

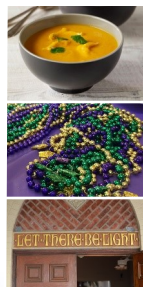
FEBRUARY 2018



St. Cross
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Crossroads

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH



3

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

3

MARDI GRAS

4

VESTRY CANDIDATES

Mission, Ministry, Money

REV. RACHEL

I know that many were scrambling in December to figure out what the new tax laws were going to be in 2018, and how much should they give away in 2017 so they could get full credit for it. Trust me, I understand, and churches, non-profits and anyone else reliant on donors has been doing the same. I give thanks every year for my tax guy Kevin who has answers to all of my questions, knows what questions to ask me, and gets the job done each and every year to my great delight and satisfaction.

I am deeply grateful to each and every person who gives to the mis-

sion and ministry of St. Cross. Every donor counts no matter their donation amount. Our stewardship campaign for 2018 was well-run, and our annual giving numbers for 2018 mean that we should be able to meet our needs both administratively and in our in-reach and out-reach programs. We are fortunate to have a community so willing to give.

You will be given another opportunity to pledge to give early in 2018 for our Building God's Kingdom capital campaign. This is different from your annual pledge. It is a gift to the capital improvement of the St. Cross plant for the ongoing ministry now and for generations to come. In short, we are focusing on: the organ renovation; stained glass window renovation; cracks in the church that are unsafe and need to be repaired (Vestry and Buildings and Grounds are aware and will happily answer questions); work on the education building, including a lift for those who cannot use stairs to get to the second floor

— and if we have enough, we would like to work on kitchen renovation. I will speak about all of this at our Annual Meeting on January 28, as well as our work of the past year and where we are positioning ourselves for the next few years. We will also have



WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:00 AM Choral Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

8:30 AM Centering Prayer
7:00 PM Holy Eucharist

CLERGY

RECTOR

The Rev. Dr. Rachel A. Nyback

ASSOCIATES

The Rev. William Stanley
Pastoral Care

The Rev. Robin Denney
Christian Formation

ASSISTING

The Rev. Cn. Robert Cornner

DEACON

The Rev. Patti Angelo

RECTOR EMERITUS

The Rev. Cn. Dr. Paul D. Lawson

St. Cross Episcopal Church
1818 Monterey Boulevard
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
310-376-8989
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MORE ON PAGE 3

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

10 AM: Listening Hearts
1 PM: Staff Meeting
1 PM: History Committee *
4 PM: Temple Shalom
7 PM: Tai Chi
7 PM: EfM

TUESDAY

9:53 AM: Sewing Group

WEDNESDAY

8:30 AM: Centering Prayer
9 AM: Women's Bible Study
5:45 PM: Men's Bible Study
7 PM: Holy Eucharist

THURSDAY

6:15 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY - Office Closed

11 AM: Sociable Seniors **

* 2nd and 4th Monday

** 2nd and 4th Friday

WEEKLY 12-STEP MEETINGS

Sun: AA 7 PM

Mon: Al-Anon 7 AM
CODA 7:30 PM

Tue: Serenity 7 PM

Wed: Al-Anon 7 AM
CEA 7:30 PM

Thu: Al-Anon 12 Noon

Fri: AA 8 PM

Sat: Al-Anon 10 AM

More info: (310) 376-8989 or
info@stcross.org

February 2018 Calendar

Mardi Gras Party: February 13 at 6 PM

Lent Begins February 14

2/01: Neighbor to Neighbor, 4 PM
2/02: J2A Mini-Retreat through 2/04
2/03: Rite 13 Event through 2/04
2/04: St. Clare's Parent Gathering, 9 AM
2/09: Sociable Seniors, 11 AM
2/11: OSL Healing Service, 5 PM
2/13: Mardi Gras Party, 6PM - See p 3
2/14: **Ash Wednesday Services**
6 AM—Noon—7 PM
2/19: Presidents' Day—Office Closed
2/21: Lenten Soup Supper Program—See p 3
2/23: Sociable Seniors, 11 AM
2/25: Newcomers' Café, 11:30 AM, Guild Room
2/27: Folding of the Crossroads, 9 AM
2/27: Vestry Meeting, 7 PM
2/28: Prayer Shawl Guild, 6 PM
2/28: Laundry Love, 7 PM, Clean Scene Laundry

Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 this year. Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist will take place at 6 AM, 12 Noon and 7 PM.

