



Highlights:

- Worship News for Lent
- Socks Box Project
- Youth Group News
- Ash Wednesday Services
- Healing Mission in Salinas



Rector's Ramblings

by Fr. Ray

Monthly Newsletter March 2000

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Good News

I just mailed in the final draft of my Doctor of Ministry dissertation. That felt very good! I have completed the program now, and will graduate with my D.Min. degree in June. It has taken me seven years to complete this degree, working part-time while in my regular ministry. It has been a long road, but I made it! Doing this study has been interesting and helpful in many ways, but I have occasionally wondered why I was doing all this extra work. A big part of my motivation has been to do study and writing in a disciplined way that I would not do on my own. In mid-career, it has been good to have this kind of concentration and discipline.

I think the Lenten Season has a similar role for us each year. It is a regular time to be more disciplined in our spiritual life. I find having this season each year is helpful in my walk with God. Lent is a period to strengthen our spiritual disciplines. We might let go of some things in our life - negative habits, laziness, bad attitudes. We might also fast from some foods or drink on certain

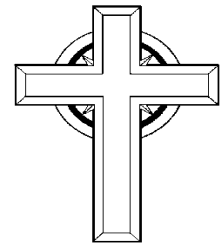
days or during the whole season. It is even more important to add positive elements to our lives - prayer time, devotional reading, study, regular worship, quality time with other Christians, action of caring.

In our parish life, we have already started two excellent spiritual growth ministries, the Divine Drama Bible class and the Alpha Course, both on Sunday evenings. Lent would be a wonderful time to join a Covenant Group if you have not done so yet! Please see Ann Sullivan or me if you would like to do this, or contact any of the group leaders (the list is on the bulletin board each Sunday). Please note the article by our deacon Judy Ahlvin about our new Prayer Chain. Being part of the chain and/or making use of it is a very good way to grow in our prayer and healing ministry.

Lent may take some extra effort and concentration, but it will definitely

be worth it! I wish us all a season of positive spiritual discipline.

In Jesus love,
Fr. Ray



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MEET THE 2000 ST. MARK'S VESTRY!

Our continuing mission is to be a growing, thriving, missionary Episcopal Church. The new Vestry appears to have all the "right stuff" to realize this goal.

Front row: Linda Dilisio (Senior Warden), Rev. Ann Sullivan, Diane Johnston, Joanna McGinn, Ian Laing (Junior Warden), Kathy Woolner.

Back row: David Troxell (Junior Warden), Dean Daily, Hugh Eden, Allan Daily, Rev. Ray Hess.

Absent from photo: Emily Jones, Ken Hoyle, Tom Lamb.



VESTRY NEWS

Our vestry had a wonderful retreat at the end of January. Fr. Ray announced his selection of Linda DiLisio for senior warden, and the vestry elected two junior wardens, Ian Laing and David Troxell. Ian will have primary responsibility for vestry planning, and David will have responsibility in the area of buildings and grounds. The vestry was delighted that these two gifted people will be able to serve as junior wardens. After the Annual Meeting, Jack Gorham was elected treasurer and Bev Turner clerk. We have an excellent group of vestry officers for 2000!

At the retreat, the vestry set three focus areas for this year - Focus 2000. The three areas for Focus 2000 are as follows:

- **The Sunday Experience:** Work together to make Sundays a time of inspiring worship and warm, hospitable fellowship. What we have done is good, but the vestry wants to make our Sunday experience even better. Our new Sunday worship schedule is one part of providing better Sunday fellowship.
- **Expanding the Preschool and Improving Facilities:** During 2000, the vestry will move forward to expand the Preschool by adding a childcare ministry in the parish hall. This will be combined

with plans to improve the parish hall and other parts of our buildings and grounds.

- **Support Our Covenant Group Ministry:** The vestry will give support to this crucial new parish ministry and explore how this ministry will affect the roles of clergy and lay leaders.

