



THE MESSENGER

Fall Homecoming 2021

Photo from Baptism 2019

Wherever You Are, There is a Place for you at St. Mark's!

"In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and rest shall be your strength." -Isaiah 30:15

"We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." -Romans 12:5

What a year we've had! And what a gift it has been to start resuming more regular ways of gathering with one another. The staff met in May for our first planning meeting in over a year. We returned to Christ Church which had graciously hosted us the Monday after the scaffolding event—now almost two years ago. We were finally able to imagine what programming might look like this coming year. We've gotten pretty nimble at not only having a plan A, but a plan B, C, etc. There was a palpable sense of hope as we started to imagine a return to beloved favorites and exciting ideas for new ways to reconnect with one another.

This issue of the Messenger will give you the highlights of our plans for the first half of the program year. We hope you will read it carefully and see how you can connect. Why not also invite a friend who is looking for a church home?

We have some exciting new offerings, like the first of our Stained Glass Sessions featuring singer-songwriter, Radney Foster, scheduled for Friday, August 20. This idea, conceived several years ago, is a creative way to offer our sacred space to people in our city and is an embodiment of our core vocation - *Feeding San Antonio with the Bread of Life*.

We also know we need to have some fun with one another, so we are planning a fall parish picnic at the Bishop Jones Center featuring *Down for the Count*, food, and fellowship Sunday, September 12.

Our music ministry is in full swing with upcoming music events and a return to choir rehearsals for all ages!

Our regular worship schedule of three indoor services resumes at 7.45, 9.00, and 11.15 am, Sunday, August 15. We keep monitoring the burden of COVID-19 in our community and will decide closer to that date whether we need to continue offering outdoor worship opportunities,



so stay tuned for those updates. We still request that everyone wear a mask while indoors for worship regardless of vaccination status. This is particularly important since our children and youth under 12 are not currently eligible for vaccination and we are experiencing a rising number of covid cases in the community. We have made these decisions throughout with a view to the safety of our entire community and I'm grateful for the support you've all shown.

We acknowledge some people are ready to return to worship and formation in person, while others are not. One grace of the pandemic is that we have expanded our technical capacity and plan to continue streaming our worship services permanently. We also are planning hybrid offerings for adult formation, so you can choose to be here on campus or participate remotely. I continue to be so grateful for the staff as they have frequently pivoted to keep our community connected.

We have continued to make progress on construction efforts, so please see the detailed article included in this issue for an update.

We are excited to offer nursery, children's chapel, Sunday school, and other formation, outreach and parish life activities on campus in the coming months. I'm so thrilled to invite you back to the Parish House and the sanctuary to engage in new and familiar ways to be with each other in the community.

Peace,

Parish House

Ready for Children, Youth, Adult Formation

Thanks to Guido Construction, with oversight by the St. Mark's leadership and staff, we are making great progress on our restoration efforts in the aftermath of the 2019 scaffolding event that caused over \$12 million in damage.

Perhaps one of the most asked about areas in the building has been the kitchen. Due to the amount of water that entered the building, the kitchen had to be dismantled down to the bare framing. All kitchen equipment failed inspection and had to be replaced. Fortunately, progress has been going well. The plumbing has been repaired and reinsulated, the framing and drywall have been replaced, and the walls are coated in FRP. The next step is to replace the Stonhard floor, followed by installation of the new kitchen equipment.

The nursery and children's classrooms are nearing completion. A newly reconfigured Room 212 will provide us with a mid-sized, multi-purpose room. This will be home to the Sunday morning Rector's Forum (as we continue working on Gish Hall) and a useful location for week day activities and meetings.

The parapet wall, located around the perimeter of the roof of Gish Hall, has been rebuilt. All four sides of this wall were structurally compromised due to the force of the scaffolding hitting the building. The decorative cast stone has also been repaired.

The Gish roof suffered substantial structural damage and will be fully replaced starting in early August. All layers down to the ceiling must be removed, giving us the opportunity to evaluate improvements. Plans are underway to implement a more flexible design, allowing us to use half of the hall when preferred and the full hall for our largest gatherings. We are also evaluating options for improving acoustics for the spoken word, especially for Sunday formation classes.

The choir spaces are being reconfigured to more comfortably accommodate the growth we have seen in the music program in recent years. This along with the reconfiguration of Gish Hall will greatly enhance our beloved, historic property and enable us to adapt to our evolving ministries.

Three roofs have been replaced to date: Bethlehem Chapel, Narthex, and the cloister walkway connecting the sanctuary to the Parish House. The Parish House roof is in the last phase of replacement. All roofs have been repaired to meet current code requirements including more insulation which will help lower energy costs.

The Office of Historic Preservation has given St. Marks approval to fully replace the damaged windows on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors of Gosnell, Gish, and the northeast stairwell. The windows on the 1st floor will be repaired using as much of the historic wood as possible. All of these windows will be double-paned, helping both with street noise and energy costs.

All of the HVAC equipment is on-site and in the process of being installed. This includes a new chiller, new boiler, and four new air handlers. The Parish House and sanctuary will use the temporary chiller on Martin Street until all the piping, insulation, and duct work are installed.

The fire alarm system has been replaced throughout our property. This includes the main alarm panel, as well as all monitoring devices. Advances in technology will allow our staff to monitor and maintain the system more easily. The building security system has also been fully replaced, including the CCTV camera system.

Our insurance carrier advances payments to us to pay for the repairs. In turn, the insurance carrier seeks to recover these costs from the responsible parties through a subrogation claim which names St. Mark's as the plaintiff. Attorneys working on the case report directly to Church Insurance, our carrier. This is the ordinary process for such circumstances.

Email questions to [Dina Aboul Saad](mailto:Dina.Aboul.Saad@stmarkssa.org)

New To St. Mark's?

WELCOME!

You're invited to participate in the following offerings to help you learn more about St. Mark's and find your place in this community.

Newcomer Lunch

12.30pm | Sunday, October 24

Join other newcomers, current members, and St. Mark's staff for a meal and conversation. This is a great way to get to know one another and get connected.

Newcomer Mentors

Sign up to be matched with a St. Mark's member who will fill you in on what St. Mark's is about and help you find a place here.

Email Shea Pollom, spollom@stmarks-sa.org, to sign up for these opportunities and for other ways to get involved.

MEMBER INFORMATION

Becoming a member of St. Mark's means 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.*

If you are interested in becoming a member, email Shea Pollom, spollom@stmarks-sa.org, or complete the online membership form on the I'm New page of our website.

