

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



Greetings!

When there is a death in the parish, we sorrow. We do what we can to support the family and friends and, as appropriate, we celebrate a life well lived and commend our friend to God's care. When there are many deaths within a brief period, we may feel challenged to give each the respect that it deserves and to extend our assistance to each family. But we meet that challenge! In the midst of a pandemic, we face an unprecedented challenge in offering the ministry we want to offer in compliance with state and diocesan guidelines. Again, I believe we are meeting the challenge, but we are aware of what we are missing--the opportunity to gather as a parish to offer our prayers, our sorrow, and our support.

Because of the constraints that are in effect, many families at this time are choosing a relatively brief service, the liturgy of Commendation and Committal, which appears on pp. 499-505 in the *Book of Common Prayer*. Although C&C is in itself a complete and profound liturgy, it does not provide for the readings and reflections we find in the longer liturgy, nor does it include the Eucharist.

For this reason, once the cloud of the coronavirus lifts and we are able to resume our full life as a church, the wardens and I will schedule a special parish service of thanksgiving and remembrance. In addition to sharing our gratitude for deliverance from the pandemic, we will offer the full burial service, with Eucharist, in memory of all of the parishioners we have lost during this difficult period.

□

Yesterday (Wednesday, July 22) was our opportunity within the church calendar to recall the "apostle to the apostles." The Gospels report that this apostle (a) was a faithful follower of Jesus, (b) was

present when Jesus was crucified and buried, (c) was at the tomb on Easter morning in order to anoint the body of Jesus, (d) was the first of the apostles to experience the risen Christ, and (e) was the bearer of the good news of resurrection to the apostles. No, not Peter. Not Mark. Mary Magdalene!

When we hear conservative voices insisting on an exclusively male priesthood, we might want to think of our first apostle, who was a woman!

The Collect for this day is particularly powerful:

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed of all our infirmities and know you in the power of his unending life.



James Kiefer provides related etymological trivia. In the tradition of their odd condensed pronunciations, the British pronounce the name “Magdalene” (as in Magdalen College, Oxford) as “maudlin.” Thus, because we associate Mary Magdalene with sorrow for her sins and with weeping for Jesus, our word “maudlin” means sorrowful or sentimental.

Fr. Paul



Office hours next week are **Monday, July 27, from 12:00 to 1:30**, following a funeral scheduled for that morning. The hours on Monday will replace those formerly scheduled for Wednesday--for that week only. No appointment is needed, but if you'd like to make one you may do so by emailing the [office](#).

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost:

Read This Week's
Lessons



We could still use volunteers on Sundays for setup, attendance, and streaming. If you are able to help, please sign up [here](#). These volunteers ensure that our outdoor services and online streaming can continue.



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.

You can add instructions to your donation. (IE: operations, restoration, etc.) If you have questions on this, please contact the [office](#).

We thank you for your continued support and prayers.

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

Join us Sunday at 9:00am for Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary in the Woods. We will continue to gather for worship on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in the Betty Fortney chapel--WEATHER PERMITTING.



No news is good news -- If weather does not allow for use of the outdoor sanctuary, we will email you on Sunday morning to alert you of this change. If you do not hear from us, services will continue as planned.

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".

An Appreciation of Mrs. A, part 5, conclusion- Bob Morrison

And when Spring rolls around we chant "All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, he made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings. He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God almighty, who has made all things well." It's possible that Mrs. Alexander was influenced by Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* which states "He prayeth best who loveth best, all things great and small." And veterinarian/author James Herriot used this hymn to title several of his books.

Ah, the power of simple language - so powerful, that, on his deathbed, Archbishop Alexander said, "I will be remembered only as the husband of Cecil Frances Alexander."

Paul Welch, Billie Robertson, Ron and
Peg Hill, Jack and Pauline Briggs,
Susan

Family and Friends: Anna Brown

Prayer Concerns

(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), Kellie Shuman (family of Giammarcos'), Baby David (friend of the Schaub's), Rose and Brian Gregory (friends of Ten Gall), 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 Russell, 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), 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.

Emilie Korosi, Don Lovgren, Joan Werren, Kathleen Conley

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.



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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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