

Finding the Deeper Sources of Our Faith

"The people who hanged Christ never, to do them justice, accused him of being a bore - on the contrary, they thought him too dynamic to be safe. It has been left for later generations to muffle up that shattering personality and surround him with an atmosphere of tedium. We have efficiently pared the claws of the Lion of Judah, certified him "meek and mild" and recommended him as a fitting household pet for pale curates and pious old ladies."

— Dorothy L. Sayers, *Letters to a Diminished Church: Passionate Arguments for the Relevance of Christian Doctrine*



Rev. Alston B. Johnson
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I have been on the trail looking for God for the better part of my life, and rarely have I found such good companions as CS Lewis, Tolkien, Dorothy Sayers, George MacDonald, Chesterton, Barfield, and Charles Williams. Every few years I find myself covered up in their writing in the spirit of taking a kind of retreat. As a young Christian I found that there was something upon which I could take hold in their thoughts

and experiences of Christ. They were also individuals who sought Christ in the midst of the rising tide of secularism within England. Rather than turn and hide within the deep folds of Christian history, these writers brought their faith into the public square, onto the radio, engaging with detractors, skeptics, and the merely curious. In most cases they paid the price of being isolated and misunderstood by their peers, or thought a bit "weak in the head" by those critical of a life shaped by Christ.

I find that most of us face a season in life when we are invited to find the deeper sources of our faith; this is true in the season of Lent, when we "repent and return to the Lord." For



Drs. Crystal and David Downing

our prayers and worship of God to continue growing we will have to take a "deep dive" into ourselves, allowing ourselves to be led into the greater presence of God by taking the hand of others. This is essentially what Jesus did for the disciples, and this is what followers of Jesus have done ever since. Without a doubt my own life with Christ has sometimes become simply a case of asking, "What would Jesus do here? What would Paul do here? What would Lewis, Tolkien, Chesterton, or Sayers do here?" I believe these writers came to understand that they were laying a path for the benefit of others in the midst of their work. And I give thanks to God that rather than turn away from their inspired vocation they continued to push forward so that so many through the generations might find themselves more deeply in God's presence.

March 17-19, St. Mark's will host **Drs. Crystal and David Downing** who are the current directors of the Marion E. Wade Center of Wheaton College. The Wade Center is known around the world for the work and study they promote of the seven

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

MARCH 5, 2023

The Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 12:1-16

John 3:1-17

MARCH 12, 2023

The Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

MARCH 19, 2023

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

MARCH 26, 2023

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

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authors I mentioned above. The Downings are authorities in the literature of these writers, with Crystal's specialty being in the work of Dorothy Sayers, and David's in the work of Lewis. Years ago I read David Downing's wonderful book about CS Lewis and Christian mysticism, *Into The Region of Awe: Mysticism in CS Lewis*. From the outset of my own journey I have been lead forward by the Christian mystics – folks like Walter Hilton, Julian or Norwich, Thomas Traherne, and others. David's book peels back the layers of Lewis's own discovery of their insight and wisdom. From the publisher's summary:

CS Lewis is generally thought of as a commonsense Christian, one who offers theology that is understandable and morality that is practical. And yet, when writing about Narnia to a class of fifth graders who asked if it were possible to visit Aslan's country, Lewis replied that the only way he knew of was through death but then added this curious qualifier: "Perhaps some very good people get just a tiny glimpse before then."

Please plan to join us on Friday evening at 7:00pm, and then again on Saturday for morning and afternoon presentations (at 10:30 and 1:30) followed by Dr. Crystal Downing joining us as guest preacher on Sunday, March 19th. Details of their visit to St. Mark's will be forthcoming.

*Blessings and Godspeed,
Alston*



Were You Married at St. Mark's?

If so, would you like to be part of St. Mark's pictorial wedding history?

St. Mark's Cathedral maintains a beautiful Wedding Album of all the couples who were married in the Cathedral since the 50's. There is a full 12 x 12 page reserved for each bride and groom. If you would like to be a part of this fun tradition, please provide us a picture (color or black and white) of your choice no bigger than an 8" x 10". If you would like to see examples of the type of pictures that have been submitted, please visit the Cathedral's parlor where the albums are on display.

WAYS TO SUBMIT YOUR WEDDING PHOTO:

1. Submit a digital photo (color or black and white, preferably a jpeg or pdf) which can be printed, by emailing gdamlouji@gmail.com.
2. Drop your wedding photo off at the church's office to the attention of Mary Alice Rountree or Gerry Damlouji.

