

# *PARISH LIFE* HANDBOOK

2019-2020

ST. MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH





*"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."*

- Matthew 13:31-32

One of my favorite hymns begins with the line, "Seek ye first, the kingdom of God." It is a simple statement, but one that has the potential to transform our lives. It can also feel overwhelming. How do I do this? How much does it require? My best mentors have always encouraged me to start small. Jesus shares a vision that reminds us that even the smallest of efforts can yield amazing growth that benefits not only ourselves but provides shelter to others at the same time. What does this have to do with the Parish Life Handbook? Everything!

This is a guide for the offerings we will have at St. Mark's in the coming year. Some things are tried and true. Others may be new. My invitation is that you seek something as a small seed to expand your journey with God. Whether it's going to Adult Formation for the first time, joining a bible study, or serving in a guild you've been curious about - all of these are ways for you to choose the kingdom. Maybe you'll help with our migrant ministry or take a meal to Haven for Hope. Perhaps you'll volunteer with our youth or children or become a greeter and welcome new people to our community for the first time. All of these small steps are steps of intention. To become people of the Kingdom means we make small choices each day that demonstrate that we live values that draw us towards God, towards community, and towards transformation of life.

I'm looking forward to a new class starting in October that I'll be teaching with Rabbi Mara Nathan from Temple Beth-El on the Book of Exodus. Several of our small group gatherings expressed a desire to know more about other faith traditions, so this is a small seed we are planting. I also plan to spend the fall intentionally meeting and welcoming newcomers. Whether people are new to the Christian faith, or just our community, finding ways to support their journey is important work for all of us. On Wednesday nights the introductory bible study will be studying the Acts of the Apostles.

These are times when there are many claims on our time and priorities. To be a transformational community means we need to discern how we walk this life of faith. I pray and hope the coming year will provide many places for you to connect. We start our involvement at the banquet we have each Sunday as we worship in thanksgiving at the altar. Those seeds of worship may seem small, but they undergird all the other expressions of our Core Vocation. Invite others and share this guidebook with those who may be seeking.

Peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton

## WRESTLING REQUIRED

### Changed By Our Encounters With God

The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser, The Rev. Matthew Wise, and The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton  
10.10am, Gish Hall

Change is almost always difficult and can sometimes even be painful. In the story of Jacob (Genesis 35), Jacob has a wrestling match that breaks his hip, but changes his very identity. This class is intended to help us dig deeply into our own spiritual journeys, invite us to wrestle with how we experience God, ourselves, and each other, and to challenge us to engage our faith in ways that might actually change who we are. We will use a new format in this forum which will begin with a 15-20 minute teaching led by clergy and laity from around The Episcopal Church. (These teachers are trusted colleagues and friends of your St. Mark's clergy and we very much look forward to their participation with us in this forum!) The class will then have table conversations in small groups facilitated by intentionally crafted discussion questions.

Each week will offer a self-contained class in the following categories:

#### Breaking Open the Basics

September 8 – October 6

#### Where the Holy Meets the Real World

October 20 – November 24

#### God's Dream for the World

January 19 – February 23

#### Accepting the Invitation to a Holy Lent

March 1 – March 22

#### It's Resurrection, Not Resuscitation

April 19 - May 10

## BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY

### Conversations for Newcomers, Seekers, and New Christians

The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton  
Class Meets: September 8 - November 24  
10.10am, Dean Richardson Room

Often when we are new to a Christian community, new to the Episcopal Church, or our even our Christian walk, we long for informal conversations. We hope to be able to ask questions in a safe environment, explore how we found ourselves at this particular point of our journey, and meet others who are inquirers. Join us this fall for coffee, conversation, and topical discussions for practical living as Christians. Each class will stand on its own. If you are visiting for the first time, this is a great option for you! We will discuss everything from the bible to Anglican tradition, Spiritual Practices, and how to get more connected at St. Mark's.





## SUNDAY WORSHIP

Unless otherwise noted, each Sunday worship service includes the Holy Eucharist. Both the Liturgy of Word and of Sacrament are included, along with a sermon. Please check the website for seasonal variations (Advent and summer).

### 7.45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

The Rite I service meets in the church at 7.45am and is a spoken service (no music) using traditional language with an emphasis on reverence, penitence, and silence.

### 9.00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

This service welcomes all, including families with children. Children's Chapel offers an opportunity for 3 yr olds through 3rd graders to experience the week's lessons in age-appropriate ways. See the Children's page for more information. This service is supported by our choirs.

### 11.15am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

This service presents the splendor of the Christian faith in its most glorious Anglican fashion. Our music, prayers, and sermons draw upon the finest sources of our tradition. This service is supported by our choirs.

## BAPTISM

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church. Baptisms are meant to happen in community; the days for Holy Baptism outlined in the Book of Common Prayer offer us the opportunity to both celebrate those being baptized and to renew our own baptismal covenant.

Baptism preparation for parents and godparents is the preceding day at 9.00am. If you would like to schedule a baptism, please fill out a Baptismal Request Form on the St. Mark's website. After we receive the form, one of our clergy will contact you.

### Available Dates:

#### 2019

August 18 Homecoming Sunday  
November 3 Feast of All Saints

#### 2020

January 12 Feast of the Baptism of our Lord  
April 12 Easter Day at Easter Vigil Service  
April 26 Feast of St. Mark  
May 31 Pentecost

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

### 5.30pm Wednesday Holy Eucharist

A simple spoken service, without a sermon, held in Bethlehem Chapel. This service is preceded by Centering Prayer at 5.00pm in the Dean Richardson Room.

### 5.30pm Thursday Evening Prayer

The evening service of the Daily Office from the Book of Common Prayer in Bethlehem Chapel.



## WEDDINGS

A wedding is a joyful celebration of worship and praise when two lives are joined together in Christ in marriage. If you are interested in pursuing a wedding at St. Mark's, visit the website and complete the Wedding Inquiry Form. A member of the clergy will be in touch with you.

## FUNERALS

As Episcopalians, our understanding of death and funerals is shaped by the Book of Common Prayer. When a person is near death, the clergy should be notified, in order that the ministrations of the Church may be provided. Baptized Christians are properly buried from the church; the service should be held at a time when the congregation has opportunity to be present. We encourage members to pre-plan for their funeral service. If you would like to do so, or for more information, please contact a member of the clergy. An Estate Planning Workbook is available on the Resources page of the website to assist you.



## ACOLYTES

Youth and adult acolytes assist at the services. Training is offered at the beginning of each school year. Fifth graders will be trained as Torch Bearers in the spring. For information, contact Meredith Rogers at [mrogers@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mrogers@stmarks-sa.org).

## ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild sets the table for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist for services at St. Mark's and cleans up after the service. Members usually serve at one or two services per month. For information, contact Agatha Wade or Amanda Talaat at [wadecame@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wadecame@sbcglobal.net) or [abtalaat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abtalaat@sbcglobal.net).

## BAPTISM GUILD

Baptism Guild members serve on the day of baptisms by greeting families, preparing baptismal records, and assisting the clergy. For information, contact Megan McPherson at [mmcphe1975@aol.com](mailto:mmcphe1975@aol.com).

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Also called chalice bearers, these licensed members administer the chalice during services. Training is required and offered each year. For information, contact The Rev. Matthew Wise at [mwise@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mwise@stmarks-sa.org).

## EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

These licensed members take the Holy Communion from the Sunday services to those who are homebound. Training is required and offered each year. For information, contact The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser at [afraser@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:afraser@stmarks-sa.org).

## INTERCESSORS

These members lead the congregation in the Prayers of the People during the Sunday morning Eucharist. Training is required and offered each year. For information, contact The Rev. Matthew Wise at [mwise@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mwise@stmarks-sa.org).

## LECTORS

These members read the scriptural lessons at the Sunday services on a rotating basis. Training is required and offered each year. For information, contact The Rev. Matthew Wise at [mwise@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mwise@stmarks-sa.org).

## PASTORAL CARE

Parishioners in need should contact a member of the clergy by calling the church office. For hospital visits or visits to the homebound, contact The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser at [afraser@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:afraser@stmarks-sa.org).

## USHERS

Both men and women serve on usher teams to greet and welcome members and visitors, distribute worship bulletins, assist in the seating of our worshippers, and attend to those who need assistance. During Holy Communion they assist people moving to and from the altar rail. Usher teams serve for a month at a time on a rotating basis, usually two months out of the year. Ushers are also needed at special services. For information, contact Craig Donegan at [craig.donegan@gmail.com](mailto:craig.donegan@gmail.com).

## WEDDING GUILD

These members assist the clergy and families during the wedding rehearsal and ceremony. Members serve several times per year. For information, contact Jody Kelly at [jkelly@globalimage.net](mailto:jkelly@globalimage.net).

## WEEKDAY LAY READERS

These confirmed and trained members lead the Daily Office. For more information, contact The Rev. Matthew Wise at [mwise@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mwise@stmarks-sa.org).







## **INTER-FAITH DIALOGUE: THE BOOK OF EXODUS**

### **Discovering Modern Inspiration in Ancient Stories of Redemption and Revelation**

Facilitated by The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton and  
Rabbi Mara Nathan  
7.00-8.30pm

The story of the Exodus can be seen as the starting-point of the formation of monotheism, the defining concept of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and as author Richard Elliot Friedman claims, the cradle of global values of compassion and equal rights today. Both Judaism and Christianity consider this a foundational scripture to understand both our heritage and our current spiritual context and practices. Join The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton and Rabbi Mara Nathan, Sr. Rabbi at Temple Beth-El, for a monthly exploration of this sacred and inspirational text.

**Exodus 1:1-9:35 - The Heavy Weight of Servitude-  
Leaving Slavery and Exile to Claim a New Kind of  
Freedom.**

October 23 at Temple Beth-El

**Exodus 10:1-17:16 - Power, Plagues, and the  
Redemption from Slavery**  
November 20 at St. Mark's

**Exodus 18:1-24:18 - The Excitement of Revelation  
vs. the Reality of Maintaining Covenant**  
December 18 at Temple Beth-El

**Exodus 25:1-27:19 - A Place for God - Instructions  
for Preparing the Holy Sanctuary**  
January 15 at St. Mark's

**Exodus 27:20-30:10 - Holy Vestments and  
Sanctuary Rituals - The Role of Clergy as Conduit  
to God**  
February 19 at Temple Beth-El

**Exodus 30:11-34:35 - The Golden Calf - Mediating  
the Relationship with God**  
March 4 at St. Mark's

**Exodus 35:1-40:38 - Making a Place for God - The  
Tabernacle as Metaphor for Letting God Into Our  
Lives**  
April 1 at Temple Beth-El



## **MONDAY MORNING WEEKDAY**

### **LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY**

Facilitated by The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton  
Monday 7.00-8.00am  
Gish Hall

Start your week with a study of the upcoming lectionary readings. We begin with a reflection question and then read and study the upcoming gospel lesson for the next Sunday. Coffee is provided and you can come as you are, whether that is in workout clothes or professional attire. All are welcome and we end promptly at 8.00am! Class resumes on September 16.

### **GROUP CENTERING PRAYER**

Facilitated by The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton  
Wednesday 5.00pm  
Dean Richardson Room

This weekly offering is a time prior to the Wednesday Eucharist during which people can gather for quiet reflection as they center in prayer. Prayer time will last for 20 minutes. Centering Prayer resumes on September 4.

### **ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**

Facilitated by The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton  
Wednesday 6.30-7.30pm  
Gish Hall

During the last Diocesan Council we were encouraged by Bishop Reed to read the Acts of the Apostles this year. We will take a thematic and literary approach to studying this important text about the earliest days of the Church. Using the actual text from the New Revised Standard Version and various supporting resources, we will study in a small group setting the impact this text has on our daily life. This class is specifically intended for those who have not had much bible study in the past. It's also a great continuation of our Adult Confirmation Class or for those who enjoyed our study of The Path last year. It provides a regular midweek opportunity to gather for reflection and conversation. The first class will be held on September 4!

## **TIME OUT BIBLE STUDY**

Facilitated by The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser and The Rev. Matthew Wise  
Thursday 10.00am-11.15am  
Gish Hall

Take a little time out of your week to do a close reading and study John's gospel in a relaxed, discussion-based format. Join us on Thursday mornings; bring a Bible and your questions. Classes run September 5 through December 19, and January 9 through May 14.

### **IMAGES OF THE DIVINE IN FILM**

Facilitated by The Rev. Matthew Wise  
October 4, January 24, and May 1 at 6.00pm  
Youth Suite

God can be experienced in varied and unusual ways, and we often find images of the Holy in media and film. This class will be an experiential one in which we will share dinner, view films together, and discuss. We will meet three times during the program year on Friday nights. A variety of films will be a part of the curriculum, with the emphasis on images and experiences of the Holy.

### **EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EfM)**

EfM classes will continue this year at St. Mark's. A unique four-year distance learning certificate program in theological education that uses seminar groups as its format, EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and then apply it to their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. Groups meet and cover 36 modules from September through May. For more information about EfM, email The Rev. Matthew Wise at [mwise@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mwise@stmarks-sa.org).

### **GIFTED YEARS BOOK STUDY**

Tuesdays in October and Lent from 10.00-11.30am  
Dean Richardson Room

Gifted Years will once again be exploring faith through a book study. All are welcome at this study aimed at anyone interested in reading and in group discussion for spiritual growth in connecting with the unchanging in a rapidly changing world. For more information check the eNews.



