

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

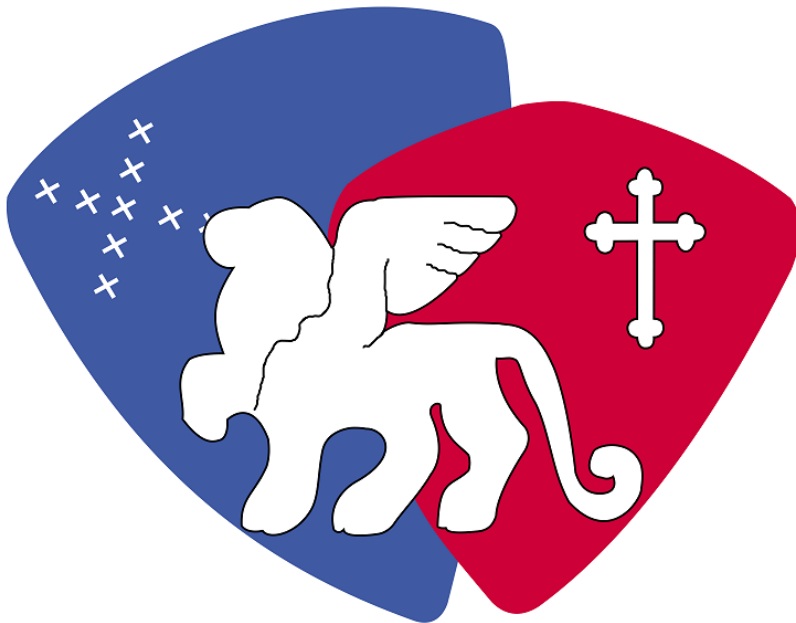
Our Vision:

To grow in Christ through worship and service

Our Mission:

Called to be Christ Centered

Touching Lives + Transforming Hearts + Teaching God's Word



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Phone 704-864-4531

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www.stmarksgastonia.org

Readings Appointed for
The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



The Collect

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your lovingkindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson

Genesis 21:8-21

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Psalm

86:1-10, 16-17

- 1 Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me, *
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; *
save your servant who puts his trust in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God; *
I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 Gladden the soul of your servant, *
for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- 5 For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving, *
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
- 6 Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, *
and attend to the voice of my supplications.
- 7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, *
for you will answer me.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD, *
nor anything like your works.
- 9 All nations you have made will come and worship you, O LORD, *
and glorify your Name.
- 10 For you are great;
you do wondrous things; *
and you alone are God.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

The Epistle

Romans 6:1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him

by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and remembering with gratitude the life of Colin Thorpe by Marilyn Almcrantz*

Announcements with:

Birthday Prayer

BCP pg. 830

Anniversary Prayer

BCP pg. 431

Offertory

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Piet Post

Presentation

Doxology

The Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

BCP pg. 372

Sanctus

Hymnal S 129

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP pg. 364

The Breaking of the Bread (*The Fraction*)

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154

The Ministration of the Communion

During communion, or after the service, the chapel is open for intercessory prayer, with Steve Thomas serving as intercessor.

Communion Hymns **“Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken”**

Hymnal pg. 301

“I Come with Joy to Meet my Lord”

Hymnal pg. 304

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Hymnal pg. 602

Post Communion Prayer

BCP pg. 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn **“God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him”**

Hymnal pg. 379

Dismissal

Postlude

“Built on the Rock”

Michael Burkhardt

Announcements

ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JESUS IS MY ROCK

July 18, 2026
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Crafts Jam packed with exciting
Games 'rocky' summer activities!

Bible Stations Preschool to Grade 6
Ice Cream Social Lunch Included

Registration Required
No Fee

All Saints
Episcopal Church

(704)864-7201
1201 S. New Hope Road • Gastonia, NC 28054



Community Garden

Our regular garden crew works hard on Saturday mornings to keep the beds healthy and thriving, and they'd welcome a few extra hands. Watering and light weeding are the biggest needs right now. If you have a few minutes around 10:00 AM on a Saturday, reach out to the office or to Travis Johnson to see how you can help.

CPR and AED Training



Join us at All Saints for an engaging, one-day American Red Cross certification course. In just four hours, you will gain the confidence and hands-on skills needed to save lives across all age groups.

What You Will Learn

- **Lifesaving Techniques:** Hands-on CPR for infants, children, and adults.
- **AED Operation:** How to safely assist someone experiencing cardiac arrest.
- **Practical Training:** Real-world scenarios guided by expert instructional videos.

