

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:
Offering Good News in the midst of a confusing world.”
January 7, 2018

The Baptism of Our Lord

In the French Calvinist celebration of infant baptism the minister takes the child in his arms, or her arms, and says, “Little child, for you Jesus Christ came. He struggled. He suffered. For you he endured the darkness of Gethsemane, the agony of Calvary. For you he triumphed over death. And you, little child, know nothing of all this. But thus is confirmed in the word of the Apostle, ‘We love God because God first loved us.’” Baptism, whether it be infant or believer’s baptism, is all about God’s unconditional love being poured out universally for everyone from the pope to the loneliest wino on the planet. Like the king in the fable, God wants not self-glorification, but ours. In the words of a church father, “the glory of God is a human being fully alive.”

And in return for God’s love, God wants ours freely given. Baptism is a symbol of God’s love, not a symbol of God’s power. And baptism promises minimum protection and maximum support.

God doesn’t want us to be safe, polite, subservient and sterile. God wants us to be fearless, joyful and loving. God wants us to be responsible, response-able, able to respond to love symbolized in baptism, remembering always that love, among other things, requires the utmost in clear-sightedness. God wants us to be creative, to repair a broken world, to empower the weak and scorn the powerful, to bring forth justice to the nations as Isaiah saw it and to work for peace as if the whole world depended on it, as indeed it does. Let baptized Christians remember the glory of God is a human being fully alive. “And not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name be the glory.”

The Rev. William Sloan Coffin, 1998 Pastor of Riverside Church, New York City

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.) Willis Scudder, whose services were held on January 6, 2018.

The flowers on the altar during the Christmas season were also in memory of Mrs. Johnnye Sims by Sheryl Sims/

This Week at St. Mark’s

- Today 8:00 am – HE, The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher
10:00am – Baptism
11:15am – Youth Mission Trip Meeting
1:00- 4:00p – Iglesia San Marcos (S,PH,GH)
4:00-8:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)
- Monday, 1/8 7:00-8:30pm – BS Troop 4077 (PH)
- Tuesday, 1/9 7-9:00 pm-Pan de Vida (S)
- Wednesday, 1/10 10:30 am – HE – The Fairfax – The Rev. John Weatherly
7-9:00 pm – San Marcos (PH)
- Thursday, 1/11 9:30 am – Morning Prayers
10:00 am – Holy Folders
- Friday, 1/12 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)
5:00-7:00pm – San Marcos
- Saturday, 1/13 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Pan de Vida (S)
- Sunday, 1/14 8:00am – HE, Baptism of our Lord, Epiphany, The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher
10:00am – HE, The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher
11:15am – Vestry Meeting

Adult Education 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

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.

YOUR PLEDGE IS NEEDED!

PLEDGES RECEIVED TO DATE: 60
TOTAL AMOUNT PLEDGED @1/7: \$195,453.00
MORTGAGE PLEDGES@1/7: \$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

1/8 – Brenda Huber
1/11 – Amber Wihshi
1/13 – Will Miles