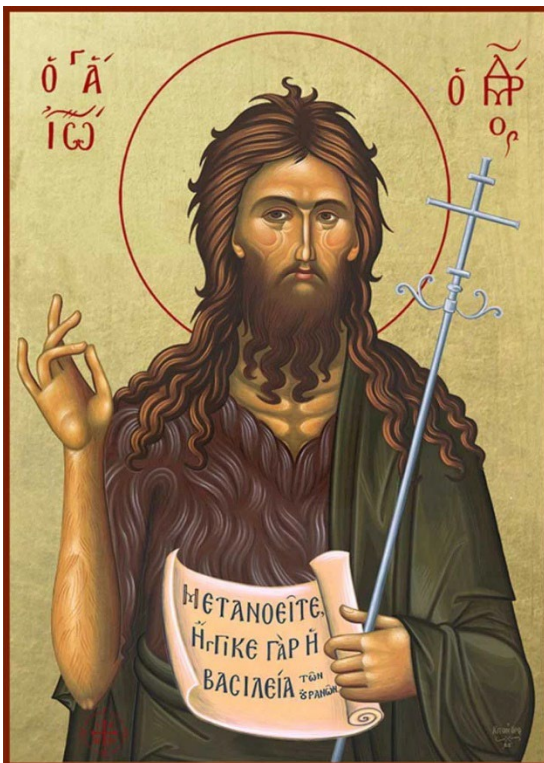




ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

GLEN ELLYN



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 7, 2025
ZOOM ID: 483-170-780

stmark.sglenellyn.org

393 North Main Street, Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Phone: 630-858-1020

10:30 AM

WELCOME TO ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

Rooted in Baptism, Growing in Faith, Branching Out into the World

This bulletin contains all the information you need to worship with us today. Learn more about St. Mark's Episcopal Church, our ministry and mission, the Diocese of Chicago, and the Episcopal Church in the United States by visiting our website at www.stmarksglenellyn.org.



PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER LIST

The parish prayer list is updated weekly, and names are always welcome to be added. If you or someone you know has a pastoral care need, St. Mark's is here to help.

CONTACTS

- **The Rev. George Smith**
rector@stmarksglenellyn.org (708) 205-0102
- **The Rev. Dr. Clint Moore III**
clint@stmarksglenellyn.org (847) 636-0881

WELCOME VISITORS AND GUESTS!

We'd like to get to know you!

We hope that you feel truly welcome and at home at St. Mark's.

Please fill out the Welcome Card in the pew or scan the QR code to complete the "Visitors and Guests Form."



If you have questions, please speak with the clergy or ushers. You may also call the office at any time at 630-858-1020, and we will be happy to help you in any way we can.

Cover Art: Cover Art: from the authentic icon painted by the monks in the Cell of St. John the Theologian Holy Monastery of Koutloumousiou in Mount Athos, Greece.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Stand as able when the altar party enters

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

KYRIE ELEISON

Hymnal S 96

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant
People

Blessed are you, holy and living One.
You come to your people and set them free.

OPENING HYMN

Hymnal 75

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a____
2 O____ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
3 but the word of our God____ en - du - reth, the____

call from the ways un - trod; Pre - pare in the des - ert a
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst____ of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The____
peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
flowers of the field they____ per - ish, like
feed his____ flock like a shep - herd, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our____ God____ may go!
na - tions shall____ pass like a dream____ a - way;
lead them, and____ bring them____ safe to his fold.

Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music: *Ascension*, Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988). Copyright © 1938, H. Hugh Bancroft.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT *for* PURITY

The Officiant says

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 FOR THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way
for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet
with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
 The wolf shall live with the lamb,
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
 the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
 and a little child shall lead them.
 The cow and the bear shall graze,
 their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the
 ox.
 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
 They will not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain;
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
 as the waters cover the sea.
 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of
 him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE

PSALM 72:1-7,18-19 | *Deus, iudicium*

Verses in **bold** are sung by the congregation



- 1 [Give the King] your justice, O /God, *
and your righteousness /to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people /righteously *
and the /poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the /people, ***
and the little /hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the /people; ***
he shall rescue the poor and crush /the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon en/dure, *
from one generation /to another.

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown /field, *
like showers that /water the earth.

