



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A LION'S SHARE

AUGUST 31, 2024



Two Rectors of Saint Mark's taken in 1970. Father George Busler, Rector from 1966-1999 and Father Charles Hubon, Rector from 1952-1966.

The Rector, Wardens, Vestry of



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WESTHAMPTON BEACH, NY

Invite You to our 100th Anniversary Celebration

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024
12:00 P.M.

*The Right Reverend Lawrence C. Provenzano
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island
will Celebrate
the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist*

*A Catered Luncheon to Follow
Cost: \$50/Adults and \$20/Children*

*Please RSVP by September 7, 2024 by Email
Kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org*



Dear Family and Friends of Saint Mark's

Saint Mark's is 100 years old, and the Vestry and I are extending an invitation to gather as we celebrate the founding of our parish here in Westhampton Beach. Mark your calendars, the Celebration will take place on Sunday, September 29, 2024. Our day will begin at 12 Noon as we celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Bishop Lawrence Provenzano will be our celebrant and preacher. There will only be one service on that day. We also look forward to blessing and dedicating our beautiful new pipe organ. Should you not be able to attend in person the service will be streamed live on the internet.

Following this glorious service, you are invited to gather with your church family in our Parish Hall for a catered lunch and festivities.

To mark the occasion, we are creating a *Book of Memories and Thanksgiving* with pages available for you to extend your well wishes, thanksgivings, make dedications, and share fond memories. The contributions made for this will help to defray costs. Also, please send us any pictures that you have of special occasions that you celebrated at Saint Mark's, such as weddings and baptisms, for our history display.

This is an exciting time and we look forward to celebrating this milestone with you all.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Fr. Chris Jubinski
chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org

Marj Kulesa
marjkulesa@gmail.com
Event coordinator

Please return your reservation to the church office by **September 7, 2024**

Cost: \$50 adults over 18, \$20 Children over 3

Reservation(s) for:

Name: _____

Book of Memories and Thanksgiving: please send your photos, stories, or dedications to Fr. Chris and Marj Kulesa by August 31, 2024 (*electronic preferred*). Payment can be mailed to the church office or dropped off when you are here.

- \$100 full page
- \$ 50 half page
- \$ 25 quarter page

40 Main Street • P.O. Box 887 • Westhampton Beach, New York 11978 • 631.288.2111 • www.stmarkswhb.org



BULLETIN INSERTS

September 1, 2024 – Pentecost 15 (B) Explore the Way of Love: LEARN

As humans, we often think of our lives in terms of stories. So much of the input of our senses, what we hear and what we read – and even what we feel – is processed in terms of story. We are the protagonist, the heroine or hero on a journey, pursuing our goal, facing conflict along the way, and each day is another chapter in our story.

When we look to the example of Jesus, we see a life in which God was incorporated in a very real way as part of that story. As we embark on the Way of Love, the practice that leads us in the footsteps of Jesus and those who have followed him for generations, we can invite God into our own stories.

The Way of Love calls us to the practice of learning. As the Psalmist prays, “Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths.”

By reading the scriptures, taking time to study, listen, and absorb what they say, we are entering into the long, deep, stream of humankind’s experiences with God. By taking time daily to engage with the Scriptures, particularly the stories of the life of Jesus, we move beyond pop culture interpretations and quick one-line verses and immerse ourselves into the character, will, and story of God. And by internalizing what we read—meditating and allowing even the most mysterious words to flow over us and work inside of us—we are allowing God to work in our story, too.

Diving into the Scriptures can be daunting for some. The Bible is not a rulebook or instruction manual to be easily digested and applied on first reading. Instead, it is a library of different experiences with God, written or told by many different people in different places for different reasons over generations of time.

Beginning to understand and know the Scriptures is a lifelong practice, and calls for patience, openness, and a willingness *not* to know every answer. But as we continually study, and discuss with other people who accompany us on our journey, and reflect upon the ideas on the page, sometimes wrestling with them, and sometimes just letting them flow by like a spring breeze, we will grow in understanding, and we will get to know God better, as God becomes more and more intertwined with our own story.

Are you willing to commit to the practice of learning? Are there those around you who can support and join you as you learn?

