



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A LION'S SHARE

JULY 1, 2023



Saint Mark's parishioner Michael Warner part way through his epic journey to cross the country on bike. His travels will take him from Virginia to Oregon.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023

6:30 P.M.

SAINT MARK'S PARISH HALL



Come meet our new
Preschool Director
Rosanna Davis and
enjoy some delicious
ice cream too!

THE LITURGICAL GUIDE AND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Liturgical Day & Color	July 1-2, 2023 5 Pentecost Proper 8A	July 8-9, 2023 6 Pentecost Proper 9A	July 15-16, 2023 7 Pentecost Proper 10A	July 22-23, 2023 8 Pentecost Proper 11A
Lectionary Readings (Revised Common Lectionary)	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4,15-18 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-15 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65: 9-14 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9,18-23	Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Saturday 5:00 p.m.
LEM	Carol Jubinski	Sundy Schermeyer	Virginia Gilmore	John Kern
Lector	Carol Jubinski	Sundy Schermeyer	Virginia Gilmore	John Kern
Altar Guild	Freear Pollard	Freear Pollard	Diane Stewart	Freear Pollard
	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:00 a.m.
LEM	Virginia Gilmore	John Kern	Rob Perdock	Madeline Glover
Lector	John Andren	Matthew Kern	Barbara Pettus	Carol Fitton
Greeter/Ushers	Steve DeCaro Tom Horan	Rich Caccavano Paul Okula	Kurt Hofmann Edie Hofmann	Steve DeCaro Sandy Wyman
Altar Guild	Lee Wadelton Diane Feil	Laura Bott Louise Reeves	Catharine Nobiletti Edie Hofmann	Victoria Garcia Ashley McLean

SERVICES AT SAINT MARK'S

WEEKENDS (SUMMER SCHEDULE)

*Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.*

THURSDAYS

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing

*Baptisms, Weddings, and the Sacrament
of Reconciliation by Appointment*

FR. CHRIS JUBINSKI

Office: 631.288.2111

Cell: 410.253.3664

chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org




EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND

www.dioceseli.org

To see the readings for the next two Sundays,
click on the links at the top of the schedule on this
page

or visit lectionarypage.net

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 4 Pentecost (Proper 7) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	26 Isabel Florence Hapgood, Ecumenist, 1928 Parish Office Closed	27	28 Irenaeus of Lyons, Bishop and Theologian, c.202 7:00pm Alanon	29 St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	30 2:00pm Summer Blood Drive at WHB Firehouse	1 [Pauli Murray, Priest, 1985] 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
2 5 Pentecost (Proper 8) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	3 Parish Office Closed	4  Independence Day Parish Office Closed 7:00pm 4th of July Fireworks Party	5 7:00pm Alanon	6 [Eva Lee Matthews, Monastic, 1928] 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	7 6:30pm Ice Cream Social to meet new Preschool Director	8 [Priscilla and Aquila, Coworkers of the Apostle Paul] 9:00am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
9 6 Pentecost (Proper 9) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	10 Parish Office Closed	11 Benedict of Nursia, Monastic, c.543	12 7:00pm Alanon	13 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	14 [Argula von Grumbach, Scholar and Church Reformer, c.1554]	15 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
16 7 Pentecost (Proper 10) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	17 Parish Office Closed William White, Bishop, 1836	18	19 Macrina of Caesarea, Monastic and Teacher, 379 7:00pm Alanon	20 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Amelia Bloomer, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Ross Tubman, Social Reformers 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	21 [Maria Skobtsova, Monastic and Martyr, 1945]	22 St. Mary Magdalene 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
23 8 Pentecost (Proper 11) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	24 Parish Office Closed Thomas a Kempis, Priest and Mystic, 1471	25 St. James the Apostle	26 The Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7:00pm Alanon	27 William Reed Huntington, Priest, 1909 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	28 [Johann Sebastian Bach, Composer, 1750]	29 Mary and Martha of Bethany 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
30 9 Pentecost (Proper 12) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	31 Ignatius of Loyola, Priest and Spiritual Writer, 1556 Parish Office Closed	1 Joseph of Arimathea	2 7:00pm Alanon	3 [Joanna, Mary, and Salome, Myrrh-Bearing Women] 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	4	5 5:00pm Mass on the Grass

