

Stay Connected – Sunday 5th October

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

This Week's Reading

Bible Reading: Luke 17. 5-10

Peter's Blurb

I'm baaack!

I don't know! I take a week off and you all go and have not one, but two hurricanes – Humberto and Imelda. You could have waited 😞

Since returning I have been hearing tales of various power outages – St. Mark's campus too was without power – the church building until Saturday sometime. Glad that got fixed or it would have been a sombre services on Sunday morning 😞.

Watching the WhatsApp chats whilst in the UK I saw Gabe Cabrall's name frequently "mentioned in dispatches" doing his share of restoration in various places. He, and all the Belco crews, were kept very busy and deserve our gratitude and admiration for their bravery in potentially dangerous situations. I understand that Carys Caisey and Barbara Willis, for example, experienced a pole fire which took them down for a period until a transformer could be replaced. We tend to take these services for granted until there is a crisis but rather, we should be thankful!

Where I live, at Grove Apartments, apparently there was only a short outage, of some 3 hours or so, but we are directly undergrounded from the sub-station at Flatts Hill and so are perhaps fortunate in that regard.

I am sure it will take at least the rest of the week ahead for everyone and everything to be restored to normal. We give thanks that there appears to be no loss of life and no wide-spread structural damage – tomorrow's RG may yet have some stories – and we keep any who have suffered such in our thoughts and prayers.

Some Good News! **Life Groups are starting up again.** Last week Steve West announced the resumption of this significant and popular activity thus:



"Hey Church family!!

We're excited to announce the launch of our Life Groups again after the summer break — a space where real connection, growth, and care can happen as we do life together.

"In the New Testament, we're called again and again to love one another, encourage one another, serve one another, forgive one another, and pray for one another. These "one another" verses remind us that the Christian life is not meant to be lived in isolation — it's a shared journey of faith, hope, and love.

"Ephesians 4:16 says:

"From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

"Life Groups are where this happens. They're not just small groups — they are the place where the body of Christ is joined together, built up in love, and where every part has a role.

"Whether you're new here or have been part of our church for years, Life Groups are for you. Come grow in community, deepen your walk with Jesus, and live out the "one another" commands of Scripture in a meaningful, life-giving way.

Please email Cathy or Stephen West if you are interested and would like to be included: cathjwest@gmail.com or cswestmd@logic.bm.

"Let's build one another up — together."



I have made mention of some additional events in the Coming Events section below.

And next Sunday our two services will both be led by Archdeacon John.

One event that took place whilst I was vacationing was the Diocesan Guild Council's Awards Tea held in the Hall at St. Mark's on Saturday 27th. It is apparently an annual event and they (presumably) go to a different parish each year. On this occasion two of the long-serving members of St. Mark's Church Guild were honoured. Congratulations to Jane Bielby and Lynn Smith who have given many years of service at St. Mark's. Bishop Nick was on hand for the occasion as was Pamela Carlington, President of the Diocesan Guild Council and also an enormous crowd of guild members from "all ower de place". Also among the guests was our new Canon Residentiary Calvert Prentis and his wife Rev. Dr. Sharon Prentis. Also recognized was Mr. Piano Man, Vernon Douglas.



We had a good congregation at our main service on Sunday and our Young Church participants were well led by Helen and her helpers in a joint collage project illustrating today's message from the Parable of the Unworthy Servant. Good work guys and it looks like fun (See below).

While the youngsters were thus engaged, we adults were treated to an explanation of today's reading from Luke 17 (the "Parable of the Unprofitable Servant") by our visiting priest Rev. Jennie Foster Skelton.

Later in the day there were two special events at the Cathedral which were embodied in a Choral Evensong – a lovely service which is not celebrated often enough (in my view). The first part of the service was the Collation and Installation of our new Canon Theologian Rev. Dr. Sharon Prentis. Bishop Nick administered the oath of office and read the license. He then invited Archdeacon John to install Rev. Prentis in the seat set aside for her in the clergy pews. It was a lovely little ceremony and enjoyed by a large congregation who were assembled for this and for the second purpose of the service – The Archdeacon's Visitation.

This was the occasion when all the Wardens and Vestry Members across the Diocese had been summoned by the Archdeacon. The Wardens were called to the front of the Cathedral, each carrying



their staff of office, where, when assembled, they together swore their oath of office and were duly admitted thereto. Then it was the turn of the Vestry Members who were asked to stand as the roll was called by parish. They too, as a group, promised to serve and were presented to the assembled congregation by the Archdeacon.

It was truly a lovely service on every level. More next week.

Love
Peter

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

Rev. Jennie's Talk

Luke 17:5-10

"The Parable of the Unprofitable Servant"

(Text not available by "press" time)

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. Happy Birthdays too to Jeannie (<80 😊) & Bob Flath (80!), also to Annie and all others whose birthdays fall in October.

This Sunday



Previous services and other videos are on our YouTube channel and/or our Facebook page at:

[as](#)

Next Sunday

Next Sunday, **12th October** – We will have our usual services at St. Mark's with Peaceful Worship at 8.00 a.m. followed by our Contemporary Worship and Junior Church at 9.30 a.m. both led by Archdeacon John.

Coming Events

- **Vendor's Market** – The next Vendor's Market is **TBD**
- **Life Group Startup** – The popular Life Groups have resumed but it is not too late to get involved. See 'Blurb' for details and/or reach out to Cathy or Stephen if you would like to know more: cathjwest@gmail.com or cswestmd@logic.bm.
- **Bereavement Support Tea** – our next monthly chat will take place at **3.00 p.m. on Sunday, 2nd November** in the Parish Hall.
- **Blessing of the Animals** – this year's service will take place at 3.00 p.m. on **Sunday, 12th October** at the Unfinished Church
- **"Night of Music" Concert** – Hamilton Parish Council will be holding a Concert to raise funds for their Scholarship Fund on **Saturday, 25th October at 7.00 p.m.** in Holy Trinity Church Hall. Guest artists will include the combined HTC/SMC choirs, Daniel Hill, Ariana Smith, Cordell Warner and friends and other musicians. See poster below for details.
- **Commemoration of All Souls** – this special service of commemoration of our dear departed will take place at Holy Trinity Church on **Sunday, 2nd November at 5.00 p.m.** Names of loved ones to be called will be collected beforehand.

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

The Hamilton Parish Council
Presents
 **NIGHT OF MUSIC**
Concert
Scholarship Fundraiser
\$10 Admission | Includes Light Refreshments
Donations Accepted
Saturday 25th October 2025
@ 7:00 pm
Venue: Holy Trinity Church Hall, Hamilton Parish