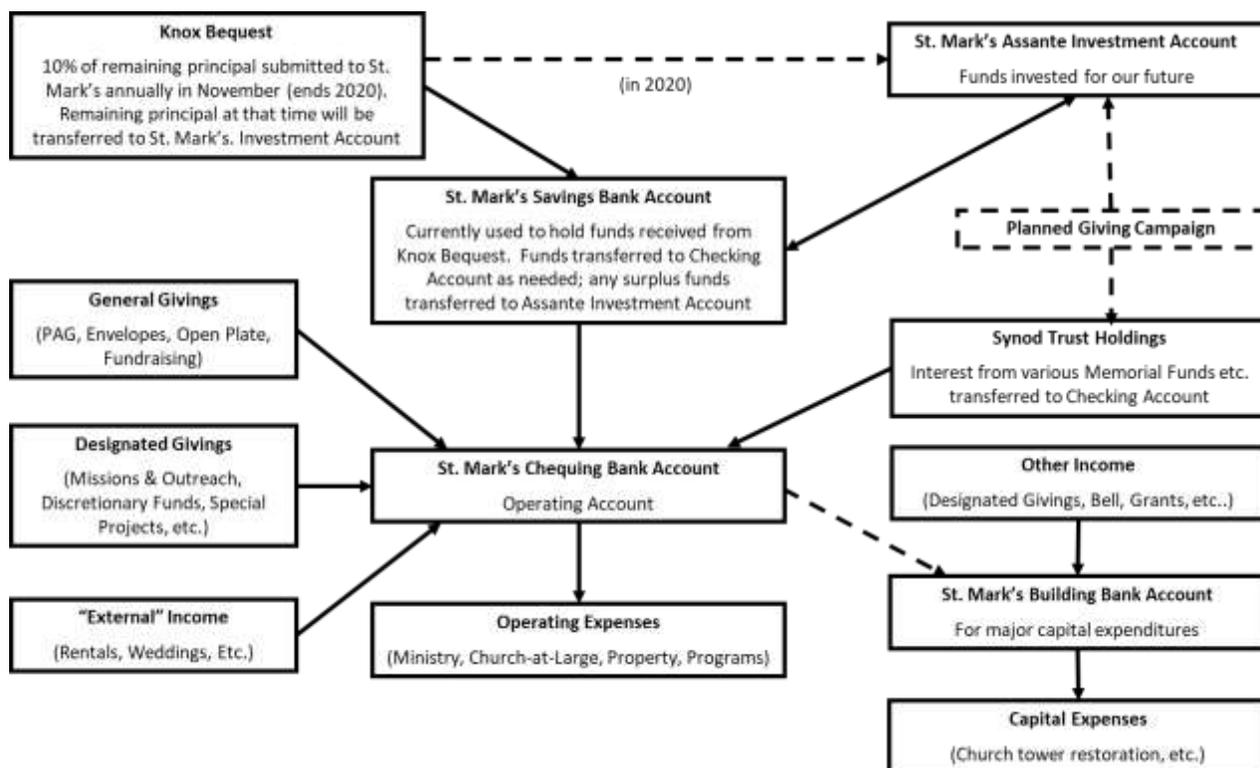


Mission & Outreach, St. Mark's Community, Youth Group and Naval Reservists from HMCS Catarauqui packing Christmas Hampers to support families from Kingston Pregnancy and Care Centre.

