



What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - April 5, 2026

On Easter

1. Easter Potluck - Baxter Hall 10:30 AM

[3/29]

Come together for an informal potluck on Easter Sunday in Baxter Hall, from 10:30–11:30 a.m. (between services)! This will be a relaxed, fellowship-focused gathering hosted by our Children, Youth and Family Ministry. No pre-registration needed. Volunteers are appreciated for setup and cleanup. Contact [BrittPereira1\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:BrittPereira1[at]gmail.com) with questions.

2. Easter Reception 12:30 PM

[3/29]

The St Mark's 20s/30s will be hosting a light reception **after the 11:15 a.m. Easter service**. Join us in **Baxter Hall** to continue the Easter festivities in community! All are welcome and invited. Send any questions to Annabelle ([annabelleswift31\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:annabelleswift31[at]gmail.com)).

3. Egg Hunt Info

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt at 10 :30 am! We will gather in Baxter Hall after the services to receive instructions for the hunt.

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

4. Children, Youth and Families Programming

[4/5]

St. Mark's has many opportunities for families with children and youth. To connect and learn more, contact Lisa Ramish [youthdirector\[at\]stmark.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmark.net).

On the **fourth Sunday of the month at 9am**, we host a special **Family Eucharist**. On other Sundays, for a short part of the service, we offer two spaces for worship designed to suit children and youth: **Children's Chapel and Next Gen Reflection**.

Our vibrant **Sunday School** program offers classes for pre-K 3 through grade 12 from **10 to 10:50 am**. The St. Mark's **youth group** grades 6-12 meets once a month, usually on Sunday afternoons. Our next meeting is **April 26th**. The **Dozier Memorial Library**, located in the undercroft, includes a selection of books for children and youth available for checkout.

Music and the Arts

5. Come and Join Our Community Choir

[3/29]

We rehearse every first Monday of the month 7:30 – 9:30 PM here at St. Mark’s. Next rehearsal on **April 6th**. The choir is open to all who are interested, no prior experience necessary. There is no cost to join. Register using the QR code or at <https://tinyurl.com/STMcommunitychoir>. For more information reach out to Judith: [comchoir\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:comchoir@stmarks.net) or learn more about the project.



6. Participate in the Music Program. Join us! The **Chancel Choir** rehearses on Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 pm. Contact [jeff\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:jeff@stmarks.net). | The **Children’s Choir** rehearses on Sundays from 11-11:40 am (5-8 years old) or 11:40-12:30 pm (8 years old +). Email [judith\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:judith@stmarks.net). | The **Handbell Choir** meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:45 to 8 pm. Email [kep5\[at\]cornell.edu](mailto:kep5@cornell.edu). | The Music Studio offers **private piano and voice lessons** to people of all ages and abilities. Visit stmarks.net/music or contact [jeff\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:jeff@stmarks.net) for more info.

7. Four Upcoming Concerts

[3/29]

The **Chiarina Chamber Players** and a featured guest violinist present “Fire and Brilliance” with music by Prokofiev, Mendelssohn, and others. **Saturday, April 11th at 7:30 pm.** Visit chiarina.org. Use promo code STMARKS30 for a 30% ticket discount. | **The Washington Bach Consort** performs Cantata 150 with choir, soloists, and orchestra. Jeff Kempkie will provide the organ prelude. **Monday, April 13th at 12:10 pm.** Free. | **The Capitol City Symphony** offers a unique concert featuring new music written by local composers who are part of its Composer’s League. **Saturday, April 18th at 4 pm.** Adults: \$25, Students: \$10. capitalcitysymphony.org | **Beauty in Chaos: A Voice and Marimba Recital.** St. Mark’s parishioners Mike Dillman and Jilian McGreen join Director of Music Jeff Kempkie and bassist Michael Hankins in a recital that contrasts sacred beauty with 20th-century grit, exploring hope and resilience amid challenging times. Free-will offering. **Sunday April 19th 7:00 pm.**

8. Benefit Concert for Good Neighbors Capitol Hill & Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid

Don’t miss Lynn Veronneau, guitarist Ken Avis and longtime collaborator Dave Kline on violin perform a multilingual feast of bossa nova, blues, soul and swing. **April 25 at 7:30 pm, St Mark’s Episcopal Church, 301 A St SE.** Suggested donation \$25 or more if you can afford it. Tickets available online <https://tinyurl.com/April25benefit> (preferably) or at the door.

