

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



January 6 marks the end of the Christmas Season, and the beginning of the Epiphany Season. The church marks the beginning of Epiphany by recounting the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem, where they honored Jesus. This is a fulfillment of the words of the Prophet Isaiah. "Nations shall stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning." (Isaiah 60)

The Lord used an unusual method to reveal the birth of Jesus to the Magi. The Lord used an astronomical event. It may have been very similar to the one we could have witnessed a couple of weeks ago had the clouds not obscured it, as Saturn and Jupiter appeared to converge. One thing we should remember is that the practice of astrology was forbidden to the Jewish people. Both the Prophet Jeremiah and the Prophet Isaiah warn the people against looking to the stars to discern the will of God. (Jeremiah 10:2, Isaiah 47:13-15)

The Jewish people had a more reliable and complete revelation of the will of the Lord. The Lord has spoken to them through the Law and the Prophets. The Magi did not have the benefit of that revelation, so they looked to the stars. The Lord used the stars to lead the Magi to an even more complete revelation, the person of Jesus Christ. The Lord spoke to them in a language they understood.

Our celebration of the Season of Epiphany is a celebration of the desire of the Lord to be known by us. The Lord displayed this desire by leading the Magi with a star. Many of us can

probably tell a story of how the Lord has been revealed to us in an unexpected way. This is not to diminish the prominence of Scripture as the source of our understanding of who the Lord is and what the Lord wants. However, sometimes the Lord has to get our attention in unexpected ways.

During this Season of Epiphany, pay attention to the ways that the Lord expresses the desire to be known. The readings for each week will show the Lord's self-revelation.

Fr. RJ



Wednesday, January 6

Evening Prayer, 4 p.m.

[Bulletin](#)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 998 9363 2339

Passcode: 602536

Sunday, January 10

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. on Facebook Live

[Bulletin](#)

[Live Stream](#)

Save the Date:

Annual Meeting

January 17 after the 9 a.m. service.

Details to follow.

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. There are some fun plans in store for the Advent season, so keep a look out for that! 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](#)

First Sunday after the Epiphany

[Read This Week's Lessons](#)

Music Notes with Bob Morrison

The Methodist folks in the downtown Church extended an invitation to me to be their musician, so, on Friday, August 31, 1951, my parents drove me from Baltimore

over the newly built Pennsylvania Turnpike to Lisbon, OH, and thence on back roads to Canton -- no Ohio Turnpike yet. They deposited my suitcase at the YMCA, which would be my home for the next two years - only two blocks from the church.



Pastor Roland Gilbert Hohn did not think it would be proper to expect me to play on September 2nd, Labor Day weekend, having only arrived on Friday. This gave me the opportunity to observe Don Farley's work at the organ and the singing of soprano soloist Kathleen Carter Matter. Mr. Farley could not have been more helpful in showing me around the office and describing what he had been doing for 15 years. When he said he had held this post for that long I thought to myself, "How could anyone stay in one place like that for 15 years?" Whenever he'd tell me the way he had ministered, he would add, "But a new broom sweeps clean." I tried to assure him that I would want to carry on his tradition - and I did.

Amelia Rowland, Harry Kit, Ron Brookes, Charlie Becker, Paul Welch, Ron and Peg Hill, Jack and Pauline Briggs

Prayer Concerns

Family and Friends: Baby Mason (family of the Moore Family), Bridget & Tony (Friends of the Browns), Tim Whitehouse (acquaintance of Sara Strattan), Lesley (family friend of Paulette Frech), Pam Belknap (friend of Judy Hixon), John Reft (family of Bill and Beck Rand), Judy Locke (friend of Ken Jaeb), Dr. Sanford Lopater (friend of Mulls'), Jan Atkinson (friend of Hixons'), Addelyn (friends of the Hixons), Jim Bellamy (friend of Marcia Tirpak), Bonnie Manos (friend of Judy Gibbs), Sarah (daughter of Bill and Beck Rand), Anne (friend of Sue Little), Marc Hostetler (brother of Susan Hostetler), Gabrielle Karam (friend of Diana Cornell), Dave Jarvis (family of Ron and Peg Hill), Cody Hixon (cousin to Bruce and Judy Hixon), Don, 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), Lynn McBride (father of Beth Crowl), Monica McGrath (cousin of Katie Cerroni-Arnold), Baby David (friend of the Schaub), Marianne L. (friend of the Kieslings), Conrad Family (friends of the Rands), Nancy Sauer and Helen Carnahan (friends of Diana Cornell), John Streb (friend

of the Mulls), Pastor Marilyn Roman (friend of St. Mark's), Lynnda Hoefler (friend of Sue Little), Katie Campbell (friend of the 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 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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