

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



Rector's Ramblings

The Epistle readings for the Season of Easter during Year C of the Lectionary focus on the Book of Revelation. In the modern church, this particular book of the Bible has suffered from two equal and opposite difficulties. On one hand, some portions of the church have an unhealthy focus on the Book of Revelation. Some preachers and teachers attempt to sit down with a newspaper and the the Book of Revelation to figure out where we are on God's timeline, and when Jesus is going to return. They do this in spite of Jesus' statement that no one will know the day or the hour of his return.

A second, equally problematic, approach to the Book of Revelation is to ignore it entirely. There are parts of the book that are uncomfortable. There are parts of the book that are difficult to understand. I had one classmate in seminary who said the best approach to the Book of Revelation was to staple it shut. It is part of scripture, and we must wrestle with it.

This is where the Lectionary can be particularly helpful. Our Lectionary does not include readings about all of the plagues and wars that are mentioned in the book. This does not mean that we should simply ignore all of those things. They are mentioned for a reason. However, our Lectionary points us to different elements of the text. Our first reading from the Book of Revelation, on the Second Sunday of Easter, reminded us that

Jesus is the Alpha and Omega. He is the beginning and the end.

It is God who is in control of history, and neither human nor demonic efforts will not thwart His goal for creation. Last Sunday, we read the promise, "He will wipe away every tear from every eye." That is the promise of Easter, and the promise of the resurrection.

As we face various plagues, wars, and other events that are beyond our comprehension, remember the message of the Book of Revelation. Nothing can stop God's ultimate plan for the redemption of the world. God will wipe away all of our tears. Most important, there is only one who is worthy of our trust and worthy of our worship.

Fr. RJ



Holy Eucharist, May 22, 8 and 10 a.m.

Sunday School, 10 a.m.

Bible Study at 9 a.m.

[Lessons](#)

[Bulletin](#)

[Live Stream](#)

Wednesday, May 25

Evening Prayer, 4 p.m. (Zoom)

[Bulletin](#) [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

The Diocese has continued to offer easy online giving. To use this, please select "St. Mark's Canton" from the dropdown, and choose either a one-time or recurring gift. We thank you for your continued support.

Designate a Gift to St. Mark's

The fellowship ministry of Cluster Dinners has resumed in person! We met as a whole group (20 of us!) April 28 at a local eatery.

Going forward, we plan to resume gathering in parishioners' homes with pot-luck dining opportunities. The format may look a bit different from previous years, depending on the number of folks that sign up. This fellowship is open to all adults over 21.

Please let MaryAnn Kiesling, maryannk500@gmail.com, or the church office, office@stmarks-canton.org, know soon to be included.

Bob's Music Notes

Peg Hill approached me last Sunday with a gift in hand -- a three-dimensional pop-up of a large organ console complete with stop list and all. She told me that her husband, Ron, would no longer be able to assist us musically -- not a happy thought.



Several years ago he came up to the organ console and told me he was a retired school/church musician and would like to play piano on the hymns. Well, I didn't know this fellow at all but decided to say "yes" to his request. A good move. The addition of our grand piano's percussiveness was an asset.

And then he said he had inherited a Radio Shack synthesizer from his dad with a nice harpsichord effect which he'd like to play during communion. A new thought indeed, and he proceeded to do just that, which was a blessing -- those tinkling gentle harpsichord tones proved to be a fine background, and Ron made it a point to play masterpieces from the golden age of the harpsichord. He also played and sang some Mark Hayes gospel settings for preludes.

He once said that he and Peg had found God at St. Mark's! Due to Ron's health issues, we can no longer enjoy his

talents. But he has graciously given St. Mark's that excellent synthesizer for us to continue using (which Bruce Schutrum did several weeks ago, using two authentic flute sounds).

Ron is not only musically gifted, but a most cheery fellow who radiates joy. When I call him, he says, "Hello, Mr. Bob!" We will miss his talent and his delightful spouse as well, with thanks to God for their dedication.



May Birthdays

2 Benjamin Clark

9 Chris Arnold

10 Dave Kiesling, Jan Hudson

12 Jane King

15 Derek Gordon

19 Connor Pelger

24 Justin Crowl

Prayer Concerns

Paul Welch, Fred Gibbs, Jim Weaver, Jane Schutrum, Ron Hill, Amelia Rowland, Ron Brookes

Family and Friends: Jimmy Little (Sue Little's son); Nancy Sauer (friend of Diana Cornell); Lynn McBride (Beth Crowl's father); Bonnie Giammarco & two daughters (Gary's cousin Jerry); Lenny Reich (acquaintance of the Hixons); Kahmario Coleman & Stew Hudson (family friend & husband of Jan Hudson); Aurora (friend of the Gordons); Matt Gagnon (assistant principal at Oakwood Middle School), Theresa & Addelyn (friends of Judy Hixon); Yanette Pysher (Vonda Temelkoff's cousin); Sandy Snyder & Doug Fulton (friend & brother-in-law of the Rands); Lynnda Hoefler (friends of Sue Little); Janet Sheatzley Morgan (Barb Siegfried's sister); Tony Donahue & Beth Conley (friends of Cricket Boyd); Carol Jones

(daughter of Buck & BJ Jones); baby Finnigan Savage and Terry L. (friends of Pam McCarthy); Lesley & Holly (friends of Paulette Frech); Marc Hostetler (brother of Susan Hostetler); Baby David (friend of the Schaub's); Bob Patterson (friends of Diana Cornell); Sullivan & Guzman families & Pastor Marilyn Roman (friends of the Mulls); Johnny Willoughby (grandson of the Willoughbys); Jim Mesko (friend of Jim Weaver).

For those who have died.

For those in the armed forces.

PRAYER CHAIN:

St. Mark's has a group of prayer warriors who pray for the 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

Prayer requests may be placed on the private Prayer Chain or on the Prayer Concerns list appearing in The Lion's Pause and Sunday bulletin or in both places. Please let Bobbi know your preference. Unless otherwise instructed, names will be listed as we receive them. 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.

Contact Us:

Fr. RJ
Office
Wardens



Need to update your directory listing, birthday, or anniversary? Update [here](#).



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