



The Tau Cross



February 2006 The Episcopal Church of St. Matthew, San Mateo, CA Vol. XVIII No. 2

Rector's Message

Is there enough Silence for the Word to be heard?

Joy is Sylvia's favorite word.

Through the years it has become the word that we say to each other as we sit for supper. It's not a wimpy word – but rather an invitation to go deeper within.

The mystic, Julian of Norwich, says that “the fullness of joy is to behold God in all things.”

In “*The Book of Awakening*,” Mark Nepo lays out descriptively what it means to him. “The further I wake into this life, the more I realize that Love is everywhere and the extraordinary is waiting quietly beneath the skin of all that is ordinary. Light is in the broken bottle and the diamond, and music is in both the flowing violin and the water dripping from the drainage pipe. Love is under the porch as well as on top of the mountain, and is both in the front row and in the bleachers, if we were willing to be where we are.”

Tuning and turning.

I have tuned myself to turn to Joy whenever I am called to prayer. Traditionally, prayer bells, in both East and West, are calls for us to take a nose dive into that place called Joy to take a deep breath.

You will have noticed by now that after the readings and gospel/sermon a brief quiet time is called for by the striking of the lower sounding gong and its ending with the tinkling of the higher tone. This is not done merely “to do a new thing.” Rather, it is an answer to the deep eternal question - “Is there enough Silence for the Word to be heard?” Sometimes I feel that the Liturgy gets rolling with one thing after the other with no time to reflect.

We live in such “*motum perpetuum*.” The bells tells us that *imotum perpetuum* is part of the balance of life. The word of God will be more clearly shaped in your memory if you allow yourself to be caught up in “the tintinnabulation of the ringing of the bells.”

Fr. Rob McCann
Interim Rector

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2/3 - *First Friday Supper*
- 2/8 - *“Thank You Chris” Supper*
- 2/18 - *Habitat for Humanity*
- *Men's League Planning*
- 2/19 - *Newcomer's Reception*
- 2/28 - *Carnivale a Venezia*
- 3/1 - *Ash Weds Services*
- *Supper and Lenten Series*
- 3/8 - *Supper and Lenten Series*
- 3/15 - *Supper and Lenten Series*
- 3/22 - *Supper and Lenten Series*
- 3/29 - *Supper and Lenten Series*

Men's League of St. Matthews

Events Coming Up:



February 8th:

"Thank You Rev. Chris" Party! Join us in thanking Chris for his friendship and years of service to our parish.

Evensong 6:00 pm; Social 6:30; Dinner & fun 7pm;

Location: Ward Krebs Room

Cost: 15.00 per person

Rev. Chris Harrigfeld has been a major contributor to St. Matthew's in so many ways. He has helped with staffing, organizing events, giving sermons, working with our parish youth and establishing and running the current after-school tutoring programs for local children. Please send reservations to the church office no later than February 6th.

February 18th:

Habitat for Humanity Multi-Parish Work Day

We encourage men, women and youth 16 or older to come join us for the first of hopefully many inter-faith projects. On Saturday, February 18th, we will be working with people from other San Mateo parishes and temples to help in the construction of one of the many Habitat for Humanity projects in Daly

City. Habitat is looking for people who can build, sing or cook. They need cash donations for construction materials. If you are interested, please contact Steve Whittaker: steve@whittpho.com

March 8th:

The Advancement of Christianity in China

This dinner and lecture is open to the parish and public. The presentation will cover the amazing changes and the progression of Christianity in communist China. Mike Kobel, a long-time parishioner and Vestry member of St. Matthews, recently visited China and will share his discoveries. RSVP to the Church office under Men's League by March 6th.

Men's League/Fellowship is expanding its efforts and we are inviting men of the parish to join us. We are building committees and we need your help to achieve our mission of outreach and fellowship.

Some of the committees include:

- Coffee Hours
- Dinners-Social events
- Outreach-local
- Youth-Mentoring
- Jail Ministries
- Outreach Global

A Note About Next Month's Tau Cross

Due to the vacation schedules of the Tau Cross staff, next month's issue will arrive about five days later than usual. The deadline for submissions will remain the 20th of the preceding month. We apologize for any inconvenience.

The Tau Cross is the monthly parish newsletter of the Episcopal Church of St. Matthew, San Mateo. Parishioners are encouraged to submit for publication announcements, notices, or reports of church or group events, activities, or meetings, and articles of general interest to the parish.

