

Join us as we live out "Real Faith for Real Life" together!



# St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Weekly E-News

February 27, 2020

## Your Weekly News & Updates

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[Visit Our Website](#)

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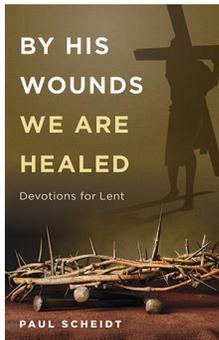
## The Joy and Discipline of Lent begin This Week

Episcopalians and Anglicans love Lent. The call to be introspective suits us. The length of the season is manageable. Our need for self-examination and repentance is obvious. The rewards come Holy Week and Easter are incomparable.

But now that Lent is here, what are you actually doing? How about picking up a copy of "The Cross: How the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Changed Everything"? This devotional goes deeply into the transformative work of Christ on Good Friday and Easter.

Readers of this devotional will join a group meeting on Sundays after church to talk about the week's readings. Ron George will lead the discussion, which starts this Sunday in the sanctuary at 11:45AM.

If you'd rather have an individual, more private devotional discipline for Lent, pick up a copy of "By His Wounds We Are Healed."



The devotional books will be available Sunday in the entry way. The suggested donation is a rock-solid bargain at \$2.

## The Encounter Launches Only a Few Openings Left!



Registrations poured in late. We combined the Encounter's launch with our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. So our first meeting was blessed by piles of pancakes and loads of handshakes.

If you are still thinking about The Encounter, grab a brochure from the name tag table on Sunday, fill out the form, and put it in the offering basket. Or, [Click here](#) for a copy of just the registration form if you'd like to print your own. The program starts at 7PM. A light dinner is offered at 6:30PM.

Seniors in high school are welcome to join the adults. Bring your children! They will have their own program.



There is no cost to the Tuesday Night Program. There will be a retreat midway through the course, April 3-5, at Camp Zephyr near Mathis. The cost will be nominal.



**THE ENCOUNTER - 2020**

**Mark your Calendars today!**

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# The Scoop on "Confession"

## The Reconciliation of a Penitent

### WHAT IS "CONFESSION"?

The Reconciliation of a Penitent, commonly called "Confession," is a sacrament of the Church. Its purpose is neither to condemn nor to condone a sinner, but rather to help a Christian who is experiencing an obstacle to grace and



peace. Sins are confessed to God in the presence of a priest. The brief meeting is completely confidential. \* Absolution is declared when the penitent is truly sorry for his or her sins. The form for the rite is in *The Book of Common Prayer*, p. 447 or 449. To continue reading, [click here](#).



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## Ashes to Go

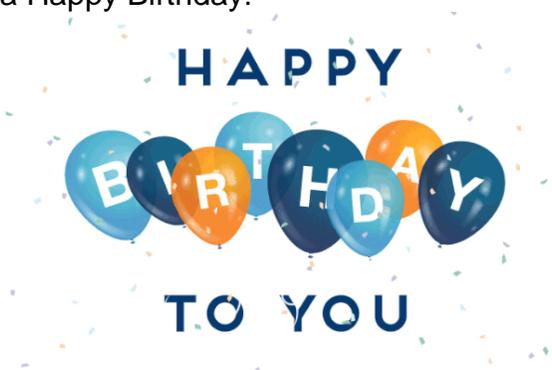
Yesterday was Ash Wednesday. It has become a St. Mark's tradition to offer Ashes to Go for those who aren't able to get to an actual service. The day was brisk, but Fr. John, Rodney and John braved the wind and cold to make sure that ashes were available to anyone who wanted them.

In the afternoon Ron George, Susan Ames, Maria Skidmore and Doug Wayland ministered to motorists for two more hours. We praise the Lord for these little meetings and powerful prayers marking a season of penitence and hope for a new start in our spiritual lives.



## Birthdays for This Week

Last Sunday was our Confirmation Sunday. We were not able to acknowledge our parishioners who had birthdays during the week during the service as is our custom, so here are the names of those who are celebrating their birthdays this week: John DeMontel, Alise Evans and Josie Reily. Be sure to wish them a Happy Birthday!



