

# of S·T. M·A·R·Y'·S

January 2010 Volume 65 No. 1

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church*

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The Rev. Marilyn Omernick, Priest-in-Charge  
The Rev. Floyd "Butch" Gamarra, Assistant Priest  
The Rev. Jimmy H. Shiode, Deacon

The Rev. Canon Richard Van Horn, Priest Assisting  
Larry Higa, Senior Warden  
Gwendolyn Davis, Junior Warden

Emma Coleman, Office Administrator  
Carlos Guzman Ramirez, Sexton

Mo. Marilyn Cell: 323.273-3888  
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Jeffrey VanderWilt, Organist/Choir Director  
Carolyn Morinishi, Editor, "The Spirit"

*"Diverse and unafraid, with open hearts."*



## January 2010

### Special Dates

#### **Sunday, January 10**

11:15am Profile committee meeting

#### **Sunday, January 17**

8:15am Celtic Cross Board meeting

11:15am Vestry meeting

#### **Wednesday, January 20**

6:00pm South Bay Bible Study  
(at Koyamatsus)

#### **Saturday, January 30**

8am-3pm Hunger Action L.A.  
Community Outreach event

#### **Sunday, January 31**

9:45am Annual meeting

### Regular/Ongoing Events

#### **Every Sunday**

7:30 am Holy Eucharist

8:30 am Choir Practice

9:45 am Holy Eucharist

9:45 am Sunday School/Nursery

11:45 am Holy Eucharist (Spanish)

#### **Every Saturday**

Morning Altar Guild

#### **Every Friday**

6:30 pm Spanish Service/Christian Formation  
Bible Study/Children's Program

#### **Every Wednesday**

11:15 am ESL Reception

11:30 am Noonday prayer

# Clergy Corner . . .



My family's trips included driving from central Wisconsin to Chicago to visit our relatives for the holidays. This was a five-hour journey if the road conditions were good. Five hours is a long time for four kids to be crowded into the family station wagon. (Remember: this was before on-board DVDs, video games and cell phones). My brothers and I would try to pass the time looking for out-of-state license plates or by guessing the year, make and model of other cars. At some point we would start the familiar childhood chant: "Are we there yet?" No matter how incessantly we asked this question, the trip was still going to take a certain amount of travel time and this depended on the road conditions encountered along the way.

"Are we there yet?" "When will we have a new rector?" These questions swirl around us. The reality is that the search process takes its own amount of time. For those who were at St. Mary's during the last rector's search, I have a multiple-choice question for you. How many months passed between Mother Kate's resignation announcement and Mother Alix's installation as rector? In other words, how long was that rector's search process? Here are your choices: (a) 12 months (b) 18 months (c) 24 months (d) 30 months (e) I don't remember. The answer is thirty months. Mother Kate announced she was leaving St. Mary's in March, 2000 and Mother Alix was installed as rector in November, 2002.

Instead of viewing the rector's search process in terms of a set period of time, it is better to view this process in terms of readiness and parish self-knowledge. The parallel example I use is getting married. A parent wouldn't tell a child who has come of age to "get married as soon as possible". It takes time to know oneself-one's hopes and dreams. It takes time to find someone to share one's life.

The same is true for the parish setting. The parish-rector relationship is more than meeting an immediate need. It is intended to be long-term. This means at least fifteen years of shared ministry. Where is God leading the ministry of St. Mary's over the course of the next fifteen years? Imagine you are a Sunday visitor at St. Mary's in the year 2025. Can you envision what St. Mary's will look like?

Preparing for the next rector takes time. Like my family's drive down to Chicago, it can't be rushed-there really aren't any shortcuts. The Profile Committee is doing its work. The Vestry, the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee are doing their work of organizational and financial preparations.

I believe God has the right person for St. Mary's future in mind. Ours is to be faithful to this process, trusting that, in the words of St. Julian of Norwich, "all shall be well" in God's time.

*Faithfully, Mother Marilyn*

# Upcoming Events . . .

## **2009 EXPENSE AND PLEDGE DEADLINE - JANUARY 8-10, 2010**

Please submit any outstanding expenses for 2009 by January 8, 2010 and any 2009 pledge payments by Sunday, January 10. The 2009 year-end pledge report will be mailed during the week of December 28 so any 2009 pledges received after January 10, 2010 will be counted as part of your 2010 pledge payment.

## **SOUTH BAY BIBLE STUDY – JANUARY 20**

South Bay Bible Study will meet January 20 (Koyamatsu's). We are continuing reading the Sermon on the Mount, chapters 5-7 of Matthew.

