

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

From St. Mark's, via Zoom, we will have our Fifth Sunday of Easter service at 10:00 a.m. on May 10th. The Worship Leaflet for this service can be found [HERE](#) or on the front page of our website.

For the Zoom meeting link and password, please contact [parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org) or [mark@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:mark@saintmarks-stl.org)

Please note that with their enhanced security procedures Zoom may require the input of a password after you click the meeting link. Having to do so may also be dependent on the type of device you have. We have also heard that using the Safari browser was problematic for some but that swapping over to Chrome addressed the problem.

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### Church Reopening Guidelines

As mentioned in Zoom Church last week, the Diocese has issued guidelines for the reopening of worship/meeting spaces for when we eventually have evidence that cases of COVID-19 are declining and have done so for at least a fourteen day stretch (based on data from government health sources).

All churches in the Diocese are closed through May 31<sup>st</sup>. The guidelines do not mean that come June 1<sup>st</sup> spaces will automatically reopen. Each parish needs to deal with their individual context and demographic. Additionally, we will need to understand what precautions need to be in place and what that means to our worship experience. As you can imagine, there is much for the clergy and lay leadership to discuss and address even before any date(s) to reopen can be broached.

With this in mind, please note that while this will be the main topic of discussion at the May 12<sup>th</sup> Vestry Meeting, it is doubtful that any firm date or even timeline will be the product of that meeting. Know that the leadership of St. Mark's is committed to returning to in-person worship with the safety of all of our members at the forefront of all decisions. And while we all look forward to that time in which we are able to meet in person again, we look forward to seeing you in Zoom Church on Sunday!

### NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

**Congratulations on your retirement, Bishop Smith!** He officially retired on April 30. Bishop Smith reflected on his role as bishop and shared advice with our bishop-elect in a virtual fireside chat on April 25th. You can watch this personal chat between our 10th and (soon to be) 11th bishops by going to the Diocesan website at [www.diocesemo.org](http://www.diocesemo.org).

**After the global upheaval** that has upended lives all over the world—and delayed the ordination of our 11th bishop—the Diocese of Missouri is back on track to consecrate Bishop-elect Deon Johnson. A decidedly scaled back version of the ordination and consecration service is set for **11 a.m. on June 13 at Christ Church Cathedral**—and the service comes equipped with a Plan A and a Plan B, depending on how well the region emerges from the stay-at-home orders. For more information see the Diocesan website.



## MARGARET BELIEU

Dear All,

Sadly, I write to inform you of the death of Dennis Belieu's mother, Margaret, who died suddenly this week in Florida. Dennis and Carlos are now in Florida beginning to deal with her passing. Please pray for the repose of Margaret's soul, and hold Dennis and Carlos and Dennis' sister Erin in your prayers.

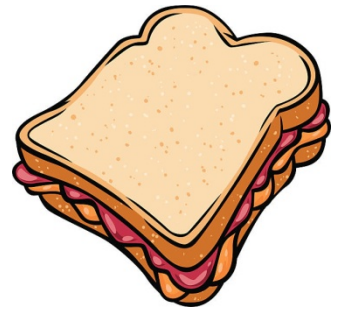
Blessings, Mark+

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### **Sandwich Ministry for the Unhoused**

In conjunction with Christ Church Cathedral (CCC) St. Mark's has the opportunity to provide sandwiches to the unhoused population in downtown St. Louis. This would be an ongoing, weekly ministry. Sandwiches would be made at home and then dropped at St. Mark's where they would be gathered and taken to CCC each Thursday by noon.

There are very specific instructions on making the sandwiches: all surfaces disinfected, gloves/masks worn, sandwiches sealed in zip-lock bags then returned to the plastic sleeve the bread loaf came in.



Only two types of sandwiches are requested: peanut butter and jelly and salami and cheese. These survive well without intense refrigeration and happen to be the favorites of the folks who will eat them. Also, only soft bread (no hearty or crusty bread) as a number of the recipients have dental issues.

At a minimum we would need to have two folks each week making sandwiches. Ideally, we would have a pool of eight (or more) makers so we could rotate teams of two (or more) on a monthly basis.

Before we can commit to this ministry we need to know what interest there is at St. Mark's. Please contact Deacon Jerre at [jebirdsong@att.net](mailto:jebirdsong@att.net) to let him know if you are interested. There is ample funding on hand to offset cost of supplies if needed.

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