Materials for publication may be sent by e-mail attachment to the Editor, **Beth von Emster**, at [<bvonemster@yahoo.com>](mailto:bvonemster@yahoo.com) or by legible hard copy deposited in the **Tau Cross mailbox** in the church office. The deadline for submitting material to be

published is the Twentieth (20th) of the month preceding the month of publication.



TAU CROSS STAFF

Editor, *Beth von Emster*

Assoc. Editor, *Pat Kresge*

Layout & Design, *Carol Martin*



THE VESTRY of ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH
cordially invites you to

CARNIVALE A VENEZIA

**Tuesday, February 28th, 2006
at 6 o'clock**

Cocktails and silent auction from 6 to 7:15 pm in the Krebs Room

Dinner at 7:30 in Julia Beylard Hall

Live Auction 8 pm to 8:30 pm

- featuring visiting auctioneer extraordinaire **Rollo Shnider** -

With Tim Catlin on the ivories and stuff for "kids"

Authentic Italian dinner catered by **Klaus Wuerhrer** of Danish French

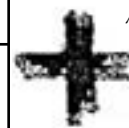
\$30.00 Adults

\$5.00 Kids

see page 5 for more info

**New Lectionary Study Program
on Friday Mornings**

Every Friday morning
from 8:00 - 9:00 in the
Conference Room, Rev.
Bob Caughey will lead a
discussion of the following Sunday's Bible
readings. Coffee, donuts and materials for
the following Friday's study will be provided.
Please contact Rev. Caughey. All are
welcome.



Ash Wednesday
Services
on
March 1st

All services will include the imposition
of ashes.

8:25 a.m. Morning Chapel
9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:10 p.m. Healing Service
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Liturgy



San Mateo Library Foundation Seeks Wall of Fame Nominees

San Mateo's first library was established in 1885 by volunteers of the Episcopal Church of St. Matthew Ladies Guild, who recognized the importance of a shared community resource for literacy and culture. When the newly constructed library reopens this summer, it will include a Community Wall of Fame celebrating the achievements of local citizens and encouraging ongoing support and enrichment of the library. The San Mateo Public Library Foundation seeks the nomination of inductees to the Community Wall of Fame. In light of the historical ties between the library and St. Matthews, the Foundation hopes to receive the nominations of members of this parish.

Nominees must have been born in, live in or work in the cities of San Mateo or Hillsborough. In addition, inductees must have distinguished themselves locally, nationally or internationally in one of the following fields: the arts, architecture, athletics, education, health, business, community service, government service, science, religious and spiritual

communities, and other areas of distinction. Past inductees of the Wall of Fame, who will continue to be recognized when the new library opens, include Barry Bonds, Renel Brooks-Moon and The Honorable Teri Jackson.

Nominations can be filled out personally by the hopeful inductee or in honor of an inductee. All nominations will be reviewed by an independent panel of judges from libraries in the surrounding communities. A special event will take place in honor of Community Wall of Fame winners in June.

Information about the library and eligibility for the Community Wall of Fame along with an application form can be found at www.smlibraryfoundation.org, or at the San Mateo Library and other local branches, or by calling 650-522-7857. The application form also is available in the church office. The deadline for nominations is February 15th.

- Frances Larose

The Rector Search Committee is Selected

Beginning February 26th---

Communion Education Classes For Children Ages 6 Through 12



The Episcopal Church permits all who have been baptized to receive Communion. Your child therefore may or may not have already begun receiving the Sacrament. The purpose of this class is to help children understand what Communion is all about; accordingly, the class will be open to those already receiving Communion as well as those preparing to take Communion for the first time.

Each Sunday afternoon from February 26th through April 2nd, from 4 to 5 pm, the children will gather in the Church to learn the meaning and practice of Holy Eucharist, especially in light of the Episcopal tradition. At the end of the course, special recognition will be given to the class during Sunday services when they will take Communion together as a group.

To enroll your child, or for more information, please call Rev. Beth Parab at 218-1346.

The Vestry is pleased to announce the selection of the 12 members of the St. Matthew's Rector Search Committee. The members were selected from the numerous parishioners who expressed an interest and willingness to serve on this important committee.



The committee was selected to represent our diverse St. Matthew's community and includes current members from the 8:00 & 10:00 services, League for Service, Men's League, Day School parents & board, Altar Guild, Garden Guild, Choir, Sunday School, St. Charles House Committee, After-school Tutoring, former members of the Vestry and of other Episcopal search committees including for Bishop, Rector, and Executive Director. This group ranges from young families to senior citizens and from newcomers to life-long members.

