



Church Mouse

News & Events from St. John's Episcopal Church • Oakland, California

March Calendar

- March 2-4 Women's Retreat
- March 3 - Saturday
1:00 p.m. - Paul von Ehrenkrook funeral
- March 4 - 3rd Sunday in Lent
7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist
5:30 p.m. - Youth Group
- March 6 -Tuesday
5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. - Pizza Club
6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life
7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. - Singers' Forum
- March 7 - Wednesday Lenten Series
6:30 p.m. - Soup Supper
7:00 p.m. - Lenten Program
- March 8 - Thursday
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sopranos & Altos)
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Tenors & Bases)
- March 9-11 Men's Retreat
- March 11 - 4th Sunday in Lent
7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist
1:00 pm - Youth Group Movie trip
A Wrinkle in Time
- March 12 - Monday
6:00 p.m. - Ministry Catalyst meeting
- March 13 - Tuesday
5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life
7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal
- March 14 - Wednesday Lenten Series
6:30 p.m. - Soup Supper
7:00 p.m. - Lenten Program

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Rector Proclaims, "Alleluia"



There I said it. I said it even though we are not supposed to use that word in Lent. Traditionally the "A-word" is removed from our liturgies during Lent and only re-introduced at Easter when we double down and use it twice saying "Alleluia, Alleluia" at both the breaking of the bread and the dismissal. We do this all the way through Pentecost where we then drop back to using it once. It is the Anglican way you know: All things in moderation.

I get it. There are times when we walk to Jerusalem and it seems inappropriate to celebrate with so much suffering around us. It's like those prime time comedians, who, after 911, were tongue-tied knowing that laughter was not welcome when we found ourselves dealing with a devastating tragedy. There are certainly times when celebration can be inappropriate. So yes, I get it.

But isn't there something to celebrate in the midst of tragedy? What I am celebrating recently is the response I see to the suffering in the world. I see congregations collaborating in ways they never have before. I see the forces of isolation and individualism being overpowered by the desire for justice and compassion. I see the inter-faith community coming together to

combat homelessness. I see the older generation, the most powerful demographic in this country, coming together to organize for the good of all. I see women more empowered than they have been at any point in history. I see people of all ethnic backgrounds open to a depth of conversation and collaboration I have never experienced before. What an amazing time we live in. Suffering has catalyzed this. This revolutionary energy has emerged out of the ashes of so many. It has been inspired out of the awareness of the death of Alleluia's for so many. To this we say "NO!"

Here is a suggestion. What if we walk to Jerusalem this Lent, not with our ash stained heads lowered and dragging our feet? What if we walk towards Jerusalem with defiance knowing that even if it could cost us everything, we will overcome? Perhaps faith is seeing the victory that emerges from the ashes. Anne Lamott promoted the phrase "Alleluia Anyway!" That is the banner we walk with through Lent.

Lent is a call to action that both acknowledges the suffering in the world but also inspires us to move toward it and engage it with courageous faith. It is within such defiant faith where joy is found because such faith defines who we are and who we can be. To this I say, not just alleluia, but ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Scott+

Senior Warden Describes Vestry Retreat



The Annual Vestry Retreat was held at the very rustic St. Dorothy's Rest from February 2-4, and it was a very busy weekend! Although two of our number were absent due to illness (both are on the mend), the rest of us worked hard to flesh out an action plan for the coming year and a vision for the future of St. John's. Not an easy task when, as you can see from the photo, the weather was absolutely spectacular!

But work we did, and I am very pleased to say that we do have a plan! While there are so many tasks that need doing, the discussion we had about each of them made it clear to all of us that we could not possibly accomplish them all in one year.

