

Dear Friends,

"Optimism is a wish without warrant; Christian hope is a certainty, guaranteed by God himself. Optimism reflects ignorance as to whether good things will ever actually come. Christian hope expresses knowledge that every day of his life, and every moment beyond it, the believer can say with truth, on the basis of God's own commitment, that the best is yet to come." – J.I. Packer



Rev. Alston B. Johnson
alston@stmarkscathedral.net

By the time this note reaches you I hope that we are farther along the path to re-opening our parishes, and celebrating Easter 2021 in one another's presence. Although we have found new ways to stay in touch during the quarantine, I miss our time together as a parish very much. I have to admit that there is much that I have taken for granted during my years in the ministry. There is a distinct blessedness in the ability of Christians to gather, support one another, help one

another, enjoy one another, and learn from one another. It reminds me of the heartfelt greetings and good-byes that Paul shares with the churches addressed in his letters; and how Paul is at pains to remind them of how much he is missing being with them while traveling on behalf of the furtherance of the Gospel. I imagine that Paul's heartfelt words for the earliest Christians speaks to what many of us carry within our own hearts at this time.

I find that I am thirsting for Easter with a new and more determined anticipation this year. And I am reminded of the words of St. Augustine, "And He departed from our sight and we might return to our heart, and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here."

On the backside of the pandemic we have an opportunity to show ourselves, and others, the power of our faith in Christ's resurrection; how the truth of that resurrection gives shape and purpose both in the midst of our struggles, and the lives we seek to lead on the other side of our struggles. Although I carry in my heart and mind the grief of losing some who have been dear to us, I find there is a treasure of hope, resilience, and faith given and guarded by the living Christ that the world is incapable of manufacturing. As things in life that I have taken for granted are taken away, I find that Jesus can move to the

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Holy Week and Easter Services

Maundy Thursday

Holy Eucharist and stripping of Altar at 7:00 pm in the Cathedral

Vigil will be held in the Chapel from 8:30 pm until 7:00 am Friday.

Good Friday

7:00 am Solemn Collects in the Chapel

12 noon Good Friday Liturgy in the Cathedral

Easter Sunday

5:30 a.m. Great Vigil in the Chapel

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Cathedral

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Cathedral

SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:00 am & 10:30 am
Sunday Holy Eucharist

APRIL 4, 2021
*The Sunday of the Resurrection:
Easter Sunday*

Acts 10:34-43 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 John 20:1-18

APRIL 11, 2021
The Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35 1 John 1:1-2 :2
Psalm 133 John 20:19-31

APRIL 18, 2021
The Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-29 1 John 3:1-7
Psalm 4 Luke 24:36b-48

APRIL 25, 2021
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12 1 John 3:16-24
Psalm 23 John 10:11-18

Oblationers Needed

Our Hospitality Committee invites parishioners (families, adult singles, siblings, friends) to serve as oblationers (gift bearers) at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. This is a meaningful way to serve the faith community. For more information please contact **Kathy Williams** at 469-9211.



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center of a new life and hope for the future.

Currently at the Cathedral we are seeking to rebuild, and we need your presence and your prayers. My hope is that you will share a portion of your Christian journey with us on the other side of this strange, and sometimes, terrible year. My hope is that God will touch your daily life in such a way that you will discover that you are both needed and edified by the Christian fellowship we share within our Cathedral. We will need your time, your treasure, and your talents in this effort.

I am asking for your help, both in attendance at our services, as well as the gift of your time and financial resources. We have an opportunity to help others in our community as they continue to rebuild their homes, churches, and families; and we have an opportunity to both establish and grow the bonds of fellowship within our own congregation. I look forward to seeing you again soon.

*Many Blessings and Godspeed,
Alston Johnson – Dean, St Mark's*

Community Renewal Fruit Signup List!

