



What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - November 3, 2024

From Parish Leadership & Staff

1. Parish-Wide Budget Planning

[10/13]

There will be a parish-wide 2025 budget planning conversation in **Baxter Hall this Sunday, November 3 after both of the morning services** hosted by the vestry and finance committee. The purpose is to take input from parish managers, program leaders and individuals about high priority items for next year. Information about the budget process will be shared along with planning assumptions for 2025. Contact Jim Brooks with questions, [srwarden\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:srwarden[at]stmarks.net).

2. All Souls' Day Service of Remembrance

[10/20]

Have you lost a loved one in the past year, or 2 or 3? Are you in the midst of grief and healing over this or another loss you have had in the past? In honor of All Souls' Day, we will be gathering on **Sunday, November 3 at 6:00 p.m.** for a contemplative Service of Remembrance.

3. St. Mark's Election Day Schedule

[10/27]

On November 5, the St. Mark's nave will be **open for prayer from 8am to 1pm**. We will have **Morning Prayer at 8:45am and a Eucharist at 12pm**. Please join us. The **Washington National Cathedral will be open from 7am to 10pm Election Day and 7am to 6pm the next day, November 6th**. Contact: Caitlin Frazier [assistantrector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:assistantrector[at]stmarks.net)

4. Building the Household of God Annual Stewardship Appeal

[10/27]

We are called to be stewards of the gifts God has given us, and pledging is one way we respond to that call. We are asking you to consider making a pledge again this year. Think about the many ways that St. Mark's touches lives—whether it's supporting our ministries, offering a place of peace and worship, or helping those in need, and providing a place for people to gather to hear music, advocate for change, dance, meditate, practice yoga and celebrate their lives we know that every gift helps us do more.



5. Vestry Notes from Vestry Clerk Randy Marks

[11/3]

The Vestry's October 22 meeting included these discussions:

- Whether to open the building on Election Day, January 6, and January 20.
- Addressing the rising cost of health insurance and assuring that staff compensation keeps up with the rising cost of living.
- Our annual canvass.

- Replacement of the cherry trees in the courtyard, which are reaching the end of their life-span.
- The November 3 Budget Forum.
- The Service & Social Justice Board's excellent presentation about its activities which fall into four categories: charity, service, advocacy, and justice. Its priorities are expanding participation, tracking participation and encouraging new activities through its grant program.
- Raiford Gaffney's generous bequest to the Parish.
- A brief discussion of reparations, which the Diocesan Convention will discuss in January.
- The role of our lay Diocesan Delegates

Contact me at [clerk\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:clerk[at]stmarks.net) with questions or to attend a meeting. The website has Vestry members and minutes.

Music and the Arts

6a. Upcoming Concerts at St. Mark's

The Washington Bach Consort presents a free performance featuring two solo organ works and Bach's Ich habe Genug, BWV 82, a cantata for solo voice and orchestra. **Monday, Nov. 4 at 12:10 pm.** | **The Chiarina Chamber Players** will perform two 19th Century piano trios by Louise Farrenc & Antonín Dvořák. Tickets: \$30, free for those 18 and under. Use promo code STMARKS30 for 30% off. chiarina.org

6b. Memorial Concert for Raiford Gaffney

[11/3]

A special concert will be offered by friends of Raiford Gaffney. Short sets of music will be performed by Constance Whiteside, harp, the Suspicious Cheese Lords (an all male a cappella music specializing in early music), and the St. Mark's Chancel Choir. A reception will follow the concert. Any proceeds will be donated to the music program. **Sunday, November 17th, 7:30 pm.**

Worship

7. Become a Eucharistic Minister! Second Training Coming

[10/20]

If you're interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister (EM) and serving on Sundays (hopefully less than once a month!), we are scheduling a second training. Please reach out to Deacon Thom for more information, at [deacon\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:deacon[at]stmarks.net)

Service and Social Justice

Step into SSJ. View our new volunteer opportunities page www.stmarks.net/socialjustice

8. Incarceration Justice Meeting

[10/20]

featuring Advancing Real Change (ARC) speaker, Katherine Ashton

Tuesday, November 12th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in Baxter Hall. Light refreshments will be available.

ARC creates a more just world by advancing empathy, dignity, and equity within and beyond the criminal legal system. ARC unearths life histories of people facing extreme sentences so that true,

accurate, and detailed information can be shared with judges, juries, and prosecutors who decide their fates. Katherine Ashton will speak about her Investigative work -and- relay the power and importance of sharing individual stories. She has worked on federal and state capital cases, and sentencing modifications for those convicted of crimes as children. Her work in the mitigation arena started during an internship with the University of Texas School of Law. Her degrees include a Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW) and Master of Divinity degree (MDiv).

