

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



Monday was the Commemoration of the Conversion of St. Paul. Many people in the church are familiar with the story of Paul's conversion, recorded in Acts chapter 9. It took a radical intervention of God to turn Paul from persecuting the church to become a church planter.

Although Paul's conversion is well known, it is not the normal kind of conversion story in the church. More often people who have been raised in the church would say that their conversion was more gentle and more gradual. Of course, we can point to our baptism as the event that brought us into the church. However, coming to faith, to a time when we could say that we put our trust in Jesus, is often more of a process.

At the end of the Book of Acts, Paul stood before King Agrippa and recounted the event of his conversion and the difference it had made in his life. (Acts 26:9-21)

The important thing about our conversion stories is not how dramatic they were. The important thing about our conversion stories is that we can tell them. Even if coming to faith was a process, there are probably milestones along the way. One may be a summer camp or a youth event. Another may be a Bible Study. There may be markers of prayers that were answered. In all of these things God was drawing us to faith.

If you have not thought about the ways in which God drew you to faith for a while, it might be a healthy exercise to write down

some of the milestones where God was particularly active. Doing this exercise has several effects. One is that it reminds us that our conversion was God's work rather than our own. Another is that it strengthens our faith as we consider how God has been active in our lives. Finally, it prepares us to be able to tell others about the difference God has made in our lives.

Fr. RJ



In the coming weeks we plan to begin listing birthdays and anniversaries in both the bulletin and Lion's Pause. If you'd like yours listed, please [email the office](#) with names and dates. Thank you!

St. Mark's has a Zoom account that may be used by parish groups wishing to set up meetings. If your ministry is interested in learning more, please contact Katie.



Wednesday, January 27

Evening Prayer, 4 p.m.

[Bulletin](#)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 990 5868 1859

Passcode: 682200

Sunday, January 31

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. on Facebook Live

[Bulletin](#)

[Live Stream](#)

Katie will be out of the office January 29-February 8.

[Information for Winter Convocation](#)



Join us every Sunday at
9:00 A.M. on Facebook Live

St. Mark's
Episcopal Church



Sunday School

St. Mark's Sunday School is continuing with their lessons each Sunday via ZOOM. All of our wonderful teachers are doing a great job keeping the lessons

creative in this remote setting. If a child in your life is interested in joining us, please contact Emily Gordon at ecgordon16@gmail.com.

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

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Read This Week's
Lessons

Music Notes **with Bob Morrison**



My first choir rehearsal at my new assignment as music minister at First Methodist in downtown Canton in September 1951 started off with the former paid quartet folks saying "Are you going to fire us?"

"Not a chance," I told them. In fact, their willingness to stay on despite not being paid was a great plus. Kathleen Carter Matter, for example, had studied voice at Mount Union in Alliance with a former opera singer from France. She, for a time, had a regular WHBC radio program, accompanied by none other than the parish musician at St. Paul's Episcopal downtown, Martin Alexander.

Marty was a gifted improviser --and had the deepest bass voice of anyone I've ever encountered. In a choir I later conducted consisting of ministers and professional musicians, his bass voice was exceptional. He was justly proud of his years at St. Paul's and we jokingly referred to his work as "Art for Mart's sake." WHBC had a Hammond Organ and Mrs. Matter and Marty made a fine duo.

In later years, Mrs. Matter was the soprano soloist at my wedding with Kathleen. She sang "Beloved, It Is Morn" and "The Ring" from Schumann's song cycle "Woman's Life and Love." And when our choir did Schubert's "Miriam's Song of Triumph", she was the soloist. In my mind I can hear her soaring voice "Sound the cymbals! Strike the timbrels! Miriam bids upraise the lay."

Amelia Rowland, Harry Kit, Ron Brookes, Charlie Becker, Jack and Pauline Briggs

Family and Friends: Caleb (Mandy Pelger's nephew), Jerry Burris (friend of the Thorley's), Paula Temelkoff (daughter-in-law of the Temelkoff's), Erin, Troy, & Trystan (Schutrum family), Linda Kendrick (friend of the Kiesling's), Bridget & Tony (Friends of the Browns), Lesley (family friend of Paulette Frech), Addelyn, Don, (friends of Judy Hixon), Jim Bellamy (friend of Marcia Tirpak), Christine, Anne, & Lynnda Hoefler (friends of Sue Little), Marc Hostetler (brother of Susan Hostetler), Gabrielle Karam (friend of Diana Cornell), Stacy Biglin

Prayer Concerns

(acquaintance of Derek Gordon), Adriana (Pam McCarthy's daughter's friend), Lynn McBride (father of Beth Crowl), Baby David (friend of the Schaub's), Nancy Sauer and Helen Carnahan, Bob Patterson (friends of Diana Cornell), John Streb, Pastor Marilyn Roman (friends of the Mulls), Johnny Willoughby, Bobby Guerin (friend of Pam McCarthy), Jim Mesko (friend of Jim Weaver), Michelle Gibson-Garber (friends of the Gordons) Donald Pentz, Conrad Family, (friend of Bill and Beck Rand).

For all those serving in the Armed Forces.
For all those who have died.

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.

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, 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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