

## The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
CANTON, OH



Greetings!

Please take a moment to make a note on your calendar: Saturday is the feast day for St. Mark! To celebrate this annual remembrance of our patron, you might want to read Morning Prayer and enjoy a good breakfast. Here's the collect for the day:



Almighty God, who by the hand of Mark the evangelist have given to your Church the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God: We thank you for this witness, and pray that we may be firmly grounded in its truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

You probably don't need a reminder from me about your patron, but there are a few points that may be worth remembering if someone ever asks you, "Why is St. Mark's named St. Mark's?" Some of these are correct. Others? Well, you might want to be a bit skeptical.

- Mark's Gospel is the shortest. The founders of the church chose St. Mark as its patron in the hope that preachers would keep that example in mind when preparing their sermons.
- Paul tells the Colossians (4:10) that if Mark should choose to

visit them, they should welcome him. That reminder about the importance of hospitality should guide us when we restore our "second liturgy," the coffee hour.

- The Gospel of Mark (14:51f) describes a young man "wearing nothing but a linen cloth" who observed the arrest of Jesus. When the arresting party grabbed Mark as well, "he left the linen cloth and ran off naked."
- Of all Latin first names, the most common is Mark. From February 2014 until my return to St. Mark's last spring, I reported first to Mark Pruitt, the rector of St. Paul's Akron, and then to our bishop, Mark Hollingsworth. Now, of course, I report to Derek "Mark" Gordon and to Rhonda "Mark" Warren.
- The symbol of Mark? Ahem. Note the name given this newsletter. Why? One suggestion is that Mark's Gospel begins by describing the proclamation of John the Baptist in the desert. Well, lions have been known to roar in the desert. Hence Mark = lion. Seem far-fetched? Yes, but the association is of long-standing, at least 1200 years. There is apparently no truth to the suggestion that Mark once said to a Roman soldier, "You can't hide your lion eyes."

Fr. Paul

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## Online Giving

To facilitate stewardship during this difficult time, the Diocese has launched an online giving resource. Simply set up your one-time or recurring gift and select your parish from the pull-down menu (Canton, St. Mark's). The Diocese will transfer your gift to St. Mark's.



You can add instructions to your donation. (IE: operations, mask initiative, restoration, etc.) If you have questions on this, please contact the [office](#).

We thank you for your continued support and prayers.

[Designate a Gift to St. Mark's](#)

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## "350 in 3" Outreach Project

Our mask production team currently consists of nine ladies. 160 masks have been completed thus far. There are two or three different styles being made in two different sizes and a variety of fabric patterns, so we will be able to offer the medical community a selection.

Many thanks to those who have donated their skills, materials and talents. I have every confidence we will meet or surpass our 350 goal by the end of April!

Kathy

Please join me in making a difference in our community by engaging in this mission and encouraging the use of God-given talents of your friends, neighbors, and families. To join in the mission and for instructional information please email me at [mskathykennedy@gmail.com](mailto:mskathykennedy@gmail.com) or call 330-317-8068.

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Third Sunday of Easter

Read This Week's  
Lessons

## An Interview with Caroline Willoughby



**Where were you born? What is something from your childhood you remember fondly?**

I was born while we were living in Cleveland Heights, and some of my best memories are the big family vacations we used to take. It was a lot of repeated places (Sunset Beach, NC; Walloon Lake, MI), but we just uncovered a picture from 1992 that is classic. We drove from Canton up through Michigan, through the Upper Peninsula and down into Wisconsin visiting friends. The picture is of the six of us standing in front of our conversion van with two chairs tied to the roof and us holding the 10 pound rabbit we were taking home. I thought it was great, but I can't imagine my dad's stress level.

**It seems like you are one of Mr. Morrison's regular soloists. Do you have a piece you really enjoy singing? When did you start singing?**

I feel like I've always been singing, but always in a group. Being a soloist was never a goal of mine - I joke that my dream job is being a backup singer for Kelly Clarkson :) St. Mark's had a children's choir at one time, so that was probably my first experience with organized singing. I was in the select groups at GlenOak High School (the Notables and the Drifters), sang in an all girls a cappella group at Miami University (like the movie Pitch Perfect), and trained for Broadway at a conservatory in NYC (where a teacher told me that I should learn German and study opera - I thought he was nuts). It wasn't until I returned to Ohio and joined the Canton Symphony Chorus that my voice started to blossom and singing became my favorite extra curricular. And now I'm singing with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus, and I can't wait until social distancing is over so we can meet again. My favorite piece to sing is "Precious Lord" by Thomas Dorsey. I learned it singing with the Miami University Collegiate Chorale, and it has stuck with me ever since.

**How did you end up in the Episcopal Church?**

I'm a cradle Episcopalian! Baptized at St. John's Cleveland Heights, and never left the church, even during my seven years in New York.

**If you had to pick a team from St. Mark's parishioners for tug of war, who's on your side?**

Based on their competitive natures more than anything: Drew Pelger, Katie Arnold and Derek Gordon. If it was based on strength, I wouldn't even compete :)

**Do you have any favorite quotes?**

"Sing out, Louise!" - from the musical Gypsy

**Tell us something about yourself we wouldn't otherwise know.**

I fully believe there is a right and a wrong way to load the dishwasher. I've been known to unload and reload before washing, even at someone else's house.

