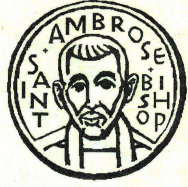


August
2024



The Ambrosian

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

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Editor

Suzanne Canada-Tjandra



From the Priest-in-Charge

Greetings, Friends in Christ! I trust you are enjoying these long, warm, glorious summer days! I also hope summer brings a more relaxed pace, and some leisure time to spend with family and friends. Summer can also provide a time of refreshment and renewal.

Last Sunday, we read John's gospel account of the feeding of the 5000. In the service of the Word and Sacrament, we reflected on the wonderful abundance of God that is offered so freely and generously to us. God takes what we have, what we offer in faith, and multiplies it so that there is great plenty, more than we will need, and satisfies our hungry spirits. God's free gift to us brings out the generosity in the community, and soon more and more people share what they have, their time, their talent, their treasures, and their love, which they offer back to God in gratitude.

Unfortunately, our culture tends to operate more by the principle of scarcity. And scarcity is based in fear. We are afraid there will not be enough resources, or money, or time for us to live what we consider secure, comfortable lives. If we are not vigilant, we will run short. We tend to circle the wagons and look out for our own, which in itself is natural, and not a bad thing, but carried to the extreme, alienates us from our neighbors and can pit us against each other in a competitive manner, rather than drawing us together in cooperation. And because it is a human institution, this happens in the church as well. We worry because we may not have the financial resources to continue cherished programs or traditions that nurtured us in the past, and we may struggle to hold onto them because it's scary to let go and trust God may be guiding us to something new, something unknown. We may become frustrated with people who we feel are not "pulling their weight" around the church, forgetting that perhaps

they need some fallow, down time, that they need to be borne along by the prayers of the community for a bit, just as we may need the same at different times in our lives.

Friends, let me say to you that I truly believe that the ministry that God is calling us to will happen, in God's own time. It is more important that we take the time to build trust, to build community, to truly see, honor, and appreciate every person here, as the unique child of God that he or she is. Let us take the time to get to know each other, to listen to each other, to bear one another's burdens, to make Eucharist together. Each one of us is truly enough, and together we are enough, and God's abundance is among us, if we have the eyes to see it. It's true there is much work to be done, but if we seek to know Jesus and his way of love first, and listen to his voice, things will fall into place and we will find the way.

In my time here so far, I have been so inspired by how you all care for each other, and nurture those important human connections. I see the cards and calls and offers of food and transportation and help when someone is in need, either in the church, or in the wider community. I see the willingness to put aside what you are doing and simply be present to someone who is hurting. And I see the commitment to being the Body of Christ, to grow in love, respect, and trust, and then share that abundance with the world!

Peace and blessings to you all,

Mother Rebecca+

Layman's Reflection / From the Wardens

Thank you to everyone who helped with setup, cleanup and all the cooking and baking for our potluck celebration to welcome Mother Rebecca. It was a wonderful event, with as usual too much delicious food and good fellowship. (see photos below)

We are looking forward to getting to know Mother Rebecca and each other, with of course more food, on Tuesdays (6th, 13th, and 20th at 6:00 pm) in August.

Also, plans have begun for our next Parking Lot Sale on Saturday, September 7th. Please let us know if you would like to help and/or donate to this fund raiser. It is time to start getting rid of all those things we don't want, but someone else might need.

At our last Vestry meeting we discussed how happy we are to have Mother Rebecca as our new Priest in Charge, and how we will all work together to move forward. Please know that you are welcome to attend our Vestry meetings. Dorothy Matsuo joined us this month. She was so helpful in our discussions with salient questions. We not only welcome your attendance, but your perspective is also valuable. Next meeting is Wednesday, September 28th.

We take every opportunity to praise our great staff at St. Ambrose including Angeli, our Administrative Assistant; Amanda, our Music Director; and Ron, our Bookkeeper.

We join Mother Rebecca to encourage the whole community to move forward in unity.

Respectfully,

April and Hamilton

St. Ambrose News

Welcome Party for Mother Rebecca

We had a welcome potluck, organized by April Cherrington, on Sunday July 28, after the service where we formally welcomed Mother Rebecca as our Priest-in-charge. Thank you to all who helped out and attended. The food was really tasty, but the best part was sharing it with all of you.



Sandwiches on Sunday.

Sandwiches on Sunday outreach event has been going very well. In June, almost a dozen people showed up at the church to make peanut butter and jelly as well as ham and cheese sandwiches for bag lunches. On Sunday June 30 after church, five of us went to the Fair Oaks Community Center in Redwood City to distribute the lunches and bottles of water to those who came. The next sandwich making event will be at the church Saturday September 29, 9:00am for distribution the following day after church.



Announcements

Parking Lot Sale

Date: Saturday, Sept 7th Time: TBD

We need your help!

Come to the sale, let your friends and family know, donate items, or volunteer. Let's make this another successful sale!

For donations and volunteering, please text:

- **Brenda:** (650) 520-1140
- **April:** (650) 703-3191



Dinner Discussion with Mother Rebecca

Get to know Mother Rebecca, on Tuesdays in August. August 6th, 13th, and 20th at 6:00 pm in the parish hall. Mother Rebecca is planning a group meet-up / discussion with pizza and salad provided. Please contact her, or sign up on the sign up sheets in the parish hall (so we know how much food to order).

Sunday School

St. Ambrose has a Sunday School Program for children at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. It is taught by Raphaelae Gerber and Kay Ballantyne, in Room 1. Children come in for their program, and then join their parents at the Peace so they can participate in the liturgy of the Holy Eucharist. We are currently working on developing the curriculum and hope to add some singing each week. All children are welcome, so invite your friends, neighbors, and colleagues to join us for a service and bring their little ones! If you have any questions, please contact Raphaelae, Kay, or Mother Rebecca.

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.

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, get well or sympathy cards. In July, we sent out 13 birthday, 7 anniversary, and 3 get well 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.



The Editors' Corner – by Suzanne Canada

Dear Ambrosian Readers, There is a lot of activity in our congregation as we get ready for the fall season. The Sea Breeze School is wrapping up their summer session and we look forward to learning of the school's many activities in our next edition. Sea Breeze will be hosting a booth at the Foster City August Summer Days event on the 17th and 18th, to be held in Leo Ryan Park. It is both for Sea Breeze School, and St. Ambrose Church. If you can, please come and support this effort by volunteering at the booth on one of those days. Please contact Jerelyn Weber or Mother Rebecca for more information. Also, I direct your attention to the Parking Lot Sale, which has been a great success over the years. Please keep sending me any content that you want to share with our congregation. Regards, Suzanne

August Birthdays

August 1	Ajit Philip
August 3	Ruben Neyroud
August 8	David Yates
August 9	Ashley Stewart
August 11	Andrew Walker
August 12	Marilyn Canon
August 13	Scott (Timothy) Chang

August Anniversaries

August 10	Belinda and Stephen Yuen
August 16	Donna & Edward Avakoff
August 13	Michael Radovancevich and Karin Patterson
August 23	April & Grant Cherrington
August 30	Anita and Robert Richards
August 31	George & Janet Gardiner
