



E-Newsletter

January 8 - January 14, 2021

This Week at St. Gregory's

Prayer List

*Please
remember those
on the Prayer
List when you
pray.*

*Click link for the
list of prayer
requests.*

Baptism of Our Lord

*Click link to read
the Sunday
Bulletin.*

Sunday, January 10

Sunday Service [ONLINE](#): 10:15 AM.

Bulletin is available [HERE](#).

Tuesday, January 12

Centering Prayer [via Zoom](#): 6:30 PM.

Ordo is available [HERE](#).

Daily (M-F)

Morning Prayer: Monday through Friday at 9:00 AM with Mother Sharon Sheffield of St. Thomas of Canterbury [ONLINE](#). Documents for Morning Prayer are:

[Morning Prayer Text \(BCP\)](#)

[Psalms for Morning Prayer](#)

Evening Prayer: Monday through Friday at 5:00 PM with Fr. Michael Fincher [ONLINE](#). Documents for Evening Prayer are:

[Evening Prayer Text \(BCP\)](#)

[Psalms for Evening Prayer](#)

Sermons

*Click here for an
Archive of
Sermons*

CALENDAR

*Click here for
Parish Calendar*

Christmas Flower Donations:

We want to extend our profound gratitude to everyone who donated to the cost of decorating the church for our online services during the Christmas season. While we included a list of donors and dedications in the Christmas Eve bulletin, several donations came in after publication of that document. The complete list of donors and dedications can be found [HERE](#).

Outreach Update:

We just wanted to give you an update on the Thanksgiving and Christmas gift card program. As previously reported, thanks to your generosity, we were able to give \$6,000 in gift cards to the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Keeley Gilmore, our contact, let us know that she distributed the gift cards to 17 families. Your generosity helped provide Thanksgiving meals for these families and Christmas gifts for 34 children! Thank you again for your generosity!

Stewardship Update:

In a trying and difficult 2020, we have been incredibly blessed by your Faith-Filled Generosity. To date, we have received 85 pledges for a total of \$256,790. This is our third highest pledge total in the last nine years. It is also the highest dollar amount per pledge (\$3,021) we have seen. We still have not received pledge cards from a few of you who have pledged in the past. So, if you have not yet turned in your pledge for 2021, we would appreciate you doing that soon so we can finalize our budget for the year. And if you have misplaced your pledge card, let us know and we can send one to you.

Annual Reports:

With the New Year upon us, it's time to start thinking about our Parish Annual Meeting, scheduled for Sunday, January 31st (more to come on that). In preparation for

the Annual Meeting, we will need to produce the Annual Report. All persons responsible for a ministry program in the Parish (you know who you are), should submit written reports of the year's activities to the Parish Office no later than Wednesday, January 20th. Yes, even in the year of COVID, we still need to report on our ministries. And if there was not much activity due to the pandemic, at least a brief report on what you normally do or what your plans are for 2021 would be in order. Reports need to be in Word or Word-compatible format and emailed to Kevin at info@stgregoryschurch.com. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Bible Study:

Due to restrictions on public gatherings under the current Stay-at-Home order, Bible Study has been suspended until further notice.

St. Gregory's Sharing Library:

Due to the new Stay-at-Home order, the Sharing Library is closed until further notice.

Diocesan Convention Delegates:

The Diocese of Los Angeles holds its annual convention in early November. Each parish is represented by its clergy and lay delegates. We are entitled to three delegates-one to be selected by the Vestry from among its members and two to be elected at the Annual Meeting. If you are interested in representing us at the Diocesan Convention, please notify the Parish Office. If you have any questions, see Fr. Michael.

Feed My Lambs & Food Bank Needs:

Our parish feeding programs need your help!

