

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 21)

Sunday, September 29, 2024

8:00 AM (spoken) & 10:15 AM (with music)

Also Live Streaming at

<https://www.facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>

VOLUNTARY

“The Peace May Be Exchanged” from Rubrics

Dan Locklair

(The people stand)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

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OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God: ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(The people are seated)

FIRST READING

Esther 7.1-6, 9-10; 9.20-22

Lector A Reading from Esther

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 124

Setting: David York

The choir sings the antiphon once and the congregation repeats. The choir sings the Psalm verses. The choir and congregation then sing the antiphon following each section of verses.



If the LORD had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;
If the LORD had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us; **Antiphon**

Then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;
Then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us; **Antiphon**

Then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.
Blessed be the LORD!
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth. **Antiphon**

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
Our help is in the Name of the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth. **Antiphon**

SECOND READING

James 5.13-20

Lector A Reading from James

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

(The people stand)

SEQUENCE HYMN

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

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(Congregation sings vv. 1, 2 & 3, the Gospel is read, then vv. 4 & 5 are sung)

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9.38-50

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

(The people are seated)

SERMON

The Rev. Michael K. Fincher

(Silent reflection)

NICENE CREED *(Please stand)*

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Speak to our hearts that yearn for you. Teach us to dwell and delight in your presence.
Have mercy, O Lord.

Fill us with the fullness of your grace.

Speak to your church and our leaders. Energize us with new life and endless possibilities. Teach us to be partners with you in holiness and power.

Have mercy, O Lord.

Fill us with the fullness of your grace.

We pray for our president, our Congress, and our courts. May harmony in diversity begin with us. Speak peace to the leaders of the nations, that conflicts may cease and mutual respect across boundaries and languages may prevail.

Have mercy, O Lord.

Fill us with the fullness of your grace.

Bring the peoples of the world together so that all will be fed and warm, and none will be threatened, that the language of hope is spoken freely in all corners of the globe.

Have mercy, O Lord.

Fill us with the fullness of your grace.

We pray for all who cry out in pain and those who suffer in silence for those who await healing and for those who have lost hope. For those who have asked for our prayers and for those who have no one to pray for them, bring your healing power to those who need it most. We pray especially for those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Have mercy, O Lord.

Fill us with the fullness of your grace.

We pray for those who have ended their earthly journey and now are surrounded by angels and archangels and their unending songs of praise. We pray for those who have died, especially those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Have mercy, O Lord.

Bring us also to that heavenly shore and the fullness of your eternal grace.

Presider Hear our prayers O Lord our God, creator of all. Guide us to live our lives with humility, compassion and grace. Inform our decisions and actions, heal our transgressions, and empower us to create lives that are filled with love and forgiveness. May the Holy Spirit be ever by our side as we strive to live as our Savior would have us do. With gratitude for who we are and the hope of being in fullness with God. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, ✠ forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

(Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL BLESSINGS

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer: Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Deep Peace

Elaine Hagenberg

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.

(A Gaelic Prayer)

PRESENTATION HYMN

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

African American Spiritual



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

At the 8:00 Service:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

At the 10:15 Service:

St. Anne's Mass, James MacMillan

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly_ Lord,
God of_ power and might._ Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na in_ the high - est. Bles-sed is he, O bles-sed is_ he, who
comes in the name_ of the Lord._____ Ho - san - na in the_
high - est, ho - san - na_ in_____ the high - est.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

(A period of silence is kept after the Presider breaks the host)

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

FRACTION ANTHEM

David York

Jordan Tickner, cantor



Refrain sung first by the cantor, then repeated by all

Verse: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Refrain: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

The Presider says the following invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this Altar. Holy Communion will be distributed from a single Communion Station at the foot of the chancel steps. The Ushers will release people by row to receive Communion. **Gluten free wafers are available upon request.***