Community Renewal has resumed meeting with youth in their neighborhoods as distancing allows. Their after school programs teach and practice balanced nutrition at their meals. The Barksdale neighborhood would greatly appreciate 25 pieces/servings of fruit every Monday. Fruit may be fresh or canned and should be dropped off at the church office any time before the assigned Monday at 10am. The signup this year is online:

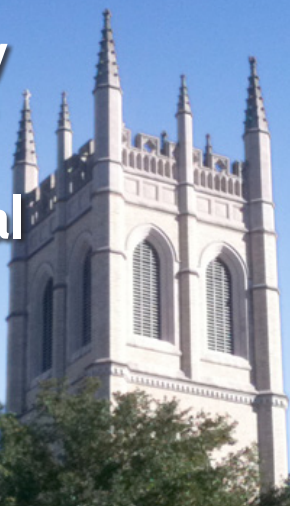
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30Eo44FAFAA2D6-fruit>

Any questions, contact **Jennifer Beruvides** at jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net



Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

Wednesdays
7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
in the
Garden Room



Birthday Card Ministry

This year, we launched a birthday card ministry to celebrate all of our parishioners. If you find yourself wanting to serve but needing to do it on your own time, please consider this meaningful ministry. Materials are provided. For more information, please contact **Lauren Ewing** at 550-1743 or lauren.ewing@me.com.



A full-color version of *The Evangelist* is on our website! Go to "Media," then "The Evangelist."

Music & Worship

Bryan Mitnaul, Canon for Cathedral Music
bryan@stmarkscathedral.net



Great News!

I recently received word that after exactly one year of Diocesan restrictions prohibiting live singing during worship we are now allowed to have up to four singers properly spaced and masked at in person worship services!

While congregational singing is still prohibited, it is wonderful to have singing begin to return as an integral part of our worship here at St. Mark's. During this phase of relaxed restrictions, our music will be comprised of the four professional section leaders from the St. Mark's choir. They will sing the Psalm, an anthem at the Offertory and the hymns designated for the day.

At this point I have no idea when the full choir will be able to return, but in the meantime it is a welcome change to have choral music at St. Mark's begin to return in time for Palm Sunday and Easter!

St. Mark's EYC News



EYC continues to meet each Sunday for dinner, activity, and compline from 6:15 to 7:30 pm. For all updates and info regarding St. Mark's EYC, please follow us on Facebook and **Instagram @smceyc**

Fr. Drew+



Stuffed Animal Drive!

Remember as a child how a stuffed animal eased your fears? For the month of April, we will be collecting **NEW** stuffed animals for the CARA center. The CARA center is a partnership of Christus and LSUHSC to provide aftercare and medical care for the diagnosis, management and prevention of child abuse and neglect in our local area. For the month of April, drop off new stuffed animals at the church office. For any questions contact **Jennifer Beruvides** at jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net



Communion Celebration Weekend

Communion Celebration Weekend is the weekend of April 17th and 18th. This is a special weekend where children gather to learn about why we take Holy Communion. We will spend that Saturday morning together from 10:00 AM-Noon. We will meet in the chapel. On Sunday, the celebration will take place during the 10:30 AM service. There will be photography in the Cathedral beforehand at 9:30 AM. Please email **Fr. Drew** at achristiansen@smc.school if you are interested in having your child participate in the Communion Celebration Weekend. It is for children at or around the age of 6.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 1

Suzanne Hearne
Lindsey Humphrey

2

Joanne Sigler
George Jackson
Sue Hansford
Jeremy Knically
John Montelepre, III
Sarah Thompson

