

Spirit of S·T· M·A·R·Y·S

January 2012 Volume 67 No. 1

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
961 S. Mariposa Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

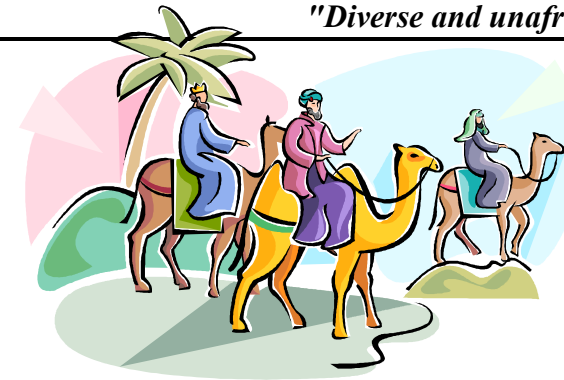
The Rev. Anna Olson, Rector
The Rev. Floyd "Butch" Gamarra, Assistant Priest
The Rev. Jimmy H. Shiode, Deacon
The Rev. Canon Richard Van Horn, Priest Assisting

Phone: 213.387.1334, Fax: 213.387.0023
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<http://www.stmarys-la.org>; email: office@stmarys-la.org

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."



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DATED MATERIAL

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Special Dates

Wednesday, January 4

6:00pm South Bay Bible Study: Partridges

Sunday, January 8

4:00pm EAM New Year celebration

Saturday, January 21

9:30am GFS Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 22

9:45am Holy Eucharist (bilingual)
no 11:30am service

Sunday, January 29 (one all-parish service)

9:45am Holy Eucharist (bilingual)
Annual meeting following

Regular/Ongoing Events

Every Sunday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist (except 3rd Sunday)
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 Saturday

Morning Altar Guild

Clergy Corner . . .

We humans tend to be “either-or” people. Things are either bad or good. We either like someone or we don’t. When something or someone is bad and good at the same time, we struggle to know how to deal with the situation. We get confused and frustrated, and sometimes we go ahead and decide we will either ignore the bad or ignore the good. Then things get simple again.

The longer I spend getting to know God and God’s people, the more convinced I am that God’s approach is more of a “both-and”. At the heart of God’s grace is an understanding that people are *both* deeply flawed *and* completely worthy of love. God doesn’t look at us and see only the good or only the bad. God sees both and loves us anyway.

So next time you’re tempted to write someone off, next time you put someone on the list of people you just can’t bring yourself to care about, ask yourself if you’re caught in the trap of “either-or”. Is it possible that you could honestly recognize this person’s flaws and errors, *and* still see and show (through your words and actions) that they are lovable? Is it possible that they are *both* bad *and* good, not just one or the other?

恩 恵

“Onke” – grace, blessing

to God, it has the potential to transform us. When we show grace to each other, we come a little closer to believing that it’s really possible that God *both* sees at our worst *and* loves us more than we could ask or imagine.

In peace and love,
Mother Anna+

In small things and in large, we’re called to show grace to one another (forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...sound familiar?). Grace is honest—it’s not about pretending that real trespasses don’t occur. But it reminds us that love wins out in the end, and invites us to participate in that love. When we show grace to each other, we build families and communities and churches that are worth living in. It takes practice, but like most practices that bring us closer

Thank You . . .

NOVEMBER THANK YOUS Memorial:

LEROY ICHIDA

Steve Nishibayashi
Fr Richard Van Horn

LILLIAN INATOMI

Penny Ahn
Fusa Sugawara
Robert/Lucy Ito
M/M Douglas Shaw
M/M Hideo Matsunaga
Margaret Yuki
M/M Jerry Takamatsu
M/M Robert Higa
Yasu Momii
M/M Takeshi Hamagiwa
M/M Kevin Flanigan
M/M Jim Sakabe