If you have not been baptized and are interested in doing so, please complete the online form on the Life Events page found on the Worship menu.



ACOLYTES

Acolytes assist at the services. Training begins at the start of each school year and youth in grades 6-12 are eligible. For information, email Meredith Rogers, mrogers@stmarks-sa.org.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild are the caretakers of the vessels and symbols used in our common worship. Members usually serve once or twice per month. For information, email Amanda Talaat, abtalaat@gmail.com or Marilou Moursand, mmoursand@crossvault.com.

BAPTISM GUILD

Baptism Guild members serve on the day of baptisms by greeting families, preparing baptismal records, and assisting the clergy. For information, email Megan McPherson, 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, email The Rev. Matthew Wise, mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

These licensed members take the Holy Communion from Sunday services to those who are homebound. Training is required and offered each year. For information, email The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser, afrazer@stmarks-sa.org.

INTERCESSORS

These members lead the congregation in the Prayers of the People during Sunday morning services. Training is required and offered each year. For information, email The Rev. Matthew Wise, mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

LECTORS

These members read the scriptural lessons at Sunday services on a rotating basis. Training is required and offered each year. For information, email The Rev. Matthew Wise, 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, email The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser, afrazer@stmarks-sa.org.

USHERS

Ushers serve on usher teams greeting and welcoming members and visitors, distributing worship bulletins, assisting in seating of worshippers, and attending to those needing assistance. During Holy Communion they assist people moving to and from the altar rail. Ushers are also needed at special services. For information, email Craig Donegan, craig.donegan@gmail.com.

WEDDING GUILD

These members assist the clergy and families during wedding rehearsal and ceremony. Members serve several times per year. For information, email Jody Kelly, jkelly@globalimage.net.

WEEKDAY LAY READERS

These confirmed and trained members lead the Daily Office. For more information, email The Rev. Matthew Wise, mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

PHOTO CREDITS

Cover photo: Rachel Dugger

Other photos: Dina Aboul Saad, Tracie Andrews, Elizabeth Cauthorn, Mary Earle, The Rev. Ann Fraser, Greg Merritt, Eric Nelson, Patrice Oliver, Shea Pollom, Meredith Rogers, Cathy Villani, The Rev. Matt Wise

The Messenger
USPS 514-020
Vol 21, Issue 1
Published bi-monthly

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
315 E. Pecan Street | San Antonio, TX 78205

210-226-2426 | StMarks-SA.org

Editor: Communications@StMarks-SA.org

Postage paid in San Antonio, TX

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Rector: The Rev. Beth Knowlton

Weekday Adult Formation Offerings

Lectionary Bible Study | The Rev. Beth Knowlton

Monday mornings 7.00am | Resuming August 16

Meets online via Zoom

Start your week with a study of the upcoming lectionary readings. We begin with a reflection question and then read and study the gospel lesson for the coming Sunday. Zoom allows us to gather from many locations, including some from out of state! Please consider engaging with this faithful group. It's amazing how much better the sermons on Sunday are if you've spent some time with the text ahead of time!

The Gospel of Mark | The Rev. Beth Knowlton

Wednesday evenings 6.30-7.30pm | Resuming August 18

Dean Richardson Room and online via Zoom

This lively group will continue studying the gospel of Mark this year. We typically look at half a chapter per class. We read aloud, hear some scholarly commentary from Beth, and then seek application to our daily lives. It is a class that welcomes those who are new to studying the scripture as well as veterans.

Time Out Bible Study

The Revs. Ann Fraser and Matthew Wise

Thursday mornings 10.00-11.30am | Resuming August 19th

Room 305 and online via Zoom

This close-reading bible study group meets weekly to dive deeply into the scriptures, sometimes spending weeks studying an entire chapter, sometimes choosing to study thematic elements across multiple chapters. Most recent studies have included: The Gospel of John, Amos, The Parables of Jesus, and Miracle and Healing Stories.



Education for Ministry (EfM)

Linda Addington and Meredith Rogers

The four year Education for Ministry (EfM) program provides lay people with the education to carry out the ministry each of us is called to in our Baptism and offers an opportunity to discern how to respond to the call to Christian service in the context of a faithful and dedicated community.

Through study, prayer, and reflection, EfM groups move toward a new understanding of the fullness of God's kingdom and focuses on the development of skills necessary for each person to reflect and think theologically. The content of the EfM curriculum (published by The School of Theology and The Beecken Center at Sewanee) covers the various disciplines of biblical exegesis and interpretation, systematic theology, church history, ethics, liturgics, and theology. The whole curriculum is four years, but you can take it one year at a time.

Each EfM group consists of six to 12 persons and two trained mentors who meet weekly over the course of the program year (September-May). Each group consists of members of all four years of the curriculum, meaning each participant gets the benefit of hearing from other students who are ahead and behind them in the curriculum. If you are interested in joining an EfM group, email The Rev. Matthew Wise, mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

Mind the Gap | The Rev. Matthew Wise

Sunday Lunch Social TBA in the fall. Symposium dates are:

September 17, October 8, November 12 and a Christmas Party TBA.

Formerly referred to as "Young Adult Ministry," this fellowship and formation group borrows its name from the signs in the UK's underground as a reminder we need to pay attention to the gaps between our working lives, our faith lives, and our home lives. This group has two regular kinds of meetings: Sunday Lunch Socials – a Dutch treat, kid friendly gathering at a local restaurant following the 11.15am service with no agenda other than building relationships with each other; and Symposium – an adults only, Friday evening gathering dedicated to dinner and faithful discourse hosted in the homes of Mind the Gap participants. For more information, email The Rev. Matthew Wise, mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

Sacred Ground

Sacred Ground is a film and readings based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Sacred Ground is part of *Becoming Beloved Community*, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Our St. Mark's community has an array of cultural and racial backgrounds. This series may be particularly helpful to those beginning to discover the roots and effects of racism. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love. This series presumes a commitment to attending all sessions.

Meeting times will be determined based upon interested participants.

Sunday Morning Adult Formation Offerings

Rector's Forum | The Rev. Beth Knowlton

*Sunday mornings 10.10am | September 19-October 24
Room 212 and online via Zoom*

Separation and Return: How Grace is Found in Sharing our Story with One Another and Connecting it to Scripture

We've been through a community experience of separation and return both through the scaffolding event and the global pandemic. While we are still in a process of return, we have likely experienced this in different ways. Join Beth for this six-week course as we reflect as a community on the role of narrative story telling as a means of reengaging with one another and connecting our experience with the narratives of scripture.