7 In his time shall the righteous /flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon /shall be no more.

18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of /Israel, *
who alone /does wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for /ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
/Amen. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 15:4-13

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";
and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able for the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Acclamation will be sung once in unison and then as a round.

Canon

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and
all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.____

Words: based on *Luke 3:4, 6*, adapt. The Taizé Community.
Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1984 by Les Presses de Taizé (France). (Words and Music admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

Deacon
People

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Clergy
People

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel Acclamation is repeated

THE SERMON

The Rev. George D. Smith, *Rector*

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand as able

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.

THE PRAYERS *of* THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively. "Maranatha" is an Aramaic expression meaning "Come, O Lord!"

Womb of Compassion, you hold all creation in your tender care. In this Advent season of fleeting daylight and long nights, in a world grieving and groaning in pain, help us to nurture the seed of love planted in our hearts, growing in the darkness and preparing to burst forth and change everything. We pray in hopeful anticipation of the One who shows us how to embody Love fully, Maranatha:

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Love Incarnate, who embraced our fragility as a helpless infant, teach us to welcome our own vulnerability and to reach out in love to the most vulnerable. Maranatha:

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Love, you came among us in flesh in one particular time and place that may we might recognize you in all peoples of all times and places, for you have made each of us in your Image. We pray therefore for all individuals and all peoples of the world. May we treat one another with

compassion and respect, that justice and peace may prevail. We pray this week especially for the Mexican state of Mexico City. Remind us that whenever we look upon the face of another, we look upon you. Maranatha:

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Love, humbly born in a stable when there was no room at the inn, we pray that you help us to build a world where all may find a loving home. We pray for the unhoused and those living in precarious conditions. Moreover we pray for all species whose habitats are endangered. Teach us to care for this world, all peoples and all creatures, so that we may be faithful stewards of this interconnected ecosystem you have entrusted to our care. Maranatha:

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Love born into a world of war and cruelty, who wandered as a refugee, you call us into a new life of compassion where strangers are welcome, enemies are befriended, and everyone belongs. Prepare our hearts for the inbreaking of your mercy and peace. Let us sweep clean a path where Love may tread, unimpeded by hate and enmity, that all may delight in Love's reign on earth as in heaven. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Love who fed the hungry, healed the sick, and comforted the brokenhearted, we call to you in our time of need and look to your guidance to meet the needs of others. Come quickly to feed those who hunger for bread and for justice. Heal all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Encourage all who are burdened by fear or grief. We pray for those on our parish prayer list. You are invited to say aloud names on the list below or other names of those in need of prayer. Karen Nicholson, Matt, Azza and Yara,,Joyce Hetzel, Charles Snider, Ann Cardwell, Chad Alcorn, Martha Sexauer, Jay Mueller, Terry Heschke, Elizabeth Mueller, Colin Valdivia, Pam Benning, Bella Cuttone, Craig Farrow, Daniel Ljubi, Avery, Brian Rogers, George Pliml, Ashley and Kevin, Gretchen Kenower, Lynn Wollstadt, Kris Baier, Bill Van Wienen, Caroline Barclay, Connie Blair, Mark Zelman, Rita Sullivan, Emily Resch, Virginia Vagt, Tim Frawley, Jack Clinkman, Mary Parsons, Kaye and Roy Staggs, Jeanne Tschampa-Lopotko, John Mueller, Mary Treleven, Kara Ward, Don Wink, Lee and Natalie, Laura Bird, Karen Galligan, Sue Mylander, Janet, Sylvie Resch, Rose Schnell, Donna Valkuchak, Michael Wagoner, Lesa Bennett, Norman and Joy Ellsworth, Alison Aguilar, Maribel Juarez, Brian Winkleman, Jeanne McCauley, Tom Mendralla, Kevin, May Anstee, Mike Finn, Lori Powers, Kristen Davia, Jim Roth, Jan Budzicz, Jim Yehling, Raúl Garcia, McGilvray Family, Karol Pinzón, Sandy Shellenhamer, Kelly Bartsdate, Jason Wilder, Walt Windholz, Mick McGuire, Tina Ulrich, Juan Aguilar, Lucien Greesham, Cooper Stegen, Brenda Laws, Barbara Barajas, Cassandra Echeverria, Thomas Lanzillo, Florrie Gramm, Matt Grief, Rachel Newlin, Franca Muliere, Hannah Strait, Silvino Covarrubias, Danuta Wroblewska, Priscilla Meldrim, Tracy Smith, Mary Jane Malik, Jean True, Sally Neuert, John Cahill, Alondra De Casas, Kaleb Tompkins, Estrella Pedroza, Gwen, Shirley Hoops, Pam Rojc, Aunt Diane, Joseph Strati, June Judd, Jim Drew, Sergio Mazariegos, Stacey

