



## **THE WEEKLY WORD – April 22, 2026**

### **THIRD WEEK OF EASTER**

*St. George's Mission  
Committed Christians  
providing hope, help, and hospitality  
in Northern Newport News*

**Join us at St. Mark's on Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**

**Celebrating Feast of St Mark**

**Holy Eucharist Rite II**

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS MONTH**

**Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> NOT Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am we will be at 1UCC, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 1017 Todd's Lane, Hampton, Va. 23666 to celebrate with our PMP family The Feast of St. Mark the Apostle.**

**To Join Service on Saturday at St Mark's please see below Zoom link**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430506697?pwd=bUluNDZES1JscHFTcjdaQlptL2FEdz09>

Meeting ID: 844 3050 6697

Password: 5414

One tap mobile  
+13017158592,,84430506697# US

Dial by your location  
+1 301 715 8592 US  
+1 253 215 8782 US  
+1 267 831 0333 US  
Meeting ID: 844 3050 6697

### **Celebration of Life for Vincent Steele**

Celebration of Life for Vincent Steele will be held at St. George's Episcopal Church, Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00p.m. with reception following.

### **We will not have a service at St. George's Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.**

### **The PMP is partnering with the United Way of the Virginia Peninsula for the 2026 Feminine Care Drive.**

The goal of this drive is to provide much-needed feminine care products to members of our community.

Feminine care items are essential, yet they are typically not covered by other assistance programs. Thanks to the generosity of our community, last year the United Way collected and distributed more than 1,500 items, and they are excited to support women across our community again this year.

St. George's will collect these items through Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> or taken to St. Mark's Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> when the PMP will celebrate St. Mark's Day.

### **Important Parish Information and Schedule of Services through end of May**

As announced in church this last Sunday, David and Lisa Adams will be out of the country from April 29 through May 31<sup>st</sup>. Any general church business questions or concerns that arise should be directed to our vestry: Gerry Belden, Joan Jenkins or Sarah Thurmond. You may also call the church office at (757) 877-0088 and Dana can relay messages to one or more vestry persons. Rev. Charlie will be returning to California from May 14<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> to clear out his brother Colman's apartment and preside

over a memorial service. **The Rev. Rhonda Wheeler**, rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Hampton will be the emergency clergy contact during his time away.

Rhonda's cell number is (757) 880-5632.  
Her office number is: 757-723-8144 ext 11.

In addition, here is the schedule of services:

May 3: Morning Prayer led by Laura Stepp

May 10: PMP Patron Saint Celebration of St. George. St. Mark's and St. Augustine's will join us for worship and fellowship. **Please bring a light snack to contribute to coffee hour.** Reminder: Collection will be taken for the Army Emergency Relief Fund (AER) in recognition of St. George's designation as patron saint of soldiers.

May 17: TBD - Since neither David Adams or Laura Stepp will be available to lead Morning Prayer, please check the next Weekly Word for information regarding other options for worship

May 24 - Pentecost Sunday - Rev. Dr. Derek Pringle will be our celebrant. St. Mark's will join us for worship.

May 31 - Morning Prayer led by Laura Stepp

### **Peninsula Ministry Partnership (St. Augustine's, St. George's, and St. Mark's)**

#### **Sharing our Ministry Together**

#### **Thursday Bible Study this Thursday, April 23rd**

Held 7-8 pm; new attendees welcome! Material used is published on the Episcopal website written by church teachers, organized by liturgical occasion & church season.

Join the Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84370729616?pwd=M2JoVGw1bVpEMFBFTk55QWphN2RPdz09>

#### **Honoring St. George on May 10**

Many people associate St. George with the legend of his bravery in slaying a dragon to save a princess. However, his real identity was that of a soldier and Christian martyr who gave his wealth to the poor and refused to renounce his faith. Because of

his "warrior spirit," George became the patron saint of soldiers, scouts and knights. The Vestry of St. George's decided that a great way to honor St. George would be to support our neighboring soldiers at Ft. Eustis. Therefore, on Sunday May 10th, we will take up a special collection that will be given to the Army Emergency Relief Fund (AER) to help soldiers and their families in times of financial emergencies. If you would like to make a donation, you can put cash in the collection plate, or a check made out to St. George's Episcopal Church, with AER on the note line. We honor St. George by honoring the brave men and women who sacrifice their lives to protect our freedoms.

### **Invitation to Compline with St. Mark's**

On Wednesday evenings at 7pm, St. Mark's hosts a service of healing prayers, followed by either traditional Compline or New Zealand Night Prayers. This usually takes no more than 20 minutes.

They would love to have other members of the PMP join them. It's presently hosted on the St. Mark's Zoom channel (info is below or click the Zoom icon at the bottom of [www.smechampton.org](http://www.smechampton.org)).

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430506697?pwd=bUlUNDZES1JscHFTcjdaQlptL2FEdz09>

**Meeting ID: 844 3050 6697**

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+1 267 831 0333 US

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### **ECW Master Class with Visual Artist Synthia Saint James!**

On May 9, the ECW of the Diocese of Southern Virginia is honored to host a Master Class with renowned visual artist Synthia Saint James. This promises to be an extraordinary experience, and you may attend in person or via Zoom.

#### In-Person Location

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 2515 Marshall Ave., Newport News, VA 23607

#### Virtual Participation

Zoom Link will be sent to you after you register. We will send a list of materials you will need for the workshop. (Please note: In person attendees will have supplies provided at no cost.)

