



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

85 East Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York 10549

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FEBRUARY 2014

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark's,

As we have dealt with cold, ice, and snow on a regular basis during the month of January, I now find myself wondering what February may have in store for us. I am thankful for those of you who have been getting to church on a fairly regular basis, but also understand that health and safety sometimes dictate wisely staying home. If for any reason, any of you would like me to bring communion to your home due to your inability to get to church, do not hesitate to call me and we will set up a time for a visit.

This coming Sunday, February 2, 2014, which the world knows as Ground Hog Day, the historic church knows as the Feast of the Presentation of the Infant Jesus in the Temple, or Candlemas. Our Gospel reading will be the account of Mary and Joseph taking Jesus to be presented in the Temple when he was 40 days old, in keeping with Jewish Law. While there they encounter the ancient holy man, Simeon, who utters the words of the Nunc Dimittis, traditionally sung as an Evensong and Compline Canticle, as well as meeting the aged holy woman, Anna. The day is also marked by a procession and the blessing of candles, which will be a part of Sunday's 10 am service – thus Candlemas(s).

The other three Sundays in February are additional "Sundays after Epiphany." The Roman Catholic tradition refers to these weeks as "Ordinary Time," because they are not associated with any particular seasonal observance. Our Gospel readings will remind us of some of the key events in Jesus' ministry. But soon we will be gearing up for Shrove Tuesday (Tuesday, March 4), Ash Wednesday (Wednesday, March 5), and the First Sunday in Lent (March 9). I will be sending out information about some Lenten study programs very soon – a few dates are yet to be finalized.

I want to repeat what I said at the Annual Meeting: "I am very happy to be here at St. Mark's, and I rejoice at how much we have accomplished together in my first year in your midst!" My thank you list is too long to repeat here.

I also want to reiterate the Invitation to an Open House at the Rectory, 31 Croton Avenue, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 – this Sunday – February 2, 2014 – from 2 to 6 p.m. There should be plenty of time for you to come and then go on to Super Bowl Festivities. (Should you get lost, the Rectory Telephone is: 914-666-9370.)

Faithfully yours,

Bill Doubleday Priest in Charge

NEW VESTRY MEMBERS

The following were elected as Warden and Vestry members at the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 19, 2014

Warden, Class of 2016:

Eileen Marks

Vestry Class of 2016:

Robert Niedzwiedz

Vestry Class of 2017:

Elizabeth Schreiner

Annette Steiner

Vincent Tuccillo

They join: Kedrick Carr, Karen Kelley, Chris Meyer, Fran Osborne, Stella Terhune and Frank Tortorello.

The Vestry has elected Timothy Ghriskey to serve as Parish Treasurer.



SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE

Participants with developmental challenges and their care-givers from throughout Northern Westchester communities attend this service. Parishioners are needed to assist. The February service is planned for Tuesday, February 25 at 7 pm. Please arrive at 6:45 pm to assist our friends to get into the church, or to help set up the refreshments in the parish hall. The event is over and all volunteers are finished before 8 pm.

You receive a lot of blessing for an hour's time! Hope to see you there!

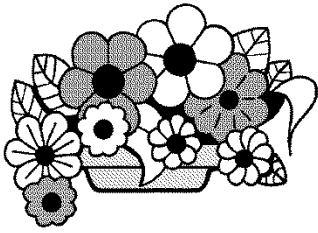
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**SAVE THE DATE:  
SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER –  
WITH A HINT OF MARDI GRAS**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014**

**5:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

**ALL ARE WELCOME – FREE WILL OFFERING**



# More Donations for Altar Flowers Are Needed

I recently met with Shelagh Bosch, our ever faithful Director of the St. Mark's Flower Guild. Traditionally, for most Sundays of the year, altar flowers were given as memorials to parishioners, friends, or relatives who had died. In recent years, the number of those memorial gifts has dropped off due to deaths and people moving away.

I have offered to try to help re-energize the giving to the Altar Flower Fund. Here are my suggestions:

- 1) Those who are in the regular calendar of altar flower donations, may continue their monetary gifts to the St. Mark's Flower Guild at their present levels.
- 2) Going forward, we will recommend that \$75 be the basic gift for altar flowers. If that amount is a hardship for you, Shelagh Bosch or I will be glad to work with you.
- 3) Currently only about 18 Sundays have people scheduled to give altar flowers. Jeanne Goldberg, the Parish Secretary, and Shelagh Bosch have a master calendar of the Sundays which are open for donations. Either of them would be delighted to work with you in finding a Sunday for either a one-time or a recurring gift of flowers for the altar.
- 4) I would also suggest we broaden our vision of what altar flowers are meant to do. In addition to memorials, they could be given in Thanksgiving for some person or life event, they could be given in Honor of a Birthday, Anniversary, Baptism, or Ministry, or they could be given in Celebration of something or someone special.
- 5) I would note that we have a very conservative and frugal flower guild which always keeps costs to a minimum. I think it might be fun and beautiful to splurge on altar flowers once in a while. If you are able to give a little more than \$75 dollars, Rosemary Valenti and Grace Gibbons have volunteered to pull out all the stops in making special flower arrangements.
- 6) When they are in season, if you have garden flowers, plants, or greens that you could donate for use on the altar, please speak with Shelagh Bosch. She would be glad to discuss what might be needed and possible.

