



MARKINGS

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

85 East Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York 10549

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JUNE 2014

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark's Church,

I am writing this message on Ascension Day, May 29, 2014. On Sunday, June 1, 2014, I will have been your full-time Priest in Charge for eighteen months. I want you to know what a joy it is for me to be your Priest and Pastor. Over these months, I believe we have made much progress as a parish. Together we have experienced healing, reconciliation, renewed bonds of affection, and many new beginnings in our parish community. We are looking backwards with regret much less, and we are looking forward with hope much more, as we continue to envision and discern the shape of ministry and mission at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, as well as in Mt. Kisco and greater Northern Westchester County during this challenging and rapidly changing part of the 21st century.

I wrote to you recently about the proposal for a major Renovation of St. Mark's Heating System which is now being considered by our Vestry with the greatest of care. They must consider both the suitability of the plan and the serious question of whether St. Mark's can either afford or responsibly finance this badly needed project. The project is budgeted at about \$220,000. It carries a projected \$20,000 a year savings going forward.

As of today, about ten members of the parish have pledged a total of \$51,000 towards the project. I am asking each of you to consider making a pledge if you are able. It could be \$100 or \$250 dollars, or it could be \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, \$10,000 or more. It could be paid in one lump sum, or it could be spread over up to three calendar years. I invite you to call me if you are able to make a pledge, or if you want more information about the scope of the project. I will gladly speak to you on the telephone, visit your home, or respond to your e-mails! I can assure you that the Buildings and Grounds Committee, under the very able leadership of Frank Tortorello, is in full agreement that this project is needed and will well serve the future needs of the parish. We have sought bids from a wide range of contractors and believe we have the project budgeted very reasonably. I believe the Vestry is very unlikely to approve this project unless significantly more pledges towards costs are forthcoming in the very near future. The Vestry will next meet after Church, this Sunday, June 1, 2014 at 11:45am.

Sunday, June 8, 2014, will be our last Sunday with the choir until after Labor Day. If you have a musical gift – instrument or voice – which you would be willing to share on some Sunday this summer, I hope you will speak with me. If you enjoy singing the hymns, and are not too off key, I would also like to explore creating a small group of singers who with little or no practice might sit in the choir stalls on Summer Sundays, so my voice is not the only I sometimes get to hear.

Sunday, June 8, 2014, is also the Day of Pentecost, the Day we celebrate the Gift of the Holy Spirit and the Birthday of the Church. On that day in many parishes, not only does the Priest shift to Red Vestments in honor of the Holy Spirit, the entire congregation is invited to wear something red to church. I would like to invite all of you to wear something red or to dye your hair red or redder on that occasion.

I know that historically, Summer is a time when attendance goes down in many Episcopal Churches, including this one. I hope that when you are in the area, that you will make church attendance a priority, even on hot sunny days. Please consider coming to the Sunday 8 a.m. service before you undertake other activities. If you are out of town, consider visiting another parish and come back and tell us what you saw and heard and what you thought about it. I do not anticipate any very long absences this summer. Please do not hesitate to be in touch with me if I can be of assistance. If you or someone you know is seriously ill or in the hospital, a call to the parish office or to me personally helps to pave the way for appropriate pastoral responses. I hope you enjoy the summer!

Bill Doubleday, Priest in Charge

***** **SAVE THE DATE** *****



The **REAL** start of summer at St. Mark's is the Annual St. Ann's Picnic. What better way to kick off the season than with fun, food and fellowship together with our sister parish St. Ann's Church from the Bronx. **Participation from the families of St. Mark's** makes this an especially meaningful outreach event. We are always looking for creative ideas for activities. Please look for sign- up sheet in lobby.



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

By Heather Baker-Sullivan

Another school year has ended. We focused on stories from Genesis and Exodus, and Jesus' parables of the Lost Coin, the Lost Sheep, and the Mustard Seed, among others. We talked about the power of symbols in our religion and other religions. We built models of Noah's ark, Abraham's encampment, made advent wreaths, held a lovely pageant, took vocal instruction from our wonderful choir members and performed in church, started little books - letters to God - which students are encouraged to continue to write in this summer, enjoyed a Passover seder with Robin Wald of Bet Torah, made our Easter gardens, learned about flower arrangement, and planted seedlings for a children's garden at the church. Alexander Heather performed splendidly on the double bass for Mother's Day. We were assisted by Jim Hewitt, who generously donated the ark models a few years ago; Elizabeth Nicolato, who organized the Pageant with the usual clarity and focus; Geoff Smith and members of the choir; and Naeko Heffner, who showed us that love and beauty come together in ikebana. None of this plethora of activities could have happened without the loving involvement of Amanda Allen, Lisa Ghriskey and Jennifer Lewis who bring so much to our traditional activities and newer ones we have developed. This is a wonderful group of enthusiastic, warm and creative teachers.

After nine years of teaching, and this past year of directing the Church School, I have decided to step down from directing the School to pursue other activities in support of our parish. Father Doubleday, responding to my suggestion has asked Jennifer Lewis Catalanello to serve as Director of the Church School in 2014-2015. I will continue to teach occasionally, lending Jennifer a supportive hand, and look forward to the prospect of more fun and creativity in bringing an understanding of our faith to our youngest church members.