All are welcome at St. Mark's and invited to attend our worship services, classes, parish events, and to call St. Mark's home.

## NEW TO ST. MARK'S?

Welcome! We invite you to attend the following offerings to help you learn more about St. Mark's and find your place in this community:

**Newcomer Lunches** provide an opportunity to join other newcomers, current members, and St. Mark's staff for a meal and conversation. These lunches are a great way to get to know one another as well as provide you with a clearer picture on how to get connected. Newcomer Lunches are held at the church and will follow the 11.15am service on the following Sundays: October 20, February 9, and May 3.

**Bread for the Journey: Conversations for Newcomers, Seekers, and New Christians** is an Adult Formation offering that will be offered September through November on Sundays at 10.10am in the Dean Richardson Room. Read more about this offering on the Adult Formation page.

There are many opportunities for connection listed in this handbook and on the website. Contact Shea Pollom at [spollom@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:spollom@stmarks-sa.org) to find out what's happening and how to get connected!

## MEMBER INFORMATION

Becoming a member of St. Mark's means that you support the church in our Core Vocation:

### ***Feeding San Antonio with the Bread of Life***

*Feeding the hungry with real food; Feeding those who are hungry for knowledge and meaning; Feeding those who are hungry for beauty and creativity.*

Members attend regular worship services, participate in spiritual formation, and pledge and/or give on a regular basis. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Shea Pollom at [spollom@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:spollom@stmarks-sa.org), or fill out the online membership form on the Get Connected page of our website.

If you have not been baptized and are interested in doing so, please complete the form on the Baptism page of our website.

## CONFIRMATION

### **Adult Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation**

Led by The Rev. Matthew Wise

Adult Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation class will be held on Wednesday evenings January 15, 29, February 5, 12, March 4, 25, and April 1 from 6.30-8.00pm. Each class builds on the previous class, so plan to attend every session. If you are interested in participating but know you must miss a class, prior arrangements should be made. We will also gather at the Bishop Jones Center on Saturday, January 25 from 9.00am-2.00pm, where we will share a meal, meet the bishop, and cover some additional ground. The class is open to all those seeking to be confirmed, received, or who would like a refresher. Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 26 at the combined 10.00am service. For more information, email The Rev. Matthew Wise at [mwise@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mwise@stmarks-sa.org).



### **Youth Confirmation**

Youth Confirmation is for 8th grade youth and older who wish to be confirmed. Join the weekly Youth Confirmation Class that meets during the formation hour on Sunday mornings, starting January 19. Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 26 at the 10.00am service. See the Youth page for more information and dates.



## **ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY**

Ann Coiner  
atcoiner@gmail.com

## **ART CLASS**

Harry Greer  
harryagreer@gmail.com

## **BOOKSTORE**

Chica Younger  
chicay@aol.com

## **CARE COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser  
afraser@stmarks-sa.org

## **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP**

Annabelle McGee and Lillian Morris  
abelle39@gmail.com or lillian.morris@hotmail.com

## **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)**

Trey Thompson  
RLT@sa-mh.com

## **COMMUNITY OF HOPE**

The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser  
afraser@stmarks-sa.org

## **DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

Maurleen Cobb  
mcobb@stokeslawoffice.com

## **DORCAS STITCHERS**

Pat Donegan  
pdonegan@aol.com

## **DINNERS FOR 8**

Trinka McGehee and Ann Reeks  
trinkam@gmail.com or annlr5@yahoo.com

## **FUNERAL RECEPTIONS**

Kelly Cavender  
kelscav@aol.com

## **GARDENS**

Deems Smith  
deemsstandleysmith@gmail.com

## **GREETERS**

Susan Thompson and Laura Wickham  
sthomp303@hotmail.com or laurasellitto@gmail.com

## **GRYPHONS CYCLING CLUB**

Merritt Clements  
merritt.clements@yahoo.com

## **KITCHEN MINISTRIES**

Leah Thomas  
lthomas@stmarks-sa.org

## **MIND THE GAP (YOUNG ADULTS)**

The Rev. Matthew Wise  
mwise@stmarks-sa.org

## **NEWCOMERS**

Shea Pollom  
spollom@stmarks-sa.org

## **SEASONED SAINTS**

Dee Whiteside  
dwhiteside@satx.rr.com

## **SPANISH CLASS**

Harry Greer  
harryagreer@gmail.com

## **ST. CATHERINE'S GUILD**

The Rev. Matthew Wise  
mwise@stmarks-sa.org

See **WORSHIP SUPPORT** for information on  
Acolytes, Altar Guild, Baptism Guild, Eucharistic  
Visitors, Intercessors, Lectors, Pastoral Care, Wedding  
Guild, and Weekday Lay Readers.

**AUGUST**

Sunday, 8/18

Homecoming Sunday, Baptisms, Ministry Fair at 10.10am, Regular Sunday schedule resumes (7.45am, Rite I; 9.00am, Rite II; 11.15am, Rite II), Blessing of the Backpacks (9.00am & 11.15am services)

Wednesday, 8/21

5.30pm

Acolyte Training

Thursday, 8/22

6.30pm

St. Mark's Choir practice, meets weekly

Friday, 8/23

6.30pm

Mind the Gap Symposium

Sunday, 8/25

10.10am

Meet your Children's Sunday School teachers

10.10am

Special Adult Forum

Acolyte Training (following 11.15am service)

Wednesday, 8/28

6.00pm

Youth Group Kickoff Pool Party

**SEPTEMBER**

Wednesday, 9/4

4.45pm

Boy &amp; Girl Choir Novices, meets weekly

4.45pm

Boy &amp; Girl Choristers, meets weekly

5.00pm

Daughters of the King Book Study, meets weekly

5.00pm

Centering Prayer (followed by Eucharist at 5.30pm)

5.00pm

Café Kairos, weekly (ends at 6.30pm)

5.15pm

Youth Choir practice, meets weekly

5.30pm

Eucharist in Bethlehem Chapel, weekly

5.30pm

Sunday School Teacher Orientation

5.30pm

Study Hall

6.15pm

Middle School Youth Group, meets weekly

6.15pm

High School Study Hours in Gosnell Hall

6.30pm

Acts of the Apostles Bible Study, meets weekly

7.15pm

High School Youth Group, meets weekly

Thursday, 9/5

10.00am

Time Out Bible Study, meets weekly

5.30pm

Treble Choir practice, meets weekly

Sunday, 9/8

10.10am

Formation for Adults, Children, and Youth resumes

Tuesday, 9/10

5.30pm

Youth Leadership Coffee

Wednesday, 9/11

6.00pm

Dinners for 8 Kickoff Dinner at Café Kairos

Friday, 9/13

6.30pm

Mind the Gap Symposium

Monday, 9/16

7.00am

Monday Morning Weekday Lectionary Bible Study, meets weekly

Sunday, 9/22

5.00pm

Mind the Gap Sunday Lunch Social (following 11.15am service)

