



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LAMPASAS, TEXAS

OPEN TO ALL LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS SERVING OTHERS

LOVED BY GOD

THE MESSENGER

APRIL 2015

Note From the Editor

St. Mary's is in the process of reviving our monthly newsletter. We ask your patience as we begin this activity. We can't guarantee a constant flow of stellar prose, but we'll be making every effort to make our newsletter something you wait anxiously to read every month and one you would want to pass on to your friends. Now, don't chuckle too loudly or think to yourself, "yeah, right," because we're going to be asking once again for your help to make this all possible.

We want to know what **you** want to know.

For instance, if you would prefer a larger print style to make it easier to read, send it in to us. If you would really like to know more about St. Cecilia, send it in to us. We're open to anything you can come up with right now as we start a brand new newsletter.

Suggestions will be gratefully received via email to www.ourstmarys.org, or by dropping it off at the office, or even by snail mail to the office at St. Mary's.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 29
Lampasas, TX 76550

We also anticipate a Letters to the Editor Section and would welcome your thoughts. If Rev. Susie had a sermon which touched your heart, or provided a message you needed to hear at that given time, let us know. If you absolutely hated that article in last

month's newsletter on "This is Your Life," for example, let us know.

We would hope that you would want to share your interests with us by submitting your own articles for publication. If you happened to go to the Bible College concert at Grace Methodist and really enjoyed it, share it with the rest of us by drafting up something for the newsletter.

We also need to ask for your help to get events and other happenings on the calendar. If St. Mary's Relay for Life Team is going to be selling something to raise money, for example, send it in via email or drop a note by the office or into the mail.

We're also anticipating a Want Ads section in which we will publish things needed by our parishioners. If you need a volunteer to drive you to the Dr. next month, as an example, we can put it into the newsletter for you.

The newsletter will be available on the website and printed copies will be available in the office. Oh, and by the way, we **really** will try for that "stellar prose."

And now a word from Rev. Susie.....

What a relief and joy it is to be able to sing and say the Alleluias! The meditative, introspective season of Lent has been replaced with the rejoicing of Easter, and Christ's resurrection. I am grateful for the dedication and efforts of so many in our congregation: for our choir and Glenna our Organist, our worship leaders, acolytes and ushers, the altar

guild and vestry, for the Easter eggs and appearance of flowers for flowering the cross and especially for all who have worshipped with us throughout the season of Lent into Holy Week and Easter. Our common life, in worship and fellowship is rich with the shared efforts of so many. I truly am blessed to be your priest, and witness your faithfulness!

Confirmations, and a special Address by our Diocesan Bishop, Andy Doyle, to our congregation, are scheduled for Sunday, April 19th, followed by a wonderful lunch in the Parish Hall. Please come welcome our Bishop AND our newest members, at the 10 o'clock service!

(Take a looking the Columbarium garden at our blooming cross vines, on the fence. Soon the Anacho orchid will be blooming, and next to the air conditioner, several smaller flowering plants are in bloom.

BISHOP DOYLE'S VISIT

We thought it might be interesting, in view of the Bishop's visit to St. Mary's, to know a little bit more about him...



Charles Andrew Doyle (Andy) was born in 1966 in Carbondale, Illinois, and raised in Houston. *(As they say, he wasn't born here, but got here as soon as he could.)*

He holds a bachelor of fine arts from the University of North Texas and served at St. Stephen's Episcopal School, Austin before receiving a M.Div. from Virginia Theological Seminary. He was ordained deacon in 1995 and priest the following year. He served at Christ Church, Temple and St. Francis, College Station, Texas, prior to his appointment to the diocesan staff as Canon to the Ordinary in 2003.

He was elected bishop coadjutor of the Diocese of Texas on May 24, 2008 and was consecrated on November 22, 2008 at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Houston. He was seated as the ninth Bishop of Texas on June 7, 2009 at Christ Church

Cathedral, Houston, following the retirement of the Rt. Rev. Don Wimberly.