Enter the Strategic Plan! Cathy Crocker walked us through the new plan and helped us to see how we could extend some of these tasks out a year, two years, three...well, you get the idea. I think we all left energized about the work we have to do, and now that we have a plan, how



that work is going to be accomplished. Now we just have to figure out the WHO - and that is going to involve all of you. The Vestry cannot possibly do this alone, and we will soon be sharing our goals and tasks with you! Everyone at

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March Calendar

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March 18 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist

9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. - Family Service

2:00 p.m. - Sacred Space

4:00 p.m. - Berkeley Bach Cantata Group
Concert

5:30 -7 p.m. - Youth Group

March 19 – Monday

7:00 p.m. - Vestry meeting

March 20 - Tuesday

5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. - Men's Group Dinner Meeting

6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life

7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. - Singers' Forum

March 21 - Lenten Series

6:30 p.m. - Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. - Lenten Program I

March 22 - Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Sopranos & Altos)

7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Tenors & Basses)

March 24 - Saturday

10:00 a.m. - Easter Choir Rehearsal with Brass

March 25 - Palm Sunday

7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist

9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group and Mission trip
meeting

March 27 - Tuesday

5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal

6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life

7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal

March 28 - Wednesday

Noon - Memorial Eucharist with light lunch

March 29- Maundy Thursday

5:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m. - Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. - Eucharist with foot washing and
stripping of the altar

March 30 - Good Friday

6:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Liturgy with
Procession of the Cross

March 31- Easter Vigil

7:00 p.m. - Eucharist

April 1- Easter Day

7:30 a.m. - Early Eucharist

8:30 a.m. - Youth Choir Rehearsal

9:00 a.m. - Family Eucharist

10:00 a.m. - Egg hunt

10:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist with Brass

Senior Warden Letter

—Continued from Page 1

St. John's has a stake in this, so please give serious consideration to volunteering to help. We are all in this together!

Just so you know – here are your Vestry Members:

Kathy Araujo, Senior Warden

Cynthia O'Malley, People's Warden

Steve Baronian

Lone Beeson

Paul Brumbaum

Cathy Crocker

Bryan Culp

Mike Helms

Louise Miller

Shirley Saunders

Ian Storrar

Please feel free to approach them with questions or concerns! We are YOUR Vestry!

St. John's Episcopal Church

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*It ys a sotyll mouse that slepyth
in the catty's ear.*

—Hilles *Commonplace Book*, 1530

The Year in Worship

Eucharistic Lectionary: B

Daily Office Lectionary: Year A

Advent Eve 2017 to Advent Eve 2018



Sanctuary Redesign Update



The new layout for the sanctuary is in place! Thanks to the help of the Holy Order of Pew Movers, the Altar Guild, and members of the Men's Group everything was ready for Ash Wednesday. Thank you! The redesign will be used for our services through Palm Sunday, before we return to our traditional layouts for Holy Week and Easter.

As such a people friendly congregation, the idea of the redesign is to bring God right among us! The altar has been brought down into the sanctuary and the choir moved to the far side. Hopefully this Lenten practice will help all of us reflect on how, and where, we encounter the Divine.

After Easter there will be chances to offer impressions and an evaluation will be shared. In the meantime, if you have questions, thoughts, or comments, please contact Peter Homeyer (phomeyer@ses.cdsp.edu). And make sure you come and experience the change for yourself!



Treasurer Reviews Finances



Greetings to all generous supporters of St. John's! We have completed another year of financial stewardship and before we let go of 2017 I want to take a moment to recap our success and fill in information on the big picture of financial operations.

To me the statement that best reflects this grand achievement is the Statement that shows the Sources and Uses of Funds outside of the Church Operating Fund, outside the Capital Campaign Fund (Time to build up or Invitation Bridge Fund) and outside of the Rector's Housing Fund. Those funds have separate Income and Expense statements that I share month-

ly with the Vestry and which are available to all through the Vestry records and Finance committee reports. They were also presented to you at the annual meeting.

But in addition to those operating statements – presented here is some vital statistics from the 2017 Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds:

Please let me know if you would like a copy of the complete statements of 2017 including the full statement of sources and uses of funds for the year 2017. They will be included in the Vestry minutes for the Annual meeting and the February Vestry meeting.