## Annex A

### Financial Information

#### St. Mark's Financial Structure



#### St. Mark's Accounts and Investment Holdings

ACCOUNT	BALANCE AS OF DEC 31 2018	BALANCE AS OF DEC 31 2019	DIFFERENCE
Chequing Bank Account	\$14,841	\$28,357	\$13,516
Savings Bank Account	\$46,151	\$43,003	-\$3,148
Building Bank Account	\$31,239	\$64,980	\$33,741
<b>TOTAL CASH</b>	<b>\$92,231</b>	<b>\$136,340</b>	<b>\$44,109</b>
Knox Bequest Principal	\$372,577	\$344,790	-\$27,787
Assante Investment Principal	\$110,429	\$122,142	\$11,713
Synod Trust Holdings	\$155,329	\$160,869	\$5,540
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>\$638,335</b>	<b>\$627,801</b>	<b>-\$10,534</b>

## Operating Account

### Operating Expenses

Our Operating Expenses to continue St. Mark's Mission in 2019 were \$258,397 and fell into four primary categories:

- 1) Money we needed for payroll and other related expenses for our Rector, our Church Administrator, our Organist and staff supporting our Child and Youth Ministries, and our Bookkeeper (\$131,453). These expenses allowed us to continue to worship and grow our faith and share the good news of Jesus.
- 2) Money we gave to the church-at-large through the Diocese Common Ministry and Mission (CMM), through our own Missions & Outreach, through the Rector's Discretionary Fund, and through other Appeals & Special Projects (\$66,866). These expenses allowed us to serve the community.
- 3) Money we needed to support various church programs, including Advertising/Website, Altar/Choir Supplies, Office Supplies, Child and Youth Programs, etc. (\$13,729).
- 4) Money we needed to maintain our Church Building, Church Office and Grounds, including Fuel, Utilities, Insurance, Telephones, Snow Removal, Cleaning and Minor Repairs (\$44,350). (Excludes Major Capital Projects).

### Operating Income

The money raised to cover our Operating Expenses in 2019 was derived from five primary sources:

- 1) Donations from parishioners that were applied to pay for general Operating Expenses; this included income from: Pre-authorized Givings (PAG), Envelopes, Open Plate and Fundraising (\$149,027).
- 2) Donations from parishioners that were identified for specific designated expenses, such as: Mission & Outreach, Rector's Discretionary Fund, Special Appeals/Projects, or any designated Property and Program Expenses (\$21,738).
- 3) Income from external sources, such as Rentals, Weddings, etc., as well as ACW and other donations (\$11,210).
- 4) Interest from the Synod Trust (\$11,827), and
- 5) Transfers from Savings/Investment Accounts (\$62,500).

## Building Account

In 2019, funds in our Building Account for major capital projects (such as the Accessibility Ramp) increased by \$33,741 to \$64,980. Construction of the Accessibility Ramp is anticipated to be a major capital expenditure during 2020, with total construction costs (including contingency) of the order of \$125,000. Funding of the Ramp is anticipated from the following sources: funds already designated in the Building Account; successful grant applications; additional donations and fundraising profits in 2020; additional funds from the Building Account (at the discretion of the Wardens, with allowance for other potential capital expenses); and, only if necessary, funds from our savings/investment accounts.

## Investment Accounts

### Synod Trust Holdings

<b>Total Holdings as of December 31, 2018</b>	<b>\$155,329</b>
Additions to Synod Trust Holdings in 2019	\$5,540
<b>Total Holdings as of November 30, 2019</b>	<b>\$160,869</b>
Interest from Synod Trust Holdings to Operating Account in 2019	\$11,827

### Assante Bequest Holdings

Each year, in December, St. Mark's has been receiving 10% of the principal remaining from a Bequest. In 2019, in addition to receiving 10% of the principal remaining, the trustees authorized an additional payment to cover the above-budget operating expenses.

In 2020, management of the Bequest will be transferred from trustees to St. Mark's, and the balance remaining will be transferred into St. Mark's Assante Investment Account.

<b>Account Balance as of December 31, 2018</b>	<b>\$372,577</b>
Bequest received in 2019 (and transferred to Savings Account)	\$55,000
Account Gains/Losses in 2019	\$27,213
<b>Account Balance as of November 30, 2019</b>	<b>\$344,790</b>

### St. Mark's Assante Investment Account

St. Mark's Assante Investment Account holds funds for St. Mark's future.

