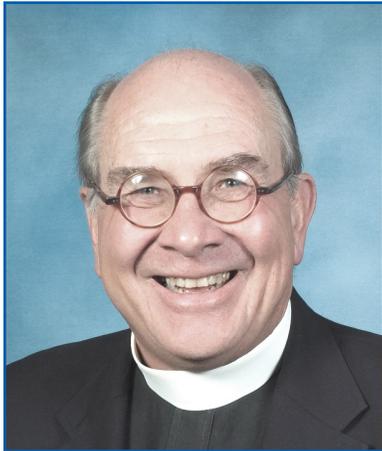




The Evangelist

The Episcopal Church of St. Mark the Evangelist

November 2015



ALL SAINTS WITH THANKSGIVING

November is a curious month, framed by All Saints Day on November 1, when we remember those loved ones who have gone before us, and the fourth Thursday near the end of the month when we celebrate Thanksgiving and all the many blessings that we have received. Like bookends All Saints Day and Thanksgiving frame November every year.

As you know Mother Liza and I have been moving and whenever you move you discover unremembered boxes of memories. I have a trunk filled with sentimental stuff that my mother saved over the years. There are ration books from World War II in that trunk, her nursing school degree with a photo of her class, my father's high school ring and a score of other family memorabilia. I was looking in that trunk the other day and found things I had long forgotten. A sermon I once preached in church when I was in high school, a project from the third grade, childhood photos that bring back more memories than I knew I had. The old trunk is a treasure chest of moments and places I thought I had forgotten. Full of things I would never have saved.

We keep such symbols of our life to

cherish and help us remember those we love, special times and places, and feelings that can overwhelm us. I found a picture of my mother on the day before Thanksgiving. She was standing on the front porch in the late afternoon. I remember that day because it was my first time back home from college. Although the photo was in black and white I could see what she wore. She was very dressed up for a Wednesday evening at home wearing a garish pink and gray blouse with rhinestones on it. It was the only time I saw her wear it. I had mailed it to her for her birthday that fall. I had forgotten all about it. And there she was on the front porch wearing it like a lighthouse guiding a precious cargo into port. Of course, then I was too young and unaware to realize that in her eyes I was her precious cargo.

At the time I didn't understand family and the power of going away and coming home. These days when Mother Liza and I go back to North Carolina her mother creates that loving and warm space that reminds us we are home.

I now realize that this setting out and returning home is a dance we do with God and our destiny. As we grow older we take different roles in life. We become the parent, or the aunt or the grandmother. Especially after we have learned how important it is to go home or to be home for those we love. Some of us relish in that welcome when we are greeted or we greet those we love with hugs and kisses that when we were young used to embarrass us.

Sunday is All Saints, a time when we remember those holy moments of going home. Going home is one way that God prepares us for going back to God. Maybe the "Many Mansions" that Jesus spoke of where not big houses but

rather the riches of going home and being in the presence of those we loved in our lives, hearing their voices, feeling their love and knowing that the life we share continues with God forever.

Along with the season of All Saints comes Thanksgiving, so let us take special care this year to be thankful for those people, homes and families that we share, for the hugs and kisses, for the embarrassing moments, for the savory aromas of food prepared with love. These are the moments when heaven and earth intersect.

Father Bob Trache
Rector and Head of School
frbob@saintmarks.com

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Devanne Barr	Samantha MacArthur
Rick Bauer	Aston McBean
Val Belben	Sally O'Loughlin
Ben Buffham	Pat Picciotti
Christina Chu	Bess Posada
Brian Chu	Oliver Posada
Logan Clark	Gene Putnam
Reese Clark	Eumine Reid
Tom Clark	Mark Rodgers
Leighann Delvaille	Givanna Roper
Zach Denison	Bill Ruymann
Harlow Dew	Sarji Ford
Marty Dobbins	Carolyn Schneider
Patricia Docherty	Evan Schuster
Clarence Dunkerley	Madelynne Schuster
Lisa Gabele	Ed Seymour
Hester Hall	Sebastian Spada
Kevin Ives	Jasmine Spooner
Sherry Kramer	Sydney Turner
Olga Lisabet	Sarah Weitz



ST. MARK'S
ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education takes place on Sundays at 9:10 a.m., in between the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services in the South Chapel.

LIFE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES:
September 13 – November 8
with Father Bob

Understanding the Bible, is not merely reading scripture; there is more to it. When you read the Gospels, aren't you curious about their context and what actually occurred? How did they live? What did they eat? What was life like in Nazareth and Jerusalem in the first century of the Common Era? How does this help us to understand the early Christian faith and doctrine? More importantly, how does it help us to understand Jesus, Mary, Joseph and his brothers and sisters in their life and times? This course will give us a different look at the Gospels and Jesus.