AQION'S SHARE

*The Weekly Newsletter of
Saint Mark's Church
A Parish in the Episcopal
Diocese of Long Island*

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

WEEKEND SERVICES

(SAT.) 500 p.m.—Holy Eucharist
(SUN.) 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist
(Livestreamed)

THURSDAY SERVICES

11:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with
Prayers for Healing

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano
Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. GERALYN WOLF
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. DANIEL ALLOTTEY
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. WILLIAM FRANKLIN
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski
Rector

Email:

chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org

Cell: 410.253.3664

ST. MARK'S CHURCH

40 Main Street
P.O. Box 887
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

Phone: 631.288.2111

E-Mail:

kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org

Website: www.stmarkswhb.org





THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

- Monday, 7/3** **Parish Office Closed**
7:00 p.m. Fireworks and Food in the Columbarium Chapel Garden
- Tuesday, 7/4** **Parish Office Closed—Independence Day**
- Wednesday, 7/5** 7:00 p.m. Alanon 12 Step Meeting (Atwater Room)
- Thursday, 7/6**
10:00 a.m. Bible Study – “Women of the Bible” Topic: Mary the Mother of Jesus.
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing in Rector’s Office
12:30 p.m. Threshold Singers in the Atwater Room
- Friday, 7/7** 6:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social to meet Rosanna Davis (New Preschool Director)
- Saturday, 7/8**
9:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast at Eckert’s Luncheonette
5:00 p.m. “Mass on the Grass” come as you are Holy Eucharist (Columbarium Garden)
- Sunday, 7/9**
9:15 a.m. Choir Practice in the Church
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Church
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

Participating in Today’s Service	Next Week, July 1 st and July 2 nd
Saturday at 5:00 p.m.	Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
LEM/Lector Carol Jubinski Altar Guild Freear Pollard	LEM/Lector Sundy Schermeyer Altar Guild Freear Pollard
Sunday at 10:00 a.m.	Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
LEM Virginia Gilmore Lector John Andren Ushers Steve DeCaro, Tom Horan Altar Guild Lee Wadelton, Diane Feil	LEM John Kern Lector Matthew Kern Ushers Rich Caccavano, Paul Okula Altar Guild Laura Bott, Louise Reeves

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Laura Bott in loving memory of Geoff Bott, a wonderful husband and loving father and by Pamela Sheiffer for Lt. Commander Katherine Smith USN, 1st Lt.. Devereux Smith USN, Captain Christian Smith, USMC Reserves, In honor of their service to our Country.

<p><u>July Birthdays</u></p> <p>2 Connor Lueck 3 Hannah Reid 11 Frances Graham 14 Lois Simson 14 Paul Canty 16 Casey Shea</p> <p>17 Edward Calahan 22 Bryn Wolgemuth 27 Helen Horton 30 Virginia Connolly 31 Paige Wolgemuth</p> <p><u>July Anniversaries</u></p> <p>13 Debbie & Rich Caccavano 22 Jennifer & Ronald Marwood 23 Liz & Tom Horan 28 Lee & Frank Wadelton</p>	<p><u>Service Attendance</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Saturday, June 24, 2023</td> <td>5:00 PM</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday, June 25, 2023</td> <td>10:00 AM</td> <td>39</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total:</td> <td>61</td> </tr> </table> <p>(18 Households also prayed with us online.)</p> <p>6/24 Pat Conklin Memorial Service 40</p> <p>6/29 Bible Study 7 11 am Holy Eucharist 5</p>	Saturday, June 24, 2023	5:00 PM	22	Sunday, June 25, 2023	10:00 AM	39		Total:	61
Saturday, June 24, 2023	5:00 PM	22								
Sunday, June 25, 2023	10:00 AM	39								
	Total:	61								

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship During the Summer: Saturdays at 5 p.m. is truly "come as you are" so feel free to dress comfortably. You will also notice that we will be simplifying the liturgy for Saturdays and Sundays by reducing the overall amount of singing we do during the service.

