



# THE GOOD NEWS

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Sunday, November 07, 2021

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## Church Calendar

All meetings/events must be scheduled thru the office. Don't see your event? Email [parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org) or call the office, 909.920.5565 to schedule a date and time with the rooms available.

### November 07-13 at St. Mark's

Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday, 9AM to 11AM, Thursday 8AM to 2PM

- **11/07 Daylight Savings begins.** Please set your clocks back 1 hour. Consider rotating your pantry and donating to the Foothill Family Shelter and TOUCH, those items that may be nearing expiration. Please do not bring expired goods, they cannot be distributed.
- **Sunday 8 AM and 10 AM Holy Eucharist**, In-person and streaming online. Bulletins are available in church, e-mail, and online. Please print the bulletin to use at home. Hymnals are available for home use, contact the church office to arrange pick up. Streaming on Facebook or online at: [In-Spirit Worship \(stmarks-upland.org\)](https://www.stmarks-upland.org)
- **Sunday 9:50 AM Sunday School.** Catechesis for children ages 3-6 in the Chapel. Journey with God for children ages 7-10 in the Curriculum Room off the Parish Hall. All children welcome!
- **Sunday – Worship Committee Meeting**
- **Monday – Friday 9 AM – Zoom Morning Prayer & Bible Study.** <https://zoom.us/j/93780545256>  
Download prayer sheets from the website: <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/morning-prayer/>
- **Tuesday, 4PM Choristers on Zoom.** Contact [music@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:music@stmarks-upland.org) for more information.
- **Wednesday, 9 AM, St. Peter's Guild.** Card games and other activities in person. Info: [stpeters@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:stpeters@stmarks-upland.org).
- **Wednesday, 10:30 AM Men's Coffee Fellowship.** Bad Ass Coffee, Rancho Cucamonga. Info: [menscoffee@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:menscoffee@stmarks-upland.org).
- **Wednesday, 5:00 PM – Handbell Rehearsal**, in the parish hall. Masks required.
- **Wednesday, 7:30 PM Taizé.** In person and streaming online.
- **Thursday, 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal**, in the parish hall, masks and vaccinations required.

### LOOKING AHEAD

- 11/14 Regular 8&10AM service continue (10AM Livestream via the Diocese cancelled)
- 11/14 Celebration of Birthdays, anniversaries, and life hallmarks. Postponed from Nov 7 due to a full service. Thank you for your flexibility.
- 11/20 Parish Workday 8 AM to 12 Noon
- 11/21 St. Andre's Sunday & Consecration Sunday w/ Hot Dogs
- 12/05 St. Nicholas Dinner 3PM \$10/person. **Vaccinations required for those 12 & up**
- Preschool Nativity Pageant Dec. 10th at 6:30PM.

## Health & Community Protocols for Worship

**It is strongly recommended that unvaccinated individuals (12 & up) participate online and that all (2 & up) wear a mask even if fully vaccinated. We are glad you are here.**

Proof of Vaccination: Those 12 years and older, please bring proof of vaccination during November and December.

Masks must be worn at all times by those 2 years and up.

Social distancing: Please be respectful of those around you and adjust as you are able to for healthy spaces between households. We appreciate everyone's patience and flexibility.

Since children under age 12 cannot yet be vaccinated, all direct physical contact with young children should be avoided; elbow bumps are fine, but no hugs or handshakes.

For the “peace exchange,” everyone's space and sensitivities should be respected. If someone offers their elbow, fist, or a peace sign, please respond appropriately. Do NOT assume physical affection. The peace of Christ is offered and given with enthusiastic consent.

Restrooms: Out of respect to those who are not able to receive the vaccination and in order to maintain physical distancing in the restrooms, we ask that only one person or household use the restroom at a time.

Hospitality: We offer a limited in-person coffee hour in the Parish Hall. To reduce multiple handling of shared objects such as the coffee urn, hot water dispenser, and serving utensils, please let the hospitality host serve you.

### Proof of Vaccination for A Safer and Healthier Christmas Eve

St. Mark's joins a growing number of congregations including our Cathedral, St. John's Los Angeles requiring proof of vaccination for those 12 years old and older for Christmas Eve services. Masks must be worn by everyone 2 years old and older.

How come?

Vaccinations are essential to create a safer and healthier workplace and worship space for all - including employees, volunteers, guests and especially for children not fully vaccinated and vulnerable members and guests.

How can we do this with grace and compassion?

