

# EVANGELIST

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MARCH 2021

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#### Dear Friends,

As the vaccine begins to be administered more widely, we give thanks that more and more of our parishioners will begin living with greater safety. We all owe a debt of thanks to those working in healthcare who have born the brunt of this virus, many of whom have worked, hoped, and prayed others through this difficult time. We give thanks for those who have been cured, and our heartfelt sympathies are with those who have lost friends and family. "Let light perpetual shine

upon them . . . "



Rev. Alston B. Johnson alston@stmarkscathedral.net

Beginning March 7th at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall we will host our Inquirers and Confirmation class; something in the past that I have called Episcopal Church 101. This gathering is for anyone interested in being confirmed by Bishop Owensby in the Spring, or who is interested in refreshing their own understanding of the Episcopal Church. The topics we will cover will include Church History, Liturgical Worship, the Bible,

Church Teaching and Theology, Spirituality, Church Organization, and the Mission of the Church. We have books on order, *Welcome to the Episcopal Church: An Introduction to Its History, Faith, and Worship*, by Christopher L. Weber. Whether you are thinking of joining the Episcopal Church, or would like to simply join others who are reviewing the tenets of our faith, please join us. Those gathering will be wearing masks and maintaining social distancing guidelines. The Parish Hall is unused during the week, so the space should be free of the potential of COVID risk by Sunday evenings. The class will be lead by Dean Johnson, Father Thomas, Father Drew, and members of lay leadership. We hope that you will join us. Please email me if you plan to attend – abjohnson@stmarkscathedral.net.

At the Annual Meeting I mentioned putting together a group called the Memorials Committee to organize a few projects for the Cathedral. That group is currently working with John Scheel with a goal of refurbishing our pews. Individuals and families are sponsoring the refurbishment of a pew. Thanks to Mary Alice Rountree we have a record of the memorial plates of prior pew sponsors which will be replaced by new plates with all dates and names. We will also add memorial plates of our current sponsors as

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## **Holy Week and Easter Services**

Maundy Thursday

Seder meal in the Parish Hall

Note that in order to maintain Covid protocols there will be no Foot Washing or Stripping of the Altar. We will need to maintain a covid-free environment in the Cathedral for the Good Friday service.

#### Good Friday

7 a.m. Solemn Collects in the Garden Room

12 noon Good Friday Liturgy in the Cathedral

#### Easter Sunday

5:30 a.m. Easter Vigil in the Courtyard

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Garden Room

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

#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

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

#### MARCH 7, 2021 The Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20 :1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1 :18-25 John 2 :13-22

#### MARCH 14, 2021 The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21 :4-9 Psalm 107 :1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2 :1-10 John 3 :14-21

#### MARCH 21, 2021 The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-13 Hebrews 5 :5-10 John 12:20-33

## MARCH 28, 2021 The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

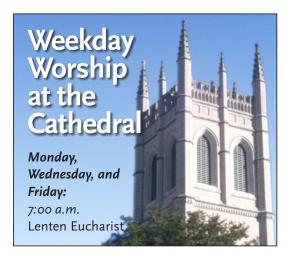
Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 15:1-39, 40-47

#### 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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well. Please be in touch with John Scheel if you are interested in participating in this project.

As we emerge from the Great Winter Storm of 2021, let us give thanks for those who answer the call to help others both in small and great ways during such a time of duress. There have been many acts of kindness during the storm that have made a great difference to those who are receiving them; let us give thanks to God that we can find ways to help one another during such times of need.

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

#### **Easter Memorials**

It is the custom at St. Mark's at Easter to invite our parish family to make a contribution to the Glory of God and in memory or honor of a



loved one. This is not only an appropriate way to honor those who have gone before us, but these gifts make it possible to decorate the Cathedral in a festive manner. If you wish to make a donation please send your check along with the name or names you wish to commemorate to **Becky Deverts** in the Cathedral office **no later than Friday, March 26**.

#### **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.

#### **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/30E044FAFAA2D6-fruit

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

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

#### St. Mark's EYC News



EYC continues to meet in person each Sunday evening. Our meeting time is 6:15-7:30, unless otherwise noted, during Phase II.

For all updates and info regarding St. Mark's EYC, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram @smceyc

Additionally, we are putting together a bi-weekly Bible Study for juniors and seniors that will meet off-site. Stay tuned for more info!

I give thanks for such a great start to a new calendar year for EYC. We have seen a handful of new faces over the past month become a part of EYC. It is such

a privilege for me to be able to see younger folks in our church come together in community and encounter God through his Word every week.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten Season and that we each take the time this Lent to spend with God in prayer and contemplation, and following his guidance in our lives.

Fr. Drew+



## The Fasting Fund — a St. Mark's Lenten Tradition

One of St. Mark's Lenten traditions is the Fasting Fund. The purpose is simple: We ask that you forgo one meal a week, and contribute a few



dollars - what you would have spent on that meal - to the fasting fund. (Of course, you can forego more than one meal a week if you wish.) The fasting fund this year goes to the Caddo Council on Aging Meals on Wheels program. Baskets are placed at the back of the chapel for the 7:00 a.m. Eucharist services and the base of the steps to the chancel for Sunday services to collect these offerings. Please consider making the Fasting Fund a part of your Lenten observance. A simple fast of one or more meals a week can teach us a lot about the temptations Jesus faced in the wilderness and our own earthly journey. Join us.

