



E-Newsletter | November 23 - 29, 2018

Prayer List

Please remember those on the Prayer List when you pray.

Click link for the list of prayer requests.

Link to Scripture readings

Preparing for Sunday

Christ the King Sunday

Click link to read the Sunday Bulletin.

November

- 23-Parish Office CLOSED: Thanksgiving Holiday
- 25-Holy Eucharist: Sanctuary: 8am & 10:15am
- 28-ECW Meeting: Fireside Room: 10am
- 28-Stephen Ministry Training: Fireside: 6:30pm
- 29-Holy Eucharist/Healing Service: Chapel: 10am
- 29-Bible Study: Fireside Room: 11am
- 30-Feed My Lambs Work Party: Parish Hall: 9am

December

- 1-Feed My Lambs: St. Luke's: 7am
- 2-Holy Eucharist: Sanctuary: 8am & 10:15am
- 4-Food Bank Work Party: Fireside Room: 2:30pm
- 4-Centering Prayer: Sanctuary: 6:30pm
- 5-Food Bank: Fireside Room: 9:30am
- 6-Holy Eucharist/Healing Service: Chapel: 10am
- 6-Bible Study: Fireside Room: 11am
- 9-Holy Eucharist: Sanctuary: 8am & 10:15am
- 9-Music at 4: Annual Christmas Concert: 4pm
- 9-Parish Christmas Dinner: Parish Hall: 5pm
- 11-Finance Committee Mtg: Fireside Room: 7pm

Sermons

*Click here for an
Archive of Sermons*

CALENDAR

*Click here for Parish
Calendar*

Monthly Service Schedules



*Click on the link
below...*

LEM/Lector Schedule

- 12-ECW Potluck: Conference Room: 10am
- 12-Stephen Ministry Training: Fireside: 6:30pm
- 13-Holy Eucharist/Healing Service: Chapel: 10am
- 13-Bible Study: Fireside Room: 11am
- 13-Men's Fellowship: Fireside Room: 7pm
- 15-B&G Work Party: Church Grounds: 9am
- 15-Christmas Pageant Rehearsal: Sanctuary: 10am
- 16-Holy Eucharist: Sanctuary: 8am & 10:15am
- 16-Advent Lessons & Carols: St. Thomas: 4pm
- 18-Centering Prayer: Sanctuary: 6:30pm
- 19-Vestry Meeting: Fireside Room: 7pm
- 20-Holy Eucharist/Healing Service: Chapel: 10am
- 20-Bible Study: Fireside Room: 11am
- 22-Christmas Pageant Rehearsal: Sanctuary: 10am
- 23-Advent Lessons Eucharist: Sanctuary: 9am

Pledge Campaign Thank You & Update:

We have concluded our formal stewardship campaign of Transforming Generosity. Last Sunday 82 pledges representing \$229,062 were blessed. I am confident we will reach our stewardship goal of \$280,153 from 110 members. If you have not submitted your 2019 pledge, I ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge amount and place your pledge card in the offering plate today. Additional pledge cards can be obtained in the narthex or in the parish office. Only those who pledge and indicate on their pledge card that they would like envelopes will receive them for 2019. **Thank you** to the wonderful volunteers who served on the stewardship committee, gave of themselves and shared their stories of transformation; Holly, Ron, Tamera, Charlie, Bill, Susan, and Sean. I appreciate every one of you! - Dawn

Holly Faire Thanks:

The ECW would like to thank everyone who supported this year's Holly Faire in any way, shape or form. It was a rousing success and we could not have done it without each and every one of you.

Christmas Concert, Dinner and Contest:

Sunday, December 9th, please join the Chancel Choir as they put on their annual Holiday Concert ending with the entire congregation joining together in singing the Hallelujah Chorus. Dinner will follow, catered by our own Diane Kela. Dinner sign-up sheets can be found in the Parish Hall and Office. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for children and \$25 for a family. Along with the dinner, we are having a holiday ugly sweater contest with prizes for the best (or worst!) sweater. Everyone join in on the fun and dress to "impress."

Feed My Lambs Holiday Update:

Feed My Lambs will fill the tummies of the homeless on December 1st with a breakfast and soup lunch. We will need hard-boiled eggs and homemade cookies by next Friday morning, November 30th. In December, we do an additional outreach for the homeless: distributing Warm and Dry Christmas bags the weekend before Christmas Day. We need heavy socks, knit caps, mittens, simple scarves, shoestrings, and toiletry items. See the display in the Parish Hall or ask Tamera Benedict, Diane Kela, Debra Keller, or Lurlie Edgecomb for guidance. Please bring items by Sunday, December 9th.

Holiday Adopt-A-Family Project:

Our Adopt a Family project is underway so look for our information boards in the Parish Hall. You may also provide gift cards or checks with a note "Outreach". We

will continue to collect food for Food Baskets at Christmas time and they will accompany the Adopt a Family gifts. We have lots of opportunities for you to give! Thank you from the Outreach Committee.

Advent Program Offerings:

Journeying the Way of Love

Our education program for the season of Advent will be Journeying the Way of Love, in which we will explore what it means to await the coming of Christ by moving through the first two chapters of the Gospel According to Luke. Luke's gospel provides a pattern for understanding how we can live the Way of Love as individuals, as families and friends, as a community, and out in the world. Sessions will cover:

- December 2 - Advent One - The Annunciation: Saying "Yes" to the Journey
- December 9 - Advent Two - Mary and Elizabeth: Journeying with Family and Friends
- December 16 - Advent Three - The Birth of John the Baptist: Journeying with Community
- December 23 - Advent Four - The Birth of Jesus: Journeying with the World

We will make this journey in the Way of Love on the four Sundays during Advent. Sessions will be held between worship services, beginning at 9:15 and ending at 10:00. The exception will be on the fourth Sunday, when we will meet at 10:45 following the single worship service that day. All needed materials will be provided.

