

Spirit of S·T· M·A·R·Y·S

April 2011 Volume 66 No. 4

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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 Gayle Kawahara, Junior Warden

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"Diverse and unafraid, with open hearts."

April 2011

Special Dates

Sunday, April 10

11:00am Speaker – Cory Shiozaki

Wednesday, April 13

Garden committee Meeting

Sunday, April 17- Palm Sunday

Regular Sunday schedule

11:00am Boutique workshop

Monday, April 18

9:00am Age workshop and sale

Thursday, April 21 – Maundy Thurs.

7:00pm Maundy Thursday service (biling.)

Friday, April 22 – Good Friday

1:00pm Good Friday service (bilingual)

Saturday, April 23 – Holy Saturday

9:00am Easter basket workshop

Sunday, April 24 - Easter Sunday

9:45, 11:45am Easter Sunday service

11:00am Age sale

Wednesday, April 27

6:00pm South Bay Bible Study

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) except
 Vestry meeting Sundays

Every Wednesday

11:30 am Noonday prayer

6:30 pm Spanish Service/Christian

Formation, Bible Study/Children's Program

Every Saturday

Morning Altar Guild

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DATED MATERIAL



Clergy Corner . . .

“INTO THE GREAT SILENCE”

This was the title of a contemplative movie that played in the Los Angeles area during Holy Week in 2009. It is a full-length documentary that shows the daily life of French Cistercian Trappists monks. Most of their lives are spent in monastic silence and this movie is produced without any accompanying documentary commentary.

In the month of April we will be completing the Lenten season with the liturgical traditions of Holy Week and the celebration of Easter Sunday. I invite you to take some time and enter "into the great silence" of these mysteries of our Christian faith.

April will also be a busy time for the rector's discernment process. I invite you to prayerfully offer both of the prayers that have been printed in the Spirit.

Faithfully in Christ, Mother Marilyn+

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.

PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT

Gracious God, we enter this time of prayerfully considering the candidates for rector. Guide our Discernment Committee and Vestry in their choices.

We seek a rector with a passion for multicultural and urban ministry—someone fluent in Spanish. We seek a rector with experience and success in community outreach and congregational growth to lead us toward our hopes and dreams of reemerging as a strong spiritual community center and church in urban Los Angeles. We seek to move out of our walls and into our local community. We seek to regain the original mission of St. Mary's which was a spiritual, cultural and community center for new immigrants.

All things come of Thee, O Lord. Deepen our trust that you are active in this discernment. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

OFFICE CLOSED – APRIL 25

St Mary's Office will be closed on Monday, April 25, the Monday after Easter weekend.

VESTRY RETREAT CANCELLED

The Vestry Retreat, with Bishop Diane Bruce, which had been moved from Saturday, February 19 to Saturday, April 30, has been cancelled.



LOOKING FOR GRADUATES!

The Spirit will be publishing a list of middle school, high school and college graduates in the June issue. If you know of a St. Mary's family member who will graduate this year, please submit name, school, degree received, and a few awards by May 15. The Spirit reserves the right to edit or shorten submissions as necessary. Submissions may be made by email: ohana523@yahoo.com or fax: (866) 647-8518. Any submissions made after the deadline will be included in future issues only if space permits.

Thank You . . .

FEBRUARY THANK YOUS

Memorial:

KOJI TOMIKAWA

D/M Mark Lui

Thank Offering:

For 34th wedding anniversary

Sheila & David Eaton

Endowment Fund:

MATSUYE KOYANAGI

Margaret Yuki

TOSH MIURA

Ruri Miura & family

Adrienne Miura Oka

JANICE KOYAMATSU

Kazumi Suzuki

Bazaar/Capital Fund:

KOJI TOMIKAWA

MATSUYE KOYANAGI

SHIGERU TSUCHIYAMA

Faith Ichida

FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in loving memory of:

DAVID KATSUSUKE

SHISHIMA

Keiko Hamagiwa & family

MORIO & MITSUE

HAYASHIDA

Mio Okuda & family

BERNICE IKEHARA

M/M Clyde Ikehara

DAVID FUKUTO

Grace Fukuto

TOSH MIURA

Ruri Miura & family

JANICE KOYAMATSU

Koyamatsu family

NATHAN YAMAMOTO

M/M LeRoy Ichida

Candles in loving memory of:

MORIO & MITSUE

HAYASHIDA

Mio Okuda & family

HAKUICHI YAMAMOTO

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

TOSHIE FURUKAWA

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

George Oshita

SUENO MATSUNAGA

M/M Hideo Matsunaga

ELSIE DOI

M/M Larry Higa

MAY FURUTA

Altar guild

Altar Guild Memorial Fund:

PAUL OMATSU

Frank Omatsu

M/M Rex Ogawa

KIMIYO TAUCHI

Fukiko Tauchi

KOJI TOMIKAWA

Donna/Kaysey Hoover

MAY FURUTA

M/M Stanley Furuta

M/M Douglas Furuta

M/M George Furuta



VESTRY SUMMARY – JANUARY 16, 2011

Discernment Committee: Chairperson Bruce Hoffman reported. Committee has been looking at the profile and deciding what is best for St. Mary's. In November: all materials were turned into diocese, profile posted on national website. The committee, who uses prayer and meditation as part of their process, also met with members of other churches who recently completed searches. They are now waiting for names from the diocese, and will send each a questionnaire and packet of info about St. Mary's that they have compiled. Bruce will be the sole committee spokesperson to maintain the confidentiality of the process.

Reports: Dec. minutes: approved M/S/A (2 absten.); Dec financial reports: approved M/S/A

Building and Grounds: elevator research: ongoing, church doors: no change in the situation; kitchen: a few minor repairs were completed.

Vestry nominations: Greg Sata, Karen Yokoyama, Kay Shishima, Kaaren Hoffman, George Kawahara, Michelle Kuruma; declined: Shalene Miguel (ballot election at annual meeting)

Finance Committee: recommended: 2010 surplus be applied to 2011 budget deficit, M/S/A (1 opp.); thank you gift to Carlos & Emma for past use of their vehicles M/S/A (unanimous); 3% COLA for full-time employees included in 2011 budget; committee will consider enrollment options for mandatory Church Pension Group Lay Employee Pension (1/1/2012 deadline for enrollment); 2011 budget (balanced using 2010 surplus, van sale, endowment fund proceeds for ½ Father Butch's salary) was approved M/S/A (1 opposed)

Annual Meeting: 1/31 one bilingual service with interpretation; catered lunch: 70 signed up

Confirmation Class: Fr. Butch will start confirmation classes for Bishop's May visit.

VESTRY SUMMARY – FEBRUARY 27, 2011

Discernment Committee: Committee received 12 candidate names; info packets were sent to candidates. Committee reviewed 9 returned profiles; narrowed down to 5 candidates. Committee members will now visit each candidate and speak with their references. Goal: present 3 top candidates to Vestry. Diocesan background checks take 6 weeks. A joint committee/vestry meeting (March 26, 9am-noon) will present team findings. Candidate names will remain confidential until the end of the process.

Vestry Orientation: Vestry received many documents, including Vestry Resource Guide & Communications guide. All members agreed to follow respectful communications guidelines

Reports: Minutes and financial reports approval tabled until March meeting

Account signatures: Tabled for March meeting; signatories are only for check signing, discussion on having different signatory for Diocese Investment accounts.

EAM Japanese Convocation: Request for parish-provided dinner during the June 16-19 meeting: tabled for more investigation.

Upcoming Events . . .



MANZANAR PRESENTATION – APRIL 10

On Sunday, April 10 during coffee hour, Mr. Cory Shiozaki will give us a presentation about Manzanar. Mr. Shiozaki has been a docent at the Manzanar Historic site and is currently making a film about the men who sneaked out of Manzanar to go fishing in the sierras.

BOUTIQUE WORKSHOP – APRIL 17

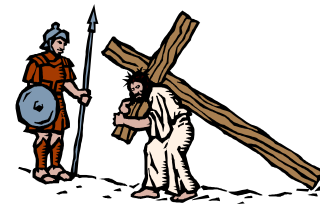
There will be a Christmas Boutique workshop on Sunday, April 17 at 11:00am. Come and help make items for our December boutique. No experience is necessary and we will share a delicious potluck lunch!



“AGE” WORKSHOP – MONDAY, APRIL 18, 9:00AM

Come join the St. Mary's "age" workshop and learn the traditional way to prepare "age", the delicious football sushi wrappers! No experience necessary. This workshop and sale will be held on Monday, April 18 at 9:00am, and includes our famous St. Mary's potluck lunch!

One package will contain 18 pieces of *age* (fried tofu sushi wrapper) and will be sold for \$5. Each package is enough for 36 pieces of sushi, when the *age* are cut in half. We will make the *age* at our April 18th workshop and they will be available for pick-up on that day or on Easter Sunday, April 24. Any extra will be available for purchase while they last on Easter Sunday. Checks should be made out to: "St. Mary's Church," memo: Capital Improvement/Bazaar Fund. The workshop chairpersons are: Irene Yoneshige and Yo Guzman.



