

The impulse of love that leads us to the doorway of a friend is the voice of God within, and we need not be afraid to follow it . . . Prayer is not a matter of getting what we want the most. Prayer is a matter of giving ourselves to God and learning His laws, so that He can do through us what He wants the most.

— Agnes Sanford

Dear Friends,

We are living on the other side of the miracle we call Christmas, the Nativity of our Lord. I am reminded of a question that the writer Walker Percy used to ask, “How do we live, actually live through a Tuesday morning at 8:45am, on the other side of a miracle?” It is a good question; a question with which we live day-in and day-out as a people of faith. So often we save our times of real prayer and conversation with God when we are suddenly jostled into a position of fear or crisis. It is the proverbial “foxhole prayer” that rises from a person almost involuntarily, as we are suddenly reminded of our mortality and that there are truly people and places that mean more to us than life itself. Our hearts beat faster and we ask God to save us. When we find ourselves suddenly perched on the precipice of loss, we might even surprise ourselves at how well our words and hearts open to God.

The deeper invitation in life is to discover that the miracle is also real on that Tuesday morning. It is real when some of us creak out of bed early in the morning; something of a miracle in itself. It is real when we find that warmth and friendship can exist on the other side of a long-held bitterness. We find that the miracle is real when we discover a small candle of love and hope continues to burn in our hearts and minds when life and the world may have coaxed us aside with cynicism and skepticism. It is real when we raise our hearts and minds with the light of Christ; the very thing we



celebrate during Epiphany.

The message from God at the manger, and on the mountaintop, is that his presence is with us at all times and in all places; even in the midst of something so pedestrian as a stall, a barn, a milking pail, and an armful of hay to make the Son of God comfortable in this world. If God's own son can be born in such a place, certainly God's own presence can be with us in the garage, at the office, in the grocery store, at school, and within an armful of laundry carried from the dryer to the couch. We already live in a world haunted by God; we are visitors in God's own reality. The season of Epiphany celebrates our catching a glimpse of God in the life of Jesus Christ; for a moment we beheld that presence clearly and without distraction.

There is no other life that we will be given through which to know God; we are now living in the days and seasons through which God intends us to be found and loved by him. The power of Christmas and Epiphany is that we can know God in these days, we can know God now, and we have the opportunity to have our lives consecrated on Sundays, today, and on that frightful Tuesday morning when the

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To love and serve Christ. To love and serve one another in Christ. To love and serve the world for Christ.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am, 10:30 am, & 6:00 pm
Sunday Holy Eucharist

JANUARY 2, 2022

The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Jeremiah 31 :7-14 Ephesians 1 :3-6, 15-19a
Psalm 84 :1-8 Matthew 2 :13-15, 19-23

JANUARY 9, 2022

*The First Sunday after the Epiphany:
The Baptism of Our Lord*

Isaiah 43 :1-7 Acts 8 :14-17
Psalm 29 Luke 3 :15-17, 21-22

JANUARY 16, 2022

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5 1 Corinthians 12 :1-11
Psalm 36:5-10 John 2:1-11

JANUARY 23, 2022

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Psalm 19 Luke 4:14-21

JANUARY 30, 2022

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Psalm 71:1-6 Luke 4:21-30

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message of the Gospel seems to have gone out to sea, leaving us behind with the laundry and the dishwasher. Christ has come to be our light. A light in the darkness that we know too well; a light for which we hunger, and that we hope will haunt our own lives. Jesus has come so that we might see our way in the darkness and find our way to the place He abides.

*Blessings and Godspeed,
Alston Johnson, Dean*

St. Mark's Cathedral Annual Meeting January 30, 2022

Immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service

Parish Hall

Annual reports will be given and Vestry elections will be held and lunch will be served.

Everybody come!

Vestry Slate Announced

Pursuant to the by-laws of St. Mark's Cathedral the Nominating Committee has nominated the following persons to be elected at the Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022 to serve four year terms on the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral:

Karen Hardtner
Chad Hill
Claire Rebouche

Jason Waltman
Warren West

The following members are rotating off the Vestry this year and will be honored for their service:

Marilyn Kirkland
Cody Mayo

William Weaver
Bud Westmoreland

Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

Wednesdays

7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Chapel

Fridays 5:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist
Chapel
(The 5:30 service is an option for those who cannot attend Sunday worship.)



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."

Cathedral School News

by Dr. Chris Carter, Headmaster
ccarter@smc.school

Our first Family Chapel back from Christmas vacation will take place on the Feast of the Epiphany, which we will mark with our third School Eucharist of the year. This will be the first school Eucharist for our 1st graders, who just started joining the rest of the Lower and Middle Schools for Chapel in Advent. Parishioners are always welcome to join us for Eucharists!

