



THE GOOD NEWS

Sunday, October 24, 2021

Church Calendar

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

October 24-30 at St. Mark's

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

- **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 10 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!
- **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 for more information.
- **Wednesday, 9 AM, St. Peter's Guild**. Card games and other activities in person. Info: stpeters@stmarks-upland.org.
- **Wednesday, 10:30 AM Men's Coffee Fellowship**. Bad Ass Coffee, Rancho Cucamonga. Info: menscoffee@stmarks-upland.org.
- **Wednesday, 5:00PM – Handbells**, in the parish hall. Masks required.
- **Wednesday, 7:30 PM Taizé**. In person and streaming online.
- **Thursday, 7:30 PM Adult Choir**, in the parish hall, masks and vaccinations required.

LOOKING AHEAD

- 10/24 Julia Warren blessing
- 10/31 Halloween & Preschool blessing
- 11/02 Red Cross Blood Drive, 1PM to 7PM Parish Hall.
- 11/07 All Saints & Baptisms
- 11/07 Worship Committee Meeting
- **11/14 Regular 8&10AM service continue (10AM Livestream via the Diocese cancelled)**
- 11/21 St. Andre's Sunday & Consecration Sunday w/ Hot Dogs

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 AM

All COVID protocols for a safer and healthier community still apply – wear a mask, watch our distance, and wash my hands. The 8AM service is a leaner and scrappier service. We rely on and appreciate everyone's flexibility. Please say "yes" when asked to read, distribute bulletins, or anything else. This service will not be livestreamed. If you have not been vaccinated, please join us online at 10AM.

Health & Community Protocols for Worship

It is strongly recommended that unvaccinated individuals participate online and that all wear a mask even if fully vaccinated. We are glad you are here.

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: 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.

For a Healthier and Stronger Community

The St. Mark's community includes people who are ineligible for the vaccine, taking care of elderly parents, and guardians of young children. If you can get the vaccine, please do so. We want to be able to worship together, sing aloud, and see one another as safely as possible on Sundays. Thank you for doing your part for a healthier and safer community.

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 7th day of November, being the 25th 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 Saturday, October 30 at 1:00 pm, 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 know that you are interested.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sunday's Readings: [Job 42:1-6, 10-17](#) [Psalm 34:1-8](#) [Mark 10:46-52](#)

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/>

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>

All Saints Day, Nov 7

We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses – our loved ones who have passed away. Please fill out a memorial form for your loved one(s) and submit a picture (digital only) for our All Saint's bulletin collage, email parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org. if you do not have a digital image, please see the Rector. Only names/photos submitted by Sunday, Oct 31 will be part of the service bulletin. Many thanks to the Daughters of the King who will read aloud the names of our loved ones during the Prayers of the People.

COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Julia Warren to be Honored this Sunday

Julia Warren, founder of the St. Mark's Digital Ministry, is in the process of discernment for ordination in the Episcopal Church. She completed a congregation discernment year (which was slightly more than a year due to the pandemic), was enthusiastically recommended by the Vestry to continue with the process, successfully interviewed with Bishop John Taylor, and will be starting her diocesan discernment year at St. Edmund's San Marino at the beginning of Advent. On Sunday, October 24, we will be asking blessings for Julia and presenting gifts to support her on the next step of her spiritual journey. If you would like to contribute to a monetary gift, please make a check out to St. Mark's with "Julia Warren" in the memo line before October 18.

Honoring the Preschool

Join us Sunday, October 31 as we honor the preschool staff, teachers, volunteers, board members, students, and families.

Halloween

Did you know that the Episcopal Church recognizes Halloween in The Episcopal Book of Occasional Services? The following are the suggested readings for the service: The Witch of Endor 1 Samuel 28:3-25; The Vision of Eliphaz the Temanite Job 4:12-21; The Valley of Dry Bones Ezekiel 37:1-14; The War in Heaven Revelation 12:1-12.

Costumes welcome. Bring a Halloween-themed treat to share for Coffee Hour.

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.

Happening Around the Campus: Gutters & Drains Clean Out

All the rain gutters from all the buildings on campus and the storm drain were cleaned out this past week. Many thanks to Dale Biggs and Buildings and Grounds for making sure this important work was done safely and securely in coordination with the preschool and other staff, guests, and members on campus.

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.

If you are interested in becoming a Lector and reading one of the appointed scriptural Lessons, please contact Chris Watson 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 for more information.

