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The Ambrosian

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church
900 Edgewater Boulevard, Foster City, California 94404

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Co-Editors

Nilda Chong
Suzanne Canada-Tjandra



Abiding in Love

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I am honored and excited to begin my service with you as Priest in Charge on July 1, 2024. It is a privilege and joy to lead you, walk with you, and be partners in ministry as we share the Good News of God in Christ, and take part in the building of the beloved community in Foster City and beyond.

I have been part of this community at different periods in my life. I initially came here in 1992, as a young woman, and I remember being struck by the warm, welcoming environment and the deep commitment to live out the Gospel. This community helped me discern the call to the priesthood, and lovingly shepherded me, asked hard questions with me, challenged me, and invited me to grow as a leader and a person of faith. In 2014, members of St. Ambrose were there at Grace Cathedral when I was ordained a priest. I left to do some challenging and fulfilling work in another wonderful community, Holy Child and St. Martin Episcopal Church in Daly City. After 8 rich and fruitful years there, I returned to St. Ambrose to do long term supply work. Again, I was deeply moved by the love, the sense of community and the great resilience I saw, even after going through the retirement of a long-time, much-loved Rector, a search that was done in the midst of a pandemic under Father Shane, and then the departure of Father Jason. A lot happened in a short period of time, and you kept the faith.

I want to commend the strong pastoral and administrative leadership of the Vestry during this time, especially that of Hamilton Wong, Senior Warden, April Cherrington, Junior Warden, and Treasurer and Livestream Coordinator, Alison LeBlanc. Your faith, your prayers, and your love and hope have inspired us all.

Most of all, I'm grateful for the wonderful servant ministry that I see in every one of you. You are the heart of Christ's church, and your prayers, your presence, your acts of love, of time given for the community, are such a blessing. And I see how you care for one another, day by day. More than anything else, more than programs or events or beautiful liturgies, it's that day by day bearing of one another's burdens that proclaims the love of Jesus, and brings light and hope to the world.

I'm looking forward to serving with you in this community. As your priest, I want to minister with you and alongside you. I believe I am called to encourage, to help equip you for your ministry, both here and in the world. I will seek to provide spiritual nourishment from the riches of the Scripture and our tradition, and to hold before our eyes week after week, the Great Story, the vision of the Kingdom of God, that is at the heart of Jesus' message. I will work among you as pastor, teacher, shepherd, companion and friend, and together we will walk on the journey of growing in grace and into the stature of Christ.

I also know that I have much to learn from all of you. And I know that this has been a difficult time, a time of change, of loss, and perhaps hurt and disappointment. We can be present to that, and it is right and good to lament and mourn.

I believe that on this pilgrim journey we go through some rough and rocky country, and yet even there, God's love will bloom gloriously! May God bless us all as we walk together in faith, sure of the love of Jesus that lives in our hearts.

Faithfully,
Mother Rebecca

Layman's Reflection



"Nunc Dimittis" is known as Simeon's Song of Praise. The Holy Spirit promised the Simeon that he will see the Messiah before his death. Simeon waits faithfully into old age. Upon meeting the infant Jesus, Simeon is so elated, he sings:

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel" (Luke 2:28–32).

God is faithful to the faithful. Promises made and promises kept.

This week the Vestry called Reverend Rebecca Goldberg to be Priest-in-Charge at St. Ambrose. She accepted our call.

Praise God!
Ham

Announcements

Public Service Announcement: Watch out for e-mail scams St Ambrose

Over the past 3 years, my husband and I have been receiving scam emails. It started with Fr. Shane and continued with Fr. Jason. I first received an email that appeared to come from Fr. Shane at the very beginning of his ministry at St Ambrose, right after Fr. David retired. It appeared Fr. Shane was contacting me and asking me for a favor. The favor was to purchase gift cards to help support a friend who had cancer, the emails stated it was urgent and needed to be done that day, and he was happy to reimburse me in the following days. I thought it was rather odd. At that time, I had only met Fr. Shane a couple times and honestly was unsure if this was something a priest might do. I contacted Fr. Shane, who assured me he would never ask for a gift card or money. I took it upon myself to contact Foster City Police department and forwarded the email to them. An officer spoke to me saying scams like this are very common and almost impossible to catch the responsible parties.

Since then, Jon and I continue to receive requests every few months.