Please email your request to me at treasurer@stjohnsoakland.org

Sincerely,
Lilah Greene, treasurer

Funds set aside for future operations (moved to restricted funds)	\$45,903:
Rent revenue reserved for maintenance of our properties:	\$23,561
Auction proceeds reserved for 2018 budget:	\$16,142
Grant revenue set aside for 2018 operations:	\$5,000
Operating revenue contribution to the Discretionary funds:	\$1,200
Restricted Revenue received in 2017:	\$93,067
Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Music fund gifts and grants:	\$21,765
Refugee project gifts:	\$21,085
Outreach partner gifts:	\$17,560
Gifts to support Scholarships to retreats and education programs:	\$10,145
Youth Mission and Youth Outreach project gifts:	\$9,428
Discretionary fund gifts:	\$6,158
Additions to the Social Justice Fund:	\$5,220
Funds received for Sacristy/Sanctuary improvements:	\$1,700
Restricted Funds applied:	\$119,324
Maintenance reserve funds used for property maintenance and repair:	\$25,519
Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Music fund gifts and grants applied:	\$22,315
Funds used for Sacristy/Sanctuary improvements:	\$16,908
Outreach partner funds disbursed to partner organizations:	\$16,587
Refugee project expenses:	\$10,832
Scholarships to retreats and education gifts applied:	\$10,202
Discretionary fund spent:	\$9,261
Youth Outreach gifts sent to partner organization:	\$7,500
Social Justice Funds used:	\$200

Nicholas Opiyo Continues His Work



Martha Helms sent in more good news about Nicholas Opiyo who has visited St. John's and inspires people with his work of protecting civil liberties and promoting civil rights for all. His organization, Chapter Four, has a website that

provides more information. <http://chapterfouruganda.com/> Here are his updates from Kampala, Uganda.

1. I was picked to address the UN Human Rights Council session in Geneva and I will be there at the end of the month. I will speak to them about the situation of human rights defenders and the closing of civic space in Africa. I am excited about that and I am looking forward to it. It is a short address of max 5 minutes, but a great opportunity to share our work and thoughts with the UN Human Rights Council.

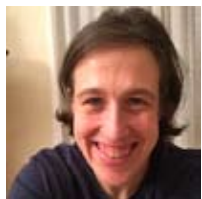
2. I will then go back to Geneva in March as part of the expert team selected to fine-tune guidelines for the monitoring of LG-BTI person liberty (in detention). It's a team of 15 global experts put together by APT, a Geneva-based anti-torture group. We will take our experience in Uganda to inform the discussion on this important subject.

3. Back home, there is not much going on at the moment save for our preparations for the second Annual Human Rights Convention taking place in April. We are working on partner collaborations and putting together the panel discussions. We will have Maina Kiai, the former UN Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Association and Assembly come to give a keynote address.



Throwing Privilege Into Stark Relief: White Women, Racism and #MeToo

By Kathleen Moore



When I read any story, I tend to put myself somewhere in the narrative, projecting myself onto certain characters. I find the character I end up “trying on” generally has something in common with me. In the tale of the woman who anoints Jesus just before the passion narrative begins, I project myself onto her. Hearing the angry protests of the men in the room, I project the oppression I experience as a woman (particularly a woman in the church) onto hers. I project my #MeToo stories onto hers. And this may be useful as an initial way to engage with scripture, but it is also problematic. Because when I project myself onto this woman, I project my whiteness as well.

Of the many #MeToo stories I have taken in, I’ve been most struck by those that start out recounting a scenario similar to something I have personally experienced. I put myself in the narrative, as I usually do. But then, these stories take an unfamiliar turn. These turns occur when misogyny is compounded with racism, xenophobia and classism, to name just three. These turns occur when I realize the projection no longer works. These turns throw my privilege into stark relief.

I am a victim of an oppressive system of sexism and misogyny in the church, and I have spent a good deal of time reflecting on that these past few months. But I am also a beneficiary of an oppressive system of white supremacy in the church. As it turns out, I may be the anointing woman in the story. But I am also her male oppressors in the room. And I am spending this Lenten season repenting of that role.

