

This Week at St. Mark's

- Today** **Easter Sunday** 5:30 a.m. San Marcos Eucaristía (Sanctuary), 8 a.m. Festal HE, 9 a.m. Choir rehearsal (Lg. classroom), 10 a.m. Festal HE, 3:30 – 5:45 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship (Patience Hall), 4 - 8 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Monday 4/6** **Church office closed**, 7-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (Patience Hall)
- Tuesday 4/7** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 7 – 8:30 p.m. GS Troop #4841 (Patience Hall), 7 – 9 p.m. Pan de Vida Bible study (Sanctuary)
- Wednesday 4/8** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax, 12 – 3:30 p.m. GS Troop #1914 (Patience Hall)
- Thursday 4/9** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, 10 a.m. Holy Folders (Lg. classroom)
- Friday 4/10** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 7 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Saturday 4/11** 6 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7 – 9 p.m. San Marcos Bible study (Lg. classroom)

Important Upcoming Dates

- April 25** Spaghetti Dinner
July 26 Bishop Shannon's Visitation
August 3 – 7 Vacation Bible School
August 21 - 23 Shrine Mont Weekend

Adult Forum Schedule

- April 5** No Adult Forum

Church contact information:

Address: 6744 S. King's Hwy., Alexandria, VA 22306-1318 ♦ **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; ♦ **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. 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.”

April 5, 2015

You spend a few days walking around London, you inevitably end up at any number of grand churches and Cathedrals. If you are an Episcopalian, one essential visit has to be Westminster Abbey. Built on the site of an ancient monastery, you have this grand building next to Britain's Parliament. This large Ferris wheel called the London Eye takes you high above the River Thames, Shakespeare's rebuilt Globe theater, and Center city London. Then, back on the ground, enter into the Abbey. What amazed our family several years ago when we visited the Abbey were the overwhelming number of sarcophagus and tablets commemorating the lives of the deceased great from English History. In order to find a seat, you must literally walk over the final resting place of hundreds of people...many of whom appear in life-like marble images next to wherever you might be sitting. Many of these stones commemorate the military leaders of this little island kingdom, as well as its political leaders, poets, kings and queens. In one corner is a plaque remembering Lord Wellington and his battles on the fields of Europe for king and country. There is a well-known story that accompanies that crucial battle. In 1815 the English nation waited to hear the results of what they knew could be a critical event in their history. Wellington was facing Napoleon on a field in Belgium. Had Wellington's forces been victorious? The news was to flash across the channel from signal tower to boat to hill, until it reached London. Finally the flags began to wave. Letters began to be formed. The message said, "Wellington Defeated." English hearts sank in despair. They had lost! Could you imagine? The cuisine might improve, but teaching French to your children? But wait, another word is added; "Napoleon." Wellington Defeated Napoleon. What a difference one word can make.

The message on Friday was "Jesus Conquered." But wait. The message is still coming. "Jesus Conquered Death." The tomb is empty, He is Risen. Joy conquers despair. So-so fishermen, women of the

world, and tax collectors, become the models of a new way to discipleship. Ordinary citizens discover they have extraordinary powers. The community bubbles over with love of life and one another. And even when they are eventually hauled off to prison and destruction, they continue to sing praises to a God who listens. Their courage and acts of faith become so powerful that jailors become converts; nobodies, somebodies. Life, defeats death. Thanks Be to God!

Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church welcome you to our services this Easter 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.

Prayer List

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

In the St. Mark's Parish: Shirley Hunter, Clara Bottner, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Richard Sparks, Donna Anderson, Pete Farley, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, and Geoffrey.

Our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Sylvia Beauchamp, Janet Coco, Quinn McLaughlin, Kamryn Jespersen, Don Wills, Bobby Bishop, Sunny Haggard, Young Boon Kim, Bob Schaeffer, Maudine Perry, Tom Simpson, Benjamin Harrison, Jr., Don Lopez, Cheryl F., Gulshan, Tom, Gloria and Krystal. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation.

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm's way. We lift up especially Andrew Kley, Robert Payne, and Tim, Emily and family.

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.

Announcements

Save the date - Saturday, April 25 is the annual spaghetti dinner. All proceeds will go to our Mission Team.

Parents of Young Children: Join us on Saturday, May 2 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the home of Ashley and Eric Bryda, 2630 Groveton St., to talk about children's formation at St. Mark's. Childcare will be provided at the church and refreshments will be served. If you haven't received an E-vite, RSVP to Revmeredith@cox.net or call the church office at 703/765-3949.

The Bishop's Visitation will be on July 26. Confirmation and reception classes will begin in May.

If you are interested in serving as a substitute teacher for Sunday School, please contact Karen Ashworth at 703/768-3576.

The next VIC meeting will be Wednesday, April 8 at 11:30 a.m. at UCM's headquarters at 6511 Fordson Road. The topic will be "How Do Immigrants Survive?" The following month, the meeting will be May 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Rising Hope Methodist Mission. The speaker will be Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay, who will discuss demographic changes. See David Boyd or Rosemary Kley if you are interested in attending either meeting.

One of the Boy Scouts from Troop 4077 is working on his Eagle project – collecting items for "hope bags," which provide survivors of child sex trafficking with basic items they need immediately after they are recovered by law enforcement for a fresh start. A collection box is in the parish hall and a list of items needed is on the box.

The residents of Mondloch House will be moving back in soon thanks to the generosity of all who donated gift cards, meals, and household items. If you would like to volunteer for any of their programs or to learn what you can do to help other residents who are moving into new homes, please contact Nicole Dillon at ndillon@newhopehousing.org.

New Hope Housing is seeking volunteers to serve as co-facilitators for their core life skills course, Out of Poverty. Training will be Wednesday, April 8 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the New Hope Housing Admin office. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Nicole Dillon at ndillon@newhopehousing.org.

Life Line Screening will be at St. Mark's on Tuesday, April 21 offering preventive health screenings. To register for an appointment and to receive a special \$10 discount, visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners or call 1-888-653-6450.

Birthdays

April 5 – Chris Foster, April 6 – Marifer Cruz
April 11 – Madison Weatherly

Anniversary

April 8 – Karen Ashworth and David Powers