

THE WAY

The Newsletter of
St. Mark the Evangelist
Episcopal Church
1612 W. Genesee St.
Syracuse, NY 13204
315-488-8511



St Mark the Evangelist Episcopal Church
Syracuse, NY
stmarkssyracuse.com

JANUARY 2024



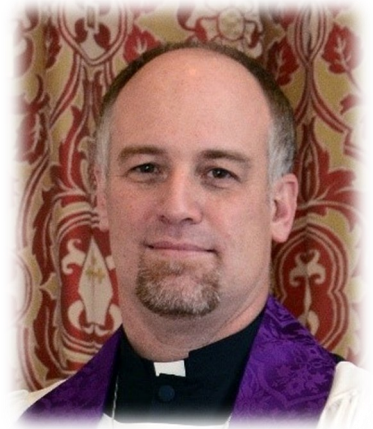
JOHN 16:33

I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

A Word ...

I pray everyone had a good Christmas and New Year. After a little time off, I feel like I've fallen directly into the deep end of the pool since Ash Wednesday and Lent are just around the corner this year.

At the same time, there's a great comfort for me in being caught up in the currents of the church year and I look forward to the many opportunities to grow in faith that this season provides. I hope all of you are able to join me in recommitting ourselves to the Jesus Movement in this new year.



Peace,
Jon

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

Lent... It's coming sooner than you think

Ash Wednesday is early this year on Wednesday, February 14. This is only 10 days from the earliest possible date for Ash Wednesday, which is February 4 (this last occurred in 1818 and won't happen again until 2285). The latest is March 10.

Traditionally, Lent is understood as a penitential season that encourages us to focus on the ways we fall short of God's will for us and to make amendment of life to strengthen our faith. The most common Lenten practice involves giving up something dear to us with the hope that our self-denial will bring to mind the love of God. More recently, Christians have taken up a new practice instead of giving up something, in order to strengthen their spiritual health.

**Our services this year will be
as follows:**

12 PM at St Mark's

**Ashes to Go at St Mark's
from 1-2:30 PM**

7:00 PM at St Luke's



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARK...

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

As we prepare for Lent this year we will be joining with our partner parish, St Luke's, in celebrating Shrove Tuesday on Tuesday February 13th (5:00-6:30pm) at St Mark's.

The tradition of Shrove Tuesday emerged in the Middle Ages as a way to use up and indulge in treats before the fasting of Lent.

Shrove is the archaic past tense of the verb shrive, which means to confess one's sins or to accept penance for one's sins and is related to the common practice of making confession in order to lighten one's spiritual burdens and strengthen oneself for Lent.



SHROVE TUESDAY

We will be cooking up pancakes and sausage and are asking people to bring in desserts and treats. There are also opportunities to help with serving, cooking, and cleanup – see the sign up sheet on the Parish Hall bulletin board. As part of our celebration, we will also be burning our palms from last year to make the ashes for the next day's Ash Wednesday Services.

A THANK YOU to St. Mark's

The weekend of Christmas we opened the Parish Hall up for an extended meeting for one of our 12-step groups that included a Christmas Party for attendees. St. Mark's office received this sincere thank-you we wanted to share it with you.

"Hoping you had a wonderful holiday season. Our event on December 23 was a small success. We had about 20 or so people and had food and carried a message to the still sick and suffering addicts. We had proceeds of \$90.00 through sales of water and soda and a 50/50 raffle. Our group voted to split proceeds 3 ways : \$30.00 to purchase need NA literature for our Saturday night meeting, \$30.00 to the Heart of New York Area Narcotics Anonymous (this helps us get literature and support to treatment centers and facilities and to get the word out to the people who haven't found us yet) and a \$30.00 donation to St. Mark's for providing us with a facility to host an event and to have a safe place for folks to be for the Christmas holiday.

As always, we are grateful for all your church does for NA and the community. THANK YOU!"

**Time to Fly
Saturday Night Group**

Shrove Tuesday

A reading from a homily of John Chrysostom



John Chrysostom
(347AD-407AD)

Would you like me to list also the paths of repentance? They are numerous and quite varied, and all lead to heaven.

A first path of repentance is the condemnation of your own sins: 'Be the first to admit your sins and you will be justified.' For this reason, too, the prophet wrote: 'I said: I will accuse myself of my sins to the Lord and you forgave the wickedness of my heart.'

Therefore, you too should acknowledge your own sins; that will be enough reason for the Lord to forgive you, for if you acknowledge your own sins you are slower to commit them again. Rouse your conscience to accuse you within your own house, lest it become your accuser before the judgement seat of the Lord.

That, then, is one very good path of repentance. Another and no less valuable one is to put out of our minds the harm done us by our enemies, in order to master our anger, and to forgive our fellow servants' sins against us. Then our own sins against the Lord will be forgiven us. Thus you have another way to atone for sin: 'For if you forgive your debtors, your heavenly Father will forgive you.'

