

## The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
CANTON, OH



Greetings!

Alert readers may have noticed that last week's Lion's Pause introduction referred to a feast day that is actually *tomorrow*, May 8, a day on which we honor the memory of Julian of Norwich. Her most famous words, a reassurance that "all will be well," are ones I think of every day.

Because we jumped a bit out of order last week, this week I will ask you to look *back* a few days, to May 1, the feast day of Philip and James. As this is one of the more confusing days on our calendar, a few reminders might be helpful.

Our collect for that day is simple and straightforward:

*Almighty God, who gave to your apostles Philip and James grace and strength to bear witness to the truth: Grant that we, being mindful of their victory of faith, may glorify in life and death the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

But there are two issues with "your apostles Philip and James." Which Philip? And which James?

Philip is the simpler case, though Philip the Apostle is *not* Philip the Deacon, whose diaconal ministry is mentioned in Acts. Our Philip is the one mentioned several times in the Gospel of John. He must have spoken Greek, because when Greek-speaking visitors want to meet Jesus, they seek out Philip as an intermediary (12:20 ff). Faced with the challenge of feeding the multitude, Jesus asks Philip's help: "Where can we buy bread to feed these people?" (Philip's response is not helpful.) Finally, as we heard in our Gospel reading last week, it is

Philip who asks Jesus, "Show us the Father" (14:8).

James? James Kiefer identifies "at least two persons named James, probably at least three, and perhaps as many as eight" (<http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/Philip&James.htm>). I'll spare you the full list, but the possibilities include James the Greater, one of the twelve, James the Just, who is called "the brother of the Lord" and becomes the first bishop of Jerusalem, and the writer of one of the epistles. Which of the references to a "James" are describing the same person? Which James in particular should we have in mind tomorrow? We don't know.

Perhaps it is best to assume that *all* of the James, like Philip, were given "grace and strength to bear witness to the truth." Our Baptismal liturgy reminds us that we, too, have been given "grace and strength," and that we, too, are obligated to "bear witness to the truth."

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I hope that you are finding some comfort in the planning under way for our eventual return to St. Mark's—in body as well as in spirit. After a long period of isolation and exile, we will be able to rejoice in our reunion. As much uncertainty remains, a firm timeline would be premature. But when the time comes, we'll be ready. And we'll be safe.

Fr. Paul

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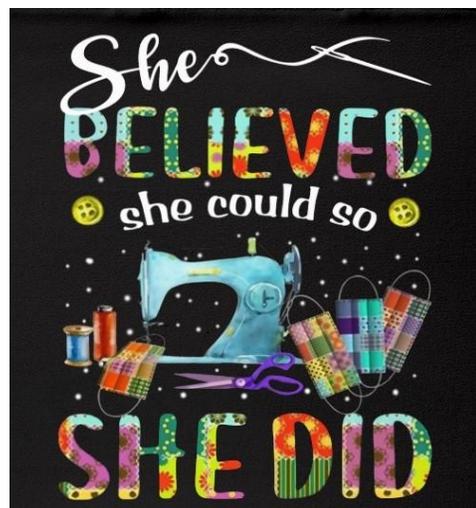
## Fifth Sunday of Easter

Read This Week's  
Lessons

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### "Masked Crusaders" Surpass Goal

I am excited to report our "350 in 3" (350 masks in 3 weeks) volunteers sewed 364 fabric face masks to donate equally to Mercy Medical Center and Aultman Hospital. During this time of social isolation, it is my hope this act of outreach resulted in a sense of connectedness, challenged minds, added movement, purpose to each day, and a sense of fulfillment for the



volunteers.

An organizer is only as good as the people under them, so I consider myself truly blessed for the following ladies who donated time and materials to make this outreach project a success: Livvy Mull, MaryAnn Kiesling, AnJane McConville, Sharon Ryan, Sandy Paradis, Tory Willoughby, Eloise Hochwalt, Sue Little and Rhonda Warren.

Everyone's participation was critical in reaching our goal, but special thanks to Livvy Mull who turned in 107 masks. Also, thanks to Tory Willoughby's assistance in making straps, I was able to complete 110 masks. Included among my thanks is Katie Kuceyeski for allowing her home to serve as the collection point and for the regularly scheduled pickups she coordinated.

Here is praying this project serves as an inspiration for many more outreach opportunities in the future.

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10*

Kathy Kennedy, Coordinator "350 in 3"

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### **A Note from Mr. Bob Morrison:**

Last week I mentioned that John Newton, author of "Amazing Grace" spent time with William Cowper, and the two of them wrote some of our most memorable hymns in a collection called Olney Hymns. Cowper, pronounced "Cooper," (1731-1800) was the most widely read poet of his day. Early on, he read Homer's "Iliad" and "Odyssey" which he later translated. He was the favorite poet of English parliamentarian Wilberforce, responsible for slavery abolition. He was troubled throughout his life by mental illness, fearing that his soul was eternally damned, but out of this despair came two of the finest hymns in our book: "O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame, a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb! Where is the blessedness I knew when first I saw the Lord? Where is the soul-refreshing view of Jesus and his word? Return, O holy Dove, return, sweet messenger of rest; I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast." The hymn is so popular that our hymnal editors printed it with two different tunes. And then there's "God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform: he plants his footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm. Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head. Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan his work in vain: God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain." He once wrote "There is a pleasure in poet's pain which only poets know" and the last lines of another of his texts, "To Jesus then your troubles bring, nor murmur at your lot; while you are

poor and he is king, you shall not be forgot." He, being dead, yet speaketh.

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# Prayer Concerns

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

## **Family and Friends:** Mike

Cochran's (friend of Gordons'), Olivson Family (friends of Violands'), 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), Olivia (friend of Paulette Frech), 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), Ed Ott (friend of Ted and Cricket Boyd), 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), Fletcher, Jamie, 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.**

**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](mailto: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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## **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, mask initiative, 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](#)



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