In my zeal to advocate for my own rights as a woman, it is so easy to ignore my role as oppressor. It is so easy to convince myself that all our stories as women are the same, but only a person on the privileged end of a system of oppression would be able to think that, and thinking that allows me not to listen to those Jesus tells us to.

I know one season of prayer and reflection is only the first step in the process of repentance. It will likely be a lifetime of ongoing work to continue to learn what actions I must take to match my intentions. As a start, I am actively preventing myself from projecting my whiteness onto any of the extraordinary women who appear in our Lent and Holy Week stories: the woman who anoints, the women at the foot of the cross, the woman who is the first witness to the risen Christ. I am remembering that listening to women of color means I must, much of the time, keep my own mouth shut and make space for other voices. I am watching for when my advocacy for all women excludes women of color. In all areas of church life, I am noticing whether women of color are being represented and speaking up if they are not.

White women have experienced and continue to experience harassment, abuse and assault within our church. This is highly traumatic and deeply painful, and not to be ignored or taken lightly. We must allow ourselves space for lament. However, we must not imagine that lamentation cannot and should not exist alongside repentance. Over and over, Jesus tells us to listen to those we are trained not to hear. He tells us these people have untold value. He tells us, as in the case of the anointing woman, that they should be remembered. The church has a long history of ignoring its role as oppressor while upholding its role as oppressed. This does not lead to justice. This season of Lent, I invite other white women in the church to join me in repenting of our roles in an oppressive system, even as we lament our own suffering.

Kathleen Moore is St. John’s current seminarian, a second-year MDiv student at CDSP, a postulant in the Diocese of Vermont and the communications manager at Canticle Communications.



Maundy Thursday Overnight Vigil

Could you not stay awake with me one hour? - Matthew 26:40

Maundy Thursday St. John’s will offer an overnight vigil, leading into Good Friday. The vigil is traditional way to prepare for one of the most difficult days in the church year. It will be held in the Vestry Room, beginning after the Maundy Thursday service, and with a set-up similar to last year. Sign up as individuals or pairs “to keep watch for an hour” during the evening of March 29th or morning of March 30th by contacting Peter Homeyer (phomeyer@ses.cdsp.edu or 616-540-5245).

Brian Is Remembered



Although Brian Marion died on February 29, 2016, his legacy endures through all the gifts he gave to St. John’s, the Boy Scouts, Oakland soccer and his community. Jim Bowman has completed the installation of a plaque for Brian. Here is what he said about the plaque which is mounted on a wall next to the sacristy.

“Some background: This is Acacia Koa wood, found only in the Hawaiian Islands. I’ve been saving this remnant (and hauling it around) since I bought the boards for my first handmade clock in 1974.

In the native Hawaiian language koa means brave, bold, and fearless. It is unusually colorful. Remind you of anyone?

I placed a Boy Scouts of America 30 year member pin on the top right, and an Episcopal Diocese of California enameled logo on the left.

It was a pleasure for me to help honor a good friend.”

Lenten Series Continues

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John

The Wednesday evening Lenten series called Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John has been designed and produced by the Society of St. John the Evangelist and the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary. Participants will journey into deeper intimacy with God by praying with the words of John the Evangelist (who happens to be our patron saint!). The remaining meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and include a soup supper in the Reception Room. Come a little early to help set up or stay after 8 p.m. to clean up.

- February 28
- March 7
- March 14
- March 21

You will find a link to a video invitation to the series from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on St. John's website: <http://www.stjohnsoakland.org/news/2018-lenten-series>

Each participant will receive a really lovely prayer journal that offers space and inspiration for reflection and prayer each day of Lent. Participants may also sign up for daily emails, and participate in the on-line social media community of Episcopalians across the country taking part in the series.

During our Wednesday meetings at St. John's, we will have a meal together, pray, watch videos from the monks of SSJE, have discussions, and participate in activities based on 5 unique themes: God is Love, The Word Became Flesh, Close to the Father's Heart, I Have Called You Friends and Abide in Me.

