

of S·T. M·A·R·Y'·S

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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
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Carolyn Morinishi, Editor, "The Spirit"

"Diverse and unafraid, with open hearts."



February 2010

Special Dates

Sunday, February 7

9:45am Baptism service

Sunday, February 14

11:00am Profile committee meeting

Wednesday, February 17

12:00pm Ash Wednesday service (English)

7:00pm Ash Wednesday service (English)

Saturday, February 20

9am-noon Audit

Wednesday, February 24

6:00pm South Bay Bible Study

Saturday, February 27

9am-3pm Vestry retreat

Sunday, February 28

Profile committee presentation

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 Wednesday

11:15 am ESL Reception

11:30 am Noonday prayer

Every Friday

6:30 pm Spanish Service/Christian

Formation, Bible Study/Children's Program

Every Saturday

Morning Altar Guild

Clergy Corner . . .

My ministry as Priest-in-Charge includes the “usual” work of Sunday worship, pastoral ministry and Christian formation. It also includes a set of objectives that are unique to the transitional time. These are described in the Priest-in-Charge (PIC) Letter of Agreement:

p. 1: The Vestry and PIC shall work together to prepare for a healthy transition to the next rector. Some specific tasks to be addressed include:

- Coming to terms with the history of this congregation and its relationships with previous clergy.
- Discovering the congregation’s special identity, what it dreams of being and doing apart from previous clergy leadership.
- Dealing with shifts in leadership roles that naturally evolve in times of transition, allowing new leaders to come to the fore constructively.
- Reworking relationships with the Diocese, so that each may be a more effective resource and support to the other.
- Building a commitment to the leadership of the new rector in order to be prepared to move into the future with openness to new possibilities.

p. 3: The major goal of the PIC’s ministry is to prepare the congregation for the coming of the next rector. To this end, the PIC shall:

- Help the congregation deal with its grief and any other unresolved issues arising from the previous rector’s departure, specifically the unexpected and untimely death of the previous rector.
- Deal with internal conflicts and help heal any divisions within the congregation.
- Help the Vestry, lay leaders and staff to make such changes that may be needed to align parish life and administration with generally accepted standards in the Diocese.

My experience in other congregations is that sometimes parishioners wonder why “things can’t just stay the same” during the transitional time with the expectation that the new rector will make changes. The reality is that the transition time is a time of intentional preparation and this involves change-whether completing overdue tasks (like past audits), or updating internal control practices according to diocesan standards, or reviewing congregational bylaws in light of current diocesan and national church canons and the current needs of the parish.

The vestry retreat is moved up to February so that we can prayerfully assess the work to be done for this coming year in light of the continuing rector search process. Please hold us in your prayers during our retreat time.

Faithfully, Mother Marilyn

Upcoming Events . . .



BAPTISM SERVICE – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

There will be a baptism service for Sarah Esbenshade, daughter of Andy and Michele Esbenshade, on Sunday, February 7.

PROFILE COMMITTEE MEETING – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

The Profile Committee will meet on Sunday, February 14 at 11:00am.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES (ENGLISH) – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Ash Wednesday services will be at 12 noon and 7:00pm on Wednesday, February 17.

SOUTH BAY BIBLE STUDY – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

South Bay Bible Study will be held on Wednesday, February 24, 6pm at the Partridges. We are finishing The Sermon on the Mount, Chapters 5-7 of Matthew's Gospel.



VESTRY RETREAT – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Vestry Retreat will be on Saturday, February 27, 9 am-3 pm at St. Mary's with The Rev. Canon Joanna Satorius, Diocesan Deployment Officer.

PROFILE COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

The profile committee will be presenting the survey results at each service (7:00, 9:45, and 11:45 am) on February 28, 2010. Please try to attend to hear our report first hand. We need your input in order to create the most accurate reflection of who we are at St. Mary's and where we see ourselves in the future. Please contact a member of the committee if you have any questions (Alda Cabral, Gwendolyn Davis, Carl Kubota, Kathryn Nishibayashi, Laura Ridnor, or John Tokeshi). Thank you.



Parish News . . .



