

Stay Connected – Sunday 22nd June

First Sunday after Trinity

This Week's Reading

Bible Reading: Luke 8.26–39

Peter's Blurp

The highlight of the past week, without a doubt, was the mid-week Ordination Service for Rev Terry Hassell on Wednesday evening. Holy Trinity Church was packed to the rafters – I can't imagine an occasion when it hosted such a large congregation.



It was a full-on service with numerous well-chosen hymns including the wonderful “Veni Creator Spiritus” – chanted Gregorian-style by our combined choirs who gave a splendid account of themselves throughout the service. The Bishop was resplendent in his red cope, gold mitre and staff, and all the Diocesan Clergy were decked out in their white albs with red stoles too. A powerful “commissioning” talk was given by Archdeacon The Ven. Jerry Smith (his last) which left Rev. Terry (and the rest of us) in absolutely no doubt that he is now working for God and all that that may entail. It reinforced the true extent of the commitment on which Rev. Terry and Nicole are now embarked.

The service was followed up with a reception in the Hall – full on hot & cold snacks, abundant beverages etc. The Hall was packed, as one might expect, and it capped off an awesome event. Our love and prayers go with Terry and Nicole as they embark on this journey which is the culmination of many, many years of preparation, study, dedication and hard work. Congratulations you guys 😊❤️

Back to St. Mark's. What a lively service we had Sunday 😊 Started off with Fr. Gav. rehearsing the congregation for the singing of the chorus part of our opening hymn – a “great, traditional hymn by

Charles Wesley” (which Gav thought significant 😊) Having done that successfully, off we went with the singing of it. It IS a great hymn and a great sing – “O for a thousand tongues to sing” with a rousing canon between the bass part and the soprano part in the chorus. A fine hymn indeed but then -Joy of all joys! We actually got to sing a second “great, traditional hymn by Charles Wesley” for our closing hymn – “O can it be” which has a similar treatment in the chorus. All the rest of our Worship Songs were upbeat, mostly lively so it was a real music-fest. When you add in Rev. Gav's Talk, given extemporaneously, on the Good News revealed in this week's reading the

whole service was joyful, uplifting and inspiring. Smaller congregation than we would have liked but then it is summer and we have a lot of competition for Sunday morning time – especially in the summer.

Following our post-service fellowship the Hall was all set-up for the Guild's Annual Senior's Appreciation Lunch. First thing was meal preparation and a team of ladies set up an assembly line in the kitchen "plating" the meals:



We were all treated to a cold plate of green salad, potato salad, mixed vegetables and beets with sliced turkey. It was delicious and was served with cold juice drink. For dessert we had bowls of Jello and plates of cake each with a piece of fruit cake, pahnd cake and gingerbread. We were well fed indeed – it was Delicious!



It was a great group of seniors from their 60's to their 90's. Lots of reminiscing and re-telling old stories I'm sure. And we were entertained at the piano too – by the evergreen Vernon Douglas who never fails to deliver.

Later in the afternoon our "social committee" of Pansy, Barbara and Leta put on a short quiz of general knowledge question which we old-timers should know the answers to. Questions like:

What was the name of the business that used to be where Mark's & Spencer's now is? **Medical House.**

What was the name of the grocery that was at the bottom of Collector's Hill? **Palm Grocery.**

What was the name of the grocery on Church Street where Gibbon's Children's is now? **A-One.**

Etc. etc.

Seems that Leta was keeping score and it came down to two of us – me and another – who were tied. The tie-breaker questions was:

What was St. Mark's church called before it was called St. Marks? **Harris' Bay Church.** Yay! I won a \$25 Gift Card from Phoenix Group. 😁

Carys also presented one of her poems. It is a long while since our "bard" gave us one of her many fine poetry offerings (it is untitled – the title is mine):

God knows...

Lord, we say your name each day
Hands together when we pray
That you will show your grace and love
Showers of Blessings from above.

God knows our hearts, he sees our pain
Please be assured that peace will reign
When all around seems doom and gloom
His peace IS present in the room

We often doubt and question you
Feel lost and lonely, searching too
Demanding proof that you are there
To show your face, to prove you care

But those who know exalt your name
Professing faith that has no shame
The peace that he has lovingly grown
Lives on in John, his testament shown

Peace of mind, body and soul
Are growing fruits, of this I know
Our spirit food for us to thrive
Praise God, Alleluia he is alive!