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those who are participating in the live streamed service and therefore not able to receive communion may wish to say the following prayer in recognition that the desire to receive communion carries the same spiritual benefits of actually consuming the consecrated elements.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have instituted for us a great sacrament in your promise of life and love, which we remember now as we hear your words again: "This is my body; this is my blood — given for you." Feed us in our hearts with faith and trust, draw us closer to you and to each other, and strengthen us for service to our neighbor. We come before you now, with hearts you have fed all our lives with the promise that you have given yourself for us. Keep us strong in that faith until we can meet at your table again. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

The Lord Bless You

J.S. Bach

Sally Curry, Andrea Hilliard, soloists
Brianna Zucker, flute

The Lord bless you, yea, now and evermore, you and your children.

(Psalm 115)

COMMUNION HYMN

Guide My Feet Lord

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Gracious Spirit, Give Your Servants

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THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker

Johann G. Walther

*If you wish to leave during the Voluntary, please do so quietly,
out of respect for the organist and out of courtesy for those staying to listen.*

FLOWERS TODAY ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

and

*In loving memory of my mother Lou Duacsek's birthday
by Diane Duacsek*

**Please join us in Francis Hall for refreshments and fellowship
following the worship service**

(Francis Hall is out the main church doors and to the left)

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	<u>8:00 SERVICE</u>	<u>10:15 SERVICE</u>
Presider & Preacher	Fr. Michael Fincher	Fr. Michael Fincher
Organist	—	David York
Crucifer	—	David Luebben-Morrill
Lector	Patty Rohling	Alice O'Keefe
Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs)	Holly Graham	Elizabeth Spencer Dorothy Edwards

Texts of Sunday sermons are available on our parish website, at
<http://stgregoryschurch.com/sermons-archive/>

To make secure, online donations to St. Gregory's, simply scan:



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PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 408

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Mit Freuden zart



1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
2 What God's al-might - y power hath made, his gra - cious mer - cy
3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
keep-eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his watch - ful
glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the



our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
eye ne'er sleep-eth. With - in the king - dom of his might, lo!
won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the



ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.
All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry.
Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

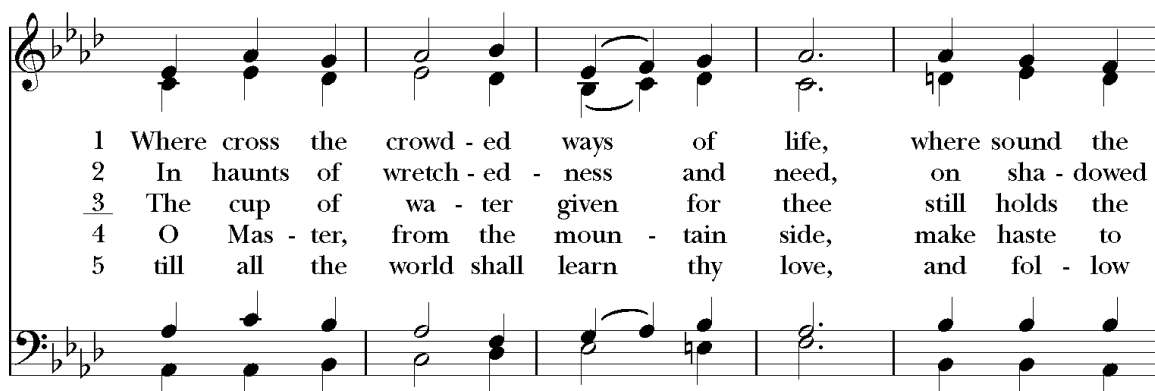
SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 609

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Gardiner

(Congregation sings vv. 1, 2 & 3, the Gospel is read, then vv. 4 & 5 are sung)



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on sha - dowed
3 The cup of wa - ter given for thee still holds the
4 O Mas - ter, from the moun - tain side, make haste to
5 till all the world shall learn thy love, and fol - low



1 cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
2 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
3 fresh - ness of thy grace; yet long these mul - ti -
4 heal these hearts of pain; a - mong these rest - less
5 where thy feet have trod; till glo - rious from thy



1 self - ish strife, we hear thy voice, O Son of Man.
2 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of thy tears.
3 tudes to see the true com - pas - sion of thy face.
4 throngs a - bide, O tread the ci - ty's streets a - gain;
5 heaven a - bove, shall come the ci - ty of our God.

