



THE GOOD NEWS

Sunday, February 27, 2022

St. Mark's Episcopal Church: A Community of Grace

We spread God's word, love like Jesus, enjoy worshipping together, and help our neighbors.

Pray for Ukraine

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Amen.

Archbishop Justin Welby & Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

Because St. Mark's cares for the young, elderly, and immuno-compromised, because vaccinations are essential to creating a safer/healthier workplace and worship space, because our health and strength are intertwined with one another, and because health is not an individual endeavor, we show proof of vaccination and wear masks for in-the-building services. Masks may be taken off at the pulpit, altar, or presider chairs when reading (not singing). State and health officials allow churches to determine their own mask/vaccination policies. Thank you for your continued support.

Week at a Glance at St. Mark's

Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9AM to 3PM; Closed for lunch 12:30-1PM

- Sunday 8AM and 10AM Holy Eucharist. Both in-person and streaming online on YouTube and Facebook. Go to <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/services/in-spirit-worship/>. Bulletins are available at church, by e-mail, and on the website. Hymnals are available for home use.
- Sunday 9:50AM Sunday School. "Children of the Good Shepherd" for little ones ages 3-6, in the Chapel. "Journey with God," for children ages 7-10, in the Curriculum Room off the Parish Hall (Room 18). All children welcome!
- Monday–Friday 9AM Zoom Morning Prayer and Bible Study. Go to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93780545256>. Download prayer sheets from the website at <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/morning-prayer/>.
- Tuesday 3:30PM Choristers. See Blane Abernathy for more information.
- Wednesday 9AM St. Peter's Guild. Card games and other activities in person. Email stpeters@stmarks-upland.org for more information.
- Wednesday 10:30AM Men's Coffee Fellowship. Meet at Bad Ass Coffee in Rancho Cucamonga. For info email menscoffee@stmarks-upland.org.
- Wednesday 5:00PM Handbell Rehearsal. See Blane Abernathy for more information.
- Wednesday 7:30PM Taizé Service. In person and streaming online on Facebook. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/saintmarksepiscopalparishupland>.
- Thursday 7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal. See Blane Abernathy for more information.

Church Calendar: All meetings/events must be scheduled through the church office. If you don't see your event, email parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org. Or call the church office at 909-920-5565 to schedule a date and time to reserve the rooms that are available.

Health & Safety Notification

Please be aware that one of our parishioners received a positive test for COVID-19 after attending Sunday worship on Feb 20, 2022. We are grateful to members and guests for supporting the health and safety guidelines for all our worship services.

HEALTH & COMMUNITY PROTOCOLS FOR WORSHIP

Unvaccinated individuals ages 12 years and older participate online and all ages 2 years and up wear a mask. Please consider getting a booster and social distancing.

We will be singing less but still having music, be meeting outside for hospitality/coffee hour but still having socially distanced refreshments, and be avoiding large in-person sit-down meals but still be church and community for one another and the world.

Masks: Worn by those 2 years and up. We have disposable (surgical/medical/paper) face masks for your use.

Social distancing: We are respectful of those around us and adjust for healthy spaces between households. Direct physical contact with young children is avoided; elbow bumps are fine, but no hugs or handshakes.

Exchanging "The Peace": Everyone's space and sensitivities are respected. When someone offers their elbow, fist, or a peace sign, we respond appropriately.

Restrooms: If it can wait, only one person/household uses the restroom at a time.

Hospitality: To reduce multiple handling of shared objects such as the coffee urn, hot water dispenser, and serving utensils, we let the hospitality host serve us. For February, we will be outside.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Prayer Requests

Please send your prayer requests to prayer@stmarks-upland.org. Or complete the prayer request form at <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/saint-marks-prayer-list/>

St. Mark's Online/Zoom Lenten Quiet Day, Saturday, March 5, 9AM

Spend a few hours in contemplation during the first week in Lent. A "Quiet Day" will be offered on Saturday, March 5, from 9AM to 12:30PM, on Zoom. Join us for readings, prayers, silence, journaling, etc. Watch for more details. All interested, please email stillpoint@stmarks-upland.org.

