

This Week at St. Mark's

Today	8 a.m. HE and Healing, 9:10 a.m. Adult Forum, 10 a.m. HE and Healing, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11:15 a.m. Choir rehearsal, 11:15 a.m. Blessing of the Animals (Memorial Garden), 11:30 a.m. Acolyte training, 1 – 3 p.m. Eucaristia - San Marcos (Sanctuary, Patience Hall and Gibson Hall), 3:30 – 5:45 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship (Patience Hall), 5– 8:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
Monday 10/7	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. French Playgroup (Gibson Hall), 7 – 8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (Patience Hall)
Tuesday 10/8	6:30 – 9 p.m. GS Troop #4841 (Patience Hall), 7-9 p.m. Pan de Vida Bible study (Library), 7:30 p.m. Vestry mtg. (Lg. classroom)
Wednesday 10/9	10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax, 12:30 – 3 p.m. GS Troop #1914 (Patience Hall), 5:30 p.m. Healthy Families program (Patience and Gibson Halls), 6:30 p.m. ALPHA Program dinner (Patience Hall), 7:15 p.m. ALPHA Program (Sanctuary)
Thursday 10/10	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel), 10 a.m. Holy Folders (Gibson Hall)
Friday 10/11	9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Event set-up (Patience Hall and kitchen), 5 – 9 p.m. Private event (Patience Hall and kitchen), 7 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
Saturday 10/12	3 – 5 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship Bible study (Lg. classroom), 6 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7 – 9 p.m. San Marcos Bible study (Lg. classroom)

Church contact information:

Address: 6744 S. King's Hwy., Alexandria, VA 22306 ♦ **Phone:** 703-765-3949; fax: 703-765-3981 ♦ **E-mails:** Office: stmarksalex@netzero.net; Rev. John Weatherly: jweathe951@aol.com; Rev. Meredith Heffner: revmeredith@cox.net; Rev. Cherian Pulimootil: cheriapp@hotmail.com ♦ **Internet:** Website: www.stmarksalex.org; Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/stmarksalex>. ♦ **Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Clergy are usually in the office until 4 p.m. The office is closed on Fridays and national holidays.



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:
an inviting, embracing and serving community offering
Good News in the midst of a confusing world.”**

October 6, 2013

Adult Forum

- **Today**
Open Communion, Open Table with The Rev. Dr. Robert Prichard
- **October 13**
Open Communion, Open Table: Follow Up
- **October 20**
Critical Issues Facing Us Today
- **October 27**
Critical Issues: Every Member Canvass with Doug Varner
- **November 3**
Critical Issues with Daniel Stroud
- **November 10**
Critical Issues with the Rector
- **November 17**
Critical Issues for Today
- **November 24**
Discussion on Stewardship and Budget

Important Upcoming Dates

- **October 27**
Begin Every Member Canvass

From the Rector

Our Preacher at the 10:00 service, and Forum discussion leader this Sunday, is Professor Robert W. Prichard of Virginia Theological Seminary. He is currently the Arthur Lee Kinsolving Professor of Christianity in America and Instructor in Liturgy. Bishop Kinsolving has ties both to St. Mark's and to Brasil, where he was an early missionary, after being the assigned seminarian to the Groveton mission in the 1880s. Dr. Prichard completed his Ph.D. in church history at Emory University in Atlanta, earned his M.Div. at Berkeley at Yale Divinity School and an A.B. in Spanish at Princeton.

Before joining the faculty at VTS, Dr. Prichard served several parishes in Virginia. He was instrumental in the organization of San Jose and San Marcos congregations. He is the author or editor of 9 books, including *A History of the Episcopal Church* (Morehouse, 1991, 1999), *The Nature of Salvation: Theological Consensus in the Episcopal Church, 1801-73* (University of Illinois, 1997), and *Cohabiting Couples and Cold Feet: A Practical Marriage-Preparation Guide for Clergy* (Church Publishing, 2009). Professor Prichard is the founding editor of *The Journal of Episcopal Church Canon Law*, the president of the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church, and a clerical deputy to General Convention (2006, 2009, and 2012) from the Diocese of Virginia. Dr. Prichard is married with two adult sons. Among his hobbies are carpentry and canoeing.

Dr. Prichard's insights into the question of “Open Communion, Open Table” will be our topic of discussion during the Adult Forum at 9:10 a.m. today.

Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church welcome you to our services during this Pentecost season. If you are looking for a church home, or want more information about St. Mark's, please introduce yourself to the Vestry Person of the Day or to the Clergy. We hope you will fill out the newcomer's card that you will find in the church pew and put it in the offering plate or give it to one of the ushers. We are glad you are here! If you would like to receive our weekly announcements and other parish news by e-mail, please contact the church office at stmarksalex@netzero.net.

Notes about Worship at St. Mark's

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Holy Eucharist in the Episcopal Church. For those who are not familiar with how to receive communion, the following may be helpful. The ushers will let you know when it is time to go to the altar rail. At the altar rail, place one outstretched hand over the other to receive the bread. To receive the wine, either hold on to the wafer and dip the edge into the wine (edge only!), or consume the wafer first and then guide the chalice to your lips. If you are unable to kneel at the rail, please feel free to remain standing. If you cannot come to the altar rail, please tell an usher and communion will be brought to you. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come to the altar rail for a blessing and cross your arms over your chest to indicate you do not wish to receive communion. Come down the center aisle to the altar rail and return to your seat using the side aisles.

