

Saint Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CANTON, OH



The Lion's Pause

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
CANTON, OH



Greetings!

Eight years ago, when I was volunteering as a commentator on WKSU, the news director gave me a challenge. "We want a commentary for broadcast on September 11." (It would be the tenth anniversary of 9/11.) "But we don't want you to mention 9/11." Here (edited for LP) is what was broadcast:

What is it about September? Is there another month with such a split personality?

There's a sense of regret. Summer has ended. Vacations are a memory. Our gardens? Dry. Tired. The leaves are starting to turn, and the trees will soon be bare.

So many songs attempt to capture this regret. Al Dubin's 1937 lyrics for "September in the Rain" offer three images: "leaves of brown . . . tumbling down," the sun going out "like a dying ember," and, well, the rain.

It doesn't get any better in "September Song" one year later. That 1938 song by Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Maxwell Anderson and the edgy composer Kurt Weill begins with charming patter about the fleeting joys of youthful love in springtime. But at its heart lies a wistful regret that there's not much time left. The year goes by quickly. So does life. "It's a long, long while from May to December, But the days grow short when you reach September." As "the days dwindle down to a precious few," there's no longer time "for the waiting game." Good luck!

Can you take one more? Sammy Cahn's 1965 lyrics for "The September of My Years" inspired Frank Sinatra to an album by that name. Here, too, September prompts reflections on mortality. "One day you turn around, and it's summer / Next day you turn around, and it's fall." So now it's time to accept "The warm September of my years."

You probably have your own favorite.

What I'm looking for is a song that captures the other side of September, the month of openings, fresh starts, renewed energy.

September is a great month in so many ways. Our performing arts organizations, from the Cleveland Playhouse to the Akron Symphony, begin their new seasons. The Holden Arboretum welcomes fall visitors to its most

brilliant colors. And as you sit watching the sunset in the late afternoon, you hear from far away the sounds of the high school band practicing for the first home game.

School begins again. For the kids, there's a new grade, another rung on the ladder. And from Case Western Reserve to Walsh University, Wooster College to Kent State Tuscarawas, college classes get under way. New friendships form. New ambitions emerge.

The days grow shorter, sure. But the earlier evenings have their charm. It should be easier to get the family together for dinner. And there's more time after dinner for that good book you've been wanting to read. Or to do homework. In his "Ode to Autumn," John Keats offers reassurance to the fall season. Sure, there are lots of spring songs, but, fall, "thou hast thy music too."

Hedge-crickets sing, and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

Fr. Paul

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

[Read This Week's Lessons](#)

Notable *Music This Sunday*

For this Labor Day, we sing Henry VanDyke's "Jesus, Thou Divine Companion" which speaks of the value of work. VanDyke's most famous text, "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" set to Beethoven's Ninth Symphony tune, is our Entrance Hymn. Guest tenor David J. White will sing "The Glory of God in Nature" by Andreas Hofer, translated by Sigmund Spaeth, with music by Beethoven.



MOD Squad Anniversary

Eleven attended our first anniversary dinner at Tozzi's on 12th Street, and eight continued to Kirk and Beth Bletzacker's, the site of our first meeting, for dessert, a first anniversary cake, followed by a boat ride around Meyers Lake.

The Bletzackers are wonderful hosts and their remodeled lakeside home is perfect for entertaining. Captain Kirk showed his navigating skills through a narrow passage and single handedly moored the vessel with a smooth and effective approach into what I thought was a rather confined space.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, September 18 at Bender's Tavern in downtown Canton, at 6:30 PM.

Tony Keenan

**Office Manager Katie
interviews Rich Tirpak:**

Where were you born? What is

something from your childhood you remember fondly?

I was born at St. Joseph Hospital in Lorain, Ohio. My fondest memory....BASEBALL! The hour after hour and day after day of one "pick-up game" after another with my brother at Oakwood Park. Also, I suppose, the innocence that everything was fine, and we were perfectly safe in the park unsupervised by adults. After all, we could take care of ourselves, right?



How did you end up in the Episcopal Church?

My wife was raised in the Congregational Church and I was raised Roman Catholic. As our young daughter grew, we were aware of a need for religious affiliation in her upbringing. We looked for a Church in which we could both be comfortable. Visiting St. Mark's one Sunday and meeting Fr. "Dutch" Sloan, we knew we found what we were looking for.

You have to choose: be abducted by aliens or spend your remaining days with only politicians. Which do you pick?

If I could choose the politicians, and the past was available, passing the time with Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, etc. would be very intriguing. If we are speaking of contemporary politicians, bring on the aliens, and I will hope for accuracy in the jokes about the gorgeous shapely aliens abducting older golfers!

Tell us something about yourself we wouldn't otherwise know.
Hmmmmm: I always thought that what you see, is what you get. I would guess that it would be that deep down, I am a romantic. I like traditions and chivalry. I like the old "civility".