VESTRY & PARISH NEWS

Vestry Assignments for 2022

We are pleased to announce the new vestry assignments for this year: Nick Adams - Liaison to the Fellowship groups and the Worship Committee, Dean Billman - Liaison to the Capital Campaign Committee, Karin Brown - Vestry Affairs, Jay Chok - Liaison to the Preschool Board, Kimberly Cortner - Junior Warden and Chair of the Communications Committee, Marcia Godwin - Chair of the Finance Committee including Stewardship, Carol Morgan - Senior Warden and Chair of the Newcomer

Ministry and Capital Campaign Committee, Sharon Muehlbacher - Liaison to the Buildings & Grounds Committee, Barbara Nalbach - Liaison to the Christian Formation groups and the Outreach groups. These vestry members are responsible for reporting on the work of these groups and bringing the groups' concerns to the vestry. You can contact these vestry persons with your questions or suggestions.

COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Shrove Sunday, Feb 27: Bonfire of Disappointment; Palms to Ash; & S'Mores

On Sunday, Feb 27, we will hold a special expanded hospitality hour following the 10AM service. Instead of a pancake/waffle sit-down dinner for Shrove Tuesday (March 1, the day before Ash Wednesday aka Mardi Gras), this year we will shift our tradition to Shrove Sunday, Feb 27, following the 10AM service.

Bonfire of Disappointment

In addition to the burning of palms to ashes, we will be burning representations of all the ways this past year has brought frustration and disappointment. Sample contributions include the following: wedding invitations that had to be skipped, names of those we have missed this year, headlines of stories that revealed the human condition at its worst, and a 2021 appointment calendar.

S'mores

Instead of traditional pancakes for Shrove Sunday, we will use the fire to make smores. Clean out the chocolate and cookie bin and bring a topping for your smore. If you have a favorite marshmallow roasting stick/utensil, please bring it. Parents, please mind your children. Nuts of all sorts will be present at this event.

Fifth Annual Ash & Dash, March 2

Drive-through imposition of ashes will be on Wednesday, March 2, 6-9AM in the front parking area on 16th Street. We set up at 5AM. If you cannot come to our in-building services at 12 noon or 7pm, please drive by.

"Walk in Love" Lent Program, Sundays in Lent: March and April 3

We are all newcomers to the new normal of St. Mark's and the Episcopal Church. For all who have recently joined us in worshiping at St. Mark's, a Newcomer Class will meet on the five Sundays in Lent—March 6, 13, 20, 27, and April 3. Each week, from 9:10-9:50AM in classroom 16 in the Parish Hall, we will have a book discussion on *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. The practicum originally scheduled to follow the 10 AM service has been rescheduled for the season of Easter.

An Invitation to Host a Sunday in Easter for the Newcomer Class | Note New Dates

The originally scheduled Lent practicum program following the 10AM service is rescheduled to happen during the Easter season.

March 1, Shrove Tuesday & Fundraiser, St. John's LaVerne, 6-7:30 pm

A casual, come and go dinner, no tickets required but donations are welcome. Proceeds to benefit St. John's La Verne youth group. At 7pm - a simple liturgy with burial of the Alleluia's and burning of the Palms. Please let the rector or church office know if you are going so that we can give a group RSVP as a courtesy to the event organizers.

Jesus De/Constructed: A 6 Week Lenten Encounter with Jesus

Led by Public Scholar of American Religion Diana Butler Bass (*Freeling Jesus & The Cottage* newsletter) and Postdoc Research Fellow in Theology & Science at the University of Edinburgh Tripp Fuller (*Divine Self-Investment & Homebrewed Christianity* podcast). Session titles include: De/Constructing Jesus & the Lenten Journey; The Consequences of C.S. Lewis' Worst Idea; Freeing Jesus from Christendom Capture; and Jesus Christ the same Yesterday, Today, and For Ever?