Our vestry members for 2000:

Linda DiLisio, senior warden Ian Laing, junior warden (vestry planning, liaison to children's ministries) David Troxell, junior warden (buildings and grounds liaison) Al Daily (service ministry liaison) Dean Daily (parish administration liaison) Hugh Eden (communications liaison) Ken Hoyle (buildings and grounds liaison) Diane Johnston (fellowship liaison) Joanna McGinn (pastoral care liaison) Kathy Woolner (fellowship liaison)

Please note that two vestry members, Emily Jones and Tom Lamb, have decided not to continue on vestry. The vestry will be considering appointing replacements for them during the year.

Feel free to contact any of the vestry members about our ministries, and please keep them in your prayers during the year.



Adult Education Ministry Team

There are many avenues for experiencing the joy of fellowship while expanding your spiritual horizons. Join a Covenant group, come to the Alpha course, participate in Sharon Martin's Spirituality Class.

COVENANT GROUPS

Blessing comes to us when we gather regularly to know, love, support, study, pray and laugh together. A covenant group is a place where people open themselves to God's blessing. In a small group, the power of God emerges naturally from personal sharing and scriptural reflection.

All St. Mark's parishioners and their friends are welcomed and encouraged to join a covenant group. Feel free to select a group to join or try more than one until you find "the right fit."

Please call one of the St. Mark's Covenant Group Leaders for times and locations:

Marty Schaefer	408-253-9832
Linda Dilisio	408-241-6308
Ray /Deb Hess	408-225-0912
Brett Wormley	408-265-3237
Elva Wormley	408-265-3237
Dean Daily	408-281-1900
Tom Lamb	408-376-3780

Please call Rev. Ann Sullivan, Director of Covenant Group Ministry with any questions :

408-370-4720

The Alpha Course

If you have questions, we may have the answers. Please join us to find out what the Alpha Course is all about.



Everyone is welcome, and if you can, bring a friend. The first class starts March 5, follow-

ing a dinner at 6:00 PM, in the Parish Hall. On-site child care will be available. To learn more about the Alpha Course, call Elva Wormley at (408) 265-3237 or join us on March 5.

Sharon Martin's SPIRITUALITY CLASS

Sunday mornings at 9:05 Sharon Martin leads us in our quest for Spiritual Literacy in her new "Spirituality Class".

How can we live a spiritual life every day?

This class will help us read the texts of our lives and of the world around us for sacred meaning lingering with our experiences and seeing the world with fresh eyes. Spiritual literacy does not require that we become masters of Scripture or that we climb to a high rung on the ladder of enlightenment. Instead, attention, beauty, devotion, hospitality, imagination, listening, play, silence, wonder, and other practices enable us to catch intimations of God in the mundane and to appreciate the



magic moments of grace in everyday life. We will be guided in our progress by readings from Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat. "Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life"

Sunday Mornings: 9:05-10:10 in the Creation Chapel. If you have questions please call Sharon Martin (243-1504).

THE HAZELNUTS

First and Third
Monday Evenings at 7:15 PM
the Hazelnut



group explores the Gospel of Mark through the leadership of Paul Sarbaugh. We journey to better understand how God works with us and through us in our lives and in the lives of those we love.

John Cole (248-7219)

DIVINE DRAMA

The Divine Drama has begun! The class started Feb. 13th. This course helps us understand the script – the Bible – and our roles!

The Divine Drama outlines the Biblical narrative from creation to Jesus. It relates the Biblical storyline and Jesus' ministry to life today.

(Note: the Day Class may be offered later in the year.)

Call Fr. Ray at (408) 296-8383 for more information.



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM



The Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team met on February 5 its Monthly meeting. At this meeting we decided on the activities for the group for the month and also for the monthly workday on February 19. We were happy to see that the sign installation is coming along and we hope to have that settled soon. We also discussed the planned capital fund drive and our wishes for that (i.e.: paving the driveway with better drainage). During the month we have slowly removed some of the branches from the eucalyptus tree. You may have noticed that the parking lot is getting bigger. I special thank you to Gayle and Larry Peck and Linda and Gus Di Lisio for that ministry. The urinal in the handicapped bathroom was cleaned and is now draining faster.

We are still looking for someone to adopt the planter attached to the front of the church (right side). Please see Helene Bresette for information on the adoption process.