Class Details

- **Date:** Saturday, July 25
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (4 hours)
- **Location:** All Saints

Registration Bonus:

We have **three free slots left** available at no cost to the participant. Send an email to Reverend Tara at rector@allsaintsgastonia.org.

Sermon Copies?

Fr. Allan has received several verbal requests for copies of various Sunday sermons. While honored and delighted to provide such, it is preferred that you email your request to his attention at: rallanmcc@gmail.com.



you are invited to

BISHOP JOSÉ'S

Farewell Party

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A JOYFUL & FUN-FILLED
CELEBRATION OF BISHOP JOSÉ'S FAITHFUL SERVICE
IN THE DIOCESE OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.
DRESS IS CASUAL AND LUNCH IS PROVIDED.



AUGUST 1, 2026 | 12:30-3:30 P.M.

Christ School | Arden, North Carolina



Deanery Community Resilience & Preparedness Day

June 27, 2026



Episcopal Relief & Development
Working Together for Lasting Change

9am-1pm

St. Francis Episcopal Church,

Rutherfordton

free, lunch provided

SCHEDULE FOR LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS – JUNE 2026

	June 7 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost	June 14 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	June 21 4 th Sunday after Pentecost	June 28 5 th Sunday after Pentecost
Lay Reader 9:30 AM	Ot: Pete Laine Ps: Pete Laine Epistle: Nancy Byers Prayers: Yolanda Laine	Ot: Richard Martinez Ps: Richard Martinez Ep: Jay Barnes Prayers: Bonnie Kieffer	Ot: Linda Galda Ps: Linda Galda Ep: Barbara Hartsell Prayers: Ed Galda	Ot: Donna Dillon Ps: Donna Dillon EP: Joe Bieker Prayers: Barbara Hartsell
Ushers	Blaine Rudisill Cookie Rudisill	Steve Campbell Chappell Harris	Walter Hobbs George Sowersby	Hyce Bull Jessie Paradise
Greeters	Anna Carsner Richard Carsner	Jessie Paradise Danelle Blackwell	Bev Bieker Marilyn Walters	Fitzgeralds
Acolytes	C: Alex Griffin G: Emma Kate Griffin	C: Kenya Pond G: Kenslie DeCastro	C: Mason McCarey G: Millie Lampke	C: Jake Barker G: Nora Johnson
Nursery		Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake
Preacher	Fr. R. Allan McCaslin	Rev. Deacon Cathy Wesson	Fr. R. Allan McCaslin	Fr. R. Allan McCaslin
Flowers		Leslie Harris	Marilyn Almcrantz	Chappell Harris
Altar Guild	Bev Bieker	Mary Fitzgerald Gloria Bull	Yolanda Laine Pat Townsend	Penny Barker Pat Townsend
Coffee Hour	Mike & Patti Tamberella	Tim & Fe McLaughlin	Mike & Patti Tamberella	Mike & Patti Tamberella
Vestry Lock-Up	Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters

To Our Guests

If you are traveling or visiting family and friends from out of town, we wish you a safe and peaceful journey. If you are seeking a church home and looking for a new or deeper relationship with God in Christ, we hope that you will take some time and just be among us. We want to learn who you are, worship with you, and share in your spiritual journey.

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. R. Allan McCaslin.....	<i>Interim Priest</i>
The Ven. Brenda M. Gilbert.....	<i>Archdeacon, Dio. of Western NC</i>
The Rev. Deacon Cathy Wesson.....	<i>Deacon</i>
Ms. Dionne Browning.....	<i>Business Administrator</i>
Ms. Debbie Brake.....	<i>Nursery</i>
Ms. Beverly Bieker.....	<i>Office Assistant</i>
Mr. Kris Kiser.....	<i>Church Sexton</i>

CURRENT VESTRY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Mr. Eric Lampke, '27.....	<i>Senior Warden, Bldgs-Grounds</i>
Mrs. Judy Jackson Malina, '26.....	<i>Junior Warden, Outreach</i>
Dr. Blaine Rudisill, '26.....	<i>Pastoral Care</i>
Mrs. Suzanne Whatley, '25.....	<i>Parish Life</i>
Mrs. Fe McLaughlin, '26.....	<i>Parish Life, Newcomers</i>
Ms. Marilyn Walters, '26.....	<i>In-reach</i>
Mr. George Sowersby, '27.....	<i>Buildings and Grounds</i>
Mrs. Pat Townsend, '27.....	<i>In-reach</i>
Ms. Dionne R. Browning.....	<i>Vestry Clerk</i>
Mr. Steve Campbell.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mrs. Kenna Watts.....	<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>