



# The Tau Cross



March 2006 The Episcopal Church of St. Matthew, San Mateo, CA Vol. XVIII No. 3

## RECTOR'S MESSAGE

### *Sunday Lectionary Circles and Wednesday Supper Series during the Season of Lent*

(I hope that mouthful doesn't void the spirit of 40 Days and 40 Nights).

Ellis Peter's novel about the exploits of Brother Cadfael, 12th century sleuth, continues to intrigue me. It describes a heated dispute over the resting place for the bones of St. Winifred. Rival Benedictine houses at Shrewsbury and Ramsey, as well as Earl Robert Beaumont, contend for possession of these highly prized remains.

They finally agree to settle the dispute by the method of divination. Each claimant for the relics approaches the Bible with eyes averted, randomly turns the pages and points to a passage. The verse provides some clues as to how the dispute ought to be resolved.

As Anglicans we shudder at such vain misuse of Scripture.

In essence biblical writings record the history of salvation and prompt the reader to prayerful study. Our approach to faith is to give balanced consideration to Scripture, tradition (how the words are received and lived), reason and experience. Out of that abundance can come a direction as to how to live and what to believe.

May I invite the parishioners of St. Matthew's, during this season of Lent, to take Scripture to your heart and mind? On our vestry retreat we spent time in thinking of ways to bring the community together in a strong, reflective way. Two opportunities are offered:

1. Join Sunday Lectionary Circles (with coffee in hand) during the first five Sundays of Lent in Julia Beylard Hall from 9:10 – 9:50 a.m. A facilitator will guide you in circles of five to focus on the Gospel of the day by asking how it "speaks to you." It's an amazing sharing process that will bring about a fresh appreciation for Scripture.
2. Join "Rabbinical Judaism and Classical Christianity: Continuity; Confrontation; Separation." The series of five Wednesdays beginning on Wednesday, March 8th will be conducted by **Fr. Bruce Bramlett**, an Episcopalian priest and teacher for Lehrhaus, an institute of Jewish study. Each session begins with the Lenten Supper (6:30 -7:15 pm), followed by the discussion from 7:15-8:30 pm (Supper will continue until 7:30 should you arrive late). Childcare is available by calling our church office at 342-1481.

"Liberating the Gospels" says, "So the Gospels were born – not as chronological biographies describing literal events in history, but rather as collections of expository teaching or preaching that had been created in the same way that the rabbis would bring about what came to be called *midrash rabbah*."

Blessings,  
Fr. Rob, Interim Rector

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3/1 - Ash Weds Services
- 3/5 - Inquirer's Class
- 3/8 - Supper and Lenten Series
- 3/15 - Supper and Lenten Series
- 3/18 - Lenten Quiet Days
- 3/22 - Supper and Lenten Series
- 3/29 - Supper and Lenten Series

## Congratulations and Thanks to Altar Guild and League for Service Members



During the 10:00 service on February 12th, Fr. Rob McCann commissioned members of the Altar Guild and League for Service. They were thanked and commended for their wonderful service to St. Matthew's Church.

The parish thanks the following Altar Guild members: Sonia Warfield, Directress; Jackie Buhr, Treasurer; Marianne Boll, Secretary; Fusi Pahulu, Chairperson for supplies; and, Susan Peterson, new member.

The parish also thanks the following League for Service members: Albe Larsen, Directress; Elizabeth Weatherby, Vice-president; Judy Stephenson, Treasurer; Midge Whittaker, Secretary and church periodicals chair; Jenny Mathes, Parliamentarian; Betty Watson, Outreach Secretary; Brenda McLean, Thrift Shop Manager; Patricia Cockcroft, Coffee Hour chair, Nancy Fischer, First Friday chair; Betty Slabach, Special Events chair and Historian; Lynzie Haynes, Devotions chair and Vestry liaison; Lois Dresser, Staff liaison; Whitney Simonds, Garden Guild liaison; Sonia Warfield, Altar Guild liaison; Kitty van Beckum, St. Catherine's chair; Nan Robertson, Christian Social Relations chair; Allison Figge, St. Dorothy's chair; and, Stephanie McLeod, Church Women United liaison.

### NEEDED...

Hosts for the Coffee Hour after the 10:00am service on:



June 4  
July 2, July 23  
August 27  
September 3  
January 28, 2007

Please contact Patricia Cockcroft.

### **No First Friday Supper in April**

Due to the proximity of Easter to the first Friday in April, there will be no First Friday Supper that month.

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>** 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.

