



**ST. DUNSTAN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# THE 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 17, 2019  
8 am

*Welcome to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!*

*If you are new, or would like to update your information, please fill out a pew card.  
And please join us for coffee and fellowship immediately following the service.*

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## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*The congregation is invited to observe silence during the prelude,  
out of respect for those who are listening, and as an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and healing.*

**Prelude** Hymn preludes on *Forest Green*

*Richard Purvis*

Priest **B**lessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Priest **A**lmighty 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.**

**People** **G**lory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **The Collect of the Day** *The people stand or kneel.*

Priest The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

**B**lessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Isaiah 65:17-25**

*A blessed time when God will overcome many of life's shortcomings and frustrations. A prophet probably wrote these words in a period after the people had returned from exile but while there was still much cause for discouragement. A new order will come for Jerusalem. No longer will children die young or workers not know the fruits of their labor. Even the animals will enjoy the new age.*

**F**or I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle 9:** The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce Deus (Isaiah 12:2-6)*

*A canticle of praise announcing the vindication of those who have placed their confidence in the Lord God.*

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6–13

*Paul deals with the problem of those who are so expectant that the Lord will come soon and are so meddlesome in the affairs of others that they have given up their daily work. These individuals may have believed that they were already exalted to such a spiritual plane that mundane matters were no longer a concern for them. This may seem like piety on their part, but it means they have become a problem for others. Paul reminds them of his own example and bluntly rules that such people should either work or else not eat.*

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

## Luke 21:5–19

*The disciples are forewarned of the destruction of the Jewish temple and of great upheavals in the natural and supernatural order that must take place before the end of history. There will be persecutions and divisions in families. Individuals will appear claiming to be Jesus. While in some passages the New Testament suggests that the end and fulfillment of human time will come quite unexpectedly, here the disciples are advised of a period of great tribulation when the powers of evil will make their final onslaught. In one sense this is poetic language used to describe the indescribable, but it insists that the ultimate meaning of life will finally be known.*

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

*Continued . . .*

They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.  
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### Serenity Prayer

**God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
The courage to change the things I can,  
And the wisdom to know the difference. Amen.**

### The Sermon

The Rev. John Saville

*After the sermon a brief silence is kept.*

## The Nicene Creed *All 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 worshipped 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

*Form III*

*The people stand or kneel.*

Leader **F**ather, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People **T**hat we all may be one.

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **T**hat your Name may be glorified by all people.

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **T**hat they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **T**hat there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**People That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**People That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest;

**People Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**People May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

Priest Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

*Silence may be kept.*

**People 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 Absolution**

Priest 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** *All stand.*

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

*The people exchange the peace with one another.*

## **Announcements** *All are seated.*

### **Prayer for a Birthday**

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Offertory**

Priest Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God.

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Priest **A**ll things come of thee, O Lord.

**People And of thine own have we given thee.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

Priest The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

**People We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**People** **H**oly, 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.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

**Priest** **H**oly and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; 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 shed 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:

**People** **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

**Priest** **W**e celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

**People** **O**ur 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**

*The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Priest Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People** **T**herefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Priest 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.*

The bread is received in the open palm. The wine, if desired, may be taken from the cup by drinking (guide the chalice gently to your lips by the base) or by dipping the bread.

Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

If you have a wheat sensitivity, you may ask the priest for a gluten-free wafer.

## **The Post-Communion Prayer**

Priest Let us pray.

**People** **E**ternal 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

Priest **L**ife is short. *Henri-Frédéric Amiel (1821-1881)*

And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts  
of those who travel the way with us.

So be swift to love.

Make haste to be kind.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Priest **I**n the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing these Holy Gifts, and pray that those to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many, are one because we share one Bread and one Cup. In Christ's name. Amen.

Priest **G**o in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

*Celebrant & Preacher:* The Rev. John Saville

*Lay Server:* Mystery Chastain

*Lector:* Janel Hornbeck



*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God  
by Pam & Rob Gallaway in celebration of their anniversary*

*St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church celebrates*

*God's diverse creation and strives to build an inclusive community that welcomes everyone,  
no matter age, gender, sexual identity, culture, ethnicity, economic status, or ability.*

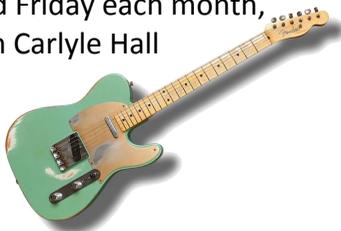
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## common thread

*spirit, music, food, drink, community*

Now the Second Friday each month,  
6 pm in Carlyle Hall

**Friday,  
December 13**



## Have your Picture Taken

We will be taking pictures for the parish directory today. If you are new to the parish we especially want to include your photo. It takes only a few minutes, so look for Rev. Marcia during coffee hour, and we will get it done. If you want a retake, that's okay, too!