Adult Education Series

Adult Education, which is offered every Sunday at 9am in the guild room, will begin a two month series for February and March titled "Ethics and the Christian Life". Rev. Patti, Rev. Bob, and Rev. Robin will be leading these sessions on mission, desire, sin, temptation, and the cross. The full schedule is available in the Parish Hall.



Mardi Gras—February 13, 6-8 PM
See Page 3 for More Info - stcross.org/mardigras

ST. CROSS History

Q ◆

What is the Great Litany exactly and what is its importance to us as Anglican Episcopalians?

Answer on page 6

MISSION

From Page 1

articles in future *Crossroads* and in the weekly email to keep you up-to-date as we progress and get closer to construction. Please talk with me or Vestry members about your concerns, hopes, and dreams as we move forward.

My dream, my hope, my prayer for St. Cross is that we continue to be a beacon of light for ministry in the South Bay and beyond. I pray that we will continue to discern what the needs of our community are and find ways to meet those needs that build up our wider community, not just solve a problem. We have a gift with our buildings, grounds and parking. Our Vestry has been looking at how we can be a better resource for our local community given the gifts we have been given.

May we continue to discern that together.

Peace, Rachel+

Wednesday Lenten Soup & Supper

During the five Wednesdays of Lent, beginning February 21 and ending March 21, from

6pm-8pm we will be gathering in the Parish Hall for soup at 6pm, followed directly by our Lenten programs for adults and children, and then a short Eucharist together at 7:30pm.

The adult program we are using this year is called "Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John" it was produced by Virginia Theological Seminary and the Society of St. John the Evangelist (an Episcopal monastic group). As we read passages from John, and discuss our thoughts and lives, we will be drawn deeper into the journey of Lent. The youth are invited to participate in the adult program, and will break out into their own small group for discussion. Or if they would prefer, they can join the children's program as helpers.

A children's program (ages 3-11) will happen at the same time as the adult program. It is a Godly Play story about Jesus' ministry called "The Greatest Parable" which will play out over the five weeks, building each week. It is a new story series our children have not experienced before!

Nursery care will be available for babies and children under 3. We look forward to this time together during this season.

Ministry Notes

Annual Mardi Gras Party on February 13

Join us for food and fun on

Tuesday, February 13 at 6 PM for our

annual Mardi Gras party! Pancakes, gumbo and more await. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$5 for kids 6-10, and children 5 and under are free. Please sign up as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly! To get your tickets, go to this address:

stcross.org/mardigras

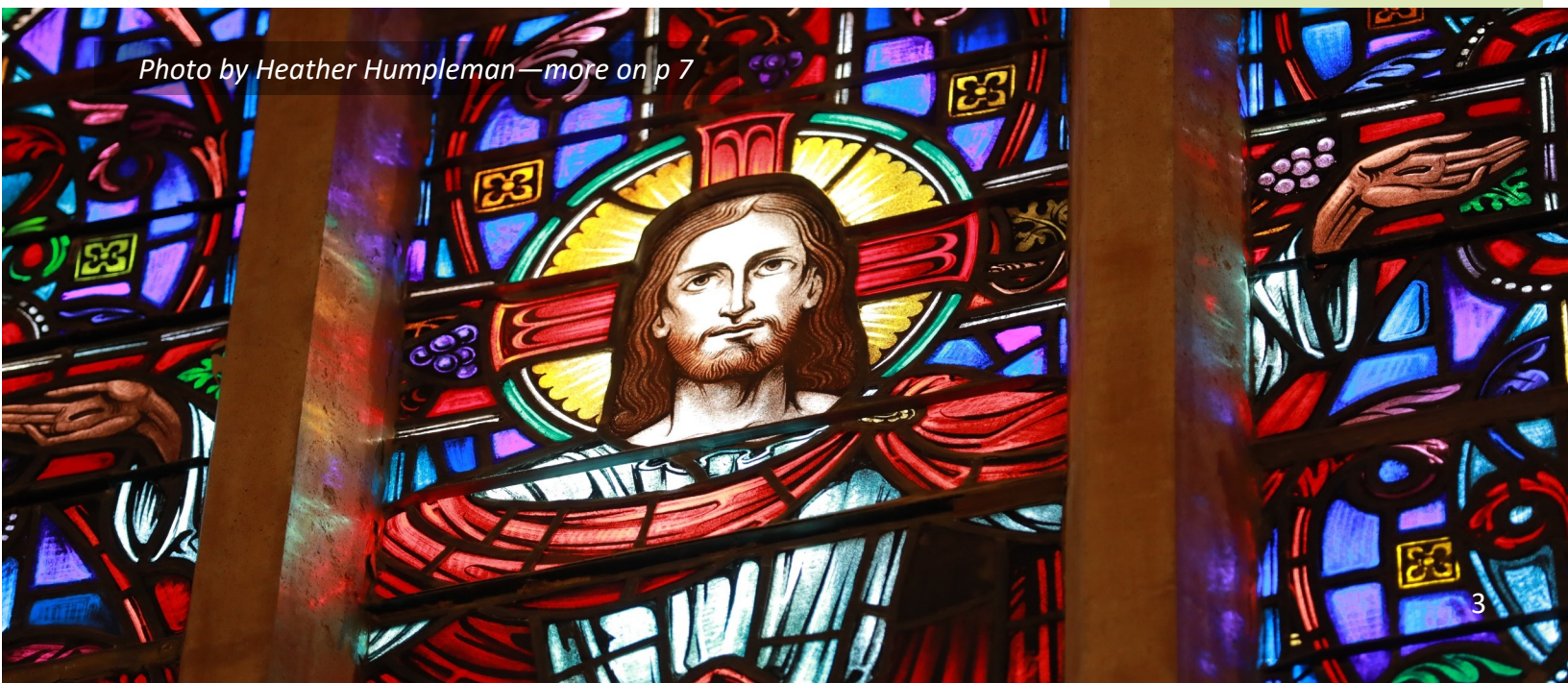
We look forward to partying together!

Get to Know the Sociable Seniors Program

We are blessed to have such a fun, vibrant and full of life group of people come together in fellowship at St. Cross; if you think you might enjoy having a fun outing once or twice a month, contact Rev. Will to learn all about it! wstanley@stcross.org



Photo by Heather Humpleman—more on p 7

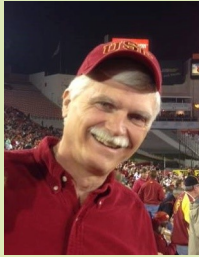


2018 St. Cross Candidates for Vestry

On Sunday, 1/28 at the Annual Meeting, we will elect new members to our Vestry, the lay leadership of St. Cross. Candidate bios are below.

Konrad Schreier

As a longtime member of St. Cross, I have had the opportunity to serve on the Vestry on several prior occasions, including during the last Capital Campaign. Professionally, I am an attorney for a large financial institution and have many years experience in the banking industry. As the Church heads into a new Capital Campaign, I believe my experience with all this will be helpful.



My life's work skills: Legal analysis; Financial analysis; Management decision making; Risk Management.

Other skills that I have which could be valuable on the Vestry: Several terms of prior vestry service; Prior service as both Treasurer and Sr. Warden.

Special hobbies/interests which I enjoy: History; Miniature painting.

The area of ministry that interests me most is: Assisting with the upcoming capital campaign.

Marilyn Young

I would like to serve on the St. Cross Vestry to be a part of fulfilling the vision of St. Cross. My 41 years as a faithful member and my past service on the Vestry have been rewarding and I look forward to helping make the decisions and create priorities for the future of St. Cross.



My life's work skills: Communication; Managerial / Planning; Building consensus; Solving problems.

Other skills that I have which could be valuable on the Vestry: Youth Leader at St. Cross for over 20 years; Committed to positive outcomes; Involved in numerous ministries.

Special hobbies/interests which I enjoy: Reading; Cooking; Walking.

Major ministry interest: Youth; Peace and Justice; Newcomers.

Eileen Mathews

My family and I have determined to make St Cross our home church as part of that decision I'm committed to helping strengthen, support and guide the community in any way we are called.



