

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS



**PLEASE WEAR
A MASK**

In view of COVID transmission rates in Stark Co. and CDC guidelines, we are requesting that all persons attending services at St. Mark's continue to wear a mask inside the building.

Rector's Ramblings with Fr. RJ

Saturday, August 28, is the commemoration of Augustine, Bishop of Hippo. In the early part of his life, Augustine would not have appeared to be a likely candidate to become a bishop. Although he was a brilliant scholar, his personal life was characterized by several vices. However, Augustine fell under the influence of Ambrose, Bishop of Milan. Augustine wrote an autobiographical account of the years up to and shortly after his conversion in the Confessions. A reading of the Confessions reveals that Augustine believed that it was God seeking Augustine rather than Augustine seeking God that resulted in his conversion.

After Augustine's conversion, he moved back to Africa. Once while he was visiting the City of Hippo, the Bishop of Hippo said the church there needed a priest, and said God had

chosen Augustine to be that priest. The people of the church grabbed Augustine and took him to the bishop who ordained him. Later, when the Bishop of Hippo died, Augustine was appointed to take his place.

Augustine was key figure in the refutation of two heresies. First, Augustine disputed the heresy of Donatism. The Donatists taught the the holiness of the church was determined by the holiness of its members and particularly its clergy. Augustine argued that the holiness of the church is dependent on the holiness of Christ, who is the head of the church.

This is important to our understanding of the sacraments. If the efficacy of the sacrament depends on the holiness of the minister, we can never be certain of the grace conferred by the sacrament. If the sacrament depends only on the holiness of Christ and Christ's promise, then we can have full confidence that the sacrament conveys the grace promised by Christ.

The second heresy refuted by Augustine was the Pelagian heresy. Pelagius taught that everyone had been given the free will to make the choice to follow the example of Adam, and choose to sin, or the example of Christ, and choose to live righteously. If a person was not a good person, they simply needed to try harder. Humans, he taught, had the power to convert themselves. Augustine responded that God alone is the source of all good. The good that we do is done only by God's grace at work in us.

In the refutation of these two heresies, Augustine taught us to rely on the grace and mercy of God alone. Even if the church and its leaders do not act holy, the church remains holy because Christ is holy. We do not achieve our own salvation. Rather it is God's grace at work in us that saves us and that leads to amendment of life.

Fr. RJ

**Outreach: Blessing Box at
Hope Outreach Ministry**

Reminder that we are still

providing personal items for the area homeless, including toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, toilet paper, tissues, hand sanitizer, paper towels, deodorants, band-aids, and other personal care products. They are also in need of food items, such as cans of fruit, applesauce, tuna fish, crackers, and any ready-to-eat items. Remember that anything in a can should have a pull top since can openers are not necessarily available. Please place items into the Hope Chest located across from the coat room.



The Diocese has continued to offer easy online giving. To use this, please select "St. Mark's Canton" from the dropdown, and choose either a one-time or recurring gift. We thank you for your continued support.



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Sunday, August 29
Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.
In-Person and Live Stream
[Lessons](#) (Track 2)
[Bulletin](#)
[Live Stream](#)



Wednesday, September 1
Evening Prayer, 4:00 p.m.
[Bulletin](#)
[Zoom](#)
Vestry, 5:30 p.m.

Book Club will begin meeting again on Monday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Bob's Music Notes

Selecting a new home was a major issue. Kathleen was having stair problems and one of the many nice features of St. Mark's was no steps! One could walk directly from the parking area into the narthex and the sanctuary. And for our home, we needed to find something on one floor.

Our search of available options was not rewarding. We had reached the conclusion that we'd have to build to find a suitable dwelling, and were impressed with the property options opened to us by the Estates of Glenmoor. Our realtor showed us plots in the Cloisters section, which, we figured, we could afford rather than the more costly divisions. We were shown three lots, none of which I favored except for the more expensive one (due to a pie-shape that covered more ground). It overlooked the Timken farm. But Kathleen, never one to hide her feelings, said it was too expensive. My argument against her complaint was that this property was the last unsold one on the Cloister development overlooking farm land. Every other lot simply had views of other houses. Well, she finally agreed and, a few years later, while we were sitting in the dinette, she said, "You know, no matter which way I look it's a pretty view." What a relief.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

4 Jack Gordon
11 Tory Willoughby
13 Pamela Clark

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

1 Drew and Mandy Pelger
4 Bruce and Jane Schutrum
13 Bob and Kathy Kennedy
26 John and Tory Willoughby

Prayer Concerns

Jim Weaver, Jane Schutrum, Ron Hill, Amelia Rowland, Ron Brookes, Jack and Pauline Briggs

Family and Friends: Cricket Boyd, Diana, Carol, & Lynnda Hoefler (friends of Sue Little); Sherry, Carson, Noah, Linda Kendrick, & Gail (friends of the Kieslings); Hugh Clark (friend of the Hixons & Kieslings); Ray Slinger (friend of Bob Morrison), Janet Sheatzley Morgan (Barb Siegfried's sister); Chuck Schuerer and Beth Conley (friends of Cricket Boyd); Carol Jones (daughter of Buck & BJ Jones); Steve O'Krepki and Corinna (family of Beth Crowl); Dr. Angela Peters & family (friend of the Kennedys); Judy Evans & Bobby Guerin (friends of Pam McCarthy); Addelyn (friend of Judy Hixon); Sandy Snyder (friend of the Rands); Jerry Burris (friend of the Thorleys); Lesley, Rob & Holly (friends of Paulette Frech); Jim Bellamy (friend of Marcia Tirpak); Marc Hostetler (brother of Susan Hostetler); Baby David (friend of the Schaub's); Bob Patterson (friends of Diana Cornell); Camila Guzman family and Pastor Marilyn Roman (friends of the Mulls); Johnny Willoughby; Jim Mesko (friend of Jim Weaver).

PRAYER CHAIN:

St. Mark's has a group of prayer warriors who pray for the 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

Prayer requests may be placed on the private Prayer Chain or on the Prayer Concerns list appearing in The Lion's Pause and Sunday bulletin or in both places. Please let Bobbi know your preference. Unless otherwise instructed, names will be listed as we receive them. Please update Bobbi or Katie on the status of your friends or family members as to when they may be removed from the prayer lists.



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