This is a chance to use this Lenten season to "take a breath," and remind ourselves where and how we meet Jesus in the world. Please join us, I'm looking forward to it!

To learn more, go to: MeetingJesusinJohn.org or SSJE.org

Kathleen Moore, Seminarian

Change the Date: Parish Work Day is April 7



Saturday, April 7th is our first of three parish work days and barbecue. Come celebrate the beginning of the Easter Season with your friends at St. John's. For early birds join me at 8 a.m. to do basic set up for the day and get started. If you come early remember there is just parking I will rope off in the back due to the large AA meeting. The rest of you can start arriving at 10 a.m.

We will work till about 3-3:30 and focus on sprucing up the church and grounds for Easter. We will have cobweb patrol, yard trimming and grounds work. If I locate someone to go on the roof we will clean the solar panels and the gutters. There are "opportunities" to clean the windows, change light bulbs, wipe down the pews, maybe some painting!

There's always some "would like to do" work if there are enough volunteers: we would like to paint the two upstairs bathrooms, clean up and organize the kitchen while cleaning out the refrigerator, and organize the church school supply closet. If you attend I will find work for you!

Around 3-3:30 we start putting away tools and the supplies we have used. By 5 we will be nibbling on cheese and crackers and visiting. By 5:30 we should be eating dinner. Again this year I'm asking you to bring something to share and something to barbecue. What will you bring?

For worktime please dress accordingly if working inside or outside; bring some tools if you have them for the work you are about to do. Questions? Offers? Please contact your In Reach Catalyst Ken Fuller either at thunder572002@yahoo.com or call 510-531-7357.



Men's Retreat 2018

March 9-11
Bishop's Ranch – Healdsburg, CA

Raising up a man

"We must conduct our struggle in the high place of dignity and discipline, only from a place of rising up; and not seek to satisfy our thirst for drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. That's pushing down." – MLK (paraphrase)

What does it mean to be a man in our time and place? A husband or partner? A father or son? A coach or counselor or patriarch?



Barn Raising

The answers our culture has historically provided to these questions are in flux. And Christian and Biblical sources provide guidance that often seems out of context today, or just irrelevant.

Today men too often are not "raised up" to be the best they can be, but instead live down to the expectations of popular media in our secular age. When men "drink from the cup of bitterness," the results are not pretty, as we have seen.

St John's men's group is a community that has served for many years to raise us up to the "high place." In this our 15th annual retreat, we will draw on a variety of readings, film clips, etc. to open conversations about our personal journeys. The weekend will also be a "barn raising" where we raise each other up to be our best selves in our families and our communities, and especially the St John's community.

The cost is \$228 for the weekend.

Contact Paul Brumbaum at pbrumbaum@earthlink.net to reserve a spot or get more information.

St. John's Family



SHIRLEY SAUNDERS and DAVID MUIR SHARNOFF were proud parents at the Bentley School Dual Campus Jazz Concert. KEZIA, a member of the Middle School jazz group, played music by Cole Porter, Horace Silver and Duke Ellington. MAX, performing with the Upper School bands, played selections including Charlie Parker's "Dexterity" and Billy Strayhorn's "Take the 'A' Train."



Ash Wednesday at St. James Food Pantry had BELLA SEMPARI, KATHIE HELLER, SALLIE SADLER, CYNTHIA O'MALLEY and CAROLYN GEORGE on hand to organize the food distribution...

SARA and JOE EVINGER enjoyed a few days with friends at Yosemite which included the Valley Floor Tour, some rain, some hail, some snow, some fog and a fair amount of sun...



JUDY JACKSON, BRENNIA, ANDREW and BENNETT GUSTAFSON enjoyed a reunion with KELSEY MAC in Denver. Kelsey is now working as an admissions counselor at 2U there. Bennett enjoyed his first time in the snow...



ERNEST and JULIE KNELL celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary with friends and family on a Bay cruise organized by SARAH BOOTH and EMILY KNELL SPAETH...



