



## What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - October 18, 2026

### ***From Parish Leadership & Staff***

#### **1. New Building Security System Update**

[10/16]

The downstairs door require a fob or the app in which you need to select the specific door. If you have questions, I direct you to the e-gospel that has more information.

These enhancements are part of our ongoing effort to care for our historic church while keeping a safe, open, and welcoming environment for worship, ministry, and community events. We'll keep you updated as the installation is completed which is down to some fine tuning. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Michele at [michele\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:michele[at]stmarks.net).

### ***Parish Life & Diocesan Events***

#### **2. Special Meditation Event with BORN I**

[10/18]

**Sunday, October 18th, 7:00 p.m., in the Nave.** Join us for a unique evening of music and meditation with BORN I, the locally-based, internationally-known meditator, rapper, author, and hip-hip artist. He will be sharing metta, hope, and music with his crystal sound bowls and music from his more recent album, Komorebi. Walk-ins welcome - or - Register Now - BORN I on Oct. 18



Free-will offerings appreciated; suggested donation \$20. Hosted by St. Mark's Meditation Center. Use the QR Code or visit <https://tinyurl.com/Oct18BORN> Questions? [MMRivard\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:MMRivard[at]hotmail.com)

#### **3. Saints & Sinners Celebration! 🎃 ✨**

[10/4]

Join us on **Saturday, October 24 from 6:00 – 9:30 PM** at St. Mark's for dancing, kids' activities, and a haunted house! Tickets: \$20 Adults | \$10 Kids

(scan the QR code or visit <https://tinyurl.com/DanceOct24> to buy via Realm)

Food & Drinks: Light refreshments provided; adult beverages (BYOB) and desserts welcome! Volunteer: We need helpers for day-of decorating and post event breakdown. Questions or want to volunteer? Email [aarynkopp\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:aarynkopp[at]gmail.com).



#### **4. Upcoming 20s/30s Events at St. Marks**

[10/18]

Join us **October 25 after the 5pm service** for our monthly discussion group! Optional podcast listening: "What is Prayer and How to Begin" from On Being. Join us for **brunch on**

**November 8 after the 11:15 service!** Let us know at [stmarks20s30s\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:stmarks20s30s@gmail.com) if you'd like to be point-person on a future brunch. We typically gather after the service and walk to a local spot or eat at the church.

#### **5. Common Table (Newcomer Gatherings) [10/18]**

Common Table (previously known as Newcomer Gatherings) are an opportunity for new and established members to share a meal, meet people whose paths don't often cross, and discuss what makes this community unique. If you are interested in attending one of these events please sign up here: <https://shorturl.at/dZYKr>. **The next opportunity is October 25.** Reach out to Terri Poxon-Pearson with any questions ([terripoxonpearson\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:terripoxonpearson@gmail.com)).

#### **6. November 1 - All Saints Conversation [10/18]**

Each year, St. Mark's offers a place to gather to remember those who have died and the losses sustained during the prior year. The service takes the form of a sacred circle of prayer and sharing in the Nave from **6 pm to 7 pm**. All who seek a place to remember, mourn, and gain strength are invited. Contact Josie Jordan at [josiejordan52\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:josiejordan52@gmail.com).

#### **7. Seeking 2 People to Help Host Sunday Lunch November 15 - It's Easy! [10/18]**

Please volunteer to help host Sunday Lunch on Nov. 15. If you want to keep it easy, Pam Lacey can pick up the sandwiches and salad from Costco and bring them to the Parish Hall in coolers on Sunday morning. All you need to do is get one friend or your spouse to help set the food out on the buffet tables around 12:15 pm, take donations, drop off the donations in the office slot afterwards, and clear away the leftovers. Jane Byrne will help with loading the dishwasher and Pam will also help with cleanup. Contact Pam Lacey, [placey914\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:placey914@gmail.com).