AID FOR HAITI EARTHQUAKE SURVIVORS

Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) is receiving donations for Haiti aid. Online: www.er-d.org; by phone: 800-334-7626 x5129; by mail: ERD, PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. Please put “Haiti Fund” in the memo line of all checks.

2009 CHRISTMAS ELVES AND ANGELS

Thank you to the following people who donated stocking stuffers: Marian Kubota, Margaret Yuki, Kumi Gerber, Fifi Newcomb, Toshi Kurihara, Ida Kunitsuga, Faith Ichida, Loreen Ichida, Ruri Miura, Keiko Hamagiwa, Betty Yoshimura and Loretta Herndon. A bigger thanks go to Marian Kubota and Toshiko Kurihara for painstakingly bagging the goodies for Santa to distribute at the Christmas festival.

What’s Christmas without a tree? Thank you, Miiko Taka and family for donating the tree that was beautifully decorated by Carlos. Heartfelt thanks to Norman Naito for delivering the gorgeous poinsettias before Christmas, and to Carlos for taking care of them and getting out the crèche and other furnishings for the Altar Guild before leaving on his vacation.

On Saturday, December 17, while Marian and Toshiko got things ready for Santa, Kazumi Suzuki, Clarence Yamamoto, who came to help in place of Maxine, Faith Ichida, Fusa Sugawara, Mrs. Glorianne Yamamoto, and Margaret Yuki arranged the three crèche. Again, thank you, Carlos for wiring and strategically placing the Star of Bethlehem over the Nativity scene for the pageant on Sunday, December 18.

Christmas Eve at 9:00 am sharp, the angels, Marian Kubota, George Oshita, Clarence & Maxine Yamamoto, Kazumi Suzuki, Christian Gerber, Faith Ichida, Yo Guzman, Irene Yoneshige, Fusa Sugawara and Margaret Yuki busied themselves to make the church and parish hall festive. When the work was completed, everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by Faith and Margaret. Kudos to the angels and to Mrs. Glorianne Yamamoto, who presented each angel with a red and green ribbon Christmas lei.

On Saturday, January 9th after the arrival of the Wise men on January 6, the following came to pack up the crèche: Kazumi Suzuki, Fusa Sugawara, Maxine and Clarence Yamamoto, and Margaret Yuki. Thank you so much, because each year the figurines are getting heavier. Also, our appreciation to you, Kazumi, for arranging the altar flowers to replace the poinsettias. And thank you Carlos for putting away the Christmas furnishings, crèche, and other accessories until Christmas comes again. Arigato, Gracias, Mahalo, Thank you to each of you.

-- Margaret Yuki

TIMELY REIMBURSEMENT SUBMISSION

The vestry passed the following motion at the January meeting to help with the tracking of income and expenses through the calendar year. Effective April 1, 2010, reimbursements are to be submitted within 90 days of the incurred expense. There will be a grace period until June 30, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

NEW VESTRY-NEW PRAYER PRACTICE

The work of the church includes prayer. Each Sunday we pray the Collect for Guidance for St. Mary's. I picked up a congregational prayer practice at one of my previous transitional ministry placements. All vestry members were listed on a bulletin board and there was a line for a person to sign-up as a prayer partner. The prayer partner agrees to pray for the vestry member daily-this doesn't need to be too complex or lengthy-it's the intentional practice that matters.

Anyone interested in this ministry? After the annual meeting elections, all vestry members will be listed with a line for a prayer partner. If you live away from St. Mary's, call the office or email for more information.

VESTRY SUMMARY – DECEMBER 2009

Minutes/Reports: November minutes approved MSA. November financial reports approved MSA. 2008 balance sheet approved MSA. 2010 updated budget was presented.

Celtic Cross: Glenn reported that the San Marino properties would be secured today and utilities shut off. The goal for demolition is the end of December.

Profile committee: 65 surveys were returned. The committee will be meeting after service. Results will be available for viewing and there will be a follow up survey early in 2010.

Priest-in-charge report: The Annual Meeting will be on January 31. The Vestry approved a motion (MSA) to spend \$200 for 5 hrs of Spanish translation for the meeting.

Sakurai trust: The money market account was created. The Endowment committee will now have to meet.

