

St. Mark's Remarks

Seek God ♦ Serve Others ♦ Transform Lives

Services: 10:00 am-Praise Service/Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II on alternating Sundays.— Spanish 8:00 am Sunday School 9-9:45 am Lion's Den 9:00 am Wed. 10 am-Healing Service

NOVEMBER 2017

Count Your Blessings

by Ben Wright



Thanksgiving is a time for remembering our blessings, a time for remembering how good God is, a time for remembering and being truly thankful for our blessings and not just for the turkey.

The American Thanksgiving originated with William Bradford. Bradford, who arrived on the Mayflower, was elected governor of the Plymouth Colony in 1621. He was reelected several times and served until 1645.

Despite a scant harvest in 1621, Governor Bradford designated a day for the colonists to offer thanks.

George Washington proclaimed the first national Thanksgiving Day in 1789. Prior to this, individual colonies held Thanksgiving celebrations on the days designated by their individual governors.

During President Lincoln's tenure, he designated August 6, 1863, as the national Thanksgiving Day observance. He did this at the constant urging of Sarah Josepha Hale.

The date was changed several times, but in 1941 Congress proclaimed the fourth Thursday of November as the American annual Thanksgiving Day observance. This was done by a joint resolution adopted by the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. They selected this date to prevent Thanksgiving from falling so close to Christmas.

Thanksgiving Day is best when celebrated, if possible, in the company of family and friends with whom we can reminisce about past blessings and experiences.

When I was a small boy growing up on our farm, we never had turkey on Thanksgiving or Christmas. This does not mean we were underprivileged. On the contrary, we had something better.

Mama would kill an old hen, and we would have chicken and dressing. She gathered sage from the sage bushes in our yard and mixed it in the dressing.

I have eaten many kinds of food and have enjoyed them, but no one has ever been able to rival Mama's chicken and dressing. I can almost taste it now.

Count your blessings this Thanksgiving Day. They are probably more numerous than you realize. Then on bended knees offer sincere thanks to the Great Provider.



Schedule of Sunday Services...

8:00 AM — Spanish Service
9:00 AM — Sunday School
9:00 AM — Lion's Den
(Fellowship Hour)
10:00 AM — Praise/Choral
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Cursillo Ministry...

Cursillo Ultreya

December 2, 2017

ECW&M...

Volunteer today to host a table or be a model. We need your help.

Mark Your Calendars

See Upcoming Events

Don't forget to buy your ticket(s) for ECW&M's "Dressed to a 'Tea' Party"

February 3, 2018

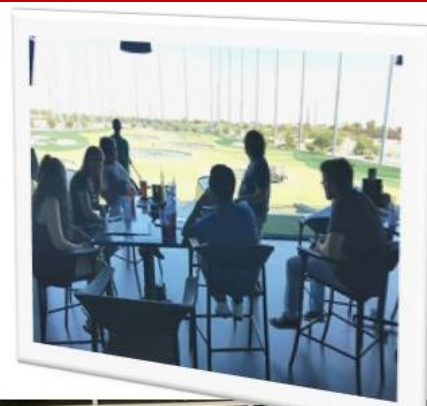
A 'Tea Party' ticket will make a GREAT stocking stuffer



Kid's Korner . . .

The month of October was packed with learning and fun for the St. Mark's young folks with two sermons — one by Caleb Collins and Fr. Brambila with Fr. Ford in the audience — and the other by Fr. Steven Ford. The children were enthralled with drawing on the chalk board as well as with all of the coins they shared with the congregants who are from foreign countries. . . Fun and informative sermons!

The youngest were busy preparing for All Saints Day and the Celebration of Dia de Los Muertos with the teens taking a little time off for a golf game at Top Golf.



Homeless Project . . .

Members of our Cursillo group and assistant parishioners have been crocheting mats for the homeless using plastic shopping bags and their yarn (aka plarn). The bags will be blessed and distributed soon. They are beautiful . . . Here are a few pictures of our very talented congregant's handiwork . . .



Cursillo To Host Ultreya December 2, 2017 . . .

All are invited to the Cursillo Ministry Pot Luck and Ultreya scheduled for Saturday, December 2, 2017, at 12:00-4:00 PM, in Knight Hall. We'd appreciate any musician available to join us -- and play! We'll be singing favorites such as the ones Chris Perry leads at the "Contemporary" service. We'll have small group talks, a surprise witness speaker; and prayers for those in need.



**Make a friend,
Be a friend,
Bring a friend to Christ.**



Join us every Sunday morning in our Lion's Den Café, Knight Hall, at 9 am for welcoming fellowship, a cup of coffee and a variety of tasty treats.