The 12 members selected are *Charlie Bell, Bill Broach, Mitzi Daly, Steve Emry, Tom Hammer, Albe Larsen, Craig Martin, Martha McKenna, Jim Moberg, Michael Pluchar, Whitney Simonds and Judy Stephenson*. Following an organizational meeting later this month, the Committee will be scheduling the Parish-wide Town Hall Meeting to be held in February. Please congratulate these outstanding volunteers and pray for the success of their Committee's work.

*Carnivale a Venezia
is Coming!*

Tuesday, February 28th

Auction Items are needed!

One of St. Matthew's most enjoyable events is the traditional pre-Lenten celebration - this year "Carnivale a Venezia" - with fellowship, entertainment, a delicious dinner and Live and Silent Auctions.



Donations of auction items are needed. Popular items in the past include works of art – oils, water colors, sculptures, etchings, and photographs

– tickets to athletic events, musicals, and stage productions, chinaware, silverware, jewelry, children's parties, accommodations at vacation homes or condos, cocktail parties, luncheons, and dinners.

Search your cabinets and closets, your attic and your basement for auction treasures, then, fill out the accompanying donor slip and turn it in to the Church office.



**No First Friday Supper
in March**

Due to Carnivale a Venezia on February 28th, there will be no First Friday Supper in March.

DONATION FORM

CARNIVALE A VENEZIA
Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Name _____
(Please print)

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Donation Description _____

PLEASE describe your donation clearly including the approximate retail value \$ _____. If the donation is not a tangible item, please describe any restrictions, limitations, dates, times, and furnish any descriptive material such as brochures, photos, directions, menus, etc.

So that a description of your item(s) may be included in the auction catalogue, please return this form to the Church office by Friday, February 24, 2006.

(You may wish to retain a copy of this form for tax purposes. St. Matthew's Tax ID # is 94-1186209.)

Date _____

Donor's signature _____

Questions? Contact Duane Dresser at dresslaw@aol.com

Thank you for your donation.

2006 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN MOMENTUM GROWS!

215 pledges received as of 1/23/06
Dollars raised - \$431,000

The 2006 Stewardship campaign was kicked off on Sunday, November 13th and has already received pledges from 215 parish households. The purpose of this annual campaign is to provide funds for the annual operation of the parish and to continue the growth in our parish ministries. There are still 122 parish households who have yet to make their pledge.

Our 2006 Stewardship goal is to raise \$500,000.00 and we are 86% of the way there. Every parish household should have received their pledge packet in the mail. All parish members are requested to return their completed pledge card and ministry involvement form to the church by Sunday, February 5th either by mail, or by placing it in the designated boxes found at the back of the church each Sunday.

Every parishioner made a commitment to provide financial support to St. Matthew's when they became a member. There is no such thing as a free lunch. This parish has thrived for over 140 years through the annual stewardship of respective generations of members. Each and every one of us now needs to fulfill on our commitment and pledge to lift our fair share of St. Matthew's 2006 financial load.

Please join the following parishioners who have already made their pledges to the 2006 Stewardship campaign as of January 20th:

Mrs. Raquel Aguirre	Mr. & Mrs. Grover Buhr	Mr. & Mrs. Jim DeWitt	Mr. Edward Griffith
Mr. Melvin Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. Dan Callaghan	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Dillon	Gabrielle Gross
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. Victor Carboni	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Dillon	Ms. Patricia Gwin
Mr. & Mrs. K. Scott Armstrong	Mr. Alexander Carleton	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Doherty	Mr. & Mrs. James Hahne
Mrs. Barbara Arnold	Mr. & Mrs. Steven Carleton	Mr. & Mrs. Duane Dresser	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Hammer
Ms. Daphne Atkinson	Mr. Edward Catlin	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dunbar	Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Hardy
Mr. & Mrs. Fernando Balazs	Miss Emma Catlin	Joel & Rev. Stacy Williams Duncan	Rev. Dr. Chris Harrigfeld
Mrs. Suzy Balch	Mr. & Mrs. Tim Catlin	Mr. & Mrs. Pierre Dupont	Mr. & Mrs. Eric Haueter
Mr. Kirk Baldwin	Rev. Robert G. Caughey	Mr. & Mrs. John Duvivier	Mr. & Mrs. David Haynes
Mrs. Eileen Baner	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Cerny	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ebner	Mrs. Harriet Henderson
Mr. & Mrs. William Barkan	Ms. Sylvia Cherry	Mr. & Mrs. Tom T. Edwards	Mr. & Mrs. John Hendricks
Mr. John Bauer	Mr. & Mrs. David Chow	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Emry	Ms. Virginia Hickey
Craig Becker & Louise Ober	Mr. Joe Civallo	Mr. & Mrs. William Fauber	Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Hodges
Mrs. Sally Beise	Mr. & Mrs. James Clarke	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Ferris	Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Hogan
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bell	Ms. Darlia Clerico	Mr. & Mrs. Harold Fick	Mr. Douglas Holt
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bisho	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Cochran	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Field	Stannie Holt
Mr. & Mrs. John Blatt	Mr. & Mrs. John Cockroft	Mrs. Nancy Fischer	Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Hsu
Mrs. Marianne Boll	Ms. Ann Coleman	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Fitzpatrick	Mrs. Jeanette Hufford
Mr. & Mrs. Lance Bosschart	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Coleman	Mr. & Mrs. Sam Folsom	Mrs. Dorothy Jameson
Mr. Charlie Boyd	Mr. & Mrs. Albert Conover	Rosemary Foos	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Jamieson
Mrs. Katherine Boyd	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Costello	Mr. George Forsberg	Mr. & Mrs. Arnold W. Jones
Mr. & Mrs. William Boyd	Ms. Christine Costello	Mrs. Paul Fortmiller	Mr. & Mrs. Herb Kaewert
Mr. William Boyd	Mr. & Mrs. Neal Crispin	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gamlen	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Kalb
Mr. & Mrs. John Brinkman	Mr. Wally Crawford	Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Gantvoort	Mr. & Mrs. Leif Kiewlich
Bill Broach & Nancy Clark	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Daly	Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Garcia Jr.	Mr. Mike Kobel
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Brodnitz	Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Day	Ms. JoAnne Gates	Mr. & Mrs. Howard Kresge
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Brooks	Mr. & Mrs. Michael De Anda	Mr. & Mrs. Ken Gladden	Mr. & Mrs. Sterling Lanier
Mr. & Mrs. Todd Brooks	Mr. & Mrs. Robert D'Elia	Mr. & Mrs. Dick Goddard	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Larose
Robert Brown & Kirsten Hofer	Mr. & Mrs. Rene DesRochers	Dr. Robert Gotcher	Mr. & Mrs. Ray Larsen
Mr. & Mrs. Laurence Buckmaster	Mr. Roger Dewes	Mrs. Nancy Baldwin Graham	Mrs. Mary Lawson

continued on page 7...

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Lee
Mr. & Mrs. William Lillie
Patricia & Leonard Linden
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Lobel
Mr. & Mrs. James Lockerby
Mr. & Mrs. John Lockton
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lye
Mr. & Mrs. Jim MacGregor
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Mike McCall
Rev. & Mrs. Rob McCann
Ms. Martha McKenna
Ms. Sandra McKenzie-Graham
Mr. & Mrs. Michael McNally
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Mersereau
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Miura
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Miura
Mr. & Mrs. James Moberg
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Moberg
Mrs. Milton Molinari
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Moore III
Mr. & Mrs. Damian Morris
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Nash

Mrs. Carol Nelson
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Nelson
Alan Oehler & Victoria Wolcott
Mrs. Sally Oyenuga
Mrs. Laura Pacquet
Mr. Sameer & Rev. Beth Parab
Mrs. Martha Paton
Ms. Gay Patterson
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Payne
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Pendergraft
Mr. & Mrs. John Perrando II
Mr. Troy Pesutich
Ms. Susan Peterson
Mr. & Mrs. Rob Pilgrim
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pitkin
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Pluchar
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Polk
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Polly
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Porter
Mrs. Dorothy Prey
Mr. Bud Purtell Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Quackenbush
J.L. Redmond
Mr. & Mrs. James Reid

Mr. & Mrs. J. Dixon Reilley
Ms. Linda Relyea
Mr. & Mrs. D. Eugene Richard
Mrs. Nan Robertson
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Roe
Rev. Tricia Rosso
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Sasinowski
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Schulz
Mrs. John Scott
Ms. Eloise Severinson
Miss Joan Shangrow
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sharp
Mrs. Patricia Sheline
Whitney Simonds
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Slabach
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sortwell
Ms. Elizabeth Spanjian
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sparacino
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Speas
Mrs. Luna Stafford
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Steele
Mr. & Mrs. John Stephenson
Mrs. Harriett Stinson
Mrs. Martha Stirm

