

OCTOBER 2018



St. Cross
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Crossroads

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

transforming  generosity

Blessed to Be Joyful Givers

It never ceases to amaze us how St. Cross can come together and give joyfully, transforming our lives and the lives of others. We appreciate this year's stewardship theme, "Transforming Generosity" as we have been living into this all year already. Notice it has a double meaning:

First is that generosity can transform us, our community and our church. When St. Cross becomes financially generous, we empower our ministries to transform the wider community. We see this with Laundry Love, Family Promise and the refugee

couple we took in and are helping to get a new start.

The second meaning is that we can transform what generosity looks like. As we strive to follow Jesus, we can define generosity as the way we live our lives AND the way our church works in the community. We are called to be generous financially. And we are also called to be generous in the way we welcome newcomers, care for the planet, forgive those who have offended us, and care for our facilities.

Our annual stewardship pledge drive is about more than our parish budget. It is about how we continue to transform generosity and allow generosity to transform us. We know our lives will continue to be changed through this work. We hope you will prayerfully review the reflections written for the coming Sundays and our weekly emails during our pledge campaign as you prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give this year.

With your annual gift, we will work together to transform generosity in our church, our community, and our lives.

Kathy Shinkle, Sr. Warden
Rev. Dr. Rachel Nyback, Rector



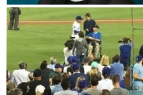
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RENOVATION UPDATE



5

HALLOWEEN TRUNK-N-TREAT



7

PARISH LIFE

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

St. Cross Episcopal Church
1818 Monterey Boulevard
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
310-376-8989
info@stcross.org

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

11 AM: Sociable Seniors **
6:15 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY - Office Closed

* 2nd and 4th Monday
** 2nd and 4th Thursday

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

October 2018 Calendar

10/04: Neighbor to Neighbor
10/04-10/07: Acolyte Festival,
Washington, DC
10/08: Office Closed (Holiday)
10/11: Sociable Seniors
10/14: Sock Sunday
10/14: Acolyte Training
10/14: OSL Evensong & Healing
10/20: Habitat Build Day
10/21: Sock Sunday
10/23: Vestry Meeting
10/23: Folding of *Crossroads*
10/24: Prayer Shawl Guild, Rm 4
10/25: Sociable Seniors
10/27: Eat, Drink and Be Merry
10/28: Rev. Br. Gibbs (see p 8)
10/28: Halloween Party - see p 5
10/31: Laundry Love

Coming in November:
All Souls' Day, 11/7 (see p 3)
Messiah Sing-Along, 11/25
View full calendar at stcross.org

Prayer Shawl Ministry—Meets 4th Wednesdays at 6 PM

My aunt loved creating with pastel-colored mohair yarns; my mom loved tailored, tight-weave work laced with metallic threads; my grandmother was a crocheter. At the end of 2016 I myself was graced by the crochet instruction that St. Cross's late Debbie Schulz so patiently and generously offered me.

The members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry make visually beautiful, luscious-to-the-touch prayer shawls which are distributed to St. Cross parishioners, family members, friends and also chaplains in Los Angeles area hospitals. The chaplains gift the shawls to patients to wrap themselves in the comfort and reassurance that the shawls, knitted with prayer and blessed by a priest and the whole congregation, can offer.

Prayer shawls are also available on a rack in the nook of the chapel for parishioners to take as well. Accompanying prayers are available from the church office.

Members, friends, family and neighbors are invited to join us for our relaxing, nurturing gatherings. Knowing how to knit or crochet is not a requirement—many in the group are available to teach you how and to help you out of knots ;-). - Abbe Skones



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

The Way of Love Sunday Adult Education

- On 9/16, we viewed Bishop Curry's rousing General Convention sermon introducing the Way of Love. If you want to see it, email Rev. Robin at rdenney@stcross.org.
- The Way of Love** will be the theme this year during Adult Education
- Each month, a member of the clergy presents on a step in the Way of Love
- Read more on Page 5

ST. CROSS History

Q.

A new organ console, a necessity due to the electric fire in 2016, will be the first result of the recently completed capital campaign. Work has begun on the console and the refurbishment of the pipes. There has been an organist ever since the church became a parish in 1929, with our beloved Edith Rodaway serving as the first organist. In 1974, a pipe organ was installed that has brought joy, pleasure, and beauty to our services and congregants.

How many organists has St. Cross employed to play our present pipe organ? And how many can you name?