Music from St. Mark's: Organ Concert featuring Janette Fishell

Fri - Sun, 9/27-29

Youth Leadership Retreat

**OCTOBER**

Tuesday, 10/1

10.00am

Gifted Years Book Study, meets weekly in October

Friday, 10/4

6.00pm

Images of the Divine in Film

6.00pm

Mind the Gap Symposium at Images of the Divine in Film

Sunday, 10/6

5.00pm

Blessing of the Animals

Tuesday, 10/8

5.30pm

Youth Leadership Coffee

Sunday, 10/13

10.10am

Jeremy Everett Formation Class

4.30pm

Music from St. Mark's: Pre-Evensong Recital featuring Johnny Peña

5.00pm

Music from St. Mark's: Choral Evensong

6.00pm

Folk Art Opening

Sunday, 10/20

Newcomer Lunch (following 11.15am service)



## OCTOBER (CONT.)

Wednesday, 10/23	7.00pm	Inter-Faith Dialogue (at Temple Beth-El)
Fri-Sat, 10/25-26		Youth Fall Lock-In
Sunday, 10/27		Mind the Gap Sunday Lunch Social (following 11.15am service)
Wednesday, 10/30	5.00pm	Halloween Parade and Blessing of the Costumes

## NOVEMBER

Saturday, 11/2	9.00am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 11/3		Feast of All Saints, Baptisms, Stewardship Ingathering (all services)
	10.10am	Parish Meeting
		Start of holiday pie sale
	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Duruflé Requiem
Friday, 11/8	6.30pm	Mind the Gap Symposium
Sunday, 11/10	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Remembrance Day Evensong (at St. Paul's Episcopal Church)
Tuesday, 11/12	5.30pm	Youth Leadership Coffee
Sunday, 11/17		Mind the Gap Sunday Lunch Social (following 11.15am service)
Wednesday, 11/20	7.00pm	Inter-Faith Dialogue (at St. Mark's)
Tuesday, 11/26		Pie Pickup
Wednesday, 11/27		No Café Kairos or evening programming

## DECEMBER

Sunday, 12/1	10.00am	Advent I: <b>Combined Worship Service</b> (in lieu of 9.00am and 11.15am services)
		Wreath Making at 9.00am
Wednesday, 12/4	5.30pm	Advent Quiet Evening
Thursday, 12/5	11.30am	Women of St. Mark's Luncheon
Sunday, 12/8	10.00am	Advent II: <b>Combined Worship Service</b> (in lieu of 9.00am and 11.15am services)
		St. Nicholas Day Celebration at 9.00am
		7.45am service cancelled
	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Advent Lessons and Carols
Tuesday, 12/10	5.30pm	Youth Leadership Coffee
Friday, 12/13		Christmas to the Street Lock-In for high school youth and No Ties
		Allowed BBQ preparation
Saturday, 12/14	10.00am	Pageant Rehearsal
	11.00am	Christmas to the Street
	6.30pm	Mind the Gap Symposium
Sunday, 12/15	10.00am	Advent III: <b>Combined Worship Service</b> (in lieu of 9.00am and 11.15am services)
		Pageant and Living Nativity at 9.00am
Wednesday, 12/18	7.00pm	Inter-Faith Dialogue (at Temple Beth-El)
Sunday, 12/22	10.00am	Advent IV: <b>Combined Worship Service</b> (in lieu of 9.00am and 11.15am services)
		Las Posadas at 9.00am
	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Christmas Pops Concert
Tuesday, 12/24		Christmas Eve services 4.00pm, 7.00pm, 10.30pm (See Christmas page)
Wednesday, 12/25	10.00am	Christmas Day, Nativity of Our Lord (one combined worship service)
Sunday, 12/29	10.00am	Christmas Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist (one combined worship service)

**JANUARY**

Sunday, 1/5		Regular Sunday schedule resumes (7.45am, Rite I; 9.00am, Rite II; 11.15am, Rite II)
	10.10am	Daughters of the King Epiphany Baby Shower
Friday, 1/10	6.30pm	Mind the Gap Symposium
Saturday, 1/11	9.00am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 1/12		Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, Baptisms
	10.10am	Formation for Adults, Children, and Youth resumes
		Acolyte Training (following the 11.15am service)
Tuesday, 1/14	5.30pm	Youth Leadership Coffee
Wednesday, 1/15	7.00pm	Inter-Faith Dialogue (at St. Mark's)
Friday, 1/24	6.00pm	Images of the Divine in Film
Sunday, 1/26		Mind the Gap Sunday Lunch Social (following the 11.15am service)
	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Organ Plus Concert featuring Samuel Gaskin and friends
Fri-Sun, 1/31-2/2		Vestry Retreat at Mustang Island Conference Center

**FEBRUARY**

Friday, 2/7	6.30pm	Mind the Gap Symposium
Saturday, 2/8	9.00am	Little Hands at the Altar
Sunday, 2/9		Newcomer Lunch (following 11.15am service)
Tuesday, 2/11	5.30pm	Youth Leadership Coffee
Wednesday, 2/19	7.00pm	Inter-Faith Dialogue (at Temple Beth-El)
Sunday, 2/23		Mind the Gap Sunday Lunch Social (following the 11.15am service)
	4.30pm	Music from St. Mark's: Pre-Evensong Recital featuring Carolyn True
	5.00pm	Choral Evensong
Monday, 2/24		Legacy Communion Luncheon
Tuesday, 2/25	5.30pm	Pancake Supper and Shrove Tuesday Talent Show (Talent Show at 6.00pm)
Wednesday, 2/26		Ash Wednesday services at 7.00am, 12.00pm, 7.00pm (no evening formation)

**MARCH**

Tuesday, 3/3	10.00am	Gifted Years Book Study, meets weekly in Lent
Wednesday, 3/4	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
	7.00pm	Inter-Faith Dialogue (at St. Mark's)
Saturday, 3/7	9.30am	Lenten Quiet Day
Sun-Wed, 3/8-11		High School Spring Break Retreat at Mustang Island Conference Center
Wednesday, 3/11	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
Friday, 3/13	9.00am	Youth Bi-Annual Movie Day
	6.30pm	Mind the Gap Symposium
Wednesday, 3/18	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
Sunday, 3/22		Mind the Gap Sunday Lunch Social (following the 11.15am service)
	4.30pm	Music from St. Mark's: Pre-Evensong Concert featuring Graham Schultz
	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Choral Evensong
Wednesday, 3/25	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
Friday, 3/27	7.30pm	Music from St. Mark's: Ars Lyrica Baroque Concert
Sunday, 3/29		Day of Prayer and Service



