May 1, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church,

Aloha! As the Shelter-in-Place order has been extended through the end of May, it is tempting to think that everything we do is about the Novel Coronavirus resulting in COVID-19. However, life continues and we have both joy and sadness in life.

This past Monday night, Jacques-Alexandre Gerber’s father, Xavier Gerber passed away at the age of 82 years in France from heart failure. I ask you to pray for Xavier’s widow, Any (pronounced “Annie”), Jacques-Alexandre, Raphaele, Amarine, Aurelia and Mathias, and Xavier’s daughter Christine and her family as they grieve their loss.

Next Sunday will be Mothers’ Day, and it will surely be different as we give thanks for the mothers in our lives.

This Sunday, May 3rd will be the last time in May that I will be able to participate in person in the Live-Streaming You-Tube Worship as I will cross the age-limit for participants in groups of ten allowed to provide virtual worship. So, in a sense, my birthday next week will be bitter-sweet for me.

Nevertheless, our Live-Streaming You-Tube Worship will continue with the Rev. Karen Swanson leading. Daniel Tate will be preaching on May 10th. Karen will be preaching on May 24th. I will hopefully be able to video-tape sermons for May 17th and 31st.

Our ministry continues virtually. If you would like to participate in any of the Zoom meetings below, please contact the leader of that group. The meetings are by invitation only to prevent the meetings from being “bombed” by some people who disrupt meetings for their own amusement.

Fe Balamiento has decided to have just one Zoom Sunday School meeting at 10 a.m. as there was little interest in participation at 11 a.m.

Here is a list of the hosts of the Zoom meetings:

Sunday Coffee Hours at 9:00 am and 11:30 am, David Ota, [dyota@mindspring.com](mailto:dyota@mindspring.com)

Sunday School at 10 am, Fe Balamiento, [valentin\_fe@yahoo.com](mailto:valentin_fe@yahoo.com)

Sunday Youth Group at 4 pm, Karen Swanson, [karen.2.swanson@gmail.com](mailto:karen.2.swanson@gmail.com)

Monday Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7 pm, Warren Wong, [wwong@nd.edu](mailto:wwong@nd.edu)

Tuesday Bible Study at 1 pm, David Ota, [dyota@mindspring.com](mailto:dyota@mindspring.com)

Finally, I invite you to join us for our virtual worship on the Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 3rd from 10 a.m. The gospel lesson is John 10:1-10, the story about Jesus being the gate of the sheepfold. I will be the preacher this Sunday.

I apologize for the technical difficulties the past two Sundays. On April 19th the camera broke down and a lap top camera was used at the last minute. On April 26th, the new camera’s better resolution required more bandwidth than our wi-fi could then provide. Corrections have been made by David McIntyre. Again, I would like to thank David McIntyre and Lydia McIntyre who serve as our technicians for the Live-Streaming You Tube worship.

The link for the live-streaming You Tube worship is below, and the worship bulletin is posted on the church website at [www.stambrosefostercity.org](http://www.stambrosefostercity.org/).

The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfCRkqxS1Ii-yYov5kMpvDg>.

I invite you to pray for those who are ill, especially Peggy Redmond, Yvonne Sidell, Charles Saunders, Daniel Tate, Jerelyn Weber, Ariel Rallos and Miles Martin, the Gerber family grieving the loss of Xavier Gerber, those who lost employment, those who are alone and those who continue to heroically face danger in their efforts to provide essential services for the rest of us.

I hope you and your loved ones remain well and healthy. If you have time to talk with me, please feel to give me a call at 650-200-9331. I give thanks to God for all of you.

Yours,

David Y. Ota, Rector