



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 26, 2017

San Marcos and St. Mark’s Vestry Retreat, Roslyn, 2/11-12



From the Rector

Ash Wednesday and Lent are coming in just a few days. What are your plans this year?

Lent, the forty days in the Christian year that lead up to Easter, is a valuable time for Christians. The word “Lent” comes from a variety of Anglo-Saxon and Germanic words meaning “spring”, a time budding with new life and hope. For Christians, Lent could be seen as a celebration of new life; a process of prayer and spiritual renewal looking to a time bursting with a new spiritual hope. The Lenten season could be an opportunity to cultivate the interior life through spiritual exercises and practices into new life.

In our call to keeping a Holy Lent on Ash Wednesday, we remember how in the early church new believers were baptized into its fellowship once a year on

Easter. Leading up to their baptism a period was set aside for their formation in the faith. In their baptism they would signify their death to the power of evil and their call to be risen into new life in Christ, who overcame the power of death on the first Easter. In time the whole community of the faithful came to experience this season as a time for growth in faithful discipleship. Lent emerged as a time when both new converts, as well as the body of believers, would join more closely with the living, dying and rising of Jesus. Thus in today's Church, as in the early Church, Lent is meant to be experienced as a time for the making of disciples.

Lent is a quality season. It is a time of rediscovery, a chance to open ourselves more deeply to the beauty and power of the dying and rising to new life in Jesus. It is a time to ponder the reality of the death and resurrection and to allow it to soak into our deepest parts.

Finally, Lent calls us to a greater compassion for others, especially the poor and needy. It invites us to examine ourselves honestly on how subtly we have accepted society's addiction to possessions, to affluence. Through the days of Lent we are encouraged to focus our eyes on Jesus who gave his whole life in faithfulness to God, giving his life totally out of love for all. As we keep that clear focus we join our life in the loving intention of Jesus to give himself for all.

Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church welcome you to our services. If you are looking for a church home, or want more information about St. Mark's, please make use of one of our visitor's cards and give to our clergy or place in the offertory plate.

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially in the St. Mark's Parish: Clara Bottner, Beth Oakes, Donna Anderson, Nell Brill, Richard Sparks, Phil Brown, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, Don Lopez, Jeanette Parris, Kimberly Earle, Carol Farley, the Magruder/Vangroll families, the Lewis family, including Tom and Gloria, and Kevan Campbell. Also for our extended family: Emmett Sims, Liz S., Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Sylvia Valverde, John R., D. Crumel, William Pimental, Rod Pearson, Sr., Richard Stockstill, Betty Bradley, Sandra Robinson, friends of Bob Janus, John Gray, Gerry Cox, Col. (Ret.) Don Carter, Tara Wilkins, Gordon Merritt, family and friends of Dennis Yumber, Kent White, Bob Burnell and family and friends of Angel and Elvia Linares. 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 and Pat Foughty. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation.

Announcements

Shrove Tuesday Dinner is this Tuesday from 5:00-7:00 pm and will be a fundraiser for this year's Mission Trip to Navajoland !!! There will be a 50/50 raffle, live music, good food and lots of fun!

The Seminarian Committee for Michaelene Miller will meet after services **TODAY** at 11:30 am in the library.

Ash Wednesday Services at 7:30 am, noon and 7:30 pm. Evening service is with San Marcos.

Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS) invites you to take part in a brief survey to help them better understand the needs of our parish community. Your opinions will help VTS continue in its efforts to serve us as a community of faith. An invitation to participate will be sent soon to all parishioners for whom we have an e-mail address.

St. Mark's Book Club will meet **tomorrow, 2/27**, at 7:00 pm in the library.

Mondloch House: Please contact Kathy Hughes at 703-765-9481 if you can help prepare a hot meal on Sunday, March 12.

Daughters of the King will meet in the library following the 10:00 am service on March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2 and 9. Our Lenten study will be on "*Shadows, Darkness and Dawn*" by Thomas Steagald.

From The Rev. Donna Foughty: Please note change of address for church emails – Revnum02@hotmail.com. It's that time of year again – time to get our **Shrine Mont** dates set up. Please pick one of the possibilities below or send me a suggestion. August 11-13, August 18-20, August 25-27 or we could choose a fall weekend. **Please get back to Donna Foughty ASAP.**

Girl Scout Sunday is March 12.

Upcoming Birthdays

2/26 - Bonnie Wilkins, 3/2 – Shelley Luxner, Maxwell McIntyre and Christopher Williams

This Week at St. Mark's

Today	8:00 am HE, 9:15 am – Adult Forum, 10:00 am HE, 11:30 am – Mission Trip meeting, 11:30 am – Cornelia Eaton's Lay Support Meeting, 1:00-4:00 pm San Marcos (Sanctuary, PH, GH), 4:00-6:00 pm Pan de Vida (S)
Monday, 2/27	7:00-8:30 pm BSA Troop #4077 (PH)
Tuesday, 2/28	10:30 am Bible Study. All welcome! 5:00-7:00 pm – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Mission Trip Fundraiser, 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida Bible Study (Sanctuary), 7:00-9:00 pm- GS Troop 4841 (PH)
Wednesday, 3/1	7:30 am – Ash Wednesday Service, 10:30 am HE and Healing - The Fairfax, 12:30 pm – HE and Healing – The Pentagon, noon – Ash Wednesday Service, 7:30 pm – Ash Wednesday Service with San Marcos
Thursday, 3/2	9:30 am – Morning Prayer, 9:00 am-12:45 pm – Biology Class (PH), 10:00 am – Holy Folders, 7:00- 9:30 pm – San Marcos (large classroom)
Friday, 3/3	7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)
Saturday, 3/4	6:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)

Forum Discussion Sundays at 9:10 am

Today Preparing for Lent

Calendar

2/28	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
3/8	6:30 pm Lent Potluck at St. Mark's. The Rev. Cornelia Eaton on Sacred time/space in Navajo-Christian tradition
3/15	6:30 pm Lent Potluck at Olivet. Sacred time/space In Muslim tradition
3/22	6:30 pm Lent Potluck at Church of the Spirit. Sacred time/space in Buddhist tradition
3/29	6:30 pm Lent Potluck at Sharon Chapel. Sacred time/space in the Anglican tradition