<b>Account Balance as of December 31, 2018</b>	<b>\$110,429</b>
Donations to Assante Investment Account in 2019*	\$2,500
Gains/Losses in 2019	\$9,214
Funds transferred to Savings Account in 2019	\$0
<b>Account Balance as of November 30, 2019</b>	<b>\$122,142</b>

Our financial objective is to reverse the decreasing trend in investment funds with a goal, over time, to increase the funds in St. Mark's Investment/Trust Accounts to \$1 million through the "Planned Giving" Campaign.



## Annex B

### Written Reports



#### A Place of Faith

**Prayer** has taken many forms at St. Mark's. Outside of personal prayer and Sunday worship prayer there has been three main branches of prayer attempted: Church Community Prayer, for one hour, on a Saturday evening beginning with a general prayer of welcome after which the proceedings were handed over to God, participants would then sit in silence waiting for the prompting of the Holy Spirit, Spirit led Prayers then ensued; Walking Prayer was initiated with each participant meeting at a previously designated spot in the Kingston East Community then, in partners or small groups, they would walk around the community neighbourhood lifting up Spirit led prayers; and Friday Morning prayer – from 9:30 to 10:00 every Friday morning

#### **8:30 am Service**

The early Sunday morning BCP communion service has been a fixture at St. Mark's. For those who choose to take part in this service it answers several needs. On a practical level it takes place early enough to free up the rest of Sunday and get it off to a wonderful start. Communion lasts about 40 minutes from beginning to end. More importantly, on a spiritual level the service creates a reverential atmosphere conducive to prayerful, individual meditation. No hymns are sung, no church or congregational notices are read, offerings are discretely left in the plate, we have one reading, only a brief homily is delivered informally, and exchanging of greetings from one to another takes place before or at the end of the service, so as not to interrupt it. Above all, people come to listen to the language of The Book of Common Prayer. The sanctity and poetry of those sacred words keeps a happy band of early-bird parishioners coming back week after week to hear a liturgy sanctified by over 400 years' use.

#### **10 am Service**

Warmly greeted, welcomed and with pew sheet in hand the atmosphere in the church is one of fellowship and spiritual preparation. Both the organ and the grand piano are used for the sung Eucharistic service from the BAS that is very inclusive and relies upon the strengths and leadership skills of many people to flow smoothly. During the Prayers of the People we pray not only for people of our own parish but also for our Diocesan family of priests and deacons, our outreach partners and circumstances around the world. The Worship Team together with the priest and musicians plan services according to the church year and consider a variety of ways in which to share God's Word. Music, drama, poetry, video, all have merit in the right place with special services held throughout the calendar year on Holy Days and celebrated events. Rosters of weekly greeters, readers, chalice bearers, prayer leaders and after-service hospitality keep all who participate in these ministries informed at a glance.

## Music and Worship

Church music has come a long way since the monks hummed in Latin, on one note hundreds of years ago. One can't help but notice how beautiful the words are that we sing each Sunday; words of love, compassion, truth, honesty, empathy, trust, faith...why wouldn't we sing our hearts out? St. Mark's does it so well. Although the organist can't see the congregation from her position at the organ, she can certainly hear them.

St. Augustine said, "To sing a hymn is like praying twice!" The hymns are chosen from 'Common Praise'-Anglican Church of Canada; as we use the BAS, our services are conventional but music becomes an important part of the liturgy.

Our choir is small but competent. We meet for one hour each week to prepare motets and practice the hymns and on occasion we are able to draw singers from the community to compliment a particular service.

We are fortunate to have a grand piano, donated by a parishioner a few years ago, that has been incorporated into our weekly service which enhances our worship. Blessed with a very fine Rodgers organ purchased by the church about thirteen years ago, it replaced the old pipe organ which provided music for many years but was becoming difficult to repair and expensive to maintain.

The choice of hymns comes primarily from the McCausland's Order of Divine Service and the RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) - Sunday by Sunday. As hymns are not carved in stone, it gives us the opportunity of using contemporary songs on occasion.

