



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

85 East Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York 10549

Telephone: 914-666-8058 Fax: 914-666-8068 E-mail: stmarkschurch@optimum.net web: www.stmarksmtkisco.org

JANUARY 2014

An Epiphany Message from the Priest in Charge

As I write this message, it is New Year's Eve. A wonderful Christmas Season at St. Mark's is drawing to a close. This coming Sunday we will observe the Second Sunday of Christmastide and will recall the Holy Family's Flight into Egypt after the Birth of Jesus. Then we will enter an unusually long string of Eight Sundays after Epiphany before we reach Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent on March 5, 2014.

Last year the Feast of the Epiphany actually fell on a Sunday - January 6, 2013. Epiphany – the 12th day of Christmas - coincides with Eastern Orthodoxy's Christmas and centers around the visit of the Magi to the Baby Jesus and his parents. The Magi, who were probably some sort of potentates from Persia, were definitely Gentiles, and their presence in the Christmas story is a powerful foreshadowing of the fact that Jesus, born a Jew, was meant to be the Savior for the whole world.

This year our parish's liturgical entrance into Epiphanytide will come on Sunday, January 12, 2014 when we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist, and also celebrate the baptism of one of our youngest parishioners at the 10 a.m. service.

During the Epiphany Season, the Eucharistic Prayer has a special Proper Preface which uses words which capture the heart of the Epiphany message: "Because in the mystery of the word made flesh, you (GOD) have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord." I believe this a time in our Church Year, when we are especially invited to try to get in touch with the light which has been given to us – the light which truly dwells in us – a light which is really the radiant face of Christ himself to be found deep within each and every one of us.

Epiphany will also remind us that we are invited into a life of discipleship which is alert and awake to the complex realities which face us today both at home and abroad. Our world and our communities have been changing ever so rapidly in recent decades. As the Church we are called to enter into our communities, as well as our prayers, with open hearts, hands, and minds. We are invited to enter into a process of discernment – a search for sound, loving, and faithful choices for our lives, families, and institutions – even the church itself – which will likely involve realizing that "new occasions teach new duties" and the future shape of our parishes, dioceses, communities, and nation will be steadily confronted with complex challenges, and often as yet unidentified opportunities, to live out our faith in Jesus Christ in new and sometimes unfamiliar ways.

We have journeyed far together in 2013. I look forward to the coming year with anticipation and hope. Much healing and reconciliation has happened and continues to happen at St. Mark's. My prayer is that this is becoming a parish that in new and energetic ways we will want to share with others. We are called to tell the story of the Good News of the Gospel which we preach, teach, sing, live out, and share in worship, hospitality, community, outreach, and fellowship in this place.

Faithfully,

Bill Doubleday

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2014

10:00 am Parish Family Eucharist
11:15 am Annual Meeting including: Wardens' Reports, Election of Parish Officers, Rector's Address to the Parish, and Presentation of 2013 Budget

Church School is NOT in session. However, child care and lunch will be arranged for the Children, and nursery care will be provided for toddlers and babies.

The Eucharist is also celebrated at 8:00 am.

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I am pleased to report that the Nominating Committee has completed its work and is prepared to announce a slate of nominees for parish leadership for possible election at the Parish Annual Meeting after the 10 am service on Sunday, January 19, 2014.

The slate is as follows:

Warden for a Two Year Term – Elect One
Eileen Marks

Vestry Members for a Three Year Term – Elect Three
Elizabeth Schreiner
Annette Steiner
Vincent Tuccillo

Vestry Member for a Two Year Term
Robert Niedzwiedz

The members of the Nominating Committee – the membership of which is prescribed by the By-Laws of the Parish and appointed by the Priest in Charge – were: the Rev. William A. Doubleday, Ann Bakis, Kedrick Carr, Don Ford, Jennifer Lewis, Eileen Marks, and Stella Terhune.

The By-Laws now provide that members of the parish may be nominated by petition for any of these offices up until January 12, 2014. A nomination by petition must have the signatures of ten members of the parish and the endorsement of the nominee indicating that he or she is willing to stand for election. The box for the reception of nominations by petition is in the Parish Office.

