

# Bede's Journal

The Monthly Newsmagazine of St. Bede's Episcopal Church



We help all ages grow in faith and service.

March 2014

## March at a Glance

9:00am, every Sunday in March (and 6 April)  
Soulwork: Liturgies of Lent and Holy Week

6:00pm, Shrove Tuesday, 4 March  
Vestry-Hosted Pancake Supper

Ash Wednesday, 5 March

8:00am Imposition of Ashes  
noon & 7:30pm Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Thursday 6 March

St. Bede's community service for Home & Hope  
Volunteers are still needed! Please see page 5 for details.

8:00pm, Saturday 15 March

Arts at St. Bede's presents Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra

2:30pm, Sunday 16 March

Parish Afternoon at the Theater: *Jesus Christ Superstar*

Thursday 27 March

Registration deadline for the Parish Retreat!



### Look Ahead and Save These Dates!

4:00pm, Sunday 13 April

Arts at St. Bede's presents Adam Detzner, organist

Sunday 13 April

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week

Sunday 20 April

Easter Day



## Soulwork:

### Liturgies of Lent and Holy Week

It is often said that Episcopalians pray what we believe, and if you want to know Episcopal theology, the *Book of Common Prayer* is the place to start. During Lent, we will explore the prayer book liturgies of Ash Wednesday, Sundays in Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter. Our conversations about why we worship as we do and what it all means will help us enter into Lent and Holy Week more deeply. Led by the Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin, this series meets on Sundays, **March 2 through April 6**, at 9:00am in Lehman Hall. **Childcare is available.**



### St. Bede's Vestry hosts a Pancake Supper



Shrove Tuesday, 4 March

6:00-7:30pm

### + Rites of Passage +

*Life is marked by significant cycles and events: we are born, baptized, confirmed; some of us are married, families are raised, illness comes, death occurs. Such are the Rites of Passage and such are marked by special prayers in the church.*

### + Baptism +

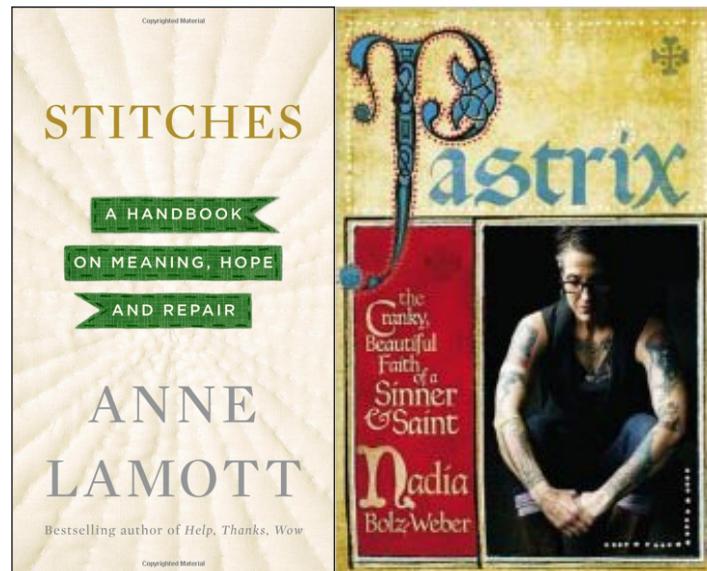
Olivia Jane Gustin

*Send her into the world  
in witness to your love.*

## Lent Book Groups— In Person and Online

Looking for a Lenten practice? St. Bede's is offering two book groups this season. One is a traditional in-person group. For the other, we're trying an online group. If you travel frequently, are juggling childcare, or simply like discussing books while you're wearing pajamas, this group might be for you! The books we're reading both have themes of God's presence and activity in our daily lives—ideal for us to pay attention to during Lent.

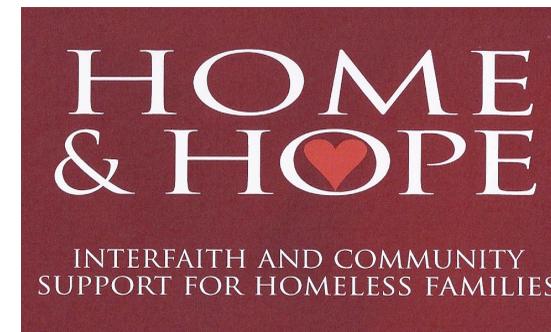
The in-person group will read Anne Lamott's new book, *Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair*. "Without stitches, you just have rags. And we are not rags," Lamott writes. This group meets at Megan Ancker's home on Thursdays, March 13 through April 10, from 7:30 to 9:00pm. Megan's house can fit eight people, so sign up for this group by contacting Carol in the parish office.



