

# St. Mark's messenger

February 2010  
Eleven(Two)

From the **RECTOR**

The Rev. Kelly O'Connell

While the son was far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him." Luke 15: 20 The son who had been lost had finally returned and what did his father do? He welcomed him back with open arms. He sought to repair the relationship that had been damaged. He sought to return to right relation with his son.

This is what Lent is all about. It is a time to return to right relation with God, a time set aside by the church for our reflection, for our return to God. We all lead such busy lives that finding time to nurture that relationship can be very challenging because so much of life gets in the way.

I hope that you will take some time this Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17 to examine the places where your relationship with God has suffered in some way, where could it use a little attention and work. We all know what it feels

like when our relationship with another person is slightly broken or suffering but we may not notice when the same is true of our relationship with God. I invite you to add just 5 minutes of quiet reflection into your prayer time this Lent or begin 5 minutes if you do not have time now. See what God may be speaking to your heart. God is waiting.

Blessings for a holy Lent,

Kelly

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## LENTEN WORSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

Ash Wednesday service will be on February 17 at 7:00PM.

Our Lenten book study will be Marcus Borg [Reading the Bible again for the First Time](#). We will be joining with folks at Trinity for conversation about this great book on Wednesdays of Lent beginning on Wednesday, February 24 at 6:00PM. We will meet for a simple supper followed by discussion.

*Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* is Marcus Borg's follow-up to [Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time](#). Like his earlier book, this one is written for lay people whose faith has been frustrated by their misapprehension that fundamentalism's claim to be the one true faith is valid. Borg, a professor of religion at Oregon State University, describes an alternative to fundamentalists' so-called "literal" readings of scripture. (He believes that such "literal-factual" readings do not live up to that description, and that the limitations of such readings have alienated many people who would otherwise remain part of the church.) Borg calls his alternative "historical-metaphorical" reading, a way of "taking the Bible seriously without taking it literally." *Reading the Bible* begins with a history of recent conflicts regarding biblical interpretation. Borg navigates the minefields of his subject with sensitivity and precision, explaining, for example, the important distinction between evangelical and fundamentalist readings of the Bible. He then offers historical-metaphorical readings of some key texts from both the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. Throughout, Borg writes with calm assurance and respect for those who would disagree with him. *Reading the Bible* is a credible guide to the project it names. It is a faithful exercise of reason, undertaken to help Christians hear more clearly the many voices recorded in the Bible. --Michael Joseph Gross

Lenten reflection booklets will be available in the back of church beginning, Sunday, February 7.

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## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

February 5-6 – Diocesan Winter Convocation  
February 7 – Lenten Reflection Booklets  
February 7 – Annual Meeting  
February 14 – Toledo Symphony  
February 16 – Shrove Tuesday  
February 16 – Vestry  
February 17 – Ash Wednesday  
February 21 – Chuck E Cheese  
February 28 – All Saints'  
February 28 – Community Meal

### LOOKING AHEAD to March

March 10 – ECW  
March 14 – Daylight Savings Time  
March 15 – Deanery ECW  
March 17 – Vestry  
March 28 – Palm Sunday  
March 28 – Community Meal

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## TOLEDO SYMPHONY

Toledo Symphony Neighborhood Concert at St. Andrew's. Sunday, February 14, 2010 at 3:00PM. On Valentine's Day afternoon, come hear selections from Mendelssohn, Bernstein, Elgar, Gershwin and more. Tickets are \$15. Students - \$10. Reception with Conductor and musicians to follow. Call (419) 473-1367 for tickets and information.

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## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN NEWS

The next **St. Mark's ECW** meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 10** at 12:30pm in the Schilling Room.

**Toledo Deanery ECW** will meet again on **Monday, March 15**. Program presenter is to be Judy Paffenberger. If you enjoyed her program at the St. Mark's June luncheon, be sure to save this date for another inspiring presentation.

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## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

**Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be on February 16 beginning at 5:30PM.** Come join your friends for a great supper of pancakes and bacon. Cost is \$5 per person or \$15 for a family. All proceeds will go to support our youth mission trip this summer.

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## WORSHIP WITH ALL SAINTS'

We will be celebrating Black History month with All Saints' on **Sunday, February 28 at 10:00AM** at All Saints. They are located just off Collingwood Blvd. on Pinewood. If you would like to participate in the service, please let Kelly know. We will have our 8:00AM service as usual.

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## WINTER FUND RAISER

Help support St. Mark's. We are asking all parishioners to sell coupon books. They are full of coupons for restaurants, auto repair, dry cleaners and entertainment in the Toledo area. They cost \$20 and for every one that we sell, St. Mark's earns \$8 which is a 40% return. Sample books and order forms will be available on January 3.