Please feel free to direct any questions or comments about the Tau Cross to Beth.

#### **TAU CROSS STAFF**

Editor, *Beth von Emster*  
Assoc. Editor, *Pat Kresge*  
Layout & Design, *Carol Martin*

*Beginning April 23rd*

### **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 April 23rd through May 28th 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 342-1481.

### ***Save the Date: Bishop Nominee Walkabouts***

Your opportunity to meet the nominees for election as the eighth Bishop of California will come during the “Walkabouts,” now set for April 24–29, 2006. *Each will last about three hours*, will take place on week day evenings (with one exception) at different locations, and will be open to all clergy and laity. The dates and locations are:



**Monday, April 24**, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco  
**Tuesday, April 25**, St. Paul's, Oakland  
**Wednesday, April 26**, St. Paul's, Walnut Creek  
**Thursday, April 27**, St. Stephen's, Belvedere  
**Friday, April 28**, St. James', Fremont  
**Saturday, April 29**, St. Peter's/El Buen Pastor, Redwood City

All walkabouts start at 6:00 p.m., except the event at St. Peter's/El Buen Pastor will be on Saturday morning starting at 10:00 am.

For more information or to read the biographies of the five nominees, go to **[www.bishopsearch.org](http://www.bishopsearch.org)**.

## Welcome Newcomers to St. Matthews!



**WELCOME**

The Hospitality Committee was thrilled to have 20 visitors at its informal welcoming party on February 19th at St. Charles House. Their paths to St. Matthews were sometimes quite similar, yet often varied. Seeking a spiritual home and fellowship were common goals. One newcomer, **Nicola Gordon**, had been here only a week, but her lifelong search for meaning had included exploration in many spiritual directions, including meditation, an ashram, and wide reading of philosophic thought. We hope she will stay with us. Another guest was a lifelong Episcopalian from Pittsburgh, **Dottie Prey**, moving here to be near her children. From Half Moon Bay came **Judy Campbell**, retired owner of Coastal Art Gallery there.

Coming from Texas were **Chris and Emily Massey**, he a retired tax attorney and she a former elementary school teacher. Another recent newcomer to California was **Teresa Menzie**, who moved here from New York City. Mountain biking, skiing and brewing beer were among **Ryan Hogan's** interests. He, Jennifer and their two small daughters stated a desire for a welcoming church that challenged its communicants to "live and act like Christians." Mentioning similar goals were **Cherise Cunha and Todd Billeci**. Retired teacher **Sandy Bird** already is helping with tutoring at St. Matthews. Her former classes at Lowell High School in San Francisco were 50% Asian immigrants, the majority of whom went on to college. **James McClung** was one of several new members interested in pursuing Bible study.

While it was impossible to get around to all the newcomers, this reporter was intrigued when **Jo Anne Gates**, a retired math and science teacher from Borel Middle School, told of her former husband's grandfather going to his clothing store in Burlingame by horse and cart, pictures of which she treasures.

To help the guests know more about the church, representatives of the various leagues and services briefly explained their activities and outreach. The new hospitality chairman, Jeri Blatt, led the meeting.

- Pat Kresge

### Lenten Quiet Day - March 18th

The Daughters of the King are planning another Quiet Day for our parish during the Lenten Season to be held on March 18th from 10 am - 3 pm at St. Charles House. The women of our parish are invited for a day to pray and reflect on the meaning of faith in our lives as we prepare spiritually for Easter. Please feel free to come for all or part of the day; beverages and a dessert buffet will be available. Our program leader will be **Nancy Grandfield**, Province 8 President.



Parking is available on the street or in the city garage across the street from St. Charles House. For more information please contact Gabrielle Gross.

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.

### Summer Program for Non-English Speaking Children

In conjunction with Mills Hospital, a summer program is being planned for four and five-year old non-English speaking children. This program will acquaint these children with the English language. The class will include basic preschool activities such as identification of objects, numbers, colors, and shapes, songs, playing, and arts and crafts. The class will not include reading instruction.

There is a need for individuals who have knowledge of Spanish to assist in the program. Please contact Rev. Chris Harrigfeld if you know of a child who might benefit from the program or you would like to volunteer:

phone 342-1481 ext. 390.

*Rev. Beth's Message*

Dear Friends,

In my teenaged youth, people asked me (on more than one occasion), "You aren't one of those 'religious' types, are you?" What a question! Not really a question at all, really, but more of a way to communicate the speaker's discomfort with my faith. And why were they uncomfortable? Perhaps they thought I would try to force them to convert. Perhaps they felt that I would judge them based on a value system they didn't espouse. Perhaps they did espouse my value system, but felt they weren't living up to it. Whatever the case may have been at the time, the memory has stayed with me.