During the school year, Sunday School is provided from 10 to 10:40 a.m. except the third Sunday of the month for Joyful Noise Family Services, when the children remain in church. On other Sundays, the children will join us at the Peace. Children below age four can use the nursery, where they will receive care from professional nursery attendants. See Rev. Meredith if you have any questions.

Join us for Morning Prayer on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel.

Photo Policy

Time to time, we may include pictures of our parishioners in our publications. It is our policy to never include someone's name. If you would prefer for us not to use photos of yourself or others in your family, please contact Emily in the church office.

Prayer List

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially:

In the St. Mark's Parish: Jean Auldridge, Shirley Hunter, David Boyd, Elizabeth Boyd, Phil Brown, Juliana, Albie, Lou, and Janet.

Our Extended Family: Peggy Byers, Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Bob and Nancy DeLay, Summer Ostanato, Margo Digan, Karen, Trey, and Julian Smith, Eric Watson and family, Frank Strobel, Phyllis Nezar-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Wendy Wills, Shelby Henry, Malley Plath, Stephen Carrier, Noelle Black, Luke Sorsdal, Sylvia Beauchamp, John Springer, Patrice Roberts, Ken Crabb, Arlene Joyce, Joyce Juedeman, Hank Morgan, Sherrie Embrey, Diane Foster, Cathy Sears, Maria's baby, Lynn V., Natalie, Andy, Stephen, Amanda, André and Alex, and Kaitlyn.

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm's way: Brian Hobin, Andrew Kley, Ryan Kiggans, Tyler Miller, Austin Graine, Justin Rodriguez, Robert Payne, Eric Martindell - civilian in Afghanistan, Jeff, Carl, Kevin, Timothy, Emily and Dale. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation.

If you would like someone who is sick or in need added to the prayer list, please write their name in the blue book on the table in the Narthex, or give the name to Father John or Rev. Meredith. Names will be kept in our intercessions for four weeks, unless notified otherwise.

Birthdays

October 6 – Sidoux Mitchell, October 8 – Spring Plihcik, October 10 – Norma Sanchez, October 12 – Anne Brink

Anniversary

October 6 – Laura and Fred Landon

Announcements

Congratulations to Laura and Fred Landon on the arrival of their newest grandchild, Chloe Hope.

Thank you to Nihal Masih for 20 new prayer books for the chapel and library.

Who was St. Francis? Saint Francis of Assisi was born into a wealthy family in the 12th century in Assisi, Italy and died in 1226. He gave up his privileged life to become a priest and friar. He was the founder of the Franciscan orders of the Friars Minor and the women's Order of St. Clare (the Poor Clares). His evangelical zeal, charity, consecration to poverty, and personal charisma drew thousands of followers. He is known as the patron saint of animals and the environment. Today we celebrate him at the Blessing of the Animals, which will take place in the Memorial Garden after the 10 a.m. service.

Sunday School Assistants: If you did not receive the calendar and phone list, please contact Rev. Meredith. If you are unable to assist on your assigned day, please use the list to find a replacement. Thank you.

The Fairfax County Healthy Families Programs continues until December and your help is needed. This is an opportunity for students to earn their community service hours. Three groups are needed: 1) setting up and setting the tables, 2) cooking, and 3) clean-up. All who volunteer are invited to enjoy the meal too. St. Mark's will be cooking dinner October 9, 16, 23, 30 and November 6 and 20. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. If you have questions before then please call Karen Ashworth at 703/768-3576 or email ashworthkc2@verizon.net.

Acolyte training for new and returning acolytes will take place after worship today.

Mission trip to South Dakota - July 2014! Information about our 2014 mission trip was e-mailed to youth and their parents last week. If you did not receive the information and are interested in participating, see Rev. Meredith.

If you have utensils or plates that may have gone on holiday in our kitchen or if some of the church's pots, pans, or utensils are on holiday in your home, please let Karen Ashworth know.

The annual meeting of the Diocese of Virginia Episcopal Church Women is being held on Thursday, October 17, 2013 at Emmanuel Episcopal, Harrisonburg, Virginia. The keynote speaker's theme is "Many Paths – One Journey...Many Ministries – Much Hope." Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the cost is \$25.00, lunch included. Please contact Delta Youngquist at 703/768-9012 for further information.

The Daughters of the King. Members of the Josephine Bakhita Chapter, of The Order of the Daughters of the King, ("DOK") thank outgoing chapter president, Donna Anderson, for her dedication and hard work serving the chapter. Daughters look forward to a new term under the leadership of Wilhemina Scott-Boyle. If you are interested in learning more about Daughters of the King, please feel free to contact, Wilhemina, Donna, or any member of the chapter. Just look for members wearing the DOK cross!

UCM's Food Pantry can always use your help. Please put your non-perishable donations in the wicker basket at the rear of the sanctuary. The first Sunday of the month is UCM Sunday.