



THE LION'S PAUSE



Greetings!

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7)

[Read This Week's Lesson](#)

Frankly Speaking



The **Episcopal**
Diocese of Ohio

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Mark:

June 19, 2018

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This Father's Day was very difficult for me. Recollections of my own father were the same as always, filled with gratitude and familiar longing, now 33 years since his death. As well, the usual awareness of my own shortcomings as a dad and my appreciation for the patience and forgiveness of my children were similar to that of previous years.

As a foster, adoptive, and biological father, however, I was overcome with thoughts of the countless immigrant fathers separated from their children on this Father's Day - in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and here in Ohio. My prayers kept returning to Marco Antonio Muñoz, the 39-year-old Honduran father who led his wife and 3-year-old son across the Rio Grande last month, seeking asylum and hoping to bring them to a safer and more secure life. When Mr. Muñoz resisted being separated from them upon arrest, he became distraught and violent, and was taken to an isolation cell 40 miles away, where he took his own life.

It is natural for most fathers to protect and provide for their children. We want them to be safe and happy, to live without fear and have opportunities to grow into responsible citizens. After fleeing his homeland following the murder of his brother-in-law, Mr. Muñoz went to extraordinary lengths to protect and provide for his family, only to end his life in despair and the conviction that he had failed them.

Immigration policy is complicated and complex, and reasonable people hold a range of opinions on how it should be practiced.

Compassion is comparatively simple, and reasonable people ought to be able to find ways of dealing with refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrant workers in ways that "respect the dignity of every human being." Throughout this Father's Day, as I enjoyed my parish visitation and time with our younger two children afterward, I kept thinking about the zero-tolerance practice that is guiding our immigration practice and putting politics before God's beloved. I kept imagining with horror how it must feel for the children who are taken from their parents, for the parents who must relinquish them, and for the immigration and public safety officials who must carry this out.

As Christians, we believe that all children are God's own. They are, therefore, our little sisters and brothers, our daughters and sons, if we are God's own. As Americans, we can act to protect and provide for them, as their fathers and mothers yearn to, by making clear to our federal and state representatives how we expect these least among us to be treated in America. We will not all have the same perspective and opinion as to how this should be carried out, but we do all have the same responsibility to act on their behalf. That is the privilege and obligation of a democratic society.

We may or may not have an immigration crisis; that is up for debate. But we clearly have a moral crisis. We can hold immigrant parents accountable for their actions in bringing their children to our land, whatever their reasons and legality. But we must equally hold ourselves accountable for how we treat them when they arrive here. One important way of doing that is by entering the conversation. Contact your representatives and make yourself be heard. Let them know what you believe is acceptable and what is not. A helpful resource is the Episcopal Public Policy Network

(<https://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org>). Select *Take Action* and you will find an action alert about family separation, through which you can submit a prepared statement or write your own. In filling out the form, your elected representatives will be identified.

How we act as a society in treating those who come to us seeking our help and God's love is our shared responsibility. Please exercise your responsibility as an American and your compassion as a Christian by joining the conversation.

Gratefully,

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.
Bishop of Ohio

Notable

Music this Sunday

Cantor Norm Warren will sing Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" at the Offertory, and after the first reading, "The Glory if His Presence" which was a favorite of the late George Beverly Shea. Resident pianist Ron Hill will do his version of "Open My Eyes That I May See" for the prelude.

Rector Transition Update

Greetings St. Mark's

I am pleased to report that the Vestry has completed their discernment process regarding part time or full time ministry at St. Mark's.

The time spent visiting different parishes and learning more about recent rector searches throughout the Diocese was an informative and galvanizing exercise for the Vestry. We were also very encouraged by the strong interest from the parish in our discernment process, particularly the turnout to our informational sessions.

Throughout this effort, the Vestry asked many difficult questions of these parishes and of ourselves. While challenges remain to our long term financial and operational future of the church, it became very

clear that we have significant resources and missions at St. Mark's that many other parishes do not enjoy. However, it was also clear that our resources and missions are not enough to sustain and grow our church without the guiding hand of a full time rector.