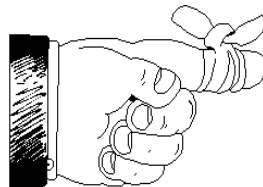
We had our February BYOB (Buy Your Own Breakfast) at Sara's Kitchen. Afterward we met at the church campus to do some minor work. Please come to any of our meetings to see if this is a ministry that you may feel called to join and we encourage new members to join us at any time.

Dates to remember:

Saturday, March 4 -
General Planning Meeting
9:00am

Saturday, March 25-
Breakfast(BYOB) Sara's
kitchen, 8:00am -
Work party 9:00-noon. Please note change for our
work party.

God bless you all,
Deborah Hess, Chairperson



**YOU'RE
INVITED**

**Fellowship –
“living the joy!”**

**Have you joined a
covenant group yet?
Experience the blessing
for yourself! Covenant groups at St.
Mark's are an important part of the Fel-
lowship ministry.**

Special thanks to Betty Cook, Linda DiLisio, Diane Johnston, Barbara Rice, and Kathy Woolner for the wonderful St. Valentine's Coffee Hours on February 13th! ☺

Mark your calendar with these up- coming Fellowship events:

Sunday, March 19th ~

Come and be “Irish for a day” during a special St. Patrick's Day fellowship celebration in the Parish Hall.

Sunday, April 16th ~

Palm Sunday Continental Picnic in the Park! Starting at 12:30 pm at Maywood Park (corner of Pruneridge & Cronin, Santa Clara)

Thursday, April 20th ~

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper in the Parish Hall

Saturday, April 22nd ~

Easter Eve Vigil in the Parish Hall following the service

Saturday, May 20th ~

Women's Garden Tea Luncheon in Kathy Woolner's garden at 11:30 am

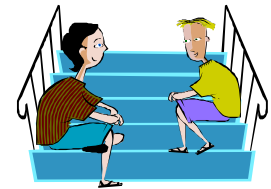
Anyone interested in helping with these events or future events, please contact Kathy Woolner (244-3822) or Diane Johnston (260-8480).

Deanery's Socks Box Project

Submitted by Barbara Rice

Socks Box -- Keeping feet warm at Santa Maria Urban Mission

On Sunday, March 12th, the parishes from the Central and South Valley Deaneries will be collecting socks for the clients of Santa Maria Urban Mission. All kinds of socks are needed -- especially white cotton socks for men, women and children.



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Wow! St. Mark's youth group is alive and well, and is doing wonderful things! We have just finished a long-term project under the creative eye of Ann Vinton. St. Mark's youth designed and stitched a wonderful quilt. It took several weeks to complete the project, but when it was finished it was something to behold. the youth group raffled the quilt off, selling tickets to parishioners for \$1 each, or 6 for \$5. the quilt was raffled off during the annual meeting. Congratulations to Marcus Laing for belonging to the winning ticket! Congratulations to St. Mark's youth for raising \$215. Half the money went to St. Mark's, and the other half went to St. Francis Academy, a ministry that helps troubled youth. Great job, St. Mark's youth.

* * * * *

Here's more exciting youth news! The Diocese of El Camino Real will be holding the next happening at St. Mark's! Happening is open to all high school youth. It is a spiritual renewal weekend, much like Cursillo for adults. Happening will be held April 7-9. More information will follow.

Think what we can do if each of the 13 parishes in these two deaneries collect just 50 pairs of socks. That's 13,000 toes -- 1300 feet -- 650 people we could provide warmth and comfort for! There's power in working together.

Why socks?... Well, last year, the South Valley and Central Valley deaneries began holding joint meetings in the hopes of fostering better local level communication within the diocese. Our feeling was that we might find a way to pool our resources so that together we could accomplish things we could not do alone--or at least we might do them better-- in out-

“Our feeling was that we might find a way to pool our resources so that together we could accomplish things we could not do alone--”

reach, education, worship, diocesan interaction and all facets of church life!

At our February meeting, we discussed ways in which we could put our intentions to work. As our first joint effort, the delegates from 13 parishes in the two Deaneries agreed on the Socks Box outreach project in support of Santa Maria Urban Mission. This simple and oft overlooked need was identified for us last spring when we met at SMUM for a tour. Mary Elizabeth Horsley, SMUM director, shared with us that people of all ages come daily in wearing dirty old socks, wet socks, socks with holes and no socks at all.

