



# St. Mark's Narrative Budget 2019/20

A B E A C O N O F F A I T H , H O P E A N D L I G H T

July 14, 2019

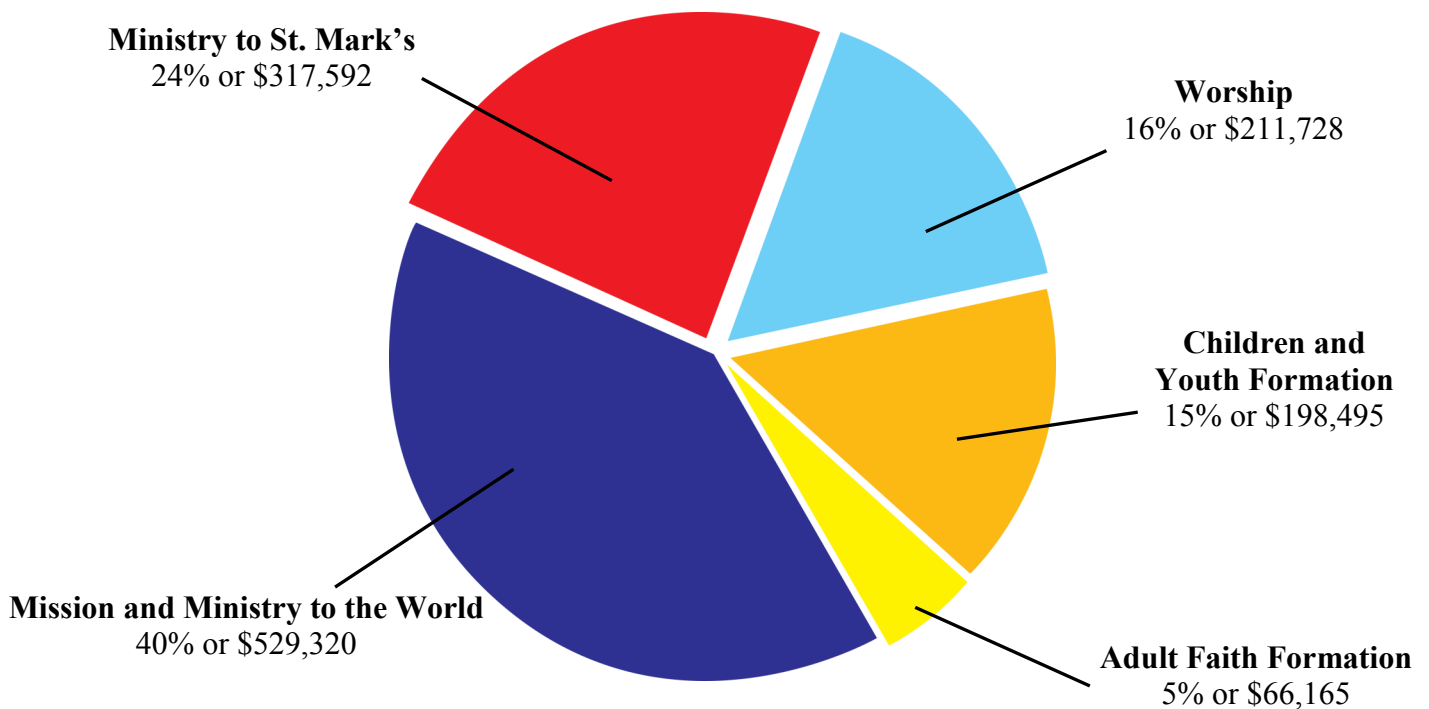
At St. Mark's Church, we strive to give financially from the *First Fruits of our Hearts*. Rather than giving to God what is left over after we pay our bills or save for our retirements or pay off our loans, we seek to give God our first, our best, our all. And that is not easy. Jesus knows we are prone to insecurity and the illusion of scarcity. He understands that we are afraid of not having enough and that we trust in ourselves more than in God. And yet, when we give to God the first fruits of our labor – the first fruits of our hearts – we are set free from the burden of securing our own futures. Instead, we put our security in God.

As you review this summary of how St. Mark's stewards your gifts to God given for the mission and ministry of this community of faith, I hope you see how every dollar you share from your first fruits goes to building the Kingdom of God. Your generosity changes lives of people you may never know, because that is how God works when we trust God and let go of our fears.

See you Sunday!

The Rev. James B. Cook  
Rector

## Financial Expenditures for Ministries at St. Mark's (Operating Budget: \$1,323,300)



## Worship

**16% or \$211,728**

Worship is the heart of our life together as a congregation. Nearly 25,000 people attended weekend worship services during the past year, while another 47,000 attended weekday services. In worship, we are formed into the body of Christ as we gather to give God our thanks and praise. We trust that when we worship together with pure hearts and in community, effective evangelism is the natural outgrowth. At St. Mark's, we strive to make all worship relevant, reverent and worthy of God, and this requires much planning, preparation and strong leadership.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support worship at St. Mark's:

- The Choir of St. Mark's
- Full-time Director of Music
- Excellence in preaching
- Clergy and staff leadership
- Altar Guild supplies
- Flower Guild
- Seasonal decorations and musicians
- Lights/air conditioning/ cleaning/building maintenance
- Bulletins and *Weekly News* inserts
- Instrument maintenance and repairs
- Scheduling and training for acolytes/lay readers/chalice bearers/ushers/greeters/coffee hour hosts/Eucharistic visitors/hospitality shoppers/offering counters/vestry hosts
- Vergers
- Coffee hour fellowship supplies
- St. Mark's Children's Choir Camp

