

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.



*St. Mark's own miniature Garden of Gethsemane
at the foot of the Altar of Repose*

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church
134 N. Division Ave
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
www.stmarksgr.org
616.456.1684**

Welcome to St. Mark's!

... a vibrant community of faith, which has gathered for worship since 1836 and in the current building since 1848. If this is your first visit with us, know that we are delighted you are here. Please, introduce yourself and be sure to sign our guest sign-in sheet in the foyer and/or fill-out a Visitor's Welcome Card. Also, please take a welcome folder on the Welcome Desk.

Church Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday— 9 a.m. to noon.

Weather Policy: St. Mark's will post closures to WZZM 13, WOOD TV8, Facebook and our website by 7:00 a.m. or as soon as possible. The decision on afternoon and evening activities will be made separately, posted by noon.

Reserved Spaces for Those in Need: Note, there are three designated spaces for those in need, two in the north transept and one on the north side of the nave. Please, leave those spaces available and the adjoining pews for family members.

Safety: The outer doors to the Parish House will be locked fifteen minutes after Services begin with a security guard on duty to be of assistance. Upon leaving a restroom, please wash hands with warm soapy water and sanitize. Please, pay attention to the nearest exit in the Sanctuary. An announcement will be made in case of an emergency. Children will be ushered out of the building to a designated place for safety away from the Church complex.

Parking on Sundays: Limited parking is available in the Parish Lot. If you are able, please, consider not parking in the Parish Lot to reserve access for those less mobile. Please, consider the free metered parking on Pearl, Ionia, Lyon, Fountain and other streets near the church, the Kendall Lot across the street when the gate is up, the upper levels of the GRCC building on Fountain Street, and the Ellis Parking Lot at 210 Ionia just west of Lyon Street. For the Ellis Lot: vouchers for free parking on Sundays are available from an Usher, a Greeter or on the Resource Table in the north transept (must be used along with original parking ticket).

Rest Rooms are located on the main level of the Parish House under the exit sign at the top of the Foyer ramp. Additional rest rooms are located on the second level of the Parish House; those able to use stairs are encouraged to use upper-floor restrooms.

Weekly Worship and Prayer at St. Mark's: Eucharist on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays at noon from September through May. Compline (Night Prayer) on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. via Facebook live. All are always welcome!

Children's Ministry: Sundays, we offer children's formation during 10:30 services. This includes formation, nursery care and church school. Please contact the church office.

Youth Ministry: Grand Rapids Episcopal Youth: G.R.E.Y. is a joint youth ministry between St. Mark's and St. Andrew's Episcopal Churches for youth in grades 6-12. We have regular formation gatherings during the school year and service as well as social activities throughout the year. Please contact our Director of Youth Ministry, Jeff Brown, for more information: jeffatgrey@gmail.com.

Adult Formation Ministry: *Adult Forums* are offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings at different times of the year. *Episcopal 101: An Inquirer's Journey* is offered yearly for adults especially those seeking Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church or to Reaffirm one's faith. A multi-year seminar, *Education for Ministry* (EFM), is offered during the program year. Please, contact Doug Karsen for more information at karsencd@gmail.com.

Breakfast Café Ministry: A program to nourish our neighbors with a hot meal, is at 8:15 a.m. every Saturday. If you would like more information and to possibly volunteer, please contact Judy Freeman at judyfw@comcast.net.

Land Acknowledgment: St. Mark's recognizes that our property sits on land of the indigenous people of the Three Fires. It is our privilege to occupy this land while recognizing and acknowledging with sadness the deep wounds created many years ago by our forebears.

St. Mark's eNews: For the fullest expression of St. Marks' activities, see the weekly eNews in your email or our website.

Cell Phones: We ask that you silence your cell phone; if you are on call, please turn it to vibrate when you enter the church.

St. Mark's Full-Time* and Part-Time Staff

The Rev. David Blank, Interim Rector*
The Rev. Susan York, Associate Rector
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon
Thon Deng, Postulant

Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager*
Kate Assarian, Administrative Associate*
Dr. Gregory Crowell, Director of Music
Jeff Brown, Director of Youth Ministry
Alexis VanZalen, Organ Scholar

Mike Armour, Operations Manager
Ronnie Hammond, Sexton
Craig Mosley, Sexton Associate, Video
Doris Molina, Weekend Sexton
Jamie Interrial, Security Representative
Eric Gable, Webmaster

The Gathering of the People

Prelude – God of Heaven and Earth

F. W. Marpurg

Welcome

Gathering Hymn – Blue Hymnal 208: Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er

Victory

Salutation for the Easter Season

Presider: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Presider: Let us pray:

People: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen Gloria (*Bells ringing.*)

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace___ to his peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al - might-ty God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone___ are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most___ High, Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God___the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect

Presider II: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Hebrew Scripture (*You may sit.*)

Acts 4:32-35

Lector I: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 133 (*Prayed responsively by half verse.*)

Ecce, quam bonum!

