**MARCH 2021** 

# A MESSAGE from Msgr. Kevin Ryan

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE** 

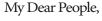
**02** New Life Growing

**03** Music Ministry News

**04** Meet the Tin Family

05 Thursday Faith Group

06 Wheelchair Donation



Like fasting and prayer, almsgiving is a non-negotiable part of Lent. Planning ahead makes donating money part of our annual Lenten sacrifice. Christians traditionally use the Old Testament practice of tithing or giving one-tenth of their income to God – whether that means donating to our church, diocese, or giving of our talent and time. This month during Lent in the Winged Lion we feature articles of Christian service to those most in need in this time of COVID.

Christian Service begins at home, where we teach our children to give time, attention, and resources to others. But charity must not stop there, Aquilina writes, "because for Catholics 'home' is universal and our family is as big as the world." Therefore, we must dig deep and give generously, recognizing the dire needs of the individuals and families in our community. Examples of this could be completing your Stewardship pledge card as a family, purchasing food for St. Vincent de Paul or Traveling Loaves and Fishes, volunteering as a family to pack food boxes, serving Habitat for Humanity, becoming a core member for our youth faith formation, collecting money to purchase a wheelchair for the Knights of Columbus or yarn for the Prayer Shawls ministry, signing up to take the sidewalk with 40 Days for Life, or simply offering prayers for the ministries of St. Mark Catholic Church. COVID has only magnified the need.

I challenge you, during what may prove to be a difficult season, to spend a few minutes during your prayer time each day to read the Gospel as part of your meditation and turn towards the hopefulness of the resurrection of Christ. As a family, how can you serve the Kingdom of God?



Magk Kevin E. Ryan

# Deep Roots and New Life Growing the Young Church at St. Mark

By Blake Tamez

A year ago, when pandemic restrictions were put in to place, I for one was not expecting to be under similar conditions a full year later! And yet, I find countless reasons to be grateful, especially when considering the eagerness of our youth ministry community to gather, grow, and worship together, all in response to God's unrelenting desire to dwell with and in us. We know that, in time, limitations will recede and plentiful opportunities will present themselves to take further our community's mission to encounter Christ, be gifted in the Spirit, and sent out to proclaim the Father's

As we look forward to the rest of the spring semester and beyond, the youth ministry staff has taken into account the features of our parish's deep roots (in Scripture, Liturgy, and Hospitality) and where the Spirit may be calling us to new growth. Over the past year, we have introduced a couple of new resources to our ministry: Purpose, a Confirmation prep program from Life Teen, and Summit, a Bible study resource also from Life Teen.

Our Confirmation prep program has been built up and enriched by the gifts and efforts of many, many catechists from our church family. We would like to specifically acknowledge the faithful leadership that Julie Wauters provided the teens and catechists for many years and express our deep gratitude for her hard work and wisdom. The Theology of the Body for Teens curriculum (YOU from Ascension Press) has been and will remain a hallmark experience for our youth under the committed and knowledgeable guidance of Scott Byers. As the program grows, we are excited to build on this solid, Spirit-filled foundation. In the coming years, we hope to introduce additional resources into the two-year process of Confirmation prep that will allow for a deeper dive into Sacred Scripture and the Liturgy of the Church, especially Holy Mass. Overall, we desire for our young people to have an authentic encounter with the person of Jesus Christ that is nurtured through an ongoing catechesis in Christian anthropology, Sacred Scripture, and the Liturgy and Sacraments; all oriented towards a joyful and abundantly fruitful celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

While Confirmation prep is a core feature of our parish's discipling of young people, it certainly does not exhaust the mission of our ministry. With students in mind who are not yet ready to prepare for Confirmation (mostly middle schoolers) and those who are already Confirmed, we hope to offer an increased number of opportunities next fall to gather at the

parish for fellowship and formation beyond what our current schedule affords. Youth Bible study (Summit) offerings on Sunday afternoons as well as youth gatherings (Life Nights and Edge Nights) during the week would provide a number of opportunities for the young church to gather for mutual belonging and continued encouragement in their walk with Jesus. We also look forward to hosting more focused and timelier conversations with youth and families about the intersection of popular culture, important but often difficult issues (e.g., mental health, addiction, sexuality, racism), and other trending topics with our Catholic faith.

As we continue to pray, discern, and plan, we ask you to pray as well for all of our parish's young people as well as their families and those not yet reached. Youth ministry (past, present, and future) is nothing without the involvement and generosity of our parish families and countless other volunteers. If you are not yet engaged with the youth ministry community and would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact our office at 210.494.1959 so that we can get introduced. May God bless our young church with renewal and growth for His greater glory!

Blake Tamez is the Youth Ministry Coordinator at St. Mark the Evangelist.