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Pentecost 15 (Proper 17B)</p> <p>9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Parish Office Closed <i>The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>[Phoebe, Deacon] First Day of Bright Beginnings Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Paul Jones, Bishop, 1941</p>	<p>5</p> <p>[Katharina Zell, Church Reformer and Writer, 1562]</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Hannah More, Religious Writer and Philanthropist, 1833</p>	<p>7</p> <p>[Kassiani, Poet and Hymnographer, 865]</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Pentecost 16 (Proper 18B)</p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Constance, Thecla, Ruth, Frances, Charles Parsons, and Louis Schuyler, Martyrs, 1878</p> <p>Parish Office Closed 6:15pm Bocce League</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Alexander Cruemell, Priest, 1898</p> <p>10:30am WHB Women's Group</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>6:30pm Covenant Class</p>	<p>12</p> <p>John Henry Hobart, Bishop of New York, 1830</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop and Martyr, 258</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Holy Cross Day 12:00pm A Service to Celebrate the Life of John H. Andren</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Pentecost 17 (Proper 19B)</p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Ninian, Bishop, c.430</p> <p>Parish Office Closed 6:15pm Bocce League</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Hildegard of Bingen, Mystic and Scholar, 1179</p> <p>12:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Eduard Bouverie Pusey, Priest, 1882</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>20</p> <p>John Coleridge Patteson, Bishop, and his Companions, Martyrs, 1871</p>	<p>21</p> <p>St. Matthew, Evangelist</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Pentecost 18 (Proper 20B)</p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>23</p> <p>[Thecla of Iconium Proto-Martyr Among Women, c.70]</p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>24</p> <p>[Anna Ellison Butler Alexander, Deaconess and Teacher, 1947]</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Sergius of Radonezh, Monastic, Moscow, 1392</p> <p>6:30pm Covenant Class</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop, 1626</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>27</p> <p>[Euphrosyne/Smaragdus of Alexandria, Monastic, fifth century]</p>	<p>28</p> <p>[Paula and Eustochium of Rome, Monastics and Scholars, 404 and c.419]</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>Pentecost 19 (Proper 21B)</p> <p>Saint Mark's 100th Anniversary Celebration</p> <p>11:15am Choir Practice 12:00pm Confirmation & Holy Eucharist 1:30pm Reception</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Jerome, Priest, and Mark of Bethlehem, 420</p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Remigius of Rheims, Bishop, c.530 or [Thérèse of Lisieux, Monastic, 1897]</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>[John Raleigh Mott, Ecumenist and Missionary, 1955]</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>10:00am Saint Francis Day Blessing of the Pets</p>

AQION'S SHARE

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

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

WEEKEND SERVICES

Sat. 5:00 a.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

The WEEK AHEAD

- Monday, 09/02** **Church Office Closed**
6:15 to 8:15 p.m. St. Mark's Bocce League – Glovers Park, WHB Village
- Tuesday, 09/03** **Church Office Closed – Labor Day Weekend**
- Wednesday, 09/04** 7:30 p.m. Alanon Meeting – Atwater Room
- Thursday, 09/05** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study - Atwater Room
11:00 a.m. Mid-Week Eucharist & Healing - Fr. Chris' Office
12:30 p.m. Threshold Singers – Atwater Room
- Saturday, 09/07** 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group – Sandy Wyman's Residence
- Sunday, 09/08** **8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Parih Hall**
9:00 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee Hour
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Parish Hall
11:00 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Participants
LEM/Lector	John Kern
Usher	Tom Hadlock
Fellowship Hour	Diane Stewart
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Participants
LEM	Virginia Gilmore
Lector	Richard Gardner
Ushers	Tom Horan, Kevin Tunney
Altar Guild	Catharine Nobiletti Victoria Garcia
Fellowship Hour	Diane Stewart
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS	
Noelle Nelson Wyman	09/01
Anthony (Tony) Catanzaro	09/02
Elizabeth Johnson	09/07
Kylie Cast	09/09
Tom Horan	09/13
Delilah Tunney	09/15
Campbell Kast	09/18
Angie Cabell	09/24
Scott Johnson	09/27
Elizabeth Plate	09/29
SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES	
Timothy & Diane Feil	09/03
Sandy & Geri Wyman	09/09
John & Pamela Kern	09/12
Rob Perdock & Meg Harding	09/14
Christopher & Emily Towle	09/15
Stephen & Meagan Sherwood	09/25
Anthony & Betty Ann Catanzaro	09/26

Services		In Person	On Line
08/24 Holy Eucharist	5:00 p.m.	27	
08/25 Holy Eucharist	10:00 a.m.	27	32
	Total	54	32
08/29 Bible Study		10	
08/29 Mid-Week Eucharist and Healing		6	

Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon. And, remember the People of Israel, Palestine, Sudan, Armenia, Ukraine, Haiti, and the United States of America too!