Answer on page 6

PRAY BEFORE YOU START

REV. RACHEL

"God whose presence is always with us, we ask your blessing on our time together as we do your work in our church. May we have gracious hearts with one another and that all we do, we do to the glory of your name. Amen."

"Pray as you go" is an important reminder for all of us. How many times have you attended a meeting, a rehearsal, or some activity at or for church and you forgot to pray? It happens to the best of us. We are asking ALL GROUPS to remember to start your time together in prayer. Sewing Guild? Pray. Choir practice? Pray. Meeting for Bible study or just a walk on the Strand? Pray! We have even given you a quick starter prayer (above) to get you moving in the right direction. We know that at times it might seem awkward to stop and pray, but hey, all that we do should be encased in prayer. It reminds us of who we are and whose we are and in whose name we gather to do work.

CAMPUS RENOVATION UPDATES

The former organ console left the building on Sept. 24 and the new one is being moved in. It will take several months for the organ to be installed. We will be enjoying the piano for the next few months.

Renovations on the church building and education building also began around Sept. 24. The work on the education building takes place Tuesday-Friday, and it is cleaned for Sunday/Monday use by St. Cross and Temple Shalom. We will not need to move out of the sanctuary while the brick work takes place. You will see a storage container or two around campus during this time. This should be finished by Christmas at the latest. After the church brick re-building takes place, then the window refurbishment will begin, again being completed by Christmas.

We are working with the contractor for the church and education building to get better bids for the kitchen. When we know more about that timeline, we will let you know.

We appreciate your patience while we go through this period of work around the campus. Please let us know if you encounter any issues.

Notes

Acolyte Training 10/14 - For those interested in becoming acolytes (grades 5-12) and for our current acolytes, there is a training on Sunday Oct. 14, 11:30 AM-1 PM. Lunch will be provided. Meet in Clark Hall (upstairs in the Education Building). Our delegation of acolytes will just have returned the previous week from their trip to the National Acolyte Festival in Washington DC, so it will be a great opportunity to hear about their experience, and learn new things! Contact Rev. Robin (rdenney@stcross.org) or Peter Coote with questions.

All Souls' Day 11/7 - Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 7 for a special All Souls' Day Service at 7pm in the chapel. We remember those who have shaped our faith, our lives, and our community.

South Bay PFLAG Chapter Arrives - PFLAG is the nation's largest family and ally organization for people who are LGBTQ along with their families, friends, and allies. Monthly support group meetings on first Tuesdays from 7-9 PM in the Fireside Room, Manhattan Beach Community Church, 303 S. Peck Ave., Manhattan Beach.

St. Cross Youth Share Great Capital Campaign News on St. Cross Day!



Sunday School Is Underway!

Sunday School is underway! Sunday School meets at 9 AM each Sunday through June 9, 2019. Thank you to our great group of teachers, and especially our new teachers! We have six classrooms on Sunday morning, so children and youth engage with their peers and engage with discussion and curriculum that is tailored to their age and spiritual development. Pick up a yellow registration form on Sunday in the classroom if you have not yet registered. Contact Rev. Robin with any questions you may have — rdenney@stcross.org.



Summer Children's Liturgy Planning

It's never too early to think about next summer! We are gathering ideas for how to better serve our children and families during the summer, when Sunday School is on break. Some ideas we are considering include Children's chapel during the first part of the service, expanding the age for nursery care, and children's sermons. Please share your ideas with Rev. Robin!

Youth Activities and Service Opportunities

This year, rather than have monthly scheduled meetings for the youth group, we will be having outings and service events.

If you have ideas for outings or service events for St. Cross Youth, please share them with Rev. Robin!

Youth Mission Trip 2019

We are excited to be planning a mission trip for our senior high school youth (11th and 12th grade, CNC class) for summer of 2019. One opportunity we are evaluating is called the "Global School" in Central America. It is a program which would help our youth gain a global perspective, develop cross cultural relationship, and answer Jesus' call to step outside our comfort zone, in love and concern for others. If you are interested in this mission trip and have not been in touch with Rev. Robin, please contact her. We hope to have plans finalized by the end of the month.