Miyeko Midge Furuta
Sally Kuriyama

M/M T. M. Stafford
Kagawa Insurance Agency

Peggy Paddock, Eric Okamoto
& Kurt Okamoto

JACL Downtown LA chapter
Yuriko Lilly Hirashima

R. T. Ito

TY HAMANO

Tak Hamano

Thank Offering:

Irene Yoneshige
for birthday

Yasu Momii

Endowment Fund:

LILLIAN INATOMI

Marian Kubota
Charles E Gilb Co

Fr. Van Horn Discretionary Fund:

Steve Nishibayashi

Mo. Anna Discretionary Fund:

Tom Guzman
LILLIAN INATOMI

Peggy Paddock

Charles E Gilb Co.

Capital Fund:

LEROY ICHIDA

L. E. Hamada
Glenn & Julie Kubota
John & Suzanne Kitchens
Glenn Shockley
M/M Raymond Kurihara
Carolyn & Ron Morinishi

For Men’s Group:

LILLIAN INATOMI

Charles E Gilb Co

For Women’s Group:

LILLIAN INATOMI

Charles E Gilb Co

For baptism:

Vicente Hernandez

NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in memory of:

ALBERT LEE

Esther Lee & family

RUBY CHUMAN

Daniel/Paul/Takako Chuman

FRED & CLARA OMATSU

Omatsu & Ogawa families

NAMIE NAKAMURA KUBO

M/M Stanley Nakamura

FRED & SAKI KOYAMA

Rose Koyama & family

Candles in memory of:

JANE TSUKAMOTO

TAKESHI TABATA

TY HAMANO

Margaret Yuki

YOSHIO MARUMOTO

George Oshita

M/M Clarence Yamamoto

SHIZUKO, SHIGETO,

MASATO OSHINOMI

M/M Jim Sakabe

CRAIG ITOW

Yoneko Itow

KAZUE TAKEUCHI

Marian Kubota

Altar Guild Memorial Fund:

KEI KUSAGAWA

SUMIKO SHIOHANA

Yoriko Clarkson

MASARU MASUOKA

D/M David Masuoka

EMI KIRIU

Nobutaka (Luke) Kiriu

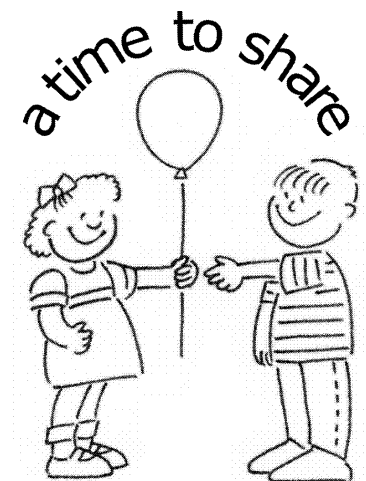
BRUCE J. MORI

M/M Bruce Mori

LILLIAN INATOMI-KOZAI

Pauline P. Itow

Yoneko Itow





to remind you that
"you are special!"

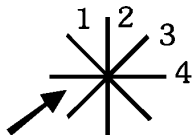
You will need:

- 4 drinking straws,
- 1 large paper doily,
- stapler, scissors,
- string, white glue



How to:

1. Crisscross straws.

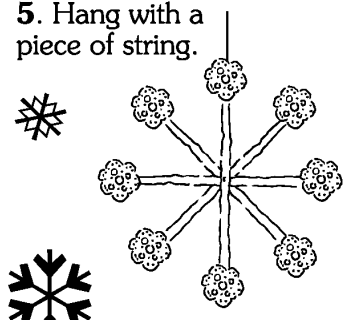


2. Staple in the center where they all cross (can use tape if needed).

3. Cut round designs out of doily.

4. Glue a "doily design" on the end of each straw.

5. Hang with a piece of string.



About our members . . .

GREAT JOB!

BILL PARTRIDGE is a member of the L.A. Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums. His group recently participated in the Hollywood Christmas Parade and San Pedro Xmas Parade. The Hollywood parade (replay) was shown nationally on the Hallmark Channel. Congratulations, Bill!

