



New Ways of Getting Together

With shelter-at-home orders in effect throughout the Bay Area, how can we stay connected as a beloved community over the next several weeks? Most church committees will continue to meet, using conference calls, Zoom meetings and other apps. Members of the Vestry and the Community Outreach Committee have established an old-fashioned "phone tree" to call parishioners and check in periodically. On Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. we are offering Morning Prayer via Zoom. And a number of churches throughout Northern California are streaming their Sunday services; you can find a link to those services on our website, www.stbedesmenlopark.org, or at the Diocese's website at <https://diocal.org/church-online>.

We're working hard to keep you updated through our weekly eNews, *This Week at St Bede's*, our website and our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/StBedesEpiscopalChurch. Please check those news sources regularly to stay in the loop!

I'm grateful for all of you who are getting through this time with patience, resilience and good cheer. I look forward to seeing you when we can again gather in person.

– *Anne Vitullo, Senior Warden*

Looking Ahead: Key Dates in April

April 1: Building and Grounds committee meeting, 12 p.m.

April 14: Finance committee meeting, 5 p.m.

April 21: Vestry meeting, 7 p.m.

For the full calendar of upcoming events, visit www.stbedesmenlopark.org and click the link for **News and Events**.

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ST BEDE'S Search Committee News

Your Search Committee is off and running! We've held two meetings to date: one with Denise Obando from the Diocese Office of Transitional Ministry to learn about the process, ask questions and review reference material, and the other to organize our team and begin ongoing communication with the congregation. Here's what we have to share with you:

Search Process

There are several changes from when we did this in 2012 to call Gia.

- The committee needs to prepare a Parish Profile *and* an Office of Transition Ministry Portfolio (OTM) in order for applications to be received.
- There is a greater emphasis on information from our website, so it will be updated and enhanced.
- The Profile will be shorter, focused primarily on rector characteristics, parish successes and needs, and financial information.
- The OTM consists of 12 questions (see next page). We realize these questions are complex; no one person can answer them all. We will discuss them at our listening sessions, so please take some time to read them and consider your thoughts. This is where *your participation is crucial* to crafting a compelling call!

Timeline

Below is a timeline that would find us with a new rector by this time next year. Given the current COVID-19 restrictions, we may need to adjust the timeline, however, we hope to gather input from all parishioners via phone or internet meetings in order to stay on track.

March 1	Search Committee formed
April -- May	Congregational "Listening Sessions" to be held
May -- June	Committee creates Parish Profile and OTM Narrative
June	OTM and Parish Profile provided to Vestry and Diocese for review and approval; once approved, position posted for 30 days
July – August	Applications available from Diocese
August – September	Applications screened
September – October	Interviews and visits to candidates' parishes (if necessary)
November	Finalists selected and presented to Vestry
January 2021	Finalists interviewed by Vestry
February 2021	Offer extended
April 2021	New Rector begins at St. Bede's

Communication

- Your input is crucial! We value your thoughts, questions and concerns. There will be opportunities for you to weigh in on the OTM narrative and Parish Profile content beginning in April.
- The Committee will provide regular updates to parishioners via our *This Week* eNews and *Bede's Journal*. Information will also be posted in Lehman Hall.
- We will gather input by phone and internet due to COVID-19 restrictions. We want to carry on with our work as much as possible. We will notify you when and how these will take place, or if we need to push our timeline out to meet in person.
- The Committee is working under strict confidentiality requirements. We will not be able to provide specifics about candidates but will keep you fully apprised of our progress. We thank you in advance for understanding.

Please contact Sue Sartor (sartorsue@gmail.com) or Doug Blayney (douglas.blayney@outlook.com) if you have questions. We are confident that we will find just the right rector for our parish!

