

Finding Your Room in God's Mansion



Rev. Alston B. Johnson
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From one point of view the Eucharist is always in essence the same thing – the human carrying out the divine command to ‘do this.’

— Dom Gregory Dix, 1945

Dear Friends and Families of St. Mark's,

Recently I was visiting with a new member of our congregation who is joining us from another tradition within the Church. During our visit they shared with me feeling “at home” during our services, but they also feel challenged in the midst of the liturgy. He shared a sense of “presence and purpose” within the regular weekly round of scripture, creed, prayers, confession, and eucharist/communion. He offered a few comments:

“There is so much of the Bible actually being read – no cherry-picking, no proof-texting. The passages are long and not simply used to prop up some premeditated message...”

“The prayers point to the larger human family; we don't just pray for the concerns that exist within our little circle of life. In the prayers of the people it's as though we are *called out*...”

“The Nicene Creed is something new for me...although I don't completely understand it; I am glad that others have said it for centuries. It's like I am standing on someone's shoulders to get a better footing for myself...”

“Confessing my sins on my knees in a room with others...the lights are up – no mood music playing – it's powerful...very moving for me. *Things done and left undone...Mmmph*”

“The Lord's Supper every week? I sometimes find myself drifting. If I actually listen, or read along, with the words of that long prayer – it's almost too much information. I try to pay attention but get off-track; maybe it's the repetition – every week. Maybe it's the *bigness* of it all. It's like the whole story condensed into a *gut punch*...and then God gives us pieces and

Confirmation is Coming!

Bishop Jake Owensby will be with us on
Sunday, May 19
(Pentecost Sunday)

for Confirmation. Both our adult and youth classes will be confirmed.

parts of himself...the body and blood of Jesus...”

“A gut punch?” I replied. “I like it. The eucharistic prayer – a gut punch.”

During our visit I was mostly listening, asking a few questions, but also smiling and chuckling along and finding myself delighted to share this new “view” and vision that my friend had stumbled upon. It was sort of like standing with someone the first time they see the Grand Canyon. Of course they have seen pictures and heard about the Grand Canyon; but to see it for the first time, and stand over it – that is something very different indeed.

I asked him, “Are you finding that the liturgy, the Eucharist, is a bit more protein than carbs?” He laughed and said, “Yes. Yes. That's it.”

I gave him a little advice. It's advice that was given to me a long time ago by a priest who was helping me discover how to keep weekly worship alive and “real” in my life. When that tendency to go on auto-pilot, or “tune out,” or simply get bored creeps over me.

This wise friend said, “Alston, you can't eat all of the elephant every Sunday. You may find yourself tuning out because you know that it is simply so much, perhaps too much, to take in; and so like most of us you retreat, or you imagine that it's rote and boring, and you might even begin thinking that your own thoughts are more significant than prayers, music, and actions that have been sustaining

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

MAY 5, 2024
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48 1 John 5:1-6
Psalm 98 John 15:9-17

MAY 12, 2024
The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 1 John 5:9-13
Psalm 1 John 17:6-19

MAY 19, 2024
The Day of Pentecost
Holy Eucharist and Confirmation, 10:30 am

Acts 2:1-21 Romans 8:22-27
Psalm 104:25-35, 37 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

MAY 26, 2024
Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8 Romans 8:12-17
Psalm 29 John 3:1-17



St. Mark's Spring Fling 2024



Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

Wednesday 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.)



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human beings in God's sight for two millennia...such thoughts are simply the figment of your own dim, and rather limited, imagination. Rather than retreat into your own *lands*, hiding behind your own *borders*, find one part of the elephant that you can eat. God is trying to feed you; are you living a life in which you are actually becoming hungry for him?"

It's another way of saying find that piece of the whole that you can manage; rather than retreat, find that one doorway into the mansion of Sunday worship, and be content to remain in one room, rather than trying to be in all the rooms at once. Perhaps it will open upon another room. God is living within each of those rooms and waiting for us.

