



The Good News

Sunday, May 29, 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.

The 40 Anniversary of the Ordination of Rev. Clark, May 29

St. Mark's celebrates the 40-year anniversary of the Rev. C. Robbins "Robbin" Clark, the first chaplain to the school and preschool and Curate for three years. She went on to serve as Rector of St. Bede's, Santa Fe, NM and as Rector of St. Mark's, Berkeley. Most recently she served at the Cathedral in Gloucester, England for five years working with ordained women's ministries. The Rev. Canon Melissa McCarthy, Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese, will be the special guest preacher. Please join us on Sunday, May 29 at the 10 AM service to celebrate 40 years of ordained ministry.

Because We Love Our Neighbor: Health & Community Protocols for Worship

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry (on health and community measures) "We are committed to gathering in the safest and healthiest way possible. Love of neighbor is not simply a good idea. It is a commandment of Jesus based on the teaching of Moses to always seek the good and the well-being of each other."

Because St. Mark's cares for the young, the elderly, and the 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... All those 12 years and up show proof of vaccination, and those ages 2 years and up wear masks for in-the-building services. Masks may be removed by readers at the pulpit, altar, or presider chairs (when reading but not singing). We make available disposable masks for any who need them. 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. Please consider getting a booster and social distancing. 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.

Preschool Summer Sessions Open for Enrollment: Starting June 27 and July 25

"We beat the heat by stepping into summer fun learning!" The Preschool will offer sessions for the summer: June 27 to July 1 and July 25 to Aug 19. Please contact Interim Director Jackie Wilds or the Church office for more information. Applications are available in the Narthex. Each session runs four weeks and includes water play, arts and crafts, music, and more. We have confirmed with San Bernardino County that renovations will not begin until after the summer sessions.

WORSHIP

Pentecost Day, June 5

Pentecost is the great festival that marks the birth of the Christian church by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost means "fiftieth day" and is celebrated fifty days after Easter. Red is the color for this day and recalls the tongues of flame in which the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples. In the early church Pentecost was a time to baptize converts to the faith. The newly baptized would wear white robes on that day, so Pentecost was often called "Whitsunday" or "White Sunday." We will include the dove in our processions, renew our baptismal vows, and hear the prayers and readings in another language. Please sign up in the narthex to read for the service. All are invited to wear red or orange.

Wear Orange, June 3-5

The Bishops United against Gun Violence is a part of the Wear Orange movement to bring attention to National Gun Violence Awareness Day and Wear Orange Weekend. On January 21, 2013, Hadiya Pendleton marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade. One week later, Hadiya was shot and killed on a playground in Chicago. Soon after this tragedy, Hadiya's friends commemorated her life by wearing orange, the color hunters wear in the woods to protect themselves and others. Wear Orange is now observed every June. Thousands of people wear the color orange to honor Hadiya and the more than 40,000 people who are killed with guns and approximately 85,000 who are shot and wounded every year.

Wear Orange originated on June 2, 2015—what would have been Hadiya's 18th birthday. Now, it is observed nationally on the first Friday in June and the following weekend each year.

Monthly Healing Ministry to resume June 12

The monthly healing ministry offered by the Sancta Sophia Daughters of the King will resume at the 10:00 AM service on Sunday, June 12, and continue on the second Sunday of each month. Weather permitting, Daughters will offer healing prayer in the Memorial Garden for any congregant with a request. Once Eucharist has been received, those wishing to receive healing prayer may enter the Memorial Garden through either the north or south exit doors from the west side of the church, returning to the sanctuary through those same doors once prayer is received. In the event of inclement weather, the ministry will take place in the rector's office, which is accessible from the Garden.

Health & Community Protocols for Worship & Coffee Hour

Please note that the proposed changes for the Sunday Worship beginning at Pentecost are under review. Please continue to wash hands. Physical distancing is encouraged. Outside seating will always be an option. And congregational singing will be limited. Proof of vaccination and masking are still required. To quote Presiding Bishop Michael Curry commenting on mitigation procedures for General Convention which include proof of vaccination and masking: "We are committed to gathering in the safest and healthiest way possible. Love of neighbor is not simply a good idea. It is a commandment of Jesus based on the teaching of Moses to always seek the good and the well-being of each other."

Offertory Plates

For your convenience, the offertory plates are located by the baptismal font as you enter and also by the front pews as you approach the altar for communion.

COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Rev. Konrad White Celebrates 50 Years of Ordained Ministry

The Rev. Konrad White celebrated his 50th year of ordination last week. He was ordained on May 21, 1972 at All Saints Episcopal Church in Jackson, Mississippi.

"Jane and I are doing well. Life here is good. We miss all our dear friends so much. St. Mark's was the highlight of my career and a great part of our lives. It was THE church for Jane and me. It was because of all the good people. We love you and miss you."