#### **8. Share Your Events on St. Mark's Social Media! [10/11]**

Have an event, ministry update, or something happening in the parish that deserves a wider audience? St. Mark's is looking to grow our presence on Instagram and Facebook, and we want to feature the great things happening across our community!

Karen Brown has generously volunteered to serve as our new Social Media Coordinator. If you have an upcoming event, program milestone, service opportunity, or photos you'd like considered for our Instagram or Facebook pages, please reach out to Karen directly at [socialmedia\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:socialmedia@stmarks.net).

A few notes to keep in mind: submissions are welcome from any ministry or group, and Karen will follow our parish social media guidelines (including protecting the privacy of children) when deciding what and how to post. Reach out anytime, no request is too small!

Contact: Karen Brown [socialmedia\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:socialmedia[at]stmarks.net)

## **9. Help Include Far-Flung Parishioners + Friends in Worship via Livestream?** [10/11]

Community members rely on Zoom, YouTube, and Facebook to participate in Sunday morning worship. Distant family count on livestreams to see a loved one's celebration of life.

If you'd like to help them, consider volunteering as a Tech Director. You don't need to know everything to start - we'll train you.

Responsibilities: Configure Facebook/YouTube/Zoom streams, set up the video laptop and peripherals, monitor the livestream in progress, Move/connect our Nave cameras, monitor the audio, and troubleshoot.

Streaming, video, or networking experience is helpful. Commitment: **one Sunday morning every three to four weeks, plus special events** (e.g., memorials, Holy Week) as available.

If you're interested, contact [Christoph.Berendes\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:Christoph.Berendes[at]gmail.com) to schedule a Sunday morning to sit with the tech team and see how it's done.

## **Worship**

## **10. Same Bread Lady, New Name** [10/18]

My marital status has changed, but the need for bread & wine donations for the 11:15 a.m. service at St. Mark's has not! As we move into the busy holiday season, consider signing up to bring bread for use in the Eucharist. Bread can be homemade or store bought (the braided challah loaf at the Whole Foods bakery is popular). And an inexpensive bottle of red table wine is most appreciated. Your name is listed in the back of the service bulletin, and you can dedicate your contribution to a birthday, anniversary or in honor of someone. There's usually a sign-up sheet in the foyer during the 11:15 service or email me \*at my new address\* to get on the schedule. Questions, contact Cheryl Bolen (formerly Cheryl Smelson) at [cheryl2bolen\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:cheryl2bolen[at]gmail.com)

## **11. Laying on of Hands Ministry** [10/18]

Would you want to learn more about the St Mark's prayer ministry called "Laying on of Hands"? This personal prayer service is conducted by lay members of the parish. We are scheduled for every 1st and 3rd Sunday.

Reverend Patricia Catalano has graciously offered to schedule a group training with interested parishioners, who would like to explore becoming part of the Laying on of Hands cadre. The training will be scheduled in January - (exact details to be determined once we have gauged

interest). If you're pulled in this direction, please email Jan Lipscomb at [juanita.lipscomb\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juanita.lipscomb[at]gmail.com)

### **Children, Youth and Family Ministry**

*Learn more about all our different programs at <https://bit.ly/CYFMHandbook>*

#### **12. Neurodiversity Working Group Meeting [9/20]**

The Children, Youth and Families Ministry (CYFM) Neurodiversity Working Group (NWG) has launched a support group for parents of young people who are neurodiverse or have special needs (no formal diagnosis necessary). Julie Murphy, a 40-year St. Mark's member and certified parent coach, is convening the monthly meeting. Our next meeting is **Sunday, October 18 at 11 am in the library** (across from the nursery). We hope that this will be a non-judgmental space where parents can share experiences and find support and strength. For questions or to receive this month's calendar invitation, email Julie at [juliaabbottmurphy\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbottmurphy[at]gmail.com).