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qFVvWha5SD6oyPEcV2airA?fbclid=IwAR349UKSd2uQnyRkRhrl5R4PQywtoUSi-9FCM3Mpc2wgrHhAKTck-urrYWw

Loving Our Neighbor Lent Program: Growing Beloved Community

7 PM Thursdays via ZOOM

March 8, 15, 22 & 29 and April 5 & 26.

The 6-part series, developed by the National Church, explores how systemic racism has been integrated into U.S. culture as well as The Episcopal Church. This series ends with concrete suggestions on how to grow what Presiding Bishop Curry calls "the beloved community." This Lenten program begins March 8. Join us Tuesdays at 7 PM via Zoom. Zoom invitations, along with a participant guide, will be sent out prior to the meetings. March 8 - "Race, Privilege and the Beloved Community" March 15 - "Building a Firm Foundation" March 22 - "Systemic Racism in the US" March 29 - "Race and the Episcopal Church" April 5 - "Racial Reconciliation and Personal Empowerment" April 26 - "Actively Building the Beloved Community" All are welcome! This study is a collaboration with St. George's Episcopal Church, Laguna Hills (stgeorgesparish.org). To register, contact the rector.

Enneagram as a Tool for Self-Discovery: Deanery 6 Lenten Workshop

Saturday, March 5, 2022, 10AM – 5 PM at Christ Church Episcopal Parish (1127 N. San Antonio Ave; Ontario, CA 91762)

Start out this Lent seeking the transformative truth revealed about you and those in your life through the Enneagram. This workshop will start with an introduction to the Enneagram, offer help to participants to determine their type. Afterward, we dive into the layers of the Enneagram including wings, triads, stances, and more. Through the lens of the Enneagram, our prayer is that you will compassionately love yourself as you do your neighbor, and your eyes will be open to the mysteries of God in new ways.

10am-1pm Morning Session (Adults)

1pm-2pm Lunch

2pm-5pm Afternoon Session (Youth & Young Adults)

A contribution of \$25/ adult is requested; youth and young adults are welcome to register for free.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/enneagram-as-a-tool-for-self-discovery-tickets-265460889667?fbclid=IwAR2OvhDQ3o3Szdy-CLc71WeSWQcf34mc7fe6Ekd8YF4VpVYViyi2LNZpnI4>

Lent Zoom Book Series: The Road Back to You, Tuesdays in Lent, 6:30-8 PM

Book discussion on The Road Back to You, followed by Evening Prayer . Beginning March 8, 6:30-8pm on Zoom. Journey with us to rediscover our identity as a loved, cherished child of God using the ancient tool the Enneagram. Hosted by St. John's LaVerne.

<https://www.stjohnslaverne.org/event/five-tuesdays-lent>

Thank you

I am humbled by the outpouring of well wishes from my St. Mark's family. I am sad to have to retire but my present health situation requires me to place my healing and my family above my desire to continue to assist St. Mark's. I am thrilled to know that Rose will be my replacement, I hope you will welcome her as our newest family member. Thank you for your prayers and love. It is very palpable. Barbara Harris

Hospitality Hosts Needed

The Hospitality group is looking for volunteers who would like to prepare coffee and provide light

snacks after the 8AM and 10AM services. No experience is required. Please contact Sharon Muehlbacher for additional information or to sign up! Email hospitality@stmarks-upland.org

Seeking Flower Donations

We offer the opportunity for the parish members to sponsor flowers for the altar on Sundays. Flowers may be requested in honor of, in memory of, or in thanksgiving for a loved one, and always to the Glory of God. If you would like to sponsor flowers for a particular Sunday, please email flowers@stmarks-upland.org.

New Greeters and Ushers Welcome

If you're looking for a new way to serve at St. Mark's this year, here is an important ministry to consider. We are hoping to add a number of people to our ranks of greeters and ushers. No experience is necessary. Training will be provided. Scheduling is very flexible. Please contact Kimberly Cortner at ushers@stmarks-upland.org.