- **Feed My Lambs** has the following needs:
 - **Lunch Makers** - We need 3 to 4 volunteers (under 65 and with no underlying health issues) to be Lunch Makers on the Friday before the Feed My Lambs Saturday. Next month it will be Friday, February 5th. The time will be determined by YOU! If you are interested, please contact Tamera (contact info below) and let her know the time you are available. Whatever hour is best for the most volunteers will determine the time. We make and assemble 100 lunches in sacks, which takes about an hour and a half.
 - **Staffing at St. Luke's** - We need a couple of volunteers to help with the distribution of sack lunches and coffee at the St. Luke's Shower program on the first Saturday of the month. We start working at 7:00 AM and are generally done by 9:30 AM.
 - **Hardboiled Eggs** - We are re-introducing hardboiled eggs to our sack lunches, so need 100 hardboiled eggs each month. Hardboiled eggs can be dropped off at the Parish Office on the Wednesday before the first Saturday of the month, from 10:00 to noon. If this time does not work, contact Tamera and she will arrange a convenient time to meet you at the church.
 - **Clothing and Comfort Items** - We need towels, wash cloths, men's pants and shorts (sizes 32-38), men's shoes (sizes 10-14), backpacks, and blankets.

If you have questions about helping out with Feed My Lambs, contact Tamera Benedict at (calbenedicts@gmail.com, 562.301.6800).

- **Food Bank** has the following needs:

- **Donations of Food** - We especially need cereal, canned tuna, and ramen.
- **Volunteers** - Anyone under 65 and healthy is welcome to assist with the Food Bank distribution on the first Wednesday of the month between 9:00 and 11:30 AM.

Please contact Bill Eldon (billeldon@gmail.com, 562.234.9920) for more information about the Food Bank.

Your continued support of our feeding ministries, through product and monetary contributions, is greatly appreciated!

Gratitude for Your Support of the Parish:

We continue to be humbled and so incredibly grateful for your generosity in supporting our parish and its ministries! While you may not be able to drop your donation in a real offering plate, there are still ways you can make sure your donation gets to the parish:

- You can mail your check to the parish office.
- Make donations through our online payment account, accessible through the parish website at <http://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2/>.
- Scan the QR code found in the Sunday bulletin.

And again, THANK YOU for your continued support!

Online Parish Directory:

Our online parish directory is at <https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/>. This is a secure site and can be accessed using the email address you had published in the parish directory. You can also download the "Instant Church Directory" on your smart phone. Versions are available for Android, iPhone, iPad, and Kindle.

One Body & One Spirit Emergency Appeal:

The Diocese has established an emergency fund to assist congregations, diocesan institutions, and their employees, who have been affected by the COVID-19 shutdowns. We are encouraged to prayerfully consider making a donation to help others in need, if we have the capacity to do so. More information is available at https://diocesela.org/uncategorized/covid-19_emergency-appeal/.

Forward Day By Day:

For those who use the "Forward Day by Day" booklet for personal devotions, contact Kevin so he can know to send it to you while the office is closed.

(562) 420-1311 or info@stgregoryschurch.com

Assistance for Our Parishioners

During these difficult times, it may be a challenge for some of our more vulnerable parishioners to get out to get groceries or other necessities. If you need such assistance, please let the Parish Office know and we will figure out how we can help you out. And if you are willing to help out by shopping or running errands for your fellow parishioners, please let the Parish Office know.

Special Grocery Store Hours for Seniors

A list of local stores that provide special hours for seniors and those with physical impairments is available [HERE](#).

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!

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. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



This month we served 30 people!



What's all the hype about the Episcopal Church?

LOVE

Inclusive

Acceptance

Liberal

Via media

home

loving

community

Inclusivity

Equality

Holy

Liturgical

venerable

beloved

Eucharist

accepting

Inclusion

Reason

welcoming

Ashes>Welcome

Liturgy

Tradition

Grace

Peace

Open

thoughtful

Healing

Family

Ask

Bible

This is why you should consider it.

Click on the link below to view news from the
Diocese of Los Angeles

[The Episcopal 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.

www.stgregoryschurch.com

Like us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm

(562) 420-1311

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 6201 E. Willow St., Long Beach, CA 90815