**What do you like most about St. Mark's?**

Everyone says it, but it's true for me, too: the people. I love our people! There are people that I would likely never encounter in every day life, but I'm so lucky to know them because of St. Mark's. The sense of community is unparalleled, whether its at St. Mark's, or any church I've attended during college or in New York or in northern Michigan. Episcopalians are my people.

**Do you have any pet peeves?**

I think the phrase "At the end of the day..." needs to be retired immediately. Drives me bonkers. And if you're an adult, I'm silently correcting your grammar. If you're one of my elementary school students, I'm correcting it to your face. :)

**Who do you nominate for the next interview?**

Mandy Pelger

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**A Note from Mr. Bob Morrison:**

"When My Life is Almost Gone" was the sentiment felt by black jazz musician Thomas Andrew Dorsey upon hearing of his wife's death in childbirth. This happened in 1932 when Dorsey was in St. Louis playing in a jazz group. Upon receiving the telegram he hurried back to Chicago only to find out that not only had his wife Nettie passed away, but also their child. Out of his grief, he wrote "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." He adapted the music of the tune "Maitland" (from 1844 with the text "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone) and "bluesdy" it up a bit to make the piece we now know - which became his most famous composition (of more than 400) and led to his designation as "father" of Gospel music. Not to be confused with trombonist/band leader Tommy Dorsey, the black musician Dorsey's father was a Baptist preacher, his mother a church organist. A child prodigy, he hung around the pianists at the Nickelodeon movie theater, eventually moving to Chicago. Following Nettie Harper's death he devoted the remainder of his long life (he died at 93) to Gospel music. "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" was the favorite song of Martin Luther King and President Lyndon Johnson. Singer Mahalia Jackson (who collaborated with Dorsey for five years beginning in 1939) popularized the song, and Caroline Willoughby has

sung it at St. Mark's.

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Due to the backstock of our generous parishioners, we were able to deliver food on April 15 for six families and some extras for Schreiber School to disperse out as

needed. We will have enough in our pantry to deliver more care packages of food in May before the official school year ends. If school should not happen to resume, we will make sure this food gets delivered before the end of May.

# Thankful Thursdays

Mandy Pelger and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has donated food over the course of the school year. The school families have truly appreciated it.

Kirk & Beth Bletzacker  
Thankful Thursdays

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## Prayer Concerns

Paul Welch, Ken McPeek, Billie Robertson, Emilie Korosi, Joan Werren, Ron and Peg Hill, Conley Family, Briggs Family, Susan

**Family and Friends:** Mike Cochran's (friend of Gordons'), Olivson Family (friends of Violands'), Eleanor Found (MaryAnn Kiesling's Aunt), Corbin Angeli, Thelma (friends/family of Jan Hudson), Suzy Clark (friend of Hixons'), Stacy Biglin (acquaintance of Derek Gordon), Autumn (granddaughter of Kerry and Zev), Bob Patterson (friend of Diana Cornell), Adriana (Pam McCarthy's daughter's friend), Olivia (friend of Paulette Frech), Jacobo-Quijada Family (Mandy Pelger's Student), Lynn McBride (father of Beth Crowl), Bridgette and Randy (friends of Ron and Cindy Brown), John Grandage (Kim Nadel's brother), Kristina Brinkman (friend of Kathy and Bob Kennedy), Monica McGrath (cousin of Katie Cerroni-Arnold), Ed Ott (friend of Ted and Cricket Boyd), Kellie Shuman (family of Giammarcos'), Baby David (friend of the Schaub's), Rose and Brian Gregory (friends of Ten Gall), Linda Kendrick, Marianne L. (friends of Kieslings'), Amara (granddaughter of Ken Jaeb), Conrad Family (friends of the Rands), Nancy Sauer and Helen Carnahan (friends to Diana

Cornell), Will Disman (friend of Sandy Paradis' son), John Russell, Erin Barr, Baby Hudson, John Streb (friends of the Mulls), Pastor Marilyn Roman (friend of St. Mark's), Lynnda Hoefler (friend of Sue Little), Linda Gibson (sister of Bobbi Gordon), Fletcher, Jamie, Katie Campbell (friend of Boyds'), Johnny Willoughby, Bobby Guerin (friend of Pam McCarthy), Jim Mesko (friend of Jim Weaver), Michelle Gibson-Garber (friends of the Gordons) Donald Pentz (friend of the Rands)

**For all those serving in the armed forces.**

**For all those who have died.**

Mary Fejes

Please share updates with Bobbi Gordon.

**PRAYER CHAIN:**

St. Mark's has a group of prayer warriors who pray for specific needs of those on the prayer chain. If you would like to place yourself or a loved one on the prayer chain, please contact Bobbi Gordon at

[ggordon24@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ggordon24@sbcglobal.net)

Please note, prayer requests may be placed on the Prayer Chain, in the Prayer Concerns list appearing here and in the Sunday bulletin, or in both places. Please let Bobbi know your preference.



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We seek to unite all people with God and each other in Christ through worship, fellowship, education, and service.

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