Whichever means you decide to provide your wedding picture, please be sure to include the bride and groom's full name and date married with your picture

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Alice Rountree at 318-464-8004 or Gerry Damlouji at 318-820-9012.

Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

Wednesday 7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Chapel

**Monday-Friday
in Lent** (begins Feb. 23)
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.)



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

Music & Worship



Let me introduce ... 5 Loaves and 2 Fish!

By Jennifer Beruvides

I recently visited this Christian based ministry and was very impressed! They serve Shreveport with multiple ministries: food bank, diaper bank, bible studies, life learning classes, weekend conferences, and summer camps. ALL events and ministries are based and centered around Christian teachings and values. **St. Mark's will be helping with a diaper drive for the month of MARCH.** Please bring any size/quantity diapers to the church office. Volunteers are also needed a few times a month to pack food boxes and distribute food. You can visit their [website 5loaves-2fish.life](http://www.5loaves-2fish.life) for more information on what they do and who they are. If you would like to contribute monetarily contact **Jennifer Beruvides** at jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net.

COME SING WITH US!

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

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



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!



Organ Recital

Aaron D. Wilson, organ
*from the Cathedral of
St. John Berchmans, Shreveport*

**Sunday,
March 5, 2023
4:30 p.m.**

*followed by Choral Evensong
at 5:00 p.m.*

**St. Mark's Cathedral
908 Rutherford St.**

The Fasting Fund 2023 Recipient – Jewell House

It's a well-known tradition for Christians to give up something as part of a Lenten discipline. At St. Mark's, a Lenten tradition for almost 20 years has been The Fasting Fund. As part of our Lenten observance, parishioners are asked to forego one or two meals a week and put the average cost of the missed meals in one of the wicker baskets placed beside the steps leading to the Chancel and altar rail or on the small table in the back of the chapel. These small offerings are collected throughout Lent and given to a charitable organization serving people in need, the hungry, impoverished, children, senior citizens or persons with special needs.

This year, the St. Mark's Community Ministries committee unanimously voted to designate the nonprofit Youth Outreach Services program Jewell House for the 2023 Lenten Fasting Fund receipts. A transitional living facility for homeless girls ages 13 – 21, Jewell House is located only blocks from St. Mark's and we have been a partner in this ministry since its inception in 2008. Jewell House was the first shelter in north Louisiana designed specifically to serve homeless girls and remains the only one to provide shelter beyond 21 days. From its inception, Youth Outreach Services has had a consistent record of success. Jewell House residents are required to attend school, job training or work. Staffed by licensed social workers working in three eight-hour shifts per day, Jewell House is licensed by the Department of Child and Family Services and coordinates a range of essential wraparound services, including case management, educational assistance, life skills training and counseling.



Our relationship is long standing. St. Mark's contributed to efforts to renovate a house on Dalzell Street donated for this purpose to establish this critically needed facility. Our beloved parishioner I.V. Hastings led efforts four years ago to develop corporate support and private donations for much needed roof repairs and grounds improvements for Jewell House. He remained a staunch supporter of this ministry for the rest of his life. In the recent Memorial Eucharist for I.V., at his request, the family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to St. Mark's Cathedral or Youth Outreach Services for Jewell House. Jewell House residents, former residents and staff members attended his memorial service to show their love and appreciation for I.V. and his efforts.

Almost every year, a Jewell House resident graduates from high school with distinction and is enrolled in college with scholarships and academic assistance developed with the assistance of Youth Outreach Services staff.

In December 2022, a Jewell House alumni graduated from Louisiana State University-BR with honors and is considering entering graduate school.

We hope that you will make the Fasting Fund part of your Lenten tradition this year. Please consider contributing the cost of a modest meal in one of the wicker baskets on Sundays or weekday 7:00 a.m. Lenten Eucharists in the Chapel. As Dean Alston Johnson said in his eulogy for I.V. Hastings and his legacy, "the business of Jewell House is saving lives."

St. Mark's Cathedral 2023 Lenten Program

There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes at St. Mark's. Most of this goes unnoticed and yet greatly appreciated by both the providers and the receivers. This Lenten Season we are pleased to share with you some of these ministries by bringing you some of the people behind them. They will be sharing with us what these ministries have meant to them and why they continue to do what they do. Please join us every Wednesday at 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall for the Evening Prayer and supper to hear and celebrate our ministries.

