

MARK TIMES

NEWS & NOTES FOR MARCH 22, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, March 23:	6:00PM	Pastoral Care committee – conference room
	6:30PM	Yoga – Parish Hall
	7:00PM	Church Council meeting - CR
Wednesday, March 25:	6:00PM	Soup supper – Parish Hall
	7:00PM	Lent Evening Prayer - church
Thursday, March 26:	4:00PM	Chancel choir
	5:45PM	Bell Choir
Saturday, March 28:	9:00AM	Church and chapel cleaning day



The Bunny Bazaar is Here!

Today, **Sunday, March 22**, in the tradition of November's "Pumpkin Palooza," St. Mark and St. George's host an Easter/Spring-themed **bake sale and craft sale** between and after all three services, with proceeds to **benefit our combined Food Pantry**. Come shop a variety of Easter/spring treats and crafts!

Palm/Passion Sunday Next Week – EARLY START

We celebrate Palm/Passion Sunday **NEXT Sunday, March 29**. Remember that we begin worship at **8:50AM** in the **chapel**.



Proclaim Christ's Resurrection with Easter Flowers!

Special envelopes can be found in the pews. Please complete the front portion of the envelope and return it, with a check or cash, to the offering box or to the office **by Tuesday, March 31**. All dedications will be printed in the bulletin.

Final Midweek Lenten Soup Supper This Week

Come enjoy the Lenten season's last evening of fellowship over a meal of soup and salad at **6:00PM** in the Parish Hall this **Wednesday, March 25**, before joining us in the church for **evening prayer** at **7:00PM** (see below).

St. Mark Offerings for 3/15: General Fund: **\$2,450**; Coffee Fund: \$72;

Lenten Evening Prayer: *Ad Astra per Aspera*

We conclude our Lenten journey this **Wednesday at 7:00PM** in the church with the final session of our evening prayer series: “*Ad Astra Per Aspera: A Trek Through Lent.*” Using a space exploration theme inspired by events like Sputnik, the Space Shuttle Challenger, Apollo 13, and more, we explore how faith carries us “*through hardships to the stars.*” The service includes Scripture, prayer, and reflection in the style of Evening Prayer from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Come be grounded in God’s grace as we trek together toward Easter hope.

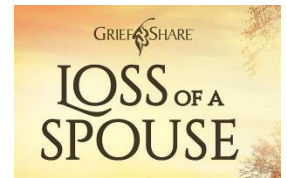


Easter Vigil on April 4 at 7pm

This year, the Vigil of Easter falls on the first Saturday of April, which is the same as our regular SHINE contemporary service. Thus, we are using the opportunity to hold a traditional Easter Vigil service on **Saturday, April 4 at 7:00PM***. Weather permitting, we will begin in the courtyard for the lighting of the new fire, and process to the chapel for worship. The liturgy will include only five of the traditional 12 readings, and music will be provided by our SHINE musicians. Plan to join us for this unique worship experience! **Note the special start time to be closer to sunset.*

GriefShare: *Loss of a Spouse* Event on April 18

People who are widowed haven’t just lost a **loved one**; they’ve lost an *entire lifestyle*. This one-day, two-hour session GriefShare session hopes to offer support, clarity, and peace during this unsettling time.



You will meet people who understand what you are going through in a safe space to talk, be encouraged, and connect. This 2-hour seminar includes a short video featuring expert Christian counselors, authors, and pastors, followed by small-group discussion.

Join St. Mark’s special session, led by Nurse Becky, on **Saturday, April 18 from 1–3 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. The free event includes a video, group discussion, and a Survival Guide. Pre-registration is required at <https://find.griefshare.org/events/290253>

Happy Birthday Ola!

Ola Fulton, a charter member of St. Mark along with her husband Bob, celebrates her 93rd birthday on March 29. Though she has lived in Carbondale for much of the last decade, this congregation continues to hold a special place in her heart, and vice versa. Her family tells us that receiving mail is a highlight of her day and wanted to make sure St. Mark members were aware so that we might send her birthday cards. Her address is:

Ola Fulton
2950 Westridge Place,
Apartment 111
Carbondale, IL 62901.

