

THE WAY

The Newsletter of
St. Mark the Evangelist Episcopal Church
1612 W. Genesee St. Syracuse, NY 13204
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WINTER 2023



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A Word ...

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

BCP p265



These words from the service for Ash Wednesday are read out each year as we prepare to enter into the season of Lent. Lent arose out of the preparations undertaken by those who were to be baptized at the Easter vigil in the ancient church and was a way for existing members to show solidarity with those about to become members of the church.

In the intervening centuries, Lent became a religious obligation and a display of piety, but something of that desire to show solidarity with God's intentions for us has always remained part of the Lenten experience. Doing something, making intentional choices to either give up something or take on something new as a way to remind ourselves of our relationship to God and to the church is the very core of Lent.

It is a season that's meant to be a little uncomfortable, a little unsettling, so that we might be shaken out of our dullness and to prepare ourselves for God's glorious and triumphant emergence into our lives.

I hope your Lenten journey this year opens your eyes afresh to the wonders of God and to the possibilities of faith.

Blessings,
Jon

Fridays in Lent

Lent begins this month, with Ash Wednesday being February 22nd. During Lent we'll be adding a special Friday evening worship and supper series jointly with St Luke's. We'll begin in the first full week of Lent, on March 3rd. There is a signup sheet for hosts in the parish hall on the bulletin board. The service will begin at 6:30pm with supper to follow.

As host, we are asking that you provide a simple supper (soups are great) to share that will be served in the parish hall after a short Lenten worship service which begins at 6:30. If possible, please consider offering a meal that is gluten-free or which provides gluten-free options.

Here is the schedule:

Friday March 3	at St Mark's
Friday March 10	at St Luke's
Friday March 17	at St Mark's
Friday March 24	at St Luke's
Friday March 31	at St Mark's

Christmas at Brighton Towers

After several years of a COVID caused hiatus, the Christmas service at Brighton Towers was held again this year with a Eucharist led by Fr. Jon and more cookies than could ever possibly be eaten.



Carolyn S. Crosby

Jan. 25, 1937 – Dec. 31, 2022

Our sincerest sympathy and comforting prayers go out to Fr. Jon and his family on the death of his mother, Carolyn.

Fr. Jon will be away Feb 14-21 to attend his mother's funeral. Canon Carrie will be here Sunday, Feb. 19, to celebrate Communion.

Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS EVENT RESTORED!

On Saturday, December 10, 2022, we held our annual Christmas Clothes Closet and Green Cafe event. Along with our regular free monthly breakfast, books and bread, each family that visited us on that day went home with free winter wear and free bag of homemade Christmas cookies and sweet breads.

All the children had the opportunity to hear the Nativity Story and visit with Santa Claus. Each child went home with a stuffed animal and homemade Popcorn ball from the Nativity Story Lady and a gift bag from Santa Claus.

Everyone who attended this joyous occasion had the chance to share their thoughts and memories of Christmas.

The Clothes Closet coordinators would like to thank the parish for all of their help to restore this popular event and make it such a success!





A BIG THANK YOU TO HAZARD BRANCH LIBRARY



Hazard Branch Library — Onondaga County Public Libraries once again came through with a much-appreciated donation of hats and mittens for our Christmas Clothes Closet.

Thanks to their Hat and Mitten Tree, St. Mark had more than enough to give away at both of our Christmas Clothes Closets in December.

Our partnership with Hazard Branch is a blessing and we look forward to working together even more in 2023!

Currently, Children’s Librarian Shauna Modrow comes to our Clothes Closet whenever she is available, bringing crafts to do with the children who attend. When she is unable to attend a Clothes Closet, she faithfully drops off bags of crafts the kids can do on their own. Thank you, Shauna!

THANK YOU FROM THE “FLOWER LADY”

St. Mark’s “Flower Lady,” Joan Green, would like to thank all who gave memorials for our Christmas plants that adorned the altar during the Christmas season.

“You were all very generous in your giving. It is appreciated.”



MEMORIAL INSTITUTED FOR LONGTIME PARISHIONER



St. Mark has instituted a memorial in Betty Klinger's memory in recognition of her longtime involvement and dedication to both Circle V and the Altar Guild. A full memorial honoring Betty will be published in the upcoming newsletter.