#### LENTEN FRY-DAY FISH DINNER

Profits will support donations that Knights of Columbus Council #7613 makes to support our Parish and other charitable needs The Knights of Columbus, Council 7613 will be offering their Fish Dinner on Friday's during Lent Time: 5 - 7 pm.

Meal Includes: Fried Alaskan Pollack, French Fries, Coleslaw,
Hushpuppies, Dessert and Drink (for inside dinning)
Cost: \$9 for Adults and \$5 for children.
Grilled Fish Tacos are also available.

To-Go orders can be picked up using our new drive through service in the parking lot outside Christopher Hall

Due to COVID social distancing we will have a limited number of tables available,

only those in a "bubble" can sit at one table together

## Music Ministry Reflects and Rediscovers

By Joshua Frilling

Music has not been the same for almost a year now, and we are looking forward to the day when we can all join in one voice for the praise and worship of the Lord. This longstanding "fast" has impelled us to do what any proper fast calls us to do - reflect, rediscover, grow. In trying to determine what is appropriate and feasible to do during Mass, we have been drawn back to the documents and texts that have provided liturgical guidance; everything from the \*GIRM to the \*\*USCCB's Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship, to Vatican II's Musicam Sacram. I've also been gifted a contemporary text, Music and Meaning in the Mass, from the Sophia Institute Press, and I am looking forward to what I can learn from it.

I have been drawn towards the

Proper texts of the Mass, those that are written specifically for the date of the liturgical calendar, as well as the specific texts for certain functions within a liturgy – for example, the Song of Farewell within a funeral. Some hymns capture the scriptural roots of the antiphons or \*\*\*ICEL translations better than others. The combination of melody and text should be at the forefront of our selections to connect the congregation with the prayers and different functions within the liturgy, resulting in a deepened experience of active worship within the Mass and one in which the music and the main focus of the Mass – the Eucharist – are not separate. Active worship includes understanding what text is being sung, where the text is derived from, and why it is being sung within its liturgical context.

Music elevates our prayers and

worship of God, and the Church has laid out a beautiful formula with specific celebrations in mind. It is my hope that our ministry creates such purposeful worship and brings us to an even greater participation in the Sacred Mysteries of the Holy Mass.

\*GIRM: General Instruction of the Roman Missal – pronounced like "germ"

"germ"

\*\*USCCB: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

\*\*\*ICEL: International Commission on English in the Liturgy

Joshua Frilling is the Director of Music Ministries at St. Mark de Evangelist.

> St. Mark the Evangelist Music Ministry

#### **David Kauffman in Concert**

By Joshua Frilling

St. Mark is happy to announce that our Yvonne Cosgrove Concert Series is well underway. Although singing is absent from the pews, we invite you to our beloved sanctuary to come listen to David Kauffman and friends on Thursday, March 4th, at 7:00 PM. This is an annual Lenten tradition to bring our hearts, minds, and souls into the spirit of this penitential season. The event is free; however, the musicians will be collecting donations for their ministry. Also, CDs and other materials will be for sale immediately following. Registration is required through www.eventbrite.com - just search for 'Yvonne Cosgrove Concert Series.'

Be on the lookout for more concert dates this spring and fall. Please follow us on Instagram and Facebook, @stmarkmusicministry and St. Mark the Evangelist Music Ministry respectively, to keep up with weekend updates, concerts, and other information.



David Kauffman Concert

St. Mark the Evangelist
Catholic Church
Thursday
March 4 at 7 pm
FREE ADMISSION

A free-will offering will be collected.

For more information, contact: Joshua Frilling, Director of Music at (210) 494-1606 or jfrilling@stmarkevangelist.com

Sponsored by the Yvonne Cosgrove Concert Series

Learn more at GoodfortheSoulMusic.com



By Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Over the years I have wasted a lot: a lot of money, a lot of time, and a lot of talent. Sometimes I didn't realize I was wasting these things, but after reflection, I realized I could have done more and accomplished much greater things. Of course, I think that is part of our imperfect humanity.

It truly is easier for us to waste our gifts than grow them into something more.

The parable of the sower speaks about the Word of God that gets planted in our hearts. If the soil of our heart is rich, than the Word will grow and change us. If that soil is rocky or full of weeds, the Word will lie there without any impact, bearing no fruit.

This parable can be applied to liv-

ing a stewardship way of life as well. As sowers, we have been given the seeds of our time, talent, and treasure. We have a choice of where to plant these gifts. As good everyday stewards, we are called to plant them wisely and prudently. Often times it is not enough to simply give away what we have.