Through communication and practice. During November we will be experimenting with different ways of checking proof. And then during December we will be refining our procedures. Your suggestions, questions, and feedback are appreciated – please find our suggestion basket in the parish hall.

## **BAPTISMAL ANNOUNCEMENT**



To all the Faithful in Christ Jesus throughout the World: Peace be with You!  
Be it known unto you that our beloveds in Christ, Gavin Matthew Vaughn and Gracelyn  
Arlene Vaughn, daughter and son of Christopher Michael Vaughn and Thitirat Vaughn,  
will be baptized with water and the Holy Spirit, on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, being the 25<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday after Pentecost in the year of our Lord twenty-twenty-one at ten o'clock ante meridiem, in  
the midst and witness of Godparents Duangdao Johnson, Birch Price, Christopher Price, Sandy Price,  
Great-grandmother Arlene Lundergan, and the faithful at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Upland,  
California.

## **VESTRY NEWS**

### **Vestry Discernment Sessions**

Leadership in our parish is so vital. We are offering four Vestry Discernment sessions this Fall via Zoom or in-person and invite you to attend one of them to determine if you may have a call to serve on the Vestry beginning in 2022. We invite you to come with your interest, concerns or questions. The Zoom discernment sessions are Thursday, November 4 at 7:00 pm and Friday, November 19 at 1:00 pm. Zoom meeting ID: 821 3047 6941. Sunday, November 14 at 11:30 am is at church in the rector's office. You can just drop in or let the rector or vestry member, Andrea Griffin [vestry@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:vestry@stmarks-upland.org) know that you are interested.

### **New Name Tags**

In anticipation of our Christmas Eve services and the need to check vaccination cards at that time, we are providing for all members new name tags with holders that are large enough to accommodate a copy of your vaccination card. This Sunday, please pick up your pre-printed badge from the ushers. Also, to minimize multiple handling of cards and to protect everyone's privacy, we are asking you to keep your badge and lanyard in your vehicle or another safe place like your purse or as a marker in your personal bible or prayerbook. If there is no pre-printed name tag for you this Sunday, please fill out one of the "Request for Name Tag" forms that will be provided in the Narthex and pick yours up next Sunday.

## **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

### **Sunday's Readings:**

[Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9](#)    [John 11:32-44](#)

### **Prayer Requests**

Please send your prayer requests to [prayer@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:prayer@stmarks-upland.org) or complete the prayer request form at <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/saint-marks-prayer-list/>

### **An Invitation to Further Reflection: A Sermon Appraisal**

"An effective sermon offers one clear message of good news authentic to the preacher relevant to the audience holding attention and inviting transformation." from Backstory Preaching Please consider completing a sermon appraisal here:

<https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5820275/Mentorship2-0-2020>

## **COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

### **Canon Serena Beeks to preach November 21 Haiti Partnership**

St. Andre's, our partner in Haiti, needs our prayers, solidarity, and support during this frightening time. Please consider reaching out to your legislators to ask them to push for the

right kinds of emergency humanitarian outreach to Haiti - that is, working through Haitian institutions already on the ground.

St. Andre's and other partner churches, schools, and institutions are out there doing their work and trying to figure out how to keep people safe, healthy, and fed during this very challenging time.

Please keep Haiti in your prayers, in particular, Magdala Fleury, President of the Haiti National Assembly of the Daughters of the King; Pere Colbert, DOK Chaplain for Haiti; Pere Jean Philippe Alphonse, Priest at St. Andre's Episcopal Church, Trianon; Louis Fleuristal, Head of St. Andre School; all students and families at St. Andre Church and School; Eudras Ceus, partnership assistant, translator, and driver; Pere Jeannot Joseph, former Priest at St. Andre; Fanoosh, cook at the rectory of St. Andre's; Sonson Victorin, airport arrivals and departures assistant; and all of the other friends and helpers we've met over the past 22 years.

Senye,  
Mwen konnen ke jaden mwen  
p'ap pouse ni donnен  
si m' pa travay li e voye je sou li.  
Donk, tanpri Senye,  
travay e voye je sou jaden ke mwen.  
Mwen vle donnен pou ou.  
Amen.

Lord,  
I know that my garden  
doesn't grow or bear fruit  
if I don't visit it and watch over it  
So, please, Lord,  
visit and watch over the garden of my heart.  
I want to bear fruit for you.  
Amen.