The flowers on the Altar are given for the Glory of God by Diane & Tim Feil in honor of their wedding and by Betty Ann Catanzaro in celebration of Tony Catanzaro's 70th birthday.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed Tuesday, September 3 for the Labor Day Holiday.

FALL/WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE starts next Sunday, September 8th with services at 8 & 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

SUNDAY SERVICES will resume back in the church on September 15, 2024.

Our church email provider Microsoft Outlook Exchange is experiencing difficulty submitting aol and yahoo emails. As such, parishioners with these email providers are not receiving emails from the church office. If you are one of these individuals and have a second email address kindly forward it to Kate at kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org.

AMPLIFY MEDIA – This is a great online resource with hundreds of uplifting videos on a wide range of topics such as the Bible, parenting, how to pray, and our current study...how to live an UNAFRAID life. These are just more tools for your "spiritual toolbox." This works on iPhones, Android, and even Roku on TV's. Please let me know if you have any problems logging on. To sign-in go to <https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/login> and the Congregation Code is DVFPNB. This a personal gift from me to our parish and please reach out if you need help signing in. – Chris +

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP - Please join our group on Saturday, Sept. 7th at 9 a.m. Sandy Wyman will host at his home at 103 Old Depot Road, Quogue - at the corner of Midland Avenue. Thanks Sandy! Let's start the Fall season with a great turnout at his home a week from this Saturday.

THE ST. MARK'S BOCCE LEAGUES play at Glover's Park in the Village, on Monday at 6:15 PM

PARISH SURVEYS: New members, please see Kate in the church office or email at kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org.

ORGAN HELP NEEDED: Stephen Hunt, our Music Director, is in need of workers to help with the organ. If you can spare some time, please contact him at stephenhuntmusic@gmail.com

Altar Flowers - If you would like to dedicate flowers for the Altar contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at Laura.bott17@gmail.com. There is one vase available for **September 22nd**. Each vase of flowers is \$40.00 each. Please remember to contact Laura if you sign up in the book.

Mark Your Calendar:

- **Saturday, September 14, - Service to Celebrate the Life of John Andren at 12:00 Noon - Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.**
- **Friday, September 20 - Visitation for Robert Dalder at Werner & Rothwell Funeral Home, WHB, 4-8 PM**
- **Saturday, September 21 - Funeral Service for Robert Dalder here at St. Mark's at 11 AM.**
- **Sunday, September 29 – Saint Mark's Confirmation & 100th Anniversary Celebration at 12:00 Noon.**

We ask that you remember those for whom prayers are requested:

Kurt Andon (Req. by Sundy Schermeyer), **Aubrey** (Req. by Margie DeCaro), **Bentley** (Req. by Margie DeCaro), **Noah Berger** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Stan Billie** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Bridget** (Req. by Catharine Nobiletti), **Rich Cassavano** (Parishioner), **Deana Chiusano** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Abby Connett** (Req. by Nancy Connett), **Owen Foster** (Diane & John Stewart's grandson), **Nancy Fraser** (Req. by Ki Nobiletti), **Fred Rees Garcia** (son of Victoria Garcia), **Roberta Good** (Diane Stewart's Sister), **Max Gorman** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Elaine Hanes** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Barbara Ireton** (Req. by Carol Smith), **Gretchen & Jim Jubinski** (Fr. Chris' Parents), **Cole LoRusso** (Marj Kulesa's Nephew), **John & Anita Martinelli** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Fred Meyer** (Parishioner), **Earl Meyers** (Jinny Gilmore), **Jock McLean** (Parishioner), **Sean McLean** (Req. by Jock McLean), **Carol Marin**, (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Sudie Nostrand** (Carol John's Sister), **Paul Oele** (Parishioner), **Cassie Panzarino** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Michele Parks** (Req. by Marjorie Kulesa), **Joan Petrella** (Parishioner), **Kenneth Reeves** (husband of Louise Reeves), **Jean Scopinich** (Parishioner), **John Stewart** (Parishioner), **Sarah Witters** (Req. by Victoria Garcia), **Stephen Wyman** (Req. by Sandy Wyman). **(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, Rob Scribner and James Mercready.