#### Schedule

- 10:00 a.m. Arrival and Registration
- 10:30 a.m. ECW Spring Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Lunch
- 12:00 p.m. Master Class with Synthia Saint James
- 1:30 p.m. Adjourn

*All required supplies for the class will be provided for in-person participants at St. Augustine's. Online participants will receive a list of supplies when they register.*

## Registration

To register, please use the form at

<https://forms.gle/hUEGBEwjGkLaLcUj6> **Questions?** Email Ann Ifekwunigwe at [annifekwunigwe@gmail.com](mailto:annifekwunigwe@gmail.com)

- Online participants will receive the Zoom link upon registration.
- **In-person lunch** is provided at a cost of **\$10**.
  - Mail checks to: **Joanne Alston-Hooker, Treasurer, PO BOX 1272, Newport News, VA 23601**
  - You may also pay at the door, but **advance reservations are required**.

**Registration deadline:** Thursday, April 30th at 5:00 p.m.

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## About Synthia Saint James

Synthia Saint James is a celebrated American visual artist, author, and educator known for her bold, vibrant, multicultural artwork. She created the original cover art for Terry McMillan's *Waiting to Exhale* and designed the first U.S. Postal Service Kwanzaa stamp (1997). Her work is featured internationally, and she is also a prolific writer and illustrator of children's books as well as a dedicated instructor.

## **Experience a Closer Relationship with Christ at Cursillo #176 Weekend** **Thursday, May 14 – Sunday, May 17**

Are you yearning for a deeper connection with Christ? Discover the path to a more profound faith journey through Cursillo, a short course in Christian life.

### **What is Cursillo?**

Cursillo is an enriching experience that allows you to strengthen your faith and love for Christ in a welcoming and supportive community. It's a chance to deepen your spirituality and explore your relationship with God.

### **Don't Let the Fee Deter You**

We believe that this spiritual journey should be accessible to all. If the fee poses a challenge, please know that scholarship funds are available. Don't hesitate to apply; your faith is worth it.

### **How to Apply**

Talk to fellow church members who have attended Cursillo or consult with your priest to obtain an application form. This is your opportunity to enrich your faith journey, so seize it!

For additional information, please [fill out our Google form](#) and someone will be in contact!

### **Live into Bishop Susan's Diocesan Initiatives**

If you are looking to align with Bishop Susan's diocesan initiatives and strengthen your faith, Cursillo Weekend is tailor-made for you.

For more information or to request an application, please contact us at [laydirector@cursillodiosovamail.com](mailto:laydirector@cursillodiosovamail.com) or visit [chanco.org](http://chanco.org).



### **Change for Chanco**

**Let's make a splash together!** Each summer, campers make Chanco on the James even better through the Change for Chanco initiative. This year, your gift will help install a **Typhoon Swimming Pool Slide**, adding excitement and adventure to the pool area. Together, campers and friends can leave a lasting legacy that future campers will enjoy for generations. Plus, a little friendly competition makes it even more fun:

**The campsite that raises the most money in support of the Change for Chanco slide will win an ice cream party during their session!**

**Donations can be made:**

- Online at <https://givebutter.com/Ox4IX9>
- By scanning the QR code below  
By check: Please include your camper's name and "C4C26" in the memo line

- By cash: Sent with your camper in their Change for Chanco box **Join the fun, help us reach new heights (and new splashes!), and contribute to Change for Chanco to help make our water slide a reality. Thank you for your generosity.**



[DONATE TODAY](#)

## **EPISCOPAL 101: For the Curious and More!**

Are you new to the Episcopal Church? Would you like to learn more about the church's history, her customs and traditions, her theological understandings? Been around for a while and still curious about why we do this and that?

Never been **Confirmed**? Confirmed in another faith but ever been officially **Received** into the Episcopal tradition? Or maybe you might be interested in recommitting to your faith with an official **Reaffirmation** of your Baptismal Vows? Or maybe you're just interested in brushing up on your Episcopal know-how.

Join Fr. Charlie for a journey into the heart of the "Anglican identity and ethos" as we explore the depths of our particular approach to the Christian faith. We'll look into our history, our approach to theology and biblical interpretation, how we make decisions at local, regional and international levels, our experience over time with social justice movements, and our worship. Bring your questions, ideas, and "things that make you go hmmm."

We will meet at a mutually convenient day and time starting in Lent for a short series of 90-minute sessions. Interested? Please email Fr. Charlie at [c\\_de\\_kay@hotmail.com](mailto:c_de_kay@hotmail.com).

## St. George's News

### PLUMBING NEWS

Thanks be to God, the re-routing of the plumbing in Gravely Hall is complete! New toilets have been delivered and were installed on Thursday, April 9. Once new flooring has been installed, we will have a "grand" reopening of the bathrooms to celebrate the end to a long and difficult journey.

### St. George's Prayer List

*Deania, Teresa & Steve S., Davidsinia, Christina M., Richard, Linell, Henrietta, Lacy, Wil, David G., Peggy, Skip J., Darlene M., Gale, Sandra, Serena, Gerald, Joan M., Carmen, Jennifer H., Bobby, Gwen, Candace, Urith, Janette, Phyllis M., Calvin, Richard and Ronda T., Mary S., Pamela E., Bill B., Leslie T., Brian M., Connie, Billy, Celestina, Thelma, Aimee S., Mark, Yvette, and Connie H. **And Our Military:** Eduardo, Joe, Ashley, Charles, Anthony, Nyla, and Dominique.*

## Readings for April 26th

### The First Lesson

#### **Acts 2:42-47**

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved

## The Psalm

### Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

## The Epistle

### 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## The Gospel

### **John 10:1-10**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."