A Practical Theology of The Eucharist: Feast of Thanksgiving, Remembering, and Sending

The Revs. Ann Fraser and Matthew Wise

Sunday mornings at 10.10am | November 7-21

Room 212 and online via Zoom

If you want to know what we Episcopalians believe, the best place to start is the liturgy. In this three-week class, we will explore how our practices in the Eucharistic liturgies embody our theology, comparing different rites, prayers and individual pieties. Am I supposed to be crossing myself right now? What does it mean that Jesus is really present in the bread and wine? What is transubstantiation and is it contagious? What does participating in the Eucharist on Sunday morning equip me to do or be Monday through Saturday?

Continuing Conversations Becoming Beloved Community

As Christians, we are on a lifetime journey toward reconciliation, healing, transformation, and justice, including in the sphere of racial and cultural matters. This is the work of spiritual formation, not simply completing a training or implementing programs. We will continue to discern and lift up opportunities to hear and tell the truth in community; to proclaim the dream of God's reconciled world; to practice the Way of love in all our relationships; and to be a repairer of the breach. This may include occasions to read together, gather for conversation, or invest in our wider San Antonio community in a new way. Stay tuned as these opportunities to engage take shape.



The Choirs at St. Mark's

Many people make up the choirs at St. Mark's, including volunteers, staff singers, and choral scholars (high school and college students who commit to spending a year of musical formations with the St. Mark's music program). Together they provide music for the many services 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 with complimentary parking.

Novices Choir | Grades K-1

Rehearsal Wednesdays 4.30-5.15pm

Sing once a month Sundays 9.00am | September-May

Curriculum by Kathy Kelly concentrates on three basic areas of development. These are vocal exploration and development of the singing voice, feeling the pulse of music and moving to that pulse, and expression of oneself through music and movement. These foundations of musical development are nurtured through carefully selected children's song repertoire, singing games, percussion instruments, and movement activities.

Junior Choristers | Grades 2-5

Rehearsal Wednesdays 5.15-6.00pm

Followed with RSCM training 6.00-6.30pm

Sing Sundays 9.00 am | September-May.

Led by Kathy Kelly, program builds on the foundation nurtured in Novice Choir. Choristers are introduced to the rhythmic and melodic elements of the songs they learned as a Novice. They learn to read and notate music, and play these songs and rhythms on instruments. Junior Choristers learn about proper breathing techniques, singer posture, and are introduced to sacred choral music through the hymnal and anthems. They become a vital part of the 9.00am Sunday morning church service where they wear choir robes, process, and lead the congregation in worship.

No prior experience is necessary, just a willingness to learn and participate.

Email questions to Jon Johnson,
jjohnson@stmarks-sa.org.

Treble Choir | Grades 4-12

Rehearsal Wednesdays 5.00-6.15pm and

Thursdays 5.30-7.00pm

RSCM training offered Thursdays 5.00-5.30pm

Sing Sundays 9.00am | September-May.

Led by Jon Johnson and Samuel Gaskin, entry into the Treble Choir is through a brief audition. This choir is committed to the more rigorous demands of singing anthems and larger choral works throughout the year. In addition to singing on Sunday mornings, the Treble Choir regularly joins the St. Mark's Choir to sing Evensong, the annual service of Nine Lessons and Carols, and other musical offerings during the academic year.

St. Mark's Choir | Adults & Youth

Rehearsal late August-May Thursday evenings from 6.30-8.45pm.

Summer rehearsals are 9.00am Sunday mornings

Sing at the 11.15am (summer 10.00am) service

Under the direction of Jon Johnson, Director of Music and Organist, this choir performs Choral Evensong several times a year, the All Saints' Requiem Service, the annual service of Nine Lessons and Carols, Holy Week, and the annual Spring Concert. We welcome new singers at any time of the year by a brief audition and meeting. If you read music, sight-read decently, have experience singing in a choir, and would like to know more about joining the adult choir, please email Jon to schedule an appointment.



Congratulations High School Class of 2021



John 'Mac' Kuykendall

John 'Mac' Kuykendall

I am graduating from International School of the Americas at L.E.E. High School. I was a member of the soccer team throughout high school and proud we won the 6A state championship this year! My favorite memories of St. Mark's are going to Port Aransas with the other high school youth and serving at Christmas to the Street. St. Mark's has always been a place where I feel safe and comfortable.

Lili Kuykendall

I am graduating from

International School of the Americas at L.E.E. High School and will be attending Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Go Rams! Some of my favorite memories of St. Mark's are around Christmas - making Christmas wreaths or singing at the service. I am proud to be one of the few acolytes who carried the St. Mark's banner, the one so large you can't see around it without running into anything or anyone. The St. Mark's kitchen also provided some of my most delicious meals - I still dream of the breadsticks and cheese straws. Thank you for all of the opportunities I received.



Lili Kuykendall

Kyle Roach-Compton

I am graduating from Douglas MacArthur High School and will be attending Texas A&M University this fall. Many of my favorite memories at St. Mark's are spending time with the choir. I enjoyed being one of the choral scholars for a number of years.



Kyle Roach-Compton

Ryan Tanner

I am graduating from Saint Mary's Hall and will be attending Southwestern University next year. One of my favorite memories is going to a youth group retreat to the San Antonio Food Bank and planting sweet potatoes. The

field was so muddy I kept losing my shoe. When we were done, my sister, who was wearing Chaco's, came out with blocks of mud on her feet and had to be hosed down. St. Mark's has been a community of unconditional support to me. Being able to come to church was not always a regular occurrence; however, just like two friends who go on different paths, I see us coming back together as if no time has passed. This community was there when I was at my lowest and offered my family and I support and help - to keep our heads and hearts afloat. I'll be back to visit my brother and the friends and family I met under the St. Mark's roof. Thank you!



Ryan Tanner

St. Mark's Bookstore



ST. MARK'S
BOOKSTORE

Join us in congratulating Mary C. Earle, standing with St. Mark's Bookstore team member, and book editor, Elizabeth Cauthorn.

Mary is the author of "Did You Sing Your Song" and was given the silver Ben Franklin Award in poetry by the Independent Book Publishers Association (IBPA)!

Mary's award-winning book is available for purchase on the St. Mark's Bookstore website.