Help fill the Socks Box at your church on Sunday March 12. That afternoon, your deanery representatives will take your parishes Socks Box to the March deanery meeting where they will be collected and taken to SMUM. Together, let's see how many toes we can warm!

Thank you one and All—From Marty:

Thank you all for the flowers, cards, condolences and Love. It was a touching gesture that I will always treasure. At a time when the clouds were darken my skies, your cards and letters brought the sunshine back into my life. Thank you!



From the Rev. Judith Ahlvin

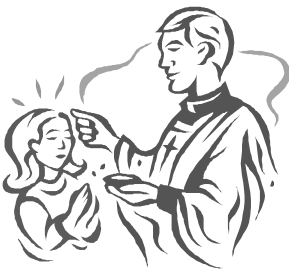
A few thoughts about why I am not here every Sunday celebrating God's love with you. As a deacon, I am assigned by the Bishop. I am his agent. Occasionally, I will receive a call from the Archdeacon asking me to serve as the Bishop's Chaplain during his yearly visitation to a church where a deacon is not present; because not every church has a deacon.

There are approximately 25 deacons in our diocese and 46 churches. During the Bishops annual visitation to each church, he invites different deacons to celebrate with him and thus showcase the breadth and advance the ministry of the diaconate. The Bishop also invites those interested in diaconal ministry to meet with the deacon after the service. Such is my call on March 12. I will be with the Bishop at St John's, in Morgan Hill.

I take the first Sunday of each month off. Some call it "Family Time." I call it "Self Care." It is a chance to take some time for me. It is a scheduled time to check in with myself and make sure there is balance in my life. Most of the deacons I know work during the week, work at the church on weekends and need to balance their personal time.

Sometimes I have job related conferences which are held on the weekends and are part of my Chaplain's work. In addition, for spiritual renewal, the deacons go on a retreat once a year to refresh ourselves, pray together and share our journey.

Blessings, Deacon Judith



**ASH
WEDNESDAY
SERVICES**

Lent begins Ash Wednesday March 8. We will have Holy Eucharist with imposition of

ashes at 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. in the chapel, and at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Please come join in this solemn, powerful worship to begin the Lenten Season.

A Note of Greetings & Thanks from the San Jose Palmer House

Sherrill & I just want to express our deep & sincere thanks and appreciation to all of our dear friends for your love, words of support and encouragement, special lunch/roast/gifts, and the fabulous framed photo (by our brother Charles Cramer) that we received prior to our "official" departure from St. Marks. However, as we begin our new life of servant ministry at Holy Spirit Church in Campbell, we will definitely endeavor to keep in contact with our St. Mark's family!

Because I will continue to serve as a Chaplain for the Santa Clara City Police Department, it is important that I maintain ties with the Episcopal Church in that community. In addition, my service with the HIV/AIDS support organization, Necessities & More, Inc. that I helped form some 15 years ago has just taken on a major new demand. As President of the Board of Directors, the sudden death of our Executive Director, Marty Kirkland on January 1st, required that I assume the role of the program's "acting director." I have immediately begun planning & implementing several significant organizational changes that include: relocating the 'N&M Offices' to Holy Spirit; merging the program's donations with Santa Maria Urban Ministries, Tending the Flock, and Love, Inc.

*The Relocation of **N&M** to Holy Spirit will commence the last week of **March**; if anyone has time to lend a helping hand, "their rewards will have eternal benefits!" **Please contact** John Avery at Home: 408 249-0725 or, work 494-7497 or Avery-s_aloha@juno.com Shortly after I arrived in Berkeley back in '69 I saw a TV report that showed a man at the pier in S. F. with a guitar and a sign that read: "We're not strangers; just friends who haven't met yet!" Similarly, since we've not moved, don't let us become strangers; just friends you'll not see as much.!!

Our Love & Thanksgiving for God's Grace & Guidance,

Sherrill & John Avery

WORSHIP NEWS FOR LENT



Starting the First Sunday in Lent, March 12, we will have the following Sunday worship schedule:

8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite I, with fellowship afterwards

9:15 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with contemporary music

10:15 - 11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time

11:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with traditional music

The reason for this new schedule is to create more time between services for quality fellowship. The schedule will also give more space for the Altar Guild and others to do the set-up for our services. Without so much rushing around, it will be easier to slow down and come into God's presence in our worship.

