

JULY 2019



St. Cross
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Crossroads

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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YOUTH MISSION TRIP

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WELCOMING

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CELEBRATING 110 YEARS

Sliding Into Summer

In the past few weeks we have had senior sermons (which were amazing and be sure to listen online), we have had a blessing over the children and youth who are moving on to the next youth program, we have had confirmations of our eldest youth, and we had our Sunday School teacher appreciation. It has been busy, and it signals the start of summer, and that means that sun and the waves might be calling you on Sunday morning, but we hope church will call to you, too.

This summer at St. Cross we are going to have children's chapel EVERY Sunday. Yes parents, we will take your kids out of church right after the first hymn

and will bring them back right before communion. Which brings me to a very important point that Brooke and Liza mentioned in their Senior Sermon: *Noise*. Noise in a church, especially noise from children, is a GREAT, JOYFUL, WONDERFUL thing.

It means we are alive, we are growing, we have young families, we are vibrant. I adore hearing children in church. Seriously, the clergy and staff do, as do the parishioners who understand such noise is essential to our health as a Christian community. Please know that the clergy are ok with kid noise, even teen giggles and sign language (except you acolytes when you are leading the service, lol).

We will also have Summer Breakfasts over 4 Sundays because of the leadership of Judy Soper (you can read more about it on page 3). Thank you to Judy and the four groups who have come together to bring us breakfast. Please know you can also show up with your own brown bag breakfast from 9 am on, and the clergy will be hanging out in the parish hall for fellowship before the 10 am service.

Beach Masses will be on July 21 and August 18. July 21 will be a celebration of the end of Vacation Bible School. If you have never volunteered to help, even for one day, then you are missing out. Join us for

REV. RACHEL



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. Robin Denney
Christian Formation

The Rev. Nathan Biornstad
Pastoral Care

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

The Rev. Cn. Robert Cornner

DEACON

The Rev. Patti Angelo

RECTOR EMERITUS

The Rev. Cn. Dr. Paul D. Lawson

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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

* 2nd and 4th Monday

WEEKLY 12-STEP MEETINGS

Sun: AA 7:30 PM

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

Tue: Serenity 7 PM

Wed: Al-Anon 7 AM
OCA 5:30 PM
CEA-HOW 7:30 PM

Thu: Al-Anon 12 Noon
OA 6 PM

Fri: AA 8 PM

Sat: Al-Anon 10 AM

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

July Calendar Highlights

7/04: Office Closed (Ind. Day)
7/04, 7/06: Habitat Fundraiser
7/13: VBS Decorating, 10 AM
7/14: VBS Kickoff, 11:30 AM
7/14: Newcomers' Café, 11:30 AM
7/15-19: VBS, 9 AM—Noon
7/20-27: Youth Mission Trip (p 4)
7/21: Beach Mass, 22nd & Strand
7/23: Vestry Meeting
7/23: Folding of *Crossroads*
7/24: Prayer Shawl Guild, 6 PM
7/31: Laundry Love

Beach Mass—July 21, 10 AM
22nd Street and the Strand

Dodger Ticket Orders Due 7/21
see stcross.org/dodgers

Newcomers' Café—July 14, 11:30 AM

Let Cameron Johnson be your guide to St. Cross! She's hosting anyone who is interested in getting to know more about St. Cross after church on Sunday the 14th. Meet staff, parishioners and other newcomers. Enjoy a snack and learn more about the opportunities, activities, groups and events that are perfect for individuals and families at St. Cross.

Send an email to Cameron (cjohnson@stcross.org) for more information and to let Cameron know you will be there!



Bishop Diane Bruce confirmed candidates on Pentecost Sunday, June 9

ST. CROSS *History*

This month at St. Cross, we will celebrate an important event in our history.

Q.

What milestone are we celebrating in July?

Answer on page 6

SUMMER

FROM PAGE 1

VBS the week of July 15th, then celebrate with us at Beach Mass. The August Beach Mass will be when we have baptisms and this promises to be a full group of babies and youth being baptized. This will also be led by Rev. Rachel and our new associate Rev. Stephen. Thank you to Rev Nathan, Rev. Patti, and Fr. Bob for holding services up at the church.

Wherever your travels may take you this summer, we always hope that you will find time to gather for Sunday worship. Our relationship with God is the primary relationship in our lives, and we don't want that to take a vacation too!
- Rev. Rachel+

Episco-speak: Readings

Why are there so many readings in our Sunday services? This is a great question. Before most people were literate, the only access to Scripture was through the spoken word. For many centuries the Bible was read not during the church service in English, but in Latin. Once the Bible was translated into English, and it became socially acceptable for English to be spoken during the service, prayers were prayed in English in 1544. By 1559, the entire service was spoken in English.