My life's work skills: Organization and development of processes; Production/Project Managing; Public Speaking/Motivating Teams; Strategic Problem Solving.

Other skills that I have which could be valuable on the Vestry: Sense of humor; Good listener; Writer.

Special hobbies/interests which I enjoy: Paddle surfing; Reading; Travel.

Major ministry interest: Education.

Seth Barnes

My family has been part of the St. Cross community for several years, participating in Sunday School, St. Clare's, and hosting sessions of our summer camp in Parker Hall. It would be an honor to work with the church in this next capacity bringing my background in business, management, community, and relationship-building to advancing the spiritual and service missions of St. Cross.



My life's work skills: Working as part of a team; Creative problem-solving; Oral and written communication; Using data, numbers, and projections to make decisions.

Other helpful skills: Working with company financials; Digital/online marketing professional; Experience promoting family programs (sports, theater, camp, entertainment).

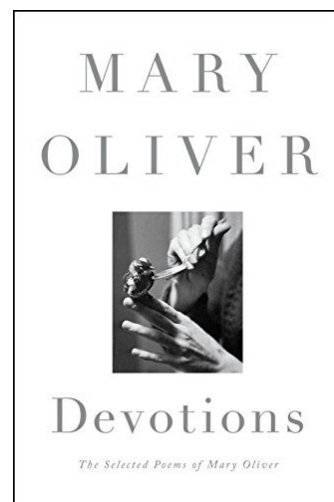
Hobbies/interests: Coaching sports (youth baseball and basketball); Writing and reading (published poet and freelance writer); Meditation and spiritual development.

Major ministry interest: Helping the less fortunate and providing them opportunity on a local, national, and global level.

Lent: Special Women's Bible Study

Rev. Robin and Rev. Rachel at Women's Bible Study for Lent: Discussing the Bible and Mary Oliver's Poetry

Revs. Robin and Rachel have offered to do a Lent series with Women's Bible study for Lent. They found a really cool Lenten devotional that uses Mary Oliver's poetry and scripture to focus on different themes each week in Lent. If you aren't familiar with Mary Oliver, both Rev. Robin and Rev. Rachel are big fans. In fact, Rev. Rachel claims it is the person who truly made her want to read poetry more and more. We hope that you will join as many Wednesdays as you can in Lent, starting on Feb 14 (yes you read that correctly) at 9 am in the Guild Room. All you need to bring is a favorite Bible if you have one, and if you don't, we have plenty you can use. If you want your own copy of Mary Oliver's Devotions you can buy it ahead of time online, but we will have copies of the poems being used for you each week. All women are welcome to join us. If you aren't a regular at Women's Bible study, please let Revs. Robin or Rachel know you hope to join so we are sure we have enough materials for everyone.



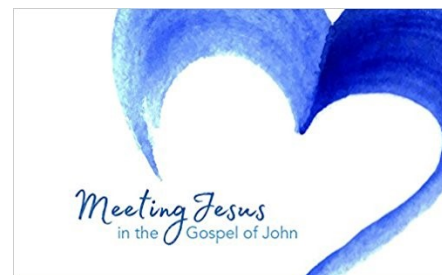
Practicing Lenten Faith at Home

Lent is a time of year when many of us take stock of our spiritual practices, and wonder what we might take on, as we seek to grow more in our spiritual lives. Our Wednesday program, "Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John" has a faith at home component. Each participant will receive a booklet for prayer and reflection, which has short passages or space to write each day.

There are also materials available online each week

www.meetingjesusinjohn.org (or we will have print outs) for families.

This includes a prayer for meal times, discussion questions for family dinners, questions for the car, and an activity that can be done together. We invite you to join us this Lent, when you can, and follow along at home, as we seek to meet Jesus in scripture, conversation, and prayer.



Youth Programs for February & March



Feb. 3-4: Rite-13 Sleep over at the Church

Feb. 2-4: J2A mini-pilgrimage to Palm Springs

March 4: Upper Room Outing 4pm-7pm (carpool from the church), bowling or Mulligans, give your vote to Rev. Robin!

