

# THE CLARION

ST. CLEMENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 2011



## From the Rector's Desk

This edition of the Clarion is the first to be sent out primarily by email. If this is a "success" we may continue this practice, while making copies available at church and forwarding paper copies to parishioners who are not computer-friendly. Using email saves a significant amount of time and money, as well as is more ecologically appropriate. We welcome your feedback.

While some may say that an electronic newsletter is a sign that St. Clement's is slowly entering the 21st Century, the truth is that we are in the process of retrieving and re-creating our mailing list, due to a crashed computer hard drive. We are updating technology in order to ensure future safety of information.

All of you are in my prayers as we celebrate the rest of this Epiphany season, enjoy our Mardi Gras party on March 5th, and prepare to observe a holy Lent.

In peace,

Bruce D. O'Neill

## FAITH TALK

Since an important component of Lent is to deepen our Faith, the rector is facilitating a 9 o'clock Forum series, "FaithTalk." This should be an enjoyable way to explore our Faith, ask questions, and share in thoughtful conversations. Come join us Sundays at 9AM in the Conference Room, March 13 through April 10.

## REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Annual Reports of St. Clement's ministries in 2010 are available in Palache Hall and in the church. One of the highlights of the annual parish meeting was the announcement of the Linda and Victor Gavenda Endowment. We received an anonymous gift of \$30,000 "in honor of the selfless years that the Gavenda family has given to the youth and congregation of St. Clement's, and to ensure that their gifts are never forgotten." Income from this generous gift will assist our music program for generations and appropriately recognizes and gives thanks for the Gavenda family's contributions. The rector would like to note that this Endowment makes Linda's retirement during his tenure not an option.



## ST. CLEMENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[www.stclementsberkeley.org](http://www.stclementsberkeley.org)

2837 Claremont Blvd., Berkeley, CA 94705  
Phone (510) 843-2678 — Fax (510) 843-1320

The Rev. Bruce D. O'Neill, Rector  
[bruceoneill@earthlink.net](mailto:bruceoneill@earthlink.net)

Linda Gavenda, Office Admin.  
[stclements@earthlink.net](mailto:stclements@earthlink.net)

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday  
9:30 AM to 1:00 PM

## SUNDAY

### 8:00 AM—Holy Communion

1928 Book of Common Prayer (every Sunday)

### 10:00 AM—Choral Eucharist

1979 Book of Common Prayer (Rite 1)  
(1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th Sundays and Festival Days)

### 10:00 AM—Choral Morning Prayer

1928 Book of Common Prayer (4th Sundays)

## WEDNESDAY

### 11:30 AM—Holy Communion

1928 Book of Common Prayer



# MARDI GRAS PARTY

PRE-LENT CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, AT 5:30 PM

AN ALL-AGES SOCIAL EVENT  
BRING YOUR FAMILY

DINNER OF PANCAKES AND/OR JAMBALYA  
WITH SALAD AND KING CAKES

FEATURING DANCING TO THE MUSIC  
OF OUR OWN MEGAN HEALY'S BAND  
RHYTHM BOUND.

COSTUMES WELCOME WITH A PRIZE  
FOR THE BEST!!!!!!

MASK AND BEADS FOR ALL

BABYSITTING AVAILABLE 5:30-8:00 PM  
FROM OUR WONDERFUL SUNDAY BABYSITTERS

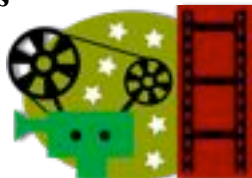
MOVIE FOR THOSE CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
WHO DO NOT WANT TO DANCE



## MOVIE GROUP:

### The Academy Awards

We recommend watching  
*The King's Speech*, *Black Swan* (now playing) and  
*The Social Network* (DVD).



We will watch the awards at the Solis house  
with a potluck dinner and great fun. Sunday,  
February 27. Be there when they start.

Call 510-530-0899 for directions.

## CRAB FEED NEWS

Thank you to St. Mary's Guild: Deedee, Mandy, Kay, Doris, Linda G, Kathy, Betsy, Sue, Claire, Kathleen, Katie, Diana, and a special thank you to Sandy and Linda D (co-chairs), Barbara (crab wrangler) and Karin (tickets, seating).

We had great help from bartenders David Stone, David Cunningham, Victor Gavenda, Ed Waller, Bob Heimbucher, Pat Peters, Ron Solis (wine buyer), and Chip Sterling (also did clean up).