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Stone
Mr. & Mrs. James Stopford
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Stumpf
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. Ned Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. James Teevan
Dr. & Mrs. Roger Tennyson
Ms. Susan Tiner
Ms. Kitty Van Beckum
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Vernon
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Von Emster
Mr. & Mrs. William Wang
Mrs. Sonia Warfield
Mr. & Mrs. David Watson
Mr. & Mrs. John Weatherby
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Whittaker
Ms. Margaret Williams
Mr. & Mrs. David Winslow
Mr. & Mrs. David Wisnom
Mr. & Mrs. John Woodman
Ms. Doe Yates
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Yee
Ms. Gayle Youlden

Annual Meeting Held on January 22nd

A large crowd of parishioners attended St. Matthews' annual meeting in the church on January 22nd. Interim Rector Rob McCann led the parish in prayer and hymn and gave his annual report. Vestry member John Stephenson reported on stewardship (see accompanying article) and announced that a permanent rector search committee will form shortly. Lynzie Haynes gave the treasurer's report and Marilyn Callahan gave the senior warden's report. Details of those reports are set forth in the 2005 Annual Report, copies of which may be obtained from the church office.

Steven Carleton reported the results of the election for three new vestry members. From 250 votes cast, the three candidates elected were: **Sonia Warfield, Betsy McCall and Raymond Schultz.**

Bishop Swing was in attendance and spoke to the congregation about his admiration of the Vestry and of Fr. Billington and his accomplishments as rector. He expressed pride in St. Matthews and optimism that the parish will overcome the challenges of the past year.

The following deanery representatives and alternates were elected: Mike Kobel, Midge Whittaker, Darlia Clerico, Doe Yates, George Edsell, Sally Beise and Bill Lillie; alternates Barbara Arnold, Phyllis Molinari and Albe Larsen.

Magic Words and the 3rd Blank



"I give to _____ Episcopal Church, located in _____, California. In the amount of _____.

Pretty simple. Just fill in the three blanks. Nothing out of your pocket - this won't happen in your lifetime. These words are for your will or revocable trust. After you've filled in the blanks, give this to your attorney. Your attorney can include this language when you do your every-three-years review and revision of your plans. When inserted into your will or trust, these few words can have a tremendous effect.

The first two blanks are easy to fill in - simply the name and town of your parish. The 3rd blank is harder-deciding what to give. It's this 3rd blank that often spurs Episcopalians to call their gift planning officer to see what their best options might be.

Here are some examples of how various people have filled in the 3rd blank:

- \$25,000
- 10% (one-tenth) of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate
- 50% interest in my property located at Any Street, Somewhere, California
- my home located at such-and-such address to be used to provide housing for clergy

After specifying the gift, you may wish to designate a specific use for your gift. Or, you may simply add "to be used for its general tax-exempt purposes and without other restrictions as to use."

In order to reduce possible income taxes due on the estate, the attorney may add this strange-sounding language, "This gift shall be paid out of 'income with respect of a decedent,' as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code, to the fullest extent possible. If such 'income with respect of a decedent' as valued for U.S. tax purposes is insufficient to pay this bequest, then the bequest shall be paid to the extent necessary out of the general assets of my estate." All you need to understand about this is that it may save significant taxes and so preserve dollars for both family and charity.

To remember your church in your will or trust is as simple as it is important. In doing so, you declare your thankfulness to God and your hope for the future.

*The Rev. Richard L. Schaper, CFP
Gift Planning Officer, Diocese of California*

NEWS FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

St. Matthew Chapter Daughters of the King will begin a class for prospective members starting in the early part of February and all women of the parish who are considering becoming members are invited to join. Jackie Buhr, the chapters vice president, will lead the eight week study/discussion program leading to installation as members of the Order of the Daughters of the King. For more information or to register, please contact Jackie.

The Daughters are planning another Quiet Day for our parish during the Lenten Season to be held on March 18th from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at St. Charles House. The women of our parish who attended the last Advent



Quiet Day found a restful time to step apart from busy schedules to pray and reflect on the meaning of faith in our lives. We again extend this opportunity to all women of the parish as we prepare spiritually for Easter. Please feel free to come for all or part of the day as you wish; beverages and a dessert buffet will be available throughout the day. Our program leader will be Nancy Grandfield, Province 8 President. Mark your calendars for a day of peace and enlightenment.