Do you want to know of a third path? It consists of prayer that is fervent, careful and comes from the heart.

If you want to hear of a fourth, I will mention almsgiving whose power is great and far-reaching.

If, moreover, one lives a modest, humble life, that no less than the other things I have mentioned takes sins away. Proof of this is the tax-collector who had no good deeds to mention, but offered humility instead and was relieved of a heavy burden of sins.

Thus I have shown you five paths of repentance; acknowledgement of your sins, forgiveness of our neighbour's sins against us, prayers, almsgiving and humility.

Do not be idle, then, but walk daily in all these paths; they are easy, and you cannot plead your poverty. For, though you live out your life amid great need, you can always set aside your wrath, be humble, pray diligently and acknowledge your own sins. Poverty is no

hindrance to our carrying out the Lord's bidding, even when it comes to that path of repentance which involves giving money. The widow proved that when she put her two mites into the box!

Now that we have learned how to heal our wounds, let us apply the cures. Then, when we have regained genuine health, we can approach the holy table with confidence, go gloriously to meet Christ the king of glory, and attain the eternal blessings through the grace, mercy and kindness of Jesus Christ our Lord.

John Chrysostom

St. John Chrysostom, whose surname means "golden-mouthed" because of his great preaching abilities, was made the Archbishop of Constantinople in 398, and is a Doctor of the Church. Though a physically frail man, St. John Chrysostom is now known as one of the greatest preachers in the history of Christianity. His sermons sometimes lasted two hours. Around 700 of his sermons survived and can be read today. St. John Chrysostom is particularly well-known for his writings and sermons on marriage, monastic life, and the priesthood.

"No matter how just your words may be, you ruin everything when you speak with anger." – St. John Chrysostom

<https://www.catholicapostolatecenterfeastdays.org>

Save the date for St. Mark the Evangelist's CLOTHES CLOSETS!



Browse through Men's, Women's and Children's Clothing, Shoes, etc...

ALL FOR ONLY A 25-CENT DONATION PER ITEM!

**THURSDAYS,
JAN. 25 & FEB. 22
3-5:30 PM**



Includes a FREE Dinner!

**SATURDAYS,
FEB. 10 & MARCH 9
9:30 AM-12 PM** ❄️

**FREE LIGHT BREAKFAST
available at the Green Café!**



"Don't shine so that others can see you. Shine, so that through you, others can see Him."

~C.S. Lewis

Here are some notes from the December 19, 2023, Vestry meeting.

- ▶ Pat Dunn reported that our investments are up.

- ▶ Jim Miller reported that gift cards have been purchased for both Thanksgiving and Christmas for Porter School.

- ▶ Phyllis Honsinger will send a thank you note to Jim Miller's son for making the new cross.

- ▶ Fr. Jon will be away during Christmas week. Gary Neddo will oversee the service.

- ▶ Fr. Jon reported that many people are watching the just sermon on YouTube.

- ▶ The next parish meeting will be January 21, 2023, to discuss the budget and our direction.

- ▶ Gail Manolescu and Nancy Tucker's Vestry terms are ending. They would both like to run for a second term.

- ▶ Four motions were carried concerning the new budget. These will be discussed at the parish meeting.

- ▶ Fr. Jon's call as priest-in-charge is ending, and we need to decide if we are calling him as our permanent rector. The covenant agreement will be updated.

- ▶ Pat Dunn wrote a letter to the Diocese asking for a reduction in our assessment. The Vestry members signed the assessment appeal.

- ▶ The Vestry will Zoom its January and February meetings.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to see any Vestry member or Warden.

***Faithfully Submitted,
St. Mark the Evangelist Vestry***

january

Happy Birthday

- 3 Dana Marzynski
Cherry Ottey
- 11 Stefania Marzynski
- 20 Alex Amaya
- 23 Catlin Dunn



If you would like to be added to the birthday and or anniversary listing, please contact Deb in the office.

From the Treasurer...

Financial Report for January 1 thru December 31, 2023

	<i>Budget for Year</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Difference</i>
<i>Income</i>	\$115,450.00	\$129,776.03	14,326.03
<i>Expenses</i>	\$178,316.89	\$150,310.90	-\$28,005.99
<i>Deficit</i>	-\$62,866.89	-\$20,534.87	\$42,332.02
<i>Pledges</i>	\$53,000.00	\$50,531.00	-\$2,469.00
<i>Clothes Closet/FP</i>	\$ 2,866.16		
<i>Investments</i>	\$ 698,776.70		

Submitted by: Pat Dunn



St Mark the Evangelist Episcopal Church

1612 W. Genesee Street Syracuse, NY 13204

TO:

Sundays

11 am—Holy Eucharist
In-person and by Livestream

Office Hours

Tuesdays
8 am to 3 pm
Thursday:
12-3pm



All are Welcome!

Mission Statement: The Church of St. Mark the Evangelist is a community of faith sharing the love of Jesus Christ with one another and the world.