ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

THE EVANGELIST

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Having the Strength to Resist Materialism

There is no doubt that we live in a materialistic society. Such a statement is less a condemnation and more a description. "Things are in the saddle," said Emerson in his day, "and ride mankind." The observation is even more accurate about our own day. One of the unfortunate things about this is the fact that the church, caught in such a materialistic culture, often feels powerless to stand out against the materialism of the day and therefore ends up strengthening the acquisitive instinct.

A particularly unfortunate illustration of this is provided for some years ago by Charles Fillmore, who gave us his rendition of the 23rd Psalm:

> The Lord is my banker, my credit is good. He maketh me to lie down in the consciousness of omnipresent abundance;
>
> He giveth me the key to his strongbox
>
> He restoreth my faith in his riches;
>
> He guideth me in the paths of prosperity for his names's sake.
>
> Yes, though I walk in the very shadow of debt.
>
> I shall fear no evil, for Thou art with me,
>
> Thy silver and Thy gold they secure me,
>
> Thou preparest a way for me in the presence of the collector;

(continued on page 2)

St. Mark's Cathedral Annual Meeting

January 25, 2026
Immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service
Parish Hall

Annual reports will be given, 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 25, 2026** to serve four year terms on the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral:

Megan Campbell
Ginny Murphy
Clay Nelson
Dee Peterson
Matthew Smitherman

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

JANUARY 4, 2026
The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

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

JANUARY 11, 2026
The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of the Lord

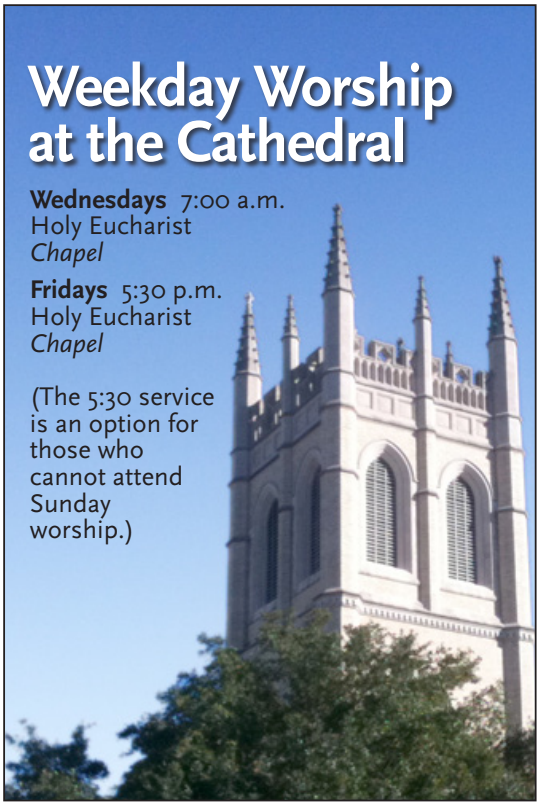
Isaiah 42 :1-9 — Acts 10 :34-43
Psalm 29 — Matthew 3 :13-17

JANUARY 18, 2026
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 49 :1-7 — 1 Corinthians 1 :1-9
Psalm 40 :1-12 — John 1 :29-42

JANUARY 25, 2026
The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4 — 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Psalm 27:1, 5-13 — Matthew 4:12-23



(continued from page 1)

Thou fillest my wallet with plenty; my measure runneth over.

Surely goodness and plenty will follow me all the days of my life,

And I shall do business in the name of the Lord forever.

That's an extreme example of the way in which a materialistic society can corrupt vital religion. Don't be possessed by material goods. Place God first in your life and have trust in his providence. Be a good steward and share your possessions with God and your fellow human beings.

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Special Guest Lecturer Coming in February

Please mark your calendars for **February 7-8** as we will welcome ***The Reverend Robert Childers*** who is the North American head of the Community of the Cross of Nails. Robert will be our guest speaker and preacher, as well as share with us about the work of The Community of the Cross of Nails throughout the world. We are planning to have some time with him on Saturday, February 7, in the Garden Room where we can hear a bit of Robert's journey, and visit about the current and future work of the Community of the Cross of Nails at St. Mark's. We hope that you will plan to join us.

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.

A full-color version of *The Evangelist* is on our website! Go to **https://stmarkscathedral.net/the-evangelist/**

St. Mark's 2025 Nativity Pageant

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!

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 - 6:15 am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & 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.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

January 4

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of J. Pat Beaird, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. J. Pat Beaird, Kathryn Mehaffy Dixon, and Judge Pat Mehaffy.

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, Brooks Yearwood and Bonnie Yearwood.

January 11

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 loving memory of Greta E. Swenson.

January 18

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 & Justin Querbes.

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

January 25

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.

BIRTHS

Campbell Morgan Shaughnessy, on November 18, 2025. Parents are **Morgan & John Shaughnessy**. Grandparents are **Clare & George Nelson**.