In June, I hope to see our families turning out for St. Ann's Day, when our children will have a chance to meet and welcome the children of St. Ann's to our church and enjoy a day of fun in the park. Meantime, enjoy the spring as it blossoms into full-throated summer!



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE – JUNE 2014

		JUNE 1	JUNE 8	JUNE 15	JUNE 22	JUNE 29
Altar Guild	8 am	Ruann England	Irene Linares Deb Lunn	Jill Finch	Irene Linares	Irene Linares
	10 am	Karen Kelley	Sue Hewitt	Annette Steiner	Celeste Lynn Elizabeth Schreiner	Sue Hewitt
Chalice Bearers	10 am	Mary Lynn Windsor	Ted Raymond	Zoher Saour	Mary Lynn Windsor	Ted Raymond
Lectors	8 am	Ruann England	Ted Raymond	James Cottingham	Robert Niedzwiedz	Mary Ann Niedzwiedz
	10 am	Doug Catalanello	Susan West	Alex Antes	Raimo Bakis	Jennifer Lewis
Ushers	8 am	Ruann England Kedrick Carr	Gary & Brendan Ford	Ted Raymond James Cottingham	Robert & Mary Ann Niedzwiedz	Ruann England Kedrick Carr
	10 am	Tim Ghiskey Zoher Saour	Jim Hewitt Shirley Russell	Jim & Stella Terhune	Raimo Bakis Tim Ghiskey	Zoher Saour Jim Hewitt
Acolytes	10 am	Turner Williams & Kathie Bannon	Luca & Sofia Cuccia	Kathie Bannon & Turner Williams	Andrea & Neil Steiner	Turner Williams & Kathie Bannon
Flower Guild		Shelagh Bosch Gloria Kissell Anna Stone	Grace Gibbons Rosemary Valenti	Nancy Weeks	Fran Osborne Joan Robinson Annette Steiner	Shelagh Bosch Anna Stone
Hospitality		Ann Bakis Irene Watts Lynthia Romney Ivette Figueroa	Amanda Allen Helen Williams Eileen Marks	Kendle Arcidiacono Shelagh Bosch Fran Osborne	Jennifer Lewis Barbara Tortorello Lynthia Romney	Grace & Robert Gibbons Lakshanthi Galpotthawela Lisa Dondiego
St. Ann's Drivers		Kedrick Carr	Alex Antes	Ted Raymond	Sally Fay	Robert & Ann Natale

July Markings deadline is Monday, June 23



PRAYER CORNER... from Verann England

From some recent spiritual reading.....

Stretch Your Mind and Soul

I meditate on all that Thou has done . . . I stretch out my hands to Thee . . .

Psalm 143: 5-6 (RSV)

Every morning my wonderful dogs help remind me of a lesson in prayer I recently learned.

More or less at the crack of dawn, I crawl out of bed to leash up Sally, my peppy cocker spaniel, and Marty, my big yellow Lab, for their walk. But first they indulge in a morning ritual: stretching. Marty starts by doing his forelegs, then stretching out his hips and back legs; taking his time, carefully preparing his body for the rigors of his walk. While I get on my coat, Sally likes to jump up and use me to stretch against. After their walk, I rush over to the gym for a quick heart-pounding workout. On the way I squeeze in some prayer.

This all came got to do in the direction of an irritating halt recently when I sustained a painful case of tendonitis in my lower right leg. ***“You’ve got to do your stretching”*** the trainer admonished me. I hate to stretch. It might be fine for dogs, but I am impatient with it. ***“Stretching before you work out prepares the muscles. It opens them up so they can grow,”*** he explained.

For the next week I stopped at the gym only to soak my leg in the whirlpool. I was chagrined to find myself still squeezing in my morning prayer, rushing through it like just another chore to cross off. A friend to whom I mentioned this situation remarked, ***“Isn’t meditation before prayer a little like stretching before exercise? You need to put yourself in God’s presence before you can talk to Him.”*** My friend – and the trainer – were on to something. Stretching helps open up your muscles, so they can grow.

That is why, when I watch Sally and Marty stretch out before their morning walk, I remind myself: ***Take your time. Stretch your mind and soul for God before you pray. Open up and prepare to grow!***

God, work with me to stretch my prayer muscles.



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 June service is planned for Tuesday, June 24 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!

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	5	6	7 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm
8 10:00 Choir's last service for season Party at Rectory after church	9	10 7:00 Officers Meeting	11 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	12	13	14 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm
15	16 Vestry Meeting 7:30 pm	17	18 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	19	20	21 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm St. Ann's Picnic 11:00 am – 4:00 pm
22	23	24 Special Service 7:00 pm	25 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	26	27	28 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm
29	30					

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	3	4 Office closed for July 4 5 pm Wedding Rehearsal	5 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm 1:30 PM Meyer Wedding Sm reception in Parish Hall after
6	7	8	9 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	10	11	12 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm
13	14	15 7:00 pm Officers Meeting	16 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	17	18	19 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm
20	21 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting	22 Special Service 7:00 pm	23 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	24	25	26 Farmers Market 9 am – 1 pm
27	28	29	30 Holy Eucharist 6:45 am	31		

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

AI-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

Timothy Ghiskey, Treasurer

Eileen Marks, Churchwarden

Fran Osborne

Elizabeth Schreiner

Annette Steiner

Frank Tortorello

Vinnie Tuccillo

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