The online group will read *Pastrix: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. In this memoir, Bolz-Weber recounts her journey from a fundamentalist upbringing through addiction and recovery, doing stand-up comedy, and re-encountering Christianity to her current life as a Lutheran pastor. (Please note that this book contains strong language.) Gia is moderating this group, which will "meet" via a private blog at [stbedesbooks.wordpress.com](http://stbedesbooks.wordpress.com). The private blog ensures that this will be a safe space for members and friends of St. Bede's to have conversations that are not visible to the public. To join, go to the blog site and click on "Request access," or send an email to Gia. Discussion starters will be posted on Mondays beginning March 10; you can read the book and jump into the conversation whenever you wish.

## Community Service Home & Hope

St. Bede's members Jon Backlund, Rani Fischer, and Megan Sell helped out at Temple Beth Jacob in Redwood City on Tuesday February 11<sup>th</sup>, as part of Home & Hope's program for helping homeless families in our community. Volunteers assisted with dinner preparation and socializing with the children and adults for a couple of hours.



St. Bede's next service with Home & Hope will be the evening of **Thursday, 6 March**, again at Temple Beth Jacob in Redwood City. Volunteers are still needed to assist with dinner preparation from 5 to 7pm, and for socializing with the seven adults and eight children (aged 3 to 12) from 7 to 8:30pm. The children particularly enjoy spending time with youth volunteers. If you would like to help or are interested in learning more about the program please contact Megan Sell (call the parish office for contact info).

## Children At St. Bede's

This Lent the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school class will be learning about different ways to pray and connect to God. After learning a bit about a spiritual practice they will then try it out. Some of the prayer experiences they will try are praying in color, the labyrinth, the Anglican rosary, *lectio divina*, meditation, and Stations of the Cross. We look forward to seeing your child at class! If you have experience in one of these areas and would like to share that experience with the class, please contact me (call the parish office for contact info).

—Katie Macheimer

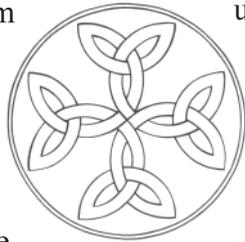


## From the Rector

### The Annual Dishwashing

When I was a child, I remember reading *The Man Who Didn't Wash His Dishes* by Phyllis Krasilovsky, a story that my mother had read when she was a child. The book is probably long gone from my parents' shelves, but the story and its illustrations by Barbara Cooney are still clear in my mind. It went like this:

There was a man who liked to cook. One night he made such a big dinner that he was too tired to wash his dishes after he ate. So he decided not to wash them right away. He piled them in the sink so he could wash them the next night and went to bed. The next night, he was still tired, so he did it again. The sink was full of the previous night's dishes, so he left these dishes on the counter. He did it again a third night, and the one after that, and the one after that. The stacks of dirty dishes spread from the kitchen counters to the dining table. When he ran out of clean dishes, the man began eating out of candy dishes, vases, ashtrays (hey, it was the 1950s), flowerpots, and even the soap dish from his bathroom. Soon he was piling dirty dishes on the kitchen floor. Then they spread to the living room. Eventually stacks of unwashed dishes covered every horizontal surface in the house. The man



couldn't lie down in his bed because it was covered with dirty dishes. Realizing how much work it would be to reclaim his house from the undone chores, he put his head in his hands and wept.

As he sat there crying, he heard the patter of rain on the roof. He rushed outside as quickly as he could, carefully maneuvering around the dishes, to find plump raindrops falling from the sky. He loaded the dirty dishes, ashtrays, vases, and flowerpots into the back of his truck and drove them outdoors. The rain washed the dishes until, finally, every dirty plate and fork and bowl and glass was clean. He put the dishes away, sat down in his newly reclaimed house, and listened to the rain coming down steadily, at peace and free.

The moral of *The Man Who Didn't Wash His Dishes* is not to put off until tomorrow what we can do today. But I didn't realize when I first read this story that it can also be viewed as a fable about Lent. Most of us, as we go through life, pile up dirty dishes. We mess up "in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone," as our prayer book puts it. We're too embarrassed or ashamed to ask forgiveness for the hurts we have caused. We get stuck in patterns of behavior that don't work for us, or even that cause us harm. We hold onto old

grievances and resentments. It all clutters up our spirits just like the unwashed plates and bowls and vases took over the man's house.