LAUREN MUELLER, 11, daughter of Beth Mueller and granddaughter of Bill & Audrey Partridge, participated in a cross-country event in Palos Verdes with her team from Hermosa Valley School in Hermosa Beach, against middle school teams from Palos Verdes, Manhattan Beach, and other teams from the area. The Palos Verdes course is billed as the toughest in California, if not the U.S., featuring the formidable Agony Hill. The team took second place overall. Individually Lauren finished 3rd on her team. Congratulations, Lauren!!

ALYSSA KUBOTA, 8, daughter of Carl and Lana Kubota and granddaughter of Marian Kubota, participated in the Southern California (North) State Gymnastics Championships for Level 4 (age 8B) held in Pomona on November 19. She came in 5th on Balance Beam, 6th on Floor Exercise, and 8th All Around. Congratulations, Alyssa!!

Upcoming Events . . .



EAM NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION – JANUARY 8

St. Mary's will host the annual EAM (Episcopal Asiamerica Ministry) New Year's celebration on Sunday, January 8, at 4pm. The celebration will consist of Eucharist, followed by a potluck meal, and dances and songs by the different Asian congregations from their ethnic heritage. Please come to welcome the Asian and Asian-American congregations of our Diocese to St. Mary's!

GFS ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 21

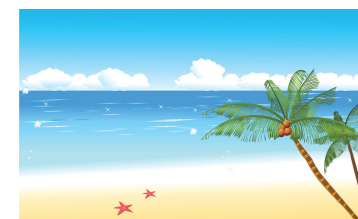
The Girls Friendly Society (GFS) of the LA Diocese will hold their Annual Meeting at St. Mary's on Saturday, January 21, at 9:30am. Lunch will be potluck. RSVP to the church office 213-387-1334 or to Margaret Yuki 323-731-1810.

NEW!! ST. MARY'S ON FACEBOOK!

St. Mary's is on facebook! Look for "Saint Mary's Mariposa (Koreatown)" to find news and photos of recent St. Mary's events.

MOTHER ANNA'S INSTALLATION – FEBRUARY 26

Mother Anna will be formally installed as Rector of St. Mary's on Sunday, February 26 at 4pm. Bishop Diane Bruce will preside. Please join us and help spread the word to the extended St. Mary's family. There will be just one service that Sunday (no church in the morning), followed by a potluck reception in the Parish Hall. We will have guests from around the Diocese. If you would be willing to be part of the planning committee, please let Mother Anna or one of the wardens know.



SAVE THE DATES! EAM CONVOCATION JULY 4-8

The EAM Japanese Convocation will be held on July 4-8, 2012 at Camp Mokule'ia, O'ahu, HI. The tentative plan is to meet in Honolulu and stay at a hotel for one night and the next morning drive out to Camp Mokule'ia. We would return to Honolulu on July 7th and again stay in a hotel for one night and worship at Good Samaritan on Sunday morning. Camp Mokule'ia sits right on the beach on the north shore about a 60 minute drive from Honolulu. We will be staying in a lodge/cabin setting. We welcome families to come and share this time together. We will have an "adult" program and a "youth" program, so there will be activities for the entire family. We would like to get a rough idea of how many are interested in attending. Please let us know if you will be planning on coming and it will also help us plan our budget. For more info, please contact Gayle Kawahara 310-516-6184 or gnksccds@sbcglobal.net.

Parish News . . .

HIGHLIGHTING OUR EUIP INTERNS!!

My name is **Hannah Spiro**. I grew up in Northampton, MA. I love to read and cook and watch geeky/sci-fi TV and movies. I recently graduated from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, with a degree in Psychology and Religion. I loved school but I'm in the process of figuring out what I want to go back for before I commit to more years of homework. This program seemed like a great opportunity to explore my interest in psychology, social services, and religion.

