

Saint Mark's  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CANTON, OH



## The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
CANTON, OH



Greetings!

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### A TIMELY REFLECTION

As you probably know, the Episcopal Church calendar records both *major* feasts and fasts (Ash Wednesday, Easter, the Transfiguration) and *lesser feasts and fasts*. There is a volume dedicated to these dates with the uninspiring title, *The Proper for the Lesser Feasts and Fasts*.

Yesterday's recognition (Wednesday, August 12) is anything *but* uninspiring. There could hardly be a more inspiring model for these times than Florence Nightingale.

When she found herself called by God to become a nurse, her family was "horrified." James Kiefer explains why:

*In her day, nursing was done mostly by disabled army veterans or by women with no other means of support. It was common for nurses of either sex to be drunk on the job most of the time, and they had no training at all. It was common practice never to wash or change the sheets on a bed, not even when a patient died and his bed was given to a new patient.*

She refused to accept the status quo. Given administrative responsibility for a sanatorium in London, she proceeded to convert it "from a chamber of horrors into a model hospital" (Kiefer). In particular she worked to make nursing a respected

profession of dignity and focus.

For the full story of her service in the Crimean War and afterwards, I refer you to

[http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/Florence\\_Nightingale.htm](http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/Florence_Nightingale.htm) It is well worth reading.

Some years ago, while conducting research in Oxford, I was the guest of a nurse (the daughter of my Oxford bed-and-breakfast hostess) in the Royal Army Nursing Corps. She invited me to dinner at the officers' mess in London. It was apparent from the displays there how highly the Corps honors Nightingale as its unofficial founder. She provides an example of courage and dedication, but she demonstrated considerable political savvy as well in persuading Parliament to recognize army nurses—and to the profession of nursing.

The Collect for the Day:

*O God, who gave grace to your servant Florence Nightingale to bear your healing love into the shadow of death: Grant to all who heal the same virtues of patience, mercy, and steadfast love, that your saving health may be revealed to all.*

If you find a prayer better suited for this moment, let me know!

### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

On August 23, we will celebrate “Back to School” Sunday to honor students (of all ages), teachers (in school and in homes), and our important commitment to lifetime learning. Please take part. Is there a book you regard as particularly significant to your own education—whether in school 40 years ago or in your reading last week? If so, please bring it and place it on the altar for a blessing. We will also bless school supplies and backpacks. (If the weather does not permit our gathering outside, we will stream the service to your home.)

### **JOIN OUR HAPPY HOUR DISCUSSION**

The St. Mark's Informal Discussion Group met for the first time yesterday. We had a terrific exchange of ideas about ways of coping with the pandemic. Thanks again to Kathy Kennedy and Sandy Paradis for the recommendation that we resume these discussions. Beginning next week, the discussions will take place on **Thursday afternoons from 4:30-6 p.m.** We may

rename ourselves the St. Mark's Happy Hour Discussion Group but we will still be "informal." Next week's topic: "How Can We Best Serve Others During This Pandemic?" Please consider joining us by registering. Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0544a8ad2fa4fe3-informal>. We have increased the limit to 15. Weather permitting, we meet in the pavilion behind the church. If the weather is unpleasant, we will meet in the Family Room at respectful distances from one another.

Fr. Paul

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We still have open spots for Sundays through September. Volunteers are needed to help with setup, attendance, and streaming. Click the link below to sign up.

[Help with Sunday Setup](#)

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[Informal Discussion Signup](#)

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As you may know, we have resumed the Prayer for Birthdays and Prayer for Anniversaries. If you would like your birthday or anniversary to be acknowledged in the bulletin, or if you know of someone who should be acknowledged, please send that information to the church office no later than Monday prior to the appropriate Sunday bulletin.