Into Eternal Life: The Rev. John Carl Keester, July 15, 1929 – May 23, 2022

[The Episcopal News, May 25, 2022] The Rev. John Keester, former rector of St. Ambrose's Church, Claremont (1966-1980), and a longtime teacher at Bloy House (Episcopal Theological School in Claremont, now Los Angeles), died May 23. He was 92.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Dennison, to whom he was married in 2014; four sons from his first marriage – Philip, John, Christopher and Timothy; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Lauranne Yust Keester.

Keester taught homiletics at Bloy House from 1969 to 1980; from 1972 to 1974 he also was its acting warden. His passion for education was reflected in his service as a chaplain at the University of California's Santa Barbara campus, where he was founding vicar of St. Michael's University Chapel in Isla Vista, serving from 1961 to 1965. He was an associate chaplain at UCLA and executive secretary for Ministry in Higher Education for the Diocese of Los Angeles from 1965 to 1966.

During his tenure at St. Ambrose he served for a year (1976 – 77) as an exchange vicar at St. Cuthbert's Church in Doveridge, Derbyshire, England.

After leaving St. Ambrose's in 1980, Keester continued his ministry as rector of All Saints Church, Bakersfield (1980 – 1985) and of St. Timothy's Church, Catonsville, Maryland (1985 – 1991). He served on numerous diocesan, provincial, and wider Episcopal Church committees. He retired in 1991, but continued his ministry as interim rector at St. Paul's, Modesto, Calif., and as an assistant at St. Clare's Church, Rancho Cucamonga (now closed). In recent years he has often assisted at St. Ambrose's and nearby congregations, including St. Mark's, Upland, and St. John's, La Verne.

Keester was born in Kane, Pennsylvania on July 15, 1929. He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from UCLA in 1952 and a master of divinity degree from Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, Calif., in 1955. He also did graduate-level study in adult education at UCLA from 1958 to 1960. He was ordained a deacon June 13, 1955 and a priest Dec. 12, 1955 in the Diocese of San Joaquin (California). He served a congregation in Arvin, Calif. (Kern County), before returning to the Diocese of Los Angeles as a curate at St. Jude's Church (now St. Jude's Anglican Church), Burbank.

Update: A memorial service will be held at St. Ambrose Episcopal Church (830 W. Bonita Ave.) Claremont on Saturday, June 18 at 2PM.

Into Eternal Life: Martha Benitez, Mother of Preschool Teacher Karen Rodriguez

It is with care that we inform you of the passing of Martha Benitez, mother of St. Mark's Preschool Teacher Karen Rodriguez. Karen was able to be with her before she died. Please keep Karen and family in your prayers.

Rest eternal grant to Martha, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.

May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

The Rev. C. Robbins "Robbin" Clark

The Rev. C. Robbins "Robbin" Clark attended seminary in England before they admitted women. She has always used her middle name, Robbin (actually shortened from Robbins) instead of her first name, Caroline. When she applied to the British seminary (Cuddleston College, Oxford) she used Robbins and that sounded like a guy to them, so they accepted her. When she showed up they were a little taken aback but seem to have accepted the inevitable, probably some with more grace than others!

Same thing happened in Santa Fe. The bishop a couple of bishops ago was violently anti-women. This would have been the mid-late 80s, as I recall. Clergy Deployment Office profiles didn't even have gender on them, so Robbins passed notice. Again, when Robbin showed up, it was a little too late for him to do anything about it!

Celebrating the Life of Virginia Granger, June 10 at Bellevue in Ontario

Join us for our celebration of the life of Virginia Granger on Friday, June 10, 2022, at 10:30 AM, at Bellevue Memorial Park, 1240 W. G St., Ontario, CA 91762. Share a memory or message here:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/ontario-ca/virginia-granger-10605305#remembering>

Welcoming Guests and Keeping the Community Healthy

Please allow guests with mobility issues the option to park in the north/front parking lot. Please be aware of strong/distracting colognes. If you feel ill or are presenting any symptoms, please stay home and join us online. And let us know if we can bring Holy Communion to you. Please wash your hands, wear your mask, mind your space, and get boosted.

Congratulations Class of 2022! Collecting Graduate Announcements by June 6

The June 12, 2022, edition of the Church's newsletter, The Good News, will acknowledge graduates of all ages and levels: preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, community college, trade school, college, and grad school. Please submit the following information as appropriate to parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org: name of graduate; name of current school; awards, activities, or research; major field of study; degree received; title of dissertation; name of future school or college; intended major, degree, job or career plans. Please tell us how the graduate is related to you and name any proud family members.

If we may we post your graduates' image to the church's electronic newsletter, social media, and the electronic marquee/sign on 16th Street, then please send us their image. Please submit images and information by Monday, June 6, 2022.