New Acquisitions to the Narthex Children's Library

Many thanks to Flo Wilson for the new additions to the children's library.

OUTREACH

T.O.U.C.H. Ministries

This time of year, the need is great for families and those living on the streets. T.O.U.C.H. Ministries provides clothes, food, and bedding, and welcomes your donations. Especially needed at this time of year are tarps, socks, gloves, beanies, and always Walmart or fast-food gift cards. For more information, contact Dave Nalbach or Cheryl Hunley. Email touch@stmarks-upland.org.

Foothill Family Shelter

There is always a need for nonperishable packaged food, diapers, wipes, and gently used clothing. Bring 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.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Breeze for Contributions

With our new church software come some changes in our contribution recording. If you are splitting your donation between funds, please state that in the memo line of your check or note it in the memo in PayPal. All unmarked funds will be placed in the Operating Fund Account.

2022 Stewardship Campaign "Every Perfect Gift"

Thank you to all those who made a pledge to St. Mark's for the 2022 fiscal year. We are in the process of finishing our pledge drive and verifying those who have submitted a pledge card. We will be contacting those for whom a card has not been recorded. Please be patient with us as we complete our stewardship program and develop our 2022 budget.

If you have not turned in your form, there is still time. All pledges are kept confidential and may be amended at any time if your situation changes. Please pick up a pledge form in the Narthex or if you prefer, you may fill out your pledge information through our [website](#), where there are two pages, and you must fully complete the form to have it submitted. Please know that your information will be confidential and secure. Questions should be directed to Katherine Abdolhosseini, our business manager at contributions@stmarks-upland.org.

DEANERY, DIOCESE, & BEYOND

Announcing the Launch of the Bishop's Commission on Climate Change

They plan to hold their first meeting in March and will spend time doing some education on climate change as well as discerning what ways we as a diocese can make a positive impact on this most critical issue. The commission will be led by Rev. Melissa McCarthy, Canon to the Ordinary, who served as one of the Presiding Bishop's delegates to COP26, the United Nations climate change conference. If this is an area of interest to you, please let the rector know.

Deanery 6 Collaborative Lent, Holy Week, and Easter

The following services will be held at various churches in the Deanery: Mar 2 - Ash & Dash, St. Mark's Upland; Mar 5 - Deanery 6 Lenten Retreat on the Enneagram, led by the Rev. Jesse Smith; Apr 10 - Palm Sunday, Grace Glendora; Apr 13 - Holy Wednesday Tenebrae, St. John's La Verne; Apr 14 - Maundy Thursday Agape Meal, foot-washing, Holy Eucharist, and stripping the altar, St. Ambrose, Claremont; Apr 15 - Good Friday Evening, St. Paul's Pomona; and Apr 16 - Easter Vigil, Christ Church, Ontario.

Easter Vigil Creation Story Readers Needed for Presentation at Christ Church Ontario

Are you interested in making the Creation Story from Genesis come alive? Learn how to make this ancient story come alive for readers for the Deanery 6 Collaborative Easter Vigil at Christ Church Ontario on Saturday evening, April 16. For more information, please contact the rector.

"Engagement Across Difference: A Spiritual Practice of Love in Action," Feb 24

On Feb. 17 and 24, from 6 - 8PM members of the One in the Spirit ministry will host conversations via Zoom structured around "From Many, One: Conversations Across Difference"—the initiative inviting Episcopalians and our neighbors to engage in one-to-one listening and sharing across the many differences that challenge us. Participants will have a chance to see how this framework can enable them to communicate with others with whom they disagree on contentious issues and transform their relationships in the process. For more information or to register, see the diocesan website.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

September 5-16, 2022, led by the Rev. Canon Kelli Grace Kurtz and the Very Rev. Peter Browning and local Guides Canon Iyad Qumri and Rami Qumri. For more information go to

<https://www.iyadqumripilgrimages.com/copy-of-itinerary-21>