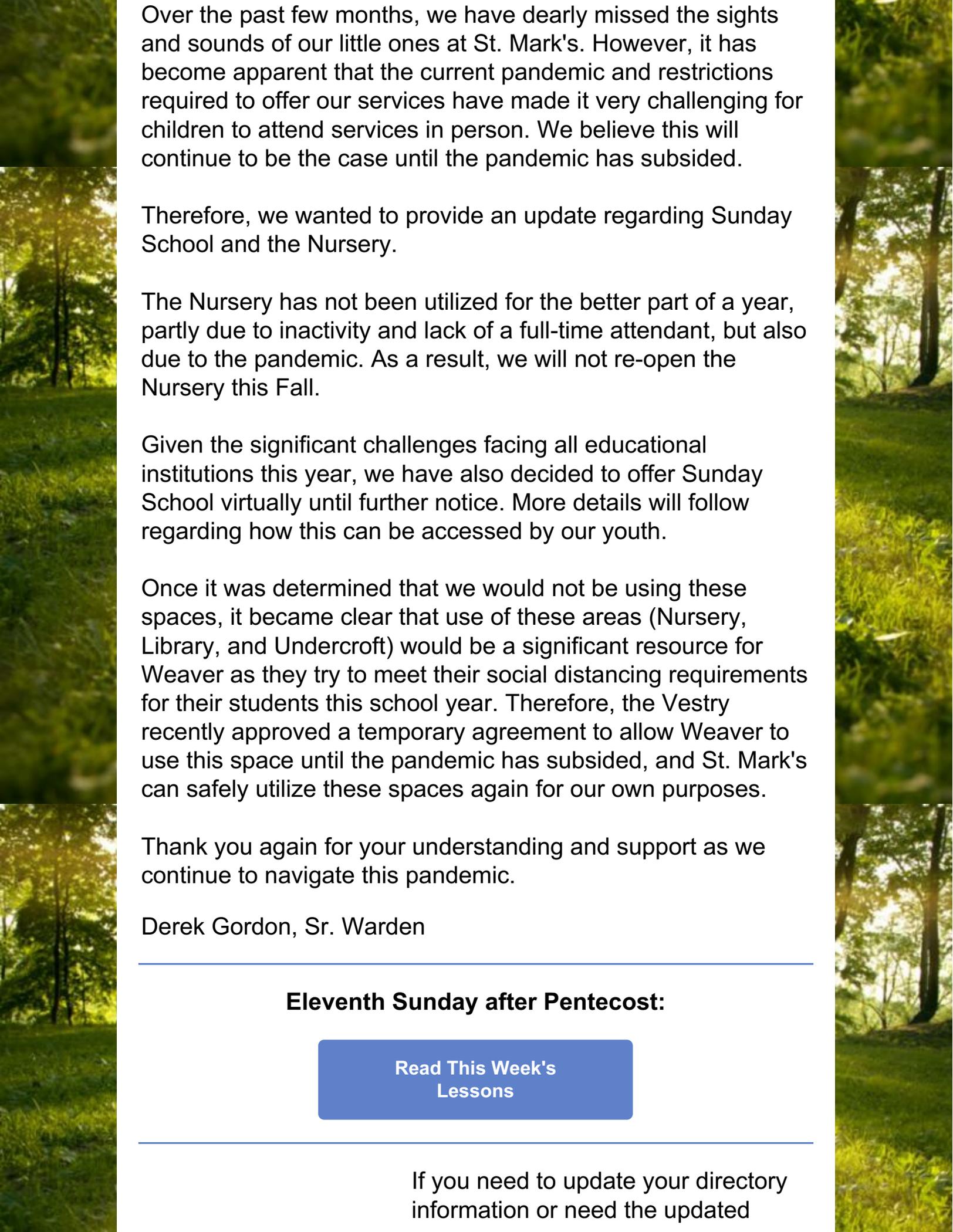
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Office hours next week are **Wednesday, August 19th**, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. No appointment is needed, but if you'd like to make one, you may do so by emailing the [office](#).

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**A Note from Sr. Warden Derek Gordon**



Over the past few months, we have dearly missed the sights and sounds of our little ones at St. Mark's. However, it has become apparent that the current pandemic and restrictions required to offer our services have made it very challenging for children to attend services in person. We believe this will continue to be the case until the pandemic has subsided.