Browse the Bookstore Online

With its mission of Nurturing the Sacred Imagination, the St. Mark's Bookstore offers fiction and non-fiction books, Episcopal resources such as prayer books, hymnals, Bibles, and gift items.

Reading material is carefully chosen to support literary interests, spiritual needs, and religious learning efforts of our community. The bookstore maintains an extensive online inventory and specific titles can also be ordered by request.

Visit us online, on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) @StMarksBookstoreSA for inspiration and community.



StMarksBookstore.com



Ministry Fair

Join us Sunday, August, 15, for this year's five-week Ministry Fair. We'll be set up at 10.10am on the front lawn with information about getting connected (or re-connected) at St. Mark's. We will have material for Newcomers; a place to register for Children, Youth, and Choir programs; and info on fellowship, outreach, and formation.

This will also be a great chance to update your household photo for the next issue of the St. Mark's Parish Directory. Email Shea Pollom with questions, spollom@stmarks-sa.org.



SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST

Sunday	15		Sunday schedule resumes. Rite I 7.45am Rite II 9.00 and 11.15am
		9.00am	Children's Chapel resumes
		9.00 & 11.15am	Blessing of the Backpacks
		10.10am	Five week Ministry Fair through September 12
Monday	16	7.00am	Rector's Lectionary Morning Bible Study resumes
Wednesday	18	6.30pm	Wednesday Evening Bible Study resumes - The Gospel of Mark
Thursday	19	10.00-11.15am	Time Out Bible Study resumes
Thursday	26		Thursday Evening programming resumes - choir

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday	8		Wednesday Evening programming resumes
			Youth / Study Hall
		6.00pm	Rector's Bible Study resumes
Friday	10	6.30pm	Mind the Gap
Sunday	12	10.10am	Meet your Sunday School Teachers
		4-6.00pm	Fall Parish Picnic - <i>Down for the Count</i> to perform
Sunday	19	10.10am	Formation for Adults, Children, and Youth resumes
Friday	24	6.00pm	<i>Images of the Divine in Film</i> (for adults) and Kids' Drive-In Movie Night

OCTOBER

Sunday	3	4-5.00pm	Blessing of the Animals - drive through in parking lot during Sunday School
		5.00pm	Pecan Courtyard Service with pet adoption (stuffed animals)
Friday	8	6.30pm	Mind the Gap
Sunday	10	4.30pm	Recital - Graham Schultz, Associate Organist, Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Dallas
		5.00pm	Festal Choral Evensong - Treble Choir and Staff Singers with reception and youth event to follow
		6.00pm	Youth Group Supper Club
Sunday	17	5.00pm	Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance service
Sunday	24	12.30pm	Newcomer Gathering and Formation Class
Wednesday	27		Costume Blessing - Trunk or Treat in parking lot Halloween Parade and Blessing of the Costumes
Friday	29	6.00pm	<i>Images of the Divine in Film</i> (for adults) and Kids' Drive-In Movie Night
Sunday	31	10.10am	Annual Parish Meeting

NOVEMBER

Monday	1		All Saints' Day
Sunday	7		Feast of All Saints - Baptisms, Stewardship Ingathering
		4.30pm	All Saints' Recital - Mark Pacoe, Director of Music & Organist with East River Catholics New York City - reception to follow
		5.00pm	Evensong with St. Mark's Choir
Friday	12	6.30pm	Mind the Gap
Sunday	14	5.00pm	Olmos Baroque Ensemble concert with reception to follow
Sunday	28	9.00am	Advent I - Intergenerational Wreath Making
		10.00am	Combined worship service

DECEMBER

Friday	3	6.30pm	Mind the Gap
Sunday	5	9.00am	Advent II - Outreach activity for Haven for Hope & visit from St. Nicholas
		10.00am	Combined worship service
Wednesday	8	5.30-8.00pm	Advent Quiet Evening
Thursday	9		Women of St. Mark's Luncheon
Friday	10		Christmas to the Street
Saturday	11		Christmas to the Street
Sunday	12	9.00am	Advent III - Living Nativity
		5.00pm	Christmas Pops Concert - <i>'Twas the Night Before Christmas</i> directed by Brett Richardson, conductor
Sunday	19	9.00am	Advent IV - Intergenerational
		5.00pm	Greening of the Church Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols - St. Mark's Choir and Treble Choir
Wednesday	22		Wednesday Night programming break
Friday	24	3.45pm	Christmas Eve - Prelude
		4.00pm	Christmas Eve - Eucharist
		7.30pm	Christmas Eve - Organ and Brass prelude
		8.00pm	Christmas Eve - Festal Choral Eucharist with brass and incense
		10.00pm	Christmas Eve - Choral prelude
		10.30pm	Christmas Eve - Festal Choral Eucharist with bass and incense
Saturday	25	10.00am	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
Sunday	26	10.00am	Combined worship services through January 2, 2022
Monday	27		Offices closed through December 31

Worship at St. Mark's

Sunday Worship Schedule

Beginning August 15

7.45am and 9.00am | Holy Eucharist, Rite I
11.15am | Holy Eucharist, Rite II

In the church and
live streamed on our
Watch Live Page,
Facebook, and YouTube



Clergy at St. Mark's

The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton, Rector

The Rev. Ann Benton Fraser
Associate Rector for Outreach,
Pastoral Care, and Parish Life

The Rev. Matthew Wise
Associate Rector for Liturgy, Adult Formation,
and Family Ministry



Postponed

Stained Glass Sessions

You're invited to an evening with **Radney Foster** as the first in a series of **Stained Glass Sessions** inside the historic sanctuary of St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

This FREE event is open to the public.

Doors at 7.00pm | Show at 8.00pm
Meet and Greet After

Additional details coming soon!

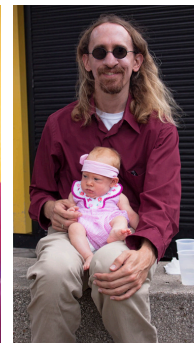
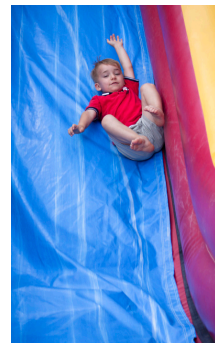


Parish Picnic

Down for the Count
to perform
featuring
St. Mark's own
The Rev. Matt Wise

4.00-6.00pm
Sunday, September 12

Bishop Jones Center
111 Torcido Drive
San Antonio, TX 78209





Outreach

The Core Vocation of St. Mark's orients us as a community calling us to return to values we hold dear, described as:

*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.*

Through the unexpected changes and turns of the past few years, this has been both guidepost and invitation.