Vassallo, Zoila Via Gambini, Diane Arpino, Regina Casey, Alice Vanest, Barry Nelson, Victor Nieves, Higinio Camarillo, Elizabeth Dresser, Jane Moore, Mallory Warman, Vicki Sheridan, David Roberts, Karen Evans, Ofelia Bustamante, and Martha Lakin.

Make us vessels of your generosity, grace, and compassion, that as your body on earth we may do the work you have taught us by your example to do. Maranatha:

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Love who died and rose again to show us that death does not have the final word, we pray for those who have gone before us. Hold the living and the dead in your eternal embrace that bridges the chasm between this world and the next. Maranatha:

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Love preparing to be born anew in our world and in our hearts, fill us with childlike wonder as we anticipate your arrival. Open us and revitalize our senses, that we may find you in surprising places and unexpected moments, in strange and wonderful ways we cannot yet imagine.

Maranatha:

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Please kneel or be seated

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Officiant says

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

Officiant
People

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.



DONATE
ONLINE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE OFFERING

Thank you for placing your offerings in the plate.

Offerings are also received with gratitude by QR code (on the left), by mail, online at www.stmarksglenellyn.org, or by texting STMCHURCH to 73256.

THE LITURGY *of* THE TABLE

OFFERTORY

Hymnal 61

1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
 Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944). Copyright © 1982, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Wachet auf*; melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

Following the Offertory, the service continues with this blessing over the gifts

All things come of Thee, O Lord,
And of Thine own have we given Thee.

Please stand as able

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C

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

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Hymnal S 130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

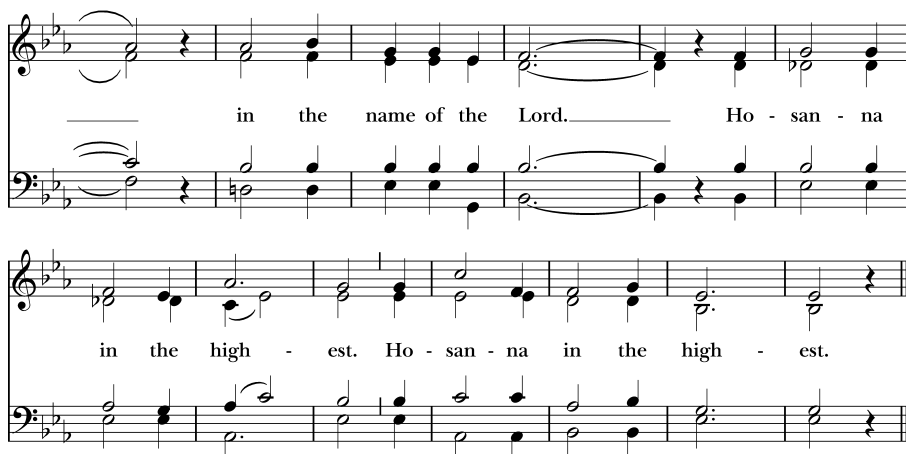
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Please kneel or be seated

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah; Isaac and Rebecca; and Jacob, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

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.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga a nosotros tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

The Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread, silence is kept

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S 164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Join in one of the two lines to receive communion. Gluten free hosts are available upon request.
Please dispose of the serving cup on the nearby tray.*