HOLY WEEK/EASTER SERVICES – APRIL 17-24

- Palm Sunday (April 17) regular Sunday schedule
- Maundy Thursday (April 21) 7:00pm (bilingual)
- Good Friday (April 22) 1:00pm (bilingual)
- Easter Sunday (April 24) 9:45am and 11:30am

EASTER BASKET WORKSHOP – SATURDAY, APRIL 23

The Sunday School teachers are asking for donations for Easter baskets that will be given to all children attending our Easter services and for our Easter Sunday egg hunt. Suggested items: pencils, erasers, crayons, small toys, fruit snacks, granola bars, individually packaged snacks, plastic eggs, and candy. Please bring donations to church by 9am on Sat, April 23 for our workshop. Thank you!



EASTER SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR – APRIL 24

Between the 9:45am and 11:30am service we will have a “shared” coffee hour, where we are asking everyone to please bring something to share. There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt for all children of the English- and Spanish-speaking communities hosted by the Sunday School teachers (donations of plastic eggs and candy are appreciated!).

SOUTH BAY BIBLE STUDY, APRIL 27

The South Bay Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, April 27, 6:00pm at the Partridges. We are continuing our reading of the shorter epistles in the New Testament. We will be reading Paul's Letter to the Colossians (located after Philippians and before the letters to the Thessalonians).

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SALE: SAT-SUN, MAY 7-8

The traditional Mother's Day flower sale will be held on Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8. Flower arrangements ranging from \$10 to \$50 and corsages, single \$8 and double \$12, can be pre-ordered from Marian Kubota (310) 827-3634 or Kazumi Suzuki (323) 721-3890. Anyone willing to help create these wonderful floral pieces are asked to be at church on Saturday, May 7 at 9:00 am. A potluck lunch will be shared.



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND... MANJU SALES!! – MONDAY, MAY 14



A part of our successful St. Mary's Bazaar Workshops will be resumed in 2011 due to popular demand by parishioners! The “age” (football sushi wrappers) workshop will be held on Monday, April 18 (see article on previous page), and our famous *manju* (pastries) will be made at a workshop on Saturday, May 14.

The *manju* workshop and sales will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2011, starting from 9:00am. Six pieces of manju will be packaged and sold for \$5. They will be available for pick up on Saturday, May 14th from noon to 2pm. and Sunday, May 15 from 8:30am to 1pm. Any extra packages will be frozen on May 15 and sold on Sundays thereafter. The chairperson for this workshop is Kazumi Suzuki. This delicious pastry is hand-made the traditional way (we do use modern equipment to assist us) so come join our workshop and learn these traditional methods! The pot luck luncheon is also included.

Parish News . . .

DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Your Discernment Committee is finishing their work. After a review of candidate bios, listening to sermons, visiting the candidates in their current churches and conducting personal interviews, we hope in the very near future to recommend to the Vestry up to three candidates for the position of Rector of St. Mary's. Upon this recommendation, the Discernment Committee will cease to exist as the Vestry will make the final decision.

Peace, Bruce Hoffman



JAPANESE CONVOCATION – JUNE 16-19

Join the Japanese Episcopal Network (JEN) at our yearly Episcopal Asiamerica Ministry (EAM) Japanese Convocation on June 16-19, 2011 at the Cathedral Center of St. Paul, 840 Echo Park Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90026. The theme is: “Meet, Pray, Love!” A flyer/registration form is included in this issue of the Spirit.

Highlights of the convocation include: a Japanese American National Museum tour, dinner and sightseeing in Little Tokyo, an optional day trip (by bus) to the Manzanar WWII Internment center in California’s Owens Valley, youth presentations of cultural activities, The Rev. Fred Vergara (national EAM office), Bishop Diane Bruce (Los Angeles Diocese), and guest speakers from historically Japanese Episcopal churches across the nation.

The costs are: \$30 for the convocation only, \$40 for the day bus trip to the Manzanar Internment Center, and \$60 for both the convocation and the Manzanar trip. If anyone has any questions or is interested in attending, please contact Gayle Kawahara at 310-516-6184 or email her at gnkscdds@sbcglobal.net



DAY TRIP TO MANZANAR – JUNE 18

As a part of the EAM Japanese Convocation being held in June, there is a day trip to Manzanar on Saturday, June 18, 2011. The buses will leave from St. Mary’s at 7:00am. All St. Mary’s members are welcome to attend, even if you are not attending the entire convocation (see enclosed flyer). If anyone is interested, contact Gayle Kawahara at 310-516-6184 or email her at gnkscdds@sbcglobal.net