The Daughters' primary purpose is to pray for the needs of our church and for those of its parishioners. If you have need for prayer, let one of our clergy know or write your request on the prayer list at the back of the church.

C.S.R. Valentine Bake Sale Sunday Feb. 12th



A pantry full of home baked specialties will be on sale during coffee hour in Julia Beylard hall following the 8:00 and 10:00 services. Pies, cakes, cookies, muffins and breads - each festively packaged - are perfect family treats or gifts, delicious and valentine-y. Shop early so you can be assured of your favorite selection!

- Nan Robertson

Rev. Beth's Message

Dear friends,

When I was a little kid (picture pig tails and grass-stained pant legs), I was like every other tyke who stares at their dinner plate with a sneer and wonders why mom must torture them so. I mistrusted a great number of concoctions that were placed upon my dinner plate, because the bottom line was, I hated trying new things. In fact, to place all my cards on the table: I still do, sometimes. But, I try to advance my horizons once in a while, hoping that I'll be rewarded for it. I often find that I am.

Over the past year, the Sunday school has tried something new: the first Sunday of the month (between October and May) has been led primarily by the children. And you, as members of the congregation, have had your varied reactions to our little experiment. Your feedback has ranged from enthusiastic encouragement to skipping this service altogether and attending the 8am service on those Sundays. For those planning the service, the reaction has been varied, as well. We have observed that some things worked, while others clearly did not.

All along, our purpose has been to emphasize that children are a vital part of our family. When children know that their participation is valued, they grow up believing that they belong in the Church. As the Proverb states, "Teach a child in the way she should go, and when she is old, she will not depart from it." The "children-led service" was not the perfect answer. But it was a start. In the end, we seek to convey the message of valuing children. Yet we must do so without sacrificing the sense of worship for everyone, whatever their age.

Thus, we arrive at the goal we've been working toward. This Fall, it is our intention to move, as a parish, to a single hour on Sunday morning that is dedicated to Christian Education for all

ages. Yes, Sunday school is for everyone! This will allow us all to deepen our faith not only through worship that families can attend together, but also through a time of study each week. Beginning Sunday, September 10 (as the plan currently states), the Sunday morning schedule would look like this:

8 am- Holy Eucharist, Rite One

9 am- Christian Education for all ages

10:15am- Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

You have questions about how this is going to work, don't you? Who will teach the adult class and what will it be about? What if I like having my children in Sunday school during church, so I can have some quiet worship? The quick answers are that clergy and lay professionals will teach the classes, and the subject matter will probably range from current events in faith to study of scripture. The plan is that children will be invited to sit in the front several pews, where they can see and hear best. Parents will be asked to pick one Sunday a month when they'll sit with the children and supervise them so the other parents can worship quietly. We want to make this transition as positive and smooth as possible. And of course, you'll be hearing lots more about this in the months to come. It's a work in progress, and we want to hear from you any ideas or concerns you may have. We pray that the changes we eventually make will be a new horizon of blessing for all of us at St. Matthew's, and for those we may draw into our family!

Blessings,

Rev. Beth



Come One, Come All to the first "First Friday Supper" of 2006

Join us for the first Friday Supper on February 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in Julia Beylard Hall. Please Bring an appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert for 8, along with a beverage of your choice. Come as you are and enjoy a relaxed evening of conversation over dinner. Child-care will be provided.

*- Hosted by "Friends of First Friday"--Judy Stephenson,
Betty Slabach, Albe Larsen, and Jenny Mathes*



Angel Sightings

Halos and thanks to parishioner **Sonia Warfield** as she retires from her role as director of circulation of the Tau Cross after over five years at the post. Sonia juggles many other commitments to St. Matthews. As Altar Guild director, Sonia organizes legions of volunteers as they set up for Sunday services, weddings and funerals, prepare beautiful floral arrangements, care for the linens and the clergy's vestments, and polish the silver and brass implements. Sonia also dedicates countless hours as vice-president of St. Dorothy's Section of the League for Service. In addition she has worked on the hospitality committee and after-school tutoring program.