Fireworks and Food on July 3rd starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Columbarium Garden Chapel. Please bring a food or beverage item that is easy to prepare to share with others.

Ice Cream Social on Friday, July 7th at 6:30 p.m. to meet and greet our new Preschool Director, Rosanna Davis. All members of Saint Mark's are invited to attend and help Rosanna feel welcome here.

Men's Breakfast Group meets on Saturday, July 8th, 9:00 a.m. at Eckert's Luncheonette. All men from the parish are encouraged to enjoy breaking bread together. New friends are always welcome!

- ❖ **Gluten Free Communion Wafers** are now available during each service. If you require one, please ask Fr. Chris at the communion rail.
- ❖ **If you are a new parishioner, we would most appreciate your filling out our Parish Survey. There are blanks at the back of the church for your convenience. Completed forms can be returned to the church office. Thank you.**
- ❖ **Altar Flowers:** If you would like to dedicate Altar flowers for the Altar contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at laura.bott17@gmail.com. In May there is one vase available for the 7th and 14th. Each vase is \$40. Kindly Note: checks should be made out to St. Mark's Church with "Flowers" in the memo section.
- ❖ **Ways to Help the People of Ukraine...(AS of 6/1/2023)** A complete list is posted on the bulletin board next to the church office. Please help us collect as much of these necessary items as we can. There is a box for them in the narthex. You can also visit our website at www.stmarkswvb.org for ways to help.
- ❖ **Maureen's Haven:** "Thank you" for donations to Maureen's Haven. A box for donations, along with a list of suggested items such as individual containers of non-perishable food, is in the office lobby.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Friday, July 7th at 6:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social to meet Rosanna Davis, our new Preschool Director.**
- **Saturday, July 8th at 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Eckert's Luncheonette.**

We ask that you remember those for whom prayers are requested: Noah Berger (Req. by Jenn Kast), Stan Billie (Req. by Jenn Kast), Deana Chiusano (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Nancy Fraser (Req. by Ki Nobeletti), Roberta Good (Diane Stewart's Sister), Elaine Hanes (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), Barbara Ireton (Req. by Carol Smith), Cathy Jones (Farmers Market), Stephen Jones (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), Gretchen & Jim Jubinski (Fr. Chris' Parents), Campbell Kast (Req. by Jenn Kast), Cole LoRusso (Marj Kulesa's Nephew), Fred Meyer (Parishioner), Jock McLean (Parishioner), Sean McLean (Req. by Jock McLean), The Reverend Abigail Murphy (Priest in EDLI), Sudie Nostrand (Carol John's Sister), Paul Oele (Parishioner), Cassie Panzarino (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Joan Petrella (Parishioner), Rosemary Rees (Victoria Garcia's Sister), Betty-Rose & Stuart Richardson (Req. by Victoria Garcia), Jean Scopinich (Parishioner), John Stewart (Parishioner), Sarah Witters (Req. by Victoria Garcia), Jocko Calvez (Req. by Larry Andria), Michael Warner, Louise Reeves, Owen Foster (Diane & John Stewart's grandson), Ursula Ellerkamp (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Samantha Rigby (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Thomas Olsen (Req. by Jinny Gilmore).

If there are any names that can be removed, kindly contact Kate in the church office 631-288-2111.

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces: Amanda E. Degener, Kyle M. Degener, George L. Degener, Jesse Fritz, Nicholas LoRusso, Joshua Rudd, Michael Keegan, Rob Scribner.

**Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon
And Remember the People of Ukraine and Sudan too!**

**JESUS DOESN'T CARE HOW
MANY BIBLE VERSES YOU HAVE
MEMORIZED.**



**HE CARES ABOUT HOW YOU
TREAT PEOPLE.**

Maureen's Haven

Homeless outreach

We Are Always in Need Of:

Personal Hygiene Items (preferably travel-sized):

- Disposable Razors
- Deodorant
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Soap/body wash
- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- Feminine hygiene products
- First aid kit products
-

Lightly Used or New Clothing:

- Coats
- Boots
- Hats/gloves
- Socks/underclothes
- Jeans

Food: (preferably individual sized, non-perishable)

- Coffee/tea/milk
- Canned goods (vegetables, fruits, soups, etc.)
- Ramen noodle soup
- Nut butters and jellies
- Microwavable meals
- Snack bars
- Fresh fruit
- Non-perishable food items & beverages
- Paper products
-

COVID-19-Related Items:

- Cleaning products
- Paper towels
- Toilet tissue
- Hand sanitizers
- Masks



Donations in Support of Ukraine

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church of Riverhead greatly appreciates the support demonstrated since the invasion started and the many inquiries made about how one can help Ukraine and the Ukrainian people.

