

The Bells of Saint Mary

June, 2010

With My Hand on the Plow: Ministry

From the Outline of the Faith, BCP pg. 855:

Q. "What is the mission of the Church?"

A. "The mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ."

When I was thirty years old I went through my confirmation class. Ever since, I have always remembered this question, and the answer our prayer book gives us. I remember it so well, because it lives in my heart. I believe this. I believe that the mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. It is why I practice Radical Hospitality and have brought the whole awareness of it to the forefront here at St.

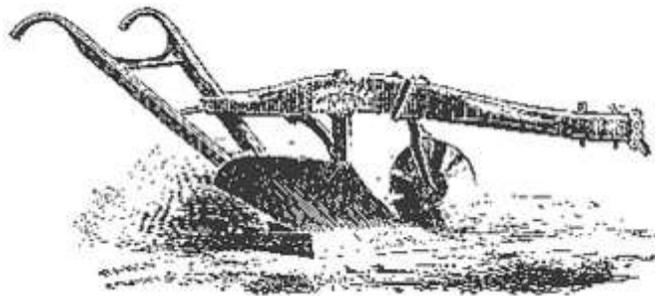
Mary's. It defines my ministry and lies at the heart of why I do the Red Shirt Project.

The Red Shirt Project is the clearest example of living into the answer to the question from the Catechism that I know of. It is a simple thing really. The Red Shirt Project brings young people together with elders from all walks of life on a two week trip to do mission work on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. It builds relationships between those on the journey and those who live in the village. It encourages our participants to see with new eyes the wonders of the Creator in all we do. It practices Christian

principles of worship, service and honor, and it involves lots of hard work. Through the years remarkable stories have emerged from the journey and amazing deeds of power and faith have been witnessed to and participated in by many of the participants. All of the stories involve people helping one another or working together in ways they could have never anticipated. All of the stories offer a glimpse into the mission work of the project.

When I first came to you in 2007, I was two weeks away from leaving on that year's project. When I returned, we began to get to know one another and you began to understand a lot about me through my dedication to the work. You began to know that I was a

very mission minded priest and was dedicated to the ministry of reaching out to others by our whole community. You have seen me lend my support and commitment to projects like supporting the Boys and Girls Clubs of Lompoc and supporting the Police department in their work to eradicate graffiti and encourage alternatives to gang life in our town. This too is mission work. When we as a community work outside our own church walls for the betterment of our community and the world, we are working in a mission minded way. When we are seen as working to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ, we are witnessing to



the things we believe in as Christian men and women. The more we see and act as a mission minded community, the closer we are to following the Way of Jesus.

This summer, St. Mary's will again sponsor the Red Shirt Project. We will assemble here on July 18th, youth and young adults from our church, from St. Peter's in Santa Maria, St. Patrick's in Thousand Oaks, St. Thomas' in Hacienda Heights, Canterbury at USC, All Saints Indian Mission in Minneapolis, St. Gabriel's in Monterey Park, and those are just the Episcopal churches! Our participants look like the Rainbow People of God that we are when we gather as a church. All of us, along with eight other adults will make the two and a half day drive to Red Shirt. When we get there we will make camp and then begin the job of painting the parish hall. We will also clean, cut and mow the graveyard next to Christ



Photo from www.redshirtproject.org

Church; build handicap ramps into homes in the village for three residents, do maintenance on the baseball field, shade arbor, and the half-pipe skate park; and plant some cottonwood trees in the village. We will take the group to Crazy Horse Monument, probably find a way to go swimming at least once, make a trip to Wounded Knee and worship every morning after breakfast. We sleep on the ground, (most of us in tents but some in the back of pickup trucks) and take showers under a garden hose. There are no flush toilets and the weather is extreme to say the least. It is beautiful, located as it is on the edge of the Badlands, but the heat can be devastating and the storms that come out of the Black Hills are severe and fast moving. And we do the whole thing together.

We have 20 young people and young adults going this year. We know we will have to raise \$750.00 per young person in order to make sure they can make their mission. My goal for this year is \$25,000 as we will also have to rent vans and pay for fuel and lodging while we are on the road. We also try to leave a donation to Christ Church to help sustain them through the coming winter when propane for heat is a must. If you can help us, you will be sponsoring a mission trip for young people to build their faith on. It is a true statement that many of the lucky ones who have gone on our Red Shirt Project have affirmed their life choices or changed their lives and remain dedicated to the church and living the Way of Christ. It is the great gift of

mission work...

when one actively seeks to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ, amazing things happen. Please consider joining in help-

ing amazing things to happen. You won't be sorry. You will be helping shape and mold young people for the rest of their lives. If you want to read more about it, go to our web page, www.stmaryslompoc.org and click on the Red Shirt Project cross located on the lower left side of our home page. It will take you to our newly designed Red Shirt Project web page (thanks to Rick Kendall and Matt MacPherson) where you can read testimonials from participants through the years. May our God continue to bless our mission work that we do in His name.