Over the course of three years, our lectionary (assigned) readings cover most of the Bible. To fit in so much Scripture is such a short amount of time, about 150 Sundays, we have several readings each Sunday. A reading from the book of Psalms and from one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) is included every Sunday.

If you have any questions that you would like to discuss, please email me at nbiornstad@stcross.org



Ministry Updates

Summer Breakfasts

This year we have 4 summer breakfasts: **July 14** (St. Monica's); **July 21** (8 O'Clockers); **July 28** (The Patricias); **August 4** (Altar Guild). Watch your weekly email for more details!



July Softball Games

July 6: 2:10 PM

July 13: 2:10 and 3:30 PM

July 20: 11:30 AM

All games at McMaster Park in Torrance!

Sign up for our weekly email at stcross.org!



There are times that it's a good thing to see red! From Pentecost Sunday, June 9

Mark Your Calendars: St. Cross Day

St. Cross Day will be celebrated on September 15, 2019. This will be the start of Sunday School and Adult Education, during the 9am hour for the 2019-2020 program year.

Throughout the summer — and through September 8 — there will be no Sunday School during the 9am hour. There will be Children's Chapel during the 10am service.

Children come to the service with their parents, and then leave for Children's chapel shortly after the service starts.



Pray for Our Youth Missioners



Our Confirmation youth class will be going on a mission trip this month to El Salvador, along with their chaperones: Rev. Robin, Rev. Stephen, and Hunter Johnson. We will be participating in a program called the Global School, run by an Episcopal Human Rights organization called Cristosal. We will be joined by a group of Salvadoran youth who will also be participating in the Global School. The topic is Human Rights and youth leadership development.

Please pray for the group as we prepare and go on this journey, which will be July 20-27: for Madi, Rhyan, Connor, Zolile, Brooke,

Liza, Cole, Anna, Katie, Julian, Hunter, Rev. Stephen, and Rev. Robin.



"We are so grateful to have shared Henry's baptism with our St. Cross family and that his spiritual growth will occur in such a loving and accepting community. Thank you to everyone for making the day so incredibly special." - Allison, Vance and Henry Albitz

Welcoming

REV. RACHEL AND CAMERON JOHNSON

Think about someone coming to St. Cross for the first time. Perhaps they just moved to town, or are visiting from another state. Maybe they've had a bad experience with organized religion in the past, and it's their first time back in a church for many years. They may have come because they are feeling a need for God's presence or a sense of community. It could be that they have struggled for weeks or months with wanting to attend church, but that feeling of not knowing anyone has kept them away. Think about your own first experience at St. Cross. What kept you coming back?



The St. Cross Staff and Vestry have spent a lot of time talking about how we welcome newcomers into our parish. This might surprise you, but it is easy for some to integrate into the community and more of a challenge for others. We often talk about what a gem St. Cross is and how we wish more people would join us. It takes all of us for that to happen, every single one of us. So here are some ways you can help spread love to others in the St. Cross community that you may not know as well or at all. Who knows if they are actually newcomers, or if you have just never met them?

- ◆ Do you sit at the same table with the same people every week for coffee hour? We understand that, but challenge yourself to talk to one new person every week. You never know the connection you might have. You might even try this with the people who sit around you and you don't know their names. When you exchange the peace with someone you don't know, ask them their name and invite them to coffee hour with you. Introduce them to your friends.
- ◆ Wear your nametag. Sounds simple, doesn't it? It's hard to remember names if you're new and you're meeting several people for the first time. Wearing your nametag is an act of gracious hospitality and it's so easy! Lost your nametag or forgot it? Send an email over to Trudy at info@stcross.org and request a new one, and in the meantime, ask an usher for a temporary (stick-on) nametag.
- ◆ When children are in the parish hall do you get annoyed or frustrated (especially on all parish events around Advent or Mother's Day?). We have had some parents tell us that it has been a challenge and their children don't like to come into the parish hall. Let's change that! Is there a kid driving you crazy? Ask them a question. Learn their name. Ask their favorite flavor of donut. Ask them what they like about church. Ask them about what they are working on. They are the future of the church. Build relationships with the children and youth in our parish and make it a warm, comfortable place for them so that they look forward to coming.
- ◆ Do you have a ministry you love? Invite others and then step aside so they can learn to do your job. More often than not clergy have heard newcomers to a ministry told "that is my job" or "that's ok, we don't have anything for you to do." That is never the right answer. There is always a way to involve someone else, even if that means you step down for a few minutes. It brings others in and gets them fully involved. No one wants to be told they aren't needed.

Have other ideas on how we can be more welcoming and connect people to the parish? Share your ideas with the clergy, a Vestry member, or Cameron Johnson, our Connection Coordinator. It takes all of us to make St. Cross a welcoming space.