'Tis the Season for Giving . . . Support St. Mark's

Amazon has a program where buyers can designate .5% of the purchase price of their item(s) to go to a charitable organization, i.e., St. Mark's. St. Mark's is now a registered recipient — so please consider joining. All you have to do is go to the smile.amazon website, register your name and the charitable beneficiary (St. Mark's). You only have to register one time. When you want to purchase an item from Amazon you can choose to go to **smile.amazon** to make your purchase and .5% of that purchase will be directed to St. Mark's. Get started today . . . “A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step” . . . So they say . . .

Welcome to
amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
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ECW&M News . . . (for all the women and men at St. Mark's)

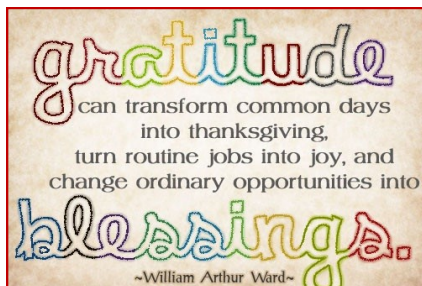
The ECW&M Ministry continues to seek teapots, models and table hosts for our upcoming **“Dressed to a Tea Party”** event on February 3rd 2018. It is going to be a GRAND event — one you don't want to miss. If you would like to volunteer to be a table host, you can show off your “very best” china and/or tableware and you will be responsible for your table during the event. You may want to “buddy up” with someone and share the hosting responsibilities. There is a full set of instructions to help you get an early start on your planning. We are also looking for volunteers to model our MarkDown's “cream of the crop” clothing and accessories. If you have questions or need more information please contact Judy Hossack and/or Jeanne Buckingham and/or Kathy Cheatham. Buy your ticket early for this event. . . It's going to be a sell out! *TIP— A “ticket” to this event would make a mighty fine gift for a special person in your life, don't you think? — Christmas is just around the corner.

October Festivities . . .

Phewwww! Were we busy during the month of October or what? Blessing of the Animals, All Saints Day and Dia de Los Muertos Celebrations, Annual Spaghetti Dinner and East Valley Harmonizer Concert, Divine Diner Fellowship and . . . our regular day-to-day events. Our winter visitors are returning and so many new faces every Sunday — Welcome back and Welcome to St. Mark's!!!



“Kuddos” to everyone for all of your enthusiastic work and participation during this busy time — Altar Guild Members, St. Mark's Singers & Musicians, ECW&M members, Sunday School Teachers and Parents, Cursillo members, Daughters of the King, Greeters, Ushers, Lay Ministers, Thrift Store Volunteers, Lay Ministers, Food Pantry Volunteers, Office Angels, Pastoral Care Volunteers, Liturgical Arrangements, our Vicar, Gerardo Brambila, our Assistant Priest, Fr. Steve Ford, our Priest in Training, Caleb Collins, our Parish Administrator and Director of Music, the members of the Bishop's Committee and last . . . but definitely not least . . . Lois — our voluntary Volunteer of the Year — who helps with every reception and fund raiser event, always has a smile and kind word no matter how difficult or challenging the task is (or stinky) in the kitchen. Thank you all — You are Amazing. God is Good! —



Thank You



The East Valley Pops Orchestra

will present a concert for the support of
The Bill & Cynthia Richey Fund for Music Education
Tuesday, November 28, 2017 • 7pm



*** No Admission charge***
Please join us for a
concert of holiday classics!

A goodwill offering for the Richey Fund will be collected during
the concert, which will be shared with St. Mark's Church.
Visit our website for more information: www.eastvalleypops.com



Tuesday, November 28, 2017 • 7pm
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
322 N. Horne Street, Mesa AZ
(Located just south of University on Horne, a 1/2
mile east of Mesa Drive)

• Prepare for Christmas • *The Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols*

at St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Fr. Gerardo Brambila, vicar

with The St. Mark's Singers

Chris Perry, director of music

~ Free admission ~

The tradition of Lessons and Carols is a one-hour service of Bible
readings and Christmas music sung by the choir and congregation.
Please join us for an evening of candlelight and carols to prepare your
heart and mind for Christ's coming.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
322 N Horne, Mesa, AZ 85203
Friday, December 8th, 2017 • 7pm

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**



Upcoming Events . . .



November 4 — Meditation Workshop
9:30—2 pm—Knight Hall

November 12 — ECW&M Meeting — following 10 am Service

November 18 — Strategic Planning Workshop for all Ministry Leaders and Bishop Committee Members 9 am—2:30 pm

November 19 — Mesa's 6th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service (hosted by St. Mark's in collaboration with 12-14 additional churches of all faiths) — 7 pm

November 22 — Thanksgiving Service — 10 am — Thanksgiving Brunch following the service

November 28 — East Valley Pops Concert—7pm (See Advertisement)

December 2 — Cursillo Ultreya (See Article)

December 8 — Lessons and Carols Service — 7 pm (See Advertisement)

December 9 — Gunn/Collins Wedding — 11 am (Entire Church is Invited)

December 10 — Our Lady of Guadalupe — 8am Spanish Service

December 17 — La Posada — Knight Hall — following 10 am Service (Hosted by Hispanic Ministry)

December 24 — 8 am Spanish Service; 10 am English Service with Children's Pageant; 7 pm Choral Service

December 25 — 10 am Service

January 16, 2018 — Ministry Council Meeting — 7 pm

January 21, 2018 — Annual Meeting

February 3, 2018 — Dressed to a Tea Party — Buy Your Ticket Now!