ORGAN CONSTRUCTION JOBS



Labor Day is here
And Boy do we need labor!

There has been a great deal of progress with the carpentry for the cabinetry for the new organ. As you can see from the pictures below, it is precise and careful work, to build the elegant cabinet.



The grating that is on the floor,(1) is the very precise and complicated molding that will make the cabinetry look elegant like picture 3. Picture 2 shows the

very complicated and precise joint necessary to produce the finished product.

Remember
the bishop is coming!

We will be needing a great deal of help to clean up the church for a funeral on the 14 September. There is also lots of sanding and finishing wood, which does not require brute strength. Even an hour means a great deal!



Our newest helpers

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2024, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Members Present: Fr. Chris Jubinski, Diane Stewart, Sandy Wyman, Steve DeCaro, Diane Feil, Tom Hadlock, Tom Horan, Marj Kulesa, Ashley McLean, Barbara Pettus, Steve Turner, Tom Simson, Carol Fitton

Fr. Chris called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Tom Horan started the meeting with a prayer from the Book of Common Prayer.

Check-in Time: Fr. Chris invited Vestry members to share news and prayer concerns.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Tom Horan, seconded by Steve D, to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes from the April 16, 2024 Vestry meeting.

Finance Report (by Tom Simson):

Bright Beginnings: YTD April Tuition receipts, which comprise the bulk of Bright Beginning's Income, were \$295.1K, up 2.9% compared to \$286.6K YTD April 2023, while YTD April Income increased 2.6% to \$322K vs \$313.9 YTD April 2023. YTD April expenses were \$275.3K compared to \$348.8 YTD April 2023, a drop of 21.1%. Tom noted that salaries comprise most of the expenses and these were down 20.7% from \$300K in 2023 to \$237.95K in 2024. YTD April 2024 Net Income is \$46.7K vs -\$34.9K in 2023, a dramatic turnaround. Tom highlighted the improving financial trend, but he also noted that the church has been picking up expenses since June 2023 that the school previously covered, including utilities and insurance. Tom also mentioned that the \$65K we loaned to Bright Beginnings last year has now been formalized as an asset on the SMC balance sheet (and therefore a liability on the Bright Beginnings balance sheet) and thus far \$10K has been repaid from surpluses.

SMC: Tom S reported YTD April 2024 Church Donations of \$74K vs \$120.2K a year ago, a drop of 38.5%. He mentioned that there was a major gift in 2023 that favorably impacted last year's Donations. Other Revenue increased to \$35.3K from \$2.2K in 2023, due mainly to rent from the Beinecke Building. For YTD April 2024, Salaries and Benefits Expenses were \$128.1K vs \$110.5K YTD April 2023, an increase of 26.4%. Tom noted that Workers Comp has increased by \$8.7K this year and there is a catch-up expense of Housing Equity for the Rector of \$3.3K. The April 2024 YTD Operating Loss of -\$111.5K compares to -\$72.4K in 2023.

Tom reminded us that while we have started receiving \$10K/month rental income for the Beinecke Building, the real estate commission (paid upfront) is being expensed over 12 months at \$8K/month, which means we will start receiving the income benefit of the full \$10K/month rent beginning October 2024. Until then, we will essentially have net rent from the Beinecke Building of \$2K/month.

We are evaluating proposals from Paychex to move the processing of Workers Comp and Disability to them and from Aplos to switch to their product from Church Windows. The switch to the Aplos product would entail an upfront cost of \$1,500 and then a payment of \$3,288/year vs \$2,400/year for CW. Barbara made a motion, seconded by Tom Horan to purchase the Aplos product.

Barbara reported that the investment balance is \$960,743 as of 5/21/24.