## APRIL

Wednesday, 4/1	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
	7.00pm	Inter-Faith Dialogue (at Temple Beth-El)
Sunday, 4/5		Palm Sunday with Festival and live animals at 10.10am
Monday, 4/6	12.00pm	Holy Monday service
Tuesday, 4/7	12.00pm	Holy Tuesday service
Wednesday 4/8	12.00pm	Holy Wednesday service
Thursday, 4/9	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Friday, 4/10		Good Friday services 7.00am, 12.00pm
	1.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday, 4/11	9.00am	Baptism Workshop
	11.00am	Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic at Bishop Jones Center
	1.00pm	Holy Saturday service
Sunday, 4/12		Easter Day services 6.00am Vigil, 9.00am, 11.15am(childcare during all services) Breakfast served after the 6.00am service
Fri-Sun, 4/17-19		Youth Retreat
Saturday, 4/25	9.00am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 4/26	10.00am	Feast of St. Mark, Confirmation Sunday, <b>Combined Worship Service</b>

## MAY

Friday, 5/1	6.00pm	Images of the Divine in Film
Sunday, 5/3		Newcomer Lunch (following 11.15am service)
	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Spring Concert
Thursday, 5/7	11.30am	Bookstore Lecture and Luncheon featuring Becca Stevens
Friday, 5/8	6.30pm	Mind the Gap Symposium
Sunday, 5/10		Youth Sunday
Tuesday, 5/12	5.30pm	Youth Leadership Coffee
Thursday, 5/14	5.00pm	Last Café Kairos for the program year
Sunday, 5/17		Recognition Sunday
	5.00pm	Music from St. Mark's: Choral Evensong
Sunday, 5/24		Summer Worship Schedule (7.45am, Rite I and 10.00am, Rite II)
Saturday, 5/30	9.00am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 5/31		Pentecost, Baptisms, Parish Picnic in Travis Park



## ADVENT

### Advent Quiet Evening

Wednesday, December 4, 5.30-8.00pm

Facilitated by The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser

### Sundays in Advent

Starting December 1

Morning worship services will be held at 7.45am and 10.00am every Sunday in Advent.

Programs begin at 9.00am preceeding the combined worship service at 10.00am. Breakfast will be provided.

**Advent I** Wreath-Making

**Advent II** St. Nicholas Day Celebration

**Advent III** Christmas Pageant and Living Nativity

**Advent IV** Las Posadas



## CHRISTMAS

### Christmas Eve Services

December 24

3.45pm Prelude, 4.00pm Holy Eucharist

7.00pm Holy Eucharist with St. Mark's Choir

10.00pm Prelude, 10.30pm Holy Eucharist with St. Mark's Choir and incense

### Christmas Day

December 25

One Combined Holy Eucharist at 10.00am

### First Sunday After Christmas

December 29

One Combined Holy Eucharist at 10.00am



## Lenten Quiet Day

Saturday, March 7, 9.30am-2.00pm

Facilitated by The Rev. Mary Earle

## Day of Prayer and Service

Sunday, March 29

We hope you will plan to join us for this family friendly day of service. Check out the Outreach pages for more information on this Lenten offering!



## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

### Sunday, April 5 - Palm Sunday

- 7.45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9.00am Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 10.10am Palm Sunday Festival with live animals
- 11.15am Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist Rite II

### Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday

- 12.00pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Bethlehem Chapel

### Thursday, April 9 - Maundy Thursday

- 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- 9.00pm Gethsemane Overnight Prayer Vigil, Bethlehem Chapel

### Friday, April 10 - Good Friday

- 7.00am Good Friday Liturgy with Communion from the Reserve Sacrament in Bethlehem Chapel
- 12.00pm Good Friday Liturgy
- 1.00pm Stations of the Cross

### Saturday, April 11 - Holy Saturday

- 1.00pm Holy Saturday service

### Sunday, April 12 - Easter Day

- 6.00am The Great Vigil, Lighting of the New Fire, Holy Baptism, and First Eucharist of Easter, with incense. Breakfast to follow.
- 9.00am Festal Eucharist, Rite II
- 11.15am Festal Eucharist, Rite II with incense



More than 100 people make up the choirs at St. Mark's, including volunteers, staff singers, and four choral scholars (high school students who commit to spending a year of musical formation with the St. Mark's music program.) Together they provide music for the many services that are offered throughout the year. In addition, St. Mark's music program invites the San Antonio community to experience the beauty of worship and creativity through the Music From St. Mark's offerings. Sponsored by the St. Cecilia Guild, these programs are free to all with complimentary parking.

Direct your questions about music to Jon Johnson at [jjohnson@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:jjohnson@stmarks-sa.org).

### St. Mark's Choir

The St. Mark's Choir (adults and youth) sings the 11.15am service each Sunday during the program year. The choir, consisting of 65 members, rehearses every Thursday evening from 6.30-8.45pm. In addition to its Sunday morning duties, the choir regularly sings Evensong and concerts.

### CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIR

These choirs are highly committed groups that provide music for the 9.00am worship service throughout the program year. These children learn about liturgy and the seasons of the church year as they rehearse service music, hymns, and anthems. Rehearsals are in the choir room. All choirs are affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) training curriculum.

### Boy & Girl Novices

(grades K-2)

Wednesdays 4.45-5.45pm

This group is a preparatory group and sings once a month.

### Boy & Girl Choristers

(grades 3-5)

Wednesdays 4.45-5.45pm

### Youth Choir

(grades 6-12)

Wednesdays 5.15-6.00pm

### Treble Choir

(grades 4-12, auditioned)

Thursdays 5.30-7.00pm





## 2019-2020 MUSIC FROM ST. MARK'S

**September 22**

Organ Concert: Janette Fishell

**October 13**

Pre-Evensong Recital: Johnny Peña  
Choral Evensong

**November 3**

Duruflé Requiem

**November 10**

Remembrance Day Evensong  
with St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Montessori School  
(at St. Paul's Episcopal Church)

**December 8**

Advent Lessons and Carols

**December 22**

Christmas Pops Concert

**January 26**

Organ Plus Concert: Samuel Gaskin and friends

**February 23**

Pre-Evensong Recital: Dr. Carolyn True  
Choral Evensong

**March 22**

Pre-Evensong Recital: Graham Schultz  
Choral Evensong

**March 27**

Alamo Baroque presents: Ars Lyrica Baroque Concert

**May 3**

Spring Concert

**May 17**

Choral Evensong  
with St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Montessori School  
(at St. Mark's)



## STEWARDSHIP INGATHERING

Sunday, November 3

Luke invites us to consider our response to our blessings. *"The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.'"* -- Luke 12:13-21

Be on the lookout for the stewardship mailing in October, and prayerfully consider your pledge for 2020. Your financial support of the church is an important component of membership in this community. By giving generously, you are free to live from a place of abundance and you learn to trust in God's economy.