If the all the States in the USA were represented by food, what food would represent Ohio?

A gumbo or stew. You can see a mélange on the surface, but you must dig down and explore to find what is really here.

What do you like most about St. Mark's?

Its hominess and its genuine welcoming atmosphere.

What fictional character would you like to have as a friend and why?

That is like asking which star you like the best. I would like Uhtred of Babenberg (Bernard Cornwell) as a friend because I sure wouldn't want him as an enemy! For a friend who I could sit down and share a meal with and perhaps a cigar and some "sippin'" whiskey, Santiago,

the old man in THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA (Ernest Hemmingway). The wisdom of experience and our common philosophy of "DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE" would seem to be worth sharing.

How did you meet your wife?

I met Marcia for the first time at The Health Center at The Ohio State University. We were both ill at the same time. We later found we were in the same Embryology class. I was drawn to her because she ignored me in a far nicer way than most of the coeds!

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you pick and why?

AHHH, the star question again. I believe that visiting somewhere and living there are two different experiences. I have never been to Tuscany, but I bet I would like it. Scotland was nice. Cumbria has a beauty. Of the places I have been Moorea in French Polynesia was the most beautiful, the most perfect. Many places would be nice in health, but if you are ill, one would want to be in the U.S.! Savannah would be a beautiful place to be.

Do you want to listen to Gary Mull sing Cheeseburger in Paradise?

About as much as I would want to listen to a class of witches scratch their long fingernails across a blackboard!

Who do you nominate for the next interview?

Gary Giammarco or Bob Kocab



Join us on September 15th
for the Sermon on the Mount and Blessing of the

Backpacks
One Service at 10:00am
Picnic to follow
Free-will offering

Father Gaston will offer a blessing of the backpacks for all school-agers. Don't forget to bring your packs for this special blessing. What a great way to start off the school year!



St. Mark's parishioner Mary Schumacher was recently featured in "Glenmoor Living". To read the article, click [here](#).

Upcoming



Events

Summer Services

July 7th – September 8th
One combined service at 9:00am.

Upcoming Events

Monday, September 2nd:

Labor Day, Office Closed

Wednesday, September 4th:

Study Group, 10:30am
Vestry, 5:30pm

Thursday, September 5th:

Chair Yoga, 6:00pm, \$10.00

Open to the community. Invite your friends!

Sunday, September 8th:

Puppet Gang Practice

Monday, September 9th:

Knitting, 1:00pm
Book Club, 7:00pm

Wednesday, September 11th:

Study Group, 10:30am
Group Walk at Middlebranch Trail, 6:30pm
(Meet at the Schneider Trailhead at Veterans Park)

Thursday, September 19th:

Beginner Yoga, 6:00pm, \$10.00

Servers this Sunday, September 1st:

Acolytes: Susie Hines, Marilyn Thorp, Karen Violand, Joe Hoot, Lauren Hoot

Eucharistic Ministers: Bob Kennedy, Pam McCarthy

Ushers: Bob Kocab, Alex Korosi, Mike Ryan

Altar Guild: Susie Hines, Rhonda Warren

Vestry Coffee Host: Grace Giammarco



Welcome Back to St. Mark's Sunday School 2019-2020

Jesus loves the little children and so does St. Mark's. We are excited to announce the start of Sunday School classes for children ages 3 – 12. Students will meet with their teachers in the Sunday School Room / Library located across from the church office beginning September 8th at 9am (changing to 10am at all subsequent Sundays). Parents, please stop in to fill out a brief registration/contact information form and meet the teachers. (Teachers will also meet with Emily Gordon to briefly discuss plans for the year)

Children will return to their parents in church prior to communion. We look forward to seeing everyone. If you would like to be a volunteer or have any questions or concerns, please contact Emily Gordon ecgordon16@gmail.com

St. Mark's Health and Wellness

Beginner Yoga

3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00pm

\$10.00 per person/bring your own mat



Prayer Concerns

Donna Brookes, Ken McPeek, Billie Robertson, Emilie Korosi, Ken Pakenham, Joan Werren, Ron and Peg Hill, Conley Family, Briggs Family, Susan

Family and Friends: Will Disman (friend of Sandy Paradis' son), John Russell, Justin Spring, Pastor Marilyn Roman (friends of the Mulls), Lynnda Hoefler (friend of Sue Little), Don Reede (friend of the Thorps), Mike (Uncle of Bobbi Gordon), Linda Gibson (sister of Bobbi Gordon), Jamie Rollinson (friend of Boyds) Katie Campbell (friend of Boyds), Johnny Willoughby, The Moore Family (friends of Nadel's), Erin Barr (friend of the Mulls), Baby Hudson (friend of the Mulls), 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), Berry Clarke (friend of Diana Cornell), Fletcher (friend of Cricket Boyd)

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

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.



We seek to unite all people with God and each other in Christ through worship, fellowship, education, and service.

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