

### This Week at St. Mark's

Today	8:00 am – HE, The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher 4:00-8:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S) 5:00pm and 9:00pm – Candlelight Eucharist
Monday, 12/25	11:00am – Christmas Service – The Rev. Donna Foughty, Preacher and Celebrant
Tuesday, 12/26	7-9:00 pm-Pan de Vida (S)
Wednesday, 12/27	10:30 am – HE – The Fairfax – The Rev. John Weatherly 7-9:00 pm – San Marcos (PH)
Thursday, 12/28	9:30 am – Morning Prayers 10:00 am – Holy Folders
Friday, 12/29	7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)
Saturday, 12/30	1:30 – 4:30 pm – Truth Deliverance Center 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Pan de Vida (S)
Sunday, 12/31	8:00am – HE, The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher 10:00am – Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols
Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	No Forum – Services only at 8:00 am/5:00 pm/9 pm

### Adult Education Forum



QuotesBlog.net

**“Enter to Worship – Exit to Serve”**

## ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:  
Offering Good News in the midst of a confusing world.”  
**December 24, 2017**

### **A Christmas Reflection**

Many of the women there that day had given birth like Mary in an outbuilding, under a tarp or under a sheet of plastic, the back of a truck or beneath it. One told of giving birth while waiting in line to see a clinic doctor. Many spoke of coming from the interior of Brazil for a better life on the coast. Then a woman added, “You know why Jesus was born poor and humble? So that rich people would know that he chose this way of life!” □ The idea swirled around the group for a few minutes. Was God really making such a clear statement about the abuses that they felt in their lives? The injustice and the insults they heard each day? After a few minutes, there was silence. Another woman added, “I don’t think we have it right yet: I think God chose his son to be born like us, so that we could see that we’re important too!” (*The Rector is re-posting this from 2014*) □ (*Based on a story told by Dom Halder Pessoa Camara (Roman Catholic Archbishop of Olinda and Recife)*)

### **Intercessions, Thanksgiving, Prayer Requests**

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or adversity, especially in the St. Mark’s Parish: Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, Jeanette Parris, Kimberly Earle, Carol Farley, John Dell, Kevannah Campbell, Velma Campbell, Emily Davis, Kent White, Rosemarie Beyma & the Lewis family, including Gloria & Karen, Rebecca Carrier, Beth Oakes.

Extended family: Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Rod Pearson Sr., Betty Bradley, Sandra Robinson, Col. Wil Scudder, Elmore, Mike Greenham, Kwan Dae Suk, Jean Blair, Gordon Murchie, John Savage, Bob Schaeffer & Jenny Crabb, Carol Ostergard, Joe Farren, Kevin and Richard Campbell, Baby Iris, Grayson Howard, Isatu Samura, Wendell Patterson, Emmett Sims, Sarif Harding, the Vangroll Family, Carol Rose, Sylvia Beauchamp, Sylvia Wren.

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm’s way, we lift up Colin Maloney, Robert Payne, Tim, Emily and family, Walter Smiley, Andrew Kley, Pat Foughty and Brian Talay. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation.

### Worship Schedule for Christmas Eve (December 24<sup>th</sup>)

8:00am – Advent 4 & Eucharist

1:00pm – Iglesia San Marcos

5:00pm – Family Candlelight Service

9:00pm – Festal Candlelight Service with Special Music

## Announcements

**New Youth Minister:** We welcome Gabriella Elizabeth Pineda as our new Minister for Youth. This 4-6 hour a week position is primarily responsible for, and not limited to, assisting the Rector with programming for 7th-12th graders, and their families, including Sunday activities, Bible study and fellowship. She will plan and support our Mission Trip for youth Grades 7 and above, lead youth, volunteers, parents and staff in providing an environment that stimulates faith formation and models healthy relationships, while providing the joy and safety needed for our children and youth. Gaby is an active member of Iglesia San Marcos, and will begin her duties the first of the year.