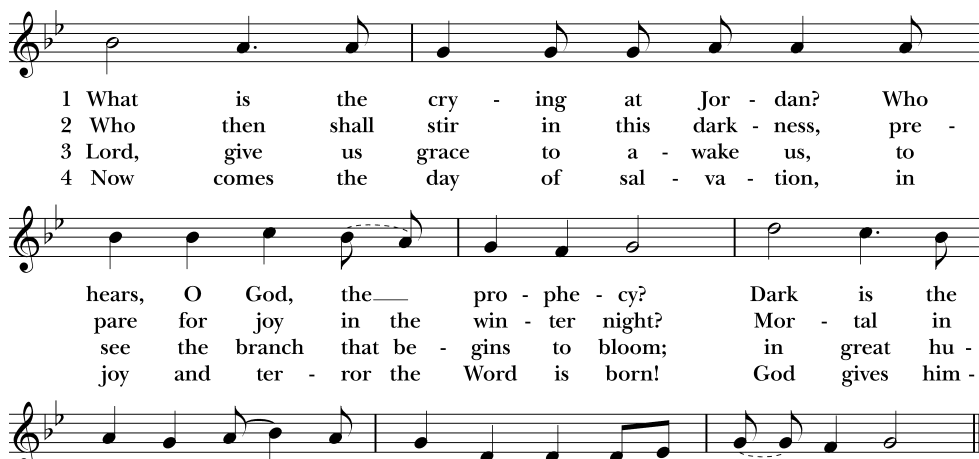
MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Spanish: Con - tem - pla - ré tu vi - da en mí.
Polish: Pan blis - ko jest, o - cze - kuj Go.
Italian: Cri - sto Ge - sù io spe - ro in Te.
Vietnamese: Hãy biết đợi Chúa Đây ngày gần rồi

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!
Con - tem - pla - ré, Se - ñor, tu a - mor.
Pan blis - ko jest, w Nim ser - ca moc!
Sei tu Si - gnor la pa - ce del cuor.
Chờ mong Thiên Chúa: tâm trí kiên cường.

Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6-7; Taizé Community, 1984
 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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HYMNAL 69



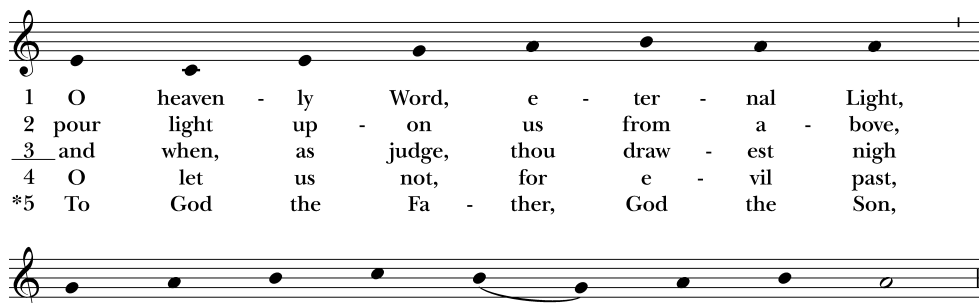
1 What is the cry - ing at Jor - dan? Who
 2 Who then shall stir in this dark - ness, pre -
 3 Lord, give us grace to a - wake us, to
 4 Now comes the day of sal - va - tion, in

hears, O God, the pro - phe - cy? Dark is the
 pare for joy in the win - ter night? Mor - tal in
 see the branch that be - gins to bloom; in great hu -
 joy and ter - ror the Word is born! God gives him -

sea - son, dark our hearts and shut to mys - ter - y.
 dark - ness we lie down, blind - heart - ed, see - ing no light.
 mi - li - ty is hid all heaven in a lit - tle room.
 self in - to our lives; O let sal - va - tion dawn!

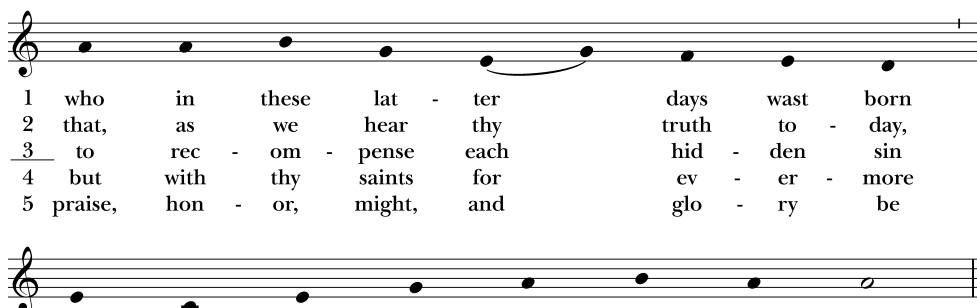
Words: Carol Christopher Drake (b. 1933), alt. Copyright © 1971, Carol C. Stone. Music: *St. Mark's, Berkeley*, Irish melody from *Danta De: Hymns to God, Ancient and Modern*; harm. Norman Mealy (1923-1987).