Bill Doubleday  
Priest in Charge



## Special Music Program for Children

Throughout the month of **February** our Choral Scholars will be holding special sessions on music for the church school during coffee hour (from 11:10–11:30). These sessions will be geared towards a presentation by the kids during the 10 am Eucharist on March 2, the Last Sunday after the Epiphany. Please let Heather Baker-Sullivan know, if you have not already, dates your children will attend and participate so that appropriate plans can be made. Heather Baker-Sullivan; [riverliffey4@aol.com](mailto:riverliffey4@aol.com)



## PRAYER CORNER...from Verann England

New Year's Resolution by Edward Grinnan

*In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you!  
Thessalonians 5:18*

I've never been one to make New Year resolutions. They always seem about as lasting—in my case at least—as a Christmas tree. But this year I vowed to try to stick to one that I thought was important; Every day I would thank God for one special thing in my life for which I was grateful.

At first it was easy. I was thankful for my family, my friends, my work, my new home in the hills, my wonderful dogs. I could thank Him for a beautiful day or even a good night's sleep. I was rolling along quite nicely with my resolutions when I hit a wall—the gratitude wall.

I don't know if it was the prolonged dreariness of winter or just that I was running out of ideas, but by February I found myself floundering and unable to come up with something to be thankful for. Then my friend Charles came to visit me one wet, miserable day. Charlie is a great deal older than I am, retired and pretty good health except for the arthritis that gnarled his fingers and stiffens his gate, especially on a cold day.

He came into my office all bundled up and took a seat on the couch. *Ffrrrip, Ffrrrip*. Off came his rubbers. *Fffrrip* went the chinstrap to his hat. *Fffrrip frrrip*, and Charlie was out of his mackinaw. He smiled broadly at me. "Thank God for Velcro". He declared.

Thank God for Velcro? I hadn't thought of that. Yet here was Charlie for whom something as absolutely commonplace as Velcro made he struggle with arthritis so much easier. Charlie knew how to be grateful. He saw to even the smallest details of his daily life the greatest reasons to praise God. That's what I'd have to learn to do—starting right now.

*Thank you, Lord, for Charlie, who opened my eyes to the little miracles of life You provide, especially Velcro.*



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The Third of Four Special Sundays

March 2, 2014 - Choral Evensong

The 3rd afternoon of our "Four Special Sundays" will be on Sunday, 2 March. Jamie Hitel, Organist and Director of Music at Christ Church, Greenwich will play the recital at 4:15 pm. Choral Evensong will follow at 5 pm with works of Herbert Howells and Samuel Sebastian Wesley.

March Markings deadline for articles is Tuesday, February 18



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY 2014

		FEB 2	FEB 9	FEB 16	FEB 23
Altar Guild	8 am	Ruann England	Irene Linares	Jill Finch	Irene Linares
	10 am	Sue Hewitt	Karen Kelley Deb Lunn	Annette Steiner	Celeste Lynn Elizabeth Schreiner
Chalice Bearers	8 am & 10 am	Zoher Miyakawa	Ted Raymond	Zoher Miyakawa	Zoher Miyakawa
Lectors	8 am	Ruann England	Kedrick Carr	Mary Ann Niedzwiedz	Robert Niedzwiedz
	10 am	Alex Antes	Raimo Bakis	Steve Karpanty	Doug Catalanello
Ushers	8 am	Ruann England Kedrick Carr	Gary & Brendan Ford	Mary Ann & Robert Niedzwiedz	Ted Raymond James Cottingham
	10 am	Tim Ghriskey Zoher Miyakawa	Jim Hewitt Alex Antes	Jim & Stella Terhune	Raimo Bakis Tim Ghriskey
Acolytes	10 am	Andrea & Neil Steiner	Neil Steiner Turner Williams	Luca & Sofia Cuccia	Turner Williams Kathie Bannon
Flower Guild		Shelagh Bosch Gloria Kissell Anna Stone	Grace Gibbons Rosemary Valenti	Nancy Weeks	Fran Osborne Joan Robinson Annette Steiner
Hospitality		Jennifer Lewis Barbara Tortorello Lynthia Romney	Grace & Robert Gibbons Lakshanthi Galpotthawela Lisa Dondiego	Ann Bakis Irene Watts Susan West	Amanda Allen Helen Williams Eileen Marks
St. Ann's Drivers		Charlie Williams	Joe Schuder	Ted Raymond	Annette Steiner

CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTIONS CLASSES AVAILABLE

PRIOR TO BISHOP'S VISIT TO ST. MARK'S CHURCH ON SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2014

The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen, Assistant Bishop of New York, will visit St. Mark's Church on Sunday, May 18, 2014 at the 10 am service. Confirmation and Reception into the Episcopal Church will be possible on that morning.

