



Saint Mark Messenger

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Richmond, KY

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Summer 2011

AN EVENING, A DAY, AND MANY FRIENDS

St. Mark Church Welcomed Harry Connick Jr. in March and Laura Bush in May by Linda Maxwell



Father Jim Sichko, Harry Connick and Bishop Ronald Gainer share a moment during one of two performances.

GUEST'S DOLPHIN TALE MOVIE COMING THIS FALL

Bringing his glitzy New Orleans showmanship, his talented jazz band and his faith-filled energy, Harry Connick, Jr. entertained capacity crowds during his debut St. Mark performances on Sunday, March 27, 2011.

Mr. Connick began with the favorite "Sweet Georgia Brown" and followed with "Come Rain or Come Shine" which alluded to God's faithfulness along with other hymns. "That one would make a believer out of me if I weren't one already," Connick witnessed, before continuing on with the ensemble-rich "The Sheik of Araby."

Between songs, Connick discussed his family, cheered UK Basketball's ascent in the Final Four, and honored Father Jim's mother, Marie Sichko. One young musician, Chamberlain Davenport, 8, was chosen to play a duet onstage before the night concluded with many presentations, including a check for Connick's Musicians' Village.

SPOKEN FROM THE HEART

Librarian, mother, teacher, ambassador, writer and former First Lady Laura Bush must add another title to her résumé: entertaining speaker. After flying in from Texas on Tuesday, May 24th, Mrs. Bush first stopped at St. Mark School to share "Read All About It," a book she had co-written with her daughter, Jenna.



Following the session which included children from Madison County Schools as well, Mrs. Bush met with over 300 guests at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Kent Kessler for lunch.

"I believe women play a vital role in affecting health and education and prosperity worldwide," the hostess of the first White House conference on Global Literacy noted. "Research shows that when you educate and empower women, you improve every aspect of society."

Never one to disappoint, the always-poised wife of former President George W. Bush outlined her political years from Texas campaigning to presidential daughter-in-law to 9/11 survivor to proud citizen, wishing the best for her successors. Like a true teacher, she then answered questions from the audience that ranged from pets to the future presidency, sending all of her listeners into the world a little wiser—holding a copy of her new biography, Spoken from the Heart.



a portable computer lab and a new playground to be installed over the summer. Along with help from the Knights of Columbus and Cathy and Kirk Cornett, we were able to renovate our library. The Knights were also a huge help to us during many successful fish fries. The Catholic Daughters provided a much needed renovation of our faculty lounge. Finally, we ended the school year with a picnic at the Halcombs' farm. As you can see we have been very busy! God is so good to us, and we are so thankful for HIS many blessings!

Connie Fischer
Lead Teacher

St. Mark Catholic School

I would love to take the opportunity to update you on St. Mark Catholic School.

We have had a wonderful and rewarding year, and we are moving forward very quickly. For the 2010-2011 school year we had 51 students enrolled. For the upcoming 2011-2012 school year, we already have 61 students enrolled. We have tremendous interest in our school for next year. We now have a half day and full day 3-year-old program as well as a half day and full day 4-year-old program. We have reopened our 5th grade, and we are serving students from three years through 5th grade school.

St. Mark School has a wonderful PTO and marketing committee, and they have been very busy this year doing a great job marketing our school.

Our students have had a year packed full of spiritual, educational, and social growth. We began our year with a school family picnic, and participating in the Richmond Pottery Festival. In the fall, we went on a whole school field trip to the fire department, had a wonderful fall festival, a Veterans' Day celebration, and a Thanksgiving family feast. We continued throughout the winter by taking 1st prize in the Christmas parade for our school float, our students' performed in a Christmas program, and we had a wonderful celebration during Catholic Schools' Week. Our 2/3/4 graders participated in Megamass in Lexington, and we continued our partnership with St. Joe Berea. During the midst of all the activity, we received our Kentucky Child Care License so we could offer a full time 3-year-old program.

Along with Fr. Jim's assistance, the marketing committee was able to provide a school video for our website and interested families. Fr. Jim also helped our school by bringing two celebrities to Richmond, and he secured donations from AT&T for our school to receive



ST. MARK PARISH COUNCIL

Outgoing Parish Council Members: Chair Jim Schwartz, Greg Gaerke, Nikki Stuart, Elizabeth Grant, Evelyn Spalding, Billy Simon, Secretary Linda Maxwell

Hello Everyone,

The sitting Parish Council's tenure is coming to an end. The next meeting in August will be a transitional meeting where the old Council turns over responsibility to the new Council. Congratulations to the new Council members for their selection. The new members have made a commitment to the Parish for the next three years, so be sure to express your gratitude and support when you get the opportunity. Also, I would like to thank all the outgoing members for their contributions and commitment to this important ministry and their call to service.