#### **13. Youth Group October 24 4:30-7 [10/4]**

St. Mark's Youth Group will once again build the haunted house before our annual Saints and Sinners dance! We'll have food and fun getting ready to spook the St. Mark's community with our family friendly haunted house. Please RSVP using the QR code so we know how much food to order! Please contact Jilian McGreen ([jmcg1213\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jmcg1213[at]gmail.com)) or Jeb Ory ([jebory\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jebory[at]gmail.com)) with questions.



### **Music and the Arts**

#### **14. Veronneau at the Hill Center, Oct. 30 [10/18]**

Back in April, Lynn Veronneau, Ken Avis, and Dave Kline serenaded us with an amazing concert of jazz, blues, bossa nova and more. This benefit concert (the second Veronneau has done for us) raised about \$4500 for Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid and Good Neighbors Capitol Hill, the organizations that spearhead our Service and Social Justice migrant and refugee work. Please show your appreciation and delight your listening ears by attending their next concert nearby at the **Hill Center on Capitol Hill on Friday, October 30th, 7 p.m.** Tickets are \$25. This event is likely to sell out, so reserve your tickets soon. For more information, reach out to Leslie Allen, [lacaphill\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:lacaphill[at]gmail.com), or the Hill Center, [info\[at\]hillcenterdc.org](mailto:info[at]hillcenterdc.org).

#### **15. Save the Date: November 6th Choral Concert [10/11]**

Please join us for a special concert featuring the St. Mark's Youth Choir, Chancel Choir, Community Choir, and special guest ADAMS BEAT Youth Choir. The groups will sing a variety of music and will be accompanied by piano, percussion, and bass. The audience will even have a brief opportunity to join in the singing! Nov. 6th at 7:30 pm. Free. A reception will follow the event. Email [judith\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:judith[at]stmarks.net) for more info or to volunteer to help.

**16. Tread Softly show.** Tracy Councill's last show will be at St. Marks in November. There is a matching book, and preorders for the book are open now through Nov. 15. All proceeds from the sale will help establish a stipend program to support master's candidates working in an Art Therapy program established through a Tracy's Kids grant.

Here's the preorder link for the book:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/tracys-kids-incs-shop>

### **Service and Social Justice**

*Step into SSJ. View our volunteer opportunities page at [www.stmarks.net/socialjustice](http://www.stmarks.net/socialjustice)*

#### **17. Jesus Was a Migrant Film Showing**

[9/20]

Join us on Sunday, October 18 here at St. Mark's at 12:30 pm to view and discuss the film, "Jesus Was a Migrant," a documentary about borders, belief, and what we owe each other. Lunch will be served. Author and historian, Dr. Jemar Tisby travels to the U.S.-Mexico border to examine the theological crisis at the heart of American Christianity - and what it means when a nation built on faith turns its back on the most vulnerable. This event is sponsored by Capitol Hill UMC, Christ City Church DC, Church at the Well, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, and Washington Community Fellowship. Contact: Holly [hkreutts\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:hkreutts[at]hotmail.com) or Julie [juliaabbotmurphy\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbotmurphy[at]gmail.com). Visit <https://tinyurl.com/STMjesusmigrant> to register or use the QR code.



#### **18. Contribute Towards a Chili Lunch at Shirley's Place**

[9/27]

Help St Mark's provide a hot lunch of chili, coleslaw and cornbread for 50 clients/guests at Shirley's Place, Everyone Home DC's day center located at 1338 G St SE. Sign up to bring ingredients or donate towards other expenses via <https://tinyurl.com/chili-lunch-Nov-1> or use the QR code. **Bring ingredients to Baxter Hall on Sunday morning, November 1. The chili lunch will be served on Monday, November 2.** Need more information? Contact Susan Sedgewick [jssedgewick\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick[at]gmail.com).



#### **19. Thanksgiving Giving**

[10/18]

Support Everyone Home DC in providing its clients with gift cards this Thanksgiving season. This will empower them to shop for what their family needs to celebrate this very American holiday. You can donate here: <https://web.charityengine.net/stmarksgiving/> For more information, contact Susan Sedgewick [jssedgewick\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick[at]gmail.com).