3

Sean Peterson
Jim Herrington
Beckett Soignier

4

Lisa Love
Ronnie Fontana
Remi Locke
Owen Porter
Julie Guthrie

5

Drew Christiansen
Claire Hernandez
Tripp Roemer

6

Roger Ennis
Lois Ennis
Linda Masterson
Frances Thigpen
Mary O'Neal
Tandy Lewis

William Soignier
Joni Woodard

8

Sybil Patten
Harriett Spanberg
Beth Reeks
Bailey Monsour
Emma Grayson

9

Bette Powell
Mona Wachtel
Caroline Sample

10

Warren Long
Frances Kennedy
Holly Johnson
Arthur Jenkins

11

Sonja Rogers
Brian Homza
Anne Elizabeth
Knically
Emily Powell

12

Ted Sherman
Marianne Comegys
Dan Koruna
Sarah Catherine Allen
Collier White

13

Mary Godwin

14

Kelly Rainwater
Lindsey O'Brien
William Bartle
Wiley Cotter
Elizabeth White

15

Bobby Pugh
Bryan Mitnaul
Tom Murphy
Alexandra Williams
Holland Peterson
Parker Stage
Andrew Thibodeaux

16

Jan Madison
John Giles
Bo Boyd
Denis Poljak
Scott Zimmer
Benjamin Jump
Elizabeth Elbersen

17

Clay Hollingsworth
Tomeka Bowman
Sam Porter
Lola Overdyke

18

Chris Hughes
Bill Reyenga
Katherine Douthitt
Alan Berry

George Jonathan
Hardtner
Charlotte White

19

Tobin Grigsby

20

Charlotte Hill
Tom Thigpen
Jon Davis
Sabrina Newell

21

Rodney Varnadore
Porter Caraway

22

Kelly Hargrove
Emily Roemer

23

Ann-Conrad Falter
Ron Shotts
Jimmy Scruggs
Stacey Jones
Matthew Brooks
Patrick Harrison, Jr.
Frances Renda

24

Ginger Colquitt
Martha Nader
Clarence Babineaux
Glenn Adams
Lee Ann Smith
Reid Baldrige

Kayla Marsalis
Alex Monsour

25

Kerie Kay Palmer
Chris Watt
Mary Helen Skeadas
Travis Simmons
Thomas Risher

26

Andy Storer
Katherine Nelson
Caroline Brooks
Anderson Davis
Giovanni Giacalone

28

Diane Sino
Dianna Sentell

29

Mark Florsheim
Jean Cottingham
Margaret Brace
Kristen Godwin
J. Drummond

30

Iris Jackson
Jim Kirkland
Chan Teague
Caroline Sibley
Steve Arnold
Anne Lasseigne
Liza Johnson

Cathedral School News

St. Mark's Cathedral School is now in the final quarter of the year. This year of pandemic has been filled with challenges, but we are proud of having maintained live instruction all year along with virtual instruction for children in medically compromised situations. Throughout the year we have reinvented school traditions in order to move them outside or make them virtual. Last month we filmed our Middle School Play, Dorothy Meets Alice, and emailed a link for viewing. This month the annual Fourth Grade Fairy Tales Program will be held in the courtyard, as will our preschool Easter Eggstravaganza.

On April 6, we will welcome our graduates who are now high school seniors to a special Senior Chapel. We will have the seniors and their families in the Cathedral with the rest of the school viewing Chapel via livestream. It is always so exciting for us to see our alumni and congratulate them on successful



high school careers and wish them well for college. This year more than ever, when we have not been able to welcome visitors into the school at all, it will be a blessing to get to see our former students!

Enrollment for next year is now well underway and we welcome parishioner applications. As a parent of two St. Mark's graduates, I can attest to the formation and nurturing my children received through being at St. Mark's for school and church—it truly becomes their home away from home. As of this writing we still have openings in all grades, but some are getting full. We are glad to be able to offer financial aid to make St. Mark's affordable for as many families as possible, and parishioners do receive priority in the financial aid process. We are happy to arrange tours at any time that is convenient for you—just give us a call!

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

April 4

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Reginald H. & Hallie Ward Hargrove, Ada & Kemerton Dean, Joseph L. Hargrove, Martha Dean Hargrove Glassell, Nancy Katherine Green Hargrove, Evelyn Monroe McCraw, and R. Clyde Hargrove, II.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sanders & Alice Fowler, Robert Ward Fowler & Bonnie Perloff Fowler.