With my hand on the plow,
Fr. Michael+

Confirmation—The Journey Begins

We know that Christian formation is a life long journey. One important milestone along the way is the rite of Confirmation. After ten weeks of study twelve St. Mary's parishioners decided to make a mature and public affirmation of their faith.

This was joined with a renewal of the vows made at Baptism and the laying on of hands by Bishop Jon Bruno. For some members of the group it was a public reception specifically into the Episcopal church. All the members knew that this sacrament was the outward and visible sign of an inward grace, which was the strengthening and empowerment of the Holy Spirit. The confirmation class was just an introduction to our faith. We all wish them God-speed as they continue on the life long road of faith exploration.

Congratulations to you all!



Examination of the Candidate - Ericka List

Photo by Joe Ardizzone



Presentation and Examination of the Candidates by Bishop Bruno

Photo by Joe Ardizzone

Red Shirt Testimonials

When Michael became the new pastor of St. Mary's, I can remember listening to his sermons, many of which included stories about the Natives from the Pine Ridge Reservation. I remember listening to them from a distance, without any real connection that I felt to these people from his stories. When Michael later asked me to come on the Red Shirt trip, I accepted mainly because I felt welcomed by him, and I had seen how excited he got every time he spoke about it.

While on the trip, we worked, and we worked hard. We worked together, ate together, and fellowshiped together. And as the trip went on, I experienced a softening of my own heart. The lives of those people on the reservation were important to me, as if they were my own family. The inner city youth that had come on the trip, who had first appeared a little rough around the edges, became friends of mine. I found that I became more of a role model than I thought I should be, and more of a leader than I had expected to be. Through the whole experience I felt a transformation that I could not have accomplished solely by education or my own willpower. James wrote in his epistle: "But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do."

You see, before I went on this trip I would have told you that I felt compassion for the people in Red Shirt, and that I had every desire to see their needs met and their relationships grow in the Lord. But nothing that I could have said would mean anything in comparison to what happened once I went. On the Red Shirt trip, I learned that it isn't enough to wish someone well when they are in need. I learned that passivity and apathy accomplish nothing for those who require our attention. Christians should be dedicated to following Christ, and He calls us into action. He promises that if we surrender to

Him, He is faithful and just to not only forgive us, but to transform us. I can honestly say that I have experienced this firsthand during last summer's Red Shirt Project.

Adrian G.



"Chief What-They-Want-Me-To-Be"

by Rev. Robert Two Bulls Jr. (from episcopalchurch.org)

The Red Shirt project to me, is not only great for the community but it also works to bridge the gap between our cultures. Over the years, not only have I made new friends, but my family also adopted a member from the group into our own. The projects help to unite the community by working together and welcoming the Holy Spirit into our hearts. Every year, the community looks forward to working with this group and gets involved in the planning of future projects.

Red Shirt Table is located in the poorest county in the nation but is, in my opinion, rich in both culture and heritage. So not only does the group help the community, but the people in the community also share our culture with them.

Molina Jo S.

MY RED SHIRT EXPERIENCE

Last year I had the opportunity to participate in the Red Shirt Project on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

We left Lompoc on Sunday, July 19th, with part of the team and drove To Hacienda Heights, in the Los Angeles area, to pick up the rest of the team. As I remember there were 20 of us, eight adults & twelve youth. We left Hacienda Heights Monday morning and caravanned across California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming before reaching the reservation in southwestern South Dakota.

The village of Red Shirt is very small and is located along a small river and adjacent to the Bad Lands National Park. One hundred year old Christ Episcopal Church, where we stayed, is about three miles south of Red Shirt and sits right on the edge of the Bad Lands. We slept in tents and cooked and ate in the Parish Hall, which is in a separate building from the church. My tent was within 50 feet of the dropoff into the Bad Lands. I had heard this was a very desolate area. It is remote, but I found it to be beautiful. It had been a rather wet year and the grass was tall and green and you could see