BAPTISMS

Campbell Chumley, son of Caroline & Harlan Chumley, on December 19, 2025.

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.

Norbert Kane, husband of **Judy Kane**, on December 6, 2025.

Stuart Allen Briscoe, III, husband of **Jan Briscoe**, on December 7, 2025.

William Eric Gore, husband of **Elizabeth Newtown Gore**, father of **Robin, Nicholas & Charles Gore**, on December 23, 2025.

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

Adult Christian Formation

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. **The New Testament – N.T. Wright**
Dean Alston Johnson
Ministry Center Garden Room

9:30 a.m. **Epiphany: The Season of Glory by Fleming Rutledge**
Fr. Thomas Nsubuga
Library

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 **Mary Alice Rountree** at **464-8004**.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JANUARY 1
Carson Jones

2
Michele Hardtner

3
Anne Mitchell
Helen Herzog
John Godwin
Faye Aaron
Mae Smitherman
John Paul Grigsby

4
Nickolas Gore
Andrea Giacalone
Mary O'Brien
Sean Stott
Tripp Fritze

5
Sunni Burgess
Charlotte Walter
Mike Ameen
Curt McClure
Erin Dicharry
Jennifer Jones
Meredith Waltman

6
Marti Westmoreland
Terri Nelson
Julia Popwell Ameen

7
Eron Brainard
Caroline Turnage
Joanitah Nakiggwe

8
Conrad Langston
Robert Yongjun Johnson
Alice Jones

9
Holly Marshall
Jack Carlisle
Maddie Crawford
Dawn Baxter
Beth Cantrell
Brady Howard

10
Yulonda Mayo
Ben Hodges
Mary Katherine Clark
Teddy McMurry
Emile Jackson

11
Alden Woods

12
Sherry Martin
Camille Lofton
Reilly Weber
Mobley Carnie
Gus Lea
Pierce Drummond

13
Jennifer Varnadore

14
Andy Hodges
Tim Brown
Sloan Hall
Gardner McInnis
Maisey McInnis
Derek Holtsclaw
Walker May
Chelsea Eddington
Derrick Meador

15
Henry McMurry
Coralie Green

16
Nancy Mobley
Katie Mitchell
Corinne Peterson
Addie Garsee
Elizabeth Garsee

17
Pat Turnage
Chadd Bylsma
Brady Thompson
Thomas Harrison
Brody Knox

18
Carol Gamble
Rick Fisher

Allie Marler
19
Dixon Wright
Katherine Van Hook
Gloria Haynes

20
Christy Porter
Mary Margaret Thomas
Julian Weaver

21
Claire Rebouche
Donna McGaunn
Paris Marsalis
Mary Catherine Kneip

22
Emily Pressly
Theresa Johnson
John Godfrey

23
Nicole Vozzella Hubbard

24
Sara Herrington
Briggs Mobley

25
Jett Trudeau
Gary Love
Kelly Crawford
Lissa Grounsell
Phillip Douget

Evan LeBleu
Woodleigh Frey

26
Theresa Meldrum
Renee Deupree
Robin Quinn

27
Jackie Cooper
Dru Florsheim
Blain Coady
Kathryn Eldredge

28
Foster Gavin

29
Youree Jean Anderson
Julian Weber
Katherine Russo

30
Rachel Stari
Catherine Schoonover
Isabella Foster
Connor Peterson

31
Cindy Millen
Henry Byrd

Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

Lisa Love, Senior Warden – Dan Koruna, Junior Warden – Patrick Caraway, Treasurer – John Reeks, Chancellor

2025	2026	2027	2028
Karen Hardtner	David Drummond	Michael Ameen	Lloyd Brown
Chad Hill	Paul Guidry	Erin Dicharry	Matt Coady
Claire Rebouche	Val Irion	Catherine Evans	Jonathan Davis
Jason Waltman	Reid Jones	Kathryn Gaiennie	Laura Ashley Overdyke
Warren West	John Turnage	Stephen Kneip	Adam West

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. Paul Martin (Priest Associate)
paul@stmarkscathedral.net

Jesus Bulnes
(Hispanic Ministry Coordinator)
hispanicministrysmc@gmail.com

Ely Bulnes (School Chaplain)
ebulnes@smc.school

Derrick Meador
(Organist and Choirmaster)
derrick@stmarkscathedral.net

Amy Garsee
(Christian Education and EYC Director)
amy@stmarkscathedral.net

Lisa Bingham (Financial Office Manager)
lisa@stmarkscathedral.net

Bess Maxwell (Administrative Assistant)
bess@stmarkscathedral.net

Priscilla McLean (Calendaring)
priscilla@stmarkscathedral.net

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

Mark Deverts (Sexton)
mark@stmarkscathedral.net

St. Mark's Cathedral (Episcopal)
908 Rutherford Street
Shreveport, LA 71104

(318) 221-3360
Fax: (318) 424-8427
www.stmarkscathedral.net

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