

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Welcome .....	2
Table of Contents.....	3
Children’s Christian Formation Calendar.....	4
Children’s Programs.....	5-6
Youth Ministries .....	7-8
Adult Ministries.....	8-12
Young Families & Singles .....	13
Men’s Ministries.....	14
Music Ministries.....	14-16
Women’s Ministries.....	17
Fellowship Opportunities.....	17
Outreach .....	18
Evangelism.....	18

# 2011-2012 CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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- September 11** Rally Day
- September 18** Classes begin
- September 23-25** Confirmation Retreat
- October 9** NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
(*SMCS Open House*)
- October 21-23** EYC Grace Retreat
- November 20** NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
(*Thanksgiving Break*)
- November 27** Christian Formation for Children with their Families  
(*Advent Wreath Construction*)
- December 18** NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
(*Christmas Break*)
- December 24** **Family Eucharist with Children's Christmas Pageant**
- January 8** Classes resume
- January 13-16** EpiSKIpal Ski Trip
- January 22** Special Event with Pizza for Children  
(*Annual Meeting; no classes for youth or adults*)
- March 25** NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
(*Spring Break*)
- April 1** NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
(*Palm Sunday*)
- April 8** NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
(*Easter - Children's Easter Egg Hunt*)
- April 15** Communion Celebration Recognition  
during 10:00am Service and Reception Afterwards
- May 6** Last Day for Classes  
Teacher Recognition during 10:00am Service  
Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (12:30pm at Owensby home)
- May 13** Youth Sunday during 10:00am Service
- May 20** Almost Pentecost Picnic
- June 17-27** Dominican Republic Mission Trip
- July 9-13** Vacation Bible School

# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

## (NURSERY-5TH GRADE)

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Joy Owensby (joy@stmarkscathedral.net)

Children's Christian Formation programs at St. Mark's are designed to provide children of all ages the opportunity to learn about and grow in our faith, serve others, and enjoy Christian fellowship in a friendly and loving atmosphere.

### ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN DURING CHURCH

#### ***Nursery (for infants six weeks old until they are potty trained):***

St. Mark's nursery, located on the second floor across from the Parish Hall, provides a safe, nurturing environment for our youngest children. Staffed by trained childcare workers, the nursery is a two-room suite with separate areas for infants and toddlers. Parents drop their children off before the 10:00am service begins and have the option of picking them up in time for the entire family to receive communion together or leaving them in the nursery until the end of church.

#### ***Children's Chapel***

#### ***(for children who are potty trained through kindergarten):***

When children outgrow the nursery, they move to Children's Chapel, an age-appropriate worship service that includes music, Bible stories, arts and crafts, and a snack. Parents drop their children off in room 102 on the first floor of the Ministry Center before the 10:00am service begins and have the option of picking them up in time for the entire family to receive communion together or leaving them in Children's Chapel until the end of church.

#### ***Prime Time for Kids (for children in 1st-3rd grade):***

Led by volunteer teachers from within the congregation, Prime Time is a child-oriented Bible lesson based on the Sunday lectionary. Children in first through third grade come to the Cathedral with their families for the 10:00am service. At the Gradual Hymn they process out to a nearby room and return to their families at the Offertory.

# GROWING IN FAITH: SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAMS AND MORE

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*(Programs begin on September 18 and conclude on May 6.)*

## ***Nursery (for infants six weeks old until they are potty trained):***

Childcare is provided in our nursery so that parents and older siblings can attend one of our educational offerings that immediately follow the 10:00am service.

## ***Catechesis of the Good Shepherd***

### ***(for children who are potty trained through kindergarten):***

Using the Montessori method of learning, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd teaches young children about the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. In this program, children are given time to listen, reflect, wonder, and pray. Catechesis meets in room 102 on the first floor of the Ministry Center.