March 1, 2023 EfM (Alumni) / RBL (Pat Viser / Pamela Peak)

March 8, 2023 Choir / Youth (Derrick Meador / Sarah Wilkes)

**March 15, 2023 Altar Guild / Acolyte
(Rebecca Bryant / Jacques Lasseigne)**

March 22, 2023 Stephen Ministry / Spiritual Direction (Rowena)

**March 29, 2023 Community Ministries / Cooking Crew
(Candace Higginbotham / Jennifer Beruvides)**

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

March 5

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of James Buchanan Haynes, Jr., Katherine Haynes Sales, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Kennedy DeFrance, Mr. & Mrs. James Buchanan Haynes, Mr. Albert Kennedy DeFrance, Jr., and Nell Davidge Haynes.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Edward Raymond Morgan, Catherine Tucker Morgan, Herbert Tucker Morgan, and John Hayden Morgan.

March 12

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara Lanier Allison, Raymond Stewart Allison and Elizabeth Wiggins Lloyd.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Wayne and Belinda Chuck.

March 19

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Uhle Goodman, Edith Caskey Goodman, Uhle Slater Goodman, Knox Williams McGuffin, Burford McGuffin, David Burford McGuffin, and Daniel W. Deupree, III.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Emily and Tandy Lewis, Sr.

March 26

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gilbert Reagan Shanley, Jr.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is 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.

WEDDINGS

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

Frank Tindall & Caroline Long on February 4, 2023.

DEATHS

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

Lois Montelepre, mother of **John Montelepre** and **Bette Powell**, grandmother of **John Montelepre, III**, **Morgan MacIntire** and **Christina Powell**, on January 26, 2023.

Louis Rabalais, Jr., father of **Louis Rabalais, III** and **Andrea Petrosh**, on January 31, 2023.

Beth Harist Renda, mother of **David Renda**, grandmother of **Frances & Katherine Renda**, on February 5, 2023.

Richard Davis McDougal, husband of **Julia McDougal**, brother-in-law of **Carol Peterson**, on February 7, 2023.

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

BAPTISMS

Ruby Marie Hargrove, daughter of **Kelly & Billy Hargrove**, on February 12, 2023.

Samuel Dez Hill & Emily Virginia Hill, son & daughter of **Bridget & Gordon Hill**, on February 4, 2023.

Rowena Elizabeth Homes, daughter of **Catherine & Benjamin Homes** on February 17, 2023

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

BIRTHS

Benjamin Robert Love, on February 3, 2023. Parents are **Kate & Austin Love**. Big brother is **William Love**. Grandparents are **Lisa & Gary Love**.

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.



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.



St. Mark's Physical Training
Monday-Friday 5:30 am at the Cathedral
 meets every weekday morning in the field
 across from the parking lot.



Making God Proud *By Cody Mayo*

There was a young father who had three young sons. And at his birthday celebration his three young boys came to him one after another.

The oldest son said, "Dad I love you with all my heart. I owe everything to you." Knowing that his dad provided every material thing he had or used, he said to his father, "I cannot give you anything that you have not given me. Everything I have came from you. I am helpless to make a gift to you that you did not give to me. I love you, dad." The dad received no gift from the first son but love and appreciation. The dad hugged and loved his son without reservation.

The second son said, "Dad you have been so good to me and I owe you everything. Everything I have came from you. I cannot repay you. So on this your birthday, I give to you all my toys. Every toy I have, even the most fun ones." And the father loved his son but gave back all the toys the son had given him, which he had given to the son before. The dad did not want the toys. He gave them to his son in love in the first place. Again, the dad hugged and loved his son without reservation.

Then the third and youngest son came to his dad and said, "Daddy, you have been so good to me and I owe you everything. Everything I have came from you. I cannot repay you. You gave me all of my toys because you wanted me to have them. I know you don't want them back, because if you wanted them you would not have given them to me in the beginning. So Dad, I colored a picture of you, mom and my brothers." And the son gave his dad a drawing, made with crayons on a shabby piece of paper, of the son's best rendition of the family in basically stick figures. And the dad shed big tears of joy. He hugged him and loved him without reservation.

And later he had the stick figure drawing framed and put it on his desk at work for all to see.

Jesus defined our relationship with God. "Our father who art in heaven..." God is our heavenly father. I believe Jesus used this description to show us what our relationship is with God. He did not

say, "Our God who art in heaven..." or "Our Creator who art in heaven." No. He said pray like this: "Our father." Sometimes it is not easy to fully grasp the relationship of father to child to be our relationship to God.

Defining our relationship with God as father and child helps us look to our relationships with our parents. With God's blessing as we reach adulthood we become both a parent and a child.

The love of a parent for a child is nearly unmatched in human experience, even more than the love of a child for a parent.

The birthday father loved all three of his boys equally. His love was not conditioned upon what they gave him. God loves us the same way without condition or reservation.

