

July 17th, 2020

While I'm away these next two weeks, I'm very grateful that Fr. Michael Hiller is willing to be your first port of call for pastoral emergencies: give him a ring at 415-999-8606, or email at mpriestly@batnet.com. He will also be filling in for me at the Wednesday public office hours on Zoom. (Please note the new Zoom link below; the previous link will no longer work.) Thank you, Fr. Hiller!

A reminder to all that we'll be having sung Morning Prayer these next two Sundays rather than offering the Eucharist. While it's not ideal as the principal act of Sunday worship, this service has a long track record of feeding generations of Anglicans, in "all sorts and conditions" of circumstances. Indeed it forms our daily pattern at St. Mark's — Morning Prayer together with Evening Prayer make up the "Daily Office," the backbone of our public praying life and that of parishes, cathedrals, and other institutions all over the Anglican Communion.

What you'll see in the livestream on Sunday more or less corresponds with what happens day by day in the chapel (in normal times! and in my apartment during this time of COVID) — with the addition of a few hymns, musical settings of the office canticles, and a brief "meditation" prepared for the occasion. The Daily Office is a pattern of public prayer designed for communities, but it also works well as a private, personal devotion, too. If you've never tried it before, or if it's been some time since you've picked it up, let this be an invitation to give it a go. You can find a particularly helpful online resource at the [Mission of St. Clare](#).

In the meantime, prayers and blessings to you all from David and me over these next two weeks. See you on August 2!

Yours faithfully,

Fr. Blake+