In the most uncertain days of the pandemic, this congregation readily turned toward our neighbors sharing the gifts of God. There was a desire to do meaningful things with and for our community, expressed by volunteers delivering devotional books and casseroles; masks sewn and purchased supporting the city's efforts to make PPE available; fund drives helping our partner agencies continue its vital services in San Antonio while adapting to new realities; outdoor workdays investing in physical upkeep of our partners; and many other projects and offerings.

These unusual times underscored that our "outreach" is about being present to and in relationships with our neighbors. There is mutual benefit in these relationships. We need one another. We know the nature of serving attentively is adaptive and responsive; needs change with time and circumstances. As we come to know our partners more deeply, 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. We have many other exciting opportunities to know and serve with others this fall.

Bread of Life Grant | Communities in Schools-SA Crockett Academy. St. Mark's continues its relationship with Communities in Schools-SA (Crockett Academy) through its Bread of Life Grant, awarded in 2020. This three-year partnership pairs a \$20,000 annual disbursement with an intentional relationship between St. Mark's and the grant recipient. Communities in Schools received the 2017 grant as well.

St. Mark's community members can serve in a variety of ways, from one-time to weekly engagements. For example, consider being paired with a student as a mentor or journal-exchange partner (background check required); contributing to projects celebrating and supporting teachers; or being part of a fall festival or holiday celebration.

Core Vocation Grants are smaller-scale, one-year grants awarded to community partners through a discernment process with our Grants Committee. The list of recipients below reflects this year's focus on applicants whose work "feeds those hungry for knowledge and meaning." Fit with other areas of our Core Vocation was a secondary consideration.

The committee selected nine applicants to receive Core Vocation grants, totaling \$40,000, including one first-time recipient(*): ABODE Contemplative Care for the Dying*, Corazón Ministries, I Care San Antonio, Lifetime Recovery, Magdalena House, Mission Road Ministries. Reaching Maximum Independence, St. Vinny's Bistro, and Youth Orchestras of San Antonio (YOSA).

The recipients selected represent significant work in our community to give opportunities for knowledge and meaning in the lives of our neighbors. We give thanks for the dedicated work of all the applicants, and for the occasion to invest in and celebrate the projects selected for Core Vocation grants. Look for ways to engage with these agencies throughout the year.

Long-term Partners. 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 the city and beyond: Christian Assistance Ministries, Diocese of West Texas Support, Good Samaritan Community Services, Haven for Hope, Morningside Ministries, SAMMinistries, and Haven for Hope.

Continuing Ministries. There are ways to participate in caring for our homeless neighbors at Haven for Hope through teams who meet to prepare and serve meals. Christmas to the Street will be back in December. We happily anticipate this youth-driven project, resulting in a lovingly-prepared barbecue lunch served to the hungry in our community-many adult volunteers joining the effort, with opportunities Friday through Sunday. Save the date for the weekend of December 10-12. We are also planning a Lenten Day of Prayer and Service (Sunday, April 3) during which a variety of volunteer services for all ages.

Immigration Ministries – Diocese of West Texas. The Diocese established Immigration Ministries in 2019 to distribute up-to-date information about the ongoing humanitarian needs at its southern border and to equip congregants to welcome and embrace migrants in our communities. St. Mark's members can participate in this ministry in a variety of ways, from in-person volunteering and resource sharing, to becoming informed and invested. For more information, email Shea Pollom, spollom@stmarks-sa.org

Mental Health

As members of the Body of Christ, we care for one another in times of gladness or sorrow. Heart surgery, the birth of a child, a bout of depression, a job change...any of these life events would call for the care and kindness of our faith community. We are learning how to support mental health needs as an aspect of our pastoral care for one another, building a culture of listening without judgment and connecting to the right kind of care. Our core vocation to feed those hungry for knowledge and meaning calls us to reflect and learn together. St. Mark's is not providing clinical mental health care – we know there are gifted professionals with a calling and the tools to do that.

Are there mental health needs at St. Mark's? A

2018 congregational study conducted by the H.E. Butt Foundation identified two factors at St. Mark's worthy of exploration: 73% of respondents in our pews identified as experiencing anxiety, with 56% reporting symptoms of depression. Many active members have lived experience of mental health conditions in ourselves or families, and the disruptions of the pandemic have brought further needs to the surface. Encouragingly, 96-97% of those surveyed expressed comfort in speaking to clergy or other members about their problems.

What difference do mental health supports make in a congregation?

Further findings from the H.E. Butt Foundation's study indicate 1) Individuals who share problems with someone in their congregation more frequently report better mental health outcomes than those who share less frequently; and 2) individuals in congregations with higher average frequency of problem-sharing report better mental health outcomes compared to those in congregations with lower frequency of problem-sharing.

This affirms the movement to deepen how we care for one another and build resilience. There is a quality of Christian community that allows our whole selves to be welcomed as we walk alongside one another.

What will this look like at St. Mark's? This fall you will have opportunities to connect in a variety of ways. We are pleased to introduce a NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Family Support Group meeting twice monthly and are exploring options to bring a workshop on mental health first aid to help us respond effectively to one another in times of crisis. Our Rector's Forum beginning in September will bring a theological lens to questions of trauma and compassionate care for ourselves and one another.

We have a series of classes on wellness you can try, building resilience alongside others in your faith community. Your clergy are ready to listen to what's going on in your life, and when needed, help you find a licensed mental health professional who can support you.

In Support of Mental Wellness

Pathways to Hope conferenceAugust 27-28

NAMI Family Support Group..... begins September 21
6.30-8.00pm | 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Mental Health and Wellness series
6.00-7.00pm

WellnessSeptember 23

MindfulnessOctober 14

GratitudeNovember 11

Sunday Rector's Forum..... begins September 19

The Holy Spirit has been busy in San Antonio. From the Pathways to Hope conference and the city's Faith-Based Initiative came the desire to equip congregations as places of mental wellness. Bridges to Care has emerged as a network of congregations in San Antonio working together to "strengthen and sustain our community's ability to cope with and recover from the negative health consequences of personal and community

crises." Several members of the St. Mark's community have undergone training to build capacity in the way we respond to mental health needs in our congregation and beyond. We are growing and discerning the ways we can be a community able to support one another in body, mind, and spirit.