Lion's Den Café — Open every Sunday between 9-9:45 am

Baptism/Confirmation Class — Every Sunday — 1:30 pm

Follow the Calendar on the Web Site for updates and additions

Room Reservation Forms are available in the Church office

Jr. Warden Schedule — 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 8-10 am — Fridays 7-11 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study — Contact Mary L. Burgess at mburg37114@aol.com or 480-218-5434

MarkDowns Thrift Store . . .

Best wishes on your retirement, **Sally Worthington** . . . Sally is retiring from her position as the MarkDown's Thrift Store Manager effective October 31st. She has served as the Manager for the past 1 1/2—2 years We will miss her and wish her a peaceful and relaxing season of retirement. Fr. Gerardo



presented Sally with a Certificate of Appreciation on October 22nd and announced that Kathy Cheatham, Barbara Haug and Glenn Gordon will be co-managing the Thrift Store following Sally's departure.

**Mark
Downs**

Thrift Store
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
 322 N. Horne
 Mesa AZ 85203
 480-964-5820

2nd and 4TH TUESDAY :
9AM to Noon

Thursdays and Fridays :
9AM to 1 PM

Don't Procrastinate or Hesitate . . .

Hurry In to Visit the "Friendliest Little Thrift Store in the East Valley"!

Now is the time to stock up for the winter months, holidays, birthdays, anniversaries!

We have a little something for everyone!

MarkDowns is open every Sunday between 9:00 am-9:45 am for your shopping convenience!

Parish Directory

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila	Vicar
The Rev. Steven Ford	Assistant Priest
Chris Perry	Director of Music
Gloria McManus	Parish Administrator
Deb Cannon	Licensed in Children's Ministries
Terry Gordon	Senior Warden
Bob Cheatham	Junior Warden
Al Rausch	Treasurer

Bishop's Committee Members

Caleb Collins	John Ddamba
Judy Hossack	Anali Perry
Paige Stalcup	Charles Vaughn

Ministry Leaders

Acolytes	Paige Stalcup
Altar Guild	Terry Gordon
St. Mark's Singers & Musicians	Chris Perry
Christian Formation for Youth	Deb Cannon/ Dianne Nunez
Communications	Kathy Cheatham/ ML Burgess

Ministry Leaders(Cont'd.)

Cursillo	Monica Larsen
Daughters of the King	Marge Fountain
Divine Dinners	Carolyn Morgan
ECW&M (Women's & Men's Ministry)	Jeanette Rogers
Food Pantry	Penny Place
Greeters	Judy Hossack
Hispanic Ministry	Fr. Brambila
Liturgical Arrangements	Viviana Brambila
Ministry Counsel	Terry Gordon
Office Angels	Gloria McManus
Pastoral Care	Elaine Austin
Scriptorium	Deb Cannon
Sunday Lay Ministries	Fr. Brambila/ Gloria McManus
Thrift Store	K Cheatham, B Haug, G Gordon
Ushers	Kathy Smith

Join us at www.stmarksmesa.org and on Facebook at St. Mark's Episcopal Church-Mesa, AZ for updates and more news!



322 North Horne Street, Mesa, AZ 85203
Office Hours: Tues — Fri: 9 am-1 pm
(480) 964-5820
E-Mail: office@stmarksmesa
Web Site: www.stmarksmesa.org



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Dressed to a Tea Party



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
322 North Horne Street, Mesa AZ
February 3, 2018
1:30 — 4:30 pm

St. Mark's ECW&M Presents . . .

Fashion Show — (Hosted by MarkDowns Thrift Store)

Afternoon Tea — featuring delicious edibles and a collection of elegant
tea-time amenities



Entertainment by the Uptown Angels

The Uptown Angels
(Mandy, Candy & Brandy)
bring audiences back in
time with their sassy energy
-packed show. The delight-
ful trio performs popular
songs from the 20s, 30s, 40s,
50s and 60s in the style of
iconic sister acts (Andrews,
McGuire & Lemon). Their
spot-on act features toe-
tapping choreography, vin-
tage costumes and wonder-
ful 3-part harmonies.



Wine Bar, Door and Raffle
Prizes, Silent Auction, Shopping
& Much More . . .
\$25 Per Person
Space Limited — Reserve Early
Gift Certificates Available

Buy Now!

Contact Kathy Smith for Tickets —
480-962-6875 or 1kathysmith@cox.net

Great Gift Idea...
Holiday? Birthday?
Anniversary?