Into this pile of dirty dishes comes the rainstorm of Lent. Each year, we have the chance to move all that guilt, shame, anger, stuckness, and resentment out of our house, pile the lot into the back of a truck, and let the cleansing rain of repentance and renewal take care of them. The Lenten rain takes many forms. It is in the prayer book's rite of the Reconciliation of a Penitent, in which we confess our sins and receive the assurance that God loves us and forgives us. It is in asking forgiveness of someone we've hurt. It is in seeking out those who have hurt us and asking for an apology and reconciliation. It is in shedding those ways of being that harm us and trying something new in their place. The cleansing rain of Lent frees us to embrace the new life that God offers us at Easter.

Are you conscious of metaphorical dirty dishes cluttering your house? What are they? What would wash them clean? May the annual dishwashing of Lent make you ready for resurrection..

Peace,

Gia+



Arts at St. Bede's presents

## Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra with Maestro David Ramadanoff

Saturday, March 15, 8pm



Join us for a spectacular offering from MSCO including Beethoven's Leonore Overture No. 3, Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* (Songs of a Wayfarer) with mezzo-soprano Layna Chianakas, and the ever-popular *Suite from Appalachian Spring* by Copland. This is Mahler's first song cycle and was inspired by an unhappy love affair with a soprano at his opera house. Remember, the best songs are about unrequited love.

[www.mastersinfonia.org](http://www.mastersinfonia.org)

Tickets: \$25 general/\$20 senior/\$15 student/free under 18



## St. Bede's Hosts Local Musical Talent

In March, two local organizations will present three concerts in St. Bede's sanctuary.

### Junior Bach Festival

Saturday, March 22, two concerts:

- \* 2:00pm
- \* 7:30pm

Founded in Berkeley and now in its 62nd year, the Festival promotes the appreciation and performance of Johann Sebastian Bach's music by presenting an annual series of concerts showcasing musicians under age 21 from all over northern California. The performers are selected from auditions and the judging is highly selective.

Admission for general public \$15.

Reduced prices for seniors and students.

[www.juniorbach.org](http://www.juniorbach.org)

### Collage Vocal Ensemble

- \* Sunday, March 30, 2:00pm

This Los Altos-based group (including St. Bede's own **Rani Fischer**) is a select, mixed chamber choir dedicated to performing compelling and challenging repertoire from a wide range of time periods and musical traditions. The March 30 concert is entitled "Six Scientifically Proven Signs You're in Love." A \$15 donation is suggested; Collage donates all net proceeds to local charitable organizations.

## ☀ Bede's People ☀

**Tom Latta** will perform as Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* at Woodside Priory School, March 6-9. Thursday, Friday, Saturday shows are at 7pm, Sunday at 2pm. Tickets are available at the door or on the school website.

On Wednesday, March 12, at 7:30pm, Memorial Church provides the beautiful setting and fine acoustics for a free concert by the Stanford Early Music Singers, including **David Chu**. The program will feature works from early Renaissance English and French composers, and later Franco-Flemish and Italian ones. Director William Mahrt gives an informative introduction before each group of songs.

Former parishioner **Holly Antolini** and daughters, **Tina** and **Tessa**, were in the area in February for the memorial service for Holly's mother, Jing Lyman. Holly was sponsored by St. Bede's for ordination. She is currently Rector of St. James's Episcopal Church in Cambridge, MA and is on the short list for Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts. Tina is a producer for NPR and Tessa is managing a dance studio and teaching dancing in the Boston area. They all asked to be remembered to folks at St. Bede's.



## St. Bede's Annual Parish Retreat at St. Dorothy's Rest, Camp Meeker Friday, May 30 – Sunday, June 1



Plans are being made for another wonderful weekend of recreation together, this year at beautiful St. Dorothy's Episcopal Camp & Retreat, in the redwoods about sixteen miles west of Santa Rosa — hiking distance to the Pacific Ocean. You won't want to miss this annual event that includes time for exercising our minds, spirits, and bodies. The weekend will include program activities as well as sufficient free time to enjoy the facilities and surrounding area.

**Register by Thursday, March 27.**

Find registration information online at [www.stbedesmenlopark.org](http://www.stbedesmenlopark.org) or at the back of the church. Phone the church office with questions and requests.



THE PLACE TO GET A WAY

## Vestry View

The month of February saw the vestry make progress on Gia's "sustainable model" for St. Bede's. For those who have not been introduced to this concept, it means relying on networks of individuals rather than a single "superstar" to accomplish our goals.