Therefore, we wanted to provide an update regarding Sunday School and the Nursery.

The Nursery has not been utilized for the better part of a year, partly due to inactivity and lack of a full-time attendant, but also due to the pandemic. As a result, we will not re-open the Nursery this Fall.

Given the significant challenges facing all educational institutions this year, we have also decided to offer Sunday School virtually until further notice. More details will follow regarding how this can be accessed by our youth.

Once it was determined that we would not be using these spaces, it became clear that use of these areas (Nursery, Library, and Undercroft) would be a significant resource for Weaver as they try to meet their social distancing requirements for their students this school year. Therefore, the Vestry recently approved a temporary agreement to allow Weaver to use this space until the pandemic has subsided, and St. Mark's can safely utilize these spaces again for our own purposes.

Thank you again for your understanding and support as we continue to navigate this pandemic.

Derek Gordon, Sr. Warden

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### **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost:**

[Read This Week's  
Lessons](#)

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If you need to update your directory information or need the updated

directory, please [email](#) the office.



## **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.

We thank you for your continued support and prayers.

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

## **Morning Prayer**

Join us Sunday at 9 a.m. for Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary in the Woods. We will continue to gather for worship on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Betty Fortney chapel –WEATHER PERMITTING.

## **Sunday Live Stream**

You will be able to access the live stream by visiting our [Facebook page](#) (an account is not required.) Our video content will be the first posted content in the videos section and

should indicate that we are "live".

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## **Music Notes with Bob Morrison**

First United Brethren Church was located at Cleveland Avenue and 5th St. SW, catty-corner from St Paul's Episcopal. The building was dedicated in 1894 and its minister was one Dr. Williamson from England. One of his challenges was to make peace between two factions concerning Masonic Membership. Some said it was compatible with Christian teaching, others said it wasn't. He was able to reconcile these differences and was also good at evangelizing.

One of the non-churchgoers he visited was a Mr. Cogan. His daughter Ruth told me that she heard her father say, "Uh-oh. Here comes Rev. Williamson. What excuse can I give him?" Well, he ran out of excuses, became an active member and trustee chair, and was so impressed with the preacher that he paid for the education of his son John Finley Williamson at Otterbein in Westerville.

Young Williamson became the choirmaster of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dayton, OH, and in 1920 he founded a choir school there. The choir became so popular that they toured the U.S. and sang in Carnegie Hall, Boston Symphony Hall, Chicago, and the White House for Coolidge (and later Eisenhower and FDR.)

They went to Europe in 1929 and Russia in 1934. In 1932, Westminster Choir College moved to Princeton, NJ, and it was there, in 1949, that I came as a grad student.

More next week.

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# Prayer Concerns

Charlie Becker, Paul Welch, Ron and Peg Hill,  
Jack and Pauline Briggs

**Family and Friends:** David White, Judy Provo (friend of Cricket

Boyd), Marc Hostetler (brother of Susan Hostetler), Gabrielle Karam (friend of Diana Cornell), Anna Brown (Eloise Hochwalt's sister), Dave Jarvis (family of Ron and Peg Hill), Cody Hixon (cousin to Bruce and Judy Hixon), Don, 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), Jacobo-Quijada Family (Mandy Pelger's Student), Lynn McBride (father of Beth Crowl), John Grandage (Kim Nadel's brother), Monica McGrath (cousin of Katie Cerroni-Arnold), Baby David (friend of the Schaub's), 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 Streb (friend of the Mulls), Pastor Marilyn Roman (friend of St. Mark's), Lynnda Hoefler (friend of Sue Little), Linda Gibson (sister of Bobbi Gordon), 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.**

**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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[WWW.STMARKS-CANTON.ORG](http://WWW.STMARKS-CANTON.ORG)

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

[St. Mark's Church](#)  
[The Episcopal Church](#)



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