

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:
Offering Good News in the midst of a confusing world.”
December 31, 2017

This Week at St. Mark’s

Today 8:00 am – HE, The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher
 10:00am – Christmas Lessons and Carols
 4:00-8:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)

Monday, 1/1 New Year’s Day

Tuesday, 1/2 7-9:00 pm-Pan de Vida (S)

Wednesday, 1/3 10:30 am – HE – The Fairfax – The Rev. John Weatherly
 12:30 pm – HE - The Pentagon- The Rev. John Weatherly
 7-9:00 pm – San Marcos (PH)

Thursday, 12/4 9:30 am – Morning Prayers
 10:00 am – Holy Folders

Friday, 1/5 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)

Saturday, 1/6 2:00pm – Memorial Service for COL.(ret.)William Scudder at The Fairfax
 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Pan de Vida (S)

Sunday, 1/7 8:00am – HE, Baptism of our Lord, Epiphany, The Rev. John Weatherly,
 Preacher
 10:00am – Baptism of Our Lord, Baptism, Epiphany and Eucharist
 11:15am – Mission Team Meeting

Adult Education Forum

Dec. 31st No Forum

Jan 7th Creative Transformation

Jan 14th Embracing Mystery

Jan 21st 2018 Budget for St. Mark’s

Jan 28th Annual Meeting Preview, Meet the Vestry Nominees

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, 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.

For the family of COL.(ret.) William Scudder, whose services will be held on January 6, 2018, 2:00pm at the Fairfax.

We warmly welcome all those who have come to worship with us today!!

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. Our Mission Team Meeting will be held on January 7th at 11:15am.

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 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.

YOUR PLEDGE IS NEEDED!

PLEDGES RECEIVED TO DATE: 60
TOTAL AMOUNT PLEDGED @12/31: \$195,453.00
MORTGAGE PLEDGES @12/31: \$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 blue folder in the Narthex. It will be updated as needed.

VICHOP Needs Volunteers: Volunteers are needed for VICHOP Shelter on New Year's eve and Wednesdays in January, Tuesdays in February and March. If you are interested, please contact Sherry Edelkamp at 703-966-1270 or VICHOSHELTER@gmail.com.

Attention All Ministry Leaders: Please submit your Worship Schedules for the 1st quarter to the Parish Administrator as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

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 28th. The Vestry retreat to Roslyn will be March 3rd and 4th, 2018. Our facilitator will be Julie Simonton of the Diocese.

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 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

- 1/1 – Jackie Cerio
- 1/2 - Jeanne Shafer
- 1/3 – Ann Sparks
- 1/6 – Sheryl Sims /Linda Larson