**Daylight Savings Goes Into Affect  
Saturday Night  
March 7th!**



**Search Continues for New  
Youth Director and  
Children's Ministry Director**

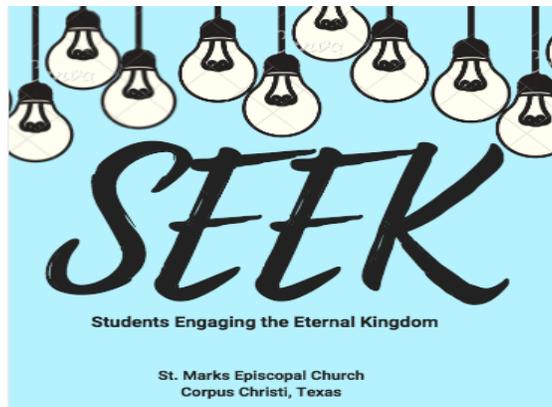
**Job flyers available-click the links below.**

The search has been underway to find two special people: our new Youth Director and Children's Ministry Director. The job flyer for the Youth Director is available [here](#) and the Children's Ministry Director is [here](#). Share this link with those you think might be interested in either position.

**The MOST important part of this process is PRAYER!**

Please pray for:

- the persons whom God intends to fill these positions
- God to make the path easy for them
- unity in our decision process
- our youth group and children's ministry during this time of transition
- anything else that the Holy Spirit leads you to pray



**SEEK Youth Ministry**  
**Students Engaging the Eternal Kingdom**

"But SEEK first His Kingdom and His Righteousness, and all things will be given to you."  
Matthew 6:33

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**Schedule:**

**Sunday, March 1 11:45 am-- SEEK Youth Group**

**Please note: We will not have SEEK Youth Group during spring break, 3/8 and 3/15.**

**Please pray for our next Youth Director.  
We trust that God is already working in the life of  
this person to bring him or her to us.**

Below are some helpful links for SEEK Youth Ministry.

[St. Mark's Youth Facebook Page](#)

[Diocesan Youth Ministry Events](#)

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## Children's Ministry



**Sunday, March 1 11:45 am -- Kids in Christ**

**Please note: We will not have Kids in Christ during spring break, 3/8 and 3/15.**

**Please pray for our next Children's Ministry Director. We trust that God is already working in the life of this person to bring him or her to us.**

\* Children's Chapel--during the 10:00 am worship service

\* Kids in Christ--begins after fellowship time, about 11:45 am, after the Sunday morning service

Kids in Christ Children's Ministry is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

Click here [St. Mark's Kids in Christ Facebook](#) to go to St. Mark's Kids in Christ Facebook page.

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## Calendar and Ministry Schedule

Click [here](#) for March Lay Ministry Schedule.

Let the office know if you can fill any of the open spots. **THANK YOU!**

### March 1 - Sunday

9:00 am - Adult Bible Study--Fellowship Hall Library

10:00 am - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary

11:15 am - Coffee Fellowship--Fellowship Hall

11:45 am - Kids in Christ--Fellowship Hall KIC Area

SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall Youth Room

The Cross--Sanctuary Parlor

### March 2 - Monday

11:30 am - Women's Book Study--Fellowship Hall Library

6:30 pm - Vestry Bible Study/Leaders Meeting--Fr. John & Melanie's Home

### March 3 - Tuesday

10:00 am - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library  
1:00 pm - H.U.T. Chess Club--Fellowship Hall  
6:30 pm - Encounter Course--Fellowship Hall  
7:00 pm - Bible Study and Prayer Group--Sanctuary

#### **March 4 - Wednesday**

10:00 am - Brookdale Bible Study--Brookdale Senior Living Center  
11:30 am - Old Guys Lunch Bunch--Location to be determined

#### **March 5 - Thursday**

6:45 am - Elders Prayer Group--Sanctuary Parlor

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## Helpful Links

Below you will find several links to websites or Facebook Pages that you might find helpful.

[St. Mark's Church Website](#)

[Donate to St. Mark's Church](#)

[St. Mark's Church Facebook](#)

[St. Mark's Youth Ministry Facebook](#)

[St. Mark's Children's Ministry Facebook](#)

[EMC2 Facebook](#)

[Diocese of West Texas Website](#)

[Diocesan Newsletter and Reflection Magazine](#)

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