The list below of items they need is from their website as of 6-1-23.

There is a box for donations in the narthex and in the office lobby. You can also visit the St. Mark's website at www.stmarkswhb.org for ways to help.

MEDICAL:

Antibiotic creams, all kind of gauzes, any hospital or doctor's office medical supplies, cold medicine, vitamins, any wound care products, blood coagulants, and burn care products, Neosporin, and antibiotic creams, painkillers: acetaminophen (Tylenol), aspirin (Bayer), ibuprofen (Advil) and naproxen (Aleve), Medical gloves.

Water filtration products (specifically to make "dirty" water drinkable/ potable) flashlights, lanterns, blankets, sleeping bags.

We also accept crutches, wheelchairs, and walkers.

FOOD:

Ready to eat foods, dry foods (cereals, oats, trail mixes, ramen noodles, energy bars). Cocoa, Tea, Coffee (Plastic containers ONLY!)

TOILETRIES: All Kinds for adults and children.

DIAPERS: Children's and Adult's, sanitary wipes.

Men's NEW dark color underwear, t- shirts, socks, sweaters, pants.

Children's NEW all sizes and both genders underwear, t- shirts, sweaters, socks

Feminine products and NEW dark underwear

NO TOYS OR BOOKS PLEASE!

WE CURRENTLY ARE NOT ACCEPTING WINTER CLOTHING!!! NO DRESS CLOTHING

Congratulations to graduating High School Senior Peyton Feil. She is this year's recipient of the Douglas Graham Memorial Scholarship. Peyton will be attending Fredonia College.



Michael Warner crossing the Continental Divide!



BULLETIN INSERTS

Explore the Way of Love: GO

As we discover the Way of Love and the practices through which we can follow Jesus more closely, we realize that Jesus did not stay in one place very often.

The pursuit of Jesus can often mean moving out of our circles of comfort and going to other places – geographically, culturally, economically, spiritually. Because if there is one thing Jesus did, it is that he went – out of his home, out of his town, out of his community - to engage with other cultures and people, to listen and dignify their stories, no matter their culture or station in life.

Jesus was a listener and witness to outcasts and sinners, drinkers and tax collectors, strangers and foreigners, the rich and the poor. He uplifted women who were considered unequal to men. He dignified people of other faiths or no faith at all, and showed them the values of the Kingdom of God, through his teaching, through his healing, through his listening, and through his meeting them where they were and putting love into action.

The Scriptures teach us that it is also our mission to go out into the world. As the writer of John's Gospel quotes Jesus, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And as the first letter of John tells us, "Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action."

Are you ready to make the commitment to go beyond your boundaries? To listen and talk, to love and serve, to use your gifts in the struggle for dignity and justice for your neighbor and for people who are outside your comfort zone?

Are you ready to challenge yourself to forge new friendships, open yourself up to new perspectives, and build bridges where once there were walls?

