



Highlights:

- Bishop's Visit
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- Seminarian Scriptings
- Covenant Group News



Rector's Ramblings

by Fr. Ray

Monthly Newsletter July 2000

The Good News

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

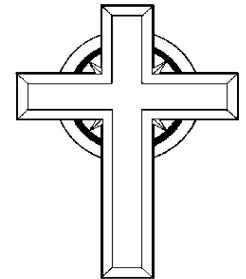
Thanks to so many who wished me congratulations about my recent graduation from Fuller Seminary with the Doctor of Ministry degree. The graduation was a very meaningful and powerful event for me. Two aspects of the graduation have stayed in my mind. First, the speakers were so clear about the centrality of Jesus Christ in all we do. It was impressive to hear the President of the seminary, a man with long experience in leadership and outstanding academic credentials, talk simply in his address about loving Jesus. It was clear that he has a passion and love for Jesus and Jesus' ministry. This is no dry, ivory tower academic professor! Second, the participants in the graduation were an incredible international, multicultural mix of people. Among the 500 graduates from the various programs, thirty four countries were represented, from all corners of the earth. The seminary President said that Fuller Seminary was started in the

1950's to help spread the gospel to all the nations, but now all the nations have come to Fuller! I really enjoyed the international flavor of Fuller, seeing people of so many cultures excited about the ministry of Jesus Christ.

This graduation reminds me about our calling at St. Mark's. In all the complexities of life today, it is vital to remember that we are the Body of Christ. We exist to be a community where people can experience the victory, love, and joy of Jesus Christ. The simple love and presence of Jesus needs to be at the center of all our ministries. Also, the love of Jesus is for all people. We happen to live in one of the most diverse, multicultural places on the earth. What an opportunity we have to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with people of many

cultures, and to learn from them new perspectives. The slogan of our diocese is "Disciples on Mission in Many Cultures." We are in a good position to do this at St. Mark's!

In Jesus' love,
Fr. Ray



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BISHOP'S VISIT JULY 2ND

Our bishop Richard Shimpfky will visit St. Mark's on Sunday July 2nd at the 9:15 and 11 a. m. services, where he will preach and preside at the Eucharist.. At the 9:15 a.m. service, he will confirm two people, Karen Raffelson and Landon Eden. At all our services that Sunday, we will celebrate Independence Day, with special Bible readings and music. We will also have a fellowship event to celebrate the bishop's visit and our new confirmands (see fellowship article).

The main meaning of confirmation is the empowering by the Holy Spirit of Christians to do the mission of Jesus Christ. In confirmation, the candidates are commissioned to be active disciples of Jesus in the Church and the world. Karen Raffelson usually attends the 9:15 a.m. service, is a member of the Altar Guild, and is part of Linda DiLisio's Thursday night Covenant Group. She has been an active member of St. Mark's for about four years. Landon Eden is one of our youth. He has attended Youth Alpha and recently went to the New Beginnings Weekend. He is a part of our youth ministry and is an acolyte. He and his family have been members at St. Mark's for about three years.

Be sure to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday weekend at church on July 2nd, and bring any visiting family or friends with you!



FR. RAY'S VACATION PLANS

Fr. Ray will be on vacation from July 10th to the 28th. We will have supply clergy for the Sunday services on July 16 and 23. In a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Deacon Judy Ahlvin at 782-5830 or Fr. Joe Bacigalupo at 243-5446.

ALTAR GUILD LUNCHEON



All existing and new members of the Altar Guild are invited to a summer lunch on Saturday July 29th at noon at the home of Viola Alam, 19500 Pruneridge Avenue # 3104, Cupertino, Tel. 255- 1241. The Altar Guild is actively seeking new members. If you would like to serve in this vital ministry, please see Fr. Ray and be sure to attend this lunch.



Homes of Honor Classes *Relationship Series #2* *Begins June 25th*

Taught by **Gary Smalley**, who is noted for his unique blend of humor, Biblical principles and effective "teaching" methods, was designed to help you break through barriers that hinder successful intimacy. **Sundays** 6 – 9 starting with a potluck dinner, then the class which starts at 7 pm.

A series of nine powerful video sessions, This small group study presents techniques to change negative personality traits, greatly reduce the risk of divorce, and prepare for those inevitable changes in life. Each session is followed by group discussion questions and assignments.

Come and find out how to develop stronger relationships, whether you are married or single.

Guaranteed to be a life changing Experience!

St. Mark's Facility Improvement Committee Report

On Monday, June 12th, the Facility Improvement Committee held its second planning meeting. The goal of this committee is to lead the development and implementation of improvement projects across our facilities. Some projects will be small and others may be larger in scope. Some may be achievable in the short term while others may need to be implemented over a longer time horizon. The committee's over-arching goal is to create a clear long-term vision that provides cohesion and context for all of these plans.