COMMUNION HYMN

Wonder, Love, and Praise, Hymn 819

Guide My Feet Lord

African-American Spiritual

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
2. Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
3. Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I

don't want to run this race in vain.
don't want to run this race in vain.
don't want to run this race in vain.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Wonder, Love, and Praise, Hymn 782

Gracious Spirit, Give Your Servants

Abbot's Leigh

1. Gra - cious Spir - it, give your ser - vants joy to set sin's
2. Word made flesh, who gave up glo - ry to be - come our
3. Lov - ing God, who birthed cre - a - tion from the noth - ing -
4. Tri - une God, e - ter - nal Be - ing, nev - er end - ing,

cap - tives free, hope to heal the bro - ken - heart - ed,
great high priest, tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture
ness of space, kin - dling life where all was emp - ty,
un - be - gun, bound - less grace and per - fect jus - tice,

peace to share love's li - ber - ty. Through us bring your balm of
to re - deem the last and least: let your cour - age and com -
turn - ing cha - os in - to grace: when we feel con - fused and
right - eous and for - giv - ing One: so en - fold us in you

glad - ness to the wound - ed and op - pressed; help us claim and
pas - sion shape and guide our min - is - tries; as our Sav - ior
fruit - less, dawn up - on our rest - less night; give us faith's im -
mer - cy that our wills and yours u - nite; through us may the

show God's fa - vor as a peo - ple called and blessed.
and our Shep - herd, lead us to the truth that frees.
ag - i - na - tion, hope's re - new - ing, love's de - light.
world be - hold you, find your love, your truth, your light.

THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY'S

Tuesday, October 1

Centering Prayer at **6:30 PM** via Zoom. Contact Fr. Michael for access information.

Thursday, October 3

Holy Eucharist and Healing Service at **10:00 AM** in the Chapel.

Bible Study at **11:00 AM** in the Fireside Room. You may also access via Zoom. Contact Fr. Michael for access information.

Choir Rehearsal at **7:30 PM** in the Choir Room. Contact David York for more information.

Sunday, October 6 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist (spoken) at **8:00 AM** in the Church.

Sunday School

Grades 9 through 12 at **9:30 AM** in the Youth Room.

Grades K through 8 at **10:15 AM** in the Youth Room.

Holy Eucharist (with music) at **10:15 AM** in the Church and live streamed on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>).

Nursery Care is available on Sundays, starting at 7:45 AM, in the Nursery (Room 3)

Daily Offices (Tuesday through Thursday)

Daily Morning Prayer: Tuesday through Thursday at **9:00 AM** on the St. Thomas Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/Saint-Thomas-of-Canterbury-Episcopal-Church-of-Long-Beach-CA-124554214274325/>).

Daily Evening Prayer: Tuesday through Thursday at **5:00 PM** on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/>).

For the Daily Offices, you will need either a Book of Common Prayer or you can download the Morning and Evening Prayer liturgies and the Psalms for the week from the St. Gregory's website (www.stgregoryschurch.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 5 – Blessing of the Animals