St. Cross Softball: Last-Inning Wrap-Up

The final 2018 results are in and we hope everybody had some fun and fellowship for the 26th year of playing co-ed softball in the South Bay Church Athletic League. The Dodgers (1-8) went from first in 2017 to last in 2018 in the "C" Division. The Angels (4-5 -1) fared better finishing one-half game out of 2nd place in the "D" Division. The Dodgers (.514) out hit the Angels (.491) for the year. The Angels were led by Bruce Difley and Shane Mathews (.769) batting averages while the Dodgers were led by Bill Hamilton and Bruce Difley (.778). Top power performances (slugging percentage) for the year goes to Jeff Ramsey (1.333) with 1 Home Run, Jamie O'Grady (1.160) with 2 Home Runs and Shane Mathews (1.154). The Women Angels were led by Caren Brownlie (.667) and Autumn Hoffman (.520) batting averages while sisters Britney and Brianne Bosnak (.429) paced the way for the Women Dodgers. Rookies of the Year go to Mike

Whitehill (.588) and Elyse Ordicia (.714). This year we had 3 new people join the softball teams and most were young who have replaced some of the older generation ready to retire.



The 28 players who played were: Caren Brownlie; Shane & Eileen Mathews; Britney & Brianne Bosnak; Dana & Jeff Ramsey; Macy Jaeger, Art Castillo; Mike & Andrew Welch; Bruce Difley; Jamie O'Grady; Jim Sullivan; Oscar Esquivel; Doug Hall; Sean McCue; Mike McGough; Rich Wenzel; Andy Simon; Aaron Rose; Autumn Hoffman; Peggy & Bill Hamilton; Susan Hink; Mike Whitehill; Glenn Honda and Elyse Ordicia.

Thanks to all the husbands and wives who baby sit the kids on the sidelines. Plus we cannot forget the coaches' wives who let their boys be out there on Saturdays – special thanks to both Candace Ford and Malinda Difley.

Halloween “Trunk-n-Treat” on October 28

Our Parish Halloween Party this year will be on **Sunday, October 28, from 3-5 PM**. All are welcome to come in their Halloween costumes. We are trying something new this year, a “Trunk-n-Treat”. The event will take place in the inner parking lot at the church. Families, ministries, or Sunday School classes can choose to sponsor a vehicle in the “Trunk-n-Treat”. Each participating vehicle will be decorated, and have candy in the trunk. The children can then go trick-or-treating around the parking lot. We will also have a bounce house, some light refreshments and additional activities. If you or your class or ministry are interested in sponsoring a vehicle, contact Rev. Robin for more information rdenney@stcross.org



Steps on the Way of Love: Sunday Adult Education

Adult education is available and thriving each Sunday in the Guild Room, from 9am to 9:50am.

This year in Adult Education, we will be delving deeper into Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s call to the “Way of Love”. The “Way of Love” is a way of talking about how we live out our faith and love of God and neighbor in the world in practical ways. Each month, we will focus

on one of steps of the Way of Love: turn, learn, pray, worship, bless, go, and rest.

The first Sunday of each month will be a presentation on the step by the clergy, and the other weeks we will explore that step in different specific ways through hearing the stories of others and through reflection on new ideas and writings.

Deacon’s Corner

The Rev. Patti Angelo

What is a Deacon? Part 1: I was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons in February of 2016, right here at St. Cross—one year and seven months ago already! Many may wonder what a deacon actually is or does, and what the difference is between the diaconate and the presbyterate (Sacred Order of Priests), and how someone becomes one or the other. In this article, I offer some answers to the first question.

The ministry of the deacon is first and foremost a servant ministry, especially to the poor, the sick, the weak and the lonely. Deacons are also called to interpret the needs and concerns of the world to the church. These two foundational diaconal vows help explain an often used catch-phrase for the role of the deacon: “to bring the church to the world and the world to the church.”

In carrying out these vows in daily life and work, the deacon is an icon (a sign or symbol) of the responsibility all Christians have to fulfill our baptismal vow “to seek and serve Christ in all persons.” As such, deacons are to encourage and help others enter into their own Christian ministries. Deacons can be found in all manner of work outside and inside the church and time commitments to work environments vary widely. Many have full time secular jobs (attorney, social worker, college professor, media production, sales, teacher, etc.) with less time in a parish, while others serve exclusively within the church structure. Some deacons are chaplains working in hospitals, hospice, nursing homes, jails and prisons and even industry. But no matter where the deacon spends her time and energy, or whether or not she is wearing a collar, she brings her identity and vocation as a deacon into her milieu by attending to those who suffer and those in need.

Next time, I will talk about the liturgical role of the deacon and how the diaconate differs from the priesthood. Until then, go in peace to love and serve the Lord!



Pastoral Care Corner

In the short time that I have been at St. Cross, I have been blown away. I am moved by the love and kindness that you show towards each other. I am excited about how so many people are engaged in ministry and the legacies that those ministries are creating. There is so much good work that is being accomplished here at St. Cross, and I am delighted to be a part of it.