HYMNAL 63



1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light,
 2 pour light up - on us from a - bove,
 3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh
 4 O let us not, for e - vil past,
 *5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,

1 be - got - ten of the Fa - ther's might,
 2 and fire our hearts with ar - dent love,
 3 the se - crets of our hearts to try,
 4 be driv - en from thy face at last,
 5 and God the Spi - rit, ev - er One,



1 who in these lat - ter days wast born
 2 that, as we hear thy truth to - day,
 3 to rec - om - pense each hid - den sin
 4 but with thy saints for ev - er - more
 5 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be

1 for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;
 2 all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;
 3 and bid the saints their reign be - gin;
 4 be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.
 5 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymnal 1982*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Verbum supernum prodiens*, plainsong, Mode 2, Nevers MS., 13th cent.; acc. Howard Don Small (b. 1932).

ADDITIONAL COMMUNION HYMN AS NEEDED

Hymnal 333 “Now the Silence”

BIRTHDAY BLESSING`

Watch over your servant(s), 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 heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Hymnal 72

WORDS: Philip Doddridge, 1735

RICHMOND

MUSIC: Thomas Haweis, 1792; adapt. Samuel Webbe Jr.; harm. *The English Hymnal*

C.M.

1. Hark! the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2. He comes, the pris - 'ners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
 3. He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4. Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim; and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore Him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of His grace to'en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with Thy be - lov - ed name.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

All are welcome to Mahon Hall for a special coffee
hour with St. Nicholas!



The Sunday Altar Flowers may be given in honor or memory of a loved one and for other special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries. The suggested donation is \$50. Please complete the “Altar Flowers” sign-up in the narthex or email the front desk at frontdesk@stmarksglenellyn.org and make your donation by check payable to St. Mark’s or electronically using this QR code:



LOOKING AHEAD

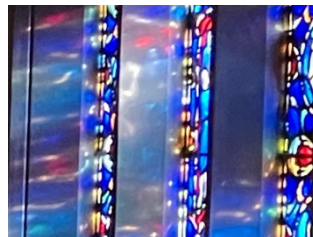
December

7	Sunday	After 10:30 & 1pm services	St. Nicholas Visit
7	Sunday	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Advent Lessons & Carols (bilingual)
11	Thursday	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Celebration of the Virgin of Guadalupe
14	Sunday	10:30 am & 1:00 pm services	Christmas Pageant
17	Wednesday	12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Midweek Eucharist
17	Wednesday	6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Christmas & Cocoa Movie Night (Pre-K– 5 th graders)
18	Thursday	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Community Dinner
19	Friday	7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Longest Night Service
20	Saturday	8:30 am – 10:30 am	Women's Coffee & Conversation
20	Saturday	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	St. Mark's Meals to Go
24	Wednesday	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service (with nursery)
		5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service (with nursery)
		8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Bilingual Christmas Eve Service
		10:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Advent
Lessons
& Carols
December 7| 6 pm**

Advent Watch for 2025: Use Realm to Post Photos and Images during Advent



The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 30. A time of preparing for Christmas, Advent calls us to slow down, look for signs of light and hope and to practice calm. You are invited to watch for signs of Advent, take pictures and post them to our community App called "Realm." Realm includes a church directory, calendars, a way to make donations and is a communications platform for groups and the whole church community.

For a guide to using Realm, see below. If you are familiar with Realm, when you open the App, click on the "News" icon at the bottom left of the screen. Then click on the "Photo" icon; choose "St. Mark's Episcopal Church", select your photo and then "Add." Write a comment and click on "Post" on the upper righthand corner of the screen. That's it! You will be sharing your Advent image with the St. Mark's community.

If you are not familiar with Realm, there are several steps to get going:

- download "Realm Connect" from the App Store
- set up your profile with the email address that St. Mark's has on file for you. If you're not sure that you have a profile or what email St. Mark's has, contact the office at 630-858-1020.
- if you need more help, contact Wes Clay-Anderson at communications@stmarksglenellyn.org.

All ReVive Christmas Families are sponsored!

