



THE ST. MARK'S MESSAGE

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, New Britain

THE LION'S PAUSE with
The Rev. Leslie Scoopmire, Diocese of Missouri

VOLUME XCVII
ISSUE 7

JULY 2021
ISSUE

Praise Song for a Late Summer Morning

Almighty God,
we raise our hearts to You
in hope and trust.

Blessings upon this day,
the filigree of sun and shadow
fashioned at the hands of God,
maker of heaven and earth and all stars!
From the sacred, holy darkness
you have watched over us as we slumbered:
You call us to wakefulness
and engagement with the needs of the world.

Bread of Life,
who came down from heaven
to nourish us, body and soul,
create in us wide-open hearts,
eager to be filled with light and love.
Your way, O Savior,
is the way of hopefulness,
and you call us to love unfeignedly,
seeing your thumbprint and mark
in each and every soul.

Spirit of God,
kindle your flame within us,
and extend the awning of your mercy
over all whose needs we raise before you.

Amen.

Special points of interest:

- *The Lion's Pause - Praise Song for a Late Summer Morning*
- *In-Person Services beginning July 11th - Join us!*
- *Ben Gryk, Music Director Retiring*
- *Episcopal Peace Fellowship*
- *Summer Time Information*
- *Safe Church Training Information*
- *Food Pantry*
- *Zoom Services and Meetings*
- *Parish Clerk's Corner*
- *A Word From Fr. Shaw*
- *July Calendar*
- *Save The Date*
- *Sunday Remembrances*



JOIN US FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES!

We will come together to worship in person
beginning Sunday, July 11th at 10:00 a.m. in Cooper Hall.
Face masks must be worn inside the building.

Everyone is required to wear a mask inside the buildings of
South Church. We will have masks available if you need one.

Thank you.

The only restroom that may be used is the handicap restroom.



Music Director, Ben Gryk Retiring!

July 4th will be the final Sunday that our Music
Director, Ben Gryk will be with us. Ben has been
a church organist for 50 years and has been our
Music Director since 2005. He has enriched our
musical experience at regular Sunday services
and for many Christmas and Easter seasons.

He will be missed!

Thank you Ben for being our Music Director for the past 16 years.

Join us in wishing him God's Speed and

Best Wishes on his next adventure!



Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF) Peacebuilding Online Project
First Sunday of the month beginning August 1

EPF will host a series of online 1-hr presentations the first Sunday of each month starting in August on different aspects of and approaches to peacebuilding, both with others and within ourselves. We will meet via Eventbrite/Zoom at 4 p.m. Eastern Time. Hear inspiring voices. Learn. Discover resources for going deeper.

First offering, Sunday, August 1: [Being the Church in a Fearful Time.](#)

Explore all the options through January 2022 online.

Go to: <https://epfnational.org/peacebuilding-online-project/> to learn more.



With people beginning to go on vacation this year, please send the parish office a post card or email a photo of your favorite vacation spots!

I will have a page of our favorite spots in the August issue of The Message. (All postcards or photos must be sent to the office by July 21st.)

The Parish Office will begin Summer Hours on July 6th. The office will be open Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 to 2:30. It will be closed on Fridays.



Safe Church Training

If you need to re-certify or take the training for the first time, please go to:

www.episcopalct.org/Find-Resources/General-Parish-Operations/Safe-Church-Resources/

Training Dates: (Some dates may have wait lists.)

Wednesday evening, July 7, 2021, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday morning, July 10, 2021, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Monday evening, July 12, 2021, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday evening, July 13, 2021, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

St. Mark's Food Pantry

Monthly Statistics:

May: Unduplicated households - 108

Children - 97

Adults - 114

Seniors - 35

Total Food Donated to St. Mark's - 1,000 lbs.

Total food from Food Share - 3,369 lbs.

Pantry Help Needed

During the Pandemic we were very lucky to have 2 food pantry volunteers that were the backbone of our operation. Mark Giulietti and Migdalia Vasquez almost never missed a week and we were able to keep our pantry open.

We are anticipating reopening the food pantry to clients (to go into the building) within the next few months.

Please give Cheryl a call in the parish office if you can help us a few hours a week.



