



ST. MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

THE FOUNDATION

DECEMBER 2023

Youth and Children's Ministry Newsletter

FROM THE YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S DESK...

December is here! We had a great November full of fun activities. We shared Friendsgiving with EYC from St. Paul's, made blessing bags, created beautiful advent wreaths, and had our last Club 345 for the year. There were lots of opportunities for growing in our love for Christ and our service for others.

There are so many activities coming up in December and January. Make sure to use the Dates to Remember in this newsletter to mark your calendar.

Please continue to pray for our youth and adults that are preparing to travel to Honduras in March. They are praying and preparing for this journey that Christ has set before them. The next fundraiser for the trip is Parents Night Out December 15. Contact Amy in the church office to register.

Confirmation classes for youth begin January 7. Sign up by clicking the youth confirmation link at www.stmarkscathedral.net

SAVE THE DATES

Communion Celebration Workshop

(1st-3rd grade) April 13

Communion Celebration

(1st-3rd grade) April 14 10:30 service

Youth Sunday/Senior Recognition

May 12 10:30 service

Confirmation

May 19 10:30 Service

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Please pray for our Honduras Mission Team as they prepare.

1. Amy Garsee
2. Ely Bulnes
3. Patrick Caraway
4. Emma Caraway
5. France Jenkins
6. Dixon Wright
7. Taylor Garsee
8. ?
9. ?
10. ?

There are still spots available on our team.

Contact Amy if interested.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 3

- EYC 5-7 in the Youth Rooms

December 10

- EYC Design Team Meeting 12pm youth rooms
- EYC @ St. Paul's - Gingerbread Houses

December 15

- Parents Night Out Fundraiser for Honduras 5:30-8:30

December 16

- Nativity Pageant Rehearsal 10am

December 17

- Nativity Pageant 10:30 service
- Lessons and Carols 4pm
- EYC Christmas Gathering 5pm

December 24 Christmas Eve

- Family Christmas Eve Service 5:30pm
 - Children's activities during service
- Traditional Service 11:00 pm

December 31

- No EYC - Happy New Years!

January 7

- Youth Confirmation class 4-5 room 101
- EYC 5-7 in the Youth Rooms

January 10

- St. Mark's Kids Club 6-7 Ministry Center

January 14

- EYC 5-7 in the Youth Rooms

January 17

- St. Mark's Kids Club 6-7 Ministry Center

January 19-21

- 1 WKND @ Camp Bethany

January 21

- Youth Confirmation class with mentors 4-5 (All Confirmands)
- EYC 5-7 in the Youth Rooms

January 24

- St. Mark's Kids Club 6-7 Ministry Center

January 28

- Pastalaya fundraiser for Honduras /Annual Meeting
- Youth Confirmation Class 4-5 Room 101
- EYC 5-7 in the Youth Rooms

January 31

- St. Mark's Kids Club

EYC spotlight

3 Questions with Caroline Bartle



School: C.E. Byrd High School

Grade: 11th

Birthday: March 14

My favorite part of EYC is sitting in the youth lounge and getting to talk to everyone while we eat dinner! It's a really great way to meet new people, and I really like reconnecting with people from middle school whom I got out of touch with over the years. **My favorite St. Mark's memory** is helping first graders with reading while I was a TA for Ms. Wallace. It was so great to see their improvements through the weeks.

Dream job: Zoology Veterinarian



Blessing Bags!



Advent Wreaths



Friendsgiving with St. Paul's





Both Youth Sunday school classes are working on Advent studies during December.

December 3
December 10
December 17



InstaChristmas

St. Mark's

KIDS CLUB

Kickoff Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Kindergarten – 5th grade
Every Wednesday from 6–7 pm in the Ministry Center

Club K2



Games



Crafts



Bible Study

Club 345

Join us for Family Dinner in the Parish Hall at 5:30pm

For more information contact Amy Garsee amy@stmarkscathedral.net or Laura Grayson Ameen laura@stmarkscathedral.net

St. Mark's Christmas Nativity Pageant

Rehearsal: Saturday, Dec 16 at 10am
Pageant: Sunday, Dec 17 during 10:30 Service

Contact amy@stmarkscathedral.net or laura@stmarkscathedral.net for more information

Scan the QR code to sign up





FINDING

Grace

IN THE TRENCHES

Advent Greetings Everyone!!

I am sitting here today thinking about Mary. I remember when we were expecting our children how overwhelming the responsibility was at times. Let's be honest...it is still quite overwhelming most of the time. As a parent there are so many choices you have to make. When should I rescue my child and when should I let them learn from their mistakes? What is worth a battle and what should I let go? What lessons and rules are important? What will they be when they grow up? What if I mess up?

Now think about Mary. I'm sure she had all of those thoughts on top of the child she was caring being the Son of God. I don't know if my response to the angel Gabriel would have been nearly as gracious as Mary's. She replied "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

She speaks further in The Song of Mary Luke 1:46-55

**"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."**

I think Mary knew that being the mother of Jesus would be difficult. I'm sure she was scared and had all of the same earthly worries that we all have, but I love that she spoke so beautifully about how her trust was in the Lord and that she knew he would give her the strength she would need for the task at hand.

I hope that as I move through this joyous season that I can rejoice in the season and not get so overwhelmed by the details. I hope that I can share the excitement and anticipation that something is coming!

During this Advent season and the Christmas season my prayer for us all is that we will all find our strength in the Lord and take a little time to bask in the joy.

**Blessings-
Amy**

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St Marks EYC