To me pastoral care is about empowering everyone in the parish to know that they too can help share the love and care of God to those in our community and beyond. In this pastoral care corner, I am going to share with you, each month, something that I think will help your spiritual journey and help encourage those around you. We can all join in pastoral care together, and I hope that you will find this work as encouraging as I do. I hope that you will partner with me in this work.

One of the keys to helping communicate God's love and care is to remember that our lives are not about ourselves. What I mean by this is that when we are giving pastoral care to each other, it doesn't matter how I think that a particular visit or conversation went; what matters most is how the other person perceived our interaction. Did they feel heard? Did they feel loved? Did they feel like someone actually listened to them?

If we can do our best to set aside ego and its various needs, we can offer each other the gift of our presence. Since the Holy Spirit dwells in us, the gift of our presence can be a great gift. So let us continue to be more and more present for each other.

If you would like to meet together, I would be delighted to take you out for coffee. Please contact me through the church office at 310.376.8989 or via email at nbiornstad@stcross.org.

-Rev. Nathan Biornstad

Peace & Justice Retreat 11/9-11/10

This year's Peace & Justice (P&J) Community retreat will be held on November 9th and 10th at the Episcopal Center in Echo Park. It is open to anyone, space permitting, even if you are not a P&J member. We begin around 4PM on Friday, November 9th for camaraderie, wine, non-alcoholic beverages, and hors d'oeuvres. In the evening we do a little singing on the rooftop. Saturday morning and afternoon we plan to watch a film or two with discussion afterward. One film we are considering is *Human Flow*, directed by the internationally acclaimed artist, Ai Weiwei. *Human Flow* (more at humanflow.com) gives powerful visual expression to the massive human migration underway in the world today. The P&J Community also hopes to present a program on human migration, the refugee crisis, and its profoundly personal human impact to the congregation in 2019.

Please consider joining us on our November retreat to make new friends and learn more about our work! Contact Mervis at merv4peace@gmail.com or 310-944-0191 to discuss or ask questions.

ST. CROSS *History* From page 2



Five – G. Russell Wing (1957-85); Ellen Steinmetz, interim (1985-86); Ty Woodward (1986-94); Ted Gillen (1994-97); John Tveit (1997- present). There were nine organists from 1929-1957.

Peace, Justice, Asylum: Meet Winnie



Peace & Justice Hosts Asylum Seeker from Uganda - The Peace and Justice Community of St. Cross recently began supporting an asylum seeker, a young woman from Uganda. Winnie is currently staying in the home of one of our P&J members. Winnie has an Honors Degree in Environmental Management. She has an impressive work history with government agencies and non-profits, working as a Manager for the Uganda Rainwater Association and a Researcher for the National Environmental Authority. She also began to work in gender and equity in Uganda and became very interested in the treat-

ment of vulnerable women, girls and other marginalized groups in Uganda. It was while she was speaking to a community group about the murders of women that were taking place but not being investigated that she was imprisoned, beaten, and assaulted by other prisoners. After two weeks, she was released but has suffered various mental and physical pain ever since. She was able to escape further imprisonment by fleeing to the United States in the Fall of 2017.

Winnie has an adopted daughter in Uganda who has no other family, and her grandmother there is in ill health. Her aunt has been detained and beaten since Winnie left her country. Winnie is currently getting professional help from the Program for Torture Victims in L.A. She has been offered a part-time lecturer position at UCLA and has been earning money through elder care. Ideally, Peace & Justice would like to help her secure a full-time position in project management that would enable her to send resources to her family in Uganda, and get a place of her own in a community in which she can feel safe. She hopes to bring her daughter, who is now 7, here in the not-too-distant future. For more information or to see Winnie's resume, please contact Mervis at 310-944-0191.

Parish Life

St. Cross Day, Rev. Nathan 1st Sunday, Mike Welch at Dodger Stadium

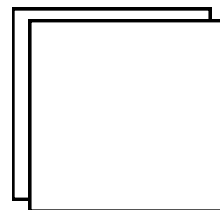
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First Class Mail



Guest Preacher and Speaker Rev. Br. Dennis Gibbs, Oct. 28

On Sunday, October 28, we welcome the Rev. Br. Dennis Gibbs to preach. He will also be speaking at the 9 AM Adult Education gathering.

Rev. Br. Gibbs founded PRISM ministry, an outreach to those who are housed in our local jails. He provides pastoral care and presence to the inmates and their families. He is also one of the founders of the Community of Divine Love, a Benedictine monastic community.

We look forward to welcoming him to St. Cross!

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

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