

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



Greetings!

On Sunday, for the first time in a while, we will follow Rite I for our service of Morning Prayer. This Rite, which will be familiar to the more “experienced” members of our congregation, echoes in many respects the “Ordre for Mattyns” in the First Prayer Book of Edward VI, published in 1549. Echoes? The Collect for Peace you will hear on Sunday begins as follows:

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom

Compare the 1549 version:

O God, which art author of peace, and louer of concorde, in knowledge of whome standeth oure eternall life, whose seruice is perfect fredome

As I mentioned in a recent *Lion's Pause*, Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, was not solely responsible for our Book of Common Prayer, but he deserves the

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share of the credit for translating (and editing) Roman Catholic liturgies and for some original prayers. There are many differences between our Book of Common Prayer and that of 1549, but a comparison of our Rite I liturgies with many of those in the 1549 prayer book will reveal more similarities than

differences. If time-traveling visitors from the Church of England in 1549 find their way to St. Mark's on Sunday, they will feel right at home. Who knows? Take a look around!

On Saturday, we celebrate Independence Day. Our church's collect for that holiday is as follows:

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant, we beseech thee, that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace.

To anticipate our liturgy on Sunday, I have quoted the "traditional language" version.

We hope for good weather on Sunday so that we may worship once again in the Betty Fortney Sanctuary. However, for the first time, if the weather does *not* permit, those who wish may join us in the sanctuary. As Charlie explained on Sunday, we are making many preparations so that our sacred space will be as safe as possible. If you choose to join us, please follow the signs, wear a mask, and use the sanitizer. If you prefer not to worship indoors, you will still be able to join us thanks to our streaming of the service. Last week, we welcomed 281 online viewers! The time for our "meaningful but brief" service remains the same: 9:00 AM.

Fr. Paul

Guided by state and diocesan policies, we hope to resume regular mid-week office hours on **Wednesday, July 15**. Both the interim rector and the office manager will be present. Requiring no reservation, the hours will be 10-2.

In the meantime, office hours will continue to be available by reservation on Sundays from 10 to 12. If you wish to speak with Fr. Gaston or to reserve time alone in the sanctuary, please call Katie at 330-499-2662 or email her at office@stmarks-canton.org no later than noon on Saturday. (1) You may make an appointment for 30 minutes or for 1 hour.

(2) Only two visitors may visit at a time—though exceptions can be made for members of the same family. All visitors must wear masks. Fr. Gaston will wear a mask as well.

(3) Discussions with Fr. Gaston will take place in the library, which will be sanitized following each visitor. No one should enter the church office.

We hope that it will be possible to relax these limitations in mid-July. We will provide clarification early next month.

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost:

Read This Week's
Lessons

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.



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. (If there is a threat of thunderstorms we will move into the Nave.)

Please remember:

- Masks are required. (If you do not have a mask, please visit the table and one will be provided to you.)
- Social distancing is required.
- Some areas are only open to staff.



- Some areas only allow one person at a time.
- If you are ill or feeling unwell, please stay home.

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".

Guidelines and expectation for St. Mark's inside services.

The sanctuary, narthex, entrance hall and bathrooms will be cleaned Saturday afternoon, and again after the Sunday Service.

Other areas of the building are not open for general use.

Doors will be propped open to limit the number of people touching the handles.

There will be three automatic hand sanitizer stations available.

There are no books or papers in the pews. (Like the national parks if you carry it in, carry it out)

Everyone should enter the building through the front doors.

Remember to social distance and wear your mask. (It's not about you, it's about the comfort level of the entire St. Mark's family)

The sanctuary can be entered from narthex or the entrance hall. There will be a few chairs set up in the narthex for anyone that medically should not be wearing a mask.

Seating: After the first two rows, every other row is available for seating. Our expectation is you will maintain social distancing in the available rows based on the number in your social group. (Again, it's not about you, it's about the comfort level of the entire St. Mark's family)

After the service:

There will be no snacks or drinks available after the service. We are expected to leave the building and not gather in small groups in the narthex and entrance hall. (Remember Social Distancing)

The columbarium door will be open for exiting the sanctuary to limit congestion at the other two doors.



Thanks to the many working hard to make St. Mark's very gradual reopening possible. You are appreciated!

An Appreciation of Mrs. A, part 2, the poetry of Cecil Frances Alexander-Bob Morrison

The thing that grabs me is how she can use the simplest language to convey a spiritual truth.

Now, this is quite a contrast with, say, Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, who could write "As kingfishers catch fire, dragonflies draw flame; as tumbled over rim in roundy wells, stones ring; like each tucked string tells, each hung bell's, Bow swung finds tongue to fling out broad its name....." I leave such elegant language's explanation to our learned priest Paul Gaston, who, with his background as professor of English literature at KSU, would unlock the secrets of this genius.

Here, for example, is her take on the Wise Men: "Saw you never, in the twilight, when the sun had left the skies, Up in heaven the clear stars shining, through the gloom, like silver eyes? So of old the Wise Men saw it, saw a little stranger star, and they knew the King was given, and they followed it from far." Every Epiphany season our choir sings this text in a setting by Wilbur Held (who was still composing shortly before his death at age 100).

(To be continued next week...)

Paul Welch, Billie Robertson, Emilie Korosi, Joan Werren, Ron and Peg Hill, Conley Family, Briggs Family,

Susan

Prayer Concerns

Family and Friends: Michele Mellor (friend of David White), 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.
Ken McPeek**

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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