JOHN CULLOM met the newest "member" of the YOUganda rugby team during his recent visit to Fort Portal, Uganda, his "home away from home." This little one's dad is a member of John's staff...



Modeling Activist hats made by several of our knitters, St. John's members responded to a reading from Timothy during a sermon by Peter Homeyer. We will not be silent: we will do the work we have been given to do. L – R: Cheryl Keller, Sara Evinger, Nancy Swearengen, Kathleen Moore, Franny Baronian, Sylvia Ahern, Elizabeth Ann Doyle, Nancy Roscelli, and Peter Homeyer.

NANCY SWEARENGEN and JIM HASLER have joined a group called "TOSCA" that performs a set of patriotic songs for the Naturalization Ceremonies that are held at the Paramount Theater each month. They both report that it is a tremendously moving and satisfying experience...

ANDREW ROBINSON is volunteering with Genius: he is here training to be an ESL teacher, then will move to another country to teach English...

Youth Notes

Confirm not Conform

Confirm not Conform Information Open House is on Sunday, April 15 from 11:30 -12:30 in the Youth Room. All youth and their parents who are going into 7th grade or older are invited to learn about St. John's Confirmation program which will run from September, 2018 to May, 2019. This is a great time to listen, ask questions and begin the discussion as a family about CnC.

The Rev Scott Denman, Kellor Smith and a few youth who have been part of CnC will be presenting the program. Interested friends are welcome, too. RSVP to Kellor@Stjohnsoakland.org



Looking for a few Easter Bunnies

We are in need of some volunteer bunnies to prep the week before Easter and more bunny helpers on Easter. You will be placing nickels in plastic eggs, or helping hide them or making goody bags.

We are also looking for a few volunteers to work the Egg Table. As they turn in their eggs they can use their nickels to vote for an out reach project that we will receive the dollars collected.

Please contact me at kellor@stjohnsoakland.org.



Youth Pilgrimage Fundraiser

These Emergency packs are great for your home, workplace, cars, school lockers, and back packs. They make great gifts for neighbors, friends and family.

Sales will on held on Sundays during the coffee hour. \$20 per pack

March 4
March 11
March 18

Or you mail a check with the number of packs to St John's /attn. Kellor Smith, 1707 Gouldin Rd. Oakland, CA 94610. Make checks payable to St. John's and memo 'youth mission trip'.



Children's Bibles

Bibles for Kindergarten through 3 graders will be handed out during the family Service on March 18. The bible is easy to read with lots of photos.

Please email Kellor with your child's name and grade. The bibles will be inscribed with their name and date. The deadline to email her is March 1. If you cannot be there on March 18, please let her know so that we can present it on another Sunday.

kellor@stjohnsoakland.org



Honoring Ivonne Gonzalez



Join us as we honor Ivonne Gonzalez /nursery staff on Sunday, March 18 during the family service. Ivonne has been welcoming our youngest parishioners for the past 30 plus years.. She is often one of the first people that new parents meet when they come to St John's.

Often when a youth or a young adult is here on a Sunday, they stop in to say "Hi" to Ivonne. She has also trained many of our youth in childcare as they worked alongside her each week .

Kellor asks each family who has had a child in the nursery here at St Johns to be part of honoring her on March 18. She will have flowers to give out to each of you . Then we will invite you up to hand her a flower. That is going to be a lot of flowers! So if your child or grandchild is an infant, toddler, teen or a young adult, please be ready to let her know how much we have appreciated her through the years.



Pizza Club

Pizza Club is Tuesday March 6 from 6-7 p.m. for 3rd through 6th graders.

\$ 5 per child and please RSVP to Kellor at kellor@stjohnsoakland.org.

We will not be meeting in April.

Give It Up For Lent

Give It Up For Our Schools

On March 18th at the 10 a.m. family service we will build an altar out of reams of paper and boxes of school supplies. Our Eucharist will take place from that altar and as part of the dismissal we will pack the altar into the rector's truck and take it to two Title 1 schools that have entirely run out of basic supplies. Teachers have been left to buy toner, glue sticks and paper to get through each week of lessons.

