



The Epistle

Newsletter of St. Paul's Church
A Parish in the Diocese of San Joaquin
The Anglican Church in North America

January, 2010

The Feast of the Epiphany

The Feast of the Epiphany immediately follows the Twelve Days of Christmas, and thus is always on January 6. The name "Epiphany" is derived from a Greek word meaning "manifestation" or "appearing," and Anglican Prayer Books give the full title of the feast as "The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles." This, of course, is a reference to the story of the Wise Men (or Magi) from the East.

A Christian observance on January 6 is found as early as the end of the second century in Egypt. The feast combined commemorations of the visit of the Magi, led by the star of Bethlehem; the Baptism of Jesus in the waters of the River Jordan; and Jesus' first recorded miracle, the changing of water into wine at the marriage of Cana of Galilee – all thought of as manifestations of the incarnate Lord.

The Epiphany is still the primary Feast of the Incarnation in Eastern Churches, and the threefold emphasis is still prominent. In the West, however, including Anglican Churches, the story of the Wise Men has tended to overshadow the other two events.

Of course, in secular society the story of the Wise Men is more a part of Christmas than Epiphany. Nonetheless, the Epiphany stands as a major feast in its own right, and Anglicans throughout the world will observe it with celebrations of the Holy Eucharist and other festivities.

At St. Paul's, the Epiphany will be observed with a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist in the church at 5:30 PM, followed by a potluck supper in Rivera Hall at 6:30. Parishioners are urged to participate.

Farewell for Fr. Tancredo Pastores

Fr. Tancredo Pastores came to St. Paul's from Hawaii toward the end of 2006, and was joined by his wife Elena and their children a few months later. Now, Fr. Pastores will be leaving St. Paul's, but he is not returning to Hawaii. Rather, it is anticipated that he will soon be serving a nearby congregation, making a move to a new house unnecessary.

With the changes in Fr. Pastores' ministry comes the desire and need for the people of St. Paul's to say thank you and God bless to Fr. Tancredo and Elena. To this end, the congregation is invited to attend the Epiphany Potluck Supper on Wednesday, January 6.

During the evening there will be an opportunity for people to express their appreciation to the Pastoreses and to wish them well for the future. In addition, there will be the presentation of the traditional "purse" that is often given to a clergyman when he retires or moves to another position.

What this means is that the parish will be gathering notes of appreciation and monetary gifts to be presented at the Epiphany dinner.

Parishioners who will be attending the dinner are invited to bring a note or card along with a financial gift, if they wish, to place in the "purse" that will be in Rivera Hall. Those unable to attend the dinner are invited to deliver or send something to the church office so that they can be given to Fr. Pastores along with the other gifts. Please note that any checks given should be made payable to Fr. Pastores, and not to the church. And please remember to bring something for the potluck! Drinks will be provided.

St. Paul's Church

120 North Hall Street
Visalia, California 93291
Church Office: (559) 732-4821
Rivera Hall: (559) 732-4822
Internet: www.spvisalia.com

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Communion Services

Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 AM
Wednesdays at 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM

Clergy and Staff

The Very Rev. Richard I. James, Rector
Elaine McKinney, Parish Secretary
Antoinette Horsting, Financial Secretary
Melvin Morris, Sexton

Members of the Vestry

2009

Kathy Bernardi, Kris Bratton,
Randy Hammond, Kim Robinson,
Chet Smeds

2010

Amy Gunn, Mary Murray
Jack Ramirez, Kashy Rowland-Smith,
William Winn

2011

David Francis, Monica Norton
John Peters, Harry Tow, Larry Wilds

Delegates to Diocesan Convention

Kathy Bernardi, Betty Blackmon,
Kim Robinson, Chet Smeds

Alternates to Diocesan Convention

Amy Gunn, Bill Nebe, Nancy Salmon



Coffee Hour Teams

Thanks are due to the following people who have volunteered to be on a coffee hour team in January:



8:00 AM

3 Janet Smithey
Darryl Smithey
Rick Shaw
Wendy Johns

10:30 AM

Kashy Rowland-Smith
Aron and Nancy Gularte

10 Cathy Guadagni

Alex and Jennifer Peltzer
Cathy Guadagni

17 Mark and Amy Cave

Cyril and Sue Thompson
Dale and Joan Wiley

24 Don and Louise Ford

Franco and Kathy Bernardi
Tom and Pam Brisson

31 Ralph and Diane Friend
Bud Erickson

Sunday Brunch served by
Honduras Mission Team

Anyone who is interested in helping with this ministry, either on a regular or an occasional basis is asked to call Cathy Guadagni or Kathie Shannon.