**It's A Tea Party!** Ladies of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, you are cordially invited to a Tea Party on January 6, 2018 from 12:00- 2:00pm sponsored by the Daughters of the King. Come and join us for an afternoon of good fun, good fellowship and good food. Please **RSVP no later than December 31, 2017 to Sheryl Sims at [sesims4@cox.net](mailto:sesims4@cox.net) or 571-236-1982.**

**Room for Rent:** St Mark's member offer spacious basement apartment for college student or professional adult Parish member. For more details, please contact Rev. Weatherly.

**New Hope Housing:** New Hope Housing, serving the Route 1 corridor has received 200 Thanksgiving meals from individuals, groups and businesses. More are expected for Christmas. Volunteers are preparing meals at each of the shelter sites. If you would like to contribute or volunteer visit the New Hope website contact Sami Smyth, at [ssmyth@newhopehousing.org](mailto:ssmyth@newhopehousing.org) or 703-799-2293 ext. 11 for more information.

### **YOUR PLEDGE IS NEEDED!**

**PLEDGES RECEIVED TO DATE: 60**  
**TOTAL AMOUNT PLEDGED @12/24: \$195,453.00**  
**MORTGAGE PLEDGES @12/24: \$7,540.00**

**2016 – as of December 24, 2016 - Units pledged – 66/Totaling: \$199,752**  
**2015 – Units pledged – 63/Totaling: \$212,208**

**Prayer List:** The Prayer List for St. Mark's is located in the red folder in the Narthex. It will be updated as needed.

**Thank you, Thank you!** Thank you for your generosity in the staff gifts (\$1308.00) and your contributions to the flowers that will be on the altar in memory of or thanksgiving for your family and friends. Thanks also to Delsi Chui, for organizing our flowers; Kathy Hughes for fellowship and Sara Dillich, our Altar Guild.

**An Invitation to join the Vestry :**The Vestry is seeking three (3) interested persons who may fulfill the following requirements: a confirmed adult (at least 16 years old) communicant of the Parish in good standing (being regular in attendance); and "known to the Treasurer".

The Canons establish four primary goals for the Vestry:

1. Cooperate with the Rector in the support of the spiritual welfare of the Parish and assist him or her in his duties.
  2. Care and trust of Parish finances.
  3. Care and trust of Parish buildings and property (appoint trustees, enter into contracts pertaining to property, e.g.).
  4. Choose leadership of the church (Rector, Wardens, and representatives to the Diocesan convention) and certify candidates for ordination as a deacon or priest.
- Plus, have a willingness to dedicate time and energy for the health and future of the parish, attend regular worship, events and all vestry meetings.

Vestry members serve for three year terms, unless they are filling an unexpired term.

Any interested persons please let any present member of the Vestry know. The Annual Meeting will be January 28<sup>th</sup>. The Vestry retreat to Roslyn will be March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Our facilitator will be Julie Simonton of the Diocese.

### **Vestry Declaration**

Before becoming a member of the Vestry, under the Canons of the Diocese of Virginia each person must subscribe the following declaration and promise:

*"I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do yield my hearty assent and approbation to the doctrines, worship and discipline of The Episcopal Church; and I promise that I will faithfully execute the office of Vestry member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Potomac Region, Diocese of Virginia, according to my best knowledge and skill".*

**Outreach:** Please check board in the Narthex to see upcoming opportunities. As St. Mark's parishioners, positively engage our community by reaching out!

**E-giving** –Getting started with online giving is easy. Visit [stmarksalex.org](http://stmarksalex.org) and click the "Donate Now" link to create an account and make your donation.



**Please wear your name tag!** If you need one, please let us know.



### **Upcoming Birthdays**

12/24 – Aba Marfo/Alexander McIntrye  
12/26 – Cherisse McCarthy  
12/27 – Nikolaus Garcia  
12/28 –Mary Magnini  
12/29 –Alan Norman  
12/30 – Mary Spear/Kathy Hughes

### ***Happy Anniversary!!***

***12/28 – Earl & Kathy Hughes- 46 years***  
***12/31 – Jim & Jean Bailes – 41 years***