



The Good News

Sunday, February 19, 2023

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

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

Shrove Sunday, February 19

We are celebrating Shrove Tuesday on Sunday, February 19, after the 10 AM service in the Parish Hall during hospitality/coffee time. In addition to the standard refreshment, we will have pancakes with a choice of butter, fruit, and syrup. There will be a sign-up sheet for donations. There will be no service at St. Mark's on Tuesday. St. John's LaVerne has graciously opened their Tuesday evening service to the deanery.

Week at a Glance at St. Mark's

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM (closed for lunch 12:30-1 PM); Friday 9 AM to 12 PM

Please note: The office will be closed on Monday, February 20 in observance of Presidents Day.

Sunday worship: 8 AM and 10 AM Holy Eucharist in-person and streaming online on YouTube and Facebook. Bulletins are available by e-mail, and on the website. Hymnals are available for home use.

Monday–Friday 9 AM Zoom Morning Prayer and Bible Study.

Go to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93780545256>.

Wednesday 9 AM St. Peter's Guild. Card games and other activities in person. For info, email stpeters@stmarks-upland.org.

Wednesday 10:30 AM Men's Coffee Fellowship. Meet at Bad Ass Coffee of Hawaii in Rancho Cucamonga. For more info, contact David Nalbach.

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.

WORSHIP

Confirmation with the Bishop, December 10, 2023

St. Mark's will have a bishop's visit on Sunday, December 10, 2023, at the 10AM service.

This is the office visit from the office of the bishop and a time for confirming those previously baptized, receiving Christians from other denominators, and reaffirming baptismal vows. Please let the office know if you are interested in finding out more information about the rites/classes/rehearsal. Many thanks to Canon Melissa McCarthy for arranging the switch for us.

Music Director Search Committee Update

The leading candidate has withdrawn his application for the position of Music Director and Organist, so the committee is reviewing additional applications and plans to conduct further interviews in the next few weeks. We will continue to keep the congregation informed about our progress toward finding the person God has in mind for our music ministry at St. Mark's.

Sixth Annual Ash and Dash, Wednesday, February 22, 6-10 AM – Set-Up at 5AM

Upland's 16th Street commuters will be offered ashes from 6 to 10 AM in our north parking lot on Ash Wednesday. Lay members of St. Mark's assist in the "imposition of ashes"—that is, making the sign of the cross in ashes on a person's forehead. Set up at 5 AM. Please sign up in the narthex or church office.

Centering Prayer at Both Services

Centering prayer is now offered at both Sunday services. After the opening acclamation and other appropriate sentences, the clergy will invite the community to be seated. A time for prayer is bidden. A basic method of centering prayer is to [choose a word](#). Centering helps a person to focus on the Biblical words they are about to experience.

Loving Our Neighbor: Masking

Masking is strongly encouraged. Masks are worn by those serving people face-to-face in close proximity—for example, hospitality hosts, ushers, greeters, Sunday School teachers, and Eucharistic ministers. Masks may be removed at the lectern, altar, or presiders' chairs. Unvaccinated persons and those who are immunocompromised are especially encouraged to wear masks indoors, particularly when in a small room with minimal air circulation.

COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Former Parishioner Muriel Renov Turning 100 on April 1, 2023

Muriel was a very active parishioner, she formed the candlemakers guild and made all the Pascal candles. She did wonderful flowers arrangements, was a reader and lay eucharistic minister. She moved to Oregon in 1989.

Please sign the birthday card for her in the Narthex. Please contact Joan Watson or the church office for Muriel's contact information.

Come Tell Your Story at "Bridging St. Mark's Past and Future" February 26

Please accept our invitation to join us on February 26, after the 10 o'clock service, for "Bridging St. Mark's Past and Future," a congregational listening and learning forum, facilitated by Kaleidoscope Institute Associate Peter Bechtel. We ask for only 90 minutes of your time. Following enhanced hospitality offerings, we will gather at 11:45 in the Parish Hall, to be part of the dialogue as we remember St. Mark's history—the accomplishments, challenges, and lessons. It will be important to have members present to represent all the decades of St. Mark's history on this campus—that is 60 years since our buildings were constructed. Be there to tell us about your first or favorite decade so far. Then help us try to envision the St. Mark's that will be in 2023 and into the future.

