

This Week at St. Mark's

- Today** 8 a.m. HE and Healing, 9 a.m. Choir rehearsal (Lg. classroom), 9:10 a.m. Adult Forum, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. HE, Baptism and Healing, 11:15 a.m. Confirmation/Reception class (Lg. classroom), 1 – 3 p.m. Eucaristía - San Marcos (Sanctuary, Patience Hall, Gibson Hall), 3:30 – 5:45 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship (Patience Hall), 4 - 8 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Monday 11/3** 7-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (Patience Hall)
- Tuesday 11/4** 7 – 9 p.m. Pan de Vida Bible study (Sanctuary), 7 – 8:30 p.m. GS Troop 4841 (Patience Hall)
- Wednesday 11/5** 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax, 12:30 p.m. HE at The Pentagon, 5:30 – 9 p.m. Nurturing Families program (Patience Hall, kitchen, Gibson Hall)
- Thursday 11/6** 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel), 10 a.m. Holy Folders (Lg. classroom)
- Friday 11/7** 7 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Saturday 11/8** 11:30 a.m. Youth Group to UCM to sort food, 3 – 5 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship Bible study (Lg. classroom), 6 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7 – 9 p.m. San Marcos Bible study (Lg. classroom)

Adult Forum Schedule

- Today** *Exploring the Saints*
- November 9** *Healing Trauma and the Veteran*
- November 16** *Meet Bishop Jones*
- November 23** *Dedication Sunday – Our Everymember Canvass*
- November 30** *Advent Lessons*
- December (all Sundays)** *The Readings of Advent*

Important Upcoming Dates

- November 9** 10 a.m. Instructed Eucharist
- November 15** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Parish Clean-Up Day
- November 16** Bishop Jones' visit - 10 a.m.: Confirmation, 11:15 a.m. Reception

Birthday

November 2 – David Diaz

Anniversary

November 2 – Irene and Roland Parris



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:
an inviting, embracing and serving
community offering Good News in the midst
of a confusing world.”**

November 2, 2014

From the Rector

All Saints Day first appeared in the Antioch Church around the early fourth century as a day to honor the Church's martyrs. Originally occurring on the first Sunday after Pentecost, All Saints Day was adopted by the Western Church in the early seventh century by Pope Boniface IV, who designated the May 13th for its observance.

In the ninth century, the All Saints Day celebration was modified to include all saints, becoming a church-wide observance of the Feast of All Saints on November 1st. By changing the date, the Western Church sought to incorporate a Christian focus into the ancient festival of the dead that many European clans celebrated during the first part of November. The Church's observance of a vigil the night before All Saints Day coincided with the beginning of the festival to honor the dead. That night, known as All Hallows Eve (or Halloween), retains many of the old European customs and traditions.

Lutherans and Episcopalians remember the day by giving thanks to God for all saints, living and dead. It is one of the feast days for Baptism, and the color is traditionally white. The Orthodox Churches continue to honor all Christian martyrs on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

Día de los Muertos or 'Day of the Dead' Celebrations

Throughout Latin America, especially in Brasil, Día de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, is a two-day celebration that combines Catholic tradition and pre-Columbian culture. The first day is dedicated to "angelitos" (little angels), who are infants and children that have died. Adults who have died are memorialized on the second day. Common traditions include joyful family gatherings at local cemeteries and parades exhibiting elaborate wreaths, seasonal flowers, and macabre effigies of skeletons. However, within the Church, the day is specifically dedicated to martyrs and saints, with prayers and litanies offered for their faithful service to God. Simply put, All Saints Day is a time to thank God for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (*Lifted from several sources*)

Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church welcome you to our services on this All Saints Day. If you are looking for a church home, or want more information about St. Mark's, please introduce yourself to the Vestry Person of the Day or to the Clergy. We hope you will fill out the newcomer's card that you will find in the church pew and put it in the offering plate or give it to one of the ushers. We are glad you are here! If you would like to receive our weekly announcements and other parish news by e-mail, please contact the church office at stmarksalex@netzero.net.

Prayer List

On this celebration of All Saints, we remember Nikki Burr, Eunice Johnson, Angelica Clarke, Jean Auldridge, and Sherrie Johnson.

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially:

In the St. Mark's Parish: Shirley Hunter, Clara Bottner, Beth Oakes, Betty Hughes, Rebecca Carrier, Lindsay Drabick, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, and Geoffrey.