ZOOM SERVICES

**Zoom coffee hour 9:30 am; Zoom service 10 am;
Zoom coffee hour after the service.**

Zoom Meeting ID 500-865-037

or enter via the parish Web link at <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>.

There is 1 service on Sundays: Zoom coffee hour 9:30 am; Zoom service 10 am;

Zoom coffee hour after the service. Zoom Meeting ID 500-865-037

Enter via the parish Web link at <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>.



There is also a telephone number you could call on your phone to join the Zoom service: 1-646-558-8656 (phone charges may apply for the telephone call if you don't not have unlimited calling).

When dialing into services or meetings by telephone: Ben is in charge of muting everyone.

To unmute: when pressing the "star" (*) and then "6", first press the star, then take your finger off the "star", and then press "6" to unmute and take your finger off the 6. You have to press both the "star" and the "6" in that order. If you have been muted along with the video people, you may not be aware that you have been muted, so to be heard, please press the "star" and then "6" to unmute.

**If you would like the bulletin mailed to you for this service,
please let Cheryl in the parish office know.**

Please remember to turn your phone volume down slightly – this may help with the feedback sound. Please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office if you have any questions.

Allison's Parish Clerk News Corner

June 2021

Happy Summer!

Covid indicators have dropped dramatically in CT. Bishop Ian has released a new set of protocols and "strongly encourages all parishes to return to some form of in-person worship" (with appropriate precautions-masks, social distancing, gathering outdoors when possible). He also encourages parishes to maintain their online (Zoom) presence for those who don't feel comfortable gathering in person.

This is wonderful news and St. Mark's is making plans! Here are some highlights:

1. July 11th is the tentative date for our first in-person service in Cooper Hall. Stephen has tested South Church's internet connection in Cooper Hall and it is reliable. We will be able to have a hybrid service with a Zoom connection. For the moment, we will not have coffee hour. We will be singing *a capella*. (Anyone willing to play the piano??!)
2. Our 147 West Main St. sale is progressing. United Chaplains' lender has completed an intensive inspection and we are waiting for the results. If all goes well, the closing is scheduled for August 18th, and we plan to have a farewell/thanksgiving ante-communion service in our courtyard on Sunday August 15th.
3. Transition and change are key words to describe St. Mark's future. What is our financial status? Who will serve as clergy after Father Shaw finishes his time with us in February 2022? Where will we worship? Should we consider merging with another parish as we decided before the pandemic? St. Mark's Future Committee (currently only vestry members) *needs your help!* We have met once. Please join us. Contact Cheryl or Lenny for details.
4. Help again! 147 West Main St. has lots of "stuff" (useful and not!) stored in the choir room and safe. We need a contingent to help sort and move. Please contact Cheryl or Lenny for details.
5. Our food pantry received \$130 from May flower sales at Stop & Shop and will receive \$1/special tote bag sold in June. Mark continues to pick up donations there and from his neighborhood network.
6. The 2021 New Britain Ability Walk & Roll will take place on July 21st at 5 p.m. in Walnut Hill Park near the Darius Miller Band Shell. It will be followed by a free concert by "Shaded Soul". St. Mark's will have its famous booth with ice cream sundaes and prayer requests. Volunteers needed! Please contact Cheryl or Allison.

God Bless you. We are traveling the path of Jesus to do God's mission and be embraced in God's infinite love. Let's spread the Good News!

Allison Penick



A WORD FROM FR. SHAW

Dear Friends,

July is here. Summer is underway!

Liturgical observations during July:

- 1 [Pauli Murray, Priest, 1985]
- 2 [Moses the Black, Monastic and Martyr, c.400]
- 6 [Eva Lee Matthews, Monastic, 1928]
- 8 [Priscilla and Aquila, Coworkers of the Apostle Paul]
- 11 [Benedict of Nursia](#), Monastic, c.543
- 14 [Argula von Grumbach, Scholar and Church Reformer, c.1554]
- 17 William White, Bishop, 1836
- 19 Macrina of Caesarea, Monastic and Teacher, 379
- 20 [Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Amelia Bloomer, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Ross Tubman](#), Social Reformers
- 21 [Maria Skobtsova, Monastic and Martyr, 1945]
- 23 [John Cassian, Monastic and Theologian, 435]
- 24 Thomas a Kempis, Priest and Mystic, 1471
- 26 [The Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
- 27 [William Reed Huntington](#), Priest, 1909
- 28 [Johann Sebastian Bach, Composer, 1750]
- 29 [Mary and Martha](#) of Bethany
- 30 William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, 1833
- 31 [Ignatius of Loyola](#), Priest and Spiritual Writer, 1556

[The ones in brackets are temporary for the moment, pending the outcome of the Episcopal Church's General Convention's resolutions, when it meets in Baltimore, Maryland, in about another year: July 2022]

And, there is July 4th! The celebration of the Declaration of Independence.