I want to thank all the members of the parish who took the time, prayer, and care to submit nominations. Your participation was at an unusually high and positive level. We actually received 9 nominations for Warden and 13 for Vestry, and all the nominations were given careful and prayerful consideration. My hope is that many of the nominees who could not be selected by the Nominating Committee at this time will be drawn into participation in some of the crucial committees, organizational, and leadership work of the parish in the year ahead!

Faithfully yours,

Bill Doubleday, Priest in Charge



CARPENTER'S KIDS 2014 Sponsorship

The clock is ticking all too quickly toward our 2014 contribution deadline for the Carpenter's Kids Program. 2014 will be the third year of our second five-year commitment sponsoring this mission for AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in Ikowa village, Tanzania in our "linked" parish of St. John's. In 2014 we will begin our 8th year of support for 60 children with uniforms, shoes, socks, school supplies and daily meals so they can attend school.

We are late in getting reminders to those of you who have been such a great support to the program. Your contribution of \$70 provides the above items and meals for one child for a year. Many thanks to those who have already contributed for 2014. And again thanks to those who have made a 5-year commitment. We hope this will be a reminder that your 2014 payment is now due. We did not have 5-year commitments for all of our students, so we welcome new participants. We only have 3 years to go with this program to meet our 5-year commitment, so any one, two or three-year commitments will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Karen Kelley at karenkelley@optonline.net to find out the status of your participation or to learn more about this wonderful ministry. Additional ways to learn more are the **program websites**:

<http://www.carpenterskids.net/> is the Episcopal Diocese of NY Program website. EDNY parish yearly commitment due dates and link information is posted.

<http://www.thecarpenterskidstz.org/> is the website from the Diocese of Central Tanganika. Click on **photos** then look for Ikowa. You'll find pictures of the delivery of uniforms to our students!



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 January service is planned for Tuesday, January 28 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!



Thanks for

VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE – JANUARY 2014

		JAN 5	JAN 12	JAN 19	JAN 26
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	Mary Lynn Windsor	Ted Raymond	Zoher Miyakawa
Lectors	8 am	Ruann England	Kedrick Carr	James Cottingham	Ted Raymond
	10 am	Elizabeth Nicolato	Jennifer Lewis	Susan West	Stella Terhune
Ushers	8 am	Ruann England James Cottingham	Gary & Brendan Ford	Mary Ann & Robert Niedzwiedz	Ted Raymond James Cottingham
	10 am	Alex Antes Tim Ghriskey	Jim Hewitt Karen Kelley	Zoher Miyakawa Raimo Bakis	Stella Terhune Barbara Tortorello
Acolytes	10 am	Andrea & Neil Steiner	Kathie Bannon Turner Williams	Luca & Sofia Cuccia	Turner Williams Kathie Bannon
Flower Guild		Shelagh Bosch Gloria Kissell	Grace Gibbons Rosemary Valenti	Nancy Weeks	Fran Osborne Joan Robinson
Hospitality		Grace & Robert Gibbons Lakshanthi Galpotthawela Lisa Dondiego	Ann Bakis Irene Watts Lynthia Romney	Amanda Allen Helen Williams Eileen Marks	Kendle Arcidiacono Shelagh Bosch Fran Osborne
St. Ann's Drivers		Kedrick Carr	Ted Raymond	Sally Fay	Robert & Ann Natale

END OF YEAR GIVING

It's that time of year when we sort out our finances and get ready for tax time. We also check on whether or not we have fulfilled our Annual Pledge to St. Mark's Church for 2013.

Please note that contributions for 2013 can be submitted until Sunday, January 12. Contributions received after January 12 will be counted toward your 2014 Annual Pledge. Until that time, please designate checks intended for 2013 on the note line. This will help us accurately reflect your giving preferences. Thank you!