His bio states that he believes reaching more and different audiences through electronic means will help build the body of Christ and regularly uses Twitter and Facebook to have conversations with church members and those looking for a church home. *(we checked out his Facebook and Twitter pages. If you're familiar with social media, we suggest you take a look for a deeper insight into the man.)*

He encourages innovative and grass roots efforts to plant new Episcopal communities.

He is a published author and accomplished painter, and he and his wife JoAnne have two daughters, Zoe and Caisa. *(Summarized from the official bio)*

We look forward to the Bishop's visit and the opportunity to welcome our new members. Hope to see you there – don't forget to mark your calendar!

SHEPHERD SUNDAY

The first Sunday in May, May 3, is Shepherd Sunday, with Christian Formation. Child care is available in the nursery (the story of the Good Shepherd will be taught in Godly Play), and breakfast tacos will be available in addition to the coffee and donuts!!

At 9:15 – Story of the Good Shepherd in Godly Play, which ends at 9:45, in time for a breakfast taco, and a choice of grown-up church or nursery for the kids. (Grown-ups can enjoy a time of fellowship while their kids have their class).

Come join the fun and meet other parents and grandparents, while the kids enjoy their lesson!

See Upcoming Events on the last page and mark your calendars. We'll have a full month next time.

Also check out our website to see the calendar. It is being updated more often than this newsletter.

DID YOU KNOW?

(Contributed by Bunny Gunn-Johnson)

Because we celebrate the Feast of St. Mark this month, on April 25th, I thought it might be of interest to learn a little bit more about him. What I discovered is that there is more to St. Mark than I expected. The simple story is that he is the traditional author of the second Gospel, founded the church in Africa, was the first Bishop of Alexandria, and his symbol as an evangelist is a lion. I found that he is the patron saint of Barristers, Glaziers, Notaries, Venice, Italy, Mainar, Spain, and Egypt.

What I didn't know was that there are three Mark's mentioned in the Bible and according to Hippolytus of Rome, they were three different Marks, i.e., Mark the Evangelist, John Mark, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas, who all belonged to the "Seventy Disciples" who were sent out by Jesus into Judea to spread the Gospel. That said, the accepted tradition is that the biblical references are all the same man. His name was John Mark and his mother, Mary, had a house in Jerusalem which the Christians used as a meeting place. "When [Peter] realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying." Acts 12:12

I found at least two references to his early background as being born in Cyrene, in what is now Libya, of Jewish parents who belonged to the tribe of Levite. His family lost their property when the area in which they lived was attacked by barbarians, and they moved to Jerusalem. Quoted from the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States, "Apparently, he was given a good education and became conversant in both Greek and Latin in addition to Hebrew. His family was highly religious and in close relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. His cousin was St. Barnabas and his father's cousin was St. Peter. His mother, Mary, played an important part in the early days of the Church in Jerusalem. Her upper room became the first Christian church in the world where the Lord Jesus Christ Himself instituted the Holy Eucharist. Also, this is the same

place where the Lord appeared to the disciples after His resurrection and His Holy Spirit came upon them."

When St. Barnabas and St. Paul started on St. Paul's first apostolic journey to Antioch, Cyprus and Asia Minor, they had Mark with them, possibly as an interpreter and/or assistant. For some reason, however, Mark left them after they had sailed to Perga, and returned home. One reference cited a disagreement with Paul. On their second trip, St. Paul refused to take him along because he left them on the previous mission. This led to the separation of Paul and Barnabas, and when Barnabas sailed to Cyprus, he took Mark with him.

When Peter was arrested by Herod Agrippa I in the first year of Herod's reign over Judea, he was miraculously saved by angels and escaped. (Acts 12:1-19). He began his travels, visiting various churches, and arrived in Rome in the second year of Emperor Claudius, about AD 42.



