



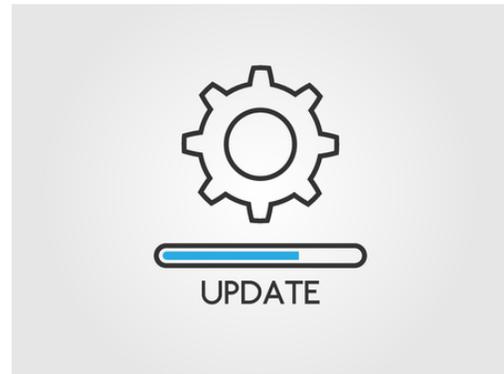
## The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
CANTON, OH



In view of COVID transmission rates in Stark Co. and CDC guidelines, we are requesting that all persons attending services at St. Mark's continue to wear a mask inside the building.

One of the challenges that both Rev. Beth Frank and Fr. Paul Gaston experienced while providing interim ministry at St. Mark's was the noise from the classrooms adjacent to the offices. In recent weeks, I have been learning about compound words with the Weaver Kindergarten class. It has been suggested that one of the compound words I should have learned is freeloader, because I am not paying tuition at Weaver.



This issue is not new. When St. Mark's had a day school, Fr. Sloan had a system installed in the office to create white noise. It sounds like the static from a radio that is not tuned into a station.

When I arrived at St. Mark's, one of the first conversations I had was whether I would want to move the offices. My initial response was to wait to see if the noise from the classrooms would be problematic. It would be difficult to meet with

members of the parish in the office when school is in session, and it is difficult to concentrate to write sermons or create materials for Bible Study.

In consultation with the Vestry as well as Joe Hoot, Geoff Gordon, and Charlie Kiesling, a plan was developed to move the church office to the Nursery and Coat Room. The current Rector's Office can be converted to a Nursery, and a smaller Coat Room can be created between the two new office spaces.

This solution solves a number of issues. First, it will provide a quieter space for the Rector's Office, which will create a more inviting atmosphere to meet with members of the parish. Second, it will provide the Parish Administrator with an office that is free from the interruptions of students coming in for a bandaid, or teachers coming in to speak with the Weaver School Secretary. It will also provide a distinct space for members of St. Mark's to come during the week if they wish to speak with the Parish Administrator.

The Vestry and I believe that this change of facility usage will provide a better atmosphere for the people of St. Mark's as well as for the Rector and Parish Administrator.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this change, please feel free to contact Fr. RJ, John Wise, Senior Warden, or Bruce Hixon, Junior Warden.

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### **Rector's Ramblings**

Article XI. Of the Justification of Man, is closely tied to Article X. Of Free Will, which I wrote about last week. Article XI. states:



We are accounted righteous before God, only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by Faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by Faith only, is a most wholesome Doctrine, and very full of comfort, as more largely is expressed in the Homily of

## Justification.

Steven Ozment notes, “For medieval theologians the present life remained an anxious pilgrimage; man lived in unresolved suspense, fearing damnation and hoping for salvation, ever in need of confession and indulgence, discipline and consolation, saintly intercession and the self-help of good works.” (The Age of Reform 1250-1550)

No one could ever be certain that they had done enough good works to earn God’s grace. The answer of the English Reformers, following in the steps of Martin Luther, was that we can be certain that we can never do enough good work to earn God’s grace. However, Jesus did do enough good works to save all of us. All we have to do is trust Jesus.

We live in a world that measures the value of a person by what that person produces. If we produce more, we are worth more. The liberating message of the Gospel is that our worth is found in God’s love for us. That love is expressed in the sacrifice of Christ which saves us.

## Fr. RJ

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### **Sunday, October 10**

Holy Eucharist in person at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Live Stream at 10 a.m. *(please share to your FaceBook page, too!)*

Bible Study at 9 a.m. between services

Sunday School at 10 a.m.

[Lessons](#) (Track 2)

[Bulletin](#)

[Live Stream](#)

### **Wednesday, October 13**

Evening Prayer, 4 p.m.

[Bulletin](#)

[Zoom](#)

**Saturday, October 9, at 11 a.m.**

We will hold a **memorial service** for **Fr. Carey "Dutch" Sloan**.