Diocesan Convention: Sandy made a motion, seconded by Tom Hadlock, to nominate Marj as a Delegate and Carol Jubinski as an alternate delegate to the upcoming Diocesan Convention.

Announcements / Upcoming Events:

1. Fr. Chris reminded the Vestry of the importance of confidentiality when it is required by the situation.
2. He mentioned the new mailbox on edge of the parking lot belongs to New York Blood & Cancer.
3. Sandy mentioned he had received some comments re summer service times and Fr. Chris reminded us that we moved the Sunday service to 9 a.m. the summer before last and parents said they couldn't come that early so the Sunday service was moved back to 10 a.m. last summer and will stay at 10 a.m. this summer.
4. Marj mentioned initial plans for the 100th anniversary celebration on September 29, including a possible journal and perhaps some official proclamations from government officials.
5. Fr. Chris mentioned that the Rev. Vanessa Winters is leaving her position at the Presbyterian Church and Rev. Jack King is retiring from the Methodist Church in WHB.
6. Fr. Chris reported that 4 very reputable companies have come to assess the condition of the stained glass window behind the altar and have responded with a wide variety of opinions as to its condition ranging from it will be ok for 50 more years to it needs to be totally restored now.
7. Fr. Chris reported that the rough estimate for the replacement of the 4 air conditioning systems is approximately \$170K.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. after the Lord's Prayer.

Next Vestry Meeting: Vestry meetings are normally held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The upcoming meetings are scheduled for: June 18, no meeting in July, August 20, September 17, October 21, November 19, December 17 at the Rectory, January 21, February 18, March 18, and April 15. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Fitton, Clerk

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2024, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Members Present: Fr. Chris Jubinski, Diane Stewart, Tom Horan, Steve DeCaro, Madeline Glover, Tom Hadlock, Marj Kulesa, Ashley McLean, Barbara Pettus, Steve Turner, Tom Simson, Carol Fitton

Fr. Chris called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Barbara started the meeting with a Prayer for Summer. Diane volunteered to open the August Vestry meeting with a prayer.

Check-in Time: Fr. Chris invited Vestry members to share news and prayer concerns.

Consent Agenda: Minutes from the May 21, 2024 Vestry meeting will be reviewed at the August 20th Vestry meeting.

Finance Report (by Tom Simson):

Bright Beginnings: YTD May Tuition receipts, which comprise the bulk of Bright Beginning's Income, were \$370K, up 3.3% compared to \$358.1K YTD May 2023, while YTD May Income increased 2% to \$398.1 vs \$390 YTD May 2023. YTD May expenses were \$332.8K compared to \$435.9 YTD May 2023, a drop of 23.6%. Tom noted that salaries comprise most of the expenses and these were down 24.6% from \$378K in 2023 to \$285K in 2024. YTD May 2024 Net Income is \$65.3K vs -\$45.8K in 2023, a dramatic turnaround. He also mentioned that Summer School has historically been quite profitable, so its return this summer will also help the financial situation. Tom highlighted the improving financial trend, but he also noted that the church has been picking up expenses since June 2023 that the school previously covered, including utilities and insurance. Tom also mentioned that the \$65K we loaned to Bright Beginnings last year has now been formalized as an asset on the SMC balance sheet (and therefore a liability on the Bright Beginnings balance sheet). So far \$20K has been repaid including \$10K in June. He will continue to pay the loan back as surpluses are generated by Bright Beginnings.

SMC: Tom S reported YTD May 2024 Church Donations of \$83.2K vs \$127.8K a year ago, a drop of 35%. He mentioned that there was a major gift (approximately \$50K) in 2023 that favorably impacted last year's Donations. Other Revenue increased to \$47.1K from \$2.9K in 2023, due mainly to rent from the Beinecke Building. For YTD May 2024, Salaries and Benefits Expenses were \$154.3K vs \$134.1K YTD April 2023. The May 2024 YTD Operating Loss of -\$150.8K compares to -\$112.3K in 2023. He mentioned that we have made the switch to Paychex to process workers comp and disability.

Tom reminded us that while we have started receiving \$10K/month rental income for the Beinecke Building, the real estate commission (paid upfront) is being expensed over 12 months at \$8K/month, which means we will start receiving the income benefit of the full \$10K/month rent beginning October 2024. Until then, we will essentially have net rent from the Beinecke Building of \$2K/month.