## St. Mark's Cathedral and Cathedral School...

give a big thank you to Eric and Suzanne Hammack. Eric and Suzanne started attending St. Mark's Cathedral a couple of years ago and have kids involved in the EYC ministry.

Suzanne reached out to me on the Friday of the week of our winter storm to let me know that she and her family were coordinating with others in the Shreveport area to get containers of water and hot meals to people who had run out of food or water during the storm. Through the Hammack family's hard work, several of our parishioners at St. Mark's and several of our teachers at St. Mark's School were able to receive food and water.

Suzanne will have to forgive me as she said they were not doing this for the accolades, but we are grateful that God's work is so wonderfully done through his servants. This is a true example of God's Kingdom and that God reigns in our lives through the Holy Spirit's work in us. Eric, Suzanne, and family, we give thanks for you and that God has blessed us with your work.

Fr. Drew+



#### **Lenten Daily Eucharist**

Due to COVID-19 protocols, our 7:00 a.m. Lenten Eucharists will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. They will run **through April 1**. Monday and Friday services will be in the Chapel. Wednesday will be in the Ministry Center Garden Room.

#### **Cathedral School News**

St. Mark's Cathedral School had a lot of activities this past month. The Middle School had an evening Mardi Gras celebration, a spelling bee, and an Inventor's Fair during February. At the Inventor's Fair, we had students portraying Steve Jobs, Walter Camp, Ruth Wakefield (the inventor of the



cookie), George Speck (the inventor of the potato chip), and more! They wore authentic costumes and presented tri-fold display boards full of pictures and information of the inventor that they researched.

SMCS had a fantastic Teacher's Appreciation week. We are so grateful for the SMCS Parents' Club who made our teachers feel and know how appreciated they are with all the gifts, raffles, and daily meals that were provided for teachers and staff. Also, I cannot thank enough Dr. Carter, teachers, staff, and division heads at St. Mark's. Through the continued pandemic as well as the challenges this past month brought on by weather that is abnormal for Louisiana, SMCS teachers and staff have adapted to the needs of our students. The 4th quarter of the 2020-2021 school year begins this

month. In this upcoming final quarter, I am honored to

have another group of 8th grade students who will be taking Confirmation class. I have enjoyed teaching this class since I first started at St. Mark's Cathedral before I was even serving at the school. Each year this course brings a new group of students who are listening to where God is calling them in their faith and life.

Prayers for a Holy Lent, Fr. Drew+

#### **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.

#### **MEMORIAL FLOWERS**

#### February 7

The Flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paula Minor Coleman, Rowena Cowan Minor, Genevieve Davis Younker, Edwin Carroll Minor and Joseph Francis Loftus.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of The Very Rev. William Patrick Douthitt and J. Michael Douthitt.

#### February 14

The Flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ada D'Aquin.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Edwin Earl Jones and Claude Eldred Drumm, Jr., and in celebration of the birthday of Reid Allen Jones.

#### February 21

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Brevard Clay, Mr. & Mrs. John Dunbrack Ewing and Nell Fish.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in celebration of the wedding anniversary of Susie & Scott Crichton.

#### February 28

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ray A. Barlow, Ray Allan Barlow, Jr., John Wallace Lloyd, Pauline & Bill Barlow and Nelle & Jim Aimer.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Delton Harrison.

#### **BIRTHS**

Sadler Lane Daniel, on February 1, 2021. Parents are Lila & Tyler Daniel. Grandmother is Teri Nelson.

Mary-Hallie Anne Merckle, on February 26, 2021. Parents are Emily & Chris Merckle.

#### **DEATHS**

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

Allen Hennesy, father of Ellen White, grandfather of Charlotte & Collier White, on January 30, 2021.

June Tschoy, father of Dr. Mary Kim, grandfather of David, Lauren & Ryan Kim, on February 20, 2021.

Virginia Sibley Walker, on February 20, 2021.

Kimberly Stroud, mother of James, William, Edward and Margaret Stroud, on February 26, 2021.

Harman Chandler, husband of Renae Chandler, on February 22, 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@epiwla.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)

rowena@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Dr. Wayne Carter

(Associate Clergy)

wayne@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Drew Christiansen (Curate) drew@stmarkscathedral.net

Bryan T. Mitnaul

(Canon for Cathedral Music) bryan@stmarkscathedral.net

John Scheel (Facilities Manager) john@stmarkscathedral.net

**Becky Deverts** 

(Financial Office Manager) becky@stmarkscathedral.net

Bess Maxwell

(Administrative Assistant) bess@stmarkscathedral.net

Jennifer Beruvides (Coordinator for Events and Hands-on Outreach Ministry) jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net

**Cynthia Anderson** (Receptionist) cynthia@stmarkscathedral.net

**Beth Reeks** 

(Minister for Pre-K Children's Programs) preschool.beth@gmail.com

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