We all know what it is like to bring joy to our parents. Those of us with children know that a child can be the source of the greatest joy. We have all displeased or disappointed our parents. All parents know well that a child can be disappointing, let them down or displease.

Every parent savors the moments when their child does something to make them proud and bring them joy. A gift, phone call, letter, good grades, graduating from school, career achievement, or becoming a good parent, are just a few things that bring joy to a parent. Like the birthday father with the crayon drawing on his desk. No one else could have given that to him and it brought him joy and he wanted to share it with others.

For me, I do not want to displease, disappoint or let my Father God down. However, just going through life trying not to do anything wrong is not enough. Some children want to please their parents more than others. Some children want to do things that bring joy and pride to their parents. When I was a child I wanted to do things that made my parents happy, that pleased them, that brought them joy. As an adult I want the same for my Father God. I want to live my life and do the things that I hope are pleasing to God and bring him joy.

Children's Christian Formation

Nursery (newborn to K3 - 3 years old by September 30th)

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 pm

First floor of Parish building next to Catechesis Atriums

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)

9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday school (4th – 5th grade)

Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday school (6th-8th grade)

Ministry Center Youth Lounge

9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday school (9th-12th grade)

Ministry Center Youth Room



Adult Christian Formation

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Phillip Yancey's *Vanishing Grace*

Ministry Center Garden Room

9:30 a.m. *The Last Days of Jesus*

Library

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 31.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MARCH 1

Patsy Stroud
Scott Fritze

2

John Hyatt
Lee Grigsby
Taylor Weir
Johnette Huguley

3

Wade Culbertson
Christopher Marsalis
Ava Burch
Emily Merckle
Mae Horn
Leah Nansubuga

4

Cherie Sealy
Judy Werner
Phil Lattier
Jane Thomas
Robert Russell
Cook Douthitt

5

Ted Hardtner
Scott Grayson
Matt Snyder
Mimi Hedgcock
Rowena White

6

Nicholas Pavlick
Mary Brown
Bay Moss
Michael Melerine

7

Susan Young
Trisha Q=Petersen

8

Austin Rhodes

9

Jason Nelson
Mark Florsheim
Marissa Hill
Maisie Gillen

10

Bob McVie
Joshua Knicely
Matt Coady

11

Ben Walker

12

Robinson Humphrey
Harriet Evans
John Ewing

13

Mary Baldridge

Sherry Anderson

Claire Williams
Dorothy Shemwell
John Irion

14

Nan Stewart
Alec Van Hook
David Newtown
Ty Alley
Caroline Bartle
Catherine Guidry

15

Michelle Williams
Don Walter
Sam Johnson
Victoria Culbertson
Ella Horne

16

Reiley Arnold
Cameron Jones

17

Kit Cooper
Stephen Koruna

18

Doug Rountree
Nicole Tiedge

19

Roxanne Williams

20

Stacie Henagan
Lisa Herrington

21

Grayson Clarke
Sadie Aaron

22

Patrick Bicknell
Sherry Paschall
Jason Thomas
Christie Schimpf
Annelies Harrison
Cathy Tran

23

John Baxter Atkins
Chris Stoll
Anna Watt
McCord Coleman
Ashton Hamm

24

Dewey Corley
Mike Harter
Jim Himes
Jack Brown
Katherine Baker

25

Pete Treat
Olivia Buttermann

26

Robert Grand
Alison Byrd
Lisa Nelson
Frazier Horn

27

Pat Caraway
Rebecca D'Anna
Linda Vozzella
Suzy Nelson
Jon-Christian Stewart
Susan Roberts
Chase Henagan
Mary Megan Sealy

28

Gil Lawton
Priscilla Trenado

29

Tina Short
Alexandra Vozzella

30

Sophie Q=Petersen

31

Christina Stage
Art Carter
Erin Holley
Christina Powell

Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

Bill Kalmbach, Senior Warden – Lisa Love, Junior Warden – Patrick Caraway, Treasurer – John Reeks, Chancellor

2023	2024	2025	2026
Ellen Erwin	Clarence Babineaux	Karen Hardtner	David Drummond
Joe Jayroe	Rebecca Bryant	Chad Hill	Paul Guidry
Josh Knicely	Patrick Caraway	Claire Rebouche	Val Irion
Theresa Meldrum	Mark Sealy	Jason Waltman	Reid Jones
Joy Ratcliff	Lynn Yancey	Warren West	John Turnage

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The Very Rev. Alston Johnson
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The Rev. Thomas Nsubuga
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The Rev. Dr. Rowena White
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The Rev. Paul Martin (Priest Associate)
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