This action is being done in conjunction with other congregations, and it is accompanied by a special meeting with our new superintendent to strategize about a more permanent solution.

We are asking congregants at each congregation to offer school supplies in Lent by bringing much needed items to church. Lists are available on our website and in our Friday email announcements. Some may prefer to write a check rather than bring supplies, but the situation is so desperate that anything would be welcome.

For many Lent is a time to give something up but it can also be a time to pay something forward. This is a way to do both. Please consider making an offering and joining us in an effort that not only remedies an immediate need but is working for a more permanent solution.

Give it up for Lent! Give it up for our Schools!

Pancakes, Pancakes, Pancakes

The Youth Group and their helpers fed the congregation on Shrove Sunday, February 11th, between the services and after. All the festive Mardi Gras decorations were out to remind the parish, LENT IS COMING! EAT NOW!



Palms to Ashes

It is a tradition at St. John's to invite Pizza Club attendees to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday. On February 6th, Rev. Scott assisted the youth in setting fire to some of the palm fronds that were left from Palm Sunday, 2017. Then they were used in the February 14th services.



St. John's Episcopal Church **PIZZA CLUB**

WINTER-SPRING 2018

EACH MEETING INCLUDES PIZZA, GAMES,
WRITING OF PRAYERS AND MEDITATION TIME

March 6 Sardines



May 1 Ice cream soda party



WHO All children in grades 3 - 6

WHERE The Youth Room, upstairs at St. John's Episcopal Church
1707 Gouldin Road, Oakland

WHEN 1st Tuesday of each month from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

WHY To play games, talk, eat pizza/veggies & have fun with friends (Sardines, too)

COST \$5 per meeting for food

HOW Please RSVP to Kellor by the day before the meeting so we'll have enough pizza/veggies for everyone - 510-219-3156 or kellor@stjohnsoakland.org

FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

All children with great behavior are invited. Poor behavior may result in being asked to miss a meeting.

St. John's Bulletin Board



Mouse Deadline Is March 15

Please send your articles and photos for the April issue by Sunday, March 18. St. John's monthly newsletter publishes essays, articles, event information and all items of interest to our community. All files may be emailed to Laurie Bennett at lebennett1950z@gmail.com.

Free Concert on March 18



St. John's hosts the Berkeley Bach Cantata Group concert on Sunday, March 18 at 4 p.m.

This amateur chorus, directed by Ernest Knell, practices regularly at St. John's and performs occasionally.

Parishioners, friends and family of the performers with an interest in this repertoire are cordially invited to attend as the audience.

EmergencyPack

An essential component of your earthquake planning

Makes a GREAT gift!

Keep one at your workplace (or school locker), vehicle and in your evacuation kit.

The EmergencyPack is designed to provide one person with essential emergency preparedness supplies for three days. Supplies are contained in a waterproof zip-slide bag that stores easily at home, at the office, at school, or in a car. Each EmergencyPack has a 5-year shelf-life.

The emergency food in this kit is ready-to-eat with no preparation required. Each food bar is divided into six premeasured 400-calorie meals. These non-thirst-provoking emergency food bars have a pleasant lemon flavor and are enriched with vitamins and minerals that exceed the RDA recommendations. They hold up in extreme temperature of between -40° F and 300° F (-40°C to 149°C) and contain no cholesterol or tropical oils. In addition, each food bar is safe for vegetarians and those allergic to nuts, is Kosher, and meets the dictates for Halal.



The EmergencyPack Features—

- 1 Zip-Slide Bag (Waterproof)
- 1 Emergency Food Ration (2400 Calorie)
- 6 Emergency Drinking Water Pouch (4.22oz)
- 1 Dust Mast (Flat)
- 1 Emergency Survival Blanket
- 1 Hand-Squeeze LED Flashlight
- 1 Whistle with Lanyard
- 1 Emergency Information Card

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St. John's vision is to manifest God's love through invitation, inclusion, faith and action



St. John's Episcopal Church

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Church Mouse News