Religion provides so many of us with a sense of joy for all the blessings God has given us - most especially, abiding love. We find in our Church family a place of acceptance, belonging and peace. We've claimed the love and grace of Jesus for ourselves, and hope to share it with others. Then why are people who don't go to Church so uncomfortable in our presence? Frankly, because the face of the Church has changed a lot since Jesus' day. Back then, it was just Jesus walking around with anyone who followed him. Most of the people who did were poor, sick, or outcasts of one kind or another. They must've looked like a bunch of ruffians to all the "proper" folk in town. The ones who "belonged" with Jesus were those who got raised eyebrows from passersby. And who were the ones giving those raised eyebrows? They were the law-abiding citizens who fit in. To be sure, they attended worship regularly, paid their taxes and steered clear of sinners.

The fact is that Church is a hospital for sinners. But it's easy to forget that, and those looking in at us from outside might not see that, either. To an outsider, we might very well look like a bunch of elitists who've got that "sin" thing mastered (or else think we do). Either

we look daunting in our "perfection" or arrogant in our hypocrisy. It takes a lot for a group that claims to follow Jesus to keep its eye focused on Him. More and more often, the only face of Christianity that people see is from the media, reporting the ways we fight with other faiths, or even amongst denominations! What others see, therefore, are the ways we try to keep people who aren't "like us" out, rather than the Love that welcomes everyone in.

To be faithful to His standards, we must actively welcome all who come by here. We are only a reflection of the face of our Lord if all are welcome among us. Do the homeless know they belong here? Do the prostitutes know they belong here? Do the thieves, liars and cheats know they belong here? Do the sick, lonely, disabled, depressed and mentally ill know they belong here? Do children, young singles, single parents, and aged know they belong here?

We're a very diverse group here, no doubt. So please, don't everyone call me up to defend how great we are at welcoming. I know we are. But it behooves us to reflect often on whether we are truly reaching out. We can all too easily mistake passively noticing another's presence for being welcoming. Remember, someone welcomed you once to this parish family. They helped you find your way; showed you where things were and introduced you to others. When was the last time you made a newcomer feel welcome, or invited someone to attend Church with you? Each of us is Jesus' hands, feet, voice and heart in this world. The outsiders' perception of "religion", "Church" and our own parish family can only be positively influenced by our actions. That means, by the "hospital for sinners" model, that patients welcome other patients. We all acknowledge that there is only one Doctor, we all are in equal need of His care, and no one is discharged until they go Home.

Faithfully,  
*Rev. Beth*

## 2006 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN RESULTS

As of 2/19/06, 228 Parish households have made pledges or donations totaling over \$443,000 to the 2006 Stewardship Campaign. The purpose of this annual campaign is to provide resources for the operation of the Parish as well as the expansion of our growing Parish ministries. Member pledges account for nearly 60% of our annual Parish revenue and are the key to balancing our budget.

Our goal for the 2006 Stewardship Campaign was to gather pledges for \$500,000 and we have made it 89% of the way there. The Church will continue to accept new or increased pledges throughout the year from newcomers or ongoing Parish members.

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



Mr. & Mrs. Howard Kresge  
Mr. & Mrs. Sterling Lanier  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Larose  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Larsen  
Mrs. Mary Lawson  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Lee  
Mr. & Mrs. William Lillie  
Patricia & Leonard Linden  
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Lobel  
Mr. & Mrs. James Lockerby  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lye  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim MacGregor  
Mr. & Mrs. David Marquardt  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Martin  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike McCall  
Rev. & Mrs. Rob McCann  
Ms. Martha McKenna  
Ms. Sandra McKenzie-Graham  
Ms. Brenda McLean  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael McNally  
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Mersereau  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery Meyer  
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  
Ms. Karen 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  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Quinlan  
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  
Mrs. Jean Steel  
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. Allison Willard-Figge  
Ms. Margaret Williams  
Ms. Winnie Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. David Winslow  
Mr. & Mrs. David Wisnom  
Mr. & Mrs. John Woodman  
Ms. Doe Yates  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Yeager  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Yee  
Ms. Gayle Youlden  
Mr. Paul Zen

## *From the Diocese...*

Much has been in the news lately about court decisions on church property issues and what can be considered as assets with cash value for settling law suits. At the March 23rd meeting of the Guild of St. Yves, attorney **Michael O. Glass** will discuss the matters before the task force assessing potential property and financial issues before the ECUSA. He will discuss legal issues facing churches regarding real property and just what recent court decisions might mean to local churches as well as the implications to the Diocese of California. The evening will begin with 5:15 Evensong, refreshments, dinner, and Mr. Glass' presentation at 6:00pm in the Chapter Room on the Close at Grace Cathedral. Cost is \$20 per person. For reservations, email [adairh@diocal.org](mailto:adairh@diocal.org) or call 415-869-7811.