Thank you to the St. Mark's community for your generosity in sponsoring all fifty-one families which were assigned to us. **Boxes for the sponsored families may be delivered to the St. Mark's library between Today, Sunday, December 7 and Wednesday, December 10.** Hours are Sunday, 8 am to 3 pm; Monday, 9 am to 12 pm; Tuesday, 9 am to 4 pm; Wednesday, 9 am to 4 pm. Revive will be at St. Mark's to pick up boxes on Thursday, December 11 at 9 am. If you can help load the truck, please come to the office at 8:45 am. Questions? Please contact Sheila Plecha at splecha24@gmail.com or 248-202-7348.

Also, ReVive needs volunteers to help greet families and distribute Christmas Baskets at their Chicago location between the hours of 8:30 am and 1:30 pm, December 3rd through December 13th. ReVive's location is 1668 W Ogden Ave, Chicago, Illinois. If you are ready to help, make the holidays brighter, please register at <https://tinyurl.com/4cajw3f5> or call ReVive at 312-997-2222.

St. Mark's Christmas Pageant

December 14th at the 10:30 am & 1:00 pm services



To all our children from preschool to high school—our Christmas Pageant will be **Sunday, December 14th** during the 10:30am & 1pm services this year! If your child is interested in participating in our pageant, we have roles for ALL levels of ability, and ALL performance comfort levels! Rehearsals will be the 2 Saturdays prior, Dec. 6th, and Dec. 13th 10:00 am--11:00am (rehearsals are for those participating in the 10:30 am service). Please email Gina Wood to sign your children up to join in the fun, and the celebration of the season!

All are invited to a Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Thursday, December 11 - a St. Mark's Tradition since 2011.

6:00 pm Procession (from the corner of Main and Roosevelt to St. Mark's)

6:30 pm Pray the Rosary

7:00 pm Juan Diego Drama

7:30 pm Eucharist with mariachi

8:30 pm Reception with mariachi



What is the background of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe?

In the year 1531, Juan Diego was a poor farmer who lived on the edge of the city called Tenochtitlan – today's Mexico City. On his way to church he saw a woman surrounded by a halo of light. Songbirds sang as he gazed at her, and she told him that she was Mary - and that she was there to let the world know that she was the protector "of all people of every kind," acknowledging his poverty and indigenous ancestry. Then she told him that she wanted a temple built in her honor at that location, where a temple to the Aztec goddess Tonatzin had once stood.

Juan Diego went to the Spanish bishop, who dismissed him. He went back to find the Virgin to ask her to find a more prominent person. But she told him that he was the one. He went back to the bishop who again refused to listen to him. On his fourth visit, Mary told him to extend his cloak while she placed hundreds of picked spring roses into it. When Juan Diego went before the bishop an enormous pile of fresh out-of-season roses fell from his cloak onto the bishop's floor, and Mary's likeness appeared on the cloak, imprinted on the rough fabric. Juan Diego's cloak today hangs in the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

When they say "*La Virgen*" in Mexico, it is this vision of Mary they mean. She wears a robe with stars, surrounded by a golden nimbus. She usually has black ribbons on her wrists, a sign of her pregnancy. Dark-skinned Juan Diego is pictured venerating Mary, who is also pictured as dark-skinned. As one of them, Mary loves the poor and those who are of no value in the world's eyes.

The Longest Night Service Friday, December 19, 7:00 pm

All are welcome to St. Mark's for a "Longest Night" service on Friday, December 19 at 7 pm. The name for the service comes from its proximity to the winter solstice as we experience the shortest day and longest night of the year.

The month of December and the celebration of Christmas can be a painful time for many people. We hear the constant refrain in social media, radio, and television about the happiness of this season and about getting together with family and friends. But for many, this time of year is a "dark night of the soul" with painful memories of the past and the pain of present loss and sadness.

Come and join with us in sharing and hearing prayers, scripture, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle, for those who need comfort and healing – and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Hal Stratton at hstratton@strattery.com



WHAT IS LAS POSADAS? ALL ARE WELCOME!

Las Posadas ("the Inns") is a nine-night Mexican Christmas celebration from December 16–24 that reenacts Mary and Joseph's search for an inn. Las Posados involves a nightly procession where participants sing songs asking for shelter, only to be turned away until the final house welcomes them inside for a party with food, drinks, music, and piñatas. Las Posadas is a blend of Spanish and indigenous traditions. Las Posadas symbolize the birth of Jesus, emphasizes community, hospitality, and faith.

