

## This Week at St. Mark's

- Today** 8 a.m. HE, 9 a.m. Choir rehearsal (Lg. classroom), 9 a.m. Pancake breakfast, 10 a.m. HE, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. Pancake breakfast. 11:15 a.m. DoK Lenten study (lg. classroom), 1 – 3 p.m. San Marcos Eucaristía (Sanctuary, Patience Hall, Gibson Hall), 3:30 – 5:45 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship (Patience Hall), 4 - 8 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Monday 2/23** 7-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (Patience Hall)
- Tuesday 2/24** 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 2/25** 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), 6:30 – 9 p.m. Lenten potluck dinner (bring something to share) and program (Patience Hall)
- Thursday 2/26** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, 10 a.m. Holy Folders (Lg. classroom)
- Friday 2/27** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 7 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary),
- Saturday 2/28** 1 – 4 p.m. Eagle Scout ceremony and reception (Sanctuary, Patience Hall and kitchen), 6 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7 – 9 p.m. San Marcos Bible study (Lg. classroom)

## Important Upcoming Dates

**August 21-23** Shrine Mont

## Adult Forum Schedule

**March 1 – March 22** Lent Forum: *Embracing Forgiveness* – video & discussion

## 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](mailto:stmarksalex@netzero.net); Rev. John Weatherly: [jweathe951@aol.com](mailto:jweathe951@aol.com); Rev. Meredith Heffner: [revmeredith@cox.net](mailto:revmeredith@cox.net); ♦ **Internet:** Website: [www.stmarksalex.org](http://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.”

**February 22, 2015**

The season of Lent is intended to be a time of serious personal spiritual reflection and renewal. It is a time for self-scrutiny and re-dedication to a life of service in the cause of the Kingdom. Our reading from the Prophet Isaiah on Ash Wednesday reminded us that what we do impacts the community. Whether we act, or we don't, the community is affected. How then has it become a time to give up chocolate, or hamburgers, or video games? The temptation or "tests" that the devil flings at Jesus after his forty-day-fast in the wilderness weren't just challenges to DO something he wasn't supposed to do. They were challenges tempting Jesus to BE someone he was not born to be.

The Gospel that is read today at the beginning of Lent, presents a picture of the example of Christ that we may rightly observe this time before the Passion. Jesus overcame his temptations by putting his complete trust in God. That's a good example for us. The wise person discovers eventually, if they are open to the Spirit, that God will provide all that he or she needs in his or her journey. I pray you know that place in your life.

This Lent I invite to listen and to pray for God's voice in your life. As part of our journey, I hope you will join us four Wednesday nights, as we explore the Psalms and Spirituality from different voices. Wednesday February 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark's, we begin at 6:30 with a pot-luck dinner, and our opening Presenter on the Psalms. We will meet the following week March 4<sup>th</sup> at Sharon Chapel, and then return to St. Mark's on the 11<sup>th</sup> with the Rev. Donna Foughty, on Psalm 22. And finally Ellen Johnston, the wife of our Bishop, will lead us through a discussion on singing the Psalms at Olivet parish, March 18<sup>th</sup>. I hope you will join us these four Wednesdays in Lent, and be with this wonderful community as we move from Passion Week, March 29<sup>th</sup>-April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and to the gift of Easter, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church welcome you to our services during Lent. 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, Beth Oakes, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Richard Sparks, Donna Anderson, Pete Farley, Kathryn Weatherly, Kathy Hughes, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, and Geoffrey.

Our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Pat McDonald, Sylvia Beauchamp, Janet Coco, Danny Butler, David Geeslin, Shelly McDonald, David McDonald, Vicki Rohr, Bob Schaffer, Quinn McLaughlin, Kamryn Jesperson, Don Wills, Jack, Jane, Gulshan, Paul, Leila and Carlton.

We pray for those who have died, especially Cathy Bluey, Rob Bluey's Godmother and Aunt, in memory of whom the flowers have been given today.

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. 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 to add anyone to the list, please call the church office or let the clergy know.

*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

**Pancakes – Fund Raiser and Raffle!** Join us this morning for a pancake breakfast. Your donations support our youth mission trip to Charleston, SC. We thank you in advance.

**Nursery attendants needed on 2/25 and 3/11** when we will be hosting our Lenten Dinners. See Rev. Meredith.

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

**There are two important envelopes** included with your pledge envelopes this month – one for Theological Education, which goes to our Seminarian and one for the *Virginia Episcopalian*, for those who wish to have a subscription to that publication.

**Habitat for Humanity Northern Virginia** is excited to announce that ground was broken on a new project at the end of 2014. Clayborne Avenue will be the site of two new, single-family homes. Two hard working families will work alongside volunteers building their home along with their community over the next year. As the spring draws nearer, Habitat for Humanity is looking forward to engaging volunteers in the construction of these homes.

**Winter Freeze Damages Mondloch Place - 20 Residents Displaced:** On February 17, a pipe burst on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Mondloch Place, a 20-unit residential building for adults who were chronically homeless. All residents have had to move out, but the county has ensured that each resident has a place to stay while the building undergoes repairs. Your help is needed with food and supplies. The staff has requested donations of: gift cards to restaurants for residents relocated to hotels; Giant, Safeway, Target or Walmart cards to help residents purchase food or other supplies; preparation of hot meals for 12 adults who were relocated to other shelters. Gift cards or food can be delivered to 8407-E Richmond Highway, Alexandria VA 22309 (place gift cards in an envelope labeled Mondloch Place). If you would like to prepare and deliver hot meals, contact Nicole Dillon at [ndillon@newhopehousing.org](mailto:ndillon@newhopehousing.org) to coordinate delivery date and time. If you have any other questions about donations or need a receipt, please contact Jan-Michael Sacharko at [jsacharko@newhopehousing.org](mailto:jsacharko@newhopehousing.org) or 703-799-2293 ext 27.

### Birthdays

February 24 – Ashley Bryda, Carl Foster

February 25 – Dick Stockstill, Hannah Luxner

February 26 – Bonnie Wilkins