- Rev. Rachel+ and Cameron Johnson

Pastoral Care Corner

Recently, I received a call from Emily at Walk with Sally, an organization that pairs adult volunteers with children. These children have seen up close their parent's, guardian's, or sibling's cancer, and they need someone to love them. Walk with Sally is looking for adults who would share their life journey, mentor, and empower children between the ages of 7 to 17.

The reality is that we all need people who love and care for us. Remember what it was like when you were child experiencing a challenging situation? Or maybe you knew childhood friends that endured heartache. What would it be like if they had someone to talk to and share their life? If you have been looking for an opportunity to love and support someone or if you would like to share your life experiences and take the Christ's love into the world, this could be the opportunity for you.

If you are interested in becoming a Walk with Sally mentor, please reach out to Emily at 310.322.3900 or email her at intern1@walkwithsally.org

An invitation: Each month in this article, I've been inviting anyone who would like to meet out for coffee — but now it's summer, and I think we need a seasonal update! If you would like to meet together, I would be delighted to take you out for frozen yogurt, ice cream or your favorite non-dairy equivalent! Email me anytime at nbiornstad@stcross.org.

-Rev. Nathan Biornstad



On Becoming Professed

SR. PATRICIA SARAH

Two years ago, I became a novice with the Anamchara Fellowship, a canonically recognized Episcopal religious community with a Celtic spirit. That's when I started wearing the funny green and cream colored clothes called a habit. I really appreciate the way so many of you helped me along by calling me by my new name, Sr. Patricia Sarah. I know it can be challenging for those who knew me before.

During the two years of my novitiate, I became more and more certain this particular expression of monastic life was something I wanted so I requested to become professed. My request was granted. So on Wednesday, June 5th, I made vows of Simplicity of Life, Fidelity and Obedience to God

in the presence of witnesses and became a vowed religious. I cannot tell you how happy this has made me.

Anamchara strives to be inclusive, welcoming men and women, clergy and lay, married, single or partnered. We stay in place at our original congregations, live in our own homes, are self-supporting, and are bound to each other by common ideals and a commitment to prayer and service. Our primary ministries are Christian education, pastoral care, intercessory prayer and spiritual direction.

Thank you for your support on the journey — a pilgrimage we call life.

From page 2

ST. CROSS

History @.

We are celebrating 110 years! The service of dedication for the new church was held on the afternoon of July 11, 1909, with Bishop Joseph Horsfall Johnson officiating.

See page 7 for more information.

St. Cross Celebrates 110 Years!

After Sarah Alice Beane and the Rev. Charles H. de Garmo opened a Sunday School followed by Evening Prayer in 1906, it was determined that a permanent location for an Episcopal church be found in Hermosa Beach. With the donation of two lots at the corner of 14th Street and Manhattan Avenue by Messrs. Burbank and Baker, promoters of Hermosa Beach, and the understanding that there be no indebtedness, the property was given to the Diocese of Los Angeles for the building of our church.



The work on the church began April 14, 1909, by town pioneer, builder, and cousin of Sarah Alice Beane, James Rodaway. The small wooden church was completed within three months, and the dedication was held on July 11, 1909, with the Rt. Rev. Joseph Horsfall Johnson, first bishop of the Diocese of Los Angeles, officiating and twelve priests, along with a number of members and friends, in attendance.

Thank You, Rev. Robin!

June 9 was Graduation Sunday and the end of the “Sunday School year” here at St. Cross. It also marked the final Sunday that Rev. Robin would be involved in program-year work (keeping in mind she has had and continues to have a busy summer with youth pilgrimage, mission trip., Vacation Bible School and more).

We thank Rev. Robin for the love, care, creativity and unbridled enthusiasm she has brought to St. Cross. The effect of her work extends beyond children and youth to all of us here in the St. Cross community, and we look forward to her adventures!



Thank You, St. Cross!

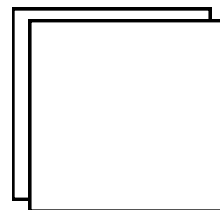
Dear St. Cross, Thank you so much for your generous donation to Haven Academy’s Pico Union program through your Endowment Grant Fund. It is always an encouragement and blessing when local churches partner with us in bringing arts education to at-risk youth. We appreciate your partnership!

God Bless, Rebekah Kellaway, Artistic Director



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First Class Mail



VBS Kickoff—You're Invited!

All are welcome to come to our VBS kickoff event! There will be popcorn and a bounce house!

All those registered will come turn in forms and pick up t-shirts.

Kickoff Event is

Sunday, July 14, 11:30 AM—1:30 PM

VBS: July 15-19, 9 AM—Noon

**Beach Mass: July 21, 10 AM
22nd Street and the Strand**

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

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