Search Committee Members: *Sue Sartor and Doug Blayney, Co-Chairs. Jon Backlund, Steele Harris, Ann Latta and Miranda Pinckert.*

Questions for the OTM Portfolio

1. Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.
2. Describe your liturgical style and practice. If your community provides more than one type of worship service, please describe all.
3. How do you incorporate others in ministry?
4. As a worshipping community, how do you care for you spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing?
5. Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.
6. How do you engage in pastoral care for those beyond your worshipping community?
7. Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can be contacted about this?
8. How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?
9. What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?
10. What is your worshipping community's experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?
11. What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?
12. Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community (4 words maximum).

Thank-you to Our 2020 Stewardship Donors

Thank you to the following parishioners for their generous financial support of St. Bede's in response to our 2020 Stewardship Drive. We are grateful for your gifts.

Megan Ancker	Juliet Knowles
Renene and Steve Aubert	Kevin and Toffie Kopczynski
Julie and Jon Backlund	Elaine and Randy Kriegh
J. Jeff Badger	Ann Latta
Melissa Valentine and Clark Barrett	Irene Lawrence and David Chu
Elizabeth Bellock and Douglas Ross	Carol and Hal Louchheim
Deborah and Peter Blackmore	Mary and Jim Madison
Vicki and Douglas Blayney	Sally Marshall
Rachael and Larry Bowman	Ann Mason
Carol and Edwin Brink	Katherine McKee and Colby Roberts
Tanya and Tim Brugh	Val and Patrick Meeks
Orlia Budge	Abby Mintz
Elizabeth Churchill	Meredith and Michael Pellegrin
Kelly Clark and Lin Yu	Miranda Pinckert
Joan and David Craig	Ann Poulson
Brendan and Evan Deocariza-Nee	Anne and Wes Poulson
Susan Chan Egan	Joan Sanders
Rani Fischer	Sue and Mike Sartor
Nicholas Flegel and Elizabeth Sanger	George Schultz
Kathy Francissen and Van Jepson	Angela Sherry
Laura Gable	Nancy and Robert Shurtleff
Bertita and Michael Graebner	Nancy Stork
Helen Greenwood	Michelle Swenson and Stan Drobac
Curtis Grisham	Elizabeth Taft
Julie Ha and Carolina Wahlman	Kathleen Thompson
Steele Harris	Katherine Valentine
John Hickson	Anne Vitullo and Jon Poe
Dora Ho	Robert Wood
Staci and Jeff Homrig	Mary Working
Elizabeth Janopaul	Dick and Becky Zeren

This list is comprised of those who have pledged a gift to St. Bede's or made a financial contribution to the parish through a donor-advised fund. It was accurate as of March 30, 2020. Please contact our bookkeeper Angela Sherry if your gift is not noted here, so that we can check our records.

An additional thanks to those whose gifts are anonymous. Although we may not know who you are, your support does not go unnoticed.

More on Stewardship: We're planning a **Time and Talent campaign** in May to elicit volunteer help for various church ministries; watch for more information about Sign-up Sundays next month. Our annual **Treasure campaign**, eliciting your financial support for the parish, kicks off in September.

In gratitude from the Stewardship Committee: *Van Jepson, Chair; Julie Backlund, Laura Gable, Helen Greenwood and Anne Vitullo*

Pastoral Care Resources

Although we can't gather in person over the next month, we want to be sure that no one is feeling alone and isolated while we shelter at home. A team of Bede's volunteers will be reaching out to all parishioners over the next few weeks to check in with everyone by phone.

In addition, there are a number of pastoral care resources available to everyone at St. Bede's. Please reach out if you feel the need.

St. Bede's Eucharistic Ministers

While our Eucharistic Ministers cannot deliver communion or visit in person right now, they are available to talk with you or share prayers with you by phone. We suggest contacting one of them by e-mail initially to set up a mutually agreeable time to talk.