To date, the group, under the leadership of Junior Warden Dave Troxell, has retained architectural services to develop sets of baseline drawings of the Church facilities. The first drafts of these were presented and discussed at the meeting. It was determined that these prints would, for the first time in recent memory, capture all the changes, moves and additions that have occurred in our facility over the years. Further, these drawings will now make it possible to accurately create, plan and implement any improvement projects we decide to take forward.

The second major agenda item for the meeting was a discussion of next steps. The committee proposed that before launching any major new efforts that we first complete the task of information gathering. To adequately complete the task of creating long term, five-year and ten-year, plans for our church facility, the committee has decided to first launch a broad series of data collection interviews across the parish. All of the groups and organizations that use the church facilities will be contacted and queried about when, where and how we use the facilities today. This information will then be used to develop an improvement plan that best addresses the operational needs of our church community.

Over the next three to four weeks many of you will be contacted to participate in these interviews. We ask your patience, support and guidance as we build this very important foundation of the facility improvement plan.

~By Ian Laing

Seminarian Scriptings

Hello St. Mark's! In September I will be joining St. Marks as a Seminarian. My home congregation is St. Stephens in-the-fields, San Jose and I am a Candidate for Holy Orders. A native of California, I have lived in the Bay Area for eight years. Prior to that my husband, Martin and our two boys, Nicholas (23 yrs) and Michael (20 yrs) lived in a number of places throughout the United States and overseas (Japan, England, and Italy). After retiring from active duty in the Navy, we choose San Jose as our home. Nick and Michael are presently away at college.

Santa Clara is not foreign soil for me. Before entering the ordination process and attending the Church Divinity School of the Pacific I worked at Santa Clara University as the Assistant Campus Archaeologist. In many ways I know the area very deeply. My specialty is the Spanish colonial world and historic ceramics.

My interest in culture, behavior and traditions integrates well with theology. Christian formation will be a focus of mine this year particularly baptism and confirmation. Part of my learning will be experiencing how we as a community and as individuals recognize and celebrate Christ's presence in our transitions, changes, and transformations. I look forward to meeting you this Fall.

In God's peace,

Julie C. Wizorek



Fellowship – “living the joy together!”

**YOU'RE
INVITED**

Every Sunday, between 10:15am and 11:00am, you are invited to “fellowship time” for refreshments and fellowship, located outside of the church or in the Parish Hall. It’s a wonderful time to meet someone new, catch up with a friend, and talk with our clergy.

Your help is requested: There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If you attend the 11:00am service, please come early to set up for the fellowship time. If you attend the 9:15am service, please stay to help clean up after the fellowship time. Thank you for your support and participation in our Fellowship ministry!

Are you in a covenant group yet? Don’t miss out! Experience the blessing for yourself! Covenant groups at St. Mark’s are an important part of the Fellowship ministry. ☺

Please mark your calendar with these upcoming Fellowship events:

- **Sunday, July 2nd** ~ All-American Chili-Dog Picnic on the church grounds, under the trees, following the 11am service to welcome Bishop Shimpfky. Volunteers are needed to help with set up and clean up. Please sign up on the easel. Donations accepted.
- **Saturday, August 12th** ~ 10am to 1pm - Family adventure trip and potluck lunch to Happy Hollow Park & Zoo in San Jose. Please sign up on the easel and provide payment (make check payable to St. Marks) by Sunday, August 6th. Cost is \$4.00 per person (children under 2 and adults over 75 are free.) See you at Happy Hollow!

We want YOU! The Fellowship Ministry Team is seeking apprentices to join the team! Everyone please contact Kathy Woolner (244-3822) or Diane Johnston (260-8480).

Did you attend the Pentecost Picnic on June 11th? It was a glorious day of fun, games, and food. Make sure you don’t miss the next Fellowship team event!

Special Thanks to: Gus and Linda DiLisio, Larry and Gayle Peck, Kathy Woolner, and Elva Wormley for their many contributions to this wonderful event!





COVENANT GROUP NEWS

Our five weekly Covenant Groups are all going well! I meet weekly with the Covenant Group leaders each Sunday afternoon for mutual support and training. This fall, I will be having a training for new Covenant Leaders, starting on Sunday evening September 17th at 6 p.m. If you would like to learn more about Covenant Groups and would like to consider being a Covenant Group leader, please let me know.