And so I said to our new friend, "If you find yourself adrift within the service on Sunday, rather than try to take it all in, to size it all up, or dismiss it all too quickly, simply find a corner and neighborhood between the readings and communion within which you can settle yourself; at the beginning of the service offer a small prayer to God...*Lord, I am ready to be with you for a bit, please show me where we will sit today.* I trust that the divine hand will point in a direction – the scriptures, the creed, the prayers, the confession, the eucharist."

I am looking forward to checking in with this new friend to find out where he and our Lord have been having their time together on Sundays.

Blessings and Godspeed,
Alston Johnson



Adult Christian Formation

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. **Temperament and Prayer** —
Dean Alston Johnson
Ministry Center Garden Room

9:30 a.m. **The Six Conversations: Pathways to Connecting in an Age of Isolation and Incivility** — Fr. Thomas Nsubuga
Library

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



“LET THE CHILDREN COME”
MATTHEW 19:14

Level I Atrium (K-3 – Kindergarten)

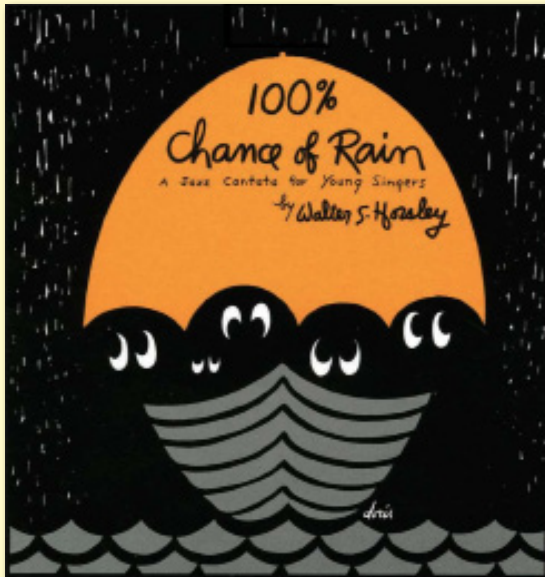
Level II Atrium (1st – 3rd grade)

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

Register Online for Music Camp!



June 10-14, 2024

100% Chance of Rain
by Walter S. Horsley

<https://stmarkscathedral.net/>

CARE (Caddo Animal Rescue Emergency) Pup of the Month



Garth is an approximately one year old German Shepherd mix who was abandoned on a Shreveport property. He is very friendly and gets along with people and other dogs but not sure about cats. We are in the process of getting him up to date on shots. Please message Rhonda if you would like to meet Garth: 318-517-9933.

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| MAY 1 Amy Brainard Tremper Williams Mary Risher Paul Guidry Evelyn Thompson | 7 Robert Hernandez Berenda Brown Clay Nelson Delton Smith Frances McMurry | 14 Gloria Tooke | Jay Crowder Kathleen Cush Gahagan Pugh | Piper Overdyke Charlotte Campbell Ollie Storer Max Storer |
| 2 Murphy Tamplin Malloy McInnis Cole Guthrie | 8 Roy Flores | 15 Kathryn Smitherman | 22 Ethan Manco | 28 Wiley Baldrige Ginny Murphy George Nelson Gerry Hammett Caroline Zimmer Beale Locke |
| 3 John Brainard Megan Campbell Kate Hernandez Connor Power | 9 Edwin Johnson Betsy Moss Leslie Steward | 16 William Allen | 23 John Zum Brunnen Leslye Gilchrist Erinah Nsubuga | 29 Janet Johnson Mary Alice Rountree Lauren Humphrey Lee Harrison Lad Shemwell Brandy Griffies |
| 4 Pat Hennessy Mary-Allen Nichols Ellis Deuepre | 10 Robert Thornton Nolan Sanderson Noah Courtman Gage Horn Sarah Johnson | 17 Linda Watts Robin LaBorde Walt James Gordon Caraway | 24 Tom Allen Christine Zimmer Andrea Labor | 30 Tom Giles Mary Wheless Carol Ann Harrison Russ Sanderson Claudia Wright |
| 5 Joseph Hargrove Quintin Hardtner Traci Hardwick Matthew McCall | 11 Ashley David Brad Nichols Van Van Norman Bill Torrans Davide Giacalone Camille Hernandez Barbara Wilson | 18 Madora Simmons Erin Latch Steve Glover | 25 Tom Colquitt Kem Hargrove Brenda Graves James Holtsclaw Austin Love Caroline Hannigan Finley McSwain | 31 John Montelepre Caroline Hall James Haynes Robin Himes Dorothy Kalmbach Wright Merckle |
| 6 Clint Harris John Mata Diane Wagner Sherri Skrivanos Joe Hernandez Leo Gillen | 12 Sandra Williamson | 19 Diane Mathis Tracy Brooks Suzie Sharp Whit Douthitt Ian Summers James Ameen | 26 Hallie Hart Thatcher Payne Lewis Coady | |
| | 13 Cissie Smith Ginny Homza | 20 Mary Ellison Sewell | 27 Kathryn Gaiennie Don Sibley Jonas Prince Lloyd Brown | |