March 24: J2A, CNC, and adults, all day (~8am~7pm) Called to the Wall –Pilgrimage with Diocese of LA stopping at sites on the way to a Eucharist at the border wall with Anglican churches in Mexico. (Details available soon, contact Rev. Robin).

Rev. Robin - rdenney@stcross.org

Episcopal Q, Episcopal A THE REV. WILLIAM STANLEY

Episcopal Questions, Episcopal Answers: Adult Inquirer's Class!

Are you new to church or new to St. Cross or the Episcopal church? Have you been part of St. Cross for 5, 10, or 50+ years, yet would like a refresher about our life and faith? Are you desiring a formal declaration of your faith in the form of confirmation, reception, or the reaffirmation of your baptismal vows? If you answered yes to any of these questions, I invite you to consider joining our upcoming adult education offering.



The course will cover the basic foundations of the Christian tradition as we have received it in the Episcopal Church. Class topics include: Journey, Scripture, Sacraments, Belief, Prayer and more. It will be a great opportunity to renew the foundations of our Episcopal faith and it can also serve as the preparation to be confirmed, reaffirm your vows made at baptism, or be received (if you were confirmed in another tradition, but would like to be formally recognized as a member of the Episcopal Church). That will formally occur when our Diocesan Bishop John H. Taylor visits us at St. Cross on Sunday, April 29, 2018.

The course will consist of 8 sessions beginning on the first Sunday of Lent, Feb 18th, and will stretch into the season of Easter and conclude on Sunday, April 22nd (off on 3/25, Palm Sunday, and 4/1, Easter Sunday). It will be taught by Rev. Rachel, Rev. Robin, and myself and we will use our base text a resource called Episcopal Questions, Episcopal Answers: Exploring Christian Faith by Ian S. Markham and C.K. Robertson. Each session will be held in Room #4 and will begin at 9AM sharp. All interested folks in this course should email Rev. Will at wstanley@stcross.org. Registration deadline is Ash Wednesday, February 14th.

Peace, Will+

wstanley@stcross.org



Alpha and Omega

Baptized

Royal Jordan McDaniel
Isabella Jade Smith
Vivienne Rose Smith

Sociable Seniors Party

On February 9 we will be celebrating Valentine's Day at Sociable Seniors! We will enjoy each others' company and a bag lunch. Bring Valentines for vets!

ST. CROSS *History* From page 2



The Great Litany is a long intercessory prayer addressed to Jesus and composed of many, many, many versicles (sung by the cantor) and responses (sung by the choir and congregation). Litanies date back to the early years of the church and were also used in public processions. Anglicans honor Archbishop Cranmer for creating the Great Litany as the first liturgical text written in English for Henry VIII in the 1540s.

St. Clare's Annual Snow Trip March 2-4

Please join us for a fun Family Snow Weekend!

Friday, 3/2 to Sunday, 3/4, Big Bear Lake

St. Clare's Community of Parents would love for you to be a part of our annual snow trip. This year we will be going to Big Bear for a family fun weekend in the snow. There will be a day of tubing at Snow Drift Tubing Park, and we will be staying at Pine Knot Guest Ranch. There are both 1 and 2 night options with great accommodations for those that would like a house together or adorable bungalows for single families. Please contact us if you are interested in joining. Contact: Sarah O'Grady, ogradymama@gmail.com



Parish Life

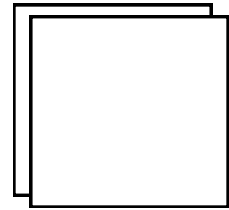
Worship Photos by Heather Humpleman
Follow at [instagram.com/stcrosshermosa](https://www.instagram.com/stcrosshermosa)





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First Class Mail



Lenten Soup Supper Programs

Beginning February 21 through March 21, make plans to join us for a Lenten Soup Supper Program. There will be programs for both adults and children, and each night will close with a Eucharist.
More info on Page 3.

Special thanks to the volunteers whose generous gifts of time and talent make this newsletter possible.

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Cameron: cjohnson@stcross.org
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CHURCH STAFF

Trudy Bush—Office Administrator
Judi Kelly—Bookkeeper
John Tveit—Choirmaster and Organist
Merrill Whatley—Communications Coordinator
David Dawson—Facilities Manager
Cameron Johnson—Connection Coordinator