

Spirit of S·T· M·A·R·Y·S

June 2011 Volume 66 No. 6

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
 Carl Kubota, Senior Warden
 Gayle Kawahara, Junior Warden

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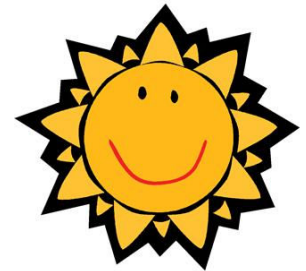
Jeffrey VanderWilt, Organist/Choir Director
 Carolyn Morinishi, Editor, "The Spirit"

"Diverse and unafraid, with open hearts."

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
 961 S. Mariposa Ave.
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June 2011

Special Dates

Wednesday, June 8

4:00pm Garden committee Meeting
 6:00pm S Bay Bible Study @ Partridges

Sunday, June 12

11:00am Vestry meeting; no 11:45service
 2:30pm Azuma recital (Ventura Co.)

Thurs-Sun, June 16-19

EAM Japanese Convocation @ Cathedral Ctr.

Saturday, June 18

7:00am Manzanar trip, meet @ St. Mary's

Sunday, June 19 - Father's Day

9:45am Japanese Convocation visitation

Sunday, June 26

11:00am Boutique workshop

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

Every Saturday

Morning Altar Guild

Every Friday

6:30 pm Spanish Service/Christian
 Formation/Bible study

Clergy Corner . . .

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me. (author unknown)

These words are from a simple Christian song celebrating the presence and actions of the Holy Spirit. This month we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost on Sunday, June 12th. This festive day marks the Holy Spirit's moving among the first disciples. The Book of Acts recounts the amazing story of their 'spirited' proclamation of the Good News of Jesus.

It is fitting that our newsletter is called "The Spirit of St. Mary's." As Christians we believe that the Holy Spirit continues to be active in our time. We are celebrating the Spirit's actions at St. Mary's. Everyone on the Spirit mailing list was sent the May 6th letter announcing the election of the new rector, The Rev. Anna Olson, along with her letter of introduction to St. Mary's. If you did not receive this mailing, please contact the church office and it will be sent to you.

I have a third "Prayer for St. Mary's" as we prepare for Mother Olson's arrival and complete the tasks of the transitional time. It is printed below and will be included in our Sunday services. We also keep the members of St. Luke's Church in Long Beach in prayer as Mother Olson concludes her ministry at St. Luke's later this month.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: we give thanks for the election of the Rev. Anna Olson as the next rector of St. Mary's. Look graciously upon your church that we may receive your faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. In this remaining time of transition, guide us as we prepare for her arrival July 18th and sustain us in our ongoing ministries. We also ask that you be present with the people of St. Luke's as they prepare to say good-bye to their associate pastor and begin a transitional time. We ask this in your name: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Faithfully in Christ,

Mother Marilyn+



INTO ETERNAL LIFE

LOUISE HANAKO YAMAZAKI, 86-year-old Los Angeles-born resident of Alhambra and beloved member of St. Mary's, passed away on May 15, 2011. Service was held at St. Mary's on May 31, followed by burial at Evergreen Cemetery.

She was predeceased by her parents, the Rev. John Misao and Mary Tsune Yamazaki; older brother, the Rev. Canon John H.M. Yamazaki; and is survived by brothers Peter and James Yamazaki; many nieces, nephews and other relatives. [In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to "St. Mary's Episcopal Church" or "Alzheimer's Association, California Central Coast Chapter – Team "Forget Me Nots".]

"May she rest in Peace and may Light Perpetual shine upon her ..."

Thank You . . .