## **ANNUAL MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2010**

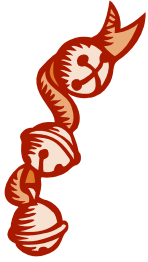
Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010, during the 9:45 service. There will be one service that day. We are asking that all the reports and reflections be received at St. Mary's by Sunday, January 10, 2010. Since the members of the Spanish congregation will be joining us for the annual meeting, Fr. Butch will be translating the 2009 reports into Spanish for them. This written translation work takes a great amount time. We appreciate your cooperation in providing this material for Fr. Butch.

## **HUNGER ACTION L.A. COMMUNITY OUTREACH – JANUARY 30**

Hunger Action L.A. will be holding a community outreach event in the St. Mary's parking lot. The church parking lot will be in use on January 30 from 8am – 3pm. If you need to be at St. Mary's on that day, please plan carpools accordingly.



# Parish News . . .



## **BOUTIQUE THANK YOU'S**

A big thank you to all the members and guests who attended the 2009 Women of St. Mary's Christmas Boutique on December 6. Thank you also to all the members of the Women of St. Mary's who helped make crafts and prepare for the boutique workshops throughout the year. Thanks especially to Fifi Newcomb, who was the chairperson of the event. Through your efforts, we raised over \$4000 for our designated charities: Little Tokyo Service Center, Hillside Home for Children, Keiro and Mission Share Fund.

## **2010 STEWARDSHIP**

On behalf of St. Mary's, thank you to everyone who turned in their 2010 pledge cards. All contributions are blessings to St. Mary's! 2010 Pledge Envelope Boxes will be available for pick-up at St. Mary's through Sunday, January 3. Any remaining boxes will be mailed the week of January 4.

## **CELTIC CROSS: UPDATE 11/24/09**

As was reported a few months ago, the Celtic Cross is proceeding with plans to demolish the two properties located on San Marino Avenue, just north of the Church property. Both families, who were long time tenants, have successfully relocated to apartments in the local area. Asbestos abatement has been completed and permits are being acquired to proceed with the demolition. Within the next month it is expected that both properties will be demolished and the land cleared.

The Board (Erik Suzuki, Dave Iwataki, and Glenn Nishibayashi) is requesting that members of the St. Mary's congregation provide ideas and input as to what to do with the Celtic Cross properties that would be to the benefit of St. Mary's. Please contact any of the Board members with your ideas and suggestions.

*Glenn Nishibayashi, President, Celtic Cross*

The Celtic Cross is a non-profit organization established in 1955 by St. Mary's members to acquire assets to support the goals and mission of St. Mary's. The Celtic Cross currently owns three properties contiguous to St. Mary's – two lots on San Marino just north of the Preschool and one property on Mariposa just south of the church patio.

## **HUNGER ACTION LA CELL PHONE RECYCLING**

Donate your old cell phones to help fund their food programs. Please bring them to the church office for drop-off. Any personal information is deleted from the phone.



## VESTRY SUMMARY – NOVEMBER 2009

**October Minutes/Reports:** October minutes approved MSA, with 2 abstentions. October financial reports approved MSA.

**Celtic Cross:** San Marino properties have been vacated, inspections are complete and properties will be demolished soon. If Vestry members hear any suggestions of what to do with the property, please tell Glenn.

**Profile committee:** 50 surveys were returned and the committee members are tallying the results. They will be meeting next Sunday to discuss the results and the next steps.

**Bunny update:** \$545 remains in the bunny fund. Erik will research engraving costs.

**Annual Meeting:** will be January 31, 2010, with the Vestry retreat to be held in February.

**Finance committee update:** Glenn Nishibayashi has been added as a member.

**History Day follow up:** Vestry discussed the next steps to be taken following the History Day event on November 1. Margaret asked where the money to pay for Eric Law came from.

**Door update:** Erik brought pictures and may be installing doors within the next month.

**Sakurai Trust update:** The paperwork has been filled out with the appropriate signatures and the routing number for the bank.

**Office:** Marilyn is investigating mail drop options. Daily offsite data backup has begun.

**Audit:** 2008 audit will not be finalized until February.

**Priest-in-Charge Memo of Understanding:** Renewal expired in October, but an extension was approved MSA from November 2009-April 2010.

**2010 Budget:** A preliminary budget for 2010 was presented.

*miscellaneous . . .*



A Collect for Guidance (adapted from the BCP p. 100)

O Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life, especially during this transitional time at St. Mary's, we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## *about our members . . .*

### **DAISY FOUNDATION GIFT**

MARY DEE HACKER was honored as the 2009 Diane Cooper Lifetime Achievement Award. As part of that award, she may donate \$2500 to an organization of her choice. Mary Dee chose the Daisy Foundation, an organization that honors the everyday nurse for the extraordinary work that she/he does each and every day. The complete article can be found at: <http://news.nurse.com/article/20091207/CA02/112070078>

### **L.A. DIOCESAN CONVENTION ELECTION**

At the L.A. Diocesan Convention, STEVE NISHIBAYASHI was elected as a Judge of the Ecclesiastical Court along with the Rev. Jeffrey Bullock. Steve also remains as the Director of Hillside. Congratulations, Steve!