We need to discern the best places to sow these gifts so the maximum harvest can grow. This takes prayer, reflection, and study. Without a solid discernment process, we can find ourselves sowing seeds endlessly without much to show for it. But joyful is the person who has used their gifts wisely, for the bounty of the harvest is great.

https://www.4lpi.com/blog/discerning-seeds-stewardship/



## Meet the Kyaw Tin Family

By Bill Faucher

Thanks to the generosity of a most benevolent anonymous donor the 26th St Mark's Habitat for Humanity house for the Tin family is paid for.

The Tin family is excited about being part of the home buying program and for the opportunity to become homeowners. "We want to the able to provide a better home for our children and with the help from Habitat we will be able to do that. When we came to this country all we could dream of is having our own home. We want to feel free and for our children to have their own rooms. The excitement of having our own yard and being able to work on it is an awesome feeling. We are so happy for the Habitat program. Thank you Habitat for giving us this opportunity. We are very happy!"

Bill Faucher is the Habitat for Humanity Lead and Grand Knight Council 7613 at St. Mark the Evangelist





#### **Thursday Morning Faith Group**

By Velma Spruel Williams

The Thursday Morning Faith Group Ministry was determined to Survive COVID-19 Shut Down!

The last 11 months have passed, slowly, and our Thursday Morning

Faith group could not meet. The members were calling me, and letting me know that they missed our classes... which prepared us for the weekend Masses. Our weekly classes are very interactive. We read and have discussions, on all that we cover, as we use our Guide Book, which contains our Bible Readings and Responses, Gospels, and all the other

Monthly pamphlets of Reflections.

In an effort to keep that interest in our claasses going, when it became apparent that we would not be able to meet, in the near future...several months ago...I emailed or called those who had been regular attendees, and some fairly new members, asking if they would be willing to continue their studies, from home. I received some very positive responses, and started mailing them their monthly pamphlets, to use with their personal Guide Books. We have missed all of our Birthday celebra-

> tions, and offering of weekly prayers for those in need of healing.

We even missed our Annual December, Off-Campus Class, including our Christmas Potluck Luncheon, and gift exchange fun game, in the home and hospitality of our member and her husband, the Stulga's. We take so many things for granted, until we are told to stop doing

them. Unexpectedly, I received a call from Sara Anne, saying she wanted to do a new version of our December Luncheon, and shared her plans with me, using Social Distancing protocol. After realizing she would not be deterred, we discussed the best way to help her get her "Project",

as she named it, done, safely. She wanted to prepare, all of the food and make individual plates of food... and deliver them to our homes, on a lunchtime staggered schedule. She and Chuck would drive to each home of those who wanted to participate. We worked it out, to her satisfaction. When they showed up at MY door, PPE and all...it was her dream fulfilled!!! God bless her. This is how close our Thursday Morning Faith Group Class members are. This group was founded in the early 1990's, years before I joined St. Mark's...and they really care for each other. I joined the group in 2008, and eventually was asked to lead it a few years ago. Some have moved away, or are unable to attend every meeting. This is a very special group of people, who are longtime friends, and neighbors, with several newcomers. It is my hope that the Pandemic has not been the demise of many of our other Ministries. We plan to resume our classes, as soon as it is safe. I hope to see YOU there! Happy New Year, Everyone!

Velma Spruel Williams is the Ministry Lead for the Thursday Morning Faith Group Ministry at St. Mark the Evangelist.



#### St. Mark Adult Confirmation

By Rita Cabello



The Community of St. Mark the Evangelist would like to congratulate Conlin Cox, Edgar Lugo, Liliana Saap Rodriguez, Maria Duenas, and Diana Jacks in receiving the blessings of the Holy Spirit during their Confirmation at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church on Saturday, January 23, 2021. May the Lord contintue to bless you and the Holy Spirit continue to strenghthen your faith.

We offer this prayer for you...

Holy Spirit, strengthen our St. Mark Confirmandi's with your gifts of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord, as a disciple of Christ. Fill them with

the joy of your presence. Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit. Help them to experience and trust your dwelling within, so that they may count on your guidance today and every day. Show us the way to help one another become better disciples of Jesus Christ, sharing your love with our world and with each person we encounter.

Amen.

Rita Cabello is the Children's Ministry Coordinator at St. Mark the Evangelist.

## **Knights of Columbus Wheelchair Donation**

By Jon Klauenberg

St. Mark the Evangelist Knights of Columbus Council 7613 has the 5th largest donations for wheelchairs in Texas! This without our Wheelchair Sunday fund drive, normally held annually in June, which did not

happen last year due to COVID-19 lockdown. The San Antonio Diocese is still the second largest donor in Texas and St. Mark's has been the most generous in San Antonio for years. However, donations are only a quarter of the

usual amount. This awesome parish surely will standup and provide for the needy. The Knights of Columbus is a major partner with the American Wheelchair Mission (AWM) having provided for more than 70,000 wheelchairs for the disabled. The AWM provides high quality wheelchairs to the poorest of God's poor; those who have crawled, used skateboards or had family members carry them. Chris Lewis, President of the AWM is eager to speak again at Wheelchair Sunday this June after we are hopefully back to the "newnormal" as more of us are vaccinated against the SARS-COV-2 virus.