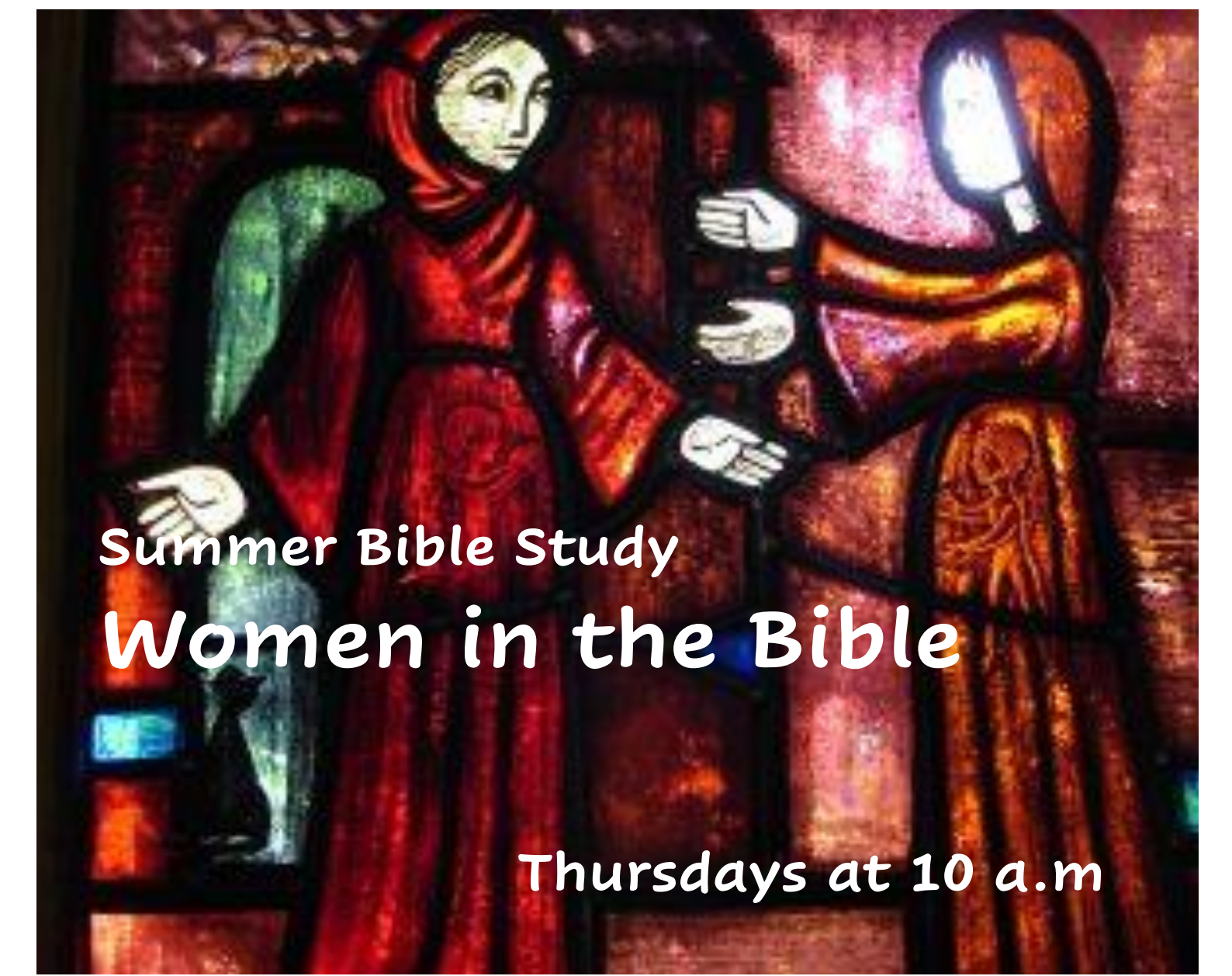
The Way of Love challenges us to Go.

As the writer of Hebrews tells us: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." We are called to give freely of our resources, our stories and experiences, our time and our attention. And we are called to invite others into this Way of Love. We bless ourselves in the process.

Learn more about the Way of Love at episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove.
You can find suggestions on getting started and going deeper with Going at iam.ec/enol.



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life



Summer Bible Study Women in the Bible

Thursdays at 10 a.m

About This Study...

Reading about the women in the Bible reveals a great deal more than simply the stories of a few individuals. Through the women's trials and triumphs, the text offers various (sometimes contradictory) pictures of gender, family life, and relationships. Our modern understanding of gender may not translate directly onto the functions of gender in the Bible.

What are our pre-conceptions about gender in the time of the Hebrew Bible and in the Greco-Roman world? We may imagine that ancient women were universally oppressed or powerless, relegated to their roles as wives and mothers. This unit challenges these pre-conceived ideas as it seeks to understand the many roles women hold in biblical stories. We will read the stories with special attention to the power dynamics, including those surrounding gender, enslavement, and empire.