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## DIOCESAN WINTER CONVOCATION

The second Winter Convocation will once again be held at the Holiday Inn in Perrysburg, but with a somewhat reconfigured program. The theme is evangelism, but it offers Episcopalians some very practical advice about what evangelism is and isn't and how even we Episcopalians can practice faith sharing in ways we never dreamed. The event begins **Friday, February 5**, at 5 p.m. with a reception around the pool, then music and worship with our assisting bishop, the Rt. Rev. David Bowman. It continues **Saturday, February 6**, through 4 p.m., starting with a forum with Martha Grace Reese, author of *Unbinding the Gospel*. The brochure for the [2010 Winter Convocation](#) can be downloaded. You can also register online for [Winter Convocation](#).

"Here is a truth about the Diocese of Ohio and probably about most of the Episcopal Church, as well. We know that living our life with faith in Jesus Christ and living that faith out in the life of the Episcopal Church is great. We know, too, that we really want to share it with others, but something stops us from doing that. [This convocation] is a fresh way to discover how to share your faith in a way that is genuinely exciting and fun. If you've ever wanted to share your faith with others, this will help you do that," said Brad Purdom, Canon for Congregations, who is designing the Winter Convocation.

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## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting is **Sunday, February 7** following the 10:30AM service. Election of Vestry members, Convention delegates and Mission Area Council representatives will take place along with conversation about the budget for 2010. Please bring your favorite dish to share for the potluck.

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## CHUCK E. CHEESE'S

Our annual winter outing to Chuck E. Cheese's on Monroe St. will be **Sunday, February 21** after the 10:30AM service.

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## COMMUNITY MEAL

The February Community meal will be **Sunday, February 28**. St. Michael's will be here to help us, but we need your help as always.

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If you have any questions or suggestions about St. Mark's, please feel welcome to contact one of our vestry members:

Bob Morris, Sr. Warden ~ 419-320-0728 ~ [rem766662@yahoo.com](mailto:rem766662@yahoo.com)  
Jessica Datta, Jr. Warden ~ 419-861-0944 ~ [dattas@buckeye-express.com](mailto:dattas@buckeye-express.com)  
Diane Polishuk, Clerk ~ 419-861-0369 ~ [dmariern77@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmariern77@sbcglobal.net)  
Karen Cornwell ~ 419-861-3932 ~ [kcornwell@hotmail.com](mailto:kcornwell@hotmail.com)  
Bettye Jo Hansbarger ~ 419-534-2230 ~ [bjh@glasscity.net](mailto:bjh@glasscity.net)  
Terry Kahler ~ 419-382-5090 ~ [drkahler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drkahler@sbcglobal.net)  
Marj Monhollen ~ 419-662-7735 ~ [marjm24@aol.com](mailto:marjm24@aol.com)  
Larry Scharf ~ 419-824-7823 ~ [heidiandhans@hotmail.com](mailto:heidiandhans@hotmail.com)  
Bill Wray ~ 419-729-9312  
Lourdes Santiago ~ 419-843-2010 ~ [losamil101849@aol.com](mailto:losamil101849@aol.com)  
David Bingham ~ 419-386-9991 ~ [nursebingham59@aol.com](mailto:nursebingham59@aol.com)  
Ted Ligibel ~ 734-854-7990 ~ [tedlig@verizon.net](mailto:tedlig@verizon.net)  
Vestry meetings are usually the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm, except July and August, when meetings are cancelled.

## SUNDAY FLOWERS

7 Mrs. John Joseph, Sr. & Family in loving memory of her husband and their father and grandfather, Mr. John Joseph, Sr.

14 Judith Blair Miller in loving memory of her parents, Hazel & Jules Blair and her brother, Bryce Hilton Blair.

21 Nancy Merriam in loving memory of her husband, John Merriam and Gordon P Merriam.

28 The people of St. Mark's in loving memory of those who have died.

*For information on how you can provide Sunday flowers in memory of someone, or in honor of someone or some event, contact*

## BIRTHDAYS

1 Liam McCullough-Campbell  
10 Nancy Merriam  
12 Eric Lehman  
15 Bob Butler  
15 Dennis Kanfield  
17 Martha Delgado  
17 Margaret Weber  
24 Bill Wray

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

15 Martha Delgado/Lourdes Santiago  
21 Ted & Patty Gillespie

*Missing or incorrect birthdays or anniversaries? Let the church office know!*

## FROM THE LECTIONARY

Our Sunday readings come from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which is a collection of carefully selected Scripture readings for the church year, which repeats every three years. The RCL is used to varying degrees by many mainline denominations. For more information about the RCL and for it full-text online, see the Vanderbilt Divinity Library web page at <http://divinity.library.vanderbilt.edu/lectionary/> (We're in Year B.)



