

Bede's Journal

The Monthly Newsmagazine of St. Bede's Episcopal Church



We help all ages grow in faith and service.

March 2015

March at a Glance

9:00am, *Sundays in March*

Soulwork: *The Last Week*

Sunday 1 March

3:15pm Dedication of Memorials for Laine & Mia Mammen

4:00pm Lenten Evensong

6:30pm, *Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18*

Soulwork: *When Science Meets Religion*

7:30pm, Saturday 7 March

Arts at St. Bede's presents Linda Yoshida Wenstrand, soprano

7:30pm, Saturday 14 March

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

Sunday 15 March

All ages worship together at the 10:15am Eucharist

4:00pm, Sunday 22 March

Arts at St. Bede's presents San Francisco Renaissance Voices & Dancers

6:30pm, Wednesday 25 March

Evening Prayer on the Feast of the Annunciation

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday, 29 March

10:15am Procession of Palms

Hot Cross Buns at both coffee hours



Look Ahead and Save These Dates!

Thursday-Saturday, 2-4 April

The Triduum

5 April

Easter Day

Soulwork for March

Sunday Soulwork this month will explore the passion narrative in the gospel of Mark, using *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan as the starting point for conversation. The events of the last week of Jesus' life invite us to enter into our own journey to Jerusalem during Lent. Sunday Soulwork meets at 9:00am in Lehman Hall; childcare is available.

Wednesday Soulwork reprises St. Bede's members who are scientists sharing their thoughts on the intersection of science and religion. What does it mean to be a scientist and a person of faith? How does one reconcile the differing perspectives of science and religion? Speakers include Mathai Mammen on genetics, Kathleen Thompson on physics and cosmology, and Doug Blayney on cancer. Wednesday evenings begin with a soup supper at 6:00pm in Lehman Hall, followed by Soulwork at 6:30.

Lenten Coin Drive

There With Care, a Menlo Park-based nonprofit that helps families with children in medical crisis, will be the recipient of this year's Lenten coin drive. St. Bede's middle school youth group chose this organization to be the beneficiary in memory of Laine Mammen, whose sudden fatal illness a year ago introduced her family to the charity.

You are encouraged to bring your bags and jars of loose coins to coffee hours through Palm Sunday! The youth group will announce the tally on Easter.

For more information on There With Care's many programs and volunteer opportunities for all ages, visit: www.facebook.com/BayAreaCare

— Jeanne Cooper



Lenten Evensong Sunday, March 1, 4pm

Evensong will be celebrated with the elegant traditional language of Rite I, with choral music sung by the Choir of St. Bede's under the direction of Katherine McKee, assisted by organist Rani Fischer.

Free will offering benefits There With Care

Memorial Artwork

The murals to be dedicated to Laine and Mia Mammen on March 1 highlight their experiences at St. Bede's and children's perspective of the church through a narrative of its seasons. As community artworks, these murals showcase the many thoughts, visions, and hands of the church that come together for healing and reflection. Thus, there were many access points for members of the congregation of St. Bede's to participate in the cumulative making of these murals, a process that began last fall.

Facilitating artist David Bryant crafted the framework of the design with symbols meaning-

ful to the Mammen sisters as well as St. Bede's. Each mural depicts a California Sister Butterfly, a native species that can be found flitting and gliding through the spring flowers at the church. Rainbows, one of Laine's favorite things to draw, coalesce in the image to form a motif similar to St. Bede's labyrinth. (Those who attended her memorial service last year will also remember the double rainbow that appeared over the sanctuary afterward.)

Shapes inside the butterflies were left open for St. Bede's kids to fill in with depictions of church seasons—both liturgical and temporal—that relate to their memories of



Laine and Mia, who passed away in 2010, and their own experiences. After an initial brainstorming session led by Sunday school student Alexandra Spath and a design workshop with the artist, Sunday schoolers from seven different families created images that David then digitized, synthesized for aesthetic cohesion, and printed to create stencils.

In January, another dozen adult parishioners, including Laine's father and mother Mathai and Anna, and brother Mathew, helped trace and cut out the murals' larger designs on high-quality, artisanal paper. David then prepared the more intricate designs before mounting all the pieces onto 36-by-48-inch panels.

The colorful murals will now welcome students into the Sunday school classroom used by Laine and Mathew, one that also served as a nursery/preschool during Laine's shared life with Mia. We invite you to look closely at the designs, which celebrate many beloved traditions at St. Bede's—from St. Nicholas' gold coins in Advent to roasting marshmallows at the Parish Retreat—as well as two unforgettable children.

