

News and Service Opportunities - Please Take Note:

Please join us in the responsibility to safeguard God's children by making sure no child is unaccompanied while in the building. **Our Nursery** is staffed from 10:15am—noon. **Children's Worship** is offered during our service. Best for children ages 4-11ish. We leave after the Gospel and return at the Peace. **"Soft-spots" for families with young children** offer toddler friendly seating. **We love having children in worship.**

COVID SAFETY: Masks are optional. We ask that you remain mindful of other's health.

It's Pledge Season! Our Annual campaign! Please remember to pledge! Please consider your financial gift to support the work of the church in 2025. Pledges in any amount help us build our operating budget for staff, upkeep, and ministry. We have 70 pledges on our way to the 100 pledge unit goal!

Young Adults group meets Sundays at 1pm here at church.

Christmas Flowers! Donations are welcomed in honor or memory of a loved one. Forms are in the church and on-line. Please donate by December 22.

St. Mark's Reads Winter book is *Social Justice for the Sensitive Soul: How to Change the World in Quiet Ways* by Dorcas Cheng-Tozun. Grab a copy and start reading - we'll gather in late January/early February for a "souper."

Parish Holiday Open House, Sunday December 15, 1-3pm at the Heady Downey home, 2408 Hanover Avenue.

Christmas at St. Mark's. Services at 4pm (Pageant) and 10:30pm (music begins at 10pm) on Tuesday, December 24. Christmas Day 11am at Holy Comforter Church, and Lessons & Carols here on Sunday, December 29, 10:30am

Rector's Forum continues on Sunday, January 12 at 9am. These topical conversations will occur once per month. Meet in the Library.

Youth Confirmation Classes begin on Sunday, January 19. Chat with Fr. Benajmin, Malinda or Ryn for more information.

VA Interfaith Day for All People at the General Assembly is Wednesday, January 15. Talk with Penny Adams or Karen Hardison about registering by Dec. 15.



Outreach:

Food Pantry service on 2nd and 4th Saturdays! We distribute bags, offer a meal and time to relax and use the bathroom. If you have donations or questions about the pantry, contact our Food Pantry Coordinator, Karen Franklin, forpop247@gmail.com. **Please shop for the Food Pantry— Lists are on-line and in the church entry. December 28 team is Team Pennington.**

12-Step Ministry Contact Suzanne Long to learn more about supporting this important ministry. Wednesday evenings, 7:30—9:30pm. **December 18 host is Douglas D'Urso.**

CARITAS Meal ministry continues in 2025—check the website for dates! They are on our Outreach page. Contact Suzanne Long to help with the meal (we prep it here and deliver it to CARITAS).

Diaper Drive in January and February. We're collecting to support Church of the Epiphany's distribution. We need sizes newborn—7, and diaper wipes. More information in the emails.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S:

December 15 — December 21

SUNDAY(15) 9:30 AM Sacred Ground Start Up
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
12:15 PM Outreach Team
1:00 PM Parish Holiday Open House
Downey Residence

TUES(17) 6:00 PM Vestry MMR

WED(18) 10:00 AM Bible Study
12:00 PM Curmudgeon Lunch
8:00 PM 12-Step

Morning Prayer Monday—Friday at 8am via Zoom
Compline Sunday—Thursday 8pm via Zoom

NEXT WEEK AT ST. MARK'S:

December 22 — December 28

SUNDAY(22) 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

TUES(24) 4:00 PM Pageant Service
10:30 PM Christmas Eve Service

WED(25) 11:00 AM Christmas Day service at
Holy Comforter
8:00 PM 12-Step

SAT(28) 9:00 AM Food Pantry

Morning Prayer Monday—Friday at 8am via Zoom
Compline Sunday—Thursday 8pm via Zoom

Serving This Sunday, December 15

Celebrant: The Rev. Charles “Buck” Aiken

Deacon: The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Sarah Kye Price

Verger: Douglas D’Urso

First Reading: Laura Hicks

Second Reading: Patrick McDuff

Intercessor: Isabel Tucker **Chalicer:** Amy Strite

Acolytes: Grace and Thomas McDuff

Advent Candle: The McDuff Family

Ushers: Dan Hartman, Fred Crowley,
Kenn Shirley, Richard Yuk

Greeter: Ryn Kennedy

Nursery: Cassandra Price

Altar Guild: Liz Smith, Gayle Johnston,
Amy Strite, Carter Strite

Advent Greenery: Floral Guild

Coffee Hour: Franklin, Wentworth, Burnes, Steele

Alter Guild Zoom Host: Malinda Collier, Nora Thompson

Serving Next Sunday, December 22

Celebrant: The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett

Deacon: The Rev. Charles “Buck” Aiken

Preacher: The Rev. Charles “Buck” Aiken

Verger: Paul Shane

First Reading: Cameron Cutro

Second Reading: Karen Hardison

Intercessor: Yumi Strite **Chalicer:** Mike Maruca

Acolytes: Feild Pennington, Jackson Neal

Advent Candle: Steve and Mary Clark

Ushers: Mary Clark, Steve Clark,
Kristin Herman, David Herman

Greeter: Elizabeth Kyser, Don Kyser

Nursery: Cassandra Price

Altar Guild: Mary Clark, Peter Walker,
Andrea Lofton, Jean Winne

Advent Greenery: Floral Guild

Coffee Hour: Frugard, O’Reilly, Thompson, Moyer

Alter Guild Zoom Host: Malinda Collier, Nora Thompson