Updating Your Contact Information

Did you know that you can update your contact information? Both Breeze and Constant Contact allow you to update your own information. Please note that they are two separate and independent systems, so updating one does not change the information with the other. The e-mail addresses in Constant Contact determine who gets the church newsletter the Good News. The mailing addresses in Breeze determine who gets the seasonal letters from the church e.g. Christmas, Easter, Stewardship, and special announcements. Please feel free to call the church office if you have any questions.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Confirmation 2023

St. Mark's is scheduled for a bishop's visit next year, 2023. (Exact Sunday to be determined.) Please let the office/clergy know if you are interested in making a mature affirmation of the baptismal vows made on your behalf by parents and godparents. This is also the time to be received into the Episcopal denomination from another faith tradition. And finally, a person may re-affirm their baptismal vows as an adult.

Confirmation is one of the requirements to serve on the vestry.

Cursillo: For Spiritual Renewal, Oct 6, Oct 13

Cursillo, a four-day spiritual renewal retreat, Thursday through Sunday at St. Joseph Retreat Center in Rosemead: Men's, Oct 6-9; Women's, Oct 13-16, 2022. For more information please contact Dr. Jim Brown.

Prayer Requests

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

My Work to Do

"My Work To Do" is an online affinity group designed to help white people build stamina for discussing racism, systemic injustice, racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in their everyday lives.

New sessions always around the corner. For more information and to register:

<https://www.myworktodo.com/>

OUTREACH

Red Cross Blood Drive, June 3

At St. Mark's we have hosted a total of 9 blood drives. Our last blood drive was on April 8th. We were well above our goal for units collected. Our goal was to collect 26 units and we collected 40. We had a total of 37 donors.

Total drives held: 9; Total units collected: 267; Total donors: 281; Total average: 30 per drive

Thank you to all the donors and to the volunteers. Our next blood drive will be held on Friday, June 3rd from 1-7pm. Sign up to donate at redcrossblood.org. Other blood drives to be held at St. Mark's, July 29, October 29 and December 2nd all held on Fridays from 1-7pm

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 here: <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/product/ukraine-crisis-response/>

T.O.U.C.H. Ministries

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 hygiene items drive begins now and ends June 12

Save gas and support the Foothill Family Shelter at the same time! The Sancta Sophia Daughters of the King are sponsoring a personal hygiene item drive for the Foothill Family Shelter. Place your donations in the Foothill Family Shelter drop off box in the Narthex between now and Sunday, June 12, and Daughters will collect all donations and deliver them to the shelter office. All donations are welcome, but items such as deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, soap, hand lotion, feminine hygiene products, disposable diapers in all sizes and baby wipes are especially needed right now.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Building Fund Update: Donating for an Actual Rainy Day

We are planning a burn-the-mortgage celebration when our building loan becomes due, thanks in large part to a generous, anonymous donation. The Building Fund will continue in order to pay for facility needs. We literally need rainy day funds! We have experienced new leaks with each shower, however small. These are mainly flat-roof sections where the roofing has worn out. Please consider donating to the Building Fund as well as to our regular church coffers for this and other projects. You'll be glad when it will no longer rain on our parade...or the acoustical ceiling tiles. Thank you!

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

Prelude to Action Prayer Vigil, May 28

In the wake of shootings in Buffalo, Laguna and Uvalde, Claremont faith leaders invite you to gather, pray and commit to action. Saturday, May 28, 5:00 PM at St Ambrose Episcopal Church, 830 West Bonita Ave., Claremont

Ascension Day at Christ Church Ontario, May 26

Christ Church invites you to their liturgy on Ascension Day, May 26, at 6PM, followed by a spaghetti dinner. Meet new friends and keep the momentum among Episcopalians in the area. For more information: <http://evite.me/EUC533drtp>

Memorial Day

Although the exact origins of Memorial Day are disputed, the first observance of Memorial Day is thought to have taken place in April 1865, when a group of former slaves gathered at a Charleston, SC horse track turned Confederate prison where more than 250 Union soldiers had died. The bodies of soldiers buried in a mass grave were reinterred in individual graves on the site. On May 1, 1865, some 10,000 black Charleston residents, white missionaries, teachers, schoolchildren and Union troops marched around the Planters' Race Course, singing and carrying armfuls of roses.

In 1868, Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the grand Army of the Republic—an organization of former soldiers and sailors—issued what was called General Order Number 11, designating May 30 as a memorial day. He declared it to be “for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land.” The first national celebration of Memorial Day (originally Decoration Day) took place May 30, 1868, at Arlington National Cemetery. The national observance of Memorial Day still takes place there today, with the placing of a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the decoration of each grave with a small American flag.

On May 11, 1950, Congress issued a joint resolution requesting that the president proclaim a “Prayer for Peace” on each Memorial Day. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a federal holiday to be held on the last Monday of every May. On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember the fallen, and honor all who have served our country, as we unite in prayer for permanent peace in the world.

From the Episcopal Washington National Cathedral's National Service Commemorating Memorial Day

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. Good News articles will be published every Thursday afternoon.