**Katie will be out of the office October 6-12.**

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## **Thanksgiving Feast for Gibbs Elementary**

Fellow St. Mark's parishioners,

My school, Gibbs Elementary in Canton City, is looking for a partner to help us have a Thanksgiving Feast for all 344 of our kindergarten through 3rd grade students. We are hoping to raise \$500 to cover the cost of turkey, side dishes, and desserts to have a meal in each class the week of Thanksgiving.

We would also love to have volunteers come help serve the food to our students. Many of the students in our building will not have a large Thanksgiving feast at home, so this is our way of sharing a special tradition with them.

We have been so thankful for St. Mark's support in the past with our Thankful Thursdays program, but Gibbs has been blessed with another church across the street from the school that is providing food for our families all year. Since we are not in need of the Thankful Thursdays program right now, we hope that you will consider donating and/or volunteering to help make our event a success!

**Checks can be made out to St. Mark's Episcopal Church with the memo line "Thanksgiving for Gibbs."**

If you would like to make a donation or volunteer, please contact Mandy Pelger at [mpelger09@gmail.com](mailto:mpelger09@gmail.com)

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## **Outreach: Blessing Box at Hope Outreach Ministry**

A reminder that we are still providing personal items for the area homeless, including toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap,

toilet paper, tissues, hand sanitizer, paper towels, deodorants, band-aids, and other personal care products.

They are also in need of food items, such as cans of fruit, applesauce, tuna fish, crackers, and any ready-to-eat item, since can openers are not necessarily available. Please place items into the Hope Chest located across from the coatroom.



# ONLINE GIVING

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](#)

## Bob's Music Notes

Kathleen and I now had our first house which we were renovating ourselves. The previous owner, Clara Gravis, secretary at First Methodist, had a nice grand piano that went to her nephew when she died but the nephew now wanted to sell it to me -- for \$300.00. And the nephew added that I could pay for it in installments. Before spending that much money I asked Elmer Davis, who did the tuning for my church's pianos, to evaluate this instrument. We picked up Mr. Davis and took him to the nephew's apartment. Davis told



me that, if I didn't buy the piano, he would - it was a good buy - but then a bombshell. The nephew said he needed the payment in full right away. My heart sank.

We left the apartment to drive Mr. Davis back to his house. Kathleen and I started discussing this turn of events and Davis said, "What's the matter?" I told him there was no way we could afford the piano since the nephew wanted full payment at once. Mr. Davis said, "Turn the car around." And back to the apartment we went where Elmer Davis peeled off three one-hundred-dollar bills and told me to repay him when convenient.

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### **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

1 W. Robert Morrison  
4 Ivy Smith  
10 Fr. RJ  
18 Bobbi Gordon  
21 Tom Burns

### **OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

5 Chuck and Karen Violand  
16 Derek and Emily Gordon

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### **Prayer Concerns**

Jim Weaver, Jane Schutrum, Ron Hill, Amelia Rowland, Ron Brookes, Jack and Pauline Briggs

Family and Friends: Darlene, Diana (friends of Sue Little), Silvia Batalla (friend of Gene and Sally Little); Yanette Pysher (Vonda Temerkoff's cousin); John Fortney (Cindy Brown's brother); Sandy Snyder, Doug (friend of the Rands); Darlene, Diana, Carol, & Lynnda Hoefler (friends of Sue Little); Sherry, Carson, Noah, Linda Kendrick, & Gail (friends of the Kieslings); Hugh Clark (friend of the Hixons & Kieslings); Ray Slinger (friend of Bob Morrison), Janet Sheatzley Morgan (Barb Siegfried's sister); Chuck Schuerer and Beth Conley (friends of Cricket Boyd); Carol Jones (daughter of Buck & BJ Jones); Steve O'Krepki and Corinna (family of Beth Crowl); Dr. Angela Peters & family (friend of the Kennedys); Terry L., Denny Schafer, Judy Evans, & Bobby Guerin (friends of Pam McCarthy); Addelyn (friend of Judy Hixon); Eddie Hornsby

(friend of Father RJ); Jerry Burris (friend of the Thorleys); Lesley & Holly (friends of Paulette Frech); Jim Bellamy (friend of Marcia Tirpak); Marc Hostetler (brother of Susan Hostetler); Baby David (friend of the Schaub); Bob Patterson (friends of Diana Cornell); Camila Guzman family and Pastor Marilyn Roman (friends of the Mulls); Johnny Willoughby; 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](mailto: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.



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



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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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