Tuesday, December 16 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Wednesday, December 17 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Thursday, December 18 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Friday, December 19 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Saturday, December 20 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Sunday, December 21 – 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Monday, December 22 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Tuesday, December 22 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Wednesday, December 23 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Thursday, December 24 – 9:00 pm – 10:00 pm (in Mahon Hall following the 8:00 pm Service)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Holding the Light: A Support Group for Dementia Caregivers Saturday, December 13, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm, Library

Holding the Light offers a safe and sacred space for dementia caregivers: a time set apart for prayer, sharing stories, and spiritual respite. This monthly gathering is facilitated by Dr. Anne Windholz, a board-certified chaplain. Anyone who is caring for – or has ever cared for— someone with dementia is welcome. For more information, please contact Anne at windholzam@gmail.com



BIBLE STUDY

Welcome to the Tuesday Bible Study!

St. Mark's offers a Bible study led by Fr. George on Tuesday mornings on Zoom from 9 am to 10:30 am. Galatians is one of the earliest of the Christian scriptures, written approximately 35 years after Jesus was crucified. It was also written before the Gospels and serves as a window into the life of the early Christian movement and its struggles and questions. What is the true Gospel? Do you need to be Jewish to be a follower of Jesus? What is the law of Christ? Explore how Paul addresses these issues and more.

The Zoom ID is: 483-170-780. This Bible study begins with people logging in between 9 am and 9:30 am. After check-ins and conversation, we pray at 9:30 am and then read and discuss a chapter of the text. Questions? Please contact Fr. George at 630-858-1020, ext 222 or by email at rector@stmarksglenellyn.org.

ST. MARK'S PRAYERS FOR THE STATES OF MEXICO

Branching Out Into The World...

At St. Mark's our Vision statement is, *“Rooted in Baptism, Growing in Faith, Branching Out into the World.”* Today in the prayers of the people, we are praying for the Mexican state of **Mexico City**. Information: As the nation's capital, Mexico City is a vibrant and densely populated metropolis. It is the country's political, economic, and cultural heart, boasting a rich history and a world-class culinary scene.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Welcome to St. Mark's Sunday School!

The 2025 – 2026 Sunday School Program Includes:

Nursery For infants through 3 years of age during all services (8:30 am, 10:30 am and 1 pm).

8:30 a.m. Godly Play Sunday School for ages 4 and older.

10:15 a.m. Sunday School is offered for ages 4 and older.

- 10:15 - Gather in Mahon Hall for a greeting, song and music.
- 10:30 - Classrooms for Pre K, K – 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 4th and 5th.
- 2nd half of Church service --Worship with parents with participation at the altar.



Volunteering:

Please sign-up to be a classroom volunteers (adults over 18) or a youth assistants (junior high/high school students). This is a fun, easy opportunity for EVERYONE to help the St. Mark's children grow in their faith! Volunteer to sign-up for ONE hour 4 times per year (though you are welcome to teach MORE than 4 times if you like!). Everything you need to lead the class will be clear and provided to you. Sign up using the QR code to the right.



Registering Your Children:



Registration is ongoing for children who will be attending Sunday School. Use this link, <https://tinyurl.com/3h7tm8h5> or the QR code to the left to register.

Christmas Movie and Cocoa Night:

For all children ages Pre-K through 5th grade – a special movie night at St. Mark's on Wednesday, December 17 from 6:30 pm to 8 pm in the library. Parents may accompany children or drop them off. We will be getting ready for Christmas with cocoa, treats, and a Christmas movie. Pajamas optional!

Parents may accompany their children or drop them off.



If you have any questions please contact Gina Wood, Director of Children's Ministry, at childrensministry@stmarksglenellyn.org

OUTREACH

Volunteer at Northern Illinois Food Bank

Thank you to the St. Marks members who volunteered at Northern Illinois Food Bank last week and labelled 5,500 pounds of canned vegetables for local food pantries.

Next volunteer shift is December 20th from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Sign up here by December 13th: <https://tinyurl.com/2z6zazk9>

We still have openings for volunteers at the Food Bank on Saturday December 20th 9 - 12 - 10 spots

Please sign up here if interested: <https://tinyurl.com/2z6zazk9>. Questions? Contact Hester at hesterbury@gmail.com.