Contact	Telephone	E-mail
Irene Lawrence, coordinator	(510) 414-1117	irenelawrence42@gmail.com
Deb Blackmore	(650) 796-5373	deb@debblackmore.com
Carol Brink	(650) 464-9546	ckbrink@juno.com
Van Jepson	(408) 391-8829	van.jepson@gmail.com
Liza Taft	(650) 279-3923	edtphoto@comcast.net

St. Bede's Supply Priests

Two of the supply priests who will be with us during the transition are available if you wish to speak with a priest. To set up a time for a call, you may contact Rev. Eric Nefstead via e-mail at eric.nefstead@gmail.com or Rev. Kacei Conyers via e-mail at kaceiconyers@gmail.com.

Local Episcopal Churches

The priests at two local parishes are also available to us at St. Bede's.

Contact	Telephone	E-mail
Trinity Church, Menlo Park		
Rev. Matthew Dutton-Gillett	(650) 326-2086	matthew@trinitymenlopark.org
Rev. Aaron Klinefelter	(650) 326-2084	aaron@trinitymenlopark.org
Christ Church, Portola Valley and Woodside		
Rev. Beth Phillips	(650) 851-0224	beth@ccpvw.org

Vestry View

This periodic report on the Vestry's actions and decisions is part of our commitment to serving the St. Bede's community. Following is a brief recap of key issues discussed and actions taken at the February Vestry meeting.

Spring Gala. The Spring Gala has been postponed from May 2 to September 19. More information is on the way!

Search Committee update. The Search Committee has been meeting regularly to plan our rector search process. Parish discussions will be organized to share our thoughts, hopes and suggestions for the next rector; the first discussion is tentatively scheduled for mid-April. This is a wonderful opportunity for the St. Bede's community to dream our future together, and we encourage all to make time to participate.

Ad Hoc Housing Committee update. The Ad Hoc Housing Committee has been meeting to identify housing options, or compensation to offset housing costs, for our next rector. They aim to have suggestions prepared for the Search Committee to include in our parish profile, which will be shared with rector candidates.

Time & Talent. The Stewardship Committee is planning for the spring Time & Talent drive, which connects parishioners with the roles, tasks and shared work that keep our community running.

Trinity School Response to coronavirus (COVID-19). Trinity School students began distance learning on March 17 and will continue until spring break. Classes are tentatively scheduled to resume in-person on April 14. (**Note:** Since our meeting, Trinity School has announced they will be closed through Friday, May 1.)

Next Vestry meeting: Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. in the Ford Room or via Zoom (TBD). Members of the St. Bede's community at large are welcome to join us for the prayers that open each Vestry meeting. Please contact Anne Vitullo, senior warden, or Brendan Deocariza-Nee, junior warden, if you wish to offer community input so that we can ensure there is time on the agenda for you.

– *Brendan Deocariza-Nee, Junior Warden*

From the Incoming Children's and Youth Minister

God, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

– *Prayer for Young Persons, BCP p. 829*

Dear St. Bede's community,

I'm delighted and honored to serve as the Children's and Youth Minister at St. Bede's. As you may have seen in the announcement from the Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin and senior warden Anne Vitullo, I will officially assume the role on July 1. However, I'll begin facilitating Sunday School for older elementary youth when our services resume.

Since beginning this process, I've thought often of Jesus declaring, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs" (Matthew 19:14 NRSV). Jesus doesn't stipulate, let the children *who sit quietly during the service* come to me; or, let the children *who don't drag their feet on Sunday morning* come to me; or, let the children *who avoid asking hard questions* come to me. No, Jesus' message is arms-wide-open. In this spirit, I'm committed to ensuring our young people feel seen, heard and welcomed as their whole selves. Further, we are told, "it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Jesus seems to be telling us, as adults, that children understand something we've forgotten. As I contemplate the role of Children's and Youth Minister, I wonder not only how I will minister to St. Bede's young people but how they will minister to me and our whole congregation.

I look forward to collaborating with parishioners of all ages on children's and youth programming that meets our unique needs and encourages our charisms, and I'm eager to see what the Holy Spirit grows among us when we open ourselves to Her inspiration. Although my involvement will be limited until July, I welcome anyone with questions or suggestions to contact me at bfdeonee@gmail.com.