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

- My Work to Do: new sessions starting: Tuesdays: Oct 19 / Oct 26 / Nov 2 / Nov 9 / Nov 16, at 5pm AND Thursdays: Oct 21 / Oct 28 / Nov 4 / Nov 11 / Nov 18, at 5pm. More information [here](#).
- Pre-Convention Deanery Assembly w/7 & 8 via Zoom, Sunday, Oct 24 at 3 pm
- Trunk or Treat, St. John's La Verne, Oct 31 at 5:30pm
- Rebecca's Garden Grand Opening, Christ Church Ontario, Nov 6
- "Truth and Love" Diocesan Convention, Riverside Convention Center Nov 13
- Deanery 6 Quiet Day by Rev. V.R. Marianne Zahn on St. Hildegard of Bingen, Christ Church Ontario, Dec 11
- Deanery 6 Advent Lessons and Carols, Holy Trinity Covina, Dec 19 at 4PM

OUTREACH

Scam Alert

Please be aware of the latest text scam: "Hi [name]. I pray that you and your family are safe and well. Do you have a moment? I have a request I need you to handle discreetly. I am currently busy in a prayer session; no calls so just reply to my text. ~Fr. Keith"

This is the reason we no longer leave directories in the narthex. Thank you for your vigilance.

Thank you from the Clairbourn School

Marianne Ryan, Director of Development

This letter is to thank you for the items that you donated to Clairbourn School and to show our appreciation of these items that are used on a daily basis in our Middle School Science Laboratory and our School Library. The list of donated items include: 20 boxes of library books, lab glassware, craft supplies, science VHS tapes and DVD's, and science posters.

Again, we appreciate the generosity that you showed us in donating these items, which enrich the learning experiences for our students on a daily basis.

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.

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.

Blood Drive November 2, 1PM to 7PM

Our next blood to be held at St. Mark's on Tuesday November 2, 1PM to 7PM in the parish hall. Make your appointment at [Red Cross](https://www.redcross.org). If you receive a COVID-19 vaccine, knowing the name of the manufacturer is critical in determining your blood donation eligibility. In most cases, there is no deferral time if you receive a vaccine.

The American Red Cross is testing all blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies. These results may provide valuable insight into a donor's potential past exposure to this coronavirus, or an antibody response developed after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. Only those feeling healthy and well should present to donate and appointments are strongly encouraged. Test results will be available to donors via the American Red Cross Blood Donor App or at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) within one to two weeks.

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 online [here](#). 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

Thank you for keeping current with your pledge or donating to St. Mark's. We have a secure mailbox that at 330 E. 16th Street, Upland, CA 91784. You may also make your donation through [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com) donations are being accepted through our email address, 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

Every Perfect Gift



The Gift of Faith

Our often fast-paced, frenetic lives get in the way of the north stars that should be guiding us. And trajectories change when, in the blink of an eye, we are blindsided.

My family's blindside happened four years ago. On a Tuesday morning before work, my sister-in-law Jan was on a walk with the kid's five-month-old puppy Peter Paul. A young man speeding hit them head-on, killing them instantly.

Jan was married to my twin brother Jonathan, and they have twelve children, including ten adopted from Texas, Guatemala, Mexico, Russia, China, and Ethiopia. She was also a beloved breast cancer physician with a practice that served the underserved.

Never afraid to love well, Jan was confident in her faith and marriage, leading her and Jonathan to adopt several older children with traumatic histories. They gave these children second chances believing they could thrive in a loving Christian family and a supportive community.

Jan's ministry on earth informed our belief that gratitude increases with faith. She saw with her heart.

In today's reading, we find Bartimaeus, a blind beggar with a deep faith in God living on society's margins. He cries out to Jesus as he's leaving Jericho, "Son of David, have mercy on me." Jesus asks, "what do you want from me?" and Bartimaeus says, "Heal Me." Jesus heals him and says, "Go, your faith has made you well."

I find a parallel between Bartimaeus' story and Jan's life. Bartimaeus' miraculous healing happened because of his faith. He saw with his heart. And Jan, relying on her faith to help her overcome obstacles, inspired her family, friends, and patients to do the same."

Thomas Merton said, "Gratitude is the heart of the Christian life." May our faith continue to increase our gratitude so we, in turn, can live with seeing hearts.

Catherine Miller directs pastoral programs and adult formation at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in North Dallas and serves on the advisory board for Invite, Welcome, Connect.



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What blindside moments have you experienced in which your faith helped you pull through?