

Spirit of S·T· M·A·R·Y·S

September 2011 Volume 66 No. 9

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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Los Angeles, CA 90006

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Pastoral emergencies: 323-STMARYS (323-786-2797)

<http://www.stmarys-la.org>; email: office@stmarys-la.org

The Rev. Anna Olson, Rector
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

Emma Coleman, Office Administrator
Carlos Guzman Ramirez, Sexton

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

"Diverse and unafraid, with open hearts."



September 2011

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DATED MATERIAL

Special Dates

Saturday, September 10

9am-3pm Vestry retreat

Sunday, Sept 11 Back to School Sunday

9:45am All-Parish Holy Eucharist &
Picnic at Sunshine Park, Cerritos

(no services at St. Mary's this day)

Wednesday, September 14

4:00pm Garden committee meeting

Sunday, September 18 (no 11:45 service)

11:15am Vestry meeting

Sunday, September 25 - LA Triathlon

9:45am UTO Sunday

11:00am Boutique workshop

Regular/Ongoing Events

Every Sunday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist

8:30 am Choir Practice (starts up again 9/18)

9:45 am Holy Eucharist

9:45 am Sunday School/Nursery

11:45 am Holy Eucharist (Spanish) except
Vestry meeting Sundays

Every Saturday

Morning Altar Guild

Clergy Corner . . .

SOME THOUGHTS ON GROWING CHURCH

Pretty much everyone, everywhere, would say they want their church to grow. But when a church hasn't grown in awhile, people start to get anxious. Maybe what "those" people want is so different from what "we" like, that we'd have to change everything to get them to come and stay. Maybe by the time we get done with all the changing, we won't even recognize our church, or feel at home here.



But there's good news! (Remember, in the end, it's all about Good News...) The first and best step we can take to welcome new people is to have the best possible time ourselves, every time we gather to worship God or share fellowship together. The more we enjoy ourselves and one another, the more alive we are to the possibilities and promise of the Gospel, the more enthusiastically we celebrate and embrace the new life we have in Christ, the more contagious our joy will be.

Think about when you're invited to someone's house. I know for me that the best experiences are not necessarily when I'm served all my favorite foods, and my hosts look to assure my every comfort. The best times are when I am invited into the life of a family that loves being together and wants to share the best of what they have with me.

So let's start preparing to grow by thinking and talking about what would make us excited to be in church. Every Sunday. Every time we gather.

What do you love about worship at St. Mary's? What songs do you love to sing? What kind of message moves you to grow as a Christian? What parts of our sacred ritual give you strength and courage and spiritual food for the challenges of the week ahead?

And let's be brave (and honest)! What bores you? When do you find your attention drifting? What parts of the service are you just as happy to skip with a quick trip to the restroom?

I, for one, want to hear your answers. Come find me, email me, call me, message me on Facebook, write me a letter, whatever your preferred mode of communication. But let's work together on making our worship time together the highlight of our week, something we just can't wait to invite others into because we love it so much ourselves.

In peace and love, *Mother Anna+*

INTO ETERNAL LIFE

KIYOKO KAY SENO, 90, passed away on July 13. Services were held Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills. She was predeceased by her husband George and daughter Jody. She is survived by her grandchildren Michael & Brian Morishita, sisters Hiroko Oyama and Michi Uyeda and brother Joji Chakuno.

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



Thank You . . .

JULY THANK YOUS

Memorial:

STEVE HAYASHI

Kiyo/Kazie Higa

Kim Hayashi

TED ISHISAKA

Cynthia Tanaka

LOUISE YAMAZAKI

Bruce/Fran Mori (omissions)

Thank Offering:

for Oshita/Cabrol wedding

George Oshita

for baptism Alex Miyashita

Charles/Akiko Tamura

Endowment Fund:

STEVE HAYASHI

George Kawahara

Bazaar Fund:

LOUISE YAMAZAKI, K.

FUJIKUNI, STEVE HAYASHI

LeRoy/Faith Ichida

Mo. Anna Discretionary Fund:

George Oshita

LeRoy/Faith Ichida

Fr. Van Horn Discretionary Fund:

LOUISE YAMAZAKI

James Yamazaki

Kaaren Hoffman

Kim Hayashi

JULY ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in loving memory of:

ALICE ONG

M/M Johnny Ong, Kevin Ong

JUNE TAKEUCHI

Steve Takeuchi & family

M/M MANKICHI KOYAMATSU

Yasu Momii

ESTHER SOONG

Esther Lee

VI OMATSU

Altar Guild

MOLLY DIONZON

Kenneth Dionzon

YANA MATSUO

M/M Stanley Nakamura

CLARA HAYASHI

Hayashi family

Flowers given for:

thanks baptism Alex Miyashita

Patrick/Sharon Crandall

Candles in loving memory of:

HIDE KURASAKI

Marian Kubota

JOY YAMAZAKI

EDNA SHIGEKAWA

Satsuki Shigekawa

ANDREW WM NAKAKI

HIDETOSHI NAKAKI

June Nakaki

SUMIE CROYDON

George Oshita

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

ALICE ONG

M/M Stanley Nakamura

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

Steve Takeuchi

JUNE TAKEUCHI

M/M Stanley Nakamura

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

M/M Johnny Ong

SHIG KANEMAKI

Toyo Kanemaki

SHIMA MARUMOTO

George Oshita

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

JAMES C. ARIGA

ELIZABETH NOBUE ARIGA

Lillian Inatomi-Kozai

Altar Guild Memorial Fund:

KARIN FURUTA GUSTAVE

Stan/Jean Furuta

FUSAMATSU TAUCHI

Fukiko Tauchi

STEVE HAYASHI

Kim Hayashi, Leslie Rosen &

Hayashi family

MARY TSUNE YAMAZAKI

JOHN MISAO YAMAZAKI

JOHN H.M. YAMAZAKI

FUMI YAMAZAKI

EDNA SHIGEKAWA

Peter Yamazaki & family

ROSE MASUOKA

D/M David Masuoka

KIYOSHI OKIMURA

Irene Yoneshige

please clip and return by mail

WE'RE ON THE WARPATH TO END ALZHEIMERS!

Could you please help?

Participant's Names: Roberta Masuoka & Sarah Yamazaki

Team Name: Forget Me Nots

In memory of: Louise Yamazaki , Rose & Shig Masuoka and Betty Yano

Yes! I will make a contribution to help Alzheimer's Association California Central Coast.

Our walk will be held on October 29, 2011 in Thousand Oaks. If you would like to join us in our walk, please let us know. Email: Roberta@technologytrading.com

- \$200 Donation** (\$200+)
- \$100 Donation** (\$100+)
- \$ 50 Donation** (\$50+)
- \$ 25 Donation** (\$25+)
- \$ 0 Donation** (\$0+)

Please make your check payable to: Alzheimer's Association California Central Coast

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Donor Telephone # _____

Email address _____

Thank You So Much For Your Contribution!
Mail this form and your check to:

Roberta & Sarah
c/o Technology Trading Co
21124-C Vanowen Street
Canoga Park, CA 91303



please clip and return by mail

THANK YOU!

To everyone at St. Mary's, Thank you for the Amazon gift card! I'm already making my list of favorite books for my August reading! Blessings to you as you continue your ministries and look to see how God is calling you to be God's people in your community.

Faithfully, Mother Marilyn

Parish News . . .



WELCOME TO OUR NEW EUIP INTERNS!!

Welcome to the new interns from the EUIP program! Our interns for this coming year are listed below, along with their undergraduate institution. Each month, we will highlight 2-3 interns with a short informational bio article.

- Cyrus Allen, from New Hope, MN (University of St. Thomas, St. Paul MN)
- Gerard Miller, Baltimore, MD (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)
- Christy Goulet, Newbury Park, CA (Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA)
- Ryan Guinan, Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX (Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene TX)
- Sally Kiss, Holbrook, MA (Framingham State Univeristy)
- Joey Courtney, Knoxville, TN (Maryville College, Knoxville, TN)
- Hannah Spiro, Northampton, MA (Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA)
- Jazmin Trammell, Columbia, SC (Columbia International Univ, Columbia, SC)

MOTHER ANNA'S WELCOME TIPS

For the next few months, I'm going to offer some tips: basic things that we can do to create a welcoming space for newcomers to our church. They are simple things. They have worked in other churches. They are things I don't see too many people doing currently at St. Mary's. Most of them will involve some sort of change to your Sunday morning routine. Not every tip is for everyone. Some things you might try just once or twice a month. If you read one, and say "I just won't be able to come to church if I have to do this," that tip is not for you. Trust that God will find someone else to do it.

TIP #1 - Sit towards the front of the church.

If a newcomer arrives and sits mid-way back, they are not secretly hoping to end up in the front row, eyeball to eyeball with the priest. They are hoping to blend into the middle of the congregation. If all the regulars sit behind them, they are left more exposed than is comfortable, with no one to watch for cues on how we worship. They also wonder why everyone is sitting in the back. Do people not really want to be there? Is the organ going to be too loud? Does the priest not shower regularly? Is the front half of the church structurally unsound? You get the idea...

I know there are reasons that people sit towards the back, often out of a sense of courtesy. I'm a bit of a natural back-bencher myself. But I promise that as the celebrant and preacher, I would rather see you in the front. Even if you sometimes cough or fidget or whisper to your neighbor. Even if you have to get up to go to the bathroom during every service. Even if you arrive late. Even if you have small kids. Especially if you have kids, since in my experience kids are almost always much more engaged with the service if they can see and hear what is going on. So don't sit in the back on my account!

NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES

If you call St. Mary's outside of office hours, you will hear a new (bilingual!) voicemail message that, among other things, gives instructions on how to reach a member of the clergy during an emergency. The number for pastoral emergencies will be 323-STMARYS (323-786-2797). It is a Google voice number, which means that it can be programmed to ring to any phone. Usually it will ring to Mother Anna's cell phone, but in the daytime it will also ring to the church office, Father Butch, or anyone else who is doing pastoral coverage.



2011 ST. MARY'S MEN'S CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 2011 St. Mary's Men's Club George Omatsu Memorial Golf Tournament was held on August 14th at Montebello Country Club. This year only 29 golfers filled the tournament field, but the weather was once again beautiful—sunny and warm! The post-tournament banquet was held at Empress Harbor Seafood Restaurant in Monterey Park. From the donations and proceeds of the tournament, the Men's Club will be donating \$1000 to the St. Mary's Endowment Fund. Thank you to all the golfers and everyone who donated and helped organize this year's golf tournament.

Stan Nakamura & Carl Kubota, Treasurer and Prize Chairman

The following is a list of the winners:

Low Gross:		Closest to the Pin:	
John Nishikawa	Gross 78	Hole #6	Erik Suzuki 16' 8"
Church Member Flight:		Hole #9	Stan Nakamura 7' 11"
Stan Nakamura	1 st place net 66	Hole #14	Jim Darr 5' 11"
John Nishikawa	2 nd place tie net 69	Hole #16	Mike Cheap 9' 6"
George Furuta	2 nd place tie net 69		
Guest Flight:		<u>Non Cancellation Skins:</u> Ken Watase, Stan Nakamura, John Nishikawa, George Furuta, John Maki, Tom Furukawa, Erik Suzuki, James Darr, Jim Vlahakis	
Tom Furukawa	1 st place net 64	Big Skins:	
John Maki	2 nd place net 68	Ken Watase	Hole #2
Ken Kokubun	3 rd place net 73	Erik Suzuki	Hole #12
Calloway Flight:		Tom Furukawa	Hole #15
Jim Hsieh	1 st place net 72	James Darr	Hole #16
Jim Vlahakis	2 nd place net 73	Jim Vlahakis	Hole #18
Glenn Yamashita	3 rd place tie net 75		
Erik Suzuki	3 rd place tie net 75		
Mike Cheap	4 th place tie net 76		
Martin Lee	4 th place tie net 76		



Upcoming Events . . .



BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC/POTLUCK – SEPTEMBER 11

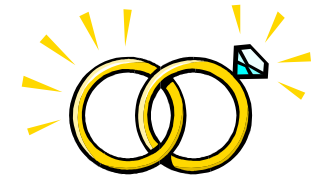
Back to School Sunday will be on September 11 at Sunshine Park in Cerritos (across from Glenn/Kathy Nishibayashi's house, 19200 Madeira Ct., Cerritos, CA). We will worship together in the park at 9:45am. **Please note that there will be NO services at St. Mary's that day.** St. Mary's will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, dessert and drinks. Please bring a lawn chair, picnic blanket or towel, and a side dish to share. The Nishibayashis have a pool, so bring your suit if you would like to swim!

NEXT CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE WORKSHOP –SEPTEMBER 25

The Women of St. Mary's will hold Christmas Boutique workshops on the following dates (all workshops are Sunday 11:00am, except as noted): Sept 25, Oct 16 & 23, Nov 13, 26 (Sat) & 27, Dec 3 (Sat). As always, we will share a delicious potluck lunch!

SCHEDULING CHANGES IN SEPT/OCT

The date of the LA Triathlon has been changed from Sunday, October 2 to Sunday, September 25. Olympic Blvd will be closed for the event (approx 6:30am-1pm). Because of this date change, there are several changes to St. Mary's calendar: the UTO gathering previously for September 25 will be moved to October 2 and the "Blessing of the Animals" will now move back to October 2.



About our members . . .

JUST MARRIED

KELLY LEIGH KOYAMATSU, daughter of Shig & Miyo Koyamatsu, and SHANE MATTHEW MCMAHON, son of LeAnn & Denny McMahon of Eau Claire, WI, were married on July 9 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony at Orfila Winery in Escondido. The ceremony was officiated by best man's wife, Mary Tamaki-Green. Kelly's sister Kristi Koyamatsu Griffith was matron of honor, niece Emma Griffith was flower girl and nephew Ryan Koyamatsu was ring bearer. The bride and groom are now at home in Santa Fe Springs.

RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

KYLE & LOREEN ICHIDA, KELLY & MICHELLE MIYATAKE-KURUMA, and LARRY & BOBBIE HIGA were a small, but mighty team in the "2011 Relay for Life Westlake CA" event on August 6. (Team name: "Love for LeRoy, Ohana and Amigos"). The Relay for Life event, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, raises awareness and funds for cancer and cancer research. For more information, visit www.relayforlife.org.