Partnering with the Kaleidoscope Institute to Envision Our Future

Rev. Keith and your Vestry members are partnering with the Kaleidoscope Institute to help us plan for St. Mark's ministries in 2023 and into the future. Some are familiar with the book *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb* by Rev. Dr. Eric Law and his work which began in the Los Angeles Diocese in the 1980s to model effective leadership in diverse faith communities. The Kaleidoscope Institute grew out of that, and now its curriculum and associates help parishes and organizations of all sizes to grow and thrive, especially through difficult times of change.

Following the February 26 "Bridging" session, a St. Mark's leadership team will continue to work with the KI curriculum and facilitators throughout the year at Vestry meetings and four additional study sessions. In October, we hope to have a big event to launch and celebrate our new ministry model at St. Mark's, which we hope will include things like our revived music and newcomer programs, special events hosting on our campus, the Head Start Preschool, and other new ministries for our community.

Love Thy Neighbor: Disability Awareness Forum, 4 Sundays, Mar 5, 12, 19 & Apr 16

Join us for conversations about disability awareness after the 10 AM services on Sundays March 5, 12, 19, and April 16. Contact Discerner Rodney Hume-Dawson.

Inquiry and Membership Class, Sundays in March at 9 AM in Room 16

Bring your questions and join the conversation about the church and the denomination. We gather during the Lent Sundays in March at 9 AM in Room 16 just off the Parish Hall. We will be using the book Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. This class is open to those who have questions, want a refresher course, are reconstructing their faith, open to meeting new people, or are interested in a safe space to share their spiritual journey.

Volunteers Welcome for Hospitality (Coffee) Hour for 8 AM and 10 AM Services

What would Sundays be without coffee hour after the service? This is a time to catch up with friends meet some new ones and enjoy some fellowship. The hospitality group provides teams of hosts throughout the year to set up coffee and light refreshments. If you have enjoyed the hospitality in the past, please consider helping to provide it for others by signing onto a team. For more info, please contact Sharon Muehlbacher.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Prayer Requests

Please send your prayer requests to prayer@stmarks-upland.org.

OUTREACH

December Toy Drive for TOUCH Update

With the addition of our donations TOUCH was able to give out 250 gifts to children for Christmas. As Connie at TOUCH commented St. Mark's is a blessing to their ministry. Thank you.

Supporting EpiscoPartners in Turkey and Syria after the Earthquake

Working through [Action by Churches Together Alliance \(ACT Alliance\)](#), Episcopal Relief & Development will rapidly respond to the disaster through existing networks by providing supplies including winterization kits, hot meals and other food, medicine and emergency support. The organization is also in contact with other local partners as they assess the needs of their communities. Please continue to [pray](#) for those who have been affected by the earthquake. Donations to the [Turkey and Syria Earthquake Response Fund](#) will help the organization to continue to respond to communities impacted by this disaster.

The Most Rev. Hosam E. Naoum, the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem who oversees five countries or territories: Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Israel, and Syria, [asks](#) for prayers and [support](#) for those affected by the earthquake.

If you wish to give through St. Mark's, please put "Earthquake/ERD" or "Earthquake/Jerusalem" in the memo respectively.

Next Red Cross Blood Drive, Friday, March 24, 1-7 PM

Red Cross blood drives are held in the parish hall and are held from 1PM -7PM. Mark your calendars for Red Cross 2023 Dates: (All are Fridays) 3/24, 5/19, 7/14, 9/15 and 11/10. The next blood drive will be on March 24.

Our Biggest Outreach

There are many benefits to being a member of a global network like the Episcopal Church—pooled resources, diverse perspectives, and outreach that is both international and local. When a person gives to St. Mark's Upland, they also contribute to ministries in prisons, schools, shelters, at the border, in the Holy Land, for neighbors affected by severe weather, and more. Learn more about how your pledge makes the world a better place: [subscribe](#) to The Episcopal News.

Recovery Ministries at St. Mark's

Compulsive Eaters Anonymous meets in Room 30 on Saturdays, 9-10:30 AM.

Al-Anon meets in Room 30 on Tuesdays, 6:30-8 PM.