*Let us give thanks at coffee hour!*

## **Thanksgiving Celebration**

**Sunday, November 24th**

**following both 8 & 10 am worship**

Join in the preparation!

**Saturday, Nov 23; 2 - 4 pm**

All ingredients provided  
questions? elizabeth(at)stdcv.org

*. . . and sharing our bounty through our*

## **Annual Food Drive**

**Now through November 25**

Be a part of St. Dunstan's Annual Food Drive through November 25. All non-expired canned and non-perishable food items will be accepted. Favorites are oatmeal, tuna, peanut butter, cornmeal, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce and canned chicken. Please place your items in the boxes near the Welcome Table. After the food is blessed, Nancy's Project will take it to Greenfield to be distributed to farm worker families. Thank you on behalf of all the needy people you will feed!

*Help us know you by*

## **Filling out a Pew Card**

If you are visiting us, are new to Saint Dunstan's, or if your contact information has changed, please fill out a Pew Card and drop it in the collection plate. Thanks!



# A **MADRIGAL** Affair

**December 7 & 8**

Please see the exciting new Madrigal announcement coming up with new hours and exciting items for sale and bidding. There will be lots of sign up sheets available for help on set up Friday, December 6, help at the Madrigal Event, Saturday & Sunday, December 7 & 8. We need Silent Auction Items, hand made and baked items packaged to sell, and sweet and savory items to serve.

## **How can you help?**

The last WSD Madrigal Event was able to give \$10,700 in grants to many amazing organizations. We need you whether you are male or female!

This will be a fun event and always a win for all who come and buy.

Invite your Community!

## **In our prayers this week. . . .**

Andrew, J.J., Richard, Cora, Ross, Ida, Victoria, David, Jan, Cecily, Brad, Jeanne, Yolette, Fran, Nancy, George, Nate, Chuck, Josh, Bill, Lawrence, Jack, Joanie, Sarah, Ann, Lauren, Michael, Clare, Mel, Bob, Roz, Maureen, Ann, Tom, Steve

## **For the repose of the souls . . . .**

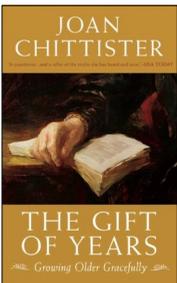
Jim McCammon, Parker Hornbeck

## Order now for Dec 7 delivery of your "Handmade" Christmas Cards

Corliss Kelly is once again offering to make your Christmas cards through "Handmade 4 Haiti". All proceeds go to St. Andre's School. Cards will be delivered at the Madrigal Affair, December 7 & 8.

Contact Corliss to discuss your order:  
831-320-3832 [corlissakelly\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:corlissakelly(at)gmail.com)

## Sunday Morning Class 9 am in the Outer Office



The Sunday group has selected The Gift of Years: Growing Old Gracefully, by Joan Chittister, for our next book discussion.

We invite you to join us for discussion on Sunday mornings between services

at 9 am in the rector's outer office.

## Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to [office\(at\)stdcv.org](mailto:office(at)stdcv.org) by midnight Monday.

## Youth-in-Action & Nancy's Project Bringing Christmas to the Salinas Valley

Would you like to help make a farm worker family's Christmas a little merrier?



The Youth in Action Group will be purchasing and wrapping Christmas gifts for farm worker children served by Nancy's Project, and every dollar you can contribute will make a huge difference!

Please make checks out to St. Dunstan's Church and be sure to specify "YIA XMAS GIFTS" somewhere on the check and get them to the church office, Aleksander Simpson or Elizabeth Buche by Thursday December 12th.

If your child would like to participate, email [sarahcgreco\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:sarahcgreco(at)gmail.com)

*Sign up today to receive*

## St. Dunstan's weekly eNews

Getting weekly news, links to sermons, updates, and schedules is as simple as visiting [stdcv.org/subscribe](http://stdcv.org/subscribe) and entering your email address.

## Weekly Bulletins available electronically

Whether you want to save the environment by using less paper, like the idea of reading on your device, want to see what's coming up or what is past, our weekly worship bulletins are available as a PDF online at [stdcv.org/bulletins](http://stdcv.org/bulletins)



## This is Commitment Sunday!

Our Autumn Stewardship Lunch was a great success. Over 100 people heard the inspiring talk by Rev. Bill Nix, a friend of St. Dunstan's for many years.