A musical concert was held lately drawing musicians from around Kingston. One of the musicians said..."I've always wondered about this church on the hill. I've passed by it hundreds of times and was curious to know what was inside. Now, here I am...it's beautiful...I had no idea!"

And it is beautiful...but we do know that when it is filled with music it becomes a spiritual gift.

When God created us, he gave us music as a language different from all other languages.

## Children's Ministries (Sunday School)

Developing lessons for the children of St. Mark's, teaching them about friendship, following Jesus, building and helping one's community, and celebrating the life of Christ is what we are all about.

In December of 2018 we unfortunately, due to a move abroad, lost some of our most consistent Lighthouse attendees. Coupled with busy young families, deployments by the military and busy personal lives, we have seen a decline in attendance to the ministry in 2019. Still wanting to offer the Lighthouse ministry, we have developed activities that parents are able to have their children attend during service. A dedicated couple is in attendance each week to supervise, discussing lessons and the love of our Lord with any and all Lighthouse attendants.

Our next goal for the Lighthouse Ministry will be to *grow our outreach*. Over the next year we hope to see more consistent attendees. Our outreach and plan to grow our Sunday School program includes:

- Lighthouse Posters in local schools
- Social Media posts
- Hosting a Spaghetti dinner for young families in the community
- Advertising on the bi-fold stand at the corner of Hwy 15 and Wellington St. our dinner and Sunday Ministry
- Bringing back Messy Church

## Bible Studies

Approximately four years ago a 'Supper Study Session' gathered at a parishioner's home. The format originated due to a particular parishioner's request to find out more about the Holy Spirit. The sessions took place on a Sunday evening. The actual study was followed by a simple, communal meal. As a basis for discussion and learning each study explored a specific book, or video series, together with appropriate Bible references. Dialogue and input were open to everyone.

During the last seven years, Bible/Book studies have taken place, during the day, at two parishioner's homes. They usually take place in Fall/Winter through to Winter/Early Spring. The format is pretty much like the Supper Study Session, described above. However, the refreshments usually follow the study as we gather for fellowship. Again, a specific book is selected to form the basis of discussion/interactive dialogue, and the Bible is used either in reference to, or as a supportive/comparison to, what the book is relating in its message. At times the Bible is a separate study to the book. However, even then, links and comparisons are made to the selected book (such is the way in which God works).

Titles of some of the books studied: *Aggressive Christianity* by Catherine Booth; *Experiencing God* by Henry Blackaby; *The Purpose Driven Life* by R. Warren; *Revelation* by D. Pawson; *Knowing God* by J.I. Packer



## A Place of Fellowship and Community

At St Mark's fellowship takes many forms with activities involving the congregation and our surrounding community. Everyone is welcome to participate. We love to share our faith and our gifts and sometimes there is food involved.....

**Sunday coffee & treats** – every Sunday after the 10:00 am service everyone is invited to come to the parish hall for refreshments and food. This venue does not only allow for good conversation and getting to know newcomers, we also get to share the excellent lunch treats provided by our Refreshment team members.

**Summer BBQ & Special Lunches** – throughout the year the congregation gets together to celebrate community and special occasions (i.e. anniversaries, birthdays etc.) or just because we want to share a meal together with family and friends.

**Coffee House** – St. Mark's Coffee House began in the Spring of 2014, when a small group of parishioners met to introduce a new church fund-raiser, an amateur talent night called St. Mark's Coffee House. The group decided to host the event five times a year: January, March, May, September and November on the second Saturday of each of those months. Musical talent from St. Mark's, the local community, bands in the City of Kingston and guests from as far away as southern Ontario, have been performing at the Coffee House over the past six years. It has been a great success, raising between \$1500 to \$2000 a year in free-will donations for the Church's various projects.

**Pancake Supper** – every year on Shrove Tuesday our Men's group prepares the best Pancake Supper, while the ladies look after the deserts. This event also welcomes the East Kingston community and serves as a fundraiser for special projects.