Our special wait staff of Bruce, Michele and Jeremy O'Neill was a delight for all of us in the St. Mary's Guild group.

Thank you to all who attended—  
a fun, fun evening!!!



## ST. CLEMENT'S PARISH RETREAT



April 1-3, 2011

**Bishop's Ranch  
in Healdsburg**

**SAVE THE DATE**

## LET LIGHT PERPETUAL SHINE UPON THEM



Robert Peterson  
Lindsay Mary Cobb  
John Lipscomb  
Juli Gillett  
Jane Aldrich Akin  
Keith Eric Elsam  
Daisy Jurd  
Edgar Chloupek  
James Boornazian

### A letter from St. James Pantry to St. Mary's Guild

Dear friends in Christ,

Thank you for your donation for the support of the Emergency Food Pantry at St. James Church!

Frankly, I am sometimes frustrated by what happens in the Pantry. For example, today in the midst of tightly scheduled appointments for food, one recipient brought an additional person. I struggle with the issue of how to squeeze "extras" in, without causing needless delay for those who have made an appointment for food. But then I realized that this is a case of needy people wanting to share help and resources with another needy person. It is an expression of care for another human being usually, with another family. The resource they want to share is yours—your gift, your kindness, your reaching out, your love. On their behalf, thank you!

Your acts of kindness touch such a wide variety of people! Thank you again!

In Christ's Name,  
The Rev. John Rawlinson, Pastor

## WE WELCOME INTO THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

*baptized December 5, 2010*

Sofia Hélène Loza



### UPCOMING BAPTISMS

May 1, 2011

June 12, 2011

*If you or a loved one is interested in Baptism,  
please contact the clergy.*

### A letter from Episcopal Charities to St. Clement's Church

Thank you for your gift of \$5000 in support of Episcopal Charities. Your support is crucial to our goal of addressing the root causes of poverty in the Bay Area.

Episcopal Charities Action Network members are making a critical difference, having a real impact. Our Healthcare, Education, and Environment Action Networks draw together people from all walks of life who are passionate about breaking the cycle of poverty. We seek out projects that stop poverty at its source, and provide professional volunteer services and funding to help them grow into strong forces of change.

Thank you for your commitment to our work. We are confident that, together, we can improve the lives of countless individuals and families in our community.

Faithfully,  
Jan Parkin, Executive Director

*Note: This donation was made from the Roland  
& Lucille Buchanan Endowment Fund.*

## ST. CLEMENT'S BOOK GROUP



You are invited to join the St. Clement's Book Group on Tuesday evening, February 22, at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room in Palache Hall for a discussion of *The Sparrow* by Doris Russell.

Bring something to share: a beverage, a savory appetizer or snack, or a sweet. We promise lively discussion, great fellowship and, if previous gatherings are an indication, enough wonderful food to make a satisfying supper! Mark your calendar now; we'd love to have your company!

Questions?  
Contact Sue Malick at 510-654-3038  
or [suemalick@gmail.com](mailto:suemalick@gmail.com).

## Worship in the Wilderness

by Meg Gentes

*Originally published in the January 2011 edition of The Lion, the newsletter of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Berkeley, CA. Reprinted with permission.*

To be honest, reading scripture aloud outside on a wet Saturday morning in the East Bay Hills made me self-conscious at first. Our Worship in the Wilderness ministry group of seven walked along together stopping periodically to form a circle and offer sections of the service led by our celebrant The Rev. Salyng Wong. What could people be thinking who saw us standing in the middle of the road reading from the Bible? Four hikers approached as we walked at Alvarado Park and asked "Is this the way to Inspiration Point?" We told them they were about six miles away and gave them directions. Inspiration Point? Was this a cosmic message to show us we too were lost, and looking for inspiration, or that my embarrassment about reading the Bible out loud outdoors was unnecessary?

It also seemed curious that we were enacting a structured communion service to commune with nature. Do we not see nature by just being in it? How does a formal service connect us with the abundant diversity of the environment? As a long time hiker/camper I support conservation groups, feel at home outdoors, and experience a deep connection with the beauty and diversity of nature. What can a service conducted inside the walls of the church mean in this wall-less context? I remembered John Muir's statement that "hills and groves were God's first temples."

It was a wet day. The air was filled with mist which got denser as we proceeded up the paved road. As we finished the OT reading we turned up hill and began to sing a hymn. We soon realized how difficult it is to hike uphill and sing at the same time. We entered a gated pasture where the trail became a rutted, dirt road on an open hillside. It was too misty to see very far. Then we turned off into an overgrown area. The trail narrowed significantly and was very slippery. It was one of those situations in which you tried to find a piece of turf to step onto that remained an island above the mud as you gingerly picked your way along. We ducked under branches, thorns caught our jackets, and the smell of vegetation, earth, and cow paddies surround us.