FALL UNITED THANK OFFERING INGATHERING

Sunday, November 15th has been set aside to harvest the Fall Ingathering of the United Thank Offering at both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. Last year's total of giving, between one and two million dollars was awarded to projects in Episcopal Church Dioceses, Companion Dioceses, International Provinces, as well as to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Offices.

These coins of ours travel far and wide to serve the needy. Grants can be awarded to a church crying for help to replace a roof lost in a storm or in a Diocese in Alaska praying for an airplane.

When we open our eyes and hearts to the loving, generous spirit of our Lord, who pours upon us continuous blessings, our desire to respond by praying in thanksgiving and filling our "Blue Boxes" surges and we help to answer the call of those in need of our loving service.

Here is a simple way which can make a huge impact: the response to God's answer to our question, "Lord, what will you have me do?"



COMES TO LIFE

St. Mark's Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King has been busy since its Renewal and Admission service last May. Daughters meet monthly where they pray, study, and become more aware of their Community within and beyond church doors.

Since prayer is as essential to each Daughter as breathing, the chapter focuses much of its efforts in gathering and distributing its many prayer requests. The women cherish this time with their Lord and answers to prayers have been amazing! The Daughters are truly grateful for the opportunities they are given to pray.

In October, Donna McGinty, was selected as the Chapter's most honored woman to wear the Bishop's cross in 2016. Since all Daughters are considerate honorable, each name was placed in a bowl and after Fr. Bob and Sandy Hoyle, President prayed over them. Fr. Bob plucked Donna's name from the group. We are so pleased to submit her name to the deanery from where it will be sent to the diocese for the final selection at its Annual Assembly at the Chapel of Saint Andrew on November 7th.

Sunday, November 1st (All Saints) the DOK members will worship together and receive Corporate Communion at the 10 A.M. Service. Fr. Bob will also bless our new Prayer Box which will hang in the South Chapel.

Since the chapter has decided to incorporate The Children's Diagnostic Treatment Center (CDTC) under the wise and loving leadership of Billie Hairston and Donna McGinty, a tour of the center has been planned with an out-to-dinner treat. Please dear parish, keep us in your prayers as you are always in our hearts and prayers, as well.



Sunday, November 29, 2015
Advent 1 ✦ 10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist and Service of Healing

On Sunday, November 29, 2015 as we celebrate the Eucharist for the First Sunday of Advent, will also have the opportunity for the Anointing of the Sick in Commemoration of World AIDS Day. The union of World AIDS Day and the First Sunday of Advent is fitting because it enables us to relate the hope of God in Christ to the experience of those living with HIV/AIDS. Observing the beginning of Advent and World AIDS Day at the same time provides a perfect opportunity for the church to show the depths of God's love and the breadth of God's saving grace for all of God's children.

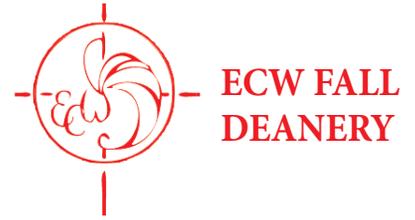
World AIDS Day, observed every year on December 1, is dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection. Government and health officials throughout the world observe the day. AIDS has killed more than 30 million people between 1981 and 2010, and an estimated 34 million people worldwide live with HIV, making it one of the most destructive epidemics in recorded history. Despite recent, improved access to antiretroviral treatment and care in many regions of the world, the AIDS pandemic continues to claim lives, many of which are children.

The theme for this year's observance is "Engaging Youth Voices in the Response to HIV & AIDS" – which stands as part of the effort to arrive at the day when HIV Infection and AIDS will be a thing of the past. In the name of the Church, I invite you, your family, your friends, your neighbors, to join us to commemorate World AIDS Day, to pray for those living with HIV/AIDS, and to pray with and for persons with any kind of sickness, and to be a part of the Church's ministry of healing.

Father Ronald Hayde+
rhayde@saintmarks.com



St. Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL



Please Join Us for Chorale Evensong



**Sunday, November 8, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL - MIAMI
464 NE 16th Street
Miami, Florida 33132

RSVP: Kim DuBois at
kdubois@saintmarks.com or 954-334-0116

Please contact Kim DuBois if you would like to carpool or are willing to provide transportation for parishioners who are unable to drive at night, but would like to attend.

The meeting on Saturday October 24, 2015 was a complete success, thanks to the participation of the St. Mark's Episcopal Church Women. The guests in attendance were from ten different Episcopal Churches within the Broward Deanery for the Diocese of Southeast Florida.

The day started with registration and breakfast in the Memorial Garden. Debbie Ferguson St. Mark's ECW President, welcomed everyone to the Fall Deanery Meeting, held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Cara Pointer blessed the food.

After breakfast, everyone moved into the Church for morning Prayer. Mother Liza Ragsdale, a dynamic speaker, was an inspiration to all. She was an awesome Clergy for the day. Debbie Estime performed a solo, "One Night With The King".