Join us in a joyful celebration of our pledge offerings on November 3. Whether you are renewing your pledge or considering your pledge for the first time, you are making possible our worship, formation, community time together, and outreach to the city. Thanks be to God!

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Between services, we will hold a Parish Meeting during which you will hear from the Rector and lay leaders about our accomplishments as a parish, our challenges, and our plans for the future. Come hear about how we, as a community, use our resources for the well-being of this congregation, our neighbors, and our city. The Vestry slate formed by your Vestry Discernment Committee will also be presented for approval by all baptized and confirmed members. The St. Mark's Annual Report, containing more detail on the financial and programmatic health of our community, will be distributed at the meeting, made available throughout the Parish House, and posted on the website.

## COMMUNITY CARE

Caring for one another in community is part of the core of who we are as the church. At St. Mark's, community care includes ministries of clergy and laity who respond to needs and concerns.

**Let the church know.** We want to know when anyone has a need. At any hour, the easiest way to share a need, whether urgent or not, is by calling the church. After hours, we have a pastoral care line that contacts the priest on call in order to respond to urgent needs. We welcome any call, for whatever reason a member is led to be in contact, and we value the deep relationships that form as we share one another's sorrows and joys. You might request a visit from a priest or notify the church of a hospitalization.

**Ministry of presence.** When you welcome a child by birth or adoption, a member of the clergy will be happy to visit and offer a blessing for the child. Clergy and Lay Eucharistic Visitors make regular visits to those who have difficulty getting out, or who are in the hospital, to share communion with them. The Community of Hope is a group of lay persons trained in the spiritual art of pastoral presence, who are available to serve as regular visitors for a period of time, such as a season of illness or bereavement. The Flower Delivery Ministry delivers smaller arrangements of the Sunday altar flowers to share joy and encouragement with others. We are exploring a variety of ways to support those with mental illness, and their families.

**Ministry of prayer.** Prayer is an important part of our care for one another. Names of members and relatives of members may be included in our Sunday prayer list with that person's blessing; this list is public, and appears on our website and in our bulletin. The Daughters of the King, an order of laywomen who have undertaken a Rule of Prayer, maintain an unpublished list. These names are prayed for daily, for as long as there is need. You may request that a prayer concern be included on this list. Any person, both members and non-members, may be included in the Sunday prayers for those who have died.

**Caring together.** Our community care is coordinated by the clergy in collaboration with lay members of a Care Committee. Together we seek to provide compassionate and confidential spiritual support to the St. Mark's community. If you are interested in serving in any of the ministries named, please email The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser at [afraser@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:afraser@stmarks-sa.org).



There are many ways for children and families to engage in fun and meaningful activities throughout the year at St. Mark's. Through Nursery, Sunday School, Children's Chapel, and many special events, children will learn of God's great love for them, and experience the joy of being a part of a church community that cherishes who they are and their important role in the life of this community.

Questions about Children's Ministries? Email [children@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:children@stmarks-sa.org).

## NURSERY

Sundays 8.30am-12.30pm and during special events for ages 6 weeks - 5 years old.

Children of all ages are always welcome in our worship services. They are a vital part of our St. Mark's community, and it's wonderful to hear their voices while we worship. The Nursery is provided for parents who would like to leave their child in a loving, nurturing, and safe environment while they participate in formation and/or the services. The nursery is staffed by highly qualified caregivers who provide playtime, activities, and a place to rest for the littlest parishioners at St. Mark's.

## CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Sundays at 9.00am for Pre-K through 3rd grade

We begin in Jerusalem Chapel with a service designed especially for the children, where we pray together, read scripture, and learn the gospel story. After our worship time, we move to our common area where we do a craft project relating to our lesson. The children enjoy both components of Children's Chapel, listening intently to the stories and working hard on the projects! We rejoin with families at the 9.00am service during The Peace.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays at 10.10am for ages Pre-K - 5th grade

Sunday School at St. Mark's is a special time for the children to gather together with those in their age group and dig deeper into the stories of the people of God. Each class participates in Godly Play. The Godly Play method is a Montessori-based curriculum of spiritual practice exploring the mystery of God's presence in our lives. Godly Play practice teaches us to listen for God and to make authentic and creative responses to God's call in our lives.







St. Mark's is committed to bringing all people to a transformative relationship with Christ, through diverse and creative worship, education, and ministry. This is clearly evident in the Youth Ministry program. Through weekly programming and numerous events throughout the year we seek to create an inclusive, hospitable, compassionate, and nurturing community where youth from all backgrounds share relationships that can grow into the full stature of Christ. They will be empowered for ministry in their daily life; and by practicing mutual accountability through creative Christian formation programs, participate meaningfully in ministries, missions, and outreach in the San Antonio community and beyond.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Wednesday Night Youth Group is for youth in 6th-12th grade and meets each Wednesday during the program year. Come to a safe place where you can be yourself, be the Episcopal church now, and have a blast with other youth.

This year, the schedule will be as follows:

- 6.15-7.15pm**    **Middle School Youth Group**  
                          **High School Study Hours**  
                          **(Gosnell Hall)**
- 7.15-8.15pm**    **High School Youth Group**

Dinner will be offered by Café Kairos from 5.00-6.30pm.

## YOUTH SUNDAY FORMATION

Weaving God's Promises is a three year Christian education curriculum developed and written exclusively for the Episcopal Church. All youth will come together every Sunday morning during the formation hour in the Youth Suite. We will utilize activities, prayer, and fellowship to learn how God's promises of salvation are inextricably woven into our lives. Once a month, youth will take a break from our lectionary-based curriculum to learn about different spiritual practices that can give us tangible tools to incorporate into our prayer lives.

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP COFFEE

### Brand New Offering!

A new offering for our youth in 11th and 12th grade to gather once a month on Tuesday from 5.30-7.00pm to discuss life's big questions and how we can best be followers of Jesus. The dates for this year will be: September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 17, April 14, and May 12.

## YOUTH CONFIRMATION

Youth Confirmation is for 8th grade youth and any high school students who would like to be confirmed. The class will meet throughout the winter and spring during the 10.10am formation hour. The youth will be led in discussion of topics including: church history, the sacraments, becoming a young adult, the community of the church, and living a life of faith. Students are allowed to miss only two classes. Class dates are as follows: January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 23, March 8, 22, and April 19. Students will be expected to participate in the Day of Prayer and Service on Sunday, March 29, in a dinner with the Bishop prior to confirmation, and in a rehearsal for confirmation April 25. Confirmation will be held on the Feast of St. Mark celebration during the 10.00am service on April 26. For more information, please email Meredith Rogers at [mrogers@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mrogers@stmarks-sa.org).

