

St. Mark Catholic Church

P. O. Box 234
Prescott, Ontario
K0E 1T0

Dear Friend of St. Mark Parish:

You are receiving this letter because you have an affiliation with St. Mark Church, and it is the hope of the Property and Finance Committee that you might have some warm sentiments associated with our beautiful church that will result in much needed support.

It is a known fact that all churches are being met with challenging times, as a result of many factors. Like others, we at St. Mark are at a crossroads. We have passed through more than a century, in which our parish numbers have grown and the needs of the Parish were many-fold, resulting in the possession of five buildings.

The "convent" has been without its Religious residents since 1988, and in recent years has endured a physical disaster. This building has been a burden for the Parish for several years, but we are hopeful that a potential sale will proceed. The Parish Centre, which was built in 1963 and which served a large and vibrant community of families, does not any longer serve large numbers, except very occasionally. As all buildings which are over half a century, it has costly capital needs. The tiny building on the northwest corner of the property, which served as one of the first schools in Upper Canada needs maintenance. The beautiful historical five-bedroom Rectory on the south, is far too large today for our one priest who wears a number of hats. Our Committee is actively seeking to sell or to find community sharing formulas for many of our buildings. In the meantime, there is a shortfall to maintain them.

This leaves, of course, the magnificent Church building itself, which was build in 1888 by our poor immigrant ancestors. This building is what it is all about. It is the building in which many of us have celebrated Baptisms, First Communion, Confirmation, graduations, anniversaries. We have been married and we have mourned our loved ones. We have celebrated Christmas, sung alleluia at Easter, have given thanks, sung in the choir, celebrated as altar servers and gathered with our families, for over a century, in our Church.

We hope that you will understand the challenge for our 100 regular envelope users, to sustain our buildings, as well as manage the weekly costs of operating our Church for those who need it.

We are asking that you might find it in your heart to consider a donation to our Church, in order to help us bridge the gap. It us our mandate to reduce our holdings to a level which can be managed by our current parish family, and we hope that you might help us to arrive at this juncture. To this end, we are trying to raise \$100,000.00 through an appeal to those who have at some time found solace within our buildings.

On the back of this letter, you will find several options for your donation. Please choose the option which is most convenient to you. Any amount will be helpful to our cause. You will be acknowledged with gratitude.

May you be blessed with God's grace and peace. You can see the success of this campaign by joining our Facebook Page (St. Mark Catholic Parish, Prescott) or visiting the Parish website (www.stmarksacredheart.ca).

Sincerely,

Rev. Brent Brennan, Pastor
per: St. Mark Parish Finance and Property Committee

St. Mark Catholic Church

Telephone
(613) 925-2944

P. O. Box 234
Prescott, Ontario
K0E 1T0

Email
MarkChurch@primus.ca

OPTIONS FOR PARISH DONATIONS

1. By cheque or money order, mailed to:

St. Mark Parish
c/o Finance Office
P. O. Box 234
Prescott, Ontario

2. By Interac Email Money Transfer through your online banking system to:

MarkChurch@primus.ca

Please also email your name and address to this email address in order to receive an income tax receipt.

3. By Automatic Withdrawal from your bank account by completing the following form and mailing to Finance Office.

**St. Mark the Evangelist Parish
Personal Pre-Authorized Debit Plan
Authorization of the Payor to the Payee to Direct Debit an Account**

PAYOR INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Email Address _____ Phone Number _____

Category

Amount

One - Time Donation _____

Monthly Donation on the 25th of each month _____

PLEASE ATTACH A "VOID" CHEQUE TO THIS FORM

I authorize St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, 160 Dibble Street West, Prescott, Ontario, K0E 1T0 to receive the amounts mentioned above by Direct Debit in instalments as specified above. I understand that I can change or delete my donation amount at any time with written confirmation to the Parish staff. I understand that I must allow at least two weeks to allow these changes to be applied.

You have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. You have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with the agreement. To obtain more information about recourse rights, contact your financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca

Signature _____

Date _____