If you have already completed Confirmation or Reception Classes (I know there are about 7 of you), I would like you to save the date and be in touch with me!

I am planning to conduct a Confirmation and Reception Class for Adults, as well as a separate Confirmation Class for Teenagers between now and May. The design and scheduling of those classes will be informed by how many participants come forward. If you or your child might be interested, please be in touch with me no later than Sunday, February 16, 2014.

Bill Doubleday
Priest in Charge

A Message About Pledging at St. Mark's Church

As many of you heard at the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 19, 2014, the Wardens, Vestry, Parish Treasurer, and Priest in Charge are continuing to work on the Parish Budget for 2014. By far the largest portion of income for the parish budget comes from annual pledges by parishioners. We are of course grateful for open plate giving, special gifts, and parish fund raising projects, but it is pledging which provides the most solid basis for our financial planning.

We ask you to consider the following possibilities:

1. If you still owe money on your 2013 or previous years' pledges, we would gratefully receive whatever you may be able to give.
2. If you have not yet pledged for 2014, we hope you will consider doing so. The knowledge of the amount of additional pledges that may become available will be very strategic for our ongoing planning and budgeting processes.
3. If you need a pledge card, you can pick one up outside the parish office, or we would be glad to mail one to you.
4. If you do not wish to pledge, but would like the convenience of envelopes for whatever giving you may be able to do, please let us know.
5. If you are not able to pledge or donate regularly, we are still very thankful that you are worshipping with us at St. Mark's. Our church and its welcoming fellowship are in way dependent upon financial support.
6. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Bill Doubleday, Priest in Charge

Tim Ghiskey, Parish Treasurer

Amanda Allen, Assistant Treasurer and Pledge Recorder



CARPENTER'S KIDS 2014 PROGRAM CONTRIBUTION

Our annual contribution is now due for our next to last year supporting this program that provides uniforms, shoes, supplies and breakfast for our 60 Carpenter Kids in Ikowa Village, near Dodoma, Tanzania. We are still short on our current year contributions. For those who have pledged and not made their 2014 payment, we ask you to make those as soon as possible and we welcome any new sponsors for the final two years of the program. Make checks payable to St. Mark's with Carpenter Kids on the memo line. \$70 sponsors a child for one full year. Questions: please contact Karen Kelley: 914-645-1069.

CHILD CARE

We announce with regret that because of budgetary pressures and very low utilization, Infant and Child Care has ended. We are grateful to Alice and Rudy Townes for their faithful service.

**ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
PARISH LIFE CALENDAR ~ FEBRUARY 2014**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
2 10:00 Candlemas 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm Rectory Open House	3	4 6 pm Officer's Meeting	5 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	6	7	8 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
9	10 7:30 Vestry Meeting	11	12 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	13	14	15 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
16	17 Office closed for President's Day	18	19 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	20	21	22 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
23 8:00 pm Ring Bells	24	25 7:00 Special Service	26 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	27	28	

**ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
PARISH LIFE CALENDAR ~ MARCH 2014**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
2 4:15 pm Organ Recital 5:00 pm Evensong	3	4 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Pancake Supper	5 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am with Ashes 12:00 noon – Ashes 7:30 pm - Ashes	6	7	8 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
9	10	11 6 pm Officer's Meeting	12 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	13	14	15 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
16	17 7:30 Vestry Meeting	18	19 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	20	21	22 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
23 8:00 pm Ring Bells	24	25 7:00 Special Service	26 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	27	28	

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend William A. Doubleday, Priest in Charge
Geoffrey Smith, Music Director Misael Enamorado, Sexton
Jeanne Goldberg, Parish Secretary Jim Terhune, Financial Administrator

WEEKDAY SERVICES AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH

6:45 AM Wednesday - Holy Eucharist
Additional services and events as announced

Our Parish website is: stmarksmtkisco.org
Our parish Facebook Page is: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Mt. Kisco, NY
The Priest in Charge may be contacted at billdoubleday@stmarksmtkisco.org
The Parish Secretary may be contacted at stmarkschurch@optimum.net
The Director of Music may be contacted at geoffsmith@stmarksmtkisco.org

OUTSIDE GROUPS MEETING WEEKLY AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH

ESL Classes: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9 am to 12 Noon

Al-Anon: Thursdays: 7 pm

Special Needs Yoga: Monday: 6 pm to 7 pm

VESTRY MEMBERS

Stella Terhune, Churchwarden
Kedrick Carr
Karen Kelley, Clerk of Vestry
Chris Meyer
Robert Niedzwiedz

Eileen Marks, Churchwarden
Fran Osborne
Elizabeth Schreiner
Annette Steiner
Frank Tortorello
Vinnie Tuccillo

Timothy Ghriskey, Treasurer

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