Today is Commitment Sunday, the day when we are asked to make our pledge of financial support to God's work at St. Dunstan's during 2020. Your pledge card will be available for you to sign and put into our pledge card box after this worship service. Please make your financial commitment in prayer seeking God's guidance with this very important matter, and please do not take your pledge cards home.

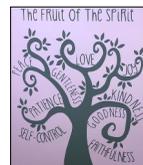
You have made many good suggestions of what your have discerned God is asking of us at St. Dunstan's that are summarized in our Stewardship Brochure. Consider them carefully and prayerfully, keeping in mind that we have an unusually large task in 2020 of calling our next rector and paying for their move to St. Dunstan's. This alone could cost us up to \$100,000.

All pledges are held in confidence and we make no judgements. The amount is between you and God. We consider every pledge to be a major gift. Even if you cannot pledge, for whatever reason, we appreciate you being part of our St. Dunstan's family.

## Youth & Family Programs

### Nursery: (infant—early preschool)

Located inside the church hall, our Light and Love program is a space where infants and younger children can participate in creative activities while their parents experience the 10 am service.



### Sunday School: (Preschool—5<sup>th</sup> Grade)



Using the Godly Play curriculum which is based on Montessori principles, Godly Play allows children to explore their own innate spirituality through engagement with stories from the bible.

The children rejoin their parents in church to participate in communion together. Sundays 10 am in Carlyle Hall.

### Youth Group: (6<sup>th</sup>—12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**Nov 17:** No meeting

**Nov 24:** Meeting (Carlyle Hall) 5—7 pm  
Dinner included

**Dec 8:** Christmas Pageant at  
10 o'clock Holy Eucharist

For more information, contact our  
Family Ministry Coordinator at  
[elizabeth\(at\)stdcv.org](mailto:elizabeth(at)stdcv.org)

# THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

PARISH OFFICE OPEN TUESDAY—FRIDAY, 9 AM—1 PM

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## Sunday, November 17

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
 9:00 am Sunday Morning Class  
 10:00 am Sunday School & Holy Eucharist  
 11:30 am Finance Committee Meeting  
 7:00 pm AA

## Monday, November 18

## Tuesday, November 19

11:00 am Staff Meeting  
 5:00 pm St. Dunstan's Foundation Mtg  
 7:30 pm AA

## Wednesday, November 20

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Healing  
 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 2:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  
 4:30 pm Haiti Team Meeting

## Thursday, November 21

4:00 pm Vestry Meeting  
 I-Help (meal by St. Dunstan's)

## Friday, November 22

## Saturday, November 23

10:00 am Altar Guild Meeting  
 LEV Training  
 2:00 pm Thanksgiving Coffee Hour Prep

## Sunday, November 24

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
 9:00 am Sunday Morning Class  
 10:00 am Sunday School & Holy Eucharist  
 Thanksgiving Coffee Hour  
 5:00 pm Youth Group  
 7:00 pm AA

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## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Janel Hornbeck	14 Pam Gallaway	25 Corliss Kelly
1 Cynthia Young	14 Danielle Gregorio	25 Hal Snellgrose
1 Shelley Franklin	15 Anne Healey	25 Brynn Bohlman
3 Betty Holmgren	16 Laine Rethmeier	25 Trudie McEwen
6 Barbara Greenway	18 Nick Leonoff	26 Phyllis Elson
6 Beth Heston	21 Betty Kasson	27 Barbara Brooks
7 Holly Pease	22 John Tomlin	27 Mike Cervi
9 Val Parsel	23 Katie Murray	28 Janet Morse
9 Ramona Smith	24 Kent Saunders	



## **WE HOPE YOU FIND YOURS HERE**

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

## **WHAT WE ARE FOR**

The dignity and worth of every person. An open minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone’s own spiritual journey. God’s friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life’s rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life’s challenges. A “user-friendly” church experience. Children, youth and families. We believe that God is love, and we pray that God will use us to spread that love.

## **WHAT WE ARE AGAINST**

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don’t always avoid these!)

## **WHAT WE VALUE**

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God’s creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

## **WELCOME!**

*Originally written by the people of St. Bartholomew’s, New York, this statement has been modified for our use with their permission.*

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### **St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church**

28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel, California 93923

(831) 624-6646 [office@stdcv.org](mailto:office@stdcv.org)



[saintdunstanschurch.org](http://saintdunstanschurch.org)