[4/5]



Service and Social Justice

Step into SSJ. View our volunteer opportunities page www.stmarks.net/socialjustice

9. Incarceration Justice - Community Art Workshop! [3/29]

Our April meeting will be a change of pace, including a Community Art Workshop. Rather than a Tuesday time slot, we will gather **Saturday, April 11th, from 12 noon until 3:30.**

- Create a community art project led by formerly incarcerated artists
- Browse collections of Beauty Behind Bars artists' prints, books, clothing & more
- Donate art supplies to recently released artists

All artists are welcome. Returned Citizen artists will be showcased and demonstrate their work "live" at tables in **Baxter Hall**. Bring a project you're working on. Bring your supplies!

More information: [incarcerationjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:incarcerationjustice@stmarks.net)

10. Washington Interfaith Action Network Meeting (WIN) [3/22]

The Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) brings together congregations and community organizations from across DC to advocate on issues such as affordable housing, public safety, youth opportunities and economic justice.

Our April Action Team Meeting date is **Thursday, April 16 Time: 6:30–8:00 p.m.**

Location: **St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church | 320 21st St NE, Washington, DC**

RSVP now for WIN's Mayoral Candidates Forum. Sunday, May 17 3:00–5:00 p.m.

Location: East of the River (TBD). The number of registered attendees will help determine which WIN member institution will host. <https://tinyurl.com/WINCandidateForum>

11. Connecting the Dots:

Sustainable Agriculture in Honduras, Clean Water, and Migration [3/29]

For 20 years, St. Mark's and other DC churches have been supporting reforestation and sustainable agriculture projects in the highlands of Honduras, helping farmers adapt to a drying climate. The results have been impressive: crop diversity, better yields, improved housing, health, and income, and a reduced need to emigrate. **At 12:30 pm on Sunday, April 19, come to the Adams Room** to learn about these successes, how the program has expanded to additional villages, and how you can help. **Tim Jenkins from Sustainable Villages Honduras (SVH)** will be our presenter. A former Peace Corps volunteer, he holds a degree in international agriculture from Cornell and has also worked with ECO-City Farms in Prince George's County. Light refreshments will be available. Sponsored by SVH and St. Mark's Green Lions and Migrant Support programs. Questions: Contact Christina Herman ([christina.herman55\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:christina.herman55@gmail.com)) and Leslie Allen ([la.caphill\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:la.caphill@gmail.com)).

12. Anacostia Earth Day Cleanup! Saturday April 25th, 11 - 1, Kingman Park [3/22]

Join St. Marks' Green Lions and lots of others in Anacostia Watershed Society's annual Earth Day cleanup. It's fun, rewarding, and easy. (Hardly any plastic bags or styrofoam now that they're banned!) All ages welcome. But you must register, and slots will fill up at this great location. <https://mobilize.us/s/3ixRY2/d> Questions, contact Leslie Allen, [lacaphill\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:lacaphill[at]gmail.com)

13. Hot Lunches for Everyone Home DC's Day Center, Shirley's Place [3/29]

Here is a service opportunity for you or your St Mark's "small group": **Prepare a hot lunch for 50 drop-in clients** to be served at Shirley's Place. Currently St Mark's is providing approximately 3 such lunches a year. (Our high school youth will be serving baked ziti in April.) Everyone Home DC has asked if we can do more during the May through September time period. In the past, a lunch has been prepared on Sunday for serving on the following Monday. Food costs can be reimbursed by the Service and Social Justice Board. Want to know more about this and the specifics? Email Susan Sedgewick at [jssedgewick\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick[at]gmail.com).

14. Responsive Grant Proposals Due 5/17 [3/22]

SSJ is offering grants of up to \$1000 to jumpstart a new project you believe will benefit the larger community outside St. Mark's. All ages are encouraged to apply! **Proposals due by May 17th with decisions by early June.** Judging considerations include: whether the beneficiaries want the proposed project; whether others from St. Mark's can participate; and is it realistic for implementation? Your proposal should describe the project and include an implementation plan and budget/justification for the amount requested. Send your proposal or questions to Leslie Allen, [lacaphill\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:lacaphill[at]gmail.com).

15. Migrant Solidarity Opportunities

If you are interested in learning about ways to support migrants, please contact Julie Murphy at [juliaabbottmurphy\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbottmurphy[at]gmail.com) or Holly Kreutter at [hkreutts\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:hkreutts[at]hotmail.com)

16. Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Collection: We Feed Gaza [3/29]

On Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we continued our parish's focus on food insecurity by collecting funds for We Feed Gaza, an independent Catholic movement dedicated to feeding and aiding starving families in Gaza. **You can still donate** using the QR code or at <https://tinyurl.com/StMarksGFO>. Since April 14, 2024, We Feed Gaza has distributed over 290,000 liters of fresh water and thousands of meals, serving more than 133,000 people — including tens of thousands of children. Even amid severe hunger, instability, and ongoing hardship, their team has worked tirelessly to provide daily nourishment



and hope. According to the latest IPC Report and the United Nations, Gaza remains in Stage 4 – Emergency Acute Food Insecurity, with approximately 1.6 million people facing crisis-level hunger and critical malnutrition risks. Let us continue to support the beloved community in Gaza. Contact Melissa Cahill at [mseely57\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:mseely57@gmail.com) with questions.