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, Gia and the vestry held an all-day retreat resulting in three teams to complete projects for 2014. The Administration team will upgrade electronic communications for vestry and staff. The Ministry team will found the Children's Ministry task force with other interested parishioners. (NOTE: You need not be a parent to contribute to the Christian formation of our youth!) The Outreach team will create a disaster response plan and investigate how St. Bede's might serve the community in the event of a disaster.

Once these projects are completed, we will move on to other goals identified at the retreat. As part of the sustainable model, we

will build *ad hoc* teams within the parish that can disband as soon as objectives are met. And as always, the vestry welcomes ideas from everyone regarding our goals.

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, the vestry met with the Trinity Church vestry and the Trinity School Board to trade status updates and plans for the coming year. Financial and programmatic reviews showed that both churches and the school are healthy and collaborating well.

To end the vestry/board meeting, we discussed ways the churches can support the school. Head of School Mary Menacho and School Board Chair Michelle Swenson said it would be most helpful to remain open to communication and to evangelize for the school whenever possible. The school is making plans for a student to be baptized at chapel, and hopefully more such events will make the church and school communities more visible to each other.

— Laura Gable Junior Warden



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If the lost word is lost, if the spent word is spent  
 If the unheard, unspoken  
 Word is unspoken, unheard;  
 Still is the unspoken word, the Word unheard,  
 The Word without a word, the Word within  
 The world and for the world;  
 And the light shone in darkness and  
 Against the Word the unstilled world still whirled  
 About the centre of the silent Word.

O my people, what have I done unto thee.

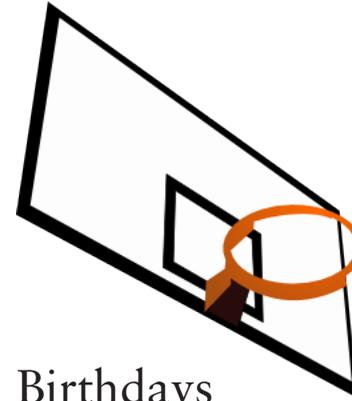
excerpt from "Ash Wednesday" by T.S. Eliot 1888-1965



The deadline for the April issue of Bede's Journal is Monday 17 March.



Please send copy to: [cshedlock@stbedesmenlopark.org](mailto:cshedlock@stbedesmenlopark.org)



## In the Month of March

### Birthdays

- 1 Athena Burrs-President
- 6 Elena Hobbs-Minor  
Maddie Stewart
- 7 Deb Blackmore
- 9 Joey Jackson  
Gerald Spillman
- 10 Janet Hill  
Isabel Norman
- 11 Jon Poe
- 12 Nick Flegel
- 13 Betty Smith
- 14 Michaella Adams
- 15 Ruth Escher
- 16 Kathy Thompson
- 17 William Bowman  
Sally Marshall  
Jinx Royden
- 18 Zane Brown
- 19 Cayley Bowles  
Vicki Blayney

### Anniversaries

- 19 Abby & Arthur Mintz
- 24 Frank & Janet Hill
- 30 Diana & Nelson Powell  
Angela Sherry & Peter Brown
- 23 Steve Debenham  
Grace Knowles  
Marjorie Oda-Burns
- 24 Steven Minor  
Tom Nute  
Wes Poulson
- 25 Colin Stewart
- 26 Michael Graebner  
Mary Frances Jett
- 29 Peter Blackmore  
Bruno Geoly
- 30 Virginia Knight
- 31 Noelle Roux Dunn  
Sam Leen



**St. Bede's Episcopal Church**  
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**Time Value**

Date Mailed: 25 February 2014

Change Service Requested



*The purpose of Bede's Journal is to keep members and friends of the congregation informed of activities and opportunities for education, worship, and fellowship within the parish and beyond.*

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin *Rector*  
The Rev. John Oda-Burns *Priest Assistant*  
The Rev. David A. Sheetz *Priest Assistant*  
Carol Shedlock *Parish Administrator*  
Rani Fischer *Organist*  
Angela Sherry *Bookkeeper*

**Sunday Services**

Holy Eucharist 8:00am, 10:15am

**Sunday Programs**

Adult Education 9:00am — *childcare available*  
Nursery 10:00am  
Children's Sunday school 10:15am

**Weekday Service**

Holy Eucharist Wednesday 8:00am

**Parish Office Hours** M-F 9:00am-5:00pm  
650-854-6555

**Trinity School + Preschool-Fifth Grade**



Read *Bede's Journal* on-line at

[www.stbedesmenlopark.org](http://www.stbedesmenlopark.org)