It is important to remember that these women's stories do not necessarily reveal what was normal or even ideal about gender in the ancient Near East or the Greco-Roman world. Instead, they show us glimpses of those worlds from which the authors of the texts made meaning.

"Women in the Bible" sheds new light on familiar characters like Mary Magdalene in the New Testament and Sarah, Abraham's wife in the Hebrew Bible. It also studies characters who are less well known to many Bible readers, such as the city of Babylon, styled as a whore in the Book of Revelation. Through the stories of these women, discover how gender can inform your reading as you explore how these stories relate to your own faith journey.

Summer Worship Schedule

At Saint Mark's

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

"Mass on the Grass"
Starting June 3rd

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Starting June 4th

Refreshments and fellowship
follow each service.

PENTECOST 5

Proper 8 - Year A

This Bible study was written by Brian B. Pinter in 2011.

Genesis 22:1-14

22 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."² He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you."⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together.⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.¹⁴ So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide," as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Commentary from Brian B. Pinter

Many contemporary Christians find this text to be very challenging, for it raises uncomfortable questions about the nature of God and how God interacts with us. Why would God test Abraham by ordering him to sacrifice his son Isaac? One explanation is that the authors of Genesis were attempting to clearly and definitively forbid human sacrifice, a practice that still survived in the earliest era of Israel's history.

Other see this text as a statement that God does indeed test us to measure our faith. We have often heard our fellow Christians explain hardship in life by saying, "God is testing me." But would a loving, merciful God actually do this? After all, we don't expect adults in our lives who love and care for us to test us. If they did such a thing we would refer to it as "playing mind games" or something less charitable. No, adults don't test each other and many people of mature faith wonder if God would do such a thing either.

Perhaps this passage and the idea of testing makes more sense if we admit that life can sometimes test us with adversity and God watches us to see how we will respond.

Discussion Questions

Do you feel that God tests us in the spirit that God tested Abraham? Why or why not?

What have been instances in your own experience of faith and life that have tested your character? Did you have a sense that God, and others, might be watching your response?

Psalm 13

- 1 How long, O Lord?
will you forget me for ever? *
how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
and grief in my heart, day after day? *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God; *
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," *
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
- 5 But I put my trust in your mercy; *
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
- 6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me
richly; *
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

Commentary from Brian B. Pinter

This psalm takes the form of an individual's lament. The psalmist words of sorrow and hopelessness express the biblical notion of poverty, i.e. the reality that one has nowhere else to turn but God. The enemy of verse 4 might be an adversary or perhaps death itself. The psalmists often expressed their anxiety and dread with allusions to death and descent to the underworld. It seems almost as if the speaker in this psalm is trying to shame God into acting, as if to say, "You, God of justice, how long will you allow this injustice to prevail?" Nonetheless the psalmist is confident that God will transform a situation that appears to be hopeless through an act of mercy and salvation.

Discussion Questions

What have been times in our experience of life and faith where God's absence and silence is particularly felt? How do the psalmist's attempts to elicit God's action resonate with our own experiences of prayer when we are experiencing despair?

How does the psalmist's hope for salvation presage the New Testament's message of resurrection? What are the common threads of this overarching narrative of God's power to transform death into life?

Romans 6:12-23

¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Commentary from Brian B. Pinter

Paul has just concluded a lengthy discourse concerning what Jesus has accomplished through his death and resurrection, and how we share in the effects of those events through our baptism. Above all, Paul is saying that we are no longer enslaved by the power of Sin (to distinguish this power from an individual action, we shall use the capital S). Paul understood Sin to be more than simply a wrong action. Rather, Sin was a cosmic power that ensnared everyone. But Jesus, through his death and resurrection, has freed us from the false value system of Sin. Paul attempts to explain this reality in today's epistle through the analogy of slavery.

The question is, "Whom do we serve, Sin or God?" For Paul, the answer is clear, but he recognizes that sinful forces still have great influence over us, even though we

are committed to living as Christians. God suffuses our lives with grace that makes living by the values and example of Jesus possible. The great challenge remains to admit those areas of our lives that still serve Sin, and accept God's gift of grace.