Remember that all Covenant Groups are always open and welcoming to new members! If you would like to be in a group or visit one, please contact me or one of the group leaders:

Wednesday 10:45 a.m.,
Dee Spence 358-7831

Wednesday 7 p.m.,
Elva Wormley 265-3237

Wednesday 7 p.m.,
Ray and Deb Hess 225-0912

Thursday 7 p.m.,
Brett Wormley 265-3237

Thursday 7 p.m.,
Linda DiLisio 241-6308

-Fr. Ray

Field Education

Part of the learning experience for all seminarians is placement in a field education site, which can be a parish, Diocesan agency, school chaplancy, hospital or social ministry site. Field education is designed to provide a place for future leaders of the church (both ordained and lay) to work with people in a particular church setting. The program also allows congregations to work with seminarians as each grows in faith, discipleship, and community. In conversation with a supervisor (usually the Rector or program chair), the seminarian develops a learning contract with set goals. To support this learning process a Lay Committee is formed to assist in integrating the seminarian into the life of the community, to provide constructive feedback, and to be a resource for understanding community life and ministry.

The eight-month (September through May with a break in January) learning experience opens up for both the student and the community ways to see how God is active in our lives. When we come together for worship each of us brings a sense of the Divine and shares in the celebrations, thanksgivings, and petitions as a gathered body. We are restored through the Eucharist and respond to God's love in the going forth. Part of the field education experience is to witness, participate and reflect upon a community's fellowship and ministry and to take part in Christian formation.

This September I will be coming to St. Mark's for my second year of field education, having worked at another parish last year. At St. Marks I will be serving at the altar, preaching, developing a confirmation class, and reflecting upon how we live out our baptismal covenant (promise). I look forward to meeting each of you and working with the community.

Julie C. Wizorek

Children's Ministry

Our children's education program continues to go well. The Sunday school classes for age 3-12 will continue through the summer during both the 9:15 and 11:00 services, although we will take a few selected weeks off, Memorial and Labor day weekends, Pentecost (June 11th), and the Bishop's visit (July 2nd). Children are welcome at the services (as always) on those days, and we are planning a special gift for the Bishop.

The Godly Play curriculum finished its year on June 19th, and there was a pool party at the DiLisio's that day following the 11:00 service, to which all families were invited. A special thanks to Gus and Linda DiLisio for feeding everyone who attended the pool party. The rest of the summer we will try a number of special stories, and also develop a slightly new version of Godly Play, which we will offer this fall during the 9:15 and 11:00 services, and will be directed more toward the younger children. We will also add a similar class designed for the older children, roughly the 8-12 year age group, at a time to be determined. Children (and parents) should feel free to choose the class that's most comfortable for them.

Reminders: the two sessions for younger children are the same, and the intermediate class will follow the same schedule, so either can be attended on a given Sunday; parents are welcome to stay in



any class with their children, especially the first few times; the 'Shekel Store', where children can spend shekels 'earned' during Sunday school, will be open during fellowship hour on the first Sunday of the month.

We will also continue our series of family potlucks on the second Sunday of some months, around 12:30. These are opportunities for the children to play together and for the adults to relax, enjoy fellowship, and/or complain directly to members of the ministry team. We are planning gatherings on July 9th, August 13th and October 8th, in Maywood Park.

The children's ministry team

**JULY
BIRTHDATES**

James Jeffrey 2nd
 Allison Broberg 6th
 Marisha McMahan 8th
 Rita Alam 10th
 Barbara Synder 13th
 Sharon Martin 16th
 Brett Wormley 17th
 James Martin 22nd
 Jack Gorham 23rd
 Myrtle Sutherlin 25th
 Anne Malmquist 28th



**JULY
ANNIVERSARIES**

Joseph & Denise Arruda 12th
 John & Mary Roberts 15th
 Alfred & Roberta Chamberlain 22nd
 Jack & Joan Gorham 30th

“Living the Joy”



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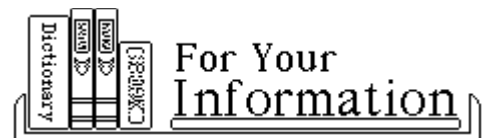
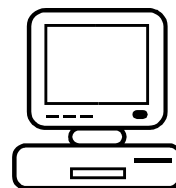
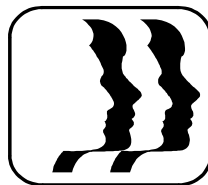
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 9:30AM-
 12:30PM
 Mon. - Fri.

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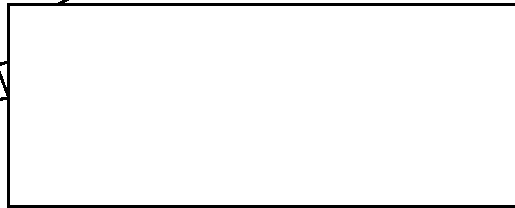
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St. Mark's Episcopal Church

"Living the joy!"

The Good News

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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Monthly Newsletter – July 2000 Edition

"A growing, thriving, missionary Episcopal church"

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