**Annual Celebration Dinner** – in November the congregation comes together for one last dinner before the Christmas activities and vacations start. During this dinner we remember and celebrate our parish family, recognize individual achievements, share stories and reflect on events from the past year.

**St Mark's Car Rally** – this event has become an annual favorite. Usually held in the Fall, it involves a scenic drive with numerous fun challenges and ends with a meal shared at the Hall and prizes for the winners. This event welcomes members of the congregation, their families, friends and the East Kingston community.

**Senior's Group** - Each Wednesday a group of East Kingston Seniors gather at St. Mark's Parish Hall for a few hours of socializing and meeting new friends. This project led by three ladies in the Parish began in November and will end as spring arrives. It is intended as a way for seniors to enjoy a time together during the winter months. In addition to a social time where conversation and laughter prevail, the seniors enjoy playing popular board games. Tea, coffee and refreshments are served. In addition to our regular Wednesday afternoon of games other activities are being planned including a Valentine Luncheon Pot Luck with a guest speaker, and an afternoon outing to a movie. Several ladies of the Parish have joined in support and help out each Wednesday. We are grateful for their support. In closing the Committee saw this project as a reach outreach into the Community as there appeared to be a need. We feel that this has proven to be the case and are hopeful in time that the numbers of seniors who attend will increase. We are also hopeful that the Seniors who do not attend other Churches, might through this project experience a renewal of their faith or possibly choose to attend services at St. Mark's.

**Men's Group** - In early 2019 one or two men at St. Mark's decided it would be a good idea to try to form a men's group at the church. The idea was to get together over coffee one morning per week to discuss any topic that they had on their hearts. Some topics were personal and others were more general in nature.

At first we operated with a planned topic for each week but that morphed quite often from what we wanted to discuss, into what the Holy Spirit wants us to deal with. Prayer is always an important starting point and a must to finish the meeting with. It is amazing how all topics lead us back to the Bible.

The numbers in the group have been quite steady over the past year ranging from 6 to 8 men on a normal Monday morning. The men have come to know each other quite well. Although backgrounds, opinions and discernment of where the Lord is leading us as individuals and as a church differ, we have learned to listen and honour each other even when we disagree. Interestingly enough not all the men are members of St. Mark's but show up every week to partake in the group.



Pancake Supper 2019



## A Place of Teamwork

### The Altar Guild

A few teams of ladies serve the church by seeing that all is ready for the celebration of the Eucharist for both services. They also prepare the church for weddings, baptisms, confirmations and funerals. Decorations in the church for Advent, Christmas, Easter and Harvest Sunday are accomplished beautifully and elegantly. Flowers adorn the reredos and at celebration times on the window sills along the side aisles. A volunteer keeps our flower beds blooming with colour in season.

### Special Projects Group

St. Mark's Special Projects Group was "revived" in 2018 through the efforts of several members with a desire to raise funds for projects above and beyond the financial ability of St. Mark's. Our current fundraising efforts are for the realization of the Access Ramp for St. Mark's and the benefit this feature will have for many years ahead.

Some 'special projects' include: A Lilac Tea, Strawberry Social and in 2020 a Mother & Daughter Luncheon on Mother's Day Weekend.

### St. Mark's Mission and Outreach

The Mission and Outreach Committee at St. Mark's was initiated in April 2014. Its members currently include 9 parishioners, who are dedicated to supporting the mission goals of the Anglican Communion. They also prayerfully try to discern God's plan for the missions we support, using the "Five Marks of Mission" as developed by the Anglican Consultative Council. Our Mission & Outreach support extends to local, provincial, national and international projects, by providing assistance with monetary and goods donations, rendering a helping hand and prayer.