I have been working in a museum for the past three years, which I love, being a huge history nerd. I decided that it was time to try something that would allow me to work more closely in a service capacity with different kinds of people. After helping care for my adorable foster brother, I am even more committed to fighting the factors and environment that contributed to the hardship in his life. I'm very excited to be working as a housing case manager at the St. Joseph Center and to be helping people find and keep affordable housing.

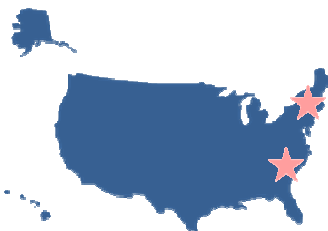
I went to college very close to home and am looking forward to living somewhere completely new and different, despite how much I'm going to miss my dog.

Hi! My name is **Jazmin Trammell** but most people call me Jaz. I've moved and lived all over the United States since I was 9 but Columbia, South Carolina is what I consider home. I am a 2011 graduate from Columbia International University in Columbia, South Carolina with a Bachelors degree in Inter-Cultural Studies. I spent 10 weeks this past summer in the Philippines helping to start a brand new college ministry at a local university. I love traveling and doing ministry abroad. My long term goal is to live overseas doing non-traditional ministries—whatever that entails!

I came across EUIP while looking into post-college opportunities on the Americorp website and it had two of my favorite things: service and community! I love serving as well as the idea of living in community with others so the program seemed like a good fit. I also thought this would be a great opportunity to live and work in an urban environment, while gaining new skills and seeing if this is something I would like to do long-term. I couldn't be more excited about this new season of life that will be filled with adventure & growth as well as new friends, new places and new experiences!

GREETINGS FROM AFAR

We have received greetings from Sonjie Pearson, assisting priest at St. Mary's from 1986 to 1989. She left St. Mary's for St. Andrew's Toronto, where she served until retiring in 2000. She continues to live in Canada and she remembers the people of St. Mary's with great fondness.



MOTHER ANNA'S WELCOME TIPS

Someone once told me that the reason our phone numbers are organized into groups of three and four numbers is that four is about the largest number the human brain can retain in a single group. Given that, it seems like four is a good place to stop and review our welcome tips! Let's try practicing these for awhile, and then we'll move on to more advanced moves...

#1 Sit towards the front of the church: *Newcomers who sit midway back are not secretly hoping to end up in the very first inhabited pew. Church is more fun from the front, for children and adults alike. I promise.*

#2 Help with the juggle: *Stand next to someone new and help them keep up with where we are in the tangle of prayer books, hymnals and programs.*

#3 Those critical 15 minutes: *Come in from the Parish Hall so newcomers aren't sitting alone in church from 9:30-9:45, wondering if anyone else is coming.*

#4 After the Lei: *Help people move from being newcomers to being part of the family. Don't treat them as new anymore after they've come for six month or a year (even if you've been coming for six decades!).*

VESTRY CORNER

For the past two months, the Vestry has been discerning the next steps we need to take as we our vision and mission for the future takes shape. We have been most fortunate to have had Bishop Diane Bruce spend time with us as well.

The coming of Advent also means that it's time for the Vestry to develop and approve a budget for the coming year. We decided that it would be helpful for us to have two budgets—one for the operation of St. Mary's now and a separate budget so we can track our investment in the future. The church canons require us to have an approved operating budget—the Vestry has reviewed and approved the operating budget for 2012 at the December 11th meeting and this will be presented to our members at the Annual Meeting in January. The now separate, "Investment in the Future" budget will give us the flexibility to make changes during the year, based on where we, as a parish, decide what is needed to grow and integrate with our neighborhood. By pulling these items out of the operating budget, the Vestry and the congregation will have time to contemplate and discern how, what and when with regard to our 'Investment in the Future'. This will also help us evaluate the things we do or events we host as things progress.

This is a very exciting time for St. Mary's! We are very fortunate as a parish to have a significant nest egg for our future. This new budget approach allows us to move as slow or as fast as we want to. Thank you for your continued support.

■ Charlene Nakamura