



## 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.”

October 30, 2016

From the Rector

All Saints Day which we will celebrate Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 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](#). Throughout Latin America, especially in Brasil, *Dia 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 family gatherings at local cemeteries, and parades exhibiting elaborate wreaths, seasonal flowers, and macabre effigies of skeletons. Within the Church, the day is specifically dedicated to martyrs and saints, with prayers and litanies offered for their faithful service to God.

**Pledge Early and Enter to Win 2 tickets to Capitol Steps Benefit for UCM.** UCM's Annual Capitol Steps Benefit will take place on Sunday, November 13, in Alexandria. It is anticipated that this will be an exciting concert (taking place right after the election) and will benefit a worthwhile

local organization. Today, all pledges received to date will be entered into a raffle to win 2 tickets to this event.

**Vestry Every Member Campaign Commitment: “We’re All In.”** The Vestry at St. Mark’s have each prayerfully committed to give mindfully and proportionally, and have submitted their pledge cards. Please follow their lead as you discern how God is calling you to walk more broadly into the generous path He gives others through us. Join us in the commitment. Dedication Sunday is November 13<sup>th</sup>. Please return your pledge cards by that day!

**Prayer for an Election**

*Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. BCP*

**Confirmation and Reception Classes – 11:15 am – Rector’s Office**

Today	The Book of Common Prayer, The Rev. Donna Foughty
November 6	Introduction to Holy Scripture, The Rev. Cornelia Eaton
November 13	Marriage, Reconciliation and Death, Ms. Michaelene Miller
November 20	Instructed Eucharist
November 27	Baptism, Creeds and Confirmation, What Next?

**Welcome Newcomers and Visitors**

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church welcome you to our services. If you are looking for a church home, or want more information about St. Mark’s, please make use of one of our visitor’s cards and give to our clergy or place in the offertory plate.

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially in the St. Mark’s Parish: Beth Oakes, Donna Anderson, Richard Sparks, Phil Brown, Shirley Hunter, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, Don Lopez and Jeanette Parris.

Also for our extended family: Emmett S., Cordelia S. Warren S., Shirley and Marva Alums, Abdulazeen W., Liz S., Phyllis Nezat-Biggs, Sylvia and Rev. E. Valverde, John R., D. Crumel, William Pimental, Vicki Robb, Kenneth Leland and family, Ken Crabb and family, friends of Dickie Emerson, Rod Pearson,

Sr., Barbara Butler, Richard Stockstill, Carly Allphin ,Chris Coley, Monica Hietsch, Shawn Pensoneau and Emmett Sims III.

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm's way, we lift up Colin Maloney, Patrick Bates, Tim, Emily and family and Walter Smiley. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation.

\*\* Names are kept on the prayer list for four weeks unless requested otherwise. If you would like to add or remove someone, please call the Church office Tuesday-Thursday between 9:00 and 3:00. Thank you. \*\*

### **Announcements**

**If you did not receive your Stewardship mailing**, pledge cards and information are available on the tract table at the back of the Sanctuary and **if you would like to be added to the weekly St. Mark's e-blast**, please call Mari Tuesday-Thursday at 703-765-3949 or email her at [stmarksalex@netzero.net](mailto:stmarksalex@netzero.net).

**The DOK Book Study** (7 great women) will meet at Irrsula Mpouma's house TODAY to study and discuss the life of Corrie Ten Boom.

**Follow Rev. Meredith's El Camino blog** at <http://fourwomenwalking.blogspot.com/?m=1>.

**Cherub Music will meet today** at 4:15 pm.

**A Big Thank You** to the Sunday Schoolers for providing the congregation with decorated grocery bags for our food bank collection. Also, thank you to the parishioners who already filled and returned these bags. Last week we dropped off over 110 pounds of food!

**We need helpers and greeters** for our Nurturing Parent dinner this Wednesday. The menu and food purchase will be handled by Kathy Hughes but we need 5 or 6 volunteers to assist. Please contact Kathy or the Rector. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex. Dates are today, November 16 and 30 and December 14.

**A church cannot exist** without the wonderful people who make up the congregation of St. Mark's. Can you make a commitment to joining one of our ministries? We guarantee that the investment is small but the rewards are great. We have some wonderful ministries for you to consider joining. St. Mark's Ministry Contact List: Altar Guild – Pat Hoppe, Flower Guild – Delsa Chui, Lay Eucharistic Ministers - Donna Anderson, Lectors – Russ Bradley,

Intercessors – Jeanne Shafer, Acolytes – Pam Hamrin, Choir – Tatiana Ushers – Wally Tienken, Greeters – Bonnie Wilkins, Tellers – Karen Ashworth, Andronikova and Daughters of the King – Sheryl Sims. Please consider signing up at <https://goo.gl/forms/5jpijHi6Ypqv8y452>.

**Salvation Army Angel Tree.** Want to get an early start on shopping for your Salvation Army Angel Tree gifts? A signup sheet with the children's wish lists is on Google Drive. Click on this link to sign up: [2016 Angel Tree List](#). Bonnie Wilkins will have hard copy lists and additional details in the narthex in Nov. Contact her at 703-765-4253, email: [greytdog@verizon.net](mailto:greytdog@verizon.net). All gifts must be purchased and returned to Bonnie at the church before Dec 4.

### Upcoming Birthdays

11/1 – Patrick Manley, 11/2 – David Diaz, 11/3 – Edy Ramioka, 11/4 – Mike Morgan, 11/5 – Marcia Kelly, 11/6 – Eva Buckles, 11/10 Kwaku Genfi and Deborah Bergstrom, 11/11 – The Rev. Donna Foughty, Becky Bagdasarian, 11/12 – Laura Landon, Craig Shelton and Belinda Appiah, 11/16 – Francisco Robles, 11/17 Kara Pantalena, 11/18 – Khayla Rivas, 11/20 – Beth Oakes

### This Week at St. Mark's

<b>Today</b>	8:00 am HE, 9:15 am Adult Forum (PH), 10 am HE, 1:00-4:00 pm San Marcos (Sanctuary, PH, GH), 4:00-6:00 pm Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 4:15 pm Cherub Music
<b>Monday, 10/31</b>	7:00-8:30 pm BSA Troop #4077 (PH), 5:00-7:00 pm NVA Tutoring (large classroom)
<b>Tuesday, 11/1</b>	7:00-9:00 pm – Girl Scout Troop 4841 (PH), 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida Bible Study (Sanctuary)
<b>Wednesday, 11/2</b>	10:00 am HE - The Fairfax, 7-9:30 pm -San Marcos (PH), 5-9 pm – Nurturing Families (PH, GH)
<b>Thursday, 11/3</b>	9:00 am-12:45 pm – Biology Class (PH), 9:30 am – Morning Prayer, 10:00 am – Holy Folders, 5:00-7:00 pm – NVA Tutoring (classroom), 7-9:30 pm – San Marcos (large classroom)
<b>Friday, 11/4</b>	7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)
<b>Saturday, 11/5</b>	6:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S, PH)

### **Adult Forum - 9:10 am in Patience Hall**

Today	Hazardous Saints, Sojourner Truth
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November 6	Hazardous Saints, Dorothy Day
November 13	The Eucharist Explored
November 20	Hazardous Saints, Oscar Romero
November 27	
December 4	Bishop Gulick
December 11	Pageant with Live Animals
December 18	Lessons and Carols