Sunday Brunch and Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting of St. Paul's Anglican Church will be held in Rivera Hall at 12:30 PM, Sunday, January 31.

Prior to the meeting, and following the 10:30 Service, a brunch will be served by the Sequoia Deanery's Honduras Mission team members. Cost is \$10 for adults, and \$5 for children under twelve.

All proceeds will be used to help fund this summer's mission to Honduras.

Women's Ministries

Thank You, Betty!

The women of St. Paul's Anglican Church are deeply grateful for the dedication and hard work of Betty Peters as she completes three years as President of the Anglican Church Women.

Without her leadership, the work done through the ACW may not have continued. Although her time as President has drawn to a close, she has stated that she will continue to be active and to serve in any way she can. Thank you, Betty!

ACW Board Meeting

The ACW Board will meet at 1:00 on January 11, in the Guild Room. The meeting is open to all, and all board members are encouraged to attend.

ACW Luncheons

There will be no luncheon in January, so the next ACW luncheon will be on Monday, February 1, and will be hosted by St. Mary-Agnes' Guild.

Guild Meetings

Women of the parish are invited to participate in one of the parish guilds, which meet monthly. The next meetings are as follows:

- *St. Mary Agnes' Guild* will meet Monday, January 18, at 10:00 AM, at the Guild Room. Questions about the guild may be addressed to guild leader Carol Whiteside.
- *St. Anne's Guild* will meet Monday, January 18, at 11:45, in the Guild Room. Questions about the guild may be addressed to guild leaders Dorothy Neeley or Maggie King.

Daughters of the Holy Cross

The Daughters of the Holy Cross would like to thank Roslyn Kaiser for her faithful and caring leadership over the last several years.

Her dedication to the Order and her organizational skills were a great asset to the members. Her diligence in keeping the Daughters informed of the transition from Daughters of the King to Daughters of the Holy Cross made the transition smooth and relatively uneventful. Thank you, Roz!

The next meeting of the Daughters of the Holy Cross will be held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, January 14, in the Guild Room. All interested women are welcome. Questions about the Order may be addressed to Betty Blackmon.

From the Parish Records

Deaths

Laura Jacobs – Frances Levy's mother
Gareth Houk - Nancy Houk's husband

Changes to the Directory

Jean Guthrie
Chaste Tree Park and Trinity Senior Living
2948 E. Douglas Avenue #13
Visalia, CA 93292

Freeda Williams
Linwood Gardens
4444 W. Meadow Lane #9
Visalia, CA 93277

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."

St. Paul's Church
120 North Hall Street
Visalia, California 93291

Return Service Requested

The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Paul's Parish in Visalia, California
A California Non-profit Corporation, The Rev. Richard I. James, Rector and President

Wednesday Nights Out

"Wednesday Nights Out" resumes on January 13.
The schedule for the winter and spring is as follows:

- 5:30 ☞ Informal Holy Communion in Rivera Hall
(Child care provided)
- 6:15 ☞ Family-style dining in Rivera Hall
(No charge, but donations accepted)
- 7:00 ☞ Bible study for adults (child care provided)
 - ☞ Bell choir rehearsal
 - ☞ Activities for children and youth
- 7:45 ☞ Choir rehearsal

Parishioners are invited to participate in any or all of the programs and activities. The Wednesday Nights Out program is a great way to get to know other parishioners better, all the while having opportunities for both worship and study.

Thank You!

The clergy and staff would like to thank everyone who sent Christmas cards or dropped off cookies, candies and cakes and other gifts. We appreciate your thoughtfulness at Christmas and throughout the whole year.

Feast of the Epiphany

Wednesday, January 6, 2010

5:30 p.m. Holy Communion

6:30 p.m. Pot-luck Supper