— Jeanne Cooper and David Bryant

Arts at St. Bede's presents

Linda Yoshida Wenstrand & Frederick Weldy
Saturday, March 7, 7:30pm



Linda, soprano, and Frederick, piano, team up to bring us an eclectic program, performing *As We Like It*, an exceptional array of songs inspired by Shakespeare, compositions by Verdi, Heggie, Quilter, Porter, Bernstein, and Dankworth. Also featured is the U.S. premier of "The Tempestuous Tunes" by Alex Woolf.

Suggested donation of \$15 general/\$10 senior/\$5 student benefits the Seccombe Fund. Donate at the door or online at www.stbedesmenlopark.org/upcoming-arts-events/ Arts subscribers are admitted free, but are welcome to make an additional donation if they choose.

Support community service, welcome guests from outside the parish, and enjoy an evening of song at this benefit concert featuring parishioner Linda Wenstrand. It's part of our outstanding Arts Series, but offers a special opportunity to help area nonprofits and mingle with visitors. A reception follows—a great time to chat with the many patrons from outside the parish who at press time had already made donations to attend.

Proceeds will go to St. Bede's Seccombe Fund, which provides annual grants to local nonprofits. Fundraising events such as this concert and private donations are the primary source of Seccombe funds. St. Bede's Community Service Committee, which distributes the fund, gives priority to partner organizations which parishioners also support through hands-on volunteer service and in-kind donations.

Grant recipients typically include **InnVision Shelter Network** and **Home & Hope**, which provide emergency and transitional housing to individuals and families; **Service League of San Mateo County**, which helps current and recently released jail inmates and their families; **Ecumenical Hunger Program**, whose many programs in East Palo Alto include a special children's food program supplemented by St. Bede's donations and staffed by parish volunteers; **Los Ayudantes**, a literacy and academic mentoring program in Redwood City schools; and the **Episcopal Chaplaincy at Stanford Hospital**, whose services are available to all who request it.

"It will be a fun event to invite your friends and neighbors for a good cause. Hope to see you all," writes Linda.

From the Rector

All-Ages Worship

One of St. Bede's most beloved traditions is the blessing of animals on the feast of Francis of Assisi. It's been clear to me each time I've taken part in it how much this community loves that service. And from what you've said to me, I don't think it's only that we get to bring our pets to church that day. It's also—perhaps mostly—that our entire community worships together. Instead of children being in Sunday school for the first half of the service, they are with the congregation for the whole liturgy. As a community that values all its members, regardless of age, it is important to us to be together in church.



The Children and Youth Team has been tossing around the notion of a quarterly all-ages worship for some time now. There are many reasons why we want to do this. It is children's right as baptized Christians to participate in worship as fully as they are able. Aidan Kavanagh, a Roman Catholic liturgical scholar, argues, "The Sunday liturgy is [children's] no less than it is their pastor's or their parents'. And while they will need time and much special help in their growth into full and active participation in that Sunday liturgy, they must neither be

nor appear to be disenfranchised of it." Participating in worship forms children as Christians, much as the rhythms of liturgy do for adults. Kavanagh again: "Children learn much by vigorous ritual engagement, as Erik Erikson has pointed out. They learn even more by observing what ritual and liturgy do or do not do to adults, especially their parents, and to their peers and siblings."¹ Intergenerational worship lets children's spirituality inspire adults'. Each Sunday, I get to give communion bread to our children. Their patience, eagerness, reverence, and excitement always stir up something in me. What if I were as enthusiastic as they are to meet Jesus Christ in the bread and wine? Am I that patient when I am waiting on God? A liturgy that fully includes children will allow more of us to be animated by our children's faith.

Our first experience of all-ages worship in this way will be on March 15 at the 10:15 service. While nursery care will still be available for those who need it, I hope that all children will be in church for the entire service. As the Children and Youth Team discussed the timing of this liturgy, it seemed to us that Lent was the ideal time to inaugurate all-ages worship. Parents on the team observed that in our perfectionistic culture, even preschoolers are reluctant

¹ Aidan Kavanagh, *Elements of Rite: A Handbook of Liturgical Style* (Liturgical Press, 1990), 67-8.

to try new things because they don't want to make mistakes. An all-ages service in Lent offers us an opportunity to proclaim to children and adults the gospel message that all human beings make mistakes, and we don't have to earn God's love by being perfect. God doesn't love us because we are perfect. God loves us because it is the nature of God to love.

Worship with children requires some adaptation to their needs. Young voices have difficulty making large jumps in pitch, so we choose hymns from our hymnals that children can sing easily. Instead of a sermon, I will offer an interactive homily, similar to the talks I give in Trinity School's chapel services. Children are better able to pay

attention when they can see and hear what is going on, so they will be invited to gather around the altar during the Eucharistic prayer. Families are also encouraged to bring cushions to sit on the floor in front of the pews, where children can follow along with the service more easily.

Worshiping as an intergenerational gathering will be an experiment. We will, no doubt, find that some aspects of this experiment work better than others, and we will adjust the service the next time. Please share your responses to this liturgy with me. As always, I'm interested to hear your thoughts on the life of this community.