#### **Dinner with St. Nicholas reservations now open**

This year marks the return of the St. Nicholas Dinner, Sunday, December 5 at 3PM. Tickets are \$10 per person, all ages welcome. We will have an ugly sweater contest (can you unseat Ellen S?) and fun for all ages. Tickets will be on sale Sunday, November 7 until Sunday, November 28. Look for the St Nicholas sign in the Parish Hall, you will find a reservation form and more details about the event. Please note that **vaccinations will be required for all participants aged 12 and older**.

#### **Thank You to a Gracious Benefactor**

Because of the generosity of an anonymous benefactor the preschool teachers and director will be gifted tickets to the St. Nicholas dinner. Thank you so much.

#### **Workday Saturday, November 20, 8 AM to 12 Noon**

We need all sorts of workers. Can you bring or help serve refreshments? Do you know the Dewey decimal system? Can you walk around the campus with a clipboard and tell us what needs TLC for the next Workday? Can you move clocks forward one hour? Can you carefully remove tape? We need you. Please come and help make our campus ready for ministry. Every level of skill appreciated.

#### **Sunday Flowers Have a New Life after the 10AM Service**

The flowers at the altar will be made available following the 10AM service. When available, the Eucharistic Visitors will bring some to our homebound members. Other purposes include: decoration in the parish hall for a fellowship activity, to honor a loved one when visiting a cemetery or the memorial garden, in thanksgiving for a volunteer. Many thanks to the Flower Guild led by Christy Hyder, the Eucharistic Visitors led by Andrea Flasher & Chris Abernathy, and St. Fiacre's Gardening guild led by Kathy Walker.

#### **Sunday Morning Readers**

As you may know, the Sunday 10am service is live streamed on Facebook and YouTube for our friends and parishioners who cannot be with us in person. To welcome and lead everyone in prayer,

we would like to extend an open invitation to all in-person attendees who would like to participate in reading a paragraph or two from the lectern. The qualifications are simple: anyone who can read and speak clearly is welcomed. Contact Andrea Flasher – [readers@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:readers@stmarks-upland.org).

If you are interested in becoming a Lector and reading one of the appointed scriptural Lessons, please contact Chris Watson [lectors@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:lectors@stmarks-upland.org).

### **Coffee Hour hosts needed**

Now that the 8AM service has returned, we are in need of hosts for the 8AM coffee hour. All snacks are prepackaged so no baking required! If you were a host in the past, or if you would like to be a host, please email Sharon Muehlbacher at [hospitality@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:hospitality@stmarks-upland.org) for more information.

### **Parish Staff to Observe Holidays**

Members of the parish staff – whether working from the church or from remote locations – will take days off for several upcoming holidays and observances.

Church offices will be closed on the following dates: Thanksgiving holidays: Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26; Christmas holidays: Friday and Monday, December 24 and 27; and New Year's holidays: Friday, December 31 and January 3.

### **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

The Preschool will be closed for Thanksgiving week, Nov. 22-26. School resumes on Nov 29th.

Last day of school for Christmas holidays, Friday, Dec 17th, noon dismissal, school resumes Jan. 3rd

### **AROUND THE DIOCESE**

#### **Diocesan Convention 2021**

The theme of Diocesan Convention this year is Truth and Love, drawn from Paul's letter to the church in Ephesians 4:14. The convention will take place in person on Saturday, Nov. 13 at the Riverside Convention Center at 9:00 am concluding with Holy Eucharist at the end of the day. There will be an option for delegates to join virtually by Zoom webinar, and convention will be livestreamed on the diocesan [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube](#). Delegates who cannot or choose not to be vaccinated have been asked to attend virtually. Masks are required for in-person attendance. The lay delegates representing St. Mark's are, Kathy Walker, Carol Morgan, and Kimberly Cortner. Lay alternate delegates are Andrea Flasher, John Flasher, Jana Garner and Andrea Griffin. Click [here](#) to read delegate autobiographies.