*Michael Glass is the principal attorney at the Law Offices of Michael O. Glass in San Rafael, California, founded in 1999. His practice consists of representing individuals, businesses, and other organizations in general business and corporate matters including a broad transactional and compliance practice; representing clients involved in complex real estate financing and commercial real estate transactions and litigation; and serving as outside general counsel for businesses with risk management strategies and management of complex litigation. Michael Glass has been involved with a national task force charged with assessing potential issues facing ECUSA with respect to real property disputes within the Church.*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

**Family-Oriented Services:** We no longer will have "children-led" services, but the first Sunday service of the month will continue to be family-oriented. During those services the children may sit in the front pews of the church with their teachers and volunteers, act as greeters and help with the Offertory. The service will be planned with the whole family in mind, and quiet activities will be available for wiggly ones who need a distraction. The nursery remains available.

### Mark Your Calendars For These Upcoming Events:

**March Sunday School Schedule:** March 5, Church service; March 12, Mystery of Easter; March 19, Faces of Easter I; March 26, Faces of Easter II. Please contact Janine Gerzanic if you can help out in Sunday School this month - we can always use another pair of hands.

**Easter Sunday, April 16:** After the 10:00 service, the children will embark on an Easter Egg hunt, meet the Easter Bunny, pet live bunnies and enjoy refreshments.

**Eastertide Pageant, April 23:** The Sunday after Easter the children will perform a brief (six-minute) Easter musical, complete with soldier costumes. We need adult volunteers to sing, help with rehearsals and play the piano. Please contact Janine Gerzanic at [j9gerz@rcn.com](mailto:j9gerz@rcn.com) if you can help.

Women's Afternoon High Tea for parish girls and the women in their lives, and Father/Son Day for parish boys and the men in their lives: Details in next month's issue!

**St. Matthews Summer Camp:** Back by popular demand, the Sunday School will hold a summer camp in August. This year the focus will be a drama workshop with the assistance of a Christian theatre group. More details coming soon!





## Angel Sightings

Halos and thanks to parishioners **David Chow** and **Dick Goddard** for their tireless service to St. Matthews as ushers at the 8:00 service every Sunday. In addition to greeting, passing the collection plate and cleaning up after services each Sunday, both David and Dick serve the parish in other ways. David counts the collection from both Sunday services and makes the bank deposits. Dick is a reliable office volunteer every week and videotapes special church services.

### *Milestones at St. Matthew's*



#### *Baptisms*

**Rylan Lee Bush**, February 12th  
**Stuart Callender Dorman II**, February 19th  
**Stuart Callender Dorman III**, February 19th  
**Andrew James Crimmins**, February 19th  
**Lauren B. Gebala**, February 19th



#### *Marriages*

**Sandra Riley & Joe Sullivan**, February 4th  
**Susan Straccia & Mark Rupert**, February 4th

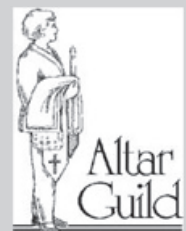


#### *In Memorium*

**Dorothy F. Montague**, beloved parishioner  
**Dick Ebner**, husband of Faye and beloved parishioner, February 6th

## CONSIDER THE ALTAR GUILD

Are you looking for a quiet, dignified and dedicated ministry? Looking for a way to serve our God and our Church? Consider the Altar Guild—no dues or fundraising required. You are welcome to settle your curiosity; we invite you to attend the next Altar Guild meeting on Sunday, March 19th at 11:35 a.m. in the Library of Julia Beylard Hall.



Get in touch - no strings attached! Call Directress **Sonia Warfield**.

## The Two-I Test

“Betty and I have already done our planning,” the gentleman responded when he learned that part of my ministry is assisting people with their wills and estate planning.

“Good!” I replied. “Or, it may be good-- if it passes the Two-I test.” “What,” he asked, “is the Two-I test?”