Barbara reported that the investment balance is \$887,887 as of June 18, 2024. Tom mentioned that there was a large endowment draw of \$26.5K for insurance and \$54.3K for 1/3 of the major repairs to the air conditioning systems.

Financial Software: Tom Simson reported that we are replacing Church Windows with Aplos software, which unlike CW is a true cloud-based system. Aplos is \$3,288/year vs \$2,400 (plus an upfront cost of \$1,500), but it has more functionality.

Amplify Media:

Fr. Chris mentioned that the Jubinski Family is underwriting this subscription, which provides a series of online videos and lectures by top theologians. This is an effort to provide opportunities for Parish members to learn and broaden our intellectual understanding. Anyone in the Parish can access this library by contacting Fr. Chris.

Announcements / Upcoming Events:

- Fr. Chris said the air conditioning components are being shipped and we hope to start installation next week.
- We are fortunate to have Rev. Dr. Anne Ritchie with us this summer and she will be preaching next Sunday.
- Fr. Chris said there have been rumors circulating that the altar stained glass window is being removed and he wants to emphasize that is not at all what is happening. Rather, the state of the window is being professionally assessed.
- Larry Andria and Chris Adams have been working on a brick walkway to connect the front parking lot to the back parking lot on the right side of the Beinecke Building.
- Marj mentioned she had really enjoyed an 11-week course called Sacred Ground and recommended that people look for the next course offering.
- Fr. Chris asked for prayers for those attending Convention. He also mentioned that due to the shortage of priests, there is a suggestion to extend retirement age to 75.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m. after a Collect for Juneteenth from the Diocese of Missouri.

Next Vestry Meeting: Vestry meetings are normally held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The upcoming meetings are scheduled for: July (no meeting), August 20, September 17, October 21, November 19, December 17 at the Rectory, January 21, February 18, March 18, and April 15. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Fitton, Clerk

Capital Campaign: Fr. Chris thinks we will need to have a capital campaign due to 4 major expenses that have arisen: 1) the major electrical issues uncovered with the installation of the new organ that had to be remedied for approximately \$20,446 due to the unsafe electrical conditions (\$15K was from the organ fund and \$5,446 from the general fund, with the contractor donating an additional \$10K in parts and labor), 2) repair of the buckling stained glass window behind the altar, 3) the replacement costs that are being estimated by our HVAC contractor, Absolute Comfort, for the 4 air conditioning units that are no longer serviceable (2 in the Parish Hall and 2 downstairs that service the pre-school), and 4) the remainder of the organ expenses (approximately \$65K). The broken carillon system would be another candidate to add to the capital campaign. In addition to fundraising, the campaign should also include applying for grants and exploring other funding sources. He asked for partners in this effort. Barbara offered her services in regard to a Capital Campaign.

Committees:

Fr. Chris mentioned the need to establish some committees including, for example, committees to enhance parish communications, financial operations, and a Bright Beginnings committee or liaison. In addition, he again mentioned the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Episcopal mission in WHB and asked for volunteers to spearhead a possible celebration sometime in September or October. Marj volunteered for the anniversary celebration and said she would reach out to others in the Parish to help with the effort.

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Readings for Sunday, Sept. 1, 2024 – The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 17B)

The Collect for the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading – Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Psalms 15 Domine, quis habitabit?

- ¹ LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- ² Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.
- ³ There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- ⁴ In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- ⁵ He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.
- ⁶ He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- ⁷ Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

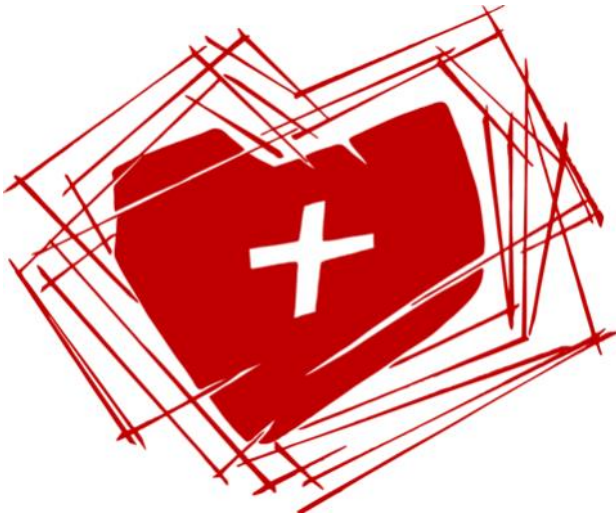
The Epistle— James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Gospel – Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Notes On This Sunday's Readings