Know that you have fellow parishioners who care about matters of mental health, who care about you, and who want you to have the support you need. We are invited into the healing presence of the risen Christ, and we bear witness to and for one another when we make space for health and wellness.

Youth Gatherings New This Year

Outer Loop Youth and Inner Loop Youth

As a downtown parish, we realize that busy schedules, traffic, and a host of other things may keep you from being able to make it down to St. Mark's on a weeknight. In response, this year we will be hosting youth nights twice a month in different areas of San Antonio by using the outer and inner loop as our guide. Both groups will have eight sessions covering 'Love is the Way' written by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. The way of love is essential for addressing the seemingly insurmountable challenges facing the world today and will help us learn together how to put faith into action.

Outer Loop Youth will meet August 22, September 19, October 17, November 21, January 16, February 20, March 20, and May 15.

Inner Loop Youth will meet August 29, September 26, October 24, January 23, February 27, March 27, April 24, and May 22.



Wednesday Night Youth Group

Grades 6-12 | meet Wednesdays during the program year.

This year we will be using 'Blessed to Bless' by Tim Sean Youmans as a guide to help bring us greater understanding of the context behind the biblical stories we are familiar with. Come to a safe place where you can be yourself, be the Episcopal church now, and have a blast with other youth.

Youth Sunday Formation

Grades 6-12

Episcopal 101: An Introduction or Refresher to the Episcopal Faith. Over the course of the year, we will cover the Baptismal Covenant, Sacraments, Liturgical Seasons, and Feast Days. Some of our youth have been Episcopalian their whole lives and some are brand new, together we will dig into what these church teachings have to do with our daily life. For more information, email Meredith Rogers, mr Rogers@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 St. Mark's. Please help to serve them and help them grow with your presence through relationship. All who work with youth must have taken Safeguarding God's Children training session within the last five years. We have opportunities to volunteer Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings or evenings, and at retreats and special events throughout the year! Email Meredith Rogers with your interest in volunteering with our fantastic youth, mr Rogers@stmarks-sa.org.

Youth Retreats Overview

Grades 10-12 | September 24-26

Leadership from the St. Mark's Youth Group will head to Camp Capers for a storytelling retreat. We will hear stories from the books of Acts and begin to write our own stories to share throughout the year at Youth Group.

Fall Lock-In

Grades 6-8 participate, Grades 9-12 staff | October 15-16

Each Fall our Youth gather at St. Mark's to put ourselves in someone else's shoes. We will often use 30 hour famine as the framework for the weekend, spending our weekend fasting so that we can understand the experience of those less fortunate in our community.

Christmas to the Street

Grades 9-12 overnight | Grades 6-8 Saturday | December 10-11

Our High School youth stay overnight at St. Mark's to help prepare a meal that will feed at least 1,500 people and spend time reflecting on the season of Advent and what it means that Jesus became human for our sake. Then our Middle School youth join us to worship together in the morning, put the final touches on the event, and help serve our downtown neighbors.

Children's Ministry Has Full & Fun Plans!

Children ages 2+ are encouraged to wear masks.

Nursery

Infant to pre-K

A caring environment where your child is nurtured. Nursery staff are vaccinated and trained in Safeguarding God's Children, CPR, and First Aid. Due to rising levels of covid, the nursery will delay opening.

Children's Chapel

Kinder and up | Sunday, August 15 | First half of 9.00am Liturgy
"Godly Play" trusts that most children have some experience of the mystery of the presence of God in their lives, but may lack the language, permission, and understanding to express and enjoy that in our culture. In "Godly Play," we enter into parables, silence, sacred stories, and sacred liturgy to discover God, ourselves, one another, and the world around us. This year in Children's Chapel, we will use "Godly Play" exploring the mysteries of God.

Bring your children to Jerusalem Chapel on the 2nd Floor of the Parish House at 8.45am.

Meet Your Sunday School Teacher

Sunday, September 12 | 10.10am

Sunday School

Kinder through Grade 5 | September 19

This fall we will learn from Jesus' teaching in the seven parables from Matthew 13, with our theme as: *The Kingdom of God is Like*, culminating on November 21, when parents are invited to the classroom with a children's puppet show portraying what they have learned.

"Drive In" Movie Night

September 24 and October 29 | 6.00pm

In conjunction with *Images of the Divine in Film*, the children will have a fun movie night as well! Together we will decorate a cardboard box with wheels, headlights, license plate, and a steering wheel – becoming their own vehicle to sit and enjoy drive-in movie nights. Popcorn and water will be provided while we watch a movie "sitting in our cars."

Blessing of the Animals – Pet Adoption

October 3 | 4.00-5.00pm

On the second floor, every child will have an opportunity to adopt a stuffed animal, becoming their Pet Prayer Partners. Each adopting child will receive an official certificate reminding them to read their bibles and pray with them often. They will also be encouraged to bring their pet to church and Sunday school each week!

The Children's Ministry Social

September 26, October 24, November 21 | 9.45-10.05am

Once a month the children and their parents will be invited to gather together in the classrooms for social time - used for friendship and reconnection between parents and children.

All Saints' Presentation

October 31 | 9.00am

All children will be introduced to their own saint based on their name or their birth date, with the youth joining us to celebrate All Saints Day. This program will run concurrently with the Annual Parish Meeting to be held in the church.



MEMORIALS

through June 2021

Halim G. Aboul-Saad by Polly & George Spencer,
Jill & George Vassar

Clara Jeanne Baca by Amy & David Phipps

Norma Baird by James Dykes

Ken Bryars by Cathy Dawson & Don Hessenflow, Sally Dooley, Linda & Philip Jacobs, Eleanor Phelps, Ann Reeks, Deems & Bill Smith, Lisa Uhl, Chica Younger, Mollie Zachry