## **20. Last Call for Gala Sponsors & Auction Items** [10/18]

Many thanks to those who are sponsoring Samaritan Ministry's upcoming Gala on November 7 or donating an item or "theme basket" for its Auction, Nov. 4-7. There's still time to support the Ministry's work! Pick up how-to flyers on the windowsill in the foyer, including a list of past auction items from St. Mark's and other partner churches. **Pick up a free basket in Baxter Hall on Sunday morning, Oct. 18. Sponsorships are due Oct. 23; auction descriptions and photos, Nov. 2.** To get a basket or help in delivering an auction item Nov 3-5, contact Peter at [phawleydc\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:phawleydc[at]gmail.com). Purchase tickets for the Gala at [samaritanministry.org/gala-2026](http://samaritanministry.org/gala-2026). Then enjoy food, drink, music, and the excitement of final bidding **Nov. 7 from 3 to 6 pm at St. Paul's Center**, the lovely conference facility adjacent to historic Rock Creek Cemetery, 201 Allison Street NW.

## **21. Washington School for Girls - 8th Grade Essay Writing Workshops** [9/27]

Volunteer to help WSG 8th graders brainstorm, develop, and finalize their high school application essays. These workshops are a crucial way WSG prepares students for success in the high school application process. Volunteers can participate on any of the following dates:

- **Wednesday, October 28, 4:00-5:00 PM**  
<https://washingtonschoolforgirls.org/event/essay102826/>
- **Wednesday, November 18, 4:00-5:30 PM**  
<https://washingtonschoolforgirls.org/event/essay111826/>
- **Wednesday, December 2, 4:00-5:30 PM**  
<https://washingtonschoolforgirls.org/event/essay120226/>

All workshops will take place at **Washington School for Girls, 1865 Mississippi Avenue SE**. Please register through the links provided and reach out directly to [naomimreynolds\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:naomimreynolds[at]gmail.com) with any questions or concerns (including but not limited to coordinating group transportation logistics)!

## **22. Now is the Time to Order Palestinian Olive Oil** [10/4]

Palestinian Olive Oil is once again available, and NOW is the time to place your order. The two types most popular varieties , Al-Ard EVOO (Extra Virgin Organic, Oil is mild, smooth) & Canaan Rumi ("zesty", with more of a peppery finish) can be purchased in 1/2 liter bottles for \$30. Order bottles individually or a case of 6 bottles for \$180. Our price, the same as last season and still quite competitive with a percentage included to support critical humanitarian work in Gaza and the W. Bank. The two cooperatives we support, Canaan and Al -Ard, produce extremely high quality, extra virgin and organic. Under the Palestine Fair Trade program, the oil is required to be from indigenous trees using traditional, natural cultivation methods.



**Orders can be placed online now until November 20.** Ordering online allows you to pay for your order directly (with credit card or bank transfer) simplifying bookkeeping for you and St. Mark's. Order early to ensure availability. **Paid orders can be picked up Sunday, November 22 or December 13 from 10 am – 1pm.** Use the QR code, visit <https://tinyurl.com/STMoliveoil26> or find the Olive Oil Poster on the Baxter Hall Bulletin Board. Questions contact [karen.getman\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:karen.getman[at]gmail.com)

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(\* next to the date denotes that this announcement has been updated)

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

*Submit announcements of 150 words or less to bulletin[at]stmarks.net by 5 pm Tuesday for inclusion that Friday. They run for three weeks unless we hear from you. Each must include a parishioner's name and email. If using a QR code, also provide the underlying link.*

*To include your event: email parishadmin[at]stmarks.net for the calendar, website[at]stmarks.net for the website, or complete the form (shorturl.at/vaXg7) by Tuesday night for a spoken announcement.*