If you would like to contribute in Betty’s name, please make your check payable to St. Mark the Evangelist and notate Klinger Memorial on the memo line. Funds received will benefit the Altar Guild.

Greening of St. Mark Snap Shots



St. Mark Nominated for CNY Tuesdays

Vote for St. Mark to receive a \$2,000 grant for its ministries!

Recently, parishioner Gail Manolescu nominated St. Marks to be considered for a CNY Tuesdays grant through Upstate Shredding. To be nominated for the \$2000 grant, Gail submitted information about St. Mark's ministry programs for the community including our partnership with Porter and Hazard Branch Library, the Clothes Closet, Green Café and Neighborhood Dinners, Food Pantry, Food \$en\$e, Personal Care Bags and Backpacks for Porter.

"I heard about the program from Michael Benny on Channel 5 News. What Upstate Shredding is looking for is the impact we have on the community," Gail explained. "When the voting period starts, we want everyone to vote for us every day. The more votes we get, the better our chances are of winning a grant. You can go to either CNY Tuesdays or Upstate Shredding to vote."

What is CNY Tuesdays?

Giving Tuesday is a nationally recognized day of giving that started as a grassroots campaign eight years ago at the 92nd Street Y in New York City. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable season. A time when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. Since 2012, people from all over the world have given nearly \$2 billion to causes on Giving Tuesday. Now Giving Tuesday has become a movement that celebrates and supports giving and philanthropy with events throughout the year.

CNY Tuesdays is the endeavor of philanthropic endeavor of Adam Weitsman, owner of Upstate Shredding, and his daughter Clover, to bring this spirit of giving to every Tuesday in Central New York. Each month, an independent committee narrows nominations down to 10 finalists and then Central New York residents are asked to go to cnytuesdays.com, engage with the stories shared by voting for those they find most compelling for a five-day period, the last few days of each month. The non-profit organizations receiving the most votes will be recognized in the following month and receive a \$2,000 grant from Upstate Shredding. Michael Benny shares the winners' story of impact on NBC News every Tuesday at 7 p.m.



Cast Your Vote

Voting for St. Mark is set to begin at noon on Sunday, Feb. 19, and will run through noon on Thursday, Feb. 23. CNY residents are allowed to cast one vote per day. Please vote and share this with your friends and families so they may cast their vote for St. Mark the Evangelist!

Go to
<https://cnytuesdays.com/>
to cast your vote

A Delectable Share

Cheesy Potato Bake

Great for a brunch, pot luck or really any meal! Contributed by Barb White

Ingredients

- 8 oz. Sour Cream (Daisy)
- 1 can Campbell's Mushroom Soup (10.5 oz)
- 8 oz. (or 10 oz) yellow - not white - Extra Sharp Cheddar, shredded (I used to use Kraft, but now use Cabot)
- 1 stick of melted butter (use butter, not margarine)
- 1 32 oz. Ore-Ida diced hash brown potatoes
- 1 can French's dried onions (smaller size)

Instructions

1. Thaw the Ore-Ida potatoes well ahead of time
2. Preheat oven to 350°
3. Mix all of the ingredients together EXCEPT the potatoes and dried onions, making sure to combine well.
4. Add combined ingredients to the potatoes and mix well.
5. Turn into a 9 X 13 glass baking pan and spread.
6. Bake approximately 60 minutes, check at about 45 minutes and if the middle is still "sloshy," continue baking for the entire 60 minutes. At 45 minutes, add the dried onions, sprinkling all over the top of the potatoes. These should brown up by the hour mark.

Note: If you put the dried onions on when you first put the potatoes in, they will burn.



If you have a popular or particularly yummy dessert or appetizer/savory dish to share, please email it to the office or bring it in with you to church.



“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.”

Genesis 8:22

As in the above quote, the Vestry does not cease working, thinking, and planning. The Christmas season has passed, and we continue our mission during our January meeting.

Here are some highlights from the January meeting.