Milestones at St. Matthew's



Anniversaries

Lois & Duane Dresser, 51 years on January 15th



In Memorium

Richard Ober, beloved husband of Barbara Ober and father of parishioner Louise Ober, December 25th

William Ashton, beloved husband of Fay Ashton, January 8th

Misuse of Parish Directory



The Parish Directory of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, including all personal information, such as telephone numbers and home addresses, is for internal parish use only. The use of this information to publicize personal events, agendas, or information is not in keeping with the stated use of the Parish Directory, and of the privacy of those listed in it. It has come to the attention of our office that many parishioners recently felt that their expectation of privacy was violated, in the form of mass mailings that were received twice in the week before the Annual Meeting of the parish. While parishioners are encouraged to make use of the directory to contact other members of the community, mailings such as these are not authorized by this parish. They are, in fact, in blatant violation of the privacy of our parishioners who did not solicit those letters and they violate the trust placed inherently in us as a Christian institution that we will protect that information and not abuse it. We pray that this is an isolated incident and that no further misuse of our directory will occur.

- the Rev. Rob McCann & the Rev. Beth Parab

Inquirer's Class: Episcopal Church 101 - February 5th through March 5th -



Are you an adult interested in Baptism or Confirmation? Are you new to the Episcopal Church? Are you a lifelong Episcopalian who has always wondered, "Why do we do that?"

A class is forming now to study the Sunday morning service (a.k.a. Eucharist Rite II), which will involve discussion of Episcopal Church history, theology (what we believe about God) and liturgy (how we express what we believe through ritual). Wondering why the colors in the Church keep changing? Wondering if you should stand or kneel? Wondering how we can be Catholic and Protestant at the same time? Join us each Sunday from 11:45 to 12:30 in the church for this exciting exploration of the Episcopal Church! Whether you've been an Episcopalian for 50 years or 5 minutes, we guarantee you'll learn something new. For more information or to sign up, please contact the Associate Rector, Rev. Beth Parab, at 218-1346 or beth_parab@yahoo.com. Everyone is welcome!

St. Matthew's Calendar for February 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 8am - Eucharist Rite I 10am - Eucharist Rite II Rev. McCann, <i>preacher</i> 11:45 Inquirer's Class	6 9am - Morning Prayer	7 9am - Morning Prayer	8 9am - Morning Prayer 12:10pm - Healing & Eucharist 6:00 "Thank you Chris" Party	9 9am - Morning Prayer	10 8:00 Bible Study 9am - Morning Prayer	11
12 8am Eucharist Rite I 10am Eucharist Rite II Rev. McCann, <i>preacher</i> <i>C.S.R. Bake Sale</i> 11:45 Inquirer's Class	13 9am - Morning Prayer	14 9am - Morning Prayer	15 9am - Morning Prayer 12:10pm - Healing & Eucharist	16 9am - Morning Prayer	17 8:00 Bible Study 9am - Morning Prayer	18 <i>Habitat for Humanity</i> <i>Workday</i> 6:30 Men's League Planning Session
19 8am Eucharist Rite I 10am Eucharist Rite II Rev. Parab <i>preacher</i> 11:45 Inquirer's Class 4:00 Newcomers' Reception	20 9am - Morning Prayer	21 9am - Morning Prayer	22 9am - Morning Prayer 12:10pm - Healing & Eucharist	23 9am - Morning Prayer	24 8:00 Bible Study 9am - Morning Prayer	25
26 8am Eucharist Rite I 10am Eucharist Rite II Rev. McCann, <i>preacher</i> 11:45 Inquirer's Class 4:00 Communion Class	27 9am - Morning Prayer	28 9am - Morning Prayer <i>6pm - Carnevale a Venezia</i>				

THE TAU CROSS ☩ FEBRUARY 2006



*The Episcopal Church of St. Matthew
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*The Rev. Robert McCann, Interim Rector
The Rev. Beth Parab, Associate Rector
The Rt. Rev. G. Richard Millard
The Rev. Edward A. Wicher
The Rev. Stacy Williams Duncan, School Chaplain
The Rev. Dr. Christopher Harrigfeld, Deacon
The Rev. Tricia Rosso, Deacon*

The Episcopal Church of St. Matthew is a family called by Christ...

*† to live God's Love,
† to share the Gospel,
† to grow Spiritually*



Come celebrate with us!

*Services are 8 and 10a.m. every Sunday;
Morning Prayer, 9a.m., Monday - Friday;
Holy Eucharist and Healing 12:10p.m., Wednesdays*