Finally we arrived at the campus of an old sanatorium filled with brambles and bay and oak trees. The mansion that had served as its main building has long since burned down and most of its stone foundations are now overgrown with brush. Descendants of rose vines planted by the original inhabitants wind around an old trellis. In the early and mid-20th century the sanatorium was prosperous and had its own dairy, vegetable gardens and apple and palm trees. The palms, now 20 feet tall and 100 years old, are conspicuous among the California oak trees. Despite the wildness of the vegetation there was a hint of the grounds and roadway.

One of the remaining stone foundation walls provided the altar for the celebration of the Eucharist. We stood in a circle as the celebrant laid a cloth on the wall and set the chalice and paten on it. We prayed together, and each person offered their own petitions and intentions. At the Peace we looked into each others' eyes, hugged and offered each other the Peace of the Lord. At this point I began to feel a shift in my perception of where I was and who I was with. We had become pilgrims on a journey in the great outdoors, focused on the life of the spirit. Our specific location didn't really matter so much; we were travelers.

This feeling of a shift in perception intensified at the consecration and sharing of the Host. The circular space we created as we stood together began to feel like a receptive center, an empty space. The words we said and the offering and acceptance of the Body and the Blood-one person to the next around the circle-created a powerful experience that is hard to put into words. It was as though the inner eye and heart participated in a vastness that was connected with many parts. The perceptual realm we were a part of expand from the center in all directions and up into the sky.

It was then I felt the lack of walls. I saw that the church is not the building; it is the community. What happens at the altar in the communion is not limited by the walls and roof. In nature where there are no visible walls the Body of Christ, the bushes and trees and mist and water and we ourselves became as one through spirit. It was humbling and empowering to feel a part this incomprehensible vastness.

Worshipping in nature gave me the opportunity to experience a different perspective on the Eucharist as a direct statement and vehicle of communing with all that is seen and unseen. I began to appreciate how this simple ceremony has retained its powerful meaning in any context, place, or time period. In describing the Worship in the Wilderness ministry, Justin Cannon says it is a "time to gather not to 'use' or simply 'care for' the earth, but to recognize and honor our intended communion with all of life." He sees this ministry as part of the tradition of the nature mystics, such as John Muir, Thomas Merton, and St. Francis of Assisi. Until now I had not realized how much I had seen nature as "object" and had not recognized the significance of walls, physically and psychologically. We walked with God and God is in us in the Church of the Outdoors.

## ABSALOM JONES CELEBRATION

### May Our Story Long Be Told



The Afro~Anglican Commission of the Episcopal Diocese of California in conjunction with the Northern California/Vivian Traylor Chapter of the Union Of Black Episcopalians cordially invite you, your family and friends to attend the 2011 Absalom Jones Celebration.

Please join us on Saturday, February 19, at 11:00 AM, as we celebrate the life and legacy of the first African-American Episcopal Priest in the United States (1804).

The celebration service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland, with fellowship in the Parrish Hall. Bishop Mark Andrus will be the eucharistic celebrant and the Rev. Dr. Kortright Davis of Washington D.C. will preach. A combined choir from St. Clement's, St. Augustine's, St. Mark's, and more will sing spirituals, gospel songs, hymns and anthems.

### The Board of Overseers of An Episcopal Ministry to Convalescent Hospitals

cordially invites you to join us with Bishop Marc Handley Andrus and Sheila Andrus to celebrate our 30-year mile-stone on our "Founder's Day." The beautiful jazz vocals of long-time AEMCH minister Marsha Thomas-Thompson will be featured, with words of wisdom from the Bishop and wonderful fellowship, wine and hors d'oeuvres! The event will be free of charge and full of fun.

**Saturday February 12  
Reception at 5:00 PM**

**All Souls Parish, Berkeley  
2220 Cedar Street**

We hope you will join us  
as we live into our  
anniversary motto:

**"30 Years and Still Shining!"**

### The Lectionary



*Fifth Epiphany, Feb. 6*

Psalm 112:1-10  
Isaiah 58:1-12  
1 Corinthians 2:11-6  
Matthew 5:13-20

*Sixth Epiphany, Feb. 13*

Psalm 119:1-8  
Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37

*Seventh Epiphany, Feb. 20*

Psalm 119:33-40  
Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18  
1 Corinth. 3:10-11, 16-23  
Matthew 5:38-48

*Eighth Epiphany, Feb. 27*

Psalm 131  
Isaiah 49:8-16a  
1 Corinthians 4:1-5  
Matthew 6:24-34

*Last Epiphany, March 6*

Psalm 2  
Exodus 24:12-18  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### VOLUNTEERS AND UP TO \$10,000 FOR ALAMEDA PROJECTS

Did you know that Episcopal Charities Alameda Action Network (ALAN) is searching for collaborative projects in Alameda deanery to receive professional volunteers and financial support?

