



THE GOOD NEWS

For the Week beginning December 13, 2020

WORSHIP

Worship this Sunday 10AM on Facebook Live, You Tube and on our Website!

<https://www.facebook.com/saintmarksepiscopalparishupland/posts/3635136693220322>

Call in option: +1.888.958.7272 - wait for prompt to enter code- 428042518 #

In-Spirit Worship Readers

Our schedule has moved to our website, www.stmarks-upland.org. Please check the schedule and use the readings and psalms on the lectionary pages found [here](#).

Watch Last Sunday's Service on YouTube:

Please subscribe to the St. Mark's YouTube page so that we can have access to more editing tools from YouTube. Many thanks to Landon Abernathy.

Check-In, Bible Study & Prayer

Join us Monday through Thursday from 8:15 to 8:50 am for Prayer and Bible Study - prayer sheets available on the website: <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/morning-prayer/>
Meeting ID: 937 8054 5256 <https://zoom.us/j/93780545256>

Wednesday Evening Taizé Services at 7:30 pm

Taizé Worship, Wednesday, at 7:30 pm on Zoom - join via computer, tablet, or smartphone with this link: <https://zoom.us/j/98723305020?pwd=U1NFY0JlOFJmL2pMenVheUdTQlBaQT09>
Meeting ID: 987 2330 5020. Password: taize

Five (Minutes) at Five (PM)

From December 16 through the 22, we invite you to tune into Five at Five. Each evening at 5PM, we will have a five-minute meditation or reading leading up to Blue Christmas (23) and Christmas Eve (24).

Blue Christmas: The Longest Night, Dec 23 at 5PM

Please join us for a service to remember and name the things and people we lost this year. We come together on this, the longest night of the year to help prepare ourselves to be fully present to Jesus at Christmas. Even if you have missed all of Advent, please come to this service. This service will be via Zoom and broadcasted via Facebook and YouTube.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve services will be Livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube at 5PM and again at 10:30PM. The later service will include a prelude concert featuring the choir, praise band, and various soloists.

December 25 10AM Rev. Keith will host Morning Prayer and will tune in for Bishop Diane's Christmas sermon. Join us on Zoom. Pajamas and hot cocoa okay!

<https://zoom.us/j/98049152934?pwd=ZExLQXUweW9SK2E1eIBuVXZZRDlrdz09>, password xmas2020.

December 27, the first Sunday of the 12-day Christmas season, Bishop Taylor will be hosting a diocesan Lessons & Carols at 10AM. St. Mark's will not be broadcasting that day.

In-Spirit Morning Prayer on Sun, Jan 3, 2021

Our In-Spirit worship on Sunday, Jan 3, 2021 at 10 am (PST) will be simulcast on Zoom (and maybe YouTube) in addition to being broadcast on Facebook. This will be our celebration of Morning Prayer on the Second Sunday of Christmas and feature music from our Christmas Eve services. We will be commemorating life milestones for the month on January 10.

This way of doing worship will allow the choir and digital ministry team to enjoy some time off following a busy Christmas Eve service. Thank you for your understanding and trying something different. The zoom meeting id is 954 9069 7902

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is the one prayer in every Episcopal service. It can be presented in many different meaningful ways, forms, and languages. Please be an evangelist and consider inviting individual and groups, members and non-members, Episcopalians, and Christians to present the Lord's Prayer. Please be sure that the presentation is done with authenticity, integrity, and reverence. Please also consider the safety guidelines of our diocesan, medical and civic leaders. Please contact Andrea Griffin for more information.

Christmas Dedications

This year, we will be hosting a dedication site online to collect the names of those we love. Similar to our flower offering envelopes, this year's donations will benefit the In-Spirit Worship ministry. The names of those we honor will be added to the credit slides of this year's Christmas Eve In-Spirit services. Please use click on the link above to fill out a form. When donating, use "Christmas Dedication" in the memo line of your offering.

Celebrating Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Life Hallmarks due by the 25th

Are you celebrating a birthday or anniversary next month? Please let us know and send a photo by the 25th of the month before your celebration month. The visual celebration will be on the first Sunday of the month. Send to "blessings@stmarks-upland.org."

FAITH-FILLED GENEROSITY

2021 Stewardship Pledge Drive Update

Many thanks to all those who have participated in our 2021 Pledge Drive "Faith Filled Generosity." Please be aware that due to brand new online systems of collecting pledge information some parishioners who faithfully completed pledge cards were sent "reminder" notices. I apologize for any confusion that this has caused. If you did not receive an acknowledgment of your pledge from Katherine please contact the church office. Please know that your contributions and giving via USPS and [PayPal](#) are secure. Many thanks for your understanding and patience.
Rev. Keith Yamamoto

Bishop's Curry's "Love is the Way" Church-wide Book Study feat. Bishop Taylor on Dec 16

Bishop John Harvey Taylor reflects on Bishop Curry's popular best seller "Love is the Way." The online church-wide program will offer participants the opportunity to engage across geographical and congregational differences and reflect on the love that binds us together. To take part in the book study series, click [here](#) to register.

St. Mark's Book Club meets Third Saturdays from 10 to 12 noon

The St. Mark's Book Club will be gathering on the third Saturday of the month from 10-12 noon. Please contact any member or Sue Andrews, Coordinator, at BookClub@stmarks-upland.org for more information.

Women's Prayer Breakfast Meets Fridays at 11am

The women's prayer breakfast meets every Friday at 11 am via Zoom. All women are invited to join us. Please contact Kathryn Barbour at womensprayerbreakfast@stmarks-upland.org

Pinochle Group meeting Wednesdays 9am to 12noon

Want to know how to play cards via zoom? Join the Pinochle group. They now play on Wednesdays from 9am to 12 noon. For more information, please contact Chris Watson at stpeter@stmarks-upland.org.

