



The Good News

Sunday, April 3, 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.

Join us for Easter, Sunday, April 17 at 8AM & 10AM

The Great Egg Hunt to follow the 10AM service w/ appearance from the Easter Bunny

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.

Friday, April 1, 2022

The office will be closed this Friday and will resume to regular hours on Monday, April 4, 2022.

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.

St Mark's Episcopal Church Special Music Schedule for Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday, April 10 – 10:00 AM – Blane Abernathy, organist 10:00 AM – St Mark's Choir

Taizé Tenebrae, April 13 – 7:00 PM – Blane Abernathy, soloist & organist

Maundy Thursday, April 14 – 7:00 PM – St. Mark's Handbell Choir

Good Friday, April 15 – 7:00 PM – St. Mark's Choir

Easter Day, April 17 – 8:00 AM – St. Mark's Choir 10:00 AM – St Mark's Band

Schedule submitted by Blane Abernathy, Organist/Director of Music

COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

ATTENTION: DONATIONS FOR THE EASTER EGG HUNT

Please bring your filled eggs on Sundays, April 3 or April 10. The basket will be in the Parish Hall, outside room 18 (Art room). Your contribution for this children's event is very appreciated.

Livestream Operators needed for Sunday Worship

Do you attend Sunday Worship live in the church? Would you be willing to donate (while attending church) 1 1/2 hours once a month on Sunday?

The Digital Ministry is ready to take livestreaming to a new level and needs several additional livestream operators. If this is something you would consider doing, please contact Bob Mattus for more detailed information at digitalministry@stmarks-upland.org

St Mark's Book Club

The club will meet on Saturday, April 23, 10:00 AM, at the home of Sally Drake. We will be reading the book, *The Tobacco Wives* by Adele Myers. Sally's address is 1840 Vail Way, Upland, 91784. If you are interested, please send an email to BookClub@stmarks-upland.org. It promises to be another great discussion so we hope to see you then.

Help Needed to Gather Palms

Bob Hyder will be cutting down palm branches on Friday, April 8 at 5:00 PM and will need help hauling them to the truck. Your help would be appreciated. If you are available, please text Bob @323.595.4618. Make sure you bring gloves. Thank you, in advance.

Church Decorating for Palm Sunday

Please help us decorate the Church with palm branches on Saturday, April 9 at 9:00 AM

Blood Drive

St. Mark's next blood drive will be held in the Parish Hall on Friday, April 8, from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM. All are welcome to donate. To donate sign up online at redcrossblood.org. It's very simple. From the Red Cross, the blood supply is at an all-time low. Please donate if you can.

Dedications for Easter Flowers Due by April 10

We encourage you to remember a loved one by making a memorial offering to help cover the cost of Easter flowers and decorations. Look for special offering envelopes. Contact Christy Hyder.

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/>

Maundy Thursday Sign-Up

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me. (Matthew 26:36-38)

On **Thursday, April 14**, we keep vigil with Jesus throughout the night at the altar of repose in the chapel. It is a time for personal devotion and prayer. Sign up for a one-hour shift (or more) as an individual, a couple, or as a family. Shifts overlap and there should always be at least two persons present in the chapel. There will always be two men of the parish about the grounds to insure the safety of the participants. Those participating in the Vigil will receive a text or email reminder on Tuesday, April 12, listing the time chosen and the name and contact information of the person they are relieving and the person relieving them. Vigil participants are asked to park in the front of the church, to enter through the north doors and proceed directly to the chapel. For additional information, speak to Karin Brown or email her at prayer@stmarks-upland.org

Bring A Chalice to Church Continues Through Easter

The invitation to bring your chalice to receive wine at Holy Eucharist continues through Easter, April 17, 2022. All types of chalices are welcome; bring one from Almy or your kitchen/dining room. Chalices are posted on social media. Read interesting backstories - connections to people, places, history, and family. This is part of our Lent practice for an Easter celebration with safe ways to distribute the wine at Eucharist. Thank you for your help.

"Walk in Love" Lent Program, Sundays in Lent: March and April 3 (In-Person)

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 9:05-9:50AM 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.

Loving Our Neighbor Lent Program: Growing Beloved Community (Zoom)

7 PM Tuesdays 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.

2022 Joshua Tree Lent Wilderness Experience

Saturday April 2, 2022

Our Lenten Joshua Tree Lent Wilderness Experience is a social and contemplative day trip to Joshua Tree National Park. This outing is open to all members of St. Mark's and extended family and friends are welcome. However, it's an area of uneven terrain and may be unsuited to those with mobility concerns.

We will gather at St. Mark's in the rear parking lot at 7:30 AM for coordinating driving directions, sharing cell numbers and then setting out by 8:00 AM in an informal group drive. We will leave it to attendees to decide if they want to share rides but at this time, we aren't going to plan for carpools.

This year we won't do a prepared/shared group meal although we will likely still eat together. Participants will need to bring their own snacks, food, and water or other beverages (no water or food services at the site). An interest sheet for sign-ups is available on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. It's not needed for food or ride planning but will help us know who to expect when we meet.

Information sheets with more details and driving information are posted and available in the Parish Hall or Narthex. Please contact Craig Gillette at 909 631-9479 if you have any questions.

What's Your Sign Say? Jesus/God Loves... April 3

In preparation for the Palm Sunday procession on April 10, we will be making signs the Sunday prior, April 3. "Jesus Loves..." or "God Loves..." or whatever the Spirit has led you to. Make your sign then help make a scene. Paper and markers provided.

OUTREACH

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

Donations to Episcopal Relief & Development's [Ukraine Crisis Response Fund](https://www.episcopalrelief.org/product/ukraine-crisis-response/) 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/>

Episcopal Relief & Development (<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/>) is supporting Action by Churches Together (ACT Alliance) as it provides critical assistance to support people affected by violence in Ukraine. Working through ACT member Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) and other local organizations, ACT Alliance is providing emergency assistance such as food, shelter, water and basic supplies to refugees and people displaced within Ukraine.

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.

Building Loan Update

As reported to the congregation at the January 30 annual meeting, the Vestry has been considering whether to pay off or attempt to refinance the approximately \$325,000 that will be due when our building loan expires this May. The 2012 loan was originally \$930,000 for school and church improvements and was refinanced in 2017.

The Vestry, at its February 27 meeting, unanimously approved paying off the loan. A generous anonymous donation allowed us to pay down the principal enough to be able to consider this action; we will eliminate \$85,000 per year in loan payments. We are planning a "burn the mortgage" celebration this spring after we have made arrangements for the final payment. We appreciate everyone who has donated and continues to donate to the building fund so that we can meet our facility needs. --Finance Committee

DEANERY, DIOCESE, AND BEYOND

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.

HEALTH AND 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 fellowship and 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. We are outside for safety.