Please note the following about this schedule:

- The 9:15 a.m. service will not start its preparation music until 9:15, in order to give the Altar Guild and others more time for set-up.
- The 9:15 a.m. service will conclude no later than 10:30 a.m.
- The 11 a.m. service will start promptly at 11:00 and will conclude no later than 12:15.
- Both the 9:15 and 11:00 congregations are invited and encour-

aged to attend the shared Fellowship Time from 10:15 to 11 a.m. We hope that 9:15 worshipers will stay after their service and that 11 worshipers will come before their service. We can get to know each other better and have a good time together.

- There will be no organized fellowship time after the 11 a.m. service, so that people may get home or perhaps go out to lunch together.
- Sunday School for children will take place at the start of both the 9:15 and 11 a.m. services.
- The choir will have its regular Sunday practice at 10:40 a.m., prior to the 11 a.m. service.
- 11 a.m. worshipers who live at Valley Village will be able to get to lunch there in time (lunch is served from 12:15 to 2 p.m.).

Other Lenten worship news:

We will have the traditional purple liturgical colors. Because of the penitential nature of Lent, there will be no flowers on the altar. The "alleluias" will be omitted from the liturgy, and the music will be more subdued and reflective. At the 11 a.m. service, we will use Eucharistic Prayer C, which is more penitential. We will also use our traditional

Lenten musical settings at that service for the Kyrie and Sanctus. On the First Sunday in Lent at the 11 a.m. service, we will do the majestic Great Litany. On the Second Sunday in Lent, we will say the Decalogue (Ten Commandments).

“We can get to know each other better and have a good time together.”



HEALING MISSION IN SALINAS



The Order of St. Luke of St. George's Church, Salinas, will offer a Healing Mission on Friday evening March 31 and Saturday April 1. The Friday night session will be a healing service with prayers for healing. The Saturday session will offer a keynote speaker and various seminars about healing ministry. The Healing Mission will be held at St. George's. Please watch our bulletin boards for more information and application forms.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Cherie Martin	1st
Rosalie Wilson	1st
Carol Alam	2nd
Barbara Campbell	2nd
Stella Chase	2nd
Joanna McGinn	3rd
Melissa McCarger	7th
Rebecca Vinton	8th
Andrew Heim, Jr.	9th
Anne Aria	20th
Harold Pestana	22nd
Melrose Waterman	22nd
Elizabeth Terrell	27th
William Bowes III	29th
Bruce Zelenka	31st



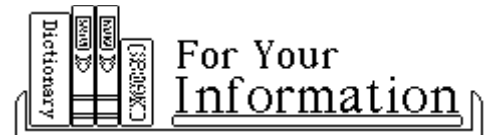
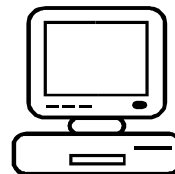
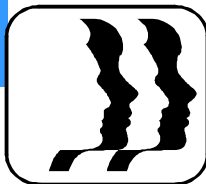
MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Anne & Charles Malmquist	29th
Raymond & Margaret Mallamace	31st

***Office Hours:**
11:30AM-
2:30PM
Mon. - Fri.

St. Mark's web site:
www.St-Marks.org/restricted/members

User Name: saint
Password: agtmEc



STAFF:

Ray Hess, Rector
Ann Sullivan, Assistant Priest
Rev. Judith L. Ahlvin, Deacon
Kate Mikami, Preschool Director
Julie Macchi, Church Secretary
John Cole, Verger
Linda Dilisio, Senior Warden
Ian Laing, Junior Warden
David Troxell, , Junior Warden
Charlie Cramer, Music Director
Mikey Day & his Dad, Praise Band
Jack Gorham, Treasurer
Liz Moore, Recording Treasurer

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St. Mark's Episcopal Church

"Living the joy!"

The Good News

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

1957 Pruneridge Ave. Santa Clara, California 95050 (408) 296-8383



Monthly Newsletter – March 2000 Edition

"A growing, thriving, missionary Episcopal church"

Living the Joy