St. Mark writes his Evangelium at the dictation of St. Peter, by Pasquale Ottino, 17th century, Beaux-Arts, Bordeaux

Mark went with Peter as a travel companion and interpreter and wrote down the sermons of Peter, thus composing the Gospel according to Mark. (Eccl.Hist. 15-16)

Papias, Bishop of Hierapolis, (AD 140), gives the earliest account of who wrote the Gospels and Eusebius preserves two verbatim excerpts from Papias. On Mark, Papias cites John the Elder: "The Elder used to say: Mark, in his capacity as Peter's interpreter, wrote down accurately as many things as he recalled from memory – though not in an ordered form – of the things either said or done by the Lord. For he neither heard the Lord nor accompanied him, but later, as I said, Peter, who used to give his teachings in the form of *chreiai*, (a brief, useful anecdote), but had no intention of providing an ordered arrangement of the *logia* (reference to communications of divine origin) of the

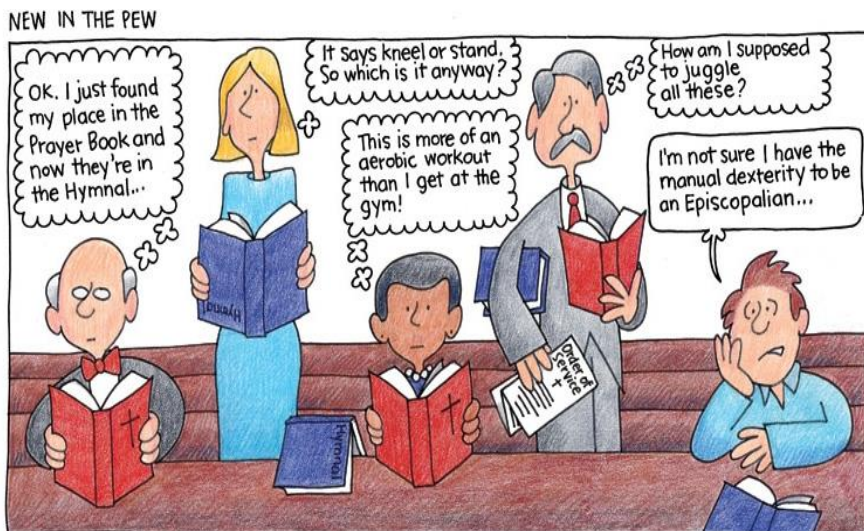
Lord. Consequently Mark did nothing wrong when he wrote down some individual items just as he related them from memory. For he made it his one concern not to omit anything he had heard or to falsify anything.”

Peter calls Mark “my son,” which seems to show the relationship the two had. The Gospel of Mark is widely believed to be the first written of the four Gospels and one reference states that it was written shortly after Peter’s death in about AD 64-65.

Coptic tradition places Mark’s death in AD 68 when he achieved martyrdom by being dragged through the city of Alexandria until he died, though I saw one reference that he died of natural causes.

(We welcome any contributed articles you think might be of interest. Please submit yours for next month’s Messenger)

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:10



CLASSIFIEDS

VOICES WANTED FOR ST. MARY’S CHOIR. NO AUDITION REQUIRED. Contact Richard Hammett, Choir Leader, or just come to practice. We meet every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at the church. It would be really great to have many voices in the choir for the Bishop’s visit and there’s **just two weeks left to practice.**

WANTED: EVERYONE TO BRING AT LEAST ONE FRIEND TO CHURCH DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL.

Please keep going. Our upcoming Events section is on a separate page for those who wish to print it and keep it handy.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

5:00 p.m. CHOIR PRACTICE
Voices Needed

6:00 p.m. VESTRY MEETING
Hirst House

All are welcome to attend. See how your Vestry works for you.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

8:00 a.m. **TRASH PICK-UP HAS BEEN CANCELED**
BUT MAY BE RESCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 18.
CHECK THE WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR CONFIRMATION.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

8:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

9:00 a.m. ECW

9:00 a.m. Adult Formation

10:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

5:00 p.m. Brownies
Meet in Parish Hall

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

8:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

9:00 a.m. Adult Formation

10:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
BISHOP C. ANDREW DOYLE

Following the 10:00 a.m. service, Bishop Doyle would like to meet with parishioners for a short talk. If you attend the 8:00 a.m. service, please come back and join us as we meet with the bishop.

VESTRY MEETING WITH BISHOP DOYLE
Following the meeting with parishioners.

LUNCH IN HONOR OF BISHOP DOYLE