#### Local:

- **Kingston Pregnancy Care Centre (KPCC)** – Christian based non-profit organization, providing support and free counselling services to young mothers and single parents; annual support via Change of Life campaign (baby bottle fundraiser) and Christmas Hampers for an average of 10 families.
- **Paul Elsley (Isthmus)** – weekend food program for Kingston North elementary schools; annual support via funds and manpower.
- **Circle Square Ranch** – Christian based summer camp north of Kingston; financial support.
- **Habitat for Humanity** – support thru financial donations and providing meals during a build.
- **Partners in Mission Food Bank** – support via food donations and a helping hand.
- **Syrian refugee family** – support thru personal assistance with integration into new country, community and the learning of a new language.
- **Local school support** – support thru providing in-classroom assistance to students and teachers

#### Provincial/National:

- **Arthur Turner Training School, St. Jude's Cathedral, Iqaluit, Nunavut** – training of ministers in the Diocese of the Arctic; support via financial donations
- **PWRDF, Anglican Church of Canada (ACC)** – support for various projects via financial donations
- **Giving with Grace, ACC** – financial support to reconciliation efforts via donations.

### International:

- **Chris & Bev Rupke – African Hope Learning Centre in Cairo, Egypt:** provides Christian based education for refugee children living in Egypt; support via financial donations and prayer.
- **Father Haynes Hubbard & family, Cairo, Egypt** - Rector: Church of St. John the Baptist and former incumbent of St Mark's; support via prayer.
- **Tim & Diane Bannister, Tanzania** – missionaries in Tanzania; providing agricultural training and assistance with managing a local hospital; support via financial donations and prayer.
- **Little Stars School, Kenya** – support thru providing funds for hygiene products.
- **Hope School in Mbita, Kenya** – supported by contributing funds to school building construction.
- **Chol Chol, Chile** – supported Pastor Silvario's ministry via financial donation and continue support via prayer

### ACW

ACW today is probably one of the oldest existing components of the Anglican church ministries dating back to 1885. It was known as 'Women's Auxiliary' (WA) and had a great interest in missionary work both in Canada and around the world. In 1966 it joined with other women's ministries and became the Anglican Church Women or ACW. Today it is governed by the Diocese of Ontario by-laws and constitution.

Prayer is one basic purpose of the ACW thus our meetings begin with devotions followed by reports from the secretary, treasurer, advertising and outreach. Reports are followed by discussion and planning for upcoming events such as: hosting luncheons, receptions, dinners, the bazaar, attending talks, meetings and retreats outside of our immediate group, cards are sent or a visit is made to members of the church who are no longer able to attend services, a weekly book sales table helps to earn funds enabling us to assist not only our own parish but to give to local agencies as well as areas within Canada and around the world.

The contribution to the Diocesan 'Fairshare' which is used to carry out programs not covered by the yearly Diocesan Thanks-offering. The yearly Thanks-offering enables women of the church to remember God's daily gifts while at the same time giving of ourselves to help others.

We at St. Mark's can be proud to say "roots must grow deep" because the WA organized here in 1893 remains strong and dependable as ACW.

Our monthly outreach features an interesting fun project usually at the conclusion of the meeting.

All ladies of the parish are welcome to join our meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month (with the exception of Jan, July & August). Approximately 18 women attend most meetings.

### The Mark ~ St. Mark's Newsletter

In the Spring of 2016, St. Mark's newsletter *The Mark* was reintroduced to the congregation. This well-supported, popular and colourful publication provides: the Rector's spiritual message to the congregation, reports from the various missions and committees, stories, comments, cartoons, recipes, humour, photographic images of life at St. Mark's and more. It comes out three times a year, usually at important times in the Christian Calendar and is distributed to our parishioners, as well to some friends of St. Mark's who wish to keep in touch.

### Stepping Out in Faith

'Stepping Out in Faith' was a result of a very successful retreat in 2019. The energy and desire to reach deeper into the community was apparent, God was definitely leading us that day. Stepping out in faith and into the community has taken on many forms - everything from assisting with EQAO testing at Sir John A MacDonald School, to participating in "Pitch-In Kingston" and collecting garbage in the area surrounding Sir John A PS and St. Martha Catholic School, to the development of a Senior's Group who gather weekly over the winter to play games, develop friendships and chase away the winter blues.