## ***Children's Workshop (for 1st-3rd graders):***

Located on the third floor, our elementary program is based on the workshop rotation model. Major Bible stories and concepts are taught through kid-friendly multimedia workshops—art, cooking, storytelling, drama, music, and games. The same Bible story is presented for approximately four sessions, but the children rotate to a different workshop each week.

***C.I.A. (for 4th-5th graders):*** New for 2011-2012, C.I.A. (Christians in Action) is a club created to provide our “tweens” an opportunity for Christian fellowship, spiritual growth and service. In addition to Sunday morning classes using the workshop rotation method, C.I.A. will meet four to six times a year on Sunday afternoons for a fun activity or service project.

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Holiday Fair during Dean's Advent Open House
- Christmas Pageant during 3:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service
- Easter Egg Hunt (following 10:00am service)
- Vacation Bible School

# YOUTH PROGRAMS

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Brooks Boylan (brooks@stmarkscathedral.net)

## SUNDAY MORNING OFFERINGS

### *Middle School and High School*

This year we will be looking at what it means to be disciples. Following the 10:00am service we will meet together for the lesson and video, then break into separate groups for discussion.

### *Confirmation*

Confirmation is our mature commitment to follow Jesus Christ. In Baptism we see that Jesus chooses us. In Confirmation, we choose Jesus. Following Christian Formation Classes, Youth considering Confirmation will gather to learn more about our faith in preparation for this mature commitment. This year the minimum age switches to 9th grade, so all Youth from 9th through 12th grade not yet confirmed are encouraged to attend.

## SUNDAY AFTERNOONS AND BEYOND

***Episcopal Youth Community (EYC):*** Sunday afternoons Youth meet to grow in faith, have fun together, make friends, and do service projects for our community. Some activities will occur at different times, so please keep an eye on the St. Mark's Youth Facebook page.

**Middle School (6th – 8th):** Sundays at 3:00pm

**High School (9th – 12th):** Sundays at 5:00pm

**Formal EYC (6th -12th):** Once a month we will worship as a youth group and eat together.

***Bible Study: Wednesdays at St. Mark's.***

**Middle School (6th – 8th):** 4:00pm

**Dinner together at 5:30pm**

**High School (9th – 12th):** 6:00pm

## YOUTH PROGRAMS (CTND.)

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### ***YOGO (Youth Outreach Going On):***

Watch for announcements. Serving others is an essential aspect of discipleship. We have already made great strides in establishing a sustainable outreach, service, and mission aspect of our program. And we are just getting started!

***Coffice: Mondays at 4PM at Starbuck's on Line Avenue.***

This is our weekly hangout time. It allows us to have unstructured conversations that we may not get to have during our other get-togethers

## ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Dean Jake ([jake@stmarkscathedral.net](mailto:jake@stmarkscathedral.net))

### SUNDAY OFFERINGS

#### **Fall Term**

#### ***Adult Blend: A Christian Coffee House***

Adults with young families and singles gather to share coffee, hear interesting speakers on relevant topics, and share ideas in a relaxed coffee house setting. Following the 10:00am service our Garden Room becomes the Adult Blend Coffee House serving Starbucks Coffee and treats. ***Here are the themes...***

*Hopes and Dreams for Children (September 18-October 2)*

*Understanding my Children (October 16-November 13)*

*Pre-Christmas Decompression (November 27-December 11)*

*Transitions (April 15-May 6)*

#### ***The Reason for God***

**Teachers: Rob and Leslye Gilchrist**

**Place: Ministry Center**

**Dates: September 18 – October 2**

Drawing on Timothy Keller's book of the same title, this class tackles questions confronted by Christians in a skeptical world. Is there really just one true faith? Why does God allow suffering? Isn't Christianity just a narrow-minded moral straitjacket? Hasn't science disproved Christianity?

# ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION (CTND.)

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## *St. Mark's Cathedral School Open House*

Date: October 9

### *Primacy and Polity*

**Teacher: Dr. Cheryl White**

**Place Ministry Center**

**Dates: October 16 – November 13**

What's an Archbishop anyway? How does The Episcopal Church relate to the other Anglican churches of the world? The course examines the governance and polity of our tradition, beginning with the Church of England in its ancient and medieval relations to Rome, through the English Reformation and toward the worldwide communion of churches that exists today.

