

Today

This Week at St. Mark's

8:00 am – HE, The Rev. Donna Foughty, Celebrant,
Ms. Sheryl Sims, Lay Preacher
10:00am – HE, The Rev. Donna Foughty, Celebrant, Ms.
Sheryl Sims, Lay Preacher
11:15am – Vestry Meeting
1:00- 4:00p – Iglesia San Marcos (S,PH,GH)
4:00-8:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S,PH)

Monday, 7/16 7:00-8:30pm – BS Troop 4077 (PH)

Tuesday, 7/17 7-9:00 pm-Pan de Vida (S)

Wednesday, 7/18 10:30am – The Fairfax – Rev. Donna Foughty

Thursday, 7/19 9:30 am – Morning Prayer
10:00 am – Holy Folders

Friday, 7/20 No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, 7/21 No Activities Scheduled

Sunday, 7/22 8:00am – HE – The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher
10:00am – HE - The Rev. John Weatherly, Preacher



“Enter to Worship.....Exit to Serve”

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:

July 15, 2018

From The Rev. Donna Foughty

The beheading of John the Baptist. Quite a gory little story when you think about it. This little piece from Mark is our reading for Sunday and is the only vignette from the gospels we have that does not discuss Jesus. Mark has placed it smack in the middle of the story of the sending out of the twelve and their return. Almost as if Mark felt he needed to get this information in his gospel and did not know where else to stick it. There seems to be no logical reason for this story to be where it is but among the theories perhaps it is there to discuss social justice and the cruelty visited upon prisoners. But why ever it is here, it challenges us. John the Baptist was a prophet and prophets, as defined in scripture are **not** people who tell the future but people who show you a truth you might not really want to see. Since the beginning of time we have had prophets. Some tell us how we have allowed ourselves to be corrupted by outside influences. Over the millenniums this is what usually trips up humanity. Too often the prophets were ignored, run out of town or killed. No one really likes to hear what they are doing wrong in the sight of God. But what does this mean for us today? We don't have a John the Baptist standing in the middle of a river preaching repentance and baptizing people. Today they, just like you and I go about our daily lives living out our faith in the little things we do. Defying modern day heresies by standing fast to the message of love, grace and forgiveness that Jesus taught us. Showing the world, the mirror that reflects the wars, hatred, cruelty and greed that still exists. Today though it may be a bit harder to hear and see the prophets, there are so many claiming to have the prophetic voice of God. But, what about us? Are we prophets? Well, yes just by living out our faith without fear and sharing those uncomfortable truths that Jesus taught us. It is not easy – never was never will be. It can be a time of fear. A time of challenge to stand by the prophecy we reflect. But no matter what may happen to us, God is still in control. He will still use his followers as prophets to reflect his love and grace to a world filled with hate and misunderstandings.

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, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, Jeanette Parris, Kimberly Earle, John Dell, Kevannah Campbell, Velma Campbell, Emily Davis, Kent White, the Lewis family, including Gloria & Karen, Beth Oakes, Pat Hoppe, Nell Brill, Hailey Heyse, , Kathleen Lemmon, Irrsula Mpouma, Richard Sparks, Kevan Campbell.

Extended family: Phyllis Nezar-Biggs, 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, Emmett Sims, 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.

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

Announcements

Vestry Meeting: There will be a Vestry meeting **TODAY**, July 15, at 11:15 a.m. in the large classroom. Topics to be discussed include the Rector Search Committee and River Farm School. All members of the congregation are welcome to attend.

Worship Watch Adult Forum: Please attend our July 22 Adult Forum at 9:15 a.m. to learn about the Fairfax County Worship Watch Program, which encourages faith community congregants to become more involved in reducing the opportunity for crimes. This discussion is an overview and we can schedule Fairfax County Crime Prevention Officer Robert Urps for a more detailed two-hour presentation. Please let a member of the Vestry know if you would be interested in the two-hour program. Officer Urps is planning to attend the 10 a.m. service and be available at the coffee hour for any follow-up questions.

Sunday School Teachers: As we plan for the upcoming year, we are looking for 2 volunteers to teach Sunday School on a rotating basis. Please contact or see Pam Hamrin, Belinda Appiah or Nana Marfo for more information.

