

This Week at St. Mark's

Today	8:00 am – HE, - The Rev. Donna Foughty 10:00am – HE, The Rev. Donna Foughty 1:00pm -4:00pm – Iglesia San Marcos (S, PH, GH) 4:00pm-8:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S,PH)
Monday, 12/ 24	5:00pm – Christmas Eve Service – The Rev. John C.N. Hall 7:00PM – Iglesia San Marcos Christmas Eve Service 9:00pm – Christmas Eve Service – The Rev. John C.N. Hall
Tuesday, 12/25	11:00am – Christmas Day Service – The Rev. Michael Pumphrey
Wednesday, 12/26	Office Closed
Thursday, 12/27	Office Closed
Friday, 12/28	Office Closed
Saturday, 12/29	No Activities Scheduled
Sunday, 12/30	8:00am – HE – The Rev. John C.N. Hall 10:00am – HE - The Rev. John C.N. Hall 2:00pm – 7:00pm – Boy Scouts (POC-Mary Kelly)



“Enter to Worship.....Exit to Serve”

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

“Opening the doors of Christ's love:

December 23, 2018

From the Desk of the Interim Rector

Christmas 2018

Dear Beloved St. Mark's friend,

Be not afraid. Jesus said it again and again to his followers: “Be not afraid.” When times are troubling, “Be not afraid.” When you feel alone, “Be not afraid.” When the future is unclear, “Be not afraid.” Like bookends on Jesus life, from the announcement of his birth to the proclamation of his resurrection, the heavens continually remind us to “Be not afraid.” The Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, ***be not afraid*** to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.” The angel said to Mary, “***Be not afraid***, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.” The angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “***Be not afraid.*** I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.” Again, at the resurrection, like an exclamation point, the angel said to the women at the tomb, ***Be not afraid***, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.” And finally, the resurrected Lord Jesus himself said to all who would follow him, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and ***be not afraid.***” When fear rattles across the airwaves, and when worries seem to fill your heart, remember the Holy Infant, the Prince of Peace. This Holy Season reminds you to rest in the arms of a Mighty Savior, born a child and yet a king, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Join us as we celebrate this Christmas at St. Mark's.

Christmas Eve, December 24 • Holy Eucharist at 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, December 25 • Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Yours, Fr. John Hall

Intercessions, Thanksgiving, Prayer Requests

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or adversity, especially in the St. Mark's Parish: Lindsay Drabick, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, Kimberly Earle, John Dell, Kevannah Campbell, Velma, Emily Davis, Kent White, the Lewis family, including Gloria & Karen, Pat Hoppe, Nell Brill, Hailey Heyse, Irrsula Mpouma, Richard Sparks, Jackie Cerio, Rosemary Kley, Jeff Gray, Mary Magnini, Eloida Reyes and Sheyla Cornwall .

Extended family: Rod Pearson Sr., Betty Bradley, Sandra Robinson, Elmore, Mike Greenham, Kwan Dae Suk, Jean Blair, Gordon Murchie, Bob Schaeffer & Jenny Crabb, Carol Ostergard, Kevin and Richard Campbell, Baby Iris, Grayson Howard, Isatu Samura, Wendell Patterson, Sarif Harding, the Vangroll Family, Sylvia Beauchamp, Sylvia Wren, David, Ellen, and Erin Mitchell, Roger Ray, Sally Belk, John Sims, Shawn, Arlene Washington, Barbara, Robin Groome, Peter Butler, Annie Osborne, Janis Becker, Richard, Reed, Josh, Steve Ellis, Indira Murillo, David Haggard, Ron Graves, Sook Ja You, Kimberlee, Mary and Patty Klosky and Bob and Maggie Hohnberger .

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm's way, we lift up Tim, Emily and family, 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.

Announcements

Rector Search Prayer: Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will direct our paths and open our hearts to hear God's will and to discover where God is leading us to be in the future.

We thank you Lord for the community of St. Mark's church. For the love among us, and the ministries we do. Be with us now as we prepare to call a new Rector.

Guide the search committee as they help us to discern our future and how we may continue to know Your will for our parish family.

Strengthen us as we look to a new future built on the foundation of the past. Help us to know what to keep and what to let go.

Enlighten the heart of the person who will be our new Rector that they will hear Your call.

Give us all courage and faith to trust You to lead us to a new and exciting future.

Rector Search Progress: During her visit with us on December 2nd, Bishop Goff compared the Advent Season of anticipating and waiting for the arrival of Christ to our interim period of waiting for our new Rector. Please continue to pray with hope and anticipation for the next St. Mark's Rector.

2019 Worship Schedules: Please submit your 2019 Worship Schedules to the Parish Administrator as soon as possible. If you have any questions or require additional information, please call the church office. Thank you!

Help Needed: The Lay Eucharistic Ministers are in need of a worship scheduler. The current scheduler, Donna Anderson is stepping down from the position. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Anderson or the church office.

Office Closure: Please note that the church office will be closed for the Christmas Holiday from **December 21st through January 1st**. We will be checking for messages and emails. Have a blessed and joyful holiday!!

River Farm Cooperative School: The River Farm Cooperative School will be closed for winter break beginning December 24th and will re-open on January 7th.



2019 Stewardship Campaign Pledges: We have received 39 pledges to date in response to our 2019 Stewardship Campaign totaling **\$144,264.00** Thank you for your continued generosity.

Book of Common Prayer: Please note that we have “**Selections From the Book of Common Prayer Large Print**” in the back of the church on the bookshelf. Parishioners should ask the ushers for a copy and **PLEASE** return the copies after service. Thank you!

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

Thank you! Thank you! A very special thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas flowers and the staff gifts. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Adult Forum

Today – No Adult Forum

December 30th – “Anxious for Nothing- Finding Calm in a Chaotic World” (video)

January 6th – “Anxious for Nothing – Finding Calm in a Chaotic World” (video)

Upcoming Birthdays !!

12/24 – Aba Marfo/Alexander McIntyre

12/26 – Cherisse McCarthy

12/28 – Mary Magnini

12/30 – Kathy Hughes

Upcoming Anniversaries!!

12/28 - Earl & Kathy Hughes

12/31 – Jim & Jean Bailes