There are many who cannot afford wheelchairs here in San Antonio. Please help these people obtain the freedom and dignity mobility provides. Children with physical disabilities can go to school for the first time, adults can go to work and provide for their families, and the elderly can get out of a bed they may have been in for years and rejoin society.

Since 2007, Knights have provided over 7,000 wheelchairs to veterans who are in need of just a little more help. St. Mark Council 7613 receives 110 wheelchairs annually and distributes them here in San Antonio to places like the Padua Place home for priests, Christus Santa Rosa Hospital

system, nursing homes, Hondurans suffering from numerous disasters and individuals here in need.

Wheelchairs are obtained by AWM at very low cost due to its charity designation and volume of purchases, making it possible to provide many

chairs to those who can't afford one. All chairs are charity donations. No one pays for a wheelchair. Please go to https://amwheelchair.org/donate/ to donate. Please note KC Council 7613 on the form.

If you or someone you know needs a chair and does not have insurance or cannot afford one, please contact me at jonklauenberg@satx.rr.com (preferred) or 210-421-7962. We have exhausted our supply of chairs with only 12 left. I will see you get one of our last ones or find one in Austin or Dallas.

Please ensure donations clearly note Knights of Columbus Council 7613.

Donations by check can be sent directly to the American Wheelchair Mission at:

Dan Moberg American Wheelchair Mission 2600 E. Seltice Way A-172 Post Falls, ID 83854 (208) 457-0745 dmoberg@amwheelchair.org If you prefer, you can mail or drop a check at the church office.

Please send me an email jonklauenberg@satx.rr.com or text to 210-421-7962 with name, date of check and amount for my data bank.

For each \$150 donation, you will receive a beautiful certificate folder with the picture of a wheelchair recipient inside. You must include your name and address to receive the certificate folder. If you use a credit card and wish to receive a picture, please indcate on the form. All using checks will also receive one if your address is included. I recognize that this is a tough time for most and understand there are those who cannot participate. Everyone please pray for the destitute poor who desperately need a wheelchair to gain mobility and dignity. Pray for the less fortunate.

Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Matthew 25:40



Jon Klauenberg is the St. Mark the Evangelist Church, San Antonio Archdiocese Knights of Columbus American Wheelchair Mission Representative.



WAY OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS OF LENT AT 7:00 PM
PRE - RECORDED ON YOUTUBE





By Mary Anne Votion

On Sunday, February 7, 2021, Msgr. Kevin Ryan presented the Lumen Gentium Award to Rita and Jorge Cabello for their selfless service to the community of St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church. Rita has served for many years at St. Mark coordinating weddings, baptisms, and serves as the Coordinator of Children's Ministries. Jorge serves the parish assisting with Adult Confirmation, baptism classes, and will be ordained a Permanent Deacon June 5, 2021 at St. Mark. Jorge and Rita have three children Clarisa (Michael Bossaler), Cristina, and Diego. The parish Lumen Gentium Award is bestowed upon Catholic laypeople from each parish who have demonstrated participation in the Catholic Church's mission to bring Christ's light to all.

The individuals are practicing Catholics who manifest an understanding of the teachings of the church and have been graced with a life formed in the Catholic spiritual tradition. These individuals have used their talents to deepen the life of the church in the parish or have served in an extraordinary way the ministry of the parish.

Mary Anne Votion is the Development Director at St. Mark the Evangelist



#### St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church

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St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church reserves the right to publish article submissions and edit all submissions for form and content.

8:15am & 7pm **Holy Days** 

**Eve of Holy Day** 7pm

Saturday 3:30-5pm **Adoration** 

Reconciliation

Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-4:45pm

Our mission:
TO SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS
OF JESUS CHRIST TO ALL GOD'S
PEOPLE BY WORD AND ACTION.

Saturday Mass Schedule

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Kevin E.

Ryan | Pastoral Administrator: Dot Hamlir

Sunaay (Spanish) & Monday 8:15am Tuesday 8:15 am Wednesday 8:15am Thursday 8:15am Friday 8:15am 5pm 7:30am, 10am, 2pm

Sunday

Mark the Evangelist Catholic Chur **MARCH 2021** 

Mark 16:15

te said to them, "Go into the whole world and roclaim the gospel to every creature..."

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