### *Thanksgiving Break*

**Date: November 20**

### *Advent*

**Teacher: Canon Rowena White**

**Place: Ministry Center**

**Date: November 27**

In preparation for the season of waiting, Canon Rowena explores the spirituality and theology of Advent.

### *Anglican Art*

**Teacher: Robert Trudeau**

**Place: Ministry Center**

**Dates: December 4 – December 11**

A paper, stained-glass artful Holiday Card representative of Anglican architecture made by each member of the class will be one of the outcomes of the Anglican Art class to be taught by Robert Trudeau. The Caddo Magnet teacher (Fine Arts Survey, World Geography) will use readings, projections and sketches - which the class will themselves sketch, despite dearth of talent - to explore the roots and fruition of Anglican art.

# ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION (CTND.)

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## *Confirmation*

**Teacher:** Patrick Caraway

**Place:** Library

**Dates:** September 18 – December 11 (repeated next term also)

This class explores what it means to be an Episcopalian: our beliefs, our worship, our history, and the way our church works. It also familiarizes newcomers with the who, what, how and why of St. Mark's Cathedral. This class is required for adult confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation.

## Winter/Spring Term

### *Adult Blend: A Christian Coffee House*

Adults with young families and singles gather to share coffee, hear interesting speakers on relevant topics, and share ideas in a relaxed coffee house setting. Following the 10:00am service our Garden Room becomes the Adult Blend Coffee House serving Starbucks Coffee and treats.

### *Here are the themes:*

*New Year, New Goals (January 8-15)*

*Epiphanies ( January 29-February 19)*

*A Lenten Journey (February 26-March 18)*

*Getting Ready for Summer (April 15- May 6)*

### *Philosophy and God*

**Teacher:** Dean Jake Owensby

**Place:** Ministry Center

**Dates:** January 8 – 15

Dean Jake will explore how the philosophies of Plato and Aristotle shaped Christian belief and how more recent philosophical developments present challenges to and new perspectives on our faith.

### *Parish Meeting*

**Place:** Parish Hall

**Date:** January 22

# ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION (CTND.)

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## *The Book(s) of Common Prayer*

**Teacher:** Dr. Cheryl White

**Place:** Ministry Center

**Dates:** January 29 – February 26

An exploration of the varied historical contexts that produced each successive Book of Common Prayer in the Anglican tradition, from the preliminary English Service Book of Henry VIII to the epic achievements of Thomas Cranmer in the 1549 and 1552 Books of Common Prayer, through the 1662 version. This course will conclude with a look at the transplantation of a “common prayer life” throughout the world and its unique expression The Episcopal Church today.

## *The Poets of Anglicanism*

**Teacher:** Jill Carnie

**Place:** Ministry Center

**Dates:** March 4 – March 18

Anglicans have expressed our faith in liturgy and poetry instead of systematic theology. This class explores the work of some of our most beloved poets (such as George Herbert and John Donne).

## *Spring Break, Palm Sunday, and Easter*

**Dates:** March 25, April 1, April 8

## *Pillars of Christian Thought*

**Teacher:** Dr. Cheryl White

**Place:** Ministry Center

**Dates:** April 15 – May 6

This short course examines the lives and teachings of some of the most formative intellects of Christianity, including St. Jerome, St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas. A fascinating journey back in church history to explore the most significant contributors to the doctrines of Christianity.

# ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION (CTND.)

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## *Confirmation*

**Teacher:** Patrick Caraway

**Place:** Library

**Dates:** January 8 – May 6

This class explores what it means to be an Episcopalian: our beliefs, our worship, our history, and the way our church works. It also familiarizes newcomers with the who, what, how and why of St. Mark's Cathedral. This class is required for adult confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation.

