

This Week at St. Mark's

- Today** 8 a.m. HE and Healing, 9 a.m. Choir rehearsal (Lg. classroom), 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum, 10 a.m. HE and Healing, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11:15 a.m. DoK Lenten study (large 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 3/2** 7-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (Patience Hall)
- Tuesday 3/3** 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 3/4** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax, 12:30 p.m. HE at The Pentagon, 6:30 – 9 p.m. Lenten potluck dinner and program (at All Saints)
- Thursday 3/5** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, 10 a.m. Holy Folders (Lg. classroom)
- Friday 3/6** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. fitness class (Patience Hall), 7 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Saturday 3/7** 6 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7 – 9 p.m. San Marcos Bible study (Lg. classroom)

Important Upcoming Dates

- March 8** Mission team meeting
April 25 Spaghetti Dinner
August 21-23 Shrine Mont

Adult Forum Schedule

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

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.”

March 1, 2015

Second Sunday in Lent

“Eternal Lord of love, behold your church Walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent, Led by your cloud by day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your presence bent; far off yet here—the goal of all desire.”

So writes Thomas Cain (b. 1931) in a poem that is now hymn 149 in our hymnal. “Behold your church walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent ... far off yet here ... the goal of all desire.”

Jesus asked, “Who do people say that I am,” and the disciples offer various common opinions. He then goes on to ask, “But who do *you* say that I am?” Peter, the first disciple immediately responds, “You are the Messiah,” that is, God’s anointed bearer of salvation. This evokes from Jesus a strong command not to tell anyone. The Gospel follows immediately with the Passion prediction, foretelling that the Son of Man, a powerful figure in the first part of the Gospel (2:10, 28) must be rejected, suffer, die and rise again. Peter then takes him aside and “begins to reprimand him” (the verb used earlier when Jesus silences demons, 3:12, or calms the raging sea, 4:39). And Jesus rebukes him.

History sided with Jesus on the matter of the necessity of the cross. We have traced the sign of the cross on the foreheads in prayer, in ash, and today, in oil. We have been covered with the sign of the cross in blessing and forgiveness. Throughout our service we make the sign of the cross as an act of recollection. We are a people of the Cross, marked — even branded — by it in our baptism, and living daily under its sign. So what does it mean to be a people of the Cross? What does it mean to agree that there is something absolutely central about the suffering, rejection, and death of Jesus for our understanding of

human life, and how it is to be lived? Jesus Christ, who put all our brokenness on the cross, so that one day we might be made whole. Christians pray, eat, serve, laugh and cry together all under that cross. We are a community with peculiar habits. And we walk “the pilgrim way of Lent these forty days” so that we may one day understand the glory of God’s love.

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, the Dean family, 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, Danny Butler, David Geeslin, Shelly McDonald, David McDonald, Vicki Rohr, Bob Schaffer, Quinn McLaughlin, Kamryn Jespersen, Don Wills, Bobby Bishop, Sunny Haggard, Cheryl F., Jack, Jane, Gulshan, Paul, Leila and Carlton.

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

The Daughters of the King will continue their Lenten study today after the 10 a.m. service.

Mission Trip: Our next mission trip meeting is March 8 after the 10 a.m. service in the parish hall. All missionaries are expected to attend.

Thank you Neale Walker, Ann Sparks, Jeanne Shafer, Mary Stockstill and Kathy Hughes, as well as the 2015 mission team, for working so hard to make our Pancake Breakfast a success. Despite the weather, we made over \$600! Raffle tickets will be sold through March 8 when we will have our raffle drawing. If you haven’t purchased yours yet, see the table in the Narthex!

One nursery assistant is needed on 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.

We’re giving away books! There are some wonderful books in the library that are yours for the taking.

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. As the spring draws nearer, Habitat for Humanity is looking forward to engaging volunteers in the construction of these homes.

Hello St. Mark’s family, I am a part of a program called Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS). Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers (“Bigs”) and children (“Littles”), ages 5 through 18, in communities across the country. My little brother Jhones and I meet at least once a week and our activities range from doing homework to attending sporting events together. Bowl for Kids Sake is yearly fundraiser held by BBBS. My roommate and I created a team with our little brothers and our goal is to raise \$150 before March 21. Please help us reach our goal. Here’s the link to our page. <http://www.kintera.org/faf/donorReg/donorPledge.asp?ievent=1125553&supId=419490097&extSiteType=1> Thank you so much! -Zoe

Birthdays

March 2 – Shelley Luxner, Maxwell McIntyre

March 5 – Kosi Dominic

March 6 – Jim Bailes, Eric Bryda

March 7 – Pete Farley