Advent in Narnia (at St. Thomas of Canterbury)

Mother Sharon Sheffield invites the people of St. Gregory's to share in St. Thomas' Advent educational program. The program will explore Advent in Narnia: Reflections for the Season by Heidi Haverkamp (a

seminary classmate of Fr. Michael). This four-week study will lead you on a journey through Advent and Narnia simultaneously, using C. S. Lewis's beloved novel The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe to help you see Advent in a new light.

Because Christmas falls on a Tuesday, the class will start before Advent begins, to allow for a full four weeks of study. There will be two offerings: daytime and evening class sessions to accommodate as many people as possible. Class will start on Tuesday, November 27, and will run for four weeks, with sessions from 11:30am to 12:30pm and from 7:00 to 8:00pm. You are welcome to attend whichever session best fits your schedule.

To participate, you will need a copy of The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe and a copy of Advent in Narnia. You may use hardcover, paperback, or e-book editions of these books; choose whichever works for you. Lewis's book is readily available in bookstores and your local library. Advent in Narnia is available from cokebury.com or amazon.com. Both books cost less than \$15 each; Mother Sharon will have a very limited number of copies of Advent in Narnia available for people who need a reduced price copy.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Mother Sharon to let her know to expect you. She can be reached via email at revsharonsheffield@gmail.com or via telephone at (562) 833-3393.

Christmas Pageant Participants:

Calling all Participants for the Christmas Pageant!

December is right around the corner and we'd like to hear from you if you or your little one are interested in being in St. Gregory's Annual Christmas Pageant. Further announcements will follow. For more information, please contact Laura Samaniego at laurasam5@aol.com

Picture Directory:

We are preparing to do an updated parish directory, complete with parishioners' pictures. We are also checking to make sure that we have correct contact information. If you have not had your picture taken, we will be doing "make-up" photos on the first Sunday of the month, starting in January.

In Case of Emergency...

In Case of Emergency . . . Notify Your Priest! In the event of a pastoral emergency (i.e., hospital stay, illness, being homebound), please notify Fr. Michael or the Parish Office. You can call the Parish Office at 562-420-1311. If no one answers, dial 302 for Fr. Michael's extension and leave a message on his voicemail. Or you can call Fr. Michael directly on his cell phone at 909-373-6478. And PLEASE, no excuses about not wanting to bother me. That's why I'm here - for YOU

October 2018 Financial Summary:

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Difference
Income	\$249,988	\$260,152	\$10,164
Expenses	\$253,135	\$247,148	\$5,987
	(-3,147)	\$13,004	

St. Gregory's finances through October continue to be positive. The continued support of the congregation has put us ahead of our annual income goal going into the last two months of 2018. Please be sure you are current with your pledge, and if possible please consider increasing your support. Through October we are at or

below budget for most expenses categories despite some larger than expected maintenance items. Salaries and benefits are running approximately 5% below budget for the year. We want to thank everyone for their continued support and should you have any questions please contact Dave DeMent, Finance Chairman or Bob McRae, Treasurer.

On-line Donations:

You can now make donations to St. Gregory's on-line. Just visit our website (www.stgregoryschurch.com) and click on the "Donate" button on the menu bar. You can pay your pledge, make donations to specific funds (Food Bank/Feed My Lambs, Rector's Discretionary Fund, and more). You can set up one-time payments or recurring payments. You can do it all from the comfort of your home computer or cell phone. And it is completely safe and secure!

St. Gregory's Food Bank

Our monthly Food Bank distribution takes place the first Wednesday of every month. This ministry helps us help our neighbors by providing a supplemental source of groceries. We CANNOT do this without your generosity. Your kindness is greatly appreciated!



We have plenty of canned vegetables and soups, so...

Please consider donating the following:

1 lb Bagged Rice or Pinto Beans

16oz Canned Pasta Sauce

Dry Cereal

Peanut Butter

This month we served 45 people!



The Episcopal News Weekly

**Bulletin insert for
November 25, 2018**

*serving the six-county diocese
of
Los Angeles*

Click on the link below to view this week's news from
the Diocese of Los Angeles

[Diocese of Los Angeles Weekly News](#)

Pastoral Care Note

When you are ill and not able to attend services at church, Clergy would like to know. They will visit you at your home or in the hospital. They will bring Holy Communion and the love of the congregation as well as prayers to your bedside. Please contact the parish office, 562 420 1311.

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY

8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II

9:00 A.M. Sunday School
Grades 9-12

(High School young adults)

10:00 A.M. Sunday School
Grades K-1

Grades 2-5

Grades 6-8

10:15 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II

8:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. - Nursery care

*Please join us in Francis Hall, after each service,
for refreshments and conversation.*

Volunteers needed for refreshments, set-up, and serving.
Interested? Please see Lurlie Edgecomb.

THURSDAY

**10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II
and Healing Service**

CENTERING PRAYER

6:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary

First and Third Tuesday of the Month

If you would like to receive our weekly e-newsletter,
email your request to info@stgregoryschurch.com

www.stgregoryschurch.com

Like us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm

(562) 420-1311