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

17. Please Join the 20s/30s Group for Our Upcoming Meetings! [3/29]

After the 5 PM, we meet **downstairs in the Dozier Library** to discuss a new podcast episode every month. Listen ahead, or just show up to hear and discuss excerpts. We also have **brunch** (walking somewhere nearby or packing ahead to eat at St. Mark's) **once a month after the 11:15 service**. Contact Jilian McGreen ([jmcg1213\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jmcg1213@gmail.com)) or Annabelle Swift ([annabelleswift31\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:annabelleswift31@gmail.com)) with questions or to join our Google group and WhatsApp.

April 12 12:15 - Brunch April 26 - For People with Bishop Rob Wright Episode 278: Spiritual. Leadership with Dr. Chip Roper

18. St. Mark's All Parish Retreat This Summer, June 26th - June 28th

[3/8]

You're invited to St. Mark's annual parish retreat, from **Friday, June 26th to Sunday, the 28th**. At Claggett Episcopal Center, about an hour outside of DC, we'll gather to enjoy the best of summer and the best of St. Mark's: shared meals and music; deep discussions about faith and community; and connecting and reconnecting with the people who make our church so great.



We'll also enjoy the many activities Claggett has to offer: swimming in the community pool, taking a meditative walk through the labyrinth, roasting marshmallows over a campfire, worshipping at the wooded outdoor altar, and admiring the beautiful views on a hike through Sugarloaf Mountain.

There are about 100 spots available, so save yours today at this link. Reach out to Amber Macdonald ([amacdojo\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:amacdojo@gmail.com)) with any questions.

Short URL: <https://forms.gle/koQoWgSXUvTFfYMV8>

19. Caregivers Support Group

If you care for a loved one and would like to share your experiences with similarly engaged others, email Kathleen Frydl at [kfrydl\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:kfrydl@gmail.com) to join our monthly Caregivers Support Group. We meet by **Zoom on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm**.

Over the course of the hour, we share the challenges of caregiving -- the stuff that breaks our hearts and challenges our minds but also the quiet moments of profound grace and deep love for the one who needs us.

20. Morning Prayer on Zoom MWF 11:00 - 11:40 am

stmarks.net/morningprayer. Readings from the Bible and the life of a notable holy person, prayers, and wide-ranging discussion. Join us on your screen or phone for reflection and fellowship. The latest Zoom info is at the link above or contact Elin Whitney-Smith [elinwhitneysmith\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:elinwhitneysmith[at]gmail.com) for more information.

21. Centering Prayer. Every day on Zoom at 8:00 a.m.

Centering Prayer is an early Christian contemplative practice that emphasizes interior silence. For more information or to join the group, contact The Rev. Patricia Catalano [adjunct\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:adjunct[at]stmarks.net).

22. St. Mark's Meditation Center

Meditation. Silence, dharma talk, discussion, and metta (such as May I, you, and all beings be safe, joyful, and at peace.) We are peer-led, with a different member or guest facilitating. Whether you have meditated for weeks or years or never before, you are welcome to join the St. Mark's Meditation Center on **Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Zoom also is available.** Questions? Email mmrivard@hotmail.com.

23. St. Mark's Yoga Center

Since 1978 SMYC has offered yoga at affordable prices, accessible to all. Classes are held 7 days a week and the first class is free! We now have two new teachers and a Friday class.

<https://www.stmarksyogadc.org/>

Christian Education

24. Wednesday Noon Bible Study - on Zoom 12-1 PM every Wednesday

[4/5]

What do we do in WNBS? We actually read the text, the whole genealogy, then study the text (what do you know, five women are listed in the genealogy of Jesus!); then remember the historical context; review their rhetorical approach; ask questions; seek to deepen the meaning we derive; and, share in our loving community. In our conversations with one another and our biblical ancestry, we can find resilience, resistance, and renewable faith. Curious? Email Peter Mosley [Peter.Mosley\[at\]cox.net](mailto:Peter.Mosley[at]cox.net)

25. Belonging Class in April

[3/8]

Are you new to St. Mark's, rejoining, or seeking a deeper connection? Wherever you are on your journey, we invite you to explore what "belonging" means in 2026. Newcomers considering making St. Mark's their church home are especially welcome. The classes will be held at St. Mark's on **Wednesdays, from 7-9 PM, April 22 and 29; May 6, 13, 20, and 27, with a**

retreat offsite (but on the Hill) on a TBD Saturday in June. Childcare can be scheduled upon request. Class fills quickly so email Jennifer (jenniferacate@hotmail.com) and Seth (seth.a.ismail@gmail.com) (or sign up at this link: <https://bit.ly/3MBQwMX>).

26. Confirmation, Reception, and Adult Baptism/Reaffirmation of Baptism [3/22]

On May 10, Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde will join us at all three services! We are excited for her to be with us, especially because it gives us an opportunity to welcome people into the church in the sacraments of confirmation and reception. We will also have child baptisms that day and an opportunity for adult baptism and reaffirmation of baptism. **In preparation for all this, we will have a class on April 12, 19, and 26 from 1-2 pm at St. Mark's.** Email Caitlin caitlin@stmarks.net to sign up for the class and get on the list for the bishop's visit

27. Me and My Siblings: The Ties That Bind and Bedevil [3/8]

"Our relationships with siblings are the only ones with us for the entire ride, profoundly shaping who we become across decades." (Jeffrey Kluger). The questions we will ponder in this class include exploring our own experience as a sibling, examining what Biblical sibling relationships from Cain and Abel to Martha and Mary can teach us, and identifying what spiritual realities we want to carry forward from the experiences of our original families. Join Lea Crusey, Rob Hall and Julie Murphy for **three consecutive Sunday mornings (April 19 and 26 and May 3) from 10 am to 12 noon for this discussion.** Look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer or use the QR code or link <https://tinyurl.com/STMsiblingsclass>. Contact: Julie at juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com.



From Parish Leadership & Staff

28. March Update on Strategic Planning [4/5]

Last fall, the Vestry launched a strategic planning process to chart our church's future for the next five years. The January survey generated an amazing 191 responses! In April, the Vestry will focus on getting feedback on the survey results:

- We will hold a Rector's Forum on **April 12 at 10 am.** At the Forum, Planning Group members will share the presentation that the Vestry heard and ask for feedback.
- Vestry Liaisons will set up discussions with the leaders of key committees to discuss the results in their area of responsibility and get feedback.
- The Planning Group will be getting input from Parish youth.

At the April Vestry meeting, Planning Group will present a summary of the feedback.

Please contact me at [rmarksftc\[at\]yahoo.com](mailto:rmarksftc[at]yahoo.com) with any questions. Randy Marks for the Planning Group (Ben Flowers, Martha Huizenga, Randy Marks, Doug Padgett, Bo Ranney)

29. Save the Date: Meeting to Discuss the Future of Worship [4/5]

Come discuss the Strategic Planning Survey results regarding worship on **Monday April 20, at 7:00 PM** (in person and zoom). Email Randy Marks ([rmarksftc\[at\]yahoo.com](mailto:rmarksftc[at]yahoo.com)) before to get the survey results, which we ask you to review before the meeting. For more information, contact Worship Chair Nick Rogers ([doctornick5\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:doctornick5[at]gmail.com)) or Randy.

30. Want to Reserve a Space at St Mark's?

There are forms for space reservations on the "[Reserve Our Facilities](#)" page of the St. Mark's website! Please use a form, regardless of what you need the space for or for how long. As parishioners, use the [Parishioner Form](#) for your request but if you are reserving for a music event, use the [Music Form](#). And we have a [Non-Parishioner Form](#) for people outside of our church community to request space for an event. Questions: Feel free to reach out to Samantha White, our Parish Admin at [parishadmin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:parishadmin[at]stmarks.net).

31. An Announcement About Announcements

Do you sometimes make spoken announcements? Please note that all announcements should now be submitted in advance. To keep the total time to about five minutes, each one should be clear, concise, and prepared ahead of time. To request a spoken announcement, please complete the online form by the preceding Tuesday evening. Clergy and staff will review submissions and confirm later in the week. If your announcement isn't selected, it may still be briefly highlighted by the clergy. Scan the QR code or visit: shorturl.at/vaXg7

Do you have an announcement for St. Mark's?

Submit announcements of 150 words or less to [bulletin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:bulletin[at]stmarks.net) by 5 pm Tuesday for inclusion that Friday. They run for three weeks unless we hear from you. Each must include a parishioner's name and email. If using a QR code, also provide the underlying link.

To include your event: email [parishadmin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:parishadmin[at]stmarks.net) for the calendar, [website\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:website[at]stmarks.net) for the website, or complete the form (shorturl.at/vaXg7) by Tuesday night for a spoken announcement.