### **INTO ETERNAL LIFE**



TAD IKEDA, a very generous donor and exceptional friend of St. Mary's who yearly gave beautiful, award-winning orchid flowers and plants to the St. Mary's Bazaar and special events, passed away. His services were held November 21, 2009 at the Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple in Little Tokyo with internment at Rose Hills.

Tad graciously invited St. Mary's members to view and enjoy his plants and landscaped yard, giving instruction on the planting, dividing and care of cymbidium orchids. His hospitality was a trademark of his generosity and friendship. St. Mary's has lost a very special friend and donor.

MARGARET ATKINSON, 87, long-time St. Mary's member, passed away peacefully on November 25, 2009 in Klamath Falls, OR. Per her wishes, there was no memorial service and her ashes will be scattered in Oregon.

She is survived by her son, Chuck; daughter, Nancy; grandchild, Kimberly Phan; and great-grandchild, Keira. She was predeceased by her husband, long-time St. Mary's Organist-Choirmaster Francis Atkinson. Donations in her memory may be made to Klamath Hospice, 4745 S. 6th St. Klamath Falls, OR 97603.

*“May they rest in peace and  
may Light Perpetual shine upon them...”*

# Thank You . . .

## NOV ALTAR GUILD

### Flowers given for:

HARUE KUROMI

Ito & Kuromi families

ALBERT LEE

Esther Lee & family

FRED KOYAMA

MRS. SAKI KOYAMA

Rose Koyama

RUBY CHUMAN

Daniel, Paul, Takako Chuman

FRED & CLARA OMATSU

Omatsu & Ogawa families

NAMIE NAKAMURA KUBO

M/M Stanley Nakamura

### Candles in loving memory of:

KEN ITO

Marcy & Margaret Yuki

TAKESHI TABATA

JANE TSUKAMOTO

TY HAMANO

Ms. Margaret Yuki

BERNICE IKEHARA

Nursery/Kindergarten teachers

YOSHIO MARUMOTO

George Oshita

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

SHIZUKO, SHIGETO,

MASATO OSHINOMI

M/M Jim Sakabe

CRAIG ITOW

Yoneko Itow

ALICE NAKAZAWA, RON

SHIKATA, JOY YAMAZAKI

Al Nakazawa

KAZUE TAKEUCHI

Marian Kubota

### Altar Guild Memorial Fund:

JISABURO KASAI

TSUYAKO WATANABE

TOSHIO 'IGGY' YOSHIMURA

Midori Yoshimura

KEI KUSAGAWA

SUMI SHIOHANA

Yoriko Clarkson

MASY MASUOKA

D/M David Masuoka

Rose Masuoka

BRUCE J. MORI

M/M Bruce Mori

### Donation for Diocesan ECW

recognition of Margaret Yuki:

Irene Yoneshige, Maxine

Yamamoto, Yo Guzman, Fifi

Newcomb, Faith Ichida, Kumi

Gerber, Kazumi Suzuki, Fumi

Miyatake, Toshi Kurihara, Fusa

Sugawara, Margaret Yoshina

## NOV THANK YOUS

### Memorial:

YUKO IMAMURA

Atsuko Imamura

MARGARET ATKINSON

Kiyo & Kazie Higa

### Thank offering:

for Margaret Yuki

June Yuki

for use of parking lot

Zen Center

for general work

Dennis Yokoyama

for surgery recovery

Rex & Grace Ogawa

### Bazaar Fund:

MARGARET ATKINSON, TAD

IKEDA, BETTY YANO, TED

YONESHIGE

LeRoy & Faith Ichida

### Endowment Fund:

EDWARD TOKESHI

Margaret Yuki

### Fr. Butch Discretionary Fund:

Margaret Yuki

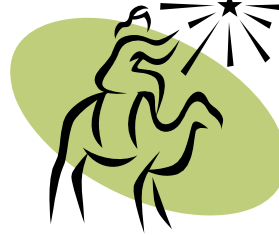
### Xmas for staff Harry Mitsuuchi

### Adams Harbor Sack Lunches:

Koji/Aiko Tomikawa, Marian

Kubota, George Kawahara,

Yuri/Hide Matsunaga



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961 S. Mariposa Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

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