Please bring your list of projects and ideas to our next meeting!

Episcopal Charities' ALAN will meet on March 21 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (114 Montecito Ave, Oakland) from 7-9 PM.

At this meeting we will put together a master list of potential projects.

Please put this date on your calendar and RSVP to Justin Cannon ([jcannon@episcopalcharities.org](mailto:jcannon@episcopalcharities.org)) or call 415-869-7810 if you plan on coming.

### PRAYER LIST

**In Our Parish:** Burrill, Ginny, Frederique, Jody, Margaret, Gail, Nauvelene, Margaret, Doris, George Ann, David, Jennifer, Laura

**Friends & Loved Ones:** Katie, Barbara, Ned, Jean, Lee, Brad, Joanne, Ginger, Norma, Nick, Johnny, Earl, Arlene, Rob, Rosemary, Barbi, John, Marilyn, Prajhan, Suzie, James, Ronald, Linda, Johnny, Bonnie, Candace, Benjamin, Sally, Alex, Nit, Veronique, Theresa, Carrie, Salying, Janet, Inge



*Many thanks to everyone who has made a commitment to St. Clement's for this year! We currently have 124 pledges totaling \$271,752.*

*—St. Clement's Vestry & Stewardship Committee*

Kellie & Steve Abreu, Marjorie Alvord & Michael Berry, Jack Andrews & Katharine Kates, Chris Bailey & Liz Tracey, Marion McConnell Bailey, Schuyler & Susie Bailey, Doris Balfour, Natalie Balfour & John Cove, John Ballantine, Helen Barber, Bernadette Bell & Ken Wachter, Nauvelene Blaisdell, Suzanne Bodor-Billings, Jane Brooks, The Very Rev. Don & Carol Anne Brown, Christopher Buckley & Patricia Vanderberg, Kathryn Burns & Antonio Rossmann, Margaret Bush, The Cartmell Family, Mary Louise Chapman, David & Diana Chappell, Robert & Pamela Clark, Sherman Clark & Barbara Smith, Catherine Cohen, Megan Colwell, Betsy Connell, Ken Conour, Mimi Cook, David & Claire Cunningham, John & Charlice Danielsen, Christopher Dauer, Judith & Robert Davis, Cathy DeVos, Douglas & Linda Dobson, The Dotsons, Milton Edelin, Linda (Piego) Ellwood, Ken & Mary Farrell, James Fousekis, Marcine (Mitzi) & Dean Francis, Neysa Garrett, Victor & Linda Gavenda, Dian Gillmar, Christine & Victor Gold, Joel & Sacha Grippando, Mandy Hammond, Mary Hanna, Sally Hartley, Susan & Peter Harvey, Christina & Kenneth Hecht, Robert & Karin Heimbucher, Mary Hill, Sue Hone, Cici Hoover, R. Lee Hoover-Piersol, Phil & Virginia Hoyt, Mary Anna Hsi, Michael & Sheila Humphreys, Lynda Hurley, Virginia Jardim, Kathryn Jevons, Cory & Mimi Johnson, Charlotte Johnston, Bill & Mollie Kinney, Linda Kranichfeld, Robert & Margaret Kreider, Kim & Bob Lally, Andrew & Sarah Layton, Liz & Ralph Long, John & Sue Malick, George & Deedee Martin, Calvin & Martha Massey, Elizabeth Mayer, Karen McMahan, Betsy McReddie, Don & Mary Miller, Donn & Alda Morgan, Frances Morgan, John & Jill Morris, David Myles, Melissa Newel, George Nikolaieff, Ann & Steve Oakes, Carolyn & Wesley Ogburn, Ginny Olson, The O'Neills, Renaldo Parisi, Bernard & Joan Pech, Pat Peters, Tracy & Bridget Peters, Margaret Pillsbury, Shannon Preto & Salying Wong, Alyce Proctor, Mattie Reed, Mark & Brenda Richardson, Christian Rideout, Aaron Ryan, Hank & Tecia Ryan, Janet Salsman, Rizel & David Samson, Marjorie Sanborn, Daniel & Charlotte Saulsbury, Ron & Sandra Solis, Gail Smith, William & Katharine Sparling, Richard & Mary Sproul, Helen Stamm, Chip Sterling, Bonnie Stewart, David & Kathleen Stone, David Swanson, Janet Towler, Lynne Turner, Tom & Suzanne Vinzent, Sally & Dan Wages, Edward & Susan Waller, Rock & Marni Warner, Lois Whitney, Edward & Nancy Wickes, Doris Willingham, Kelly Miller Woodard, Carolyn Young, Gloria Young, Christopher Zuber



## A Smart Way to Give

Thanks to legislation signed by the President on December 17, if you are taking minimum required distributions (MRD) from your IRA retirement account, you may lower your income taxes by making your gift to your church during 2011 directly from your IRA. One person in our diocese has already taken advantage of this to establish a new \$100,000 endowment fund for her parish using money taken directly out of her IRA. Now she won't have any MRD to pay income tax on this year—saving her more than \$20,000 in taxes.

Your gift to your church or other charity will count toward your Required Minimum Distribution (MRD)—even up to \$100,000—BUT will not have to be declared as taxable income on your IRS Form 1040! For example, if your required IRA distribution is \$20,000 this year, and you make a \$5,000 gift to your church directly from your IRA, you will only have to declare \$15,000 as taxable income instead of the full \$20,000. If you were to a gift or gifts to church or charities totaling your entire MRD, you won't have to declare any of the distribution as taxable income! Making your gift directly from your IRA in this way also lowers your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), which can have the effect of further reducing taxes.

To make a gift to the church directly from your IRA, you must generally write a letter to your IRA custodian instructing them to send the check in a certain amount to your church and its mailing address. To receive a sample letter, or if you or your IRA custodian have any questions, use the contacts below. Give smarter to lower the after-tax cost of your charitable gifts. Now you can afford to be more generous.

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

(415) 869-7812  
[RichardS@DioCal.org](mailto:RichardS@DioCal.org)  
[EpiscopalGift.org](http://EpiscopalGift.org)

# CALENDAR

## **February 2–Wednesday**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
11:30 AM Holy Communion  
4:00 PM Junior Choir Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Crab Feed

## **February 3–Thursday**

8:30 AM Beginning Tai Chi  
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

## **February 6–Sunday**

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:30 AM Senior Choir Rehearsal

## **February 7–Monday**

6:30 PM Education for Ministry  
7:00 PM Rehearsal with St. Augustine's

## **February 9–Wednesday**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
11:30 AM Holy Communion  
4:00 PM Junior Choir Rehearsal  
5:00 PM Pizza Club  
7:30 PM Theology Roundtable

## **February 10–Thursday**

8:30 AM Beginning Tai Chi  
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

## **February 13–Sunday**

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
10:00 AM Sunday School & EYC  
11:30 AM Senior Choir Rehearsal  
12:00 AM Confirmation Class

## **February 14–Monday**

6:30 PM Education for Ministry

## **February 15–Tuesday**

7:00 PM Vestry Meeting

## **February 16–Wednesday**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
11:30 AM Holy Communion  
4:00 PM Junior Choir Rehearsal

## **February 17–Thursday**

8:30 AM Beginning Tai Chi  
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

## **February 19–Saturday**

11:00 AM Absalom Jones Celebration

## **February 20–Sunday**

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist

## **February 21–Monday**

Church Office closed

## **February 22–Tuesday**

6:30 PM Reading & Discussion Group

## **February 23–Wednesday**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
11:30 AM Holy Communion  
4:00 PM Junior Choir Rehearsal  
4:00 PM St. Clement's Cooks

## **February 24–Thursday**

8:30 AM Beginning Tai Chi  
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

## **February 26–Saturday**

11:30 AM Edgar Chloupek Memorial

## **February 27–Sunday**

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
10:00 AM Morning Prayer  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:30 AM Senior Choir Rehearsal  
2:00 PM Daisy Jurd Memorial  
5:00 PM Movie Group Academy Awards  
6:30 PM Really Terrible String Orchestra

## **March 2–Wednesday**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
11:30 AM Holy Communion  
4:00 PM Junior Choir Rehearsal  
5:00 PM Pizza Club

## **March 3–Thursday**

8:30 AM Beginning Tai Chi  
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

## **March 6–Saturday**

5:30 PM Mardi Gras Party