## Wednesday Night Offerings

### *Medieval Devotions*

**Teacher:** Dr. Helen Taylor

**Place:** Ministry Center

**Dates:** November 2 – 16

For three weeks we will immerse ourselves in the often surprising devotional modes of medieval women, who conform to and react against orthodoxy. We will look closely at three texts: the dictated memoirs of Margery Kempe, who rebelled against her housewifely duties after receiving a visit from Christ; the *Ancrene Riwe*, a handbook written for three young English women who chose to exclude themselves from the world; and the *Revelations of Divine Love*, an account by the anchoress Julian of Norwich, who was declared dead to the world and lived her life walled up in a tiny cell after receiving visions of Christ's crucified body.

### *Heaven and Hell*

**Teachers:** Dr. Cheryl White and Dean Jake

**Place:** Ministry Center

**Dates:** February 29 – March 28

Through philosophy, history, art, literature and popular culture, this course will explore the concepts of heaven and hell, with a little purgatory thrown in for good measure. We will explore how these questions involve even deeper issues: God's love, justice, moral law and the purpose of everyday life.

# YOUNG FAMILIES AND SINGLES

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Brooks Boylan (brooks@stmarkscathedral.net)

## SUNDAYS AND BEYOND

### *Adult Blend: A Christian Coffee House*

Adults with young families and singles gather to share coffee, hear interesting speakers on relevant topics, and share ideas in a relaxed coffee house setting. Following the 10:00am service our Garden Room becomes the Adult Blend Coffee House serving Starbucks Coffee and treats.

### *Family Potlucks*

Once a month Adults with Young Families and Singles are invited to a potluck supper at the home of one of our young families. It's a great time for informal fun and fellowship. Here is this year's lineup:

#### **September 24, 6:00-8:00PM**

Host: Mindy and Cole Guthrie

#### **October 21, 6:00-8:00PM**

Host: Amy and Seth Donald

#### **November 19, 6:00-8:00PM**

Host: Michelle and Quintin Hardtner

#### **January 26, 6:00-8:00PM**

Host: Joy and Jake Owensby

#### **February 11, Noon until**

We will watch the Centaur Parade and grill out

#### **March 24, 6:00-8:00PM**

Host: Lynn and Brad Massad

#### **April 28, Annual Crawfish Boil**

Host: Lee and Patrick Harrison

## MEN'S MINISTRY

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Brooks Boylan (brooks@stmarkscathedral.net)

***Men Gone Wild:*** That's what we call our Men's group. Sometimes guys just need to talk to guys. Here are some of Men Gone Wild offerings:

***Men's Forum:*** Each Thursday at Noon men gather for a Men's Bible Study in our Ministry Center.

### ***Special Events***

- A Men's Retreat (TBA)
- Gumbo Cook-Off: December 3, 12:00-7:00PM
- Wild Game Pot Luck: January 12, 6:00-8:00PM

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Don Smith (don@stmarkscathedral.net)

***Novice and Junior Choristers*** (boys and girls, grades 2 –5)

Weekly rehearsals – Wednesday afternoon, 3:30 – 4:30pm  
begin on August 31, 2011.

Singing Sundays

September 11, 2011 (Rally Day)

October 30, 2011 (Pledge Sunday)

December 11, 2011

December 18, 2011 (Lessons & Carols) 4:00pm

December 24, 2011 (Christmas Eve 5:30pm service)

February 5, 2012

March 18, 2012

April 8, 2012 (Easter Day)

April 25, 2012

(Wednesday evening, St. Mark's Day,

Evensong with full choir & a choir banquet.)

# MUSIC MINISTRIES (CTND.)

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**Senior Choristers** (girls, grades 6 –12 & boys, grade 6 – voice change.)

Weekly rehearsals – Thursday afternoon, 3:30 – 4:30pm

Senior Choristers choose between two formats:

1. **“Accelerated Choir Program”** in which the chorister sings every Sunday morning and some of the extra services.
2. **“Junior Chorister Schedule”** in which the chorister sings only on “Junior Singing Sundays” during the choir year.