Future Dates: January Vestry meeting (1/17), Vestry Retreat (2/27) dates were set. Four new vestry nominations will be needed for annual meeting.

Old Business Church door repair, rabbit update, mail drop box update tabled until January.

Clergy housing allowance: MSA that ministry compensation paid to The Rev. Marilyn Omernick during the year 2010 will be 100% designated as housing allowance.

Reimbursement/Expenditure: A document regarding a reimbursement request dating back to 2001 was presented. Action on this request was tabled until the January meeting. Discussion on approval process for expenditures will be discussed at January meeting.

miscellaneous . . .

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW) DIOCESAN ANNUAL MEETING

The ECW of Los Angeles will hold its annual spring meeting and conference on Saturday, March 6, 8:30am – 3:30pm at the Cathedral Center of St. Paul, 840 Echo Park Ave in Los Angeles. The conference will include continental breakfast, 3 sessions of workshops, worship, business meeting, election of new officers, and lunch, and the theme will be “What One Woman Can Do.”

Cost is \$25 per person, including lunch. Reservations are requested by March 1. For a registration form, see the Winter 2009 issue of The Episcopal News (page 12), or visit www.ecwlosangeles.org or call ECW president Kay Alexander at 909.989.5321.

EPISCOPAL HAIKU excerpts from Episcopal Haiku by Sarah Goodyear & Ed Weisman

In Lent, the days get
longer, sure. But do they shed
any light within? p.86

A rainy Sunday
is the time to discover
the forgotten church. p.39



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.



Thank You . . .

DEC ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in loving memory of:

KIYOME NAKAMURA

M/M Stanley Nakamura

REV ALIX EVANS

Joe Burns

MOTOKAZU YOKOYAMA

M/M John Yokoyama

SUSUMU KOYAMATSU

Koyamatsu family

YOSHIHARU/KONAE SAKABE

M/M Jim Sakabe

RYOJI KAKO

Frances Nishibayashi & family

RUBY CHUMAN

Daniel/Paul/Takako Chuman

FRANK SATA

Mary Sata & family

SUEO HIRASHIMA

Yuri Hirashima, Brent, Corey,

Dan Randy, Hamashita, Barbara/

Jeffrey Ikejiri

Poinsettias in loving memory of:

J NISHIBAYASHI

S. Nishibayashi / M.D. Hacker

TOSHIKO HEISHI, GORO

HEISHI, MASAO HEISHI

May & Hilary Porter

IDA/PETER AKAHOSHI

Susan Mahoney

Candles in loving memory of:

TOM SATO

Rose Masuoka

IRMA WYNNE

CORA/WILLARD HOWARD

Lauretta Herndon

MICHAEL AKAHOSHI

Susan Mahoney

TED YONESHIGE

Margaret Yuki

Altar Guild Memorial Fund:

YOSHIYE MAE

TOM TOMIYAMA

M/M Mitchell Yamamoto

GRACE YABUKI

M/M Stan Furuta

KIYOE TAUCHI

Fukiko Tauchi

TED YONESHIGE

Irene Yoneshige

BETTY YANO

M/M Bruce S Mori

Xmas donation

George Oshita

Miiko Taka

DEC THANK YOUS

Memorial:

BETTY YANO

Thomas Yano

EDWARD TOKESHI

Lisa Kawahara/Tom Roberts

EMIKO KIRIU

Nobutaka Kiriu Unspecified

General Fund:

Thomas Kawakami

Diane Tanaka

Mo Marilyn Discretionary Fund:

Margaret Yuki

Patrick/Sharon Crandall

Barbara Ohno

Fr Butch Discretionary Fund:

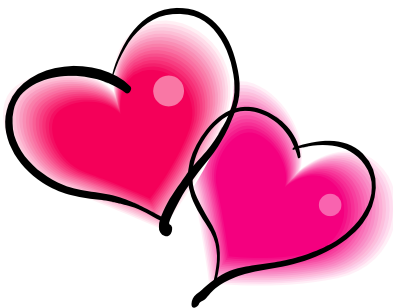
Barbara Ohno

Adams Harbor Sack Lunches:

Koji/Aiko Tomikawa, Marian

Kubota, George Kawahara,

Yuri/Hide Matsunaga



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