I would like to ask all parishioners, as my last official duty as Council Chair, to think about how you can be of service to the Parish. St. Mark has many different ministries that need the support of your time and talents. All it takes is an hour here and there to make a difference! Get involved in the Parish and learn how the different ministries make a difference to all the people involved. When we give of our time and talent, we receive much more in return. Please feel free to ask me about any ministry you may be interested in or would like more information about how you can help.

See you in church,
Jim Swartz
St. Mark Parish Council-Chair

Welcome Incoming Parish Council Members:
Sharon Carter, Tricia Davis, Cheriee Deprez, Jan Eggum, Mike Eubanks, Michael Kasitz, George Nichols, Evelyn Spalding and Karen Stevenson.



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

By Betty Lamb



Formed in 1903, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) is one of the Oldest and Largest Organizations of Catholic Women in the Americas. Under the patronage of the Blessed Mother, the CDA are united by their faith in Jesus Christ, in their devotion to the church and the Holy See. They donate to charities, administer scholarship programs and strive “to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow, or sickness.” The CDA motto is “Unity and Charity.” Catholic Daughter women enjoy each other’s company at meetings and work hard for their parishes and communities.

Local Court St. Anne #2568 through St. Mark Catholic Church with a membership of 44 ladies has enjoyed many activities over the past few months. Twenty-five ladies enjoyed the Spring Retreat at Cliffview Retreat Center on March 18th and 19th. The topic was “Spirituality and the Working Woman” presented by Olga Samaniego. Mrs. Samaniego is the National Spiritual Enhancement Chairperson for the Catholic Daughters Circle of Love Program. In April the local court-sponsored the 2011 Education Contest with the theme “The Lord is My Light and the Light Others Give to Me.” There were several categories of the contest, including art, poetry, photography and essay. First place winners’ entries were sent to compete at the national level.

At the meeting In May members collected items for Diocesan Children’s Home Rewards Closet.

Court St. Anne #2568 was chartered on June 11, 2006. The local court celebrated our five-year anniversary on June 11, 2011. The Charter Members were presented a special five-year anniversary pin during 4 p.m. mass with a reception afterwards.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives to embrace the principle of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality, and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all. Deeply spiritual, together we share faith, love of God and a distinctly feminine spirituality alluded to by Pope John Paul II when he spoke of the necessity of “feminine genius: in today’s world. Just being in the presence of other ladies who share your faith and devotion to God and seeing them quickly volunteer when a call for help comes in or a committee is needed is awesome indeed.

ST. MARK YOUTH GROUP

By Alanna Sininger

St. Mark Youth Group, under new leadership kicked off a new campaign in January. Our rebuilding efforts have proven successful as we have a strong number consistently participating. The spring semester brought us together each Sunday to enjoy a lot of fun and provide the opportunity to discuss and share our faith. We enjoyed an evening of bowling and hosted the first annual Easter egg hunt for the kids of our parish. Fr. Jim participated in a question answer session that allowed us to ask him anything we always wanted to know about our faith. During Lent, we led the praying of the Stations of the Cross with some of the C.C.D. classes. We participated in Holy Thursday mass and witnessed one of our own Youth Group members being welcomed into the church through RCIA on Holy Saturday. Youth Group capped the school year off with a fun cookout hosted by Fr. Jim.



The school year may be over, but that doesn't mean that Youth Group is on a break. We plan to stay as active as ever. For our summer schedule, we continue to meet the 2nd Sunday of each month as well as have a lot more activities planned including participating in the church carnival, assisting at Vacation Bible school, and a few other activities that are in the works. We have something to offer every teen in the parish.

There are a lot of high school teens in the parish and we not only invite you, but challenge you to come out and participate in our events. Let us show you how you can become more involved with your parish community. Look for announcements in the bulletin, email us at youthgroup@sainmarkcatholicchurch.net to get on our e-mail list and check us out on Facebook at **St. Mark Catholic Church High School Youth Group**. The Youth Group at St. Mark has a wonderful opportunity to become more active as ever and participate in so many events with the support of our pastor and our parish. Our opportunities are endless!