Discussion Questions

How/where/when have you experienced the enslaving power of Sin of which Paul speaks?

How/where/when have you experienced God's free gift of grace which empowers us to live lives free of Sin's false values?

Matthew 10:40-42

⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

Commentary from Brian B. Pinter

Do we recognize those people that Jesus sends into our lives to minister to us? Jewish law had a well-developed legal tradition regarding emissaries. One text said, “A man’s agent is like himself.” Jesus’ teaching here invests Christian ministers with a great deal of dignity and a sense that one’s ministerial commissioning originates with God. But this is of little use unless the minister is received with an open heart. Those whom Jesus sends will not always be recognizable though. Some will be prophets (people the world might think to be a bit eccentric or strange). Others will be righteous people (perhaps those who suffer for the faith and otherwise bear witness to their discipleship – people the world might view as foolishly and naively standing by their convictions.) Notice how Jesus refers to some of those who will be sent as “little ones” (v. 42.) Scholars suggest that in Matthew’s community these “little ones” might have represented the lowliest and simplest members. These are people that we might easily dismiss because we hastily assume they have nothing to teach or offer us. Jesus invites us to be open to his unexpected ways of working in our lives.

Discussion Questions

Who have been among the “little ones” who have ministered to us in unexpected ways?

Is Jesus calling you to be one of his emissaries? What are the signs of this call? To whom shall you minister?



Vocations Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 2023

Location:

Mercer School of Theology
65 Fourth Street, Garden City, NY 11530

**FOR PERSONS IN GRADES 8-12
WHO WISH TO EXPLORE LAY AND ORDAINED MINISTRIES IN THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

**8:45 AM WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
10:00AM DISCERNING MINISTRY
11:30 A.M. THE DAILY OFFICE PRESENTATION
11:45 AM NOON DAY PRAYER
12:30 PM LUNCH
1:00 PM DIOCESAN (FAMILY) FEUD
2:00 PM CLOSING PRAYER**

**RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 30TH TO
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Kerrigan Country Realty
and
The John and Elaine Kanas Family Foundation
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The
34th
Annual

GAZEBO CONCERT SERIES



Summer
2023

All Concerts
Begin at 7:30 PM

at WHB Village Green, Corner of Main St. & Mill Rd.

Rain date is the Sunday following the originally scheduled date, same time and location

June 29th A HAPPY ACCIDENT, TOO: Classic Rock

July 6th THE NORTH SHORE POPS

July 13th CITI LITES: *The Best of the '60s, '70s, '80s*

July 20th THE SOUND SYMPHONY *With Soprano Stefanie Izzo*

July 27th THE CHICLETTES:
A Tribute To Female Artists Through the Decades

August 3rd SWINGTIME BIG BAND

August 10th PENNY LANE: *Beatles Tribute Band*

August 17th FAVORITES FROM OPERA & THE BROADWAY STAGE

August 24th SOUL OF MOTOWN

August 31st RHONDA DENET: *From Jazz to Soul*

September 7th FAST LANE: *Eagles Tribute Band*

The Gazebo Concerts are made possible with the generous support of:

The County of Suffolk (Legislator Bridget Fleming)

The Town of Southampton - The Khronis Club of Greater Westhampton

The Rotary Club of Westhampton

St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Westhampton

Thank you to the Village of Westhampton Beach for the use of The Village Green

Rites of Passage

July Birthdays

- 2 Connor Lueck
- 3 Hannah Reid
- 11 Frances Graham
- 14 Lois Simson
- 14 Paul Canty
- 16 Casey Shea
- 17 Edward Calahan
- 22 Bryn Wolgemuth
- 27 Helen Horton
- 30 Virginia Connolly
- 31 Paige Wolgemuth

July Anniversaries

- 13 Debbie & Rich Caccavano
- 22 Jennifer & Ronald Marwood
- 23 Liz & Tom Horan



**GOD BLESS AMERICA
HAPPY 4TH JULY**

On the Lighter Side...



Parish Office
40 Main Street
P.O. Box 887, WHB, NY 11978
Office Phone: 631.288.2111



Parish Office Hours
T—F 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org
Kate Gabrielsen, Parish Administrator