Contact for information: [incarcerationjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:incarcerationjustice@stmarks.net)

9. Help Prep a Hot Lunch for Shirley's Place Day Center—November 17

[10/27]

Once a month a different church provides a hot lunch for 50 people who come to Everyone Home DC's Shirley's Place for services and support. For some of the clients, this will be their only meal that day. St Mark's volunteers will be serving chili, rice, cornbread, and coleslaw on Monday, Nov 18.



Join in by signing up to provide the ingredients and/or offer to help cook at St Mark's on Sunday, Nov 17. The "Sign up Genius" web page provides the list of ingredients as well as a place for cash donations that will be used for the bulk items needed, such as the coleslaw, clementines, and cookies. Use the QR code or this link to access the sign-up page <https://tinyurl.com/SPchiliprep>

Questions? Ask Susan Sedgewick at [jssedgewick\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick@gmail.com)

10. Service and Social Justice Responsive Grant Program

[11/3]

The SSJ Board has awarded this year's Responsive Grants for the following worthy projects: Just Peace Delegation to Palestine-Israel with Christians for Ceasefire (C4C) – Submitted by Lindsey Jones-Renaud; "Anti-Oppression in Service" Youth Workshop – Submitted by: Caleb Amaker, Mary Miller-Flowers and Lisa Ramish; San Mateo Episcopal Church Bathroom Project –Submitted by Julie Murphy; Establish right relationship with Native American Peoples--Submitted by the Navajoland Steering Group: Kit Arrington, Steve Dalzell, and Michael Knipe; Amidon-Bowen "DC Scores" Soccer and Poetry Program – Submitted by Brian Cischke. See the E-Gospel for more information, and look for updates in the future. Qs – contact Leslie Allen [lacaphill\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:lacaphill[at]gmail.com)

From the Green Lions: - Questions? call Leslie Allen, 202-532-3332 or [lacaphill\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:lacaphill[at]gmail.com)

11. Grants Awarded

[11/3]

The Green Lions awarded two grants this year, including to Washington Interfaith Power and Light ("WIPL"), an organization we have funded and worked with for many years, and to parishioner Linda Stahl's Global Co Lab Network, which we funded with a responsive grant last year. We hope to partner again with both these organizations this year. See the E-Gospel for more information.

12. No More Plastics

[11/3]

St. Mark's will no longer buy plastic drinking cups. If you see them here, they are leftovers bought by others. Please do your part. If you are involved in hosting a program or reception here, please try not to buy plastic cups or water bottles. We have many pitchers, water, and ice. Unless you are using donated plastic cups or water bottles, buy paper cups instead. If you must buy water bottles, buy the small ones. And whether you use paper or plastic, please recycle!

13. Green Tip: Battery Collection

[11/3]

Washington, D.C. used to allow household batteries in the trash. No more. Regular and rechargeable batteries must be specially recycled at collection places. Luckily, this is easy. Home Depot, Lowe's, Frager's and other places will take them off your hands. For more info on these and other items that don't go in your trash, see zerowaste.dc.gov. In Maryland and Virginia, check your local jurisdiction, as practices vary.

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

15. Guest Speaker and Art Workshop

[10/13]

Join us on Sunday, Nov 3rd at 12:45pm in the Adam's Room to meet the author of the book that inspired our upcoming Advent Art Show, God's Holy Darkness. Then play, explore and create with a pastel batik technique. \$5 for supplies or bring your own. Sign up by emailing Lisa.ramish@gmail.com.

16. 20s/30s Group

[11/3]

Please join the 20s/30s group on November 3rd after the 5 PM service to discuss episode 17 of The Leader's Way podcast, "Metaphors with Joy Clarkson" Listen ahead, or just show up to hear and discuss excerpts. Contact Jilian McGreen ([jmcg1213\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jmcg1213@gmail.com)) or Annabelle Swift ([annabelleswift31\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:annabelleswift31[at]gmail.com)) with questions.

17. St. Mark's Players Seeking Show Proposals for 2025-2026 Season

[10/20]

The St. Mark's Players is a participatory company that uses theater to explore our lives and to serve our community. As a Community Theater Company, the St. Mark's Players survives and thrives through the inspiration and involvement of people like you! The Artistic Committee is seeking show proposals for the 2025-2026 season, and will be considering both plays and musicals.

Performance dates are anticipated to be:

Fall – October 2025 Winter – February 2026 Spring – May 2026

More information about submitting a proposal can be found at <https://www.stmarksplayers.org/copy-of-auditions-2>. **Deadline for submissions is Sunday, November 24, 2024.** If you have any questions, please [contact info\[at\]stmarksplayers.org](mailto:contactinfo@stmarksplayers.org).

18. Advent Art Show

[10/13]

God does special work in the darkness. As the days grow shorter through Advent, we will celebrate the beauty of black with an art show, God's Holy Darkness, inspired by a book of the same name by Rebeckah Selnick and Sharei Green. **The show will run from Nov 24-Dec 22.** To submit a piece, email [lisa.ramish\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:lisa.ramish[at]gmail.com) with a jpeg of the art and a short blurb by Nov 17.