Ron Calgaard by Jill & George Vassar

Aubrey Carter by George Spencer

Stuart Cavender by Katy & Scott Allen, Jeff Avant, Sue Bain, Cary & Walter Bain, Peggy Lee Becker & Joe Payne, Jamie Bloodsworth, Robert Buchanan, Linda & Bill Buck, Kelly Kidd Card, Susan & Mark Cavender, Lori Conger, Alston Cox, Pam Crail & staff San Antonio Auto Dealers Association, Courtney de Lee, Liz & Bobby Dewar, Cathy & David Dunham, Robert Ehrlich, Lana Flores, Barbara Gentry, Julius Germano, Michaelaileen & Harold Gosnell, Jr., Jack & Valerie Guenther, Janet & John Hancock, Stephen Harris, Carolyn & Martin Harris Jr., Jack Hebdon, Jr., Harriet & Austin Helmle, Jr., Larry Jo Kephart, Jani-King of San Antonio, Marline & Clint Lawson, Livestock Weekly, Kristine Lloyd & GM Financial family, Michelle Lusk, Debi Maher, Martha, Gloria Gouger Massey, Kade Matthews, Mays Family Foundation, Katie & Billy McDonough, Cynthia McMurray, Jackie & John Meyer, Andrew Mitchell, Margaret & Bill Mitchell, Camilla Parker, Florence Patton, Eleanor & Scott Petty, Dana & Gene Powell, Nelson Puett Foundation, Michelle & Tom Purvis, Anne & Jeff Rochelle, Johanna Rochelle, Stanley & Sandra Rosenberg, John T, Saunders, Jr., Stanley Schoenbaum, Scoggin-Dickey Chevrolet, Ann & Rick Shaw, J. Joseph Shields, Alison & Wilson Smith, Polly & George Spencer, Spoor Family, Mr. & Mrs. John Steen, Jr., Tyler Stein & friends at Frost Bank, Jimmie Thurmond III, Mike Trompeter, Marc Cross & the Jordan Ford Family, Robert & Nancy Turnbull and Nell Hely, Vaqueros del Mar-Tom Cusick & George Strait, Lorrie & Arthur Uhl, Jill & George Vassar, Ann Watson, Barbara & Pal Wenger, Barbara Wood, Zetta Young, Mollie Zachry

Betty Ann Cody by Amy & David Phipps, Bebe & Cliff Waller

William Frishe Dean Jr. by Ellen Dean Cotton

Dan Englehart by George Spencer

Hugh "Sunny" Fitzsimons by Laird Loomis

Alan Gaston by Julie Van Zandt

Helen Glass by Security Service Credit Union

Rod & Christopher Haff by Mary & Doug Earle

Rod Haff by Camilla Parker, Amy & David Phipps

Madelyn Hauser by Elizabeth & Richard Callaway, Estate of Betty Rogers Baker, Mary & Jimmy Fietsam, Meta & Albert Hausser, Will & Susan Hausser, Jane & Russel Matthews, Susan McIntyre & Family, Olive Roen, Mr. & Mrs. R.L. Schmerbeck III, Deems & Bill Smith, Polly & George Spencer, Jill Vassar

Charles M. Leake by Mr. & Mrs. W.B. "Billy" Osborn III, Leo Perron, Jr.

Nancy Loomis by the Laird & Nancy Loomis Fund

Alice Lynch by Earl Fae Eldridge, Laura & Weir Labatt III

Sue Carol McDonald by Bebe & Cliff Waller

John McFadden by Sally Dooley, Tookie Spoor

Betsy W. O'Connell by Sally & William Hawkins

Dorothea C. Oppenheimer by Ann Allen, Liz & Bill Chiego, Earl Fae Eldridge & Peter Herff II, Shelly & Bob Gunn, Robert G. Gunn III, Nancy & Robert Heller, Marline Lawson, Margaret Mitchell, Jim & Penny Morrill, John & Kathi Oppenheimer, Camilla Parker, Eleanor & Scott Petty, Polly & George Spencer, Patrick Swearingen, Jr., Barbara Wood, Mollie Zachry

Jan Tips Rowe by Liz Chiego, Sally Dooley

Walter Schoellmann by Polly & George Spencer

Patsy Scott by Pat Bridwell & John Lewis, Jolie Caldwell, Patricia Fooshee, Deems & Bill Smith, Jill Vassar

Carrie Spencer by Sue Bain, Barbie & Doug Beach, Lynne Breuer, Robert Buchanan, Elizabeth Casiano, Elizabeth & Drew Cauthorn, Lisa & Geoff Courtney, Barbara Dampman, Pat & Craig Donegan, Jim & Joane Drought, Kathy Kelly & James Frost, Randy Gladden, April & Edward Groos, Samantha Guerra, Kay & Jim Hayes, Ellen Jockush, Ron & Esther Johanningsmeier, Laura & Weir Labatt III, Laird Loomis, Rebecca, Willie H. & Markley, Pauleen & Conrad Netting IV, Karin & Robert Oliver, Amy & David Phipps, Mary & Phillip Reininger, Mary Reynolds, Lee Richardson, Deems & Bill Smith, Tookie Spoor, Amy Stillman, Elisabeth Uhl, Jill & George Vassar, W. Walker, Kaye & Sidney Wilkins, Jill Williamson, Janice & Richard Wilson, Victoria & David Wilson, Jane & James Worth, Bill Yates, Mollie Zachry

Elsie Steg by Robert S. & Sue N. McClane Fund, Katie McDonough, Camilla Parker, Clytie Phelps, Amy & David Phipps, Jill & George Vassar, Mollie Zachry

Barbara Noake Strickert by Patti Bender, Peggy & Jon Domec, Mary & John King, Jane Monroe & Mary Walseth, Kenneth & Terrie Pierson, Chris & Catherine Roehl, David & Helen Schneider, Bob & Lee Wood

Capt. Franklin D. Summers by Franklin S. Summers (his great uncle) & Polly, Carrie & George Spencer

Robert Tisdal by Mary Jane & Raymond Judd, Camilla Parker, Katie Phelps McDonough, Eleanor & Scott Petty, Clytie Phelps

Henry Torres by Peggy Lee & Joe Payne

Elise Townsend by Amy & David Phipps, Mary Reynolds

Lillian Wilfong by Sylvia & Peter Maddox, Jill & George Vassar

Arthur Winden by John & Elaine Ehlers, Bonnie Fleck & Frank Garcia, Karin & Robert Oliver, Marjorie & Richard Parrigan, Kathy & John Sundby, Irma Taute

Bartell Zachry by Judith Cavender, Linda & Philip Jacobs, Patrick & Joan Kennedy, John Lewis & Pat Bridwell, Peter & Sylvia Maddox, Katie McDonough, David & Patricia Reed, Polly & George Spencer, Lisa Uhl, Chica Younger