### Food for the Body and Soul

In April of 2018, St. Mark's began a yearlong celebration of its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Such a special event deserved some sort of permanent souvenir which reflected all of us and our activities.

The idea of a cookbook with photos had been in my head for several years, but it needed the right moment, a dedicated team, and full congregational support to get it off the ground. Our team of 3 came together at coffee hour one Sunday, and we decided to test the idea with a short survey which yielded positive results.

All parish families were approached and asked to collect and submit their favourite family recipes and were encouraged to include related stories where possible. A number of photos accumulated over the 12 months were selected, and a representative collection appears on the "Contents" page of each section of the cookbook.

With generous assistance from many people, the book came together on schedule, and is now a reality. The first hundred copies were spoken for before they were printed. Sales were launched at the Bazaar, November 23, 2019.

This cookbook is a testament to all St. Mark's Cooks, who have patiently laboured in their kitchens over these 175 years creating the hearty meals and delectable treats that have fed body and soul at church fundraisers socials. They have added very welcome cash to St. Mark's finances. This cookbook may not be a fund raiser, but in the hands of our experts, the recipes will live on to populate bake tables for many years to come.



### A Place of History

On the east side of Kingston, beyond the Great Cataraqui River, lays an age-old limestone ridge that for just over 200 years has carried Barriefield Village on its back. Presently the community consists of 80 households with at its heart Gothic Revival style St. Mark's, like something out of the Middle Ages in Europe. St. Mark's immediate locality, almost 100 feet at its highest elevation above the water, served as its own quarry. The tower rises another 50 feet and from its top surveys two rivers, Fort Henry, several islands, and Lake Ontario in the distance.

William J. Patterson's 1993 book *Courage, Faith, and Love: The History of St. Mark's Church, Barriefield, Ontario*, is carefully researched, handsome in design, yet inexpensively priced and still in print. Its contents – recommended reading for any prospective incumbent of St. Mark's – need no repetition in these brief remarks. But much has changed in the past 27 years, notably the demographic shift in the parish and the prominent place accorded the church by the new Historic District Conservation Plan (2016).

Subsequent to the 1998 amalgamation of Barriefield and the entire Pittsburgh Township into Kingston, considerable expansion to the population base has occurred principally to the north and east away from the church and the historic core. As early as the mid 1980's two low-level condominium buildings, named the Barriefield and the Deerfield, comprising 176 units sprang up along Highway 15 increasing considerably the number of inhabitants in the parish. Within the last three years four much taller tower-blocks have been built nearby and have added about 468 units – well over 800 souls, including a few St Mark's parishioners. Further north there are new residential subdivisions: Tamarack Homes (with a shopping center); Greenwood Park with the new St. Martha's and Sir John A. Macdonald Schools. The latter replaced J.E. Horton School within the village, since sold and demolished without a trace. Its six-acre schoolyard, still there, abuts St. Mark's to the south. The potential availability of this property, and the proposed sale of parcels to the north, south, and east of it, that still belong to the Department of National Defence, prompted the formation in 2011 of a dedicated preservation group, the Barriefield Village Association (BVA), open to all villagers.

In 2013 the BVA successfully fought against a proposed low-income housing development that would have occupied the DND lands, without fully taking account of amenities necessary for the proposed inhabitants. Then in 2015 the BVA unsuccessfully tried to acquire the disused Horton School land to preserve it as an open space with unobstructed views of St. Mark's. A local developer, Jay Patry, stepped in when the BVA failed to reach a consensus. He proposed building a large residential development; a proposal that did not receive the BVA's blessing! He sold the now-derelict school building and land to the Signature Group. They proceeded to raise the school entirely with the aim of putting in its place a 135 unit Seniors Living Community and erecting a row of townhouses along the north side of Wellington Street. Signature is currently in negotiation with the city to change the zoning and height restrictions, sight lines, etc. enacted in the recent Historic District Conservation Plan (HDCCP) mentioned earlier.