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,

Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

The Christian Scripture

1 John 1:1-2:2

Lector II: A Reading from the First Letter of John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Hymn – Blue Hymnal 209: We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

St. Botolph

The Gospel

John 20: 19-31

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for † the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People (*You may stand.*)

Lector I: As we celebrate this Season of Easter, we ask God to hear our prayers with our response: O God, hear us. During the periods of silence, I invite you to add additional prayers either silently or aloud.

O God: We pray in thanksgiving for all those gathered here today. We pray for St. Mark's and our many ministries. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons: Michael, Presiding Bishop; Skip, our Assisting Bishop; Bonnie and Rayford, Bishops of Michigan and Northern Michigan; Moises, Bishop of the Dominican Republic and Craig, ELCA Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod; Trinity of West Branch and its Senior Warden, Luke Stefanovsky; Church of the Epiphany of South Haven and its Interim Rector, Jim Steen. We remember the Episcopal Province of Alexandria. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For the President, Congress, our Governor, our Mayor and for all in authority, that they may be people of justice, integrity and truth. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For the good earth which God has entrusted to us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For the poor and the oppressed, the unemployed, the homeless, refugees and for all who seek a better way of life. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For those who suffer from any grief or trouble. Give us grace to respond to the needs of those in distress, especially those who suffer because of hatred, racism, bigotry, violence and war. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For those who celebrate birthdays or anniversaries this week. Bless them with joy and well-being. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For all those on our Parish Prayer List, our military personnel, the sick, all those for whom we have promised to pray and those we now name silently or aloud. *(Pause to add additional names silently or aloud).* We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. *(Pause to add additional names.)* We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For what else or whom else shall we pray today? *(Pause to add additional prayers.)*
We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Presider II: For all these prayers we have named aloud and those which lie deep within our hearts.
We pray: **O God, hear us.**

The Confession of Sin

Presider II: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Presider and People:

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

Presider II: †Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit us in eternal life.
Amen.

The Peace

Presider II: May the peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

People: And always with you.

Presider II: Respectfully, let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Announcements

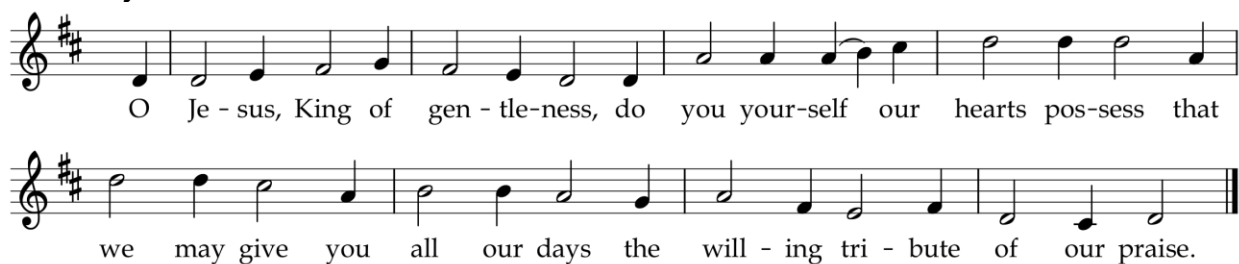
The Liturgy of the Table

Reception of Gifts

Offertory Music – Let the Bright Seraphim
Saamanthy Rajenthiran, soprano

G.F. Handel

Presentation Hymn



O Je - sus, King of gen - tle-ness, do you your-self our hearts pos-sess that
we may give you all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer I (BCP)*

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven and
earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant

There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. †Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

†Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

Celebrant *People*

A-men.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider I: Let us pray the Lord's Prayer in whichever language or version you prefer.

(Traditional) Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Contemporary) Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

(Spanish) Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre; Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy el pan de este día y perdona nuestras deudas, como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores y no nos dejes caer en la tentación mas libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Reception of the Sacrament

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our
Pass - ov - er is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the
feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Let us take them in remembrance that Christ died for us and feed on him in our hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Instruction for Receiving Communion

All are invited to receive Holy Communion which contains both consecrated bread and wine. An intinction cup with consecrated wine is available. Gluten-free consecrated bread without wine is also available upon request. Please, follow the guide of the Ushers to receive the Sacrament at the communion rail by filling in from right to left. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your hands over your chest. All are welcome at the Table of the Lord.

Healing Prayer: When present in the South Transept, healing ministers offer a brief and simple prayer.

Post-Communion Prayer *(You may stand.)*

Presider II: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Holy God, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Solemn Easter Blessing

Presider I:

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us children through the resurrection of the Son, Jesus, the Christ, bestow upon us the riches of Christ's blessing. **Amen. Alleluia!**
May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make us holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen. Alleluia!**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring us to our eternal inheritance. **Amen. Alleluia!**

†And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us forever. **Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Hymn of Sending Forth – Blue Hymnal 193: That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

Puer nobis

Sending Forth

Priest or Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude - Voluntary in F

Eric Thiman

Thank you for being with us today. We are all invited to participate in St. Mark's tradition to remain seated until candles are extinguished and the postlude has ended. Then please join us in the Parish Hall for further fellowship.

The St. Mark's Prayer List

Contact the church office to add names to the prayer list. Names will be removed after one month unless requested.