For St. Mark's specifically, there is, additionally: July 11th, a special day when the Sunday service will be held in-person at 10 am in Cooper Hall at 90 Main Street (enter by the door next to the Church Office). The service plans include online access as well as in-person access. BYOM (Bring Your Own Mask).


A prayer:

Heavenly Father, Loving God, we ask that your Holy Spirit would guide us in wisdom and peace on the path ahead, inspiring us with the lessons we might learn from those who have gone before us, and enlightening us with your vision for the future. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

God bless you, and take care,

Fr. Shaw

JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 4 9:30 a.m. Zoom "Coffee Hour" 10:00 On Zoom Ante-Communion	 5 Office Closed for July 4th Holiday	 6 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Vestry Zoom Meeting	 7 5:45 p.m. Exec. Committee Mtg 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Mtg	 1 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	 2 Office Closed	 3
 11 9:30 a.m. Zoom "Coffee Hour" 10:00 On Zoom Ante-Communion	 12 9:00 - 2:00 Food Pantry	 13 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting	 14	 15 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	 16 Office Closed	 17
 18 9:30 a.m. Zoom "Coffee Hour" 10:00 On Zoom Ante-Communion	 19 9:00 - 2:00 Food Pantry	 20 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting	 21 Message articles for August due	 22 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	 23 Office Closed	 24
 25 9:30 a.m. Zoom "Coffee Hour" 10:00 On Zoom Ante-Communion	 26 9:00 - 2:00 Food Pantry	 27 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting	 28 Message Mailed	 29 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	 30 Office Closed	 31

**St. Mark's Episcopal
Church, New Britain**

**PO Box 1538
90 Main Street
New Britain, CT 06051
The Rev. Dr. Shaw Mudge,
Priest In Charge**

**Phone: 860-225-7634
Email: parishoffice@stmarksnewbritain.org
Website: www.stmarksnewbritain.org**

**PRAYER CHAIN: to activate the chain call
Barbara Campbell 860-673-7607,
Campbellba24@gmail.com**

**If you or someone you know is hospitalized,
please inform the clergy or call the parish
office.**

LABEL

***Open to God's Love -
Serving Our Neighbor***

**Due date for all articles for the May Issue of the
St. Mark's Message is
April 21, 2021**

Parish Office Hours.
Monday through Thursday
from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Food Pantry
Monday: 9 - 12 & 12:30 - 2
Thursday: 9 - 12

Weekly Parish Services:

**During the COVID-19 crisis, services will be
held on Zoom (Go to page 3 or our website—
www.saintmarksnewbritain.org for
information on joining the service.)**

Pledges and Offerings

Please remember to keep sending in your
pledges and offerings to the parish. Mail in our
P.O. Box is picked up several times a week. Your
pledge payments are compiled at least once a
month and deposited.

The parish ministries to the community and
worship services adapt and continue, even in
these most challenging times.

Mailing address: St. Mark's Episcopal Church
PO Box 1538 New Britain, CT 06050-1538 or to
electronically send checks to the Church via your
bank.

St. Marks keeps going in God's way, God's time,
and to God's glory.

SAVE THE DATE

There is no scheduled Vestry or Finance Committee
meeting for the month of July.
Wednesday, July 21 - 5 to 7 p.m. - ADA Celebration at
Walnut Hill Park - Walk and Roll followed by Ice Cream
treat and a free concert

Sunday Remembrances

**If you would like to have a loved one
remembered on any given Sunday, please give
Cheryl in the parish office a call or email. Let her
know the name of the person to be remembered
and the date you would like them remembered
on. There is no fee at this time.
Once we are back to "normal" the Altar Flowers
will be given in remembrance of a loved one for a
small fee to cover the cost of the flowers.**