The HDCCP replaces Barriefield's official designation in 1980 under the Ontario Heritage Act as the first such conservation district within the province. The updating of the HDCCP occasioned much debate in the course of several public meetings. Interestingly, one of the key points of discussion concerned the prominence accorded St. Mark's within the landscape, especially the distinctive towered silhouette. After 176 years the church has obviously made an indelible mark on the village. Whether by day, or lit up at night, the tower acts as a beacon for village residents, and for drivers whizzing past on the Highway 15 bypass. After much hard-fought negotiation the BVA prevailed in protecting a view of St. Mark's from within the village. At the corner of Wellington and Drummond Streets this view stretches northward unimpeded, drawing the faithful or the sightseer toward it. This provision in the HDCCP shows how much St. Mark's is enshrined within the hearts and minds of parishioners and non-parishioners alike. The future seems to promise greater engagement between the church and the rapidly expanding community. This future-promise is already borne out by the wide-spread commitment – financial and emotional – to maintaining the church's structure and its surroundings.

The historical designation of St. Mark's by the Heritage Committee of the City of Kingston stipulates official approval before any major reconstruction work to the exterior of the building is undertaken. About 10 years ago a traditional-looking, new roof was done. Similarly, in 2014, roof repairs took place on the adjacent Parish Hall, a 1961 metal-sided building of no architectural distinction but heavily in use on a community-wide basis. On the strength of the numerous gatherings/activities taking place here, St. Mark's successfully applied for the money to the Pittsburgh Community Benefit Fund. Within the last two years the fund has also generously paid the \$90,000 cost of re-pointing the limestone tower. The hall contains offices for the minister and church secretary, as well as a separate play-area for young children.

The Parish Hall is of good size, with new photographs adorning its walls. A fair-sized kitchen and two washrooms occupy an attached addition. Major plans to upgrade both the kitchen and washrooms and to make the hall (as well as the church itself) accessible by wheelchair-ramp remain on the drawing board until funds become available. Meanwhile, private donors took charge of having stone conservator Alexander Gabov and his team clean, restore and re-gild the impressive, century-old plaster bas relief of an angel on the north wall of the chancel. Three years later, in October 2017, thanks to collaboration between St. Mark's, the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, and the Dry Sone Walling Association of Canada, members of the association rebuilt the crumbling perimeter wall on Main Street at no cost to the church. A new plaque placed in front of the tower commemorates the occasion and celebrates the popular walling event that drew visitors and helpers both old and very young. This past year a parishioner personally undertook the painstaking work of gilding all the ornamental bosses on the chancel cornice. Around the same time a pair of parishioners paid to have the 176 year-old bell-ringing mechanism put back into good working order. The grounds the church sits on are quite large and invite passersby to take a leisurely stroll through them. Squirrels, birds, many rabbits, and even the occasional deer roam about, and the blooming lilacs in springtime complete a very welcoming scene.

## Annex C

### Recommended Reading

*Courage, Faith, Love* ~ Author Bill Patterson

*The Mark* ~ St. Mark's Newsletter ([www.stmarksbarriefield.com](http://www.stmarksbarriefield.com))

*Barriefield: Two Centuries of Village Life* (Kingston: Barriefield Village Association, 2015)

To view a video clip of St. Mark's please go to <https://youtu.be/LyrMtFjaZ9k>



Remembrance Day Service – November 2018

# Annex D

## Picture This....



Seniors Group Valentine's Day



Fundraising Concert 2020



Car Rally



Welcome Back BBQ



ACW Bazaar 2019



Pancake Supper

Free-will donation gratefully accepted for our accessibility



Strawberry Social



KPCC Fundraising Dinner



Award of Merit March 2020



2019 Celebration Dinner