So:

May peace be at your daily start
May peace be resting in your heart
May peace be with you on your way
May peace be with you every day

C.C poems

Then on to the finale:

We were treated to a half-dozen selections by a jazz quartet – The Blues Boys or Brothers or some such name. All appeared to be ex-RBR bandmen, judging by the medal ribbons they were all wearing. There was a Tuba, two different types of trumpet and a clarinet. Who can resist the sound of Dixieland with a hint of Benny Goodman included. It was a fabulous climax to a well-planned Senior's Appreciation Lunch.

We are so blessed to have such a caring, hard-working Guild and we give sincere, heartfelt thanks to President Pansy, Secretary Barbara and Treasurer Evette along with all the general members who really put it all out there on Sunday to show their appreciation for the Seniors of our Church especially as many of them are seniors themselves. Thank You ❤️ 😁

Well that's what I have for this week. I may see you next week but I am having a surgical procedure this week. As next week's worship will be a Combined East End Churches service at the Unfinished Church I may declare myself

hors de combat. 😞 Love, Peter

Come to St. Mark's – not just a Church but a family!



Fr. Gav's Talk

Fr. Gav gave his talk extemporaneously but his words can be listened to or read here:

<https://anglican.bm/did-the-miracles-of-jesus-really-happen-and-what-do-they-mean/>

From the Distaff Side

Helen's Talk – Not this week

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In our prayers

We ask for your prayers for Father Don, Margaret Blanchette, Al Spearing, Gill Rossiter, Sam & Marjorie, Gwyneth & Ralph, Jill, Barbara (Dyer), Vinette, Nancy, Gail, Janet & Gary, Tina, Val & Mark, Robert & Kalreeta and for Sally Brown and Hilda Warner . We also ask for special prayers for all members of the church family who are travelling over the next few weeks. We pray especially for the repose of the soul of the late Phyllis Trott, lifelong member and servant of St. Mark's, who will be laid to rest on Friday this week. May she rest in Peace.

This Sunday



Fr. Gav's talk can be listened to or read here:

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Previous services and other videos are on our YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/StMarksChurchBermuda> and/or our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarksbermuda/>

Next Sunday

Next Sunday, 29th June – There will be NO SERVICES at St. Mark's next Sunday. Instead the East End Churches will be joining together for their quarterly COMBINED SERVICE which will be held at 10.00 a.m. at the Unfinished Church in St. George.

Coming Events

- **Vendor's Market** – The next Vendor's Market will be held on **Saturday, 28th June**;
- **Bereavement Support Tea** – our next monthly chat will take place at **3.00 p.m. on Sunday, 6th July** in the Parish Hall;

Down the Debt – St. Mark's needs your help in reducing the size of our debt which inhibits future investment in our church. If you feel you may be able to help with this please go to <https://stmarks.bm/donate/> where you will find details and an opportunity to donate.

Links:

Just a reminder – if you want to check vot's happnin' or vot's comin' dahn de road – you can find it all at our:

- **Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/stmarksbermuda/>
- **YouTube Channel:** <https://www.youtube.com/StMarksChurchBermuda>
- **Website:** <https://anglican.bm/churches/st-marks/>
- **Holy Trinity Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitychurchbda>

End Stuff:

Here's a thought. It is always a great time for us all to review our pledging. If each of us is able to increase our pledge by 10% that would be a great boost to our cash flow (which as you know is tenuous at best). And, with our in-person collections still inhibited by numbers restrictions, please consider the opportunity to convert to pledging by Direct Deposit (see below). Your support is vital.

As always, another huge thank you to all of you who continue to support our church family with your pledges and donations via online transfer.

Direct deposits can be made to: Butterfield Bank for the account of:

St. Mark's Church Wardens – A/c No. 20-006-060-104125-100.

- **For Pledge Envelope donations** – if you already have a Pledge envelope number just be sure to enter your Name and Env # e.g. "Nash Env 190" in the **Beneficiary** space on the on-line transfer form.
- **For Grave Payments** – when paying Grave Maintenance fees be sure to enter Grave Number and Name of Lessee e.g. "Grave 273 Peter Nash" in the **Beneficiary** space on the on-line transfer form.
- **For Cash donations** – if you do not have an Envelope # just be sure to also enter your Name and "Donation" e.g. "Nash Donation" in the **Beneficiary** space on the on-line transfer form.

Use of the "Beneficiary" space is IMPORTANT – it is the only way we have to identify who is paying and for what.
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