Episcopal Relief & Development Supports ACT Alliance Response to Crisis in Ukraine

Donations to Episcopal Relief & Development's Ukraine Crisis Response Fund will help the organization and its partners continue to provide assistance to people displaced by the crisis in Ukraine. Donate to the ERD [Ukraine response](#).

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Amazon Smile Ends on February 20

Amazon has announced that it will end its Amazon Smile program on February 20, 2023. Customers who logged in through smile.amazon.com or activated AmazonSmile on the Amazon app had been able to designate 0.5% of their purchases to designated charities, including St. Mark's Episcopal Parish. We appreciate everyone who has donated through this program and will do so up through February 19. St. Mark's will receive donations for purchases up to the closure date and a final check equal to a three-month average of donations in 2022. St. Mark's has participated in the program in recent years and has received a total of \$1,520 in donations as of November 2022. Many other local organizations, including the Foothill Family Shelter, benefited from this program.



Your Generous Contributions are Appreciated

Thank you for keeping current with your pledge or donating to St. Mark's. Please send in your contribution to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 330 E. 16th Street, Upland, CA 91784.

Alternatively, you may wish to set up automatic "bill pay" or "online banking" through your financial institution. You may also make your donation through [PayPal](#), donations are being accepted through our email address, contributions@stmarks-upland.org. Please consider remembering Saint Mark's in your estate planning.

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.

DEANERY, DIOCESE, AND BEYOND

Lent Walks Scheduled: March 4 and March 25

March 4, Local walk: Claremont - California Botanic Gardens

March 25, Wilderness Experience: Joshua Tree National Park

Lenten Quiet Day on the Psalms, Sat, Feb 25

The Deanery 6 Lenten Quiet Day on the Psalms on Sat, Feb 25 at Christ Church Ontario is a great way to start Lent and the Lenten Program on the Psalms during the Wednesdays in March.

Deanery 6 Collaborative Lenten Program on Psalms, Wednesday in March

Spirituality of the Psalms by Walter Brueggeman

6 pm Soup Supper

6:30-7:30 Program

7:30-8 Service

Mar 1, Lenten Series 1: St. Ambrose Claremont

Mar 8, Lenten Series 2: St. Paul's Pomona

Mar 15, Lenten Series 3 St. Mark's Upland

Mar 22, Lenten Series 4: St. John's LaVerne

Mar 29, Lenten Series 5: Christ Church Ontario

Holy Week and Easter at St. Mark's and Deanery 6

Apr 2, Palm Sunday, 8&10 AM, St. Mark's Upland

Apr 3, Holy Monday, Holy Eucharist, 7 PM, St. Mark's Upland

Apr 4, Holy Tuesday, Holy Eucharist w/Anointing of Hands, 7PM, St. Mark's Upland

Apr 5, 7PM, Tenebrae, St. John's LaVerne

Apr 6, 7PM, Maundy Thursday, St. Ambrose, Claremont

Apr 6-7, Overnight Prayer Vigil beginning at 7PM, St. Mark's Upland

Apr 7, Good Friday Stations of the Cross, 12 noon, St. Mark's Upland

Apr 7, 7PM, Good Friday, St. Paul's Pomona

Apr 8, Holy Saturday, Greening of the Church & Morning Service, 9AM, St. Mark's Upland

Apr 8, 8PM, Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil, Christ Church, Ontario

Christian Education/Formations Classes for All

At Bloy House, the Episcopal Theological School at Los Angeles. Register [here](#).

Responding to Racism, Police Brutality, and Community Trauma: Part 3 of 4

As we grieve with the family, friends, and loved ones of Tyre Nichols, we stand and cry for justice alongside all those targeted by police violence. The Racial Justice and Reconciliation Team has culled this short set of resources for anyone seeking to make prayerful, meaningful change within us and our society:

[Racial Justice Action, Police Reform, and Prayer](#)

[Episcopal Litany for Social Justice](#)

[A Year of Prayers to End Racism](#)

[8 Can't Wait - Bringing change to local and state policing](#)

PLEASE NOTE:

The deadline for article submissions is every Tuesday and must be emailed to parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org.

Please do not send them via Constant Contact. Please make sure to include "Good News" in the subject line.

Good News articles will be published every Thursday afternoon.