Calling all Puzzlers

Have you completed your puzzle? Are you ready to bring it to the church for inclusion in the World's Largest Puzzle? Please call the church office before coming to make sure someone is there to help.

OUTREACH

December Outreach

For December, please remember all of our outreach programs. You can donate to our partnership in Haiti and if you would like to do so in someone's name, Canon Serena Beeks will make a certificate for you. I will be happy to do the same thing for any donations to Foothill Family Shelter. Just let us know.

Thanks,

Kay Alexander, Senior Warden

TOUCH Ministries to fill 100 backpacks

Please help us fill 100 backpacks for TOUCH Ministry this Christmas. The monthly food collection for TOUCH Ministries will be held on Saturday, Dec. 19th, from 9am till 11am in the north parking lot of the church. Nonperishable food items, hygiene items, and fast-food gift cards are needed. Also, with the cold weather coming, jackets, socks, blankets, and gloves are also needed. For more information call Dave Nalbach at (909)635-4297. Thanks for your participation.

FUN-raiser Covid-19 Emergency Appeal

Join us in giving generously to the One Body & One Spirit Emergency Appeal to help our congregations and ministries most at risk during this crisis. The mailing address for checks made payable to "Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles" is: Bishop John Harvey Taylor c/o the Rev. Michele Racusin, CFO; 840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

Nativity Escape Room Available at St. Mark's

Through the generous donation of an anonymous parishioner, St. Mark's is making available the "Nativity Escape Room: A Printable Experience." Please pick up your color copy at the red lockers by the belltower. Hint #1: Clear the lock combination by pushing the lock up twice. Make the sign of the cross the number of times of the locker number. Then pull the lock down. Hint #2: The St. Mark's icon is a winged blank! And punctuation counts.

Choristers

Children in grades 3-6, are invited to join Choristers on Tuesday afternoons at 4PM via Zoom for a half hour. If you have a young singer who would like to participate, please email me at music@stmarks-upland.org for the link.

God bless everyone,

Blane Abernathy, Organist and Director of Music

Youth Group News During our time away, we have been meeting online using Zoom and in messages. We are currently meeting via Zoom, please check your messages for dates and times. If you would like to be added to the group, please message Rob Garretson at youth@stmarks-upland.org. Also, please note that all our in-person activities with other groups such as the Deanery,

TOUCH, etc. are on hold until further notice. Thanks, and stay safe and healthy,
Rob Garretson ☮ Director of Youth Ministries

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Into Eternal Life: Fr. Jose N. Bangao

It is with care that we inform you of the passing of Fr. Jose Bangao, father of Benson Bangao, father-in-law of Canon Clare Bangao, and brother priest of Bishop Artemio (Mary) Zabala. Please keep Ben and family in your prayers. Below follows the announcement posted on Dec 4 by Bishop Zabala on his Facebook page...

+Rest in God 's peace, Fr. Jose N. Bangao, then rise to glory at the great day of Resurrection!

♥ It is with great care that I share the sad news of Fr. Bangao's death. Please join us now, the family, relatives, and friends in Christ, in commending him to the continuing care of the Author and Full-filler of life. Full-filler of life.

+Depart O Christian soul from this world in the Name of God the Father who created you, God the Son who has redeemed you, and the Holy Spirit who has sanctified you.

Almighty God: Grant us grace to entrust our brother Jose, priest, to thy never-failing care and love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people; and grant that increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service and freedom in thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Into Eternal Life: Sharon Summers

It is with care that we inform you of the passing of Sharon Summers, on December 3. Sharon was the mother of Lori Ravelli, mother-in-law of Mark Ravelli, former head of school. Please keep Lori, Mark, Evan, and Jennifer in your prayers.

Father of all, we pray to you for Sharon and all those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We are Praying for You – The Daughters of the King

Please send your prayer requests to prayer@stmarks-upland.org. Or contact the clergy or a member of the Daughters of the King who pray both daily individually and together every Sunday before the morning service.

Church and Preschool Christmas Vacation Closings

The Church office and Preschool will be closed from December 21 to January 3. Office and school will reopen on Monday, January 4.

Your Contributions Make a Difference, Thank You!

Please send pledges or donations to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 330 E. 16th Street, Upland, CA 91784. You may wish to set up automatic "bill pay" or "online banking" through your financial institution. Or you may make your donation through [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com). Donations are being accepted through our email address, contributions@stmarks-upland.org.

Donate through Amazon Smile®

Support St. Mark's every time you shop on Amazon. Sign up here: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2074628>. Each time you shop you will automatically designate a portion of your total will go to Saint Mark's to assist with our programs.

Submissions for the Church Newsletter

Please send articles and news for "The Good News" to parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org by Tuesday.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We embrace Christ at the center of our lives, sharing the Gospel with all people and loving ourselves and each other as Christ loves us

E-mail: parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org

Web: www.stmarks-upland.org

Facebook: Saint Mark's Episcopal Parish Upland, CA

Instagram: @stmarksupland

YouTube: Saint Mark's Episcopal Church Upland, CA

330 E. 16th St., Upland, CA 91784 + (909) 920-5565

We are Eucharistically centered and rejoice in the tradition of a strong preaching ministry. We welcome all people into the worship and life of St. Mark's and celebrate the diverse needs and gifts of individuals. We seek and foster opportunities for spiritual growth and nurture. We offer a network of support which encourages pastoral care by parish members. We participate in a consistent stewardship effort to tend and beautify the church, to strengthen education and to struggle for social justice. We are a community of grace feeding hungry hearts in the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement.