

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



Greetings!

During the week in which we celebrate Christmas, routine communications such as the Lion's Pause can be overlooked. That's a pity because the week is one in which we acknowledge three important holy days.

Today (Thursday, December 26) we honor St. Stephen, the church's first martyr. (You may know the song: "Good King Wenceslas looked out / On the feast of Stephen.") When Stephen declared boldly that the Temple was no longer offering access to God's forgiveness, the leaders declared him a heretic and had him stoned. Saul of Tarsus, who would later be converted dramatically to the Christian faith, observed his execution.

Tomorrow (Friday, December 27) we honor St. John, one of the twelve apostles. He is often described as among those present at Jesus' miracles. We attribute to him three epistles and the Gospel named for him. But the issues of authorship are too complex to cover in a brief note.

Finally, on Saturday (December 28) we remember the account in Matthew 2 of the slaughter of young children

("holy innocents") at the order of King Herod. The day offers an appropriate opportunity to pray for all children and young people caught up in strife or bureaucratic indifference. Through the collect, we ask that God "receive into the arms of thy mercy all innocent victims." We pray also that God will "frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish thy rule of justice, love, and peace."

Fr. Paul



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

[Read This Week's Lessons](#)

To read a letter from Fr. Carey Sloan, please click [here](#).

Notable *Music This Sunday*

Lessons and Carols will be replete with resident pianist Ron Hill, guest Joyce Corbett, guest tenor David White, solos by our regular choristers and a choir selection combining themes from Tchaikowsky's Nutcracker with "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" - all at 10:00 a.m., one service only this day.

Upcoming *Events*

Sunday, December 29th:

Lessons and Carols, One Service at 10am

Sunday, January 19th:

Annual Meeting

One Service at 9:00am

Katie will be out of the office December 31 and January 1, and January 10-20th.



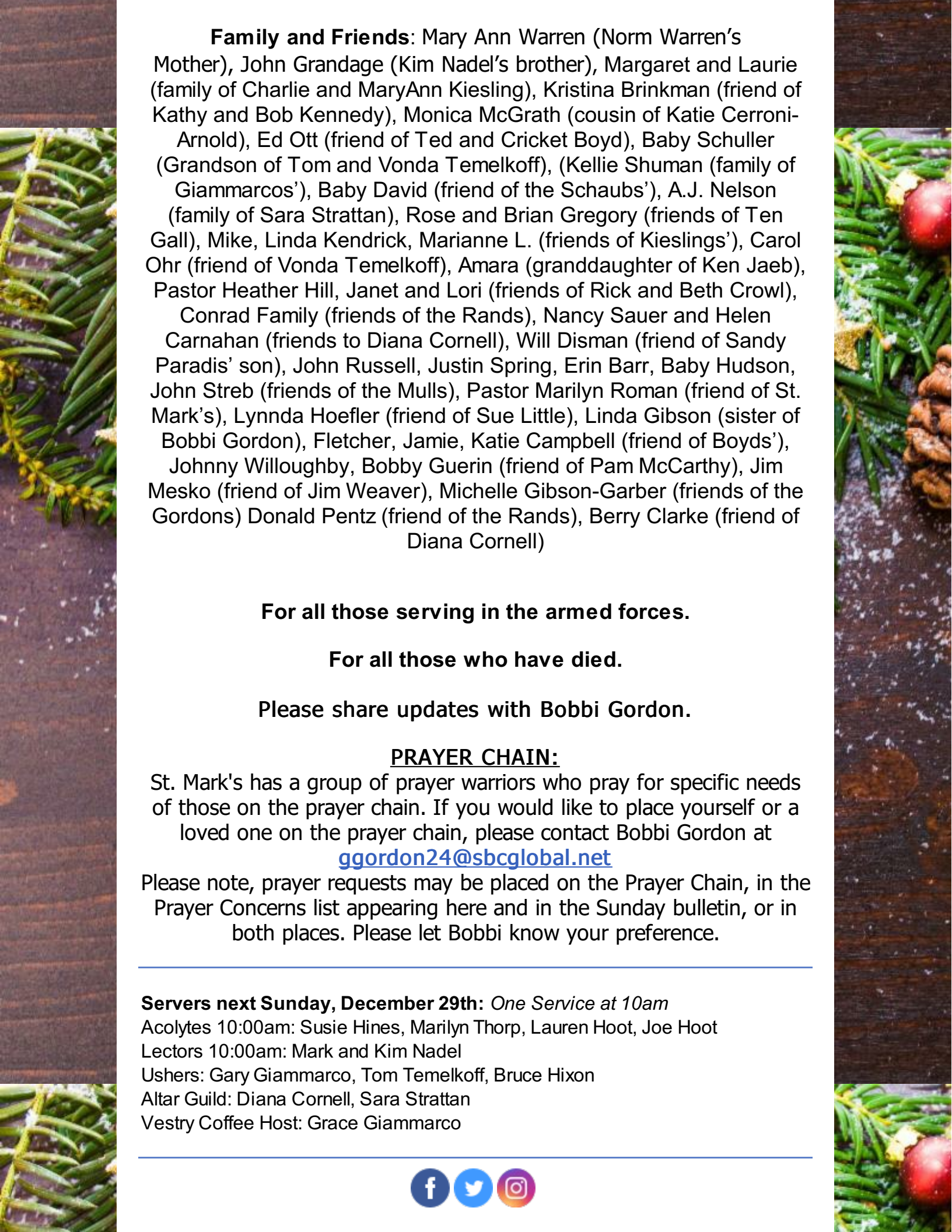
Thankful *Thursdays*

Our Thankful Thursday ministry continues to bless five families from Schreiber Elementary School in Canton where our own Mandy Pelger teaches. Due to everyone's generosity, we were able to send home food and Giant Eagle gift cards to the families to help get them through their Christmas Break.

The Food Pantry is now running low on the following items: **Oatmeal, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Tuna & Chicken, Noodles (for casseroles), Cream of Chicken & Mushroom Soups, Baked Beans, Canned Chili, and Pasta Sauce.**

Prayer *Concerns*

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



Family and Friends: Mary Ann Warren (Norm Warren's Mother), John Grandage (Kim Nadel's brother), Margaret and Laurie (family of Charlie and MaryAnn Kiesling), Kristina Brinkman (friend of Kathy and Bob Kennedy), Monica McGrath (cousin of Katie Cerroni-Arnold), Ed Ott (friend of Ted and Cricket Boyd), Baby Schuller (Grandson of Tom and Vonda Temelkoff), (Kellie Shuman (family of Giammarcos'), Baby David (friend of the Schaub's'), A.J. Nelson (family of Sara Strattan), Rose and Brian Gregory (friends of Ten Gall), Mike, Linda Kendrick, Marianne L. (friends of Kieslings'), Carol Ohr (friend of Vonda Temelkoff), Amara (granddaughter of Ken Jaeb), Pastor Heather Hill, Janet and Lori (friends of Rick and Beth Crowl), Conrad Family (friends of the Rands), Nancy Sauer and Helen Carnahan (friends to Diana Cornell), Will Disman (friend of Sandy Paradis' son), John Russell, Justin Spring, 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), Berry Clarke (friend of Diana Cornell)

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

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.

Servers next Sunday, December 29th: *One Service at 10am*

Acolytes 10:00am: Susie Hines, Marilyn Thorp, Lauren Hoot, Joe Hoot

Lectors 10:00am: Mark and Kim Nadel

Ushers: Gary Giammarco, Tom Temelkoff, Bruce Hixon

Altar Guild: Diana Cornell, Sara Strattan

Vestry Coffee Host: Grace Giammarco



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

Quick *Links*

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