“Some people,” I explained, “make plans to give everything to their children without asking themselves how this may affect their children’s Integrity and Initiative.”

“Hmmm....” He seemed to be thinking-- perhaps about what consequences his current estate plan might have for his daughter and son.

Giving too much, or in the wrong way, or everything at once can have unintended harmful consequences, I reflected. I told him of my visit to a young man in jail who had gotten off on the wrong track when he inherited too much too soon.

As every parent knows, gifting to children can be tricky. To each equally, or according to need, or according to ability to use it well? Now, or later?

One approach that helps to preserve an inheritor’s

integrity and initiative is to spread the inheritance out over time, giving the recipient time to learn how best to use and manage it. Instead of a single lump-sum inherited all at once, parents might consider providing a series of predictable payments spread out over a number of years.

An excellent way to do this while also possibly reducing taxes is by using a charitable remainder trust that pays income to children for a period of years. At the end of the term of years, the principal in the trust may be distributed to church and other charitable organizations. This is sometimes referred to as a “Give It Twice Trust,” since it gives the same gift first to children (income), and then to charity (principal). This could be one way to make a generous gift to your church while caring for the best interests of the children.

Make no mistake about it, being good stewards in making gifts to our children is no easy task. The Two-I test may help us to think through a plan that holds most promise in our family’s own circumstances. I’m always happy to help you to think through your options.

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



### Episcopal Church 101: A Debriefing on the Inquirer’s Class

The Rev. Beth Parab and parishioners Doe Yates and Anne Emry are leading 15-20 inquirers on a spiritual and intellectual journey through the principal teachings of the Episcopal Church. In five sessions after the 10:00 service on Sundays, the class aims to analyze and generate discussion about the basic doctrines of our shared faith and the elements of the Sunday and daily services.

The inquirers bring a variety of perspectives to the class, from newcomers seeking an overview of the church’s primary teachings to “cradle Episcopalians” seeking a deeper understanding of church practices. Topics of discussion have included: the threefold sources of authority in Anglicanism (scripture, tradition, reason); an historical overview of the church and how history has shaped our modern worship; the creation and significance of each element of the Nicene Creed; and, the church calendar and the meaning of the colors used to mark each of its segments. Classes continue through March 5th. If you are interested in attending a future inquirers class, please contact Rev. Beth Parab at 342-1481 or [beth\\_parab@yahoo.com](mailto:beth_parab@yahoo.com).

## St. Matthew's Calendar for March 2006

St. Matthew's Calendar for March 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
8am Eucharist Rite I 10am Eucharist Rite II Rev. Parab, <i>preacher</i> 9:10 Sun. Lectionary Series 11:45 Inquirer's Class <b>5</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>6</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>7</b>	9 am Morning Prayer 12:10pm Healing & Eucharist 6:30 Weds Supper Series <b>8</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>9</b>	8am Bible Study 9am Morning Prayer <b>10</b>	8am Bible Study 9am Morning Prayer <b>11</b>
8am Eucharist Rite I 10am Eucharist Rite II Rev. McCann, <i>preacher</i> 9:10 Sun. Lectionary Series <b>12</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>13</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>14</b>	9 am Morning Prayer 12:10pm Healing & Eucharist 6:30 Weds Supper Series <b>15</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>16</b>	8am Bible Study 9am Morning Prayer <b>17</b>	10-3:00pm Lenten Quiet Day <b>18</b>
8am Eucharist Rite I 10am Eucharist Rite II Rev. McCann, <i>preacher</i> 9:10 Sun. Lectionary Series <b>19</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>20</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>21</b>	9 am Morning Prayer 12:10pm Healing & Eucharist 6:30 Weds Supper Series <b>22</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>23</b>	8am Bible Study 9am Morning Prayer <b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
8am Eucharist Rite I 10am Eucharist Rite II Rev. McCann, <i>preacher</i> 9:10 Sun. Lectionary Series <b>26</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>27</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>28</b>	9 am Morning Prayer 12:10pm Healing & Eucharist 6:30 Weds Supper Series <b>29</b>	9am Morning Prayer <b>30</b>	8am Bible Study 9am Morning Prayer <b>31</b>	

## THE TAU CROSS & MARCH 2006



*The Episcopal Church of St. Matthew  
1 South El Camino Real  
San Mateo, CA 94401  
Tel: 650.342.1481  
[www.episcopalstmatthew.org](http://www.episcopalstmatthew.org)*

*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 Holy Communion 12:10p.m., Wednesdays*