We will have our annual Blessing of the Animals on **Saturday, October 5th at 10:00 AM**. The brief service will include several prayers attributed to St. Francis followed by individual blessings of all animals present. For the comfort and safety of all concerned, human and non-human guests alike, we do ask that a few ground rules be honored. Please restrain all animals. They should be on leashes (if appropriate) or in carriers. And please clean-up any messes your pet makes. If you are not able to, or are uncomfortable bringing your pet, or if your pet is uncomfortable coming out, you can bring a picture of your pet or one of your pet's favorite toys, which we will bless instead.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Outreach Focus: Long Beach Animal Shelter: As we move into the upcoming holiday season, we are probably thinking about what we will feed our families. Some of us will include our pets in this meal planning extravaganza. We are reminded of the animals that don't have a home and need care as well. Or the pets of our homeless who try to include their pets in the food search. In the weeks leading up to the Feast of St. Francis, we are collecting donations for the Long Beach Animal Shelter beginning 9/2. The list of their needs can be found on our website, flyers, and in the bulletin at most services. This collection will end with the Blessing of the Animals here at St. Gregory's on 10/5. We will also include the Project Street Vet pet food pantry managed by the Long Beach Multi-Service Center this year. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate or sent in through the usual methods. Please join us in this much appreciated collection, and bring your beloved pets to the Blessing of the Animals in October. Thank you from the Outreach Committee! For more information, please view the flyer at the back of this bulletin.

UTO Ingathering: United Thank Offering encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO blue collection box or blue envelope. We at St. Gregory's would like to continue our own support for UTO through our traditional Ingathering. You can return your donations to the collection plate, the parish office or through the St. Gregory's parish website at <http://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2/>. Thank you for your participation.

St. Gregory's Food Bank has New Business Cards! Help get the word out about the Food Bank by giving a card to someone in need. You'll find a stack on the table in the Narthex. Please take a few to distribute and help advertise this valuable ministry.

St. Gregory's Choir: All singers are welcome to join St. Gregory's Choir this fall as we gather to support the congregation in hymns, liturgy and song each Sunday morning. If you enjoy singing

you are invited to meet us in the choir room on Thursdays at 7:30 PM. For more information please contact David York, york1635@aol.com.

Altar Flower Donations: Need a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one or friend? Make a flower donation. There is a flower donation chart located on the Narthex wall that you can use to sign up for special dates to donate altar flowers. Simply fill out a donation form attached to the bottom of the chart and return the form to the Parish Office. Payment for flowers can be made by check or online at <https://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2>. Make sure you specify your donation is for Altar Flowers. The Altar Guild thanks you.

Feed My Lambs and Food Bank: THANK YOU for your generosity and your donations. Here's the latest news on our parish feeding programs.

- **Feed My Lambs** has the following needs: **100 HARDBOILED EGGS; HOMEMADE COOKIES**
 - **Homemade cookies** can be brought to church on any Sunday, in ziplock freezer bags, labeled "Feed My Lambs" to the kitchen.
 - **Wednesday, October 2 from 9:00 AM to Noon** you can deliver to the office:
 - Hardboiled eggs
 - Homemade Cookies
 - **Thursday, October 3 until 11:00 AM** you can deliver to the kitchen:
 - Homemade Cookies
 - Hardboiled Eggs
 - **Friday, October 4 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM** you can deliver to the kitchen:
 - Hardboiled Eggs
 - **Our Guests always need white athletic socks and belts!** Which you can put in the Feed My Lambs bin outside the church on any Sunday.
 - **Volunteers** – We need some additional volunteers to help with serving our guests at St. Luke's on the first Saturday of every month. Contact Tamera if interested.

If you have questions about helping out with Feed My Lambs or dropping off items, contact Tamera Benedict at (tlbenedict4@gmail.com, 562.301.6800).

- **Food Bank** – The Food Bank relies on your financial support and appreciates any donations of funds or non-perishable food items. We also welcome any volunteers at our bagging and distribution the third Wednesday of each month from 8:30 to 11:00 AM. Please contact Kevin in the Parish Office (info@stgregoryschurch.com, 562.420.1311) 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!

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 Annual Appeal: The Diocese has established an ongoing campaign focused on raising funds to assist congregations, schools, affiliated institutions, and their communities who are faced with unprecedented challenges. We are invited to prayerfully consider making a donation to help others in our Diocese who may have unmet needs. More information is available at <https://diocesela.org/annual-appeal/>.