The Sick and Other Needs

David Abbott
Alissa Almont
Jayne Austin
Ed Cox
Terry Dusendang
Ruth Hammond
Jamie Interrial
Bill Isenberg
Jennifer Julius
George Linde
Kathryn Marmion
Laura Maslonka
Jim, Chris McClain
Evelyn Mitchell
Doris Molina
Bill Nasser
John Oatley
Chris Reale
Monique Salinas
Marilee Wexstaff

Sue Allen
Susan Andrews
Nita DeGraaf
John Gracki
Irene Haizman
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Roma Warmington
Jean Zylstra

In Military Service

B.G. Timothy Brower, Sr. USA
Henry Dykema, USNG
Cpt. Nathan Gaggin, USAF Col.
Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC Lt.
Col. Todd Murray, USAF

Members of the Vestry

Dawn Buller, Sr. Warden
Judy Freeman, Jr. Warden
Brian Topolewski, Clerk
Gloria Lara, Treasurer
Jon Anderson
Ben Busman
Laura Kozminski
Emily Krueger
Penny Larsen
Dan McDonald
Carmela McIntire
Amy Richards-Duncan

Discernment for Ordained Ministry

Rachel Ravellette

Search Committee

Bob Brower
Doug Busman
Nancy Dodge
Karen Hunter
Penny Larson
Shawn Miller
Heather Tafel
Darren Walhof
Jackie Yam

Postulancy

Cathy Stevens

Offerings and Multiple Ways to Give to St. Mark's

Place check or cash in the offering plate

Electronic giving (email pams@stmarksgr.org)



Vanco Mobile App from any mobile device:

Pay by text - text 616-205-9714 from your phone to send a payment

Mobile App Square Cash - Cashtag: \$stmarksgr Web address: [cash.me/\\$stmarksgr](https://cash.me/$stmarksgr)



Mail a check to the church

Online at our website at www.stmarksgr.org through PayPal

Remember St. Mark's in your Estate Planning (A brochure is available at the Welcome Desk.)

Gifts or Transfer of Stock

Parish Notes

Welcome! Guests, please sign the book in the front lobby. Fill out a Welcome Card (stored inside the podium) to get a name tag, receive weekly eNews or join the St. Mark's Family in Faith as a full member.

Sunday Video Study at 9:15 a.m.: "The New Testament You Never Knew" runs through April 14th.

Small Parish Dinners Deadline Today: Have you RSVP'd to join a Small Parish Dinners group yet? Sign-up via eNews or Welcome Desk. Kickoff April 14th. For more information contact Kathryn.Marmion@gmail.com.

Feeding America Food Truck, April 17th from 4–6:00 p.m. at our partner East Leonard Elementary. Contact Scot.s.gugle@comcast.net for information or to volunteer.

Episcopal 101 Class starts April 21st, on Sundays from 12:30–2 p.m. (with lunch), running about six weeks.

Anniversary Celebration, April 28th, in the Parish Hall at Social Hour. Our Vestry invites you to celebrate our church's 187th Anniversary and the Feast Day of Saint Mark, Apostle and Evangelist!

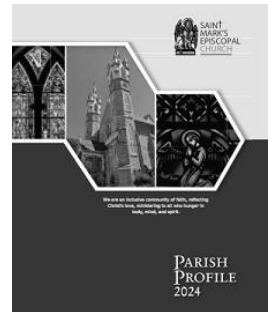
Safe Haven Training, Saturday, May 18th, 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. We can all help prevent and recognize domestic violence, relationship abuse and trafficking. Save the date and stay tuned for details.

Church Spotlights:

Rector Search Committee Update

Our Rector posting is now "live" on the Episcopal News Service through the end of April.

Also, check out our "Rector Search" page on the St. Mark's website, www.stmarksg.org Look at the bottom of the landing page for the "rector search button" which will take you to the dedicated page (there is also a "Rector Search" banner at the top of the page). Many thanks to St. Mark's webmaster Eric Gable and Office Admin Kate Assarian for the good work on pulling it together in a professional and timely manner! We now wait to see who applies. The Search team is preparing now for interviewing and discernment process. Happy Spring!



Update on the Building Project



On Saturday, March 23, we were honored to have Senator Mark Huizenga and his wife Kris work with us at the Breakfast Cafe. The Senator's servant leadership included staying to help us clean every last table and chair. The bonus was that he indicated he would provide letters of support for us as we went to community foundations and that he has our project on his list to recommend for funding. This, of course, is not a guarantee as things may change as the State budget is finalized in June. It is, however, very encouraging and gives us the energy and courage to continue our work.

As we finish our pre-campaign work, we will have met with most of our local State Representatives and those from across the State who sit on Appropriations Committees. We have also been asked to submit grant applications to both Congresswomen Hillary Scholten and Debbie Stabenow, and we are working with several large state wide foundations. In June we will begin our Capital Campaign after we have laid a successful foundation for a successful campaign.

Questions or ideas?

Vestry Person of the Day: Every Sunday starting today, a Vestry representative will be available at the Welcome Desk after the 10:30 a.m. Service. This week it will be Jon Anderson. For attendees of the 8:00 a.m. Service, Dan McDonald and Brian Topolewski will be the Vestry representatives on a rotating basis.