APRIL THANK YOUS

Memorial:

JERRY & BRYAN

Judy & Sheila Shima

LOUIS FLEMING

Dr James Yamazaki

Thank Offering:

Yuri Hirashima

For Christine Ohno's birthday

Barbara Ohno

GEORGE SATO

Kenneth Sato

For Acolytes and Altar Guild:

ANDREW MURASE

M/M Tak Murase

Japan Earthquake:

Caridad Mendez

APRIL ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in loving memory of:

GOICHI YAMAZAKI, HARU

YAMAZAKI, WILLIAM OKU,

SHIRO OKU

Matsunaga & Oku families

GEORGE SAKUTARO &
MATSU SAKUMA HEISHI,
JIMMIE RIICHI & ALICE
HEISHI ITO, JOE YOSHIO &
HELEN HEISHI MURAMOTO

May Porter

TOMIO "TOM" YUKI

Yuki family

HELEN ZANE, ROBERT ZANE

M/M William Partridge

MOLLY DIONZON

MARY AKI ISHIGAMI

M/M Jeff Bass

YUKIO KAKO

Frances Nishibayashi

JANICE KOYAMATSU

Friends of Janice Koyamatsu

HATSUKO SHISHIMA

Keiko Hamagiwa

HARUKO NAKASORA

Yuriko Hirashima

Candles in loving memory of:

MANSHIN NAKAMA

M/M James Yoshina

RINSAKU MIURA

Ruri Miura & family

SHIRO KUNITSUGU

M/M Yosh Kunitsugu
HARUKO NAKASORA

Betty Yoshimura

Emi Ishibashi

Mitch Ohye

NATHANIEL SENO

STEVEN HAYASHI

Steve Hayashi & family

TAMANO YAMAMOTO

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

BOBBIE JEAN MIYANO

Keiko Hamagiwa

Kay Shishima

Altar Guild Memorial Fund:

OSAMU IWATAKI

Kuwa Iwataki

FRED TANAKA

Misa Tanaka & family

YONEZO SAKURAI, YONE

SAKURAI, SATOSHI SAKURAI

M/M Mitchel Yamamoto

ROSARY HOKODA

Frank Omatsu

RUBY CHUMAN

Paul/Takako Chuman

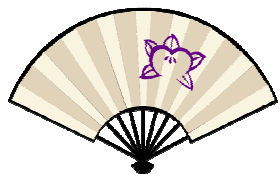
Daniel Chuman

About our members . . .

GRADUATES!

MICHELLE MATSUNAGA, daughter of Jon and Stephanie Matsunaga, graduated with a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley on May 14. She is the granddaughter of Hide and Yuri Matsunaga. Congratulations Michelle!!

BARRY OMATSU, son of Bob & Cathy Omatsu and grandson of George & Amy Omatsu, will graduate from Bishop Montgomery High in Torrance, one of several valedictorians in his class. He will attend UC San Diego in the fall. Congratulations, Barry!!



AZUMA KOTOBUKI KAI RECITAL – JUNE 12

The Azuma Kotobuki Kai (Ventura County) will hold its annual recital on Sunday, June 12 at 2:30pm at the Thousand Oaks High School Performing Arts Center, 2323 N Moorpark Rd, Thousand Oaks 91360. Thirteen St. Mary's members will be participating: CHRISTY/KEIMI FUJII, KENDALL GERBER, LOREEN (Suzuran Azuma), FAITH & KYLE ICHIDA, KAYLIE KUBOTA, KELLY KURUMA, LEANNA/MELISSA MORINISHI, KIARA STROMBERG and KENDYL/JORDYN YOKOYAMA. (Several Azuma dancers have also performed at recent St. Mary's events!) For ticket information, please call Carolyn at 636-484-2803.

NEWS FROM KATE CULLINANE!

The Rev. Canon Kathleen Cullinane has been called to serve as the Canon to the Ordinary for the diocese of San Joaquin and will be working with Bishop Chester Talton. Congratulations, Kate!

TRIVIA WINNER!

BILL PARTRIDGE won the daily trivia question for www.publicceo.com. Excerpt from the website: "Congratulations to Friday's winner, Bill Partridge, Former Assistant City Manager (Retired), City of Gardena, for correctly answering that Frank C. Jordan was the longest serving Secretary of State in California history, serving from 1911 to 1940, or eight terms." Wow, what an amazing knowledge of trivia, and Bill won a Starbucks gift card! (next up, ... Jeopardy?) Congratulations, Bill!!