January marks increased activity for our Admissions office at St. Mark's. Enrollment contracts to all current students and



siblings of current students are offered this month. In February, we will offer contracts to new families. If you would like to learn about your Cathedral school or have a tour, please call our office to speak with me or Admissions Director Caroline Andress. We are very likely to fill all two and three-year old spaces quite quickly so now is the time to think about applying. If you have friends or family who might be interested in learning about the school for next year, encourage them to call 221-7454.

We also have an Open House scheduled for January 25 and welcome all visitors!

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

January 2

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dorothy & Bill Wene Smith and Kendall Ann Smith.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of the St. Mark's Cathedral Clergy.

January 9

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the Friend Family, the Woodard Family, Mr. & Mrs. C.S. Dean, Sr., and Mike Dean.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Winn Simonton, Jimmy Cowles, Lily Cowles, Mary Campbell, Mamie Hightower and Tad Hightower on their birthdays.

January 16

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of George Kayser Kneip on the anniversary of his homecoming.

January 23

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Carolyn Querbes Nelson, Nell and George Nelson, and Katherine and Justin Querbes.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. H. Murphy and Martha Yearwood, Ginny Barkley Hollingsworth and Brooks Yearwood and Bonnie Yearwood.

January 30

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Frank John (Jack) Reeks, Sr.

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

WEDDINGS

Those whom God has joined together, let no one put asunder.

Kamryn Leeper & Kyle Simpson, on December 11, 2021.

BAPTISMS

William Dodge McCraw, son of Emma & Gray McCraw, on November 7, 2021.

Timothy Minor Coleman, son of Ashley & Lincoln Coleman, on December 18, 2021.

Andrew Carter Chumley, son of Mary-Caroline & Harlan Chumley, on December 18, 2021.

Eve Fowler Tietjen Skrivanos, daughter of Claire Skrivanos & Elizabeth Tietjen, on December 22, 2021.

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. Amen.

DEATHS

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

Kathryn Prestridge, on December 5, 2021.

Carolyn Sheridan, on December 8, 2021.

Claire Stansberry, mother of Laurie Bijou, on December 8, 2021.

Becky Broyles Crews, sister of Edie Williams, on December 12, 2021.

Blanquita Collins, December 20, 2021.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January 1

Carson Jones

2

Michele Hardtner

3

Helen Herzog

Anne Mitchell

John Godwin

John Paul Grigsby

Claude Lockhart

Faye Aaron

4

Melanie Thomas

Andrea Giacalone

Mary O'Brien

Sean Stott

Mae Smitherman

Nickolas Gore

5

Curt McClure

Charlotte Walter

Sunni Burgess

Jennifer Jones

Erin Dicharry

6

Marti Westmoreland

Shirleen McKay

Julia Ameen

7

Eron Brainard

Caroline Turnage

8

Bevelyn Shotts

Robert Johnson

Alice Jones

9

Jack Carlisle

Beth Cantrell

Holly Marshall

Brady Howard

Madeline Crawford

10

Yulonda Mayo

Mary Katherine Clark

Ben Hodges

Teddy McMurry

Emile Jackson

11

Alden Woods

12

Sherry Martin

Reilly Weber

Gus Lea

Mobley Carnie

Camille Lofton

13

Jennifer Varnadore

14

John David Stewart

Andy Hodges

Tim Brown

Derek Holtsclaw

Derrick Meador

Lillian Comegys

Sloan Hall

Gardner McInnis

Maisey McInnis

15

Henry McMurry

16

Nancy Mobley

Katie Mitchell

Drew Larremore

Corinne Peterson

17

Pat Turnage

Had Bylsma

Brady Thompson

18

Carol Gamble

Rick Fisher

19

Sherry Batchelor

Gloria Haynes

Katherine Van Hook

20

Christy Porter

Mary Margaret Thomas

Julian Weaver

21

Donna McGaunn

George Plaxco

Claire Rebouche

Paris Marsalis

Mary Catherine Kneip

22

Emily Pressly

Theresa Johnson

John Godfrey

24

Sara Herrington

Briggs Mobley

25

Lissa Grounsell

Gary Love

Kelly Crawford

Evan LeBleu

Jett Trudeau

26

Theresa Meldrum

Beth Ann Holmes

Renee Deupree

Robin Quinn

27

Jackie Cooper

Susu Jones

Dru Florsheim

Blain Coady

28

Henry Coutret

Merritt Chastain

Foster Gavin

29

Kelly Larremore

Katherine Russo

Julian Weber

30

Rachel Stari

Connor Peterson

Isabella Foster

Catherine Schoonover

31

Cindy Millen

Henry Byrd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



"LET THE CHILDREN COME"
MATTHEW 19:14

9:30 – 12:30 pm Nursery (newborn to K3 - 3 years old by September 30)
First floor of Parish building next to Catechesis Atriums

9:30– 10:30 am Sunday school (4th – 5th grade)
Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

9:30 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
First floor of Parish Building- Rooms 105 & 106
Level I Atrium (K-3 – Kindergarten)
Level II Atrium (1st-3rd grade)

10:30 am Children's Chapel (1st – 5th grade)
Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

Adult Christian Formation

9:30 a.m.