19. Saints & Sinners Halloween Harvest Dance is a Wrap! [11/3]

Final count: 121 attendees, including 46 children!

Bunches of thanks to everyone who decorated, made cookies and food to bring, and purchased food and drinks. More kudos for those who designed and set up children's activities. Thanks to the beverage crew, dancer, announcer, photographers, and DJ. We hired a "skeleton crew" to reset the church; meanwhile our DJ played after most guests departed, helping us to power through. Many last minute volunteers, including an energetic group of teens, put everything in order in record time. Many thanks to Michael Gravlee and Annick Milde, for behind the scenes work. Many thanks to Caitlin Frazier, "Priest Barbie" for gifting us with glitter!

I would list everyone, but have a 150 word limit. Please know your efforts were MUCH appreciated! Consider the need for coordinators next year ... contact re: questions [juanita.lipscomb\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juanita.lipscomb@gmail.com)

20. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Undercroft Painting [10/27]

Thank you to Jim Pittman, volunteer extraordinaire, for his expert painting job in the old undercroft. Jim painted the older part of the undercroft to match the new part and it looks fabulous! Please take a look when you have a chance. Contact: Martha Huizenga [juniorwarden\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:juniorwarden[at]stmarks.net)

Christian Education

21. The Power of Extravagant Tenderness: Exploring Who God Is [10/20]

Come join us in exploring who God is (or isn't) in your life. On **Saturday, November 9, in the St. Mark's Elders Room from 9am-2:00pm**, we'll reflect on a God some or even many of us never knew. Led by Rob Hall and Louise Walsh, we'll explore what it means to believe in our essential goodness and accept the invitation into our own gracious heart. A book by Rev. Gregory Boyle: "The Whole Language: The Power of Extravagant Tenderness" frames our class. We ask you to read it beforehand. A few spaces remain and a waiting list is on our sign-up sheet in the foyer. Question? Please reach out to us at [ldwalsh\[at\]earthlink.net](mailto:ldwalsh@earthlink.net) or [rphall3\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:rphall3@gmail.com).

Youth and Family Ministries

22. Help Next Gen Reflection [11/3]

We need 2 volunteers each Sunday from 8:45-9:15AM to help with Next Gen reflection, which is our preteen version of Children's Chapel in the Adam's Room. It is a very easy and fun experience that helps kids love worship in their own special way. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/nextgenvolunteers> or email [Ljonesrenaud\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:Ljonesrenaud@gmail.com) with questions.

23. Family Eucharist Volunteers [11/3]

Every 4th Sunday at the 9AM service, there is no Children's Chapel or Next Gen Reflection because we make an extra special effort to include families in leading the worship service! We need greeters and readers and skit performers and someone to carry the rocks for Caleb. We need a family to write the Prayers of the People and a grownup to do a storyteller's performance of the Old Testament reading. We need your ideas and enthusiasm! If you or your child is interested, please email [DeniseROliveira\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:DeniseROliveira@gmail.com)

24. Calling Kid Artists [11/3]

We are always in need of black and white kids' drawings for the front of the program for Family Eucharist (which is at 9am every 4th Sunday of the month). To submit a piece of art, simply email a clear picture of a simple black and white church-themed drawing to [DeniseROliveira\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:DeniseROliveira[at]gmail.com) with the artist's name.

25. Youth Group [10/27]

Our next Youth Group meeting will be **Sunday, Nov 17 from 12:30-3:30**. We will eat some pizza then head to Franklin Square to hand out brand new coats along with some other goodies to unhoused people.

26. Parents Night Out November 23 [10/27]

Drop off kids, ages 0-12, for an evening of fun at St. Mark's and enjoy a well deserved night off! From **5:00pm to 8:00 pm on Saturday November 23**, we will have art, games and food. Email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) for the link to register on Realm or find it in the Youth E-News!

27. Christmas Pageant [10/27]

Planning for the Christmas Pageant is on the way! Our pageant will be December 24th, 2024 at 4pm. This year's Christmas pageant will include the children's choir and have roles of various sizes and commitment. Please email [amacdojo\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:amacdojo[at]gmail.com) if your family would like to join us!

28. Our 2025 Ski Trip is coming soon! [10/27]

A block of rooms has been reserved for St. Mark's Families at Canaan Valley Resort in Davis, WV. Please plan to join us on President's Day weekend, **February 14-17, 2025**. Sign ups to come soon!

Do you have an announcement for St. Mark's?

You can submit announcements of 150 words or less to [bulletin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:bulletin[at]stmarks.net) by 5 pm Tuesday to be included the following Friday. Announcements run for three weeks unless we hear from you. All announcements must include a parishioner's name and email address as a contact.

If you would like to have your event included on the parish calendar, send it to the [parishadmin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:parishadmin[at]stmarks.net). To have your event posted on the parish website, send it to [website\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:website[at]stmarks.net)