I want to express my gratitude to my husband, Evan, for supporting me in this vocation; to Claire Lawrence and Sonia Dunn, who bless St. Bede's each week with their dedication and talent; and to all of you, who are entrusting me with this weighty, rewarding mission.

Yours in Christ,

– *Brendan Deocariza-Nee*

A Sacred Oratorio or The Messiah *by George Frideric Handel*

On his original manuscript, Handel wrote “To God alone the glory.” Handel was a life-long devout Lutheran, despite years in Rome composing for the Catholic church and decades in London composing for Anglicans. His collaborator, the librettist Charles Jennens, described the work as “a meditation of our Lord as Messiah in Christian thought and belief”. Jennens took the text from the King James bible. Written in the span of just a few weeks in late 1741, *The Messiah* received its premier at The Great Music Hall in Dublin on April 13, 1742, with a choir of 16 men and 16 boy choristers from St. Patrick’s and Christ Church. The tenor and bass soloists were drawn from the ranks of the choir men; the women soloists were soprano Christina Maria Avoglio and contralto Susannah Cibber, one of Handel’s favorite soloists and sister of composer Thomas Arne. The performance benefitted two hospitals as well and debt relief for prisoners. It was a financial as well as an artistic success.

Although the work has come to be a Christmas tradition in the United States, it was originally intended for performance during Easter season, and in fact is nowadays performed frequently in Lent in Europe. Americans’ association of *The Messiah* with Christmas dates back to the early 19th century, when the Handel and Haydn Society in Boston gave the American premier of the work on Christmas day, 1818. Since that time, it has been a staple of the repertoire in our country for major symphony orchestras, early music specialists, and community choruses alike.

As I write this in mid-March, the spread of the COVID-19 virus makes it difficult to predict when we might all gather again for worship, choral singing, or concert-going. Plans have been in place for the St. Bede’s choir to sing several excerpts from *The Messiah* at Easter and through Eastertide into Pentecost. We don’t know at this point whether these plans will be realized, but in the meantime, here are a few suggestions for performances worthy of a listen:

Old School: Leonard Bernstein & the New York Philharmonic:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EqbzMqEzrk> and
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYwLVyW6QeU>

Early Music Specialists: The Dunedin Consort <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpA65VDQLv0> and
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wmbQbDG6RwE>

And for those who like to watch the score and/or sing along, the **Bach Choir & Orchestra of the Netherlands** has this 2013 recording available with a scrolling score:

Part 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovxKG2LPiXc>

Part 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgA4hkdcL8k>

Part 3 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DILok2brh_U

– *Kathy McKee, Music Director*

Community Outreach: Dinner at the LifeMoves Shelter



St. Bede's Community Outreach has committed to quarterly service projects supporting First Step for Families, a LifeMoves family shelter in San Mateo. On Sunday March 8, volunteers met in the Lehman Hall kitchen to prepare food for a Sunday night dinner at the shelter. Although service groups are invited to sign up to bring breakfast or dinner every day of the week, we choose to prepare and serve on Sunday to enjoy the fellowship of our fellow parishioners after services. At First Step, families find a temporary home while they seek housing and sometimes jobs. Rules are strict and clients are accountable, but the spirit of community there is enlivened by happy, active children and a spirit of friendship. Still, we have learned that the shelter relies on us to supervise serving the meals we provide to make sure that everyone is welcomed and that no one takes more than their fair share. Ten cooks met to prepare our meal that included enchilada casserole, salad with lettuce, blanched broccoli and bacon bits, fruit jello and oatmeal chocolate chip cookies. (Everything was popular – even broccoli!) Lots of fun as we sampled and shared in the work. Thank you to all who shopped and chopped, measured and stirred, tasted and amended recipes, and created a work of love.