**ST. MARK'S
WORK OUT**

Come join a group that rises early to exercise in the mornings with short runs, barbell workouts, and calisthenics.

5:30 am - 6:15 am - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Above 45 degrees - Workout outside.

Below 45 degrees - Workout in the gym.

Necessary equipment onsite.

Call Dean Johnson in the office for more information.



The Great Masterpiece Series presents
Piano Recital
David Forbat
Professor of Piano at the University of Central Oklahoma
Sunday, May 12, 2024 • 3:00 pm
**St. Mark's Cathedral
908 Rutherford St.**

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

May 5

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 celebration of the birthdays of David Yancey and Amanda Johnson.

May 12

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Betty-Lane Querbes Kayser, Raymond F. (Buddy) Kayser, Jr., Eleanor Enloe Kayser, and Andrew Querbes, Jr.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Daniel William Deupree, III, Martha Hearn Linsday, Martha Linsday Deupree, and Knox Williams McGuffin.

May 19

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Eleanor Hodge Grigsby Moreland, Frank Wright Grigsby, Francis Pollard Grigsby, Catherine Murphey Evans, and William Spearing Evans.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr and Mrs David Richard Moore

May 26

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth Robinson Fry, Emily Glassell Comegys, and Penelope Fry Richards.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Evelyn Monroe McCraw.

DEATHS

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

Russell Howard Van Norman, Jr., father of **Russ Van Norman**, grandfather of **Van, Cage & Theiler Van Norman**, on March 29, 2024.

Marge Rand on April 1, 2024.

John Peter Koellen, on April 3, 2024.

Kay Butcher, mother of **Kathryn Butcher & Susan Barnett**, sister of **Ellen Batchelor**, on April 26, 2024.

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

BAPTISMS

Kathryn Harris Eldredge, daughter of **Kathryn & Christopher Eldredge**, on April 21, 2024.

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



ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL VBS

JULY 15-19, 2024
9AM - 12 PM

4yrs old (by 8/31/23) to
rising 5th grade (grade entering in 2024 year)

All children **MUST** be potty trained.

[Click HERE to sign up](#)

For More information contact Amy in the church office. amy@stmarkscathedral.net



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

Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

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

| 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Clarence Babineaux | Karen Hardtner | David Drummond | Michael Ameen |
| Rebecca Bryant | Chad Hill | Paul Guidry | Erin Dicharry |
| Patrick Caraway | Claire Rebouche | Val Irion | Catherine Evans |
| Mark Sealy | Jason Waltman | Reid Jones | Kathryn Gaiennie |
| Lynn Yancey | Warren West | John Turnage | Stephen Kneip |

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby

(Bishop of Western Louisiana)
bishopjake@epiwl.org

The Very Rev. Alston Johnson

(Dean)
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The Rev. Thomas Nsubuga

(Sub-Dean)
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The Rev. Paul Martin (Priest Associate)

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The Rev. Jesus Bulnes

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Priscilla McLean (Calendaring)

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