## VOLUNTEERING WITH YOUTH

The youth of St. Mark's are not only the future of the church, but they are also the present of this church. Please help to serve them and help them grow with your presence through relationship. We have opportunities to volunteer Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings, Tuesday evenings, and at lots of retreats and events throughout the year! Email Meredith with your interest in volunteering with our fantastic youth, [mrogers@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:mrogers@stmarks-sa.org).

## YOUTH RETREATS

### Youth Leadership Retreat (11-12 grade)

September 27-29

### Fall Lock-In (6-8 grade participate, 9-12 grade staff)

October 25-26

### Christmas to the Street (9-12 grade overnight, 6-8 grade Saturday)

December 13-14

### Equipped Retreat (6-8 grade)

January 24-25

### High School Spring Break Retreat (9-12 grade)

March 8-11

### Confirmation Retreat (Open to all who are seeking confirmation or have been confirmed)

April 17-19





## THE BREAD OF LIFE GRANT

### Communities In Schools, San Antonio

The Bread of Life Grant offers the St. Mark's community three years to engage and build relationships with a specific organization and their work in the city for a grant totaling \$60,000. This takes our outreach to another level, providing the inroads for us to make a deep impact. We are now in the third year of our partnership with Communities in Schools, San Antonio (CIS-SA) at Crockett Academy.

Crockett was a high at-risk school until CIS-SA was brought in by the State of Texas five years ago. Some 46% of the students are classified as "at-risk", and 186 CIS-SA cases are currently being managed in K-5th grade. CIS-SA focuses primarily on the non-academic (social) needs of students, many of whom are being raised by single parents or grandparents.

Crockett Academy's proximity to St. Mark's makes it a ready partner for collaboration (just two miles away). There are opportunities to serve at one-time events like the school's festivals, holiday collections, career days, and the ever-popular Love to Read Day. You might be drawn also to an ongoing relationship by serving as a mentor for a student.

Look for these and many other opportunities as they are announced throughout the year. For more information, please email The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser at [afraser@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:afraser@stmarks-sa.org).



## CORE VOCATION GRANTS

The Core Vocation Grants are smaller, one-year grants dispersed to multiple entities. A total of \$40,000 was awarded to 15 organizations for the 2019 grant cycle in which the committee focused on programs or projects aimed at the third arm of St. Mark's Core Vocation - *"Feeding those hungry for beauty and creativity."* These recipients are listed below with a project title. These grants will provide our community with multiple volunteer opportunities over the next year. If you are interested, please email The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser at [afraser@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:afraser@stmarks-sa.org).

### Alpha Home

PADRE Program

### The Children's Chorus of San Antonio

Neighborhood Choirs

### The Children's Shelter of San Antonio

Camp Open Mind Open Heart

### Corazón Ministries

Hygiene Program

### Haven for Hope

Spiritual Services for People Experiencing Homelessness

### Hemisfair Conservancy

Beautifying Hemisfair Gardens

### I Care San Antonio

I Care Vision Center at Haven for Hope

### Lifetime Recovery

Recovery Links Program

### Mission Road Developmental Center

free.to.be Program

### NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

NAMI Nights

### Reaching Maximum Independence

Champion Fashion Show

### The San Antonio Public Library Foundation

Art Collection Maintenance & Enhancement

### Threads of Blessing

Scholarship Fund

### University Health System Foundation

Center for Life, Life Cycle Mural

### Youth Orchestras of San Antonio (YOSA)

Tuition Assistance



## HAVEN FOR HOPE VOLUNTEER NETWORK

There are one-time and recurring ways to participate in caring for our homeless neighbors through Haven for Hope.

**The Monthly Kitchen Service at Haven for Hope** ministry provides on-site meal preparation and service for the two dining halls at Haven, the San Antonio Food Bank (main campus) and St. Vincent de Paul (Courtyard).

**The Monthly Kitchen Ministry at St. Mark's** prepares main course dishes to be delivered and served at Haven for Hope.

**The Book Fair in the Courtyard** includes a book drive and much-anticipated annual book fair for Haven for Hope residents.

Many look forward to the chance to be part of the **Christmas to the Street BBQ Dinner** (see below).

## CHRISTMAS TO THE STREET

This youth-driven outreach project comprises a weekend of lovingly-prepared BBQ lunch served to the hungry in our community. There are opportunities to join in the prep work, serving event, and cleanup. The project also includes a Saturday offering in which the BBQ is served at Haven for Hope's St. Vinny's Kitchen.

## WALK-IN ASSISTANCE

Because of our proximity to the Greyhound Bus Station, St. Mark's has found a natural fit as a resource for people who need assistance to travel to a safe or more productive location. Persons referred through agencies like Haven for Hope, and those who walk in seeking assistance receive a hospitable welcome and pastoral conversation.

## DAY OF PRAYER AND SERVICE

During Lent, we will observe our 4th annual Day of Prayer and Service. Parishioners will be sent out from Sunday morning worship to projects across the city, including many of our grant recipients and long-term partners listed. There are several kid - or youth - friendly service opportunities. Many families look forward to this chance to serve together. Mark your calendar for Sunday, March 29.

## MINISTRY WITH MIGRANTS

There are many opportunities to respond compassionately to the changing needs of persons who find themselves in San Antonio as they seek refuge from untenable circumstances in their places of origin. St. Mark's works closely with partners and encourages volunteers to serve at the City's Migrant Resource Center and Travis Park Church's Migrant Overnight Shelter. Funds donated support the work of these and other partners, and provide the means for prescription needs that arise. An emerging clothes closet ministry on site at St. Mark's will provide a source for migrants to receive a fresh change of clothes.

## LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIPS

Additionally, St. Mark's provides funding to several organizations with whom we have historical ties. These ongoing partnerships provide opportunities to collaborate and serve across our city and beyond:

**Christian Assistance Ministries (CAM)**  
**Diocese of West Texas Support**  
**Good Samaritan Community Services**  
**Haven for Hope**  
**Morningside Ministries**  
**SAMMinistries**  
**St. Paul's Montessori School**





## OUTREACH ABROAD

There are opportunities to join two established ministry partners in their outreach abroad. Through **I CARE San Antonio**, one of our Outreach Grant recipients, volunteers may participate in a Medical Ministry International project in Colombia in January 2020. No medical experience required. Additionally, Diocese of West Texas ministry (and 2019 Outreach Grant recipient) **Threads of Blessing** will be working with partners in Uganda during a November 2019 trip. Those interested in joining this thriving ministry of women's economic empowerment through needlework arts are invited to apply. No needlework experience necessary.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

St. Mark's and its lay and clergy community members are involved in numerous organizations across the city. Participation in groups like the Interfaith San Antonio Alliance and the Downtown Convening Group help us to partner readily with other faith communities to make a difference in our neighborhood. We work with the City of San Antonio's Faith-Based Initiative to collaborate on various projects of goodwill, and are searchable in the San Antonio Community Resource Directory (SACRD).