– Vicki Blayney

Thanks to our cooks (left to right, above) Julie Backlund, Bertita Graebner, Ann Latta, Megan Ancker, Freddy Churchill, Irene Lawrence, Bobby Churchill, Steele Harris and Rani Fischer ... to our shoppers, Liz Bellock and Vicki Blayney ... and our Delivery Guy, Doug Blayney.

Community Outreach Updates

The Community Outreach Steering Committee met via conference call on March 24. Below is a summary of our discussions and actions.

Outreach to Parishioners during Shelter-in-Place

Vestry and Outreach Committee volunteers will call all parish families to check in and see how things are going. Parishioners are encouraged to watch for and read the weekly eNews, the St. Bede's website and our Facebook page for information on COVID-19, Diocesan news and streaming services.

Volunteers are available to run simple errands for those who must stay home. Please contact Brendan and Evan Deocariza-Nee if you can help with this or need this kind of support.

Thank you to Brendan and Evan along with other volunteers who will have volunteered to help with phone calls to parishioners: Julie Backlund, Liz Bellock, Vicki Blayney, Carol Brink, Van Jepson, Kathy McKee, Irene Lawrence, Kathy Thompson and Sue Sartor.

Life Moves Dinner. Our next event is tentatively scheduled for July.

Please contact a member of the committee (Co-Chairs Sue Sartor and Julie Backlund, Liz Bellock, Vicki Blayney, Angela Sherry and Deb Blackmore) if you have questions or suggestions. There are opportunities for parishioners to contribute their time and talent throughout the year, so please note upcoming events and watch for volunteer sign-up information.

Save the Date: Annual Gala Moves to September 19

Our Disco Bingo Extravaganza is now set for Saturday, September 19. Mark your calendar and get ready to boogie with us in the fall!

– *Sue Sartor, Co-Chair*

Call for Volunteers: Home and Hope

Last year, the Community Outreach Service Committee decided to not host Home and Hope on our campus this summer. However, there is an opportunity to support this ministry for any and all interested St. Bede's parishioners. Trinity Church in Menlo Park will be hosting Home & Hope on their campus June 14 - 28. All volunteer positions are available. General needs are for prepared dinners, overnight hosts, and children activities (if there is a need).

All St. Bede's parishioners are welcome to join in! Please contact Jim Bramlett (jdb650@gmail.com) or Barbara Newton (janevton216@earthlink.net) who will confirm specific days and times. They will begin taking sign-ups next month. Questions? Please contact Sue Sartor at sartorsue@gmail.com.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, hosted by current and past Vestry members, offered parishioners an opportunity to share a delicious dinner prepared by loving hands. At top, our cooks and party planners; at bottom, the bountiful buffet line.

Celebrations: April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

2	Graham Knight
3	Anne Poulson
3	Alex Stork
5	Bobby Churchill
5	Jake Norman
5	Donna Reynolds
6	Lucy Churchill
8	Maya Azem
10	Michael Knowles
10	Marianne Stoner
11	Danielle Azem
11	Caroline Wahlman
11	Layla Azem
16	Emily Flegel
17	Patrick Meeks
26	Zeke Brown
26	Melissa Valentine
27	James Madison
30	Jim Bartosh
30	Jack Reynolds

Anniversaries

2	Miranda Pinckert and Christian du Lac
4	Deb and Peter Blackmore
17	Larry and Rachel Bowman

Please let the parish office know if you have a birthday or anniversary this month!

St. Bede's Episcopal Church

2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA. 94025 • (650) 854-6555 • www.stbedesmenlopark.org

Staff contacts

Katherine McKee, Music Director
Rani Fischer, Organist
Siri Huntoon, Parish Administrator
Angela Sherry, Bookkeeper

Sunday Services and Programs

Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. (Rite I) and 10:15 a.m. (Rite II)
Soulwork Adult Education at 9 a.m.
Nursery at 10 a.m.
Children's Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.
First Sunday of the Month: All-Ages Worship