Sunday Lectionary study

Ministry Center Garden Room

The Boys and Girls Choir at St. Mark's Cathedral



Free professional music education!

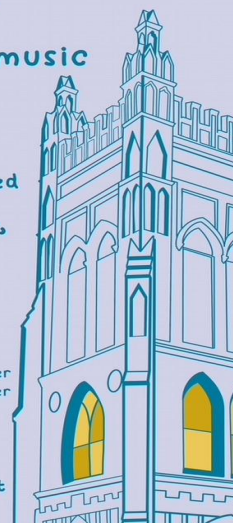
Open to ages 7-14, no religious affiliation required

**Rehearsals: Wednesdays,
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.**

Family Dinner Provided

Derrick Meador, Choirmaster
Leslye Gilchrist, Assistant Choirmaster
Theresa Johnson, Assistant Choirmaster

Want to know more?
Contact Derrick Meador
derrick@stmarkscathedral.net



Parents Book Club & Discussion Group

Beginning Thursday, January 13th Dean Johnson and Ellen Erwin will be facilitating a parents book-club/discussion group focused upon the work of Wendy Mogel PhD., and her book *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee: Raising Self-Reliant Children*. Some attributes of good parenting are inherited; others may be learned from those who perhaps have more experience. The work and journey of Wendy Mogel has been both helpful and inspirational for many through the years. She is both a child psychologist and a spiritual seeker. Her advice, and the sharing of her spiritual journey, are both accessible and inspirational. While she gives voice to discovering her Jewish identity, it is in such a way that anyone seeking God might be inspired in their own journey. Below is the back cover leaf.

In the trenches of a typical day, every parent encounters a child afflicted with ingratitude and entitlement. Parents want so badly to raise self-disciplined, appreciative, and resourceful children who are not spoiled. But how to accomplish this feat? The answer has eluded the best-intentioned individuals who overprotect, overindulge, and overschedule their children's lives. Sharing stories of everyday parenting problems and examining them through the lens of the Torah, the Talmud, and important Jewish teachings, *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* shows parents how to teach children to honor and respect others. Parents will learn to accept that their children are both ordinary and unique, and treasure the power and holiness of the present. Mogel makes these teachings relevant for any era, and any household of any faith. A unique parenting book, *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* is both inspiring and effective in the day-to-day challenge of raising self-reliant children.

If you would like to join this group – buy the book, and either begin reading or listening to it now. We will cover one chapter per week; and our focus will be upon discussion, questions, mutual support, and we will close with prayer. Dean Johnson will assume that you have read the chapter before we gather. Depending upon the size of the group, we will either meet in the Cathedral Parlor, or The Garden Room, following Family Chapel on Thursdays.

RSVP your interest: ellen.erwin1@gmail.com

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will reconvene on **Wednesdays at**

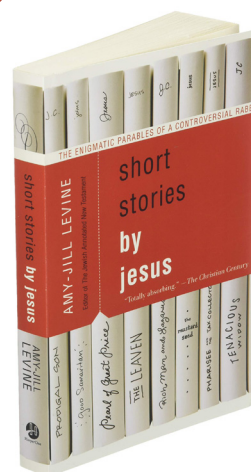
10:30 am starting November 3. We will gather in room 101 of the Ministry Center for coffee and conversation around the upcoming Sunday's lectionary readings. Please contact **Mother Beth** if you are interested or if you have questions (beth@stmarkscathedral.net).



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

STMPPT (St. Mark's Physical Training)

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



Friends of Faith

The Friends of Faith group is meeting again! All ladies are welcome to join us every third Wednesday of the month. We meet from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

in the Parlor. This year, we are reading *Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi* by Amy-Jill Levine. Even if you don't get a chance to read, come join us for fellowship, discussion, and prayer. If you have questions, e-mail **Jorie O'Brien** (jorieobrien@gmail.com) or **Lauren Thibodeaux** (thiblauren@gmail.com).



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!

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.



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)
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The Rev. Dr. Rowena White
(Canon)
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The Rev. Deacon Beth Hendrix (Curate)
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Derrick Meador
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John Scheel (Facilities Manager)
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Events and Hands-on Outreach Ministry)
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Beth Reeks
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Lisa Bingham
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