## THE RIGHT GIFT AT THE RIGHT TIME

The nature of serving others is adaptive and responsive; needs change over time and as circumstances vary. Ministries naturally emerge and shift. The weekly e-News is an up-to-date source of information on opportunities to love our neighbors as Christ has loved us.

There is a place and a need for the gifts of all in the St. Mark's community. The principles of our Core Vocation guide us in offering our service to others in the name of Christ in a variety of ways. Looking for a way to contribute? Contact The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser at [afraser@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:afraser@stmarks-sa.org).





## ST. MARK'S BOOKSTORE

The St. Mark's Bookstore is under the umbrella of Christian Formation at St. Mark's. The bookstore is your bookstore. We are open on Sunday mornings from 8.30-11.15am and during the week; check the eNews for updated hours. We are located on the first floor near the kitchen.

New book titles arrive regularly. We are happy to do special orders for individuals or for a group who needs them. Our gift selection is handpicked with an emphasis on fair-trade, local and, independent artists. We have crosses, Christian jewelry, stationary, and a wide variety of Episcopal items in stock.

Come visit us!



## Bookstore Lecture and Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the annual Bookstore Lecture and Luncheon on Thursday, May 7! The Rev. Becca Stevens will be the speaker. Becca is an author, speaker, Episcopal priest, and social entrepreneur. She is the founder and president of Thistle Farms, a sanctuary for women survivors of child abuse, trafficking, violence, and addiction. Becca has been featured in the New York Times, on ABC News, and NPR. She is a 2016 CNN Hero and a White House "Champion of Change". Her newest book *Love Heals* was published in September 2017.

## PARKING AT ST. MARK'S

Our parking lots serve an important role in supporting all that we do at St. Mark's. Between the east and west lots we have 248 parking spaces. Our main lot (east) is most visible to members and visitors as our parking lot. But we also have a smaller lot on the west side of the church with 74 spaces. A parking sticker identifies your car as belonging to a member of St. Mark's. Complimentary member parking is offered for all St. Mark's worship times and our events in both lots.

Given our prime location, our lots are attractive for plenty of other venues including Travis Park, festivals, and the River Walk to name just a few. When you park in St. Mark's lots for a non-St. Mark's event, please remember to pay for parking. We have a lease agreement with Hospitality Parking that provides a significant revenue stream for the church.

Would it surprise you to know that we receive as much revenue from the parking lot as we do from our endowment and designated funds combined? Parking revenue accounts for 10% of our annual revenue.

We have an excellent working relationship with Hospitality Parking that allows us to maximize revenue for the church while keeping our lots available for our own events.

On Sunday mornings, you'll often see the gate at the back of the east lot open for overflow parking. This gate is closed again after services to help protect cars that contract for longer-term parking.

If you come to church and find the east lot full, which happens from time to time, remember to check the west lot. We actually have fewer security issues in this lot; we have empirical data to back that up! And while it may seem like a farther walk, it's actually the same distance to the church and parish house entrances.



The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton  
Rector  
bknowlton@stmarks-sa.org



The Rev. Matthew Wise  
Associate Rector  
mwise@stmarks-sa.org



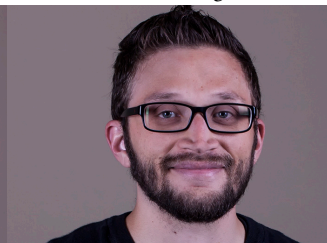
The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser  
Associate Rector  
afraser@stmarks-sa.org



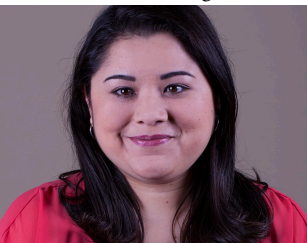
Jon Johnson  
Organist & Choirmaster  
jjohnson@stmarks-sa.org



Dina Aboul Saad  
Director of Advancement  
dsaad@stmarks-sa.org



Eric Nelson  
Operations Manager  
enelson@stmarks-sa.org



Priscilla Briones  
Accounting Manager  
pbriones@stmarks-sa.org



Ruby Merrill  
Facilities Manager  
rmerrill@stmarks-sa.org



Meredith Rogers  
Director of Youth Ministry  
mrogers@stmarks-sa.org



Ann Allen  
Interim Director of Children's  
Ministries  
aallen@stmarks-sa.org



Rachel Dugger  
Communications Coordinator  
& Asst. to the Rector  
rdugger@stmarks-sa.org



Leah Thomas  
Special Events Coordinator  
lthomas@stmarks-sa.org



Shea Pollom  
Outreach/Membership Coord.  
spollom@stmarks-sa.org



Samuel Gaskin  
Asst. Organist  
sgaskin@stmarks-sa.org



Kathy Kelly  
Children's Music Assistant



Marsha Kimura  
Music Department Admin



Chuy Mendoza  
Kitchen Supervisor & Chef



Richard Maldonado  
Chef



Janet Carrizales  
Nursery Director  
jcarrizales@stmarks-sa.org



Tasia Sherman  
Nursery Staff





Desiree Maldonado  
Nursery Staff

Daira Monrreal  
Nursery Staff

Ruby Alderete  
Nursery Staff

Linda Zimmerman  
Nursery Staff



Derek Shively  
Head Sexton

John Aranda  
Sexton

Kirk Rojas  
Dishwasher

## PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Thanks to the many who have made a gift of their photography and whose work is included in this Parish Life Handbook, including Erica Baker, Dawna Boudreaux, Rachel Dugger, The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser, Eric Nelson, Patrice Oliver, Amy Phipps, The Rev. Matthew Wise.

Love taking photos? Contact Rachel Dugger at [rdugger@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:rdugger@stmarks-sa.org) if you are interested in documenting parish events.



Paul Allen, Senior Warden



Ann Leafstedt, Junior Warden



Brooks Englehardt



Anne Connor



Gene Alderman



Emily Foster



Kate Crone



Greg Merritt



Marisa Peterson



Mike Duffey



David Ross



Trey Thompson



Kelly Ranson



Ralph Voight



Chris Villa

The Vestry is the governing body of the church that determines policy issues, sets goals, and provides stewardship of the St. Mark's operations.

Each year, a Vestry Discernment Committee identifies candidates for the vestry based on the goals and future direction of the parish. Contact the Senior Warden to nominate candidates for the Vestry Discernment Committee.