Forward Day By Day: For those who use the Forward Day By Day booklet for personal devotions and need the newest edition mailed, please contact Kevin at 562-420-1311 or info@stgregorychurch.com.

In Case of Emergency . . . Notify Your Priest! With our combined ministry program with St. Thomas of Canterbury comes additional coverage for pastoral emergencies. In the event of a hospital stay, illness, death in the family, or other pastoral emergency, please call Father Michael on his cell phone (909-373-6478) any day except Monday, his Sabbath day. Mother Sharon (562-833-3393) covers emergencies in both communities on Monday, just as Father Michael covers emergencies in both parishes on Friday, Mother Sharon’s Sabbath. And PLEASE, no excuses about not wanting to bother me. That’s why we are here – for YOU!

PRAYER LIST

Lydia Gibbs, Suzan Laverty, Martin Nemitz, Ferdinand Gonzalez, Patrick McDonough, Mike Laverty, Michael S., Barbara Smuck, Mother Beryl, Kathryn Courtney, Eric Graham, Walt Gupton, Scott Morgan, Fran Luebben-Morgan, Harold Peacock, Heather Simundson, Rudy Revell, Jared Baker, Kimberly Bouzguenda, Shannon Romano, Ralph Tesla, Danny Kimball, Betty Lang, Anne Cantrell, Karen McDonough, Marilyn Finney, Kathy Stein, Matt Burger, David Feit-Pretzer, Kathy Edwards, Darlene Feit-Pretzer, Jo Ridenour, Keeley Gilmore, Betty Peacock, Maria White, Anita, Laura Mae Harper, Elizabeth Laursen, Dan Tyler, Phil Rodi, Valerie Bond, Eric Kela

Note: Unless we are aware of on-going concerns, names only stay on the Parish Prayer List for a month. If names need to be re-added, please notify the Parish Office.

Long Beach Animal Shelter Urgent Needs



Below is a list of items that are urgently needed at the shelter. Do you prefer to shop online? Many of the items below can be purchased and shipped from Walmart, Amazon and Chewy.

Food

- Canned kitten, cat, puppy, and dog food
- Soft dog treats, cat treats, dog chews
- Small animal food and supplies
- Dry cat and dog food

Toys

- Cats (NEW mice, plastic jingle balls, crinkle balls, new scratchers)
- Dogs (NEW squeaky toys, KONG, durable puppy toys)
- Cat towers, condos and trees

Miscellaneous

- Collars, leashes, harnesses, Gentle Leaders
- Travel crates, all sizes
- Cat litter (no scoop or clay-based please)
- Poop bags (biodegradable if possible)
- Gently used and recently washed blankets, towels
- Stainless steel dog/cat bowls
- Cat carriers

If you would like to donate something that is not listed, please check their website at <https://spcala.com/donate/needed-items/>. Thank you for your generous donation.



ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6201 E. WILLOW STREET, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90815
562-420-1311 WWW.STGREGORYSCHURCH.COM

WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

St. Gregory's is a warm and caring community of families and singles, young and old, committed to sharing the good news that Jesus is the Lord of all life. We are an Episcopal Church, having members from all backgrounds and religious traditions. Many of us had no church involvement before coming here. We want to offer to you the same welcome and friendship that were extended to us when we came to St. Gregory's.

ST. GREGORY'S MISSION STATEMENT

God has called us into Christian community and gifted us for ministry:

- To worship and glorify God
- To transform faith into action
- To share the love of Jesus Christ

The Right Reverend John H. Taylor
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

The Reverend Michael K. Fincher, Rector
rector@stgregoryschurch.com

David York, Music Director & Organist
york1635@aol.com

Kevin Wood, Parish Administrator
info@stgregoryschurch.com

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-12:00pm, Tuesday – Friday
www.stgregoryschurch.com