Therefore, the Vestry has begun to develop a timeline for a search process for a full time rector. Please stay tuned for more details as there is a significant amount of involvement required from the congregation (particularly within the roles of a search committee) to make the search process a success.

Thank you to everyone for their continued patience during our discernment period and we ask for your continued prayers and support as we enter the next phase of the search process.

--

Derek Gordon

Family FUNday

at Canal Park

St. Mark's teams up with
St. Timothy's Massillon

Sunday, July 22nd at 2:05pm

Akron Rubber Ducks V. Richmond Flying Squirrels

Kids get to run the bases after the game.

Special pre-game activities, too!

Tickets are \$7. Please sign up and pay by July 11th.

Make checks payable to "St. Timothy's Episcopal Church"

**Leave your payment in an envelope with
your name in the church office.**



THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF OHIO

This Week's Bicentennial Prayer comes from: St. Luke's Church - Cleveland

Oh loving Jesus,
who taught us compassion
and opened our eyes to the suffering of others;
you came to release the captives,
restore sight to the blind, and free the oppressed.

give us strength, wisdom,
and faith to walk in your mighty example
as we interact with people in our daily lives
and as we encounter systems
that seek to blind us to the oppression
of the poor, captive, and marginalized.

Allow us to build community
and restore a right relationship with you
through generosity and an open heart.
For your reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, now and
forever.
Amen.



Monday, June 25th:
Knitting, 1:00pm

Tuesday, June 26th:

Lunch Bunch, 1:00pm @Eadie's Fish House

Wednesday, June 27th:

Study Group is on vacation until August 1st

Casual Evening Prayer, 5:30pm

Vestry, 6:00pm



Well Done!

Last week **Cooking with Care** teamed up with the **One Stop Service Shop** to brighten the day of 10 parish families by cooking and delivering a tasty, fresh summer meal.



These two ministries are start-ups from our Annual Meeting Treasure Hunt.

To learn more about Cooking with Care, contact [Emily Gordon](#).

To learn more about the offerings of the One Stop Service Shop, contact [Beth Bletzacker](#) or [Bob Kocab](#).



PRAYER CONCERNS

Ken Pakenham, Joan Werren, Ron Hill,
Peg Hill, Ken McPeck, Maxine Kit, Conley Family

Family and Friends: Susan, Baby Johnny Willoughby, Doug King, Gabe Russo (cousin of Kate Cerrone-Arnold), Jim Mesko (friend of Jim Weaver), Edna Glinsky (aunt of Pam McCarthy), The Shafer Family (friends of the Gordons), Justine Grosick and daughters (friends of the Mulls), Layna (friend of Boyds), The Moore Family (friends of Nadels), The Latora Family, Judy and Mark McIlvaine (Sandi Kaustinen's sister-in-law and brother), Erin, Chad Patch, Allison & Family, Carol Morton, Barry (friend of Gordons), James McIlvaine (Sandi Kaustinen's father), Dave McQueen (friend of the Mulls)

For all those serving in the armed forces:
Jake Binder - Korea (husband of Amanda Hines Binder)

For all those who have died:
Tom White

-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 Sunday bulletin's Prayer Concerns, or in both places. Please let Bobbi know your preference.

Upcoming *Servers*

Servers this Sunday, June 24th:

Acolytes, 8:00am: Sharon Ryan

Acolytes, 10:00am: Karen Violand, Marilyn Thorp, Colin Jenkins, Alexis Wilson

Eucharistic Minister, 8:00am: Sara Strattan

Eucharistic Ministers, 10:00am: John Werren, Pam McCarthy

Ushers: Dave Thorley, John Wise, Kent Clark

Altar Guild 8:00am: Carol Popovich

Altar Guild 10:00am: Rhonda Warren

If you are unable to serve, please try to find a sub as soon as possible and notify the office. Thank you!

Yours in Christ,
St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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St. Mark's Leadership

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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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