TABLE OF PLENTY

By Sharon Mitchell

Saint Mark's ministry to feed those in need has been open for one year. All the components are in place to grow and serve larger numbers. We are ready, willing and able!! We have the best volunteers anyone could ask for; soon we will have a new kitchen at the Newman Center and always have plenty of good food. Thanks to all of our generous parishioners we have everything we need each month. All businesses, churches and even our small ministry must grow to be able to survive and prosper. Can you please help us get the word out about what a worthwhile endeavor this is? If just a small percentage of you will tell people you know to help spread the word, we would have the number of men, women and families we have always hoped for. People that frequent the Food Stamp office, Salvation Army, and the Foothills offices desperately need food, kindness shown to them and hope that someone cares about their needs. Our ministry certainly does!!

Can you help us find a way for more people in need to make it to our door? It's open every third Saturday of the month and after the renovation we will be ready for greater numbers. Can we all pull together to make our next year more successful? With God's help and yours, I think we can!!

St. Mark Church Ivy

By Pat Reister

In the late 1970's, my 2 little boys and some of their friends used to delight in climbing up the outside stone walls of our church while their parents were visiting and chit-chatting on the front sidewalk after Sunday Mass. I suppose their little feet and hands fit the grooves and outcroppings of the rocks, and having little fear, on up they would go. Thank heavens that their senses and/or parental admonishment would always bring them down safely.

One such day, I noticed a small tuft of a green plant growing out of a mortar joint about 8 feet up the wall. That really intrigued me and I began to see that ivy was growing all along the front of the church and the next door building (which is now gone). It was such a delicate, pretty plant with little flowers but tough enough to grow out of a rock with seemingly little nourishment. Of course those plants on the ground were thicker, greener, and had more

flowers, and would even pop out during one of those mild spells which we have during our winters. After a few years I decided to make a cutting of it and take it to the County Agricultural Agent and have it identified. With his help, the University of Kentucky sent a report that said it was Kenilworth Ivy.

Research tells me that Kenilworth Ivy is named after Kenilworth Castle in England, about 90 miles northwest of London. Kenilworth Castle dates back to the 12th Century and I suppose that person who first started writing down things connected the plant that was growing there with the castle and came up with Kenilworth Ivy. It likes to live around rocks and flagstones with occasional moisture. How did it get started at St. Mark Church? Word of mouth has it that the mother of the late, beloved parishioner Bill Elder planted it. The Elder family was here when the stone church was built and the Elder and Burch families are remembered in a stained glass window. Emma Esker and I have a special interest in the little plant and have been successful in growing some at home. I have a healthy patch of it growing at an edge of a brick patio. It seems to be happiest if just left alone. One year I dosed it with Miracle Grow and nearly killed it.

Happy gardening.



Kenilworth Ivy
Cymbalaria muralis



HAPPY FATHERS DAY TO ALL OF
OUR DADS!



HELP WANTED: Assistant Editor for *St. Mark Messenger* newsletter. Call Linda Maxwell @ (859) 582-4172 or email writeronthestorm@hotmail.com if you have writing, publishing or photography interest!



Knights of Columbus Annual Mid-Summer Jamboree



Richmond Centre Near Hastings
Saturday July 9th, 2011

Richmond, KY
8am to 3pm

Entertainment & DJ Provided By
The Ice Man



Trophies to the Top 75

*Best of Show Pre 1988
(5 foot trophy)

*Best of Show 1989 – Present
(5 foot trophy)

*Jack Patty WVLC 590AM Award
(36" 3 Post Trophy)

Best 2001 – 2011
Best 1991 – 2000
Best 1981 – 1990
Best 1971 – 1980
Best 1961 – 1980
Best 1951 – 1960
Best 1941 – 1950
Best Pre 1940
Best Truck

*Has opportunity to be on
next year's T-shirt and Flyer.

- First 50 entrants receive a commemorative T-Shirt.
- Dash Plaques presented to the first 100 registered vehicles.

- Car Show Free to the Public
- Food and Beverages Available
- Open to Cars, Hotrods, and Trucks
- 50/50 Jar, Door Prizes, Great Fun

Schedule:

- ✓ Registration from 8 – 11:30am
- ✓ Entry Fee is \$20.00
- ✓ Professional Judging

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