ENGINEERING NEWS

LEANNA MORINISHI, granddaughter of Marian Kubota and current MIT junior, was awarded an Amgen Scholars Fellowship to do research in biological engineering at CalTech in summer 2011. She was also recently accepted to the Bernard M. Gordon MIT Engineering Leadership Program. Congratulations, Leanna!



Upcoming Events . . .



SOUTH BAY BIBLE STUDY, JUNE 8

The South Bay Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, June 8, at 6pm at the Partridge's house. We will be reading Paul's 2nd letter to the Thessalonians.

MANZANAR TRIP/JAPANESE CONVOCATION DINNER – JUNE 18

The EAM Japanese Convocation will be held on June 16-19 at the Cathedral Center. On Saturday, June 18, Convocation attendees will take a bus trip to Manzanar, meeting at the St. Mary's parking lot at 7:00am (registration for this bus trip is open to all St. Mary's members—the deadline has been extended to June 12).



After the bus trip, the group will meet at St. Mary's at 7:00pm for dinner. If you can help with dinner, please contact Gayle Kawahara, 310-516-6184, gnksccdds@sbcglobal.net.

GUEST PREACHER, REV. JIM KODERA – SUNDAY, JUNE 19

On June 19, St. Mary's welcomes guest preacher Rev. Jim Kodera. Rev. Kodera is Rector of St. Luke's in Hudson, MA. He is a professor of Religion and the Chair of the Religion department at Wellesley College, teaching Comparative and Historical Studies of Religion, with a focus on the religions of Asia. In 1985, he was the first Asian American to be ordained Priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

Rev. Kodera also serves as President of the Episcopal Asiamerica Ministry Council and on its Executive Committee since 2009. He has also served as the First Convener of the EAM Advocates, as well as Convener of the Japanese Convocation. Welcome Rev. Kodera!

MORE JAPANESE CONVOCATION NEWS - JUNE 19 & 26

Fr. John Shozawa (former St. Mary's asst. rector) and his wife Lynne will visit St. Mary's on June 19 after attending the convocation. Come out and welcome an old friend! Also on Sunday June 26, the St. Mary's convocation participants will speak on their experiences at coffee hour.

FAREWELL TO URBAN INTERNS – JULY 31

The "Thank you/Farewell to EUIP interns" has been changed from Sunday, July 24 to Sunday, July 31. Please mark the date on your calendars!

MEN'S CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT – AUGUST 14

The date of the Men's Club golf tournament has been changed from August 7 to 14.

"DESERT RETREAT" DATES – AUGUST 26-28

Please save the date for the "Desert Retreat" (an unofficial St. Mary's social event). It will be held on August 26-28. Please contact John Tokeshi for details.

Parish News . . .



FLOWER WORKSHOP THANK YOU'S

The day before Mother's day, our Parish Hall was full of beautiful prize-winning orchids and roses donated by George Oshita, Stanley Nakamura, Edith Murata, Helen Nakahara and Mindy Sata. Fumi Miyatake provided us with greens and willow branches. With such beautiful flowers, the following women created many beautiful corsages and arrangements: Martha Baba, Aiko Tomikawa, Mindy Sata, Kumi Gerber, Kazumi Suzuki, Maxine Yamamoto, Marcy Hashimoto-Yuki, Margaret Yuki, Kazie Higa, Fifi Newcomb, Irene Yoneshige, Tosh Kurihara, George Oshita & Marian Kubota.

We all enjoyed a delicious pot luck lunch. Our thanks go especially to Faith Ichida who planned this workshop, provided supplies and was instrumental in the sales of the corsages and arrangements. Thank you also to Fifi Newcomb for her hard work on the beautiful flower-shaped tags. Thanks to all the people who purchased arrangements—we made \$1160 with proceeds going to the Capital Improvement/Bazaar Fund.

EASTER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Palm Sunday began Holy Week with Altar Guild arriving early Saturday morning. Thank you Maxine/Clarence Yamamoto, Kumi Gerber, Kazumi Suzuki, Marian Kubota, Irene Yoneshige, Fusa Sugawara, Faith Ichida & Margaret Yuki for veiling all crosses and religious artifacts in red chiffon and decorating the church with palms. Thank you Jimmy Ito for the palms and Carlos Ramirez for climbing the very tall ladder to drape the huge wooden cross in red. An atmosphere of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem was created.

Thank you also to the following people who donated goodies for the Sunday School Easter baskets: Fusa Sugawara, Faith Ichida, Margaret Yuki, Kumi Gerber, Kazumi Suzuki, Fumi Miyatake, Fifi Newcomb, Lillian Inatomi-Kozai, Kim Hayashi, Marian Kubota, Ruri Miura, Toshi Kurihara, Ida Kunitsugu, Laura Ridnor, Lauretta Herndon, Shennifer Aldana and Barbara Ohno. With Fifi at the helm, the baskets were filled by Toshi Kurihara, Kim Hayashi, Betty Yoshimura, Yuri Matsunaga, Ayako Takano, Kazie Higa, Margaret Yoshina and Marian Kubota. Thank you, ladies, the baskets looked great!

Many thanks to Norman Naito (Tropical Gardens) for getting the beautiful lilies and to Esther Lee and Marian Kubota for gathering the lovely calla lilies from their gardens as well as from their neighbors. Thank you, Irene Yoneshige, for cutting newspaper circles to line the potted lilies. A very big thank you for the artistic and creative works of the following faithful Easter bunnies: Kazumi Suzuki, Maxine Yamamoto, George Oshita, Irene Yoneshige, Yo Guzman, Fusa Sugawara, Marian Kubota & Margaret Yuki. Thanks again to each of you for helping to bring the joy of Easter to St. Mary's.

RECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

I am pleased to announce that the Vestry has called The Rev. Anna Olson to be the 5th Rector of St. Mary's. Rev. Olson will begin her ministry at St. Mary's on July 18. Rev. Olson is currently the Associate priest at St. Luke's, Long Beach and comes to us with more than 10 years as a priest in the Diocese of Los Angeles, with an emphasis on developing Hispanic and multicultural ministries. Let's all warmly welcome Mo. Anna!

Peace be with you, Carl Kubota, Senior Warden

WOMEN OF ST. MARY'S ELECTIONS

The Women of St. Mary's will be electing new officers in Fall 2011. If you would like to serve on the nominating committee or would like to suggest a candidate for a board position, please contact Paula Nishibayashi at stewartnishi@cox.net or 949-786-5124.

VESTRY SUMMARY – MARCH 20, 2011

Fr. Van Horn presentation: Re-invention of St Mary's; review of profile; vestry asked to commit endowment funds for St. Mary's immediate future (next 5 years)-informal poll taken

Discernment Committee: Committee has selected 3 candidates, but presenting only 2 as 1 candidate withdrew. Karen and Faith have already interviewed candidates as members of the Discernment Committee. Vestry Packets are confidential.

Reports: 1/16, 1/30 and 2/27 minutes with corrections were approved M/S/A; 1/11 and 2/11 financial reports were approved M/S/A

Updating Signatories: Per Vestry Resource Guide pg 11: Fiduciary responsibilities belong to church, therefore, if non-vestry members are signers, there is no protection by insurance. Motions: update General Fund Checking Account, Building & Capital Checking Account, and Diocesan Investment Account so current signatories are: Carl Kubota (Sr. Warden), Gayle Kawahara (Jr. Warden), Carolyn Lee (Clerk), Ken Watase (Treasurer) and Larry Higa. The following names are removed from this account: Gwendolyn Davis and Margaret Yuki (vestry terms have ended). M/S/A for all three accounts.

2010 Parochial Report: Vestry approved the 2010 Parochial Report as presented with a friendly amendment to correct the endowment amount. M/S/A (7/3)

Vestry Retreat: 4/30 retreat cancelled. We will have a Vestry Retreat after new rector starts.

Guest Speaker: April 10, 2011 From Manzanar site-making a film about the role of local trout fishing in the camps. (Gayle Kawahara is contact person)

Japanese Convocation update: dinner at St. Mary's Sat. after Manzanar trip, maybe have parishioners prepare dinner? St. Mary's will pay convocation registration fees for up to 6 people M/S/A