February 7

Isaiah 6: 1-8

Psalm 138

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Luke 5: 1-11

February 17 – Ash Wednesday

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

Psalm 51: 1-17

2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

February 28

Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

Phillipians 3: 176-4:1

Luke 13: 31-35

February 14

Exodus 34: 29-35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3: 12-4:2

Luke 9: 28-36

February 21

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16

Romans 10: 8b-13

Luke 4: 1-13

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## THANK YOU!



A big thank you to all who helped with the Christmas decorations this year; especially those who purchased memorial poinsettias and the memorial fund that donated new items.

To Mike Barthold, Andrew Pelletier, Dave Beckwith, Lindsay Potts, Ray & Pat Squire, Jean Schaefer, Dave Bingham, Eric Williams, Dolores Gulotta, Fran Carr, and Kelly O'Connell for installation.

To Ray & Pat Squire, Jane Hamilton, Kyle Grief, Jane Musgrave, Dave Bingham, Tylor North and Kelly O'Connell for removal and storage.

If I missed anyone, blame it on my age.

Wayne North

Thank you to the Steele family who funded many of our new Christmas decorations through a memorial fund for their mother, Ginny Steele.

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## EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

Easter Flower Memorials will be due by **March 14**. Order forms will be provided in the back of the church.

# IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

## parish prayer list: petitions, intercessions, thanksgivings

We are all invited to pray throughout the month, asking for God's healing and comfort for those who have asked for it. We often do not know the people or what their prayer request is; we are invited, then, simply to open our hearts in prayer for them, asking for the fulfillment of what they need, and for God to extend blessings to them in any way God is able.

*If you have a name you wish to have added (including your own), please call the office, remembering that if you want the name to be on the list longer than a month, please call to renew that request.*

### *Those in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity*

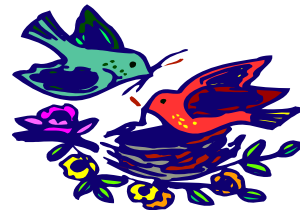
Ryan Disher  
Dennis & Carol  
Kanfield  
Linda Keblesh  
Brad Bingham  
Jordan Stone  
Ray Tarsha &  
Family  
Natalie Jackson

### *In Thanksgiving*

### *Homebound*

### *Recently Deceased*

Robert Squire  
Mike Piacentino



### **Others to Keep in Our Prayers**

- ◆ Kelly, our priest; Bob Morris, our senior warden, and Jessica Datta, our junior warden; other members of the vestry, parish staff, and other parish leaders
- ◆ Bishop Mark Hollingsworth, his staff, and all parishes in the Diocese of Ohio
- ◆ The Episcopal Church; Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori; the Anglican Communion; Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams
- ◆ Servicemen and women serving around the world and in the US

Please pray also for those groups who find a welcoming space at St. Mark's:

Young People's AA, Monday, 8:00 pm  
AA/LLL, Sunday & Wednesday, 8:00 pm  
Rainbow Area Youth, Wednesdays, 7:00 pm  
AA, Friday, 7:00 pm  
SAA, Tuesday, 8:00 pm & Thursday, 7:00 pm  
Dignity, Thursday, 8:00 pm

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL; PLEASE HANDLE PROMPTLY**

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
2272 Collingwood Blvd.  
Toledo, OH 43620  
(419) 244-3707  
*stmarkstol@aol.com*  
*http://www.stmarkstoledo.org*

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mailing list or contact the church office.

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## St. Mark's

### MISSION

St. Mark's is a diverse and inclusive Christian community,  
welcoming all to common ground, to creatively grow in faith  
and service to each other, our community, and a loving God.

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:00 am** our intimate, meditative service
- 10:30 am** our larger service, with music and  
singing; special homily for children

### RECTOR

The Rev. Kelly O'Connell

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Christina Laberge

### ORGANIST

Michael Gartz

### OFFICE MANAGER

Marilyn McCoy

### VESTRY OFFICERS

Senior Warden ~ Bob Morris  
Junior Warden ~ Jessica Datta  
Clerk ~ Diane Polishuk

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The Rev. Kelly O'Connell

## MARCH

**newsletter deadline:**

**February 15**

*mailto:stmarkstol@aol.com*