Vacation Bible School: Do you want to help with Vacation Bible School but are unable to give your time? There are other ways to give! First, we ask for your prayers for a successful week. Second, we ask for your help with supplies. Please follow the link to see a list of supplies we still need. If you are able to loan us some of these items, please sign up and drop the item off in Classroom 2 by Friday, July 20. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Bryda at ashpearson@aol.com or 571-435-0676. Your generous help is much appreciated!

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Pa1U1DmMOcXrSRZ4IIM5ofOcsrT1sd1_ua-av1GITD0/edit#gid=0

Registration forms are now available in the Church Office during normal hours of operation for Vacation Bible School. If you would like to register your child, please do so no later than July 10, 2018. Vacation Bible School runs from July 23-27, 2018. For more information, please contact Ashley Bryda.

Audit Committee Volunteers: Velma Scott-Boyle and Wally Tienken have volunteered to conduct the church's audit for 2017. This is an annual requirement for all Episcopal churches. Charlotte Brown and Becky Sanders will be gathering the information in preparation for the audit. If you'd like to volunteer to help, please see Velma or Wally.

Shrine Mont 2018: Please mark your calendars for the Shrine Mont Retreat to be held August 10-12, 2018. For more information, please contact The Rev. Donna Foughty.

Upcoming Dates in July

Today – 8:00am and 10:00 – The Rev. Donna Foughty, Celebrant, Ms. Sheryl Sims, Lay Preacher

Today – 11:15am – Vestry Meeting

July 18th – 10:30am – The Fairfax Eucharist, The Rev. Donna Foughty, Celebrant

Adult Forum

Today – The Rev. Donna Foughty/Ms. Sheryl Sims

July 22nd – Fairfax County Worship Watch Program

July 22nd – General Convention Wrap-up

July 29th – The Episcopal Church in Dialogue

Diocese of Virginia Stewardship Workshop: At its heart, stewardship is about “using the gifts God gives us to do the work God calls us to do.” Come to cultivate and nourish momentum in annual giving and social media communications. After all, churches that tell their stories well are also churches that are vibrant in giving! Join **Julie Simonton**, Director of Congregational Development and Stewardship, for presentations and conversations on “annual giving,” “social media communications,” and “what’s trending in stewardship.” Don’t miss it! It will held on **Saturday, July 28, 2018 , St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22308 from 9:30am-12:30pm**. Registration forms may be found on the Diocese of Virginia website under the Stewardship and Communication page.

SAVE THE DATE!!!: As you know, our Rector, the Rev. John Weatherly is retiring after several years of service. His last day of worship will be September 9, 2018---but before his last day, we are celebrating him on Saturday, September 8, 2018 tentatively scheduled to begin 2:00 pm. We will have the food catered but need help with desserts on Saturday September 8, 2018. On Sunday September 9, 2018 we will continue celebrating after the 10:00 service. For September 9, we need help with finger food and more desserts, yes there will be a cake. We also need volunteers for set up and cleanup on both days. More details and information will be forthcoming. If you would like to volunteer to help with the celebration, please contact Sheryl Sims, Jim Bailes, Charlotte Brown or Kathy Hughes. **PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!!!**

Thank You!!: The Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement of Northern Virginia (VOICE) would like to thank St. Mark’s for their generous donation of \$100.00 to support VOICE of Mt. Vernon. Your gifts along with other contributions will enable VOICE to continue its hard work to assist low and middle income families throughout the Northern Virginia areas. Without you as a partner, these successes could not happen. Thanks to the St. Mark’s family for being a part of VOICE’s team.

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

Disruption in myEoffering Donations: Due to a recent myEoffering software update, donations since June 8, 2018, have not been deducted from your bank account or charged to your credit card. MyEoffering will not automatically be making up for donations. No credit cards can be processed at this time, but they anticipate this function to be operational in 2-3 business days. Only direct deductions from your bank account are currently operational. Please check your bank statement and credit card statement to determine if you need to make up for any missed donations to St. Mark’s. We apologize for the inconvenience and are discussing options and alternatives.

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



Upcoming Birthdays !!

7/18 – Everett Bryda

7/19 – Albert Dominic, Jr.

7/20 – Nell Brill/Olivia Diaz

7/21 – Chizi Dominic

Upcoming Anniversaries!!

Elizabeth Bridle & Rev. Michael Pumphrey