Our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Pat McDonald, Sylvia Beauchamp, Jan Varner, Evelyn Lang, Stacy Kley, Janet Coco, Julie Cain, Cheryl F., Karla, Sandra, Aylene's father, Jack and Kerry.

We pray for those who have died, especially William Welch, brother-in-law of John and Helen Dell; and Laura and Chauncey, friends of the Luxners.

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm's way. We lift up especially Andrew Kley, Robert Payne, and Tim, Emily and family. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation. If you would like to add anyone to the list, please call the church office or let the clergy know.

If you would like someone who is sick or in need added to the prayer list, please write their name in the blue book on the table in the Narthex, or give the name to Father John or Rev. Meredith. Names will be kept in our intercessions for four weeks, unless notified otherwise.

Announcements

Today we welcome Harrison James Walker, son of Neale and Shanon Walker, into the household of God through Baptism.

2014 Inquirer's and Confirmation Classes. Classes are open to all and will be held in the Rector's office at 11:15, unless otherwise noted.

- Nov. 2 - *The Book of Common Prayer: Marriage, Reconciliation & Death*
The Rev. Meredith Heffner
- Nov. 9 - *Mission and Ministry: Where Do We Go From Here?*
The Rev. John Weatherly, Seminarian José Reyes
- Nov. 16 - 10:00 The Episcopal Visitation of Bishop David C. Jones,
retired Suffragan Bishop of Virginia

Any questions? Call 703/765-3949.

Join us and help UCM sort food gathered by the Boy Scouts! On Saturday, November 8th, St. Mark's folks will gather at 11:30 and drive to UCM together to work the 12-4 shift. Please sign up at www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0549ADA923A5F58-scouting/. Food donations are always welcome at their Fordson Road office.

The next dates St. Mark's will be cooking for the Nurturing Families Program will be November 12th and December 3rd. The meals will be pot-luck and volunteers are asked to bring a side dish or dessert that will serve 12 people. Please bring your dishes by 6 p.m. Dinner will be at 6:30. If you would like to volunteer, please see David Boyd after the service or contact him at david.boyd1945@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars for our parish clean-up day on November 15th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you can come and help out, please contact Russell Bradley after the service or by e-mail at w.russell.bradley@gmail.com.

Bishop Jones' visit November 16th: The 10 a.m. service will be with San Marcos. We are soliciting donations of finger foods, nice appetizers and sweets for the reception. Please contact Elizabeth Boyd at mary.e.boyd18.civ@mail.mil or at 703/921-5289. Please sign up so we can track who is donating what food. You will find a sign-up sheet in the Narthex today and next Sunday.

Getting ready for the Bishop! Our music director, Tatiana, has been preparing an offertory song with our children. Please make plans for your children to be here on Sundays to practice in Sunday School and to be here on November 16th as we show them off to Bishop Jones!

We are putting together care packages for our college students preparing for exams! If you would like to participate, please bring 16 of one item to church by November 16th. Items might include snacks, Kleenex, pencils, pens, notes, post it's, etc. We will distribute them to the students' families for them to mail to the kids. Thanks so much! *Rev. Meredith*

Attention Youth: Our trip to the Flight Trampoline Park will take place at 1:00 on November 23rd. Meet after church for pizza, and then carpool to Flight. Sign-up will be coming via SignUpGenius. Contact Rev. Meredith for more information.

Tellers needed. We are in dire need of about three tellers to help in the Sunday counting of plate proceeds. It takes about an hour to an hour and a half after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday. If we can get a few more hands, we will only be scheduled once about every six weeks. If you are interested, please contact Ed Kley at 703/719-6238 or at epkley@gmail.com, Karen Ashworth at ashworthkc2@verizon.net, or Jim Bailes at bailes.james@gmail.com.

Are you a 21 to 30-year old who's looking to be transformed and serve their brothers and sisters in Christ? Do you have a passion for Global Mission and looking to live and work in an Anglican community across the world? The Young Adult Service Corps of the Episcopal Church provides such opportunities. Deadline for the 2015-2016 class is Jan. 2, 2015. Learn more at episcopalchurch.org/yasc. The Diocese of Virginia has a recent returned YASC missionary, Ashley Cameron. She'd love to share more with anyone interested in the program. Feel free to contact her at ashley.cameron0625@gmail.com or check out her YASC Blog to learn more.