Boxed Oatmeal
(Low Sugar)



Granola
(Low Sugar)



Canned Pineapple &
Dried Fruit/Trail Mix



Cereal
(Low Sugar)



Shelf-stable Milk Cartons
100% Fruit Juice Boxes



Granola Bars
(Low Sugar)

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The St. Mark's Forum Sundays from 9:30 - 10:20 am Library

Fellowship and lifelong learning for adults and youth are the hallmarks of the St. Mark's Forum. Connect with your friends and make new friends, as we explore a variety of topics relating to the St. Mark's Vision—*Rooted in Baptism, Growing in Faith, Reaching Out into the World.*

No commitment or rsvp is required. Come when you are able or interested in the topic. Join in the community learning and sharing.

Dec 7 Paging Dr. Sbaitso: AI as Counselors?

Jamie Hommowun

In the early 90s, Dr. Sbaitso, the “Sound Blaster Acting Intelligent Text-to-Speech Operator,” was an interactive “therapist” that was a party game of reading your thoughts and providing advice. While it seemed far-fetched at the time, we now see AI “counselors” providing relationship, emotional and even spiritual advice. Explore how these tools are shaping people, and how we can respond in love.

Dec 14 Written on Our Hearts

Vicki Fink

At this time of year, we delight in the gospel image of a baby in the manger, the star, shepherds, and angels. What other gospel images do we carry with us? Using a collection of graphics, our conversation will focus on sorting out which parts of the gospel affirm us, which challenge us, and which would be helpful to carry with us – to learn by heart.

Dec 21 Spiritually Directed

Tammy Minuti, Vicki Fink & Jamie Hommowun

Learn more about Spiritual Direction from Tammy Minuti, Spiritual Director at St. Mark’s, and from two parishioners who have experienced Spiritual Direction. They will share their experiences & answer questions about the practice.

For more information about the St. Mark’s Forum, contact Joyce Fletcher at joyce@stmarksglenellyn.org

YOUTH NEWS



“The Collective” is Glen Ellyn churches coming together to give 6th – 12th graders a place to grow through faith, friendship, and fun.

Christmas Lock-ins for Junior High and Senior High students!!

Don’t miss the fun! We will have food, games, a movie, and more fun!!!

Dec 13–14 – Junior High Christmas Lock-in (5 p.m. Saturday until 8 a.m. Sunday morning)

At St. Mark’s, Mahon Hall

Dec 20–21 – Senior High Christmas Lock-in (5 p.m. Saturday until 8 a.m. Sunday morning)

At First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, Pilgrim Hall



Scan the QR code to register or contact Joyce Fletcher at joyce@stmarksglenellyn.org

Opening the Doors of St. Mark's 2026 Giving Campaign



As of December 1:
157 Pledges Made
Pledged \$476,000

Campaign Goal:
270 Pledges
\$700,000 Total

St. Mark's Church





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www.stmarksglenellyn.org

Bishop of Chicago

The Rt. Rev. Paula E. Clark, Bishop

Clergy

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The Rev. José C. Arroyo, Priest Associate
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The Rev. Dr. Clint Moore III, Priest Associate
The Rev. Dr. Robert O. Wyatt, Priest Associate
The Rev. Miguel Briones, Deacon

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Norma Cid, Nursery Supervisor
Wes Clay-Anderson, Communications Coordinator
Joyce Fletcher, Ministry Associate
Seth Luna, Director of Music Ministries
Julian Mendoza, Sexton
Katie Anderson, PDO Director
Kristine Osmond, Preschool Director
David Profitt, Youth Ministry
Irma Solorzano, Ministry Associate
Laura Waterman, Administrative Assistant
Gina Wood, Director of Children's Ministry
Zoë Zervas, Parish Administrator Assistant

Senior Warden

Patti King

Junior Warden

Joshua O'Shea

Clerk of the Vestry

Liam Dunch

Treasurer

Leo Lanzillo

Assistant Treasurer

Scott Eichenauer

Chancellor

Brian Shallcross

Vestry

Hester Bury, Bill Constien, Joe Cuttone, Rebecca Fortner,
Cam Gowans, Ana Gutierrez, Tim Kocher, Andy Labis,
Maria Torres, Marcy Troy, Karen Volk
Kai Hill

Youth Representative to Vestry

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The deadline for announcements is Tuesday at 9:00 am. Please submit to communications@stmarksglenellyn.org. Thank you!