SPECIAL GIFTS

IN CELEBRATION

for the adoption of **Israel Evans** by Polly & George Spencer
the birth of **Markley Slade Harte** by Polly & George Spencer
the birth of **Alvy to Brandon Seale & Susan Consecro** by Polly & George Spencer

IN HONOR OF

those confirmed, received & baptized on May 9 by
 Bishop Reed by Polly & George Spencer

Bob Cotton on his 60th birthday by Ellen Cotton

Paul Allen Sr. Warden by Jill & George Vassar

Markley Harte on the occasion of his baptism by Polly & George Spencer

those new members who joined by confirmation,
 reception & reaffirmation by Polly & George Spencer

the anniversary of **Beth Knowlton's** ordination by
 Polly & George Spencer

Todd Piland's retirement from H-E-B by Winell Herron
 H-E-B's VP of Public Affairs

those who joined St. Mark's on Saturday by
 confirmation, reception & reaffirmation by
 Polly & George Spencer

Cliff Waller for officiating the funeral of Mrs. Vernon Helmke by Vernon L. Helmke

ALTAR GUILD

Helen Glass by Pat & Craig Donegan

CARPENTER CLUB & HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Rowland O'Con by Judy & Lee Rux

CLERGY DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ken Bryars by Sue Bain

Charles M. Leake by Sue Bain

Alice Lynch by Sue Bain

Dorothea Chittim Oppenheimer by Ellen Cotton

Barbara Noake Striekert by Jennifer Willem

Bartell Zachry by Sue Bain

KITCHEN MINISTRY

Patsy Scott by Amanda Talaat, Chica Younger

OPERATING BUDGET

Bob Bruni by Nancy & Richard Dugger

TUCKER COURTYARD

Stuart Cavender by Anne & Robert Tucker

Ricky Groos by Anne & Robert Tucker

Jim Hayne by Anne & Robert Tucker

IN THANKSGIVING

for the recovery of **Barbie Beach** by
 Polly & George Spencer

for the safe delivery of our granddaughter, **Caroline Lamar Summers** by Polly & George Spencer

ST. CECILIA GUILD

Ken Bryars by Patrice & Joey Oliver

Stuart Cavender by Ann Coiner

Gerald & Judith Dick by Susan & Alan Hanks

Gloria Galt by Ann Coiner

Robert Giles by Polly & George Spencer

Helen Glass by Ann Coiner, Kathy Kelly & James Frost

Rod Haff by Ann Coiner, Jill & George Vassar

Madelyn Hauser by Ann Coiner

Dorothea C. Oppenheimer by Ann Coiner

Carrie Spencer by Ann Coiner

Patricia Scott by Ann Coiner

Elsie Steg by Ann Coiner

Barbara Striekert by Ann Coiner

Robert Tisdal by Laurin & Bill Cothren

Larry Walker by Ann Coiner, Otis Parchman

Lillian Wilfong by Ann Coiner

Arthur Winden by David & Jo Beth Oestreich

Bartell Zachry by Ann Coiner

Giving to St. Mark's Episcopal Church

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever. -23rd Psalm

Our stewardship theme reminds us we follow a Shepherd who has radical compassion for us when we feel lost.

Our Lord's love for us is so profound that He feels our aches; our suffering and pain are His. This means that all the challenges we are experiencing have grafted us only closer to Jesus, who loves us without condition. What is our faithful response? Love for God. Love for neighbor as we love ourselves. Our attentiveness to generosity is an intentional choice as a community to look for what is being abundantly placed before us, despite the many changes in our routines and ways of being the church.

GIVING LEVELS AT ST. MARK'S

Average Pledge
\$5,600

30% of Pledgers Give
≥ \$5,000

Median Pledge
\$3,000

First Year Pledge Average
Young Adults (Under 35)
\$1,200

First Year Pledge Average
All Ages
\$3,200

Call Us

210.226.2426

Text Us

Text your gift amount to 210-399-0072
(EX: Text 100 to give \$100)

Mail Us

315 East Pecan Street | San Antonio, TX 78205

For Questions or More Information

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

Visit Us Online

Visit the Give page at stmarks-sa.org
to make a pledge or one-time gift.



Note from the Treasurer

After conquering a year filled with uncertainties and obstacles, we're off to a good start in 2021. Here's a quick update. Our financials are sound. Thanks to you, pledges are strong, allowing us to move through the summer with a good cash position. Revenue from our parking lot lease is back on track, being paid in-full and on-time. Endowments have increased, thanks to generous contributions and market growth. The Payroll Protection Plan loan, taken out in an abundance of caution last year, has been fully forgiven. Year-to-date expenses are in alignment with the budget and are closely monitored by our staff and clergy. And the annual audit of our financial records is underway.

We have a great team of volunteers who help with financial oversight, and some scheduled transitions are in progress. The St. Mark's Treasurer serves for three years, the last of which overlaps with the next incoming Treasurer. I'm pleased to announce that Bob Pollom will take over as Treasurer when my term concludes at the end of the year. Bob is an active member of St. Mark's and has just completed a three-year term on the Finance Committee. He'll be a great fiscal leader for us, and I thank him for his willingness to serve.

We're also welcoming two new members to the Finance Committee: Don Crews and Jill Vassar.

They'll be joining current members Bennett Allison, Matthew Gish, David Harris, and Mike Kuykendall. Many thanks to each of them, and to Polly Spencer, who, like Bob, recently completed her term on the Committee. This group contributes time and valuable insight to help oversee the church's financial operations.

Please join me in thanking them the next time you see them.

With appreciation,



Lisa Uhl
Treasurer



Bob Pollom
Incoming Treasurer

FINANCIALS

Thank you to the many who accelerated their pledge giving!
Your generosity helps us to confidently plan for the coming program year.

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT as of June 30, 2021

50% of annual budget	Actual (YTD)	Budgeted (YTD)
Pledge Revenue	\$1,013,809	\$952,800
Non-Pledge & Open Plate Giving	\$61,623	\$117,500
Seasonal Giving	\$10,932	\$10,000
Other Rev (parking lot, fees, carryover)	\$245,528	\$242,542
Endowment/Fund Revenue	\$150,709	\$173,409
Total Revenue	\$1,482,602	\$1,496,251
Total Expenses	\$1,273,958	\$1,393,600
Over/(Under)	\$208,644	\$102,650

\$1,638,628 in 2021 Pledges • 288 Pledges • Average Pledge is \$5,690 • Median Pledge is \$3,000

Vestry & Staff Look Ahead to a Great Program Year!