Peace,

Gia+



Middle School Youth Group

Acolyte Information & Training, March 8

If your child would like to learn more about what an acolyte does and their important role in worship, please have them come to Youth Group on Sunday, March 8. Reverend Gia will be teaching students about the traditions of acolyting and how they can benefit our parish in worship. Contact Claire Lawrence for more details.

– Katie Machemer

Egg Collection!

If you would like to donate to the Easter Egg hunt please drop off plastic eggs, glow-in-the-dark bracelets, or candy (nut-free and individually wrapped, please) in the Sunday school classrooms on Sunday, March 14th or 21st. This year we will have two Easter Egg hunts! In a glow-in-the-dark egg hunt after Saturday's Easter Vigil, more sophisticated hunters will try to find eggs on the playground in the dark. Then all ages will gather at coffee hour to begin the traditional Easter Egg hunt after the 10:15am service on Easter.

– Katie Machemer

Arts at St. Bede's presents



Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra
directed by David Ramadanoff
Saturday, March 14, 7:30pm

MSCO sparkles with Mozart's *Overture to Don Giovanni* and Mozart arias sung by soprano soloist, Lauren Woody. Also featured is Mahler's Symphony No. 4, built around a single song, "Das himmlische Leben."

Tickets at the door: \$25 general/\$20 senior/\$15 student

For advance purchase, see www.stbedesmenlopark.org/upcoming-arts-events/

San Francisco Renaissance Voices & Renaissance Dancers Sunday, March 22, 4pm



SRV presents *Merrie Olde England: Country Dances and Madrigals*. The program will feature the San Francisco Renaissance Dancers, a quintet of singers, and a consort of period instruments in a program of Renaissance song and dance from the British Isles.

Tickets at the door: \$30 general/\$25 senior & student/\$15 under-12

For advance purchase, see www.stbedesmenlopark.org/upcoming-arts-events/



Inside Sunday School

Have you ever wondered what is going on in Sunday school? Here are a few pictures from the 3-year-old to 8-year-old Sunday school class last month. During the beginning part of the 10:15 service the children of the parish enjoy hearing an age-appropriate story from the Bible and responding to the story. You will see some children chose to color a page after hearing the parable of the Sower.



In another photo, you will see two children playing with the rainbow that God gave to his people after the flood described in the Hebrew scriptures. There is also a group shot of the class by the altar. Many children in the class had gone out to gather the flowers in the community garden to decorate the altar. The children enjoy playing and becoming familiar with the altar and Communion pieces.

– Katie Macheimer

St. Bede's Music Program

Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.

– Martin Luther

One of my little sister's favorite road trip songs was "The Bear Went Over the Mountain." She could sing it for miles and miles, entranced by the idea of the next mountain and what might lie beyond it, and never tiring of the fact that what lay beyond was yet another mountain.

For a choir as committed and devoted as the St. Bede's Choir, the journey through the forty days of Lent to Holy Week and Easter Day takes us up and over a formidable mountain. The climb is arduous, the

pathway—although sometimes familiar—is oftentimes treacherous, and the view from the top is truly spectacular. And what lies beyond is another amazing mountain—the Great Fifty Days of Easter. There is precious little time to rest on the Alleluias of Easter Day when looking over the grandeur of the seven Sundays of Eastertide, beyond which lie Pentecost and Trinity Sunday.

Our March 1 Evensong at 4pm will be a feast for the ears. Herbert Howells' *Collegium Regale* (Royal College) setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis will be at the heart of the service. The psalms will be sung to Anglican chant settings by Mr. Howells and the mysterious Miss Humberston, whose only two known chant settings were published in an 1829 volume of English chant. Bay Area composer Winton Yuichiro White's settings of the Preces and Responses will round out the musical offerings for this service. A free-will donation to benefit **There With Care** will be received.

The music which the choir will sing for the 10:15am services in Lent will provide a quite varied landscape. March Communion music will be by J. S. Bach: the chorale from his



famous motet *Jesu, meine Freude* as well as solo arias from his Mass in b Minor, St. Matthew Passion, and St. John Passion. Offertory anthems will be as familiar as Sir John Stainer's timeless setting of *God So Loved the World* and as hot-off-the-press as Daniel Gawthrop's 2014 setting of verses from Psalm 51, *Create in me a clean heart, O God*. Our psalms and service music will be set to plainchant.

And what lies over the mountain? Inspiring songs from the Taizé community on Maundy Thursday, chanting of the Gospel of John on Good Friday, music from the 2003 hymnal *Voices Found* in response to the readings at the Easter Vigil, stirring music for organ, choir, and trumpet on Easter morning, and a reprise of Benjamin Britten's great Te Deum in C for Pentecost Sunday. And please mark your calendars to join St. Bede's Choir for two musical adventures beyond our own walls: a concert of music for double choir at First Lutheran Church in Palo Alto at 4pm on May 10, and the joint Lutheran/Episcopal celebration of Ascension Day (May 14) at Stanford's Memorial Church at 7:30pm.