#### **Diocesan Calendar**

- 11/13 - "Truth and Love" Diocesan Convention, Riverside Convention Center
- 12/11- Deanery 6 Quiet Day by Rev. V.R. Marianne Zahn: St. Hildegard of Bingen. Christ Church Ontario
- 12/19 - Deanery 6 Advent Lessons and Carols, Holy Trinity Covina, at 4PM

### **OUTREACH**

#### **Red Cross Blood Drive Results**

Red Cross blood drive on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> collected 23 units of blood. We had 26 scheduled donors and 3 walk ins. This was our 7<sup>th</sup> blood drive. To date we have collected 199 units of blood. We had 199 donors with 51 of those being 1st time donors and 24 Power Red. Our average is 28 units per drive. Mark your calendars for the **next Blood Drive** St. Mark's Episcopal Church 330 E. 16th St. Upland, 91784 Friday, January 14, 2022, 1 - 7 PM

## **Registration open for United Thank Offering's 2022 Great EpisGOpal Virtual Race**

On the heels of a highly successful inaugural year, the United Thank Offering's [Great EpisGOpal Virtual Race](#) returns Nov. 5-14, with multiple ways to participate and raise funds to support special ministries and missions. Sign up at the link above or donate as part of team St. Mark's through [Eva Castellanos - The Great EpisGOpal Race](#)

### **Touch Ministries**

Collections for TOUCH Ministries should be brought to the church or office or, on Sunday, placed in the Touch bin on the bench at the south entrance of the narthex. Personal hygiene items, clean socks and underwear, gently used shoes, camping equipment, and \$10 gift cards for fast food or Walmart are needed. Any questions, email Dave Nalbach at [touch@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:touch@stmarks-upland.org).

### **Foothill Family Shelter**

Bring nonperishable packaged food, diapers, wipes and gently used clothing to the shelter Tuesday through Friday, 9am-5pm, (closed for lunch from 12-1pm) 1501 W. 9th St, Suite D, Upland. For more information or current needs, contact Yelitza Banuelos at [yelitza@foothillfamilyshelter.org](mailto:yelitza@foothillfamilyshelter.org).

## **STEWARDSHIP**

### **2022 Stewardship Campaign "Every Perfect Gift"**

Please join us for our weekly presenters. Pledge forms have been distributed and are available in the narthex. If you prefer, you may fill out your pledge information through our [website](#). Please know that your information will be confidential and secure. Please read the weekly reflection at the end of the Good News. Questions may be directed to John & Vicki Levario, Stewardship Co-chairs.

### **Your Generous Contributions are Appreciated**

Third quarter pledge statements have been mailed out. Please review your statement for accuracy. We are so blessed to have parishioners who support our ministries. Please continue to send your contributions to St. Mark's Church, 330 E. 16<sup>th</sup> St., Upland, CA 91784. Consider online bill pay for automatic payments, or donate through PayPal: [contributions@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:contributions@stmarks-upland.org)

### **Ways to Give: Planned Giving**

Did you know there are other ways to support your parish Ways in which the church, you, and your loved ones can all benefit at the same time?

Such giving options are called "planned gifts," because with thoughtful planning, you create win-win solutions for you and the faith communities you care about. Whether giving through your will, living trust, qualified retirement plan, or life insurance policy, planning ahead is an expression of commitment through a very special and important form of financial support. To learn more, email [1910legacy@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:1910legacy@stmarks-upland.org)

# Every Perfect Gift



## All Saints: The Gift of Miracles

*Names like this are characteristic of John's highly symbolic gospel. Which we can read as a cosmological tale—unconstrained by time and space—about the human dilemma and the persistent love of God.*

*When the gospel tells us that Lazarus—the suffering one whom God helps—is also the “one Jesus loves,” he represents all those whom Jesus loves. Including all of us: we who suffer, die, know the potential for new life, and—when we’re stuck—need others to take away the stone that holds us back, and unwind the cloths of our pain.*

*We are people who can do great things. And we are also people of great need. To use cosmological terms, we could say that all human beings in all times and places need places to gather and worship and dream. We also need skilled and compassionate pastors to encourage and comfort us as people called to do the work of Jesus. And we need money to pay for all of this, which is where our stewardship come in.*

*God has done, is doing and will do miracles; and we know that God also asks us to participate in the miracles. Sometimes by taking away the stone, sometimes by unbinding a friend, and sometimes even by filling out a pledge card.*

**Julia McCray-Goldsmith** is Priest-in-Charge of Trinity Cathedral in San Jose, California. She often fails to see the stone in front of her or the cloths that bind her, but is grateful to friends who point them out. She lives in a family compound in Berkeley with her husband, married children, disabled sister and the puppy who binds us all together in love and silliness. |

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What does the Bible actually say about who God helps?
2. How has your church community “taken away the stone” or “unwound the cloth” for you, or created opportunities for you to offer that kind of service for others?
3. Is there a saint or a soul in your story who inspires you to greater service and generosity?