*When boys have experienced voice change, they rehearse with the adult choristers. Advanced Senior Girl Choristers may be invited by the Choir-master to attend the Adult Chorister rehearsal.*

**Adult Choristers** (college and adults)

Weekly rehearsals – Wednesday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00pm

Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:00pm

*This choir sings a series of Evensong services throughout the season as well as A Festival of Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve Vigil.*

*A Choir Handbook giving additional information about our choir program is available in the music office.*

**Louisiana Change Ringers**

A dedicated group of teens and adults who ring our tower bells before and after the Sunday 10:00am Eucharist and on special occasions.

Contact: Candace Higginbotham (869-4171)

Rehearsals: Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:00pm

(Additional practices and training days are held on Saturdays.)

# MUSIC MINISTRIES (CTND.)

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## ***Instrumental Ensembles*** (all ages)

Children, youth and adults who play instruments (other than piano) are encouraged to sign up on Rally Day! Instrumentalists are grouped into smaller ensembles to play on occasions in worship throughout the season. Rehearsal and performance schedules would be determined by the membership.

## ***Handbell Choir*** (teens and adults)

St. Mark's owns a beautiful set of handbells which would be played in the Cathedral! Nothing is more beautiful than handbells performing in worship at Christmas and Easter! This is a perfect opportunity for someone who has a piano background, but doesn't want to sing in a choir! It is great fun to learn to ring and form friendships with a small group of committed ringers. Rehearsal and performance schedules would be determined by the membership. Sign- up on Rally Day!

## ***The Great Masterpiece Series***

St. Mark's is blessed with an endowment which supports special sacred music concerts and services each year. The series highlights our world renown Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ and our Choir. All events are open to the public free of charge. This series is advertised in The Evangelist.

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Canon Rowena White  
(rowena@stmarkscathedral.net)

***Beth Moore Bible Study***

**When: Thursdays, 9:15 – 11:15am OR 6:15 - 8:15pm**

**Where: Ministry Center**

***Women's Bible Study***

**When: Mondays, 11:00am – 12:00pm**

**Where: Ministry Center**

***ECW (Episcopal Church Women):*** All women of the church are invited to participate as members of the Episcopal Church Women. This group supports fellowship events, gathers for fellowship, and participates in service projects. This year's ECW President is Amy Lewis and the Vice-President is Brenda Graves.

## FELLOWSHIP

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**WHO TO CONTACT:**

Jennifer Beruvides (jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net)

A family gathers just to be together. Listed below are some of the fellowship events we encourage you to attend. You can get involved in the planning and production of these events by contacting Jennifer Beruvides.

Rally Day Picnic

Pentecost (or Almost-Pentecost) Picnic

Cathedral Parish Dinners

The Dean's Advent Open House

Mardi Gras

Men's Dinners

And more.....

# OUTREACH

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## **WHO TO CONTACT:**

Jennifer Beruvides (jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net)

Want to get involved in hands-on outreach? Jennifer Beruvides is your contact person for ministries like the following:

*The Cooking Crew* (preparing food for the hungry and homeless)

*Personal Pantry* (providing personal hygiene items for the poor)

*Food Ingatherings*

*Holiday Outreach Projects*

*And more....*

In addition to hands-on outreach, the Cathedral's Community Ministries Committee provides financial support to a wide variety of social service agencies and outreach ministries in Shreveport, the United States, and the World. Candace Higginbotham is the chair of this committee. It meets monthly on the second Monday of the month.

# EVANGELISM

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**WHO TO CONTACT:** Leslie Caraway (lgcaraway@bellsouth.net)

Want to be involved in bringing people to Christ and welcoming them to St. Mark's Cathedral? Our Evangelism ministry has several facets.

*Greeting*

*Inviting*

*Public Relations and Communications*

*And more...*