***February Markings deadline for articles is Tuesday,
January 21.***



A Word of Thanks from the Priest in Charge

I want to thank each and every one who helped to make Advent and Christmas at St. Mark's a truly glorious time of worship, music, fellowship, and celebration. We began Advent with the wonderful afternoon Service of Lessons and Carols, listened to the thunder of the prophets and of John the Baptist on the Sunday mornings of the Advent Season, enjoyed a glorious Sunday School Christmas Pageant on the Fourth Sunday in Advent, and wrapped up our celebration with two glorious services on Christmas Eve, and a gentle service on Christmas morning. Throughout December, we honored the beloved traditions of our parish and of the Anglican heritage in which we share. At the same time, we made special efforts to open our doors, our hearts, and our services to all the visitors and friends who came to share in Advent and Christmas with us.

Again this year, I have been deeply moved by the beauty of our church and its decoration, by the splendor of the music which we heard and sang during these Holy Seasons, by the depth of mutual caring and fellowship which I witnessed often and especially at the Christmas Bazaar and Parish Dinner, and the excellence of our worship in which so many of you not only participate, but offer dedicated leadership.

No list of names will adequately encompass all who deserve a special thank you, but let me try: Geoff Smith, our Organist and Director of Music, and our extraordinarily devoted choir, and guest instrumentalists; Shelagh Bosch and the entire magical Flower Guild, including Grace Gibbons and Rosemary Valenti, the makers of marvelous greenery; Irene Linares and her always helpful conscientious Altar Guild colleagues; and the Lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and Acolytes who add so much to our worship. Our Verger, Don Ford, faithfully and gently supports me in worship leadership here at St. Mark's with remarkable ease and extraordinary grace.

Our Christmas Bazaar and Parish Dinner on December 7, 2013 was an extraordinarily successful, congenial, and enjoyable evening. The financial outcome of the event is now nearly tallied, and it appears that we will have had one of our record years when the final numbers are run. Frank and Barbara Tortorello, Stella Terhune, and Annette Steiner served as Co-Chairs of the event, and a splendid cadre of parishioners played various roles with booths, decorations, advertising, and so much more. Special appreciation goes to Fabio and Jennifer Cuccia who generously cooked the meal in the Parish Kitchen, and to the parish youth, under the guidance of Charlie Williams, who served the dinner!

I would be remiss if I did not say that our staff do ever so much to help St. Mark's run remarkably efficiently and effectively. I am grateful for Jeanne Goldberg, Jim Terhune, Amanda Allen, Misael Enamorado, and Joe Castellano for their service to the parish. I would add that our Sexton, Misael Enamorado plays a crucial role in the decoration of the church and in consistently keeping our aging building clean, attractive, and well-maintained – something which frankly can be said of few of the Episcopal Churches I have visited in recent years. Jeanne Goldberg, our Parish Secretary, and Geoff Smith, our Organist both did an extraordinary amount of fine work on our Advent and Christmas mailings and bulletins.

Finally, I want to thank the wardens, Stella Terhune and Alex Antes; the treasurer, Tim Ghriskey, the clerk, Karen Kelley, and the entire Vestry for their cooperation and encouragement. I would end by repeating – indeed topping – how I concluded last Christmastide thank you: “In now 33 years of priesthood, I have never enjoyed Christmas so much!”

Bill Doubleday

Some memorable images from our Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
5	6	7	8 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	9	10	11 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
12	13	14 Annual Meeting Reports Due Officer's Meeting 6:00 pm	15 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	16	17	18 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
19 Annual Meeting & Parish Brunch Brief Vestry Meeting	20 Church office closed for Martin Luther King Jr.	21	22 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	23	24	25 Mt. Kisco Farmers Market 9am-1 pm
26	27	28 Special Service 7:00 pm	29 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	30	31	

**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	3	4	5 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	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 Office closed for President's Day 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

Alex Antes, Churchwarden	Stella Terhune, Churchwarden
Raimo Bakis	Karen Kelley, Clerk of Vestry
Kedrick Carr	Eileen Marks
James Cottingham	Chris Meyer
Timothy Ghriskey, Treasurer	Fran Osborne
	Frank Tortorello

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MOUNT KISCO, NY 10549
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