The business of the day was conducted by Jackie Lowe of St. James in the Hills, Sandy Tucker of St. Martin's, Holly Hoyle-McAneny and Debbie Ferguson of St. Mark's, with assistance from Valerie Belben, Joan Billings Susan Breckenridge, Rita Collister, Giselle Dorsett, Cynthia Floria, Sandy Hoyle, Elizabeth Lindsay, Elaine Millspaugh, Lissa Welbourn, Cara Pointer and Becky of St. Mark's.

The ECW Broward Deanery Distinguished Woman of the year Dorian Williams, was voted in from St. Christopher's Episcopal Church. The meeting ended with a closing prayer by Mother Liza. A gift from St. Mark's Episcopal Church Women was presented to the Reverend Mother Eliza R. Ragsdale by St. Mark's ECW president, Debbie Ferguson.

On Sunday October 18, 2015, Joyce E. Holmes was honored by the Episcopal Church Women of St. Mark's. Joyce was given an Award as Distinguished Woman of the year for St. Mark's Parish. Also, Joyce became a Distinguished Woman nominee for the ECW Broward Deanery of the Dioceses of Southeast Florida.

MMO HALLOWEEN PARTY



ADVENT BEACH MORNING PRAYER



Mondays during Advent, December 7th, 14th, and 21st please join Mother Liza Ragsdale at

8:30 a.m., on the north side of the Commercial and A1A Pier, on the beach, as we move spiritually from the darkness of Advent to the light that is celebrated with the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, on Christmas. After Morning Prayer, all are invited to enjoy breakfast at the Anglin Café on the pier. Our St. Mark's school parent sold the parking lot, so we no longer enjoy free parking. There are metered spaces available for those who will drive. Carpool opportunity and chance to drive a shut-in. Please call the Church Office with any questions: 954-563-5155 and take this opportunity to evangelize and share the Good News, by coming and bringing your friends.

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT

Thursday, December 10, 2015
7:00 p.m.



Part of our Episcopal Tradition is the service of Lessons and Carols for Advent. Please plan on joining our Parish Choir,

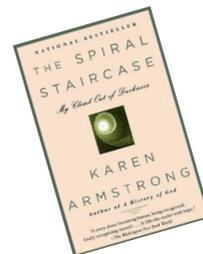
our Middle School Choirs, the Handbell Choir and the Band on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the church, as the church community and the school community come together for the 42nd Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent.

Advent is almost upon us, and the busyness of the season can be both daunting and overwhelming. It seems like there is so much to do, and so little time to do it, and the suggestion to do one more thing would be greeted by most people with a sigh. Whenever we get swallowed up in activity, whenever we get weighed down by the things yet to be accomplished, we can easily lose sight of our focus, of our inner peace. Our lives can easily appear to be pushed to the breaking point. This is an opportunity to pause, to breathe, to reflect on the story of the loving purpose of God from the very first days of our disobedience to the redemption brought to us through the birth of Jesus into our world. During Advent, a season of quiet, yet joyful expectation, join with our church choir, our school choirs, and school band as we listen again to the poetry of the prophets and hear the story of Christ's coming retold through Scriptures and song.

ST. MARK'S BOOK CLUB



The Book Club meets the 4th Thursday of each month from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the home of Dr. Dianne Garvin. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Mother Liza Ragsdale at (954) 563-5155.



December 3:
Spiral Staircase
by Karen Armstrong
(Autobiography)

In 1962, at age 17, Karen Armstrong entered a convent. After 7 brutally unhappy years as a nun, she left the order to pursue English literature at Oxford. But convent life had profoundly altered her, and coping with the outside world and her expiring faith proved to be excruciating.

2015 OKTOBERFEST



An Evening in Tuscany



January 23, 2016

SMES 28th Annual Dinner Auction

SAVE THE DATE!

For more information contact
Corrinne Weins
954-609-1301
corrinneweins@comcast.net

SAVE THE DATE



STATIONERY
HOUSEWARES
FOOD

HANDBAGS
JEWELRY
CLOTHING



8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL GYMNASIUM



**EPISCOPAL
CHURCH AND SCHOOL**

**If you're interested in being a vendor or volunteer
please contact Kim Dubois at
kdubois@saintmarks.com
cell: 954-661-1482 or office: 954-334-0112**



St. Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL



Thanksgiving Food Drive

In all things, we give thanks.

As we celebrate this Thanksgiving, we do so
in a spirit of gratitude for the countless
blessings we have received.

It is also a time to remember those who have
not been as fortunate.

Beginning on **Monday, November 2** and continuing
until **Thursday, November 19**,
we will be collecting **non perishable food items**
for *The Pantry of Broward, Fort Lauderdale*,
which provides food for those in need:
the poor, the unemployed, the underemployed,
grandparents raising their grandchildren,
the disabled, and seniors.

Thank you.