## Children and Youth Formation

**15% or \$198,495**

St. Mark's is blessed with an abundance of children and youth. During the summer of 2019, 30 middle school and high school youth participated in local and national mission trips, while youth groups meet weekly all year long. Sunday School meets weekly for our younger children, while a professionally staffed nursery assures our youngest members receive the best care possible. Vacation Bible School at St. Mark's ministers to nearly 200 children and volunteers for a week each June, while the congregation supports an active ministry with scouts. St. Mark's supports the largest acolyte ministry in the diocese with more than 50 children (3rd grade through high school) participating. And don't forget: our primary mission at St. Mark's is our school, which serves 475 students annually in grades PK through 8<sup>th</sup>. The clergy and program staff spend about a quarter of their time ministering to St. Mark's School, through worship, teaching and administrative leadership. The school's operating budget, which is separate from the church operating budget, is more than \$7 million annually.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Children and Youth Ministry at St. Mark's:

- Middle School Youth Group
- Sr. High Youth Group
- Mission Trips Locally and Nationally
- Sunday School
- Vacation Bible School
- Baptismal preparation
- Professionally staffed nursery
- Full-time Youth Director
- Acolyte Program
- Special retreats and programs
- Transportation
- Parish events that cater to children
- Building maintenance/ cleaning/air conditioning/ lights
- Clergy and staff leadership, including leading all school worship services and occasional teaching
- Family Fun Day
- St. Mark's Children's Choir Camp

**Adult Faith Formation****5% or \$66,165**

Making the commitment to follow Christ means aligning our lives with the teachings and guidance of Jesus. His death and resurrection have opened for us a way in life that does not have room for fear, and so we learn day by day how to live new lives of faith in a God who has opened the gate to eternity for us. At St. Mark's, we are blessed with many opportunities to engage our faith in meaningful ways.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Adult Faith Formation at St. Mark's:

- Excellence in preaching
- Clergy and staff leadership
- The Peace Lecture Series
- Community of the Cross of Nails
- Labyrinth/spiritual direction
- Retreats, new member "Boot Camp"
- Bible and book studies
- Confirmation classes
- Marriage preparation classes
- Mark's Men
- Cursillo and Reunion Groups
- Daughters of the King
- Guest presenters and lecturers
- Education for Ministry (EfM)
- Episcopal Church Women (ECW)
- Air Conditioning/building maintenance/lighting/cleaning
- Lenten Series
- Inter-faith Pilgrimage to Holy Land

**Mission and Ministry to the World****40% or \$529,320**

St. Mark's seeks to serve all persons in Christ through countless ministries and missions locally, nationally and internationally. Raising funds for home repairs in Riviera Beach or raising funds for students and farmers in Kenya are just the tip of the iceberg for the many ways we serve others while shining as a beacon of faith, hope and light. This year we have been renovating in Riviera Beach our second Hearts of Palm House, where a family from The Lord's Place will find temporary, transitional housing. St. Mark's has also been deeded diocesan property in Pahokee as a future ministry site.

As our parish grows, so does our diocesan assessment that is used to support clergy in small urban congregations; assist with disaster relief around the globe; underwrite services provided by the bishop and diocesan staff such as insurance, communications, clergy counsel and congregational development; missions and ministries of the national Episcopal Church, and Episcopal Charities.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Mission and Ministry to the World:

- Family Promise
- Building maintenance/air conditioning/cleaning/lights
- Hearts of Palm
- Clergy and staff leadership
- Hosting self-help groups
- Mothers of Pre-Schoolers (MOPS)
- The Mama Ada Foundation (Kenya)
- KIVA small-business loans in Third World
- Expansion to Pahokee
- Toy and Train Show
- The Lion's Den Café and Bookstore
- *Listen. Think. Pray.*
- Bridges of Palm Beach County
- St. Mark's Thrift Shop
- Stitch 'N Stuff Prayer Bear Ministry
- Flower delivery
- Discretionary Fund for assistance
- St. George's Church and Community Center
- CROS Ministries
- The Lord's Place
- St. Mark's School
- Real Life Children's Ranch
- Supportive housing through HOP House

**Ministry to St. Mark's**

**24% or \$317,592**

Serving one another as Christ serves us is what makes a community strong. At St. Mark's, we seek to build friendships, form new relationships, reach across barriers of age and gender, race and nationality; and ensure that we are caring for one another in all possible ways so that no one is left out in the caring hands and hearts of so many who call St. Mark's home.

New this year is the Handyman Ministry sponsored by the Mark's Men. Parishioners receive minor household maintenance and repair services from volunteers.

Financial expenditures in the following areas support Ministry to St. Mark's:

- Clergy counseling, pastoral care and visitations
- Social Media Coordinator
- Communications Coordinator
- Funeral and marriage support
- Mailings that educate and inform parishioners
- Web site maintenance; Facebook updates and all social media ministry that includes *Vestry Updates*
- *Listen. Think. Pray.*
- Building maintenance/lighting/cleaning/air conditioning
- Financial management and record-keeping, membership records and directories
- Audit
- Mortgage Payments
- Development Office
- Endowment Marketing and Management
- Stewardship Campaign
- Eucharistic Visitors
- Communications/marketing
- Building-use schedules and contracts
- Special events, dinners, luncheons
- Breaking Bread
- St. Mark's Mobile App
- St. Mark's Cares and Shepherd's Program
- New member incorporation
- Family Fun Day
- Handyman Ministry

**Parish Income  
(Operating Budget: \$1,323,300)**