– Katherine McKee
Choir Director



Evening Prayer

for the Annunciation

St. Bede's will observe the Feast of the Annunciation this year with a service of Evening Prayer at **6:30pm on Wednesday, March 25**. This is an opportunity to experience a rarely-used gem of Episcopal liturgy, with the choir leading our singing.

+ 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.

+ Burial +

John Joseph Posthauer
12 August 1924 – 12 February 2015
*Give rest to him with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

Community Service

Home & Hope

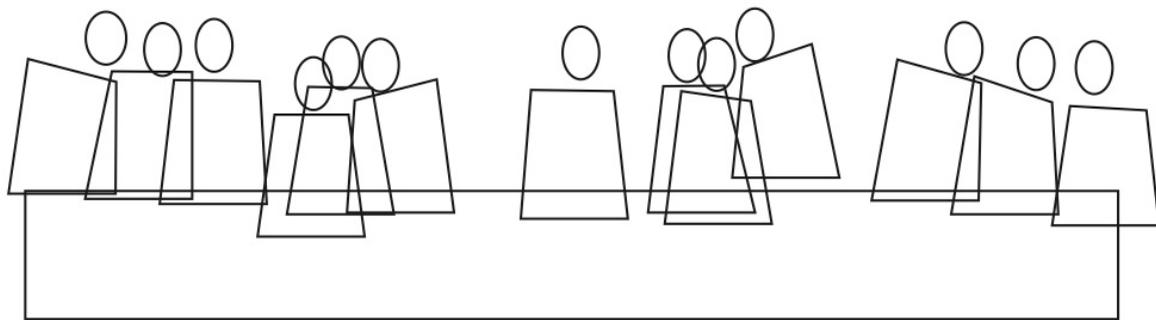
Can you imagine bringing your newborn home when “home” is a tent in a church hall by night, and a living room in a hospital by day? That’s the situation that one of the working families in our partner Home & Hope’s transitional shelter program faced last month. Fortunately, the interfaith nonprofit was able to put the family up in a hotel for ten days before they returned to the cycle of splitting time between Home & Hope’s Burlingame day center and a Bay Area congregation that changes weekly. In February, St. Bede’s helped this and other families in the program on two different occasions.

The team of Jeanne Cooper, Hasma Serverian, and overnight chaperones John Hickson and Sarah Babin worked with volunteers at

Congregation Beth Jacob in Redwood City to host two families of two adults and seven children on February 10. The Pellegrin family—Meredith, Michael, Charlie, and J.B.—also helped Jeanne provide dinner and childcare on Friday, February 20, at Transfiguration Episcopal in San Mateo.

On March 10, St. Bede’s community service volunteers will return to Congregation Beth Jacob. We have currently signed up a full team—two overnight chaperones, two childcare volunteers, and two to three dinner preparers, plus an alternate—but are happy to introduce more volunteers to the program, especially since we are unable to provide full teams for more than seven nights a year. Please contact Megan Sell or Jeanne Cooper if you are interested in joining us on March 10 or a future service date.

– Jeanne Cooper



The deadline for the April issue of Bede’s Journal is Monday 16 March.



Please send copy to: cshedlock@stbedesmenlopark.org



In the Month of March

Birthdays

- 1 Athena Burrs-President
- 6 Elena Hobbs-Minor
Maddie Stewart
- 7 Deborah Blackmore
- 9 Joey Jackson
Gerald Spillman
- 10 Janet Hill
Isabel Norman
- 11 Jon Poe
- 12 Nick Flegel
- 13 Betty Smith
- 14 Michaela Adams
- 16 Kathy Thompson
- 17 Will Bowman
Sally Marshall
Jinx Royden
- 18 Zane Brown
- 19 Vicki Blayney
Cayley Bowles
- 23 Grace Knowles
Marjorie Oda-Burns

Anniversaries

- 19 Abby & Arthur Mintz
 - 24 Frank & Janet Hill
 - 30 Angela Sherry & Peter Brown
-
- 24 Steven Minor
Kenya Mitchell
Tom Nute
Wes Poulson
 - 25 Bob Gable
Colin Stewart
 - 26 Michael Graebner
 - 29 Peter Blackmore
 - 30 Virginia Knight
 - 31 Sam Leen



St. Bede's Episcopal Church
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Time Value

Date Mailed: 24 February 2015

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*
Katherine McKee *Music Director*
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

Weekdays

Holy Eucharist Wednesday 8:00am

Adult Education Wednesday 6:30pm — *simple supper at 6pm*

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