The Sunday Gospel readings return to Mark's Gospel today. This passage recounts one of the occasions when Jesus took the Pharisees and other experts on the Law to task for putting more emphasis on ceremonial and dietary rules than on the "weightier" requirements of God. It is not outer conformity to the Law but an inner change that brings us into a right relationship with God and with others.

The Law is intended to set the people of Israel apart from other nations, as Moses says in today's reading from Deuteronomy. This is so that other nations, impressed by Israel's righteousness and wisdom, will be drawn to Israel's God. Jesus is actually reaffirming this Mosaic principle in the reading from Mark. (Christians need to remember that when Jesus criticizes the practices of his contemporaries he is not criticizing Judaism, but those whose practices undercut real Judaism.) Today we begin reading through the letter of James.

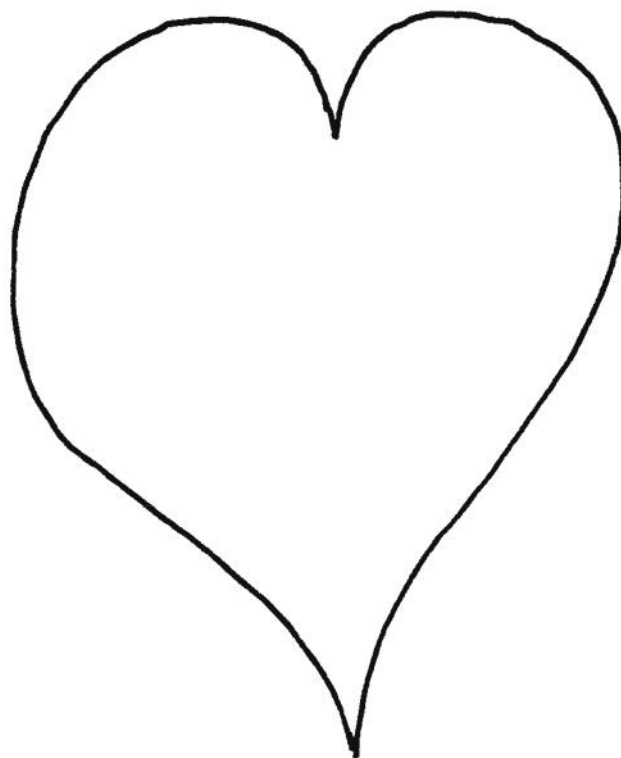
This epistle encourages us to live our faith in concrete actions of love and mercy. True religion is based on carrying out its faith in lives of righteousness and mercy. As the people of God we gather to remember what God has done, to remember God's principles for living, and to realign ourselves with God.

Out of our relationship with God, re-established in our liturgical and sacramental encounter, comes the power to confront and overcome evil, and the righteousness which draws others to God.

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Jesus said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me...'



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Rites of Passage

August Birthdays

03 Peter Williams
08 C.J. Jubinski,
09 Virginia Gilmore
10 Catharine Nobiletti
10 Lee Wadelfon
10 Jean Scopinich
10 Christiana Moyle
14 Tom Hadlock
17 Allison Christensen
18 Joyce Hale
18 Kent Wolgemuth
20 Matthew Kern
20 Hunter Fritz
22 Finn Norton
23 Kurt Hofmann
25 Colbie Canty
26 Rich Wolkiewicz
27 Freear Pollard Barnwell
27 Marcia Palmer
28 Thomas Simson
29 Nicholas Towle

August Anniversaries

01 Jeanine Graviano & Kelly Pickering
07 Tim & Janet Jurgielewicz
15 Steven and Margaret DeCaro
22 Thomas & Lois Simson
22 Michael & Sundy Schermeyer
24 Fr. Chris & Carol Jubinski
26 Kieran and Hannah Quinn



On the Lighter Side...