April 11

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Thomas Chapman, Mr. & Mrs. Emil Henry Herzog, Ward Lay, III and Chapman Carter Lay.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr George Beach, Sara Schneider Botkin, Frederick Hall Schneider, Jr, Sara Ann Schneider Mott, Joseph M. Mott, Frederick Hall Schneider III, Frederick Miller Carmody and Anthony Phelan Carmody.

April 18

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of J Pat Beaird, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. J. Pat Beaird, Kathryn Mehaffy Dixon and Judge Pat Mehaffy.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ben Vitale and Mr. & Mrs. Travis Westmoreland.

April 25

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. William H. Barnwell, II.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bobbie C. Lyons.

BIRTHS

Maisie Grace Gillen, on March 9, 2021. Parents are **Allie & Gif Gillen**. Big brothers are **Ford & Leo Gillen**. Grandparents are **Sherry & Dale Anderson**. Great Grandmother is **Chris Stoll**.

Celia Grace Groth, on March 2, 2021. Parents are **Madeleine & Jacob Groth**. Grandparents are **Sarah & Andrew Porter**.

DEATHS

Rest Eternal grant to them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

James Cronan Egan, on February 26, 2021.

Nellie Sullivan Watson, mother of **Terri Nelson**, on March 6, 2021.

Zoe McCombs on March 27, 2021.

May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Expectant Moms of St. Mark's



If you are or know anyone who is expecting a child our committee is up and running and is looking for mommies to be. Please contact us at bess@stmarkscathedral.net or sign up on our website under family ministries. We hope to welcome mothers into our community. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

If you are going through a difficult time...

...one of the Stephen Ministers from St. Mark's may be able to help. Stephen Ministers are laypersons who have received special training to listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support for persons who are facing a crisis or going through tough times. After all, there are many difficulties and transitions in this life! Why not give yourself the gift of a Stephen Minister who can accompany you on part of your journey?! The care you receive is confidential, free and very helpful. For more information, contact The Rev. Dr. Rowena White at her email: Rowena@stmarkscathedral.net.



St. Mark's Physical Training
Monday-Friday 5:30 am at the Cathedral

meets at 5:30 a.m. every weekday morning in the field across from the parking lot.

Lost Anything at Church?

Or maybe you're just missing some item and have no idea where it might have gone. Drop by or call the church office and check into our lost and found! We have everything from sunglasses to scarves to cell phones to jewelry (including some very nice pieces.) Check and see what you're missing!



Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

Bill Kalmbach, Senior Warden – Lisa Love, Junior Warden – Murray Viser, Treasurer – John Reeks, Chancellor

2021	2022	2023	2024
Marilyn Kirkland	Ellen Alley	Ellen Erwin	Clarence Babineaux
Lisa Love	Mike Ameen	Joe Jayroe	Rebecca Bryant
Cody Mayo	Oliver Jenkins	Josh Knicely	Patrick Caraway
William Weaver	Brad Massad	Theresa Meldrum	Mark Sealy
Bud Westmoreland	Emily Merkle	Joy Ratcliff	Lynn Yancey

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby
(Bishop of Western Louisiana)
bishopjake@epiwl.org

The Very Rev. Alston Johnson
(Dean)
abjohnson@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Thomas Nsubuga
(Sub-Dean)
thomas@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Dr. Rowena White
(Canon)
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The Rev. Dr. Wayne Carter
(Associate Clergy)
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The Rev. Drew Christiansen (Curate)
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Bryan T. Mitnaul
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Jennifer Beruvides (Coordinator for
Events and Hands-on Outreach Ministry)
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Cynthia Anderson (Receptionist)
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Beth Reeks
(Minister for Pre-K Children's Programs)
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