- ▶ Starting in February, we will be having two counting and recording the weekly offerings on document created by Rajon.
- ▶ Fr. Jon has updated the Building Usage Agreement form for outside groups using the church.
- ▶ The Vestry asked for time to review the document and send thoughts to Debra before approving the document.
- ▶ The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, March 5, 2023. There are two Vestry and one Warden position available. The Vestry was asked to think of parishioners to possibly serve in these positions. Nominations will be accepted from any parishioner.
- ▶ There are some changes happening in the office. Debra will be in our office on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 AM – 2PM and Thursday afternoon from 12:15 – 3:15. Food Pantry hours will now be Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 AM – 1 PM.
- ▶ Fr. Jon is looking into purchasing an enclosed bulletin board for outside the main door rather than taping signs to the door.
- ▶ Some exciting news: Kevin Ward received a full scholarship to attend the Alabama Pilgrimage organized by the Diocese. The trip is from February 23-26, 2023. We will be providing some monies in support of this opportunity. We look forward to hearing about Kevin’s adventure upon his return and wish safe travels.
- ▶ Jim Miller reported on the Food \$en\$e program with Porter.
- ▶ Jim Miller attended the funeral of parishioner Betty Klinger and hopes to set up a memorial for her.
- ▶ Phyllis Honsinger is planning a dual coffee hour on February 12th. One side will be in honor of Valentine’s Day and the other side will be for the Super Bowl. There will be a football board. The cost for three squares will be either a monetary donation or non-perishable food item. All proceeds will be given to our Food Pantry. Jim Miller is also donating monies from the Food \$en\$e program to benefit the Food Pantry.
- ▶ Pat Dunn reported that the 2022 pledge income was over budget and we saw a savings in building operations and office expenses. The investments continue to fluctuate.
- ▶ Items to look forward to: Joint Spring Dinner with St. Mark and St. Luke’s, and picnic.

Any questions, suggestions, or comments, please contact a Vestry member.

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

The Church of St. Mark the Evangelist
Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual
 January through December 2022

	Jan - Dec '22	Budget	\$ Over Bud...
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 — Pledges	54,308.20	49,000.00	5,308.20
4100 — Plate/Loose Offerings	1,143.70	4,200.00	-3,056.30
4200 — Major Feasts	2,998.00	1,675.00	1,323.00
4300 — Long Term Inv. Income	44,000.00	48,000.00	-4,000.00
4500 — Diocesan CIF Income	3,759.88	4,000.00	-240.12
4600 — Memorial/Donations	1,500.00	150.00	1,350.00
4650 — 4650-Flower Fund Dona...	3,666.46	3,000.00	666.46
4700 — Building Use Or Donation	2,611.00	2,380.00	231.00
4900 — Miscellaneous Income	138.86	200.00	-61.14
Total Income	114,126.10	112,605.00	1,521.10
Gross Profit	114,126.10	112,605.00	1,521.10
Expense			
5100 — Diocesan Support	18,000.00	18,000.00	0.00
5200 — Salaries	79,202.57	83,264.77	-4,062.20
5300 — Rector Benefits	12,617.03	6,250.00	6,367.03
5400 — Youth Programs/Scholars...	0.00	300.00	-300.00
5500 — Church School	657.71	375.00	282.71
5600 — Outreach	3,369.15	3,500.00	-130.85
5700 — Human Needs	230.00	500.00	-270.00
5800 — Committees	2,198.97	3,150.00	-951.03
6000 — Office Operations	9,441.75	13,100.00	-3,658.25
6100 — Insurance	7,332.75	8,400.00	-1,067.25
6200 — Other Financial Expenses	5,179.57	7,650.00	-2,470.43
6300 — Building Operations	19,658.67	22,950.00	-3,291.33
6400 — Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total Expense	157,888.17	167,539.77	-9,651.60
Net Ordinary Income	-43,762.07	-54,934.77	11,172.70
Net Income	-43,762.07	-54,934.77	11,172.70

Submitted by: Treasurer, Pat Dunn
Reported: Jan. 31, 2022



St Mark the Evangelist Episcopal Church

1612 W. Genesee Street Syracuse, NY 13204

TO:



ASH WEDNESDAY **FEBRUARY 22, 2023** *Distribution of Ashes*

At ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST
1612 W. Genesee St., Syracuse

11 AM
Service, Sanctuary

12-1:30 PM
Ashes to Go in the parking lot

At ST. LUKE CAMILLUS
5402 W. Genesee St., Syracuse

7 PM, Sanctuary



At BRIGHTON TOWERS
821 E. Brighton Ave., Syracuse

7 p.m. in Conference Room

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.