Recently I received a message supposedly from our choir director asking for the password to our church directory. I was puzzled as to why she would ask me instead of someone in the choir? I replied saying I didn't have the password, then 3 weeks later I received a second request. I reported this one to Hamilton and Valerie and deleted the email.

Last weekend I spoke to Nilda and others, and learned that they too have received similar emails and requests.

Sadly, we all have to have our guard up with regard to the internet.

Sincerely, Marilyn Stephens

Tuesday Bible Study

Meets on Tuesday at 1 pm over Zoom to study the scriptures for the following Sunday's service. There is good discussion, usually lasting about an hour.

For information and Zoom link, contact Warren Wong at wwong@nd.edu

Contemplative Meditation Group

Welcome to our "Contemplative Meditation" Zoom group. Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Enjoy a 40-minute respite of mindful breaths, compassionate, and contemplative community. Be heard should you choose to share.

We are currently working through David Brooks' recent book "How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply..."

If you wish, an email-list reminder can arrive in your inbox Tuesday nights -- write to: hfongster@gmail.com (Questions are welcome).

[Click this link on Wednesday's 10am to join Zoom.](#)

Or use this QR Code:



Card Ministry

Every month our members receive birthday and anniversary cards and sometimes, when events happen, some also receive get well or sympathy cards. In May, we sent out 11 birthday, 2 anniversary, and 2 Thinking of You cards.

If you become aware of a member's good news, illness, or a family loss, please let Kyn Dellinger know at (650) 291-6208 or email her at bonanzalady@gmail.com.

Sea Breeze School News



Exciting Updates!

We're thrilled to share that all of our chicks have hatched, the second cluster of ducklings have made their debut and waddled away, and our beautiful butterflies have fluttered off! The Sea Breeze School Farm is now officially closed until next Spring, having provided countless enriching experiences for our children, families, and teachers alike.

Shifting gears, I'm delighted to announce that enrollment for the 24-25 School year is on the rise. Despite a temporary setback in May due to a malware attack on our website, we swiftly resolved the issue and are now receiving enrollment inquiries with enthusiasm. To further spread the word, we'll be setting up a booth at the Foster City Summer Days in August. We'd be thrilled if you could drop by and say hello!

As we approach our last day of school on Wednesday, June 12th, I couldn't be prouder of the progress our students have made throughout the year. The dedication of our teachers has truly made a difference in facilitating this growth. With Summer Break just around the corner, it's well deserved for all.

Our Summer Camp kicks off on June 24th, and we're looking forward to a summer filled with excitement and learning. During the school closure from June 13-23, our classrooms will undergo a refreshing makeover with a new blue/gray paint and white trim, perfectly complementing the fresh new carpeting to create inviting spaces for our students.

Remember that talk about a Little Lending Library? Well, it's finally here! Nestled near the Beach Park parking lot entrance, it's ready for you to explore. Feel free to add your favorite books or take away some new reads to enjoy.

As we wrap up the year, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support. You won't hear from me again until August, so until then, I wish you all a summer filled with joy, laughter, and good health!

Warm regards,

Jerelyn Weber, Principal

The Editors' Corner – by Nilda Chong



Great news! We're very excited to welcome Suzanne Canada-Tjandra to our newsletter. Starting in June, Suzanne will be co-editor of The Ambrosian. I'm looking forward to working together.

Thanks Nilda, I would like to acknowledge Nilda, who met with me and patiently guided me through the entire process of how to update, do the layout, and she proofread the entire document and gave me pointers on what needed attention. I don't know if it is too late to acknowledge her experience and expertise, and all the work she single-handedly did in the months or years before I started helping. I really appreciate and was surprised by how efficient and timely this was. I am honored to be able to help out with this publication.--Suzanne

June Birthdays

June 5	Reuben Ajit Philip
June 6	Sal Censoprano
June 8	Janet Gardiner
June 8	Ryan Nagar
June 9	Michael Radovanovich
June 13	Kirsten Padgett
June 14	Barbara Saunders
June 25	Belinda Yuen
June 26	June Kudzia
June 27	Fe Balamiento
June 27	Jon Stephens
June 28	Michelle Kimmins
June 30	Poppy Bradford
June 30	Don Gundry

June Anniversaries

June 5	Kirk and Jessica Morales
June 7	Carolyn & Hugo Franco
June 7	Hani & Gwen Juha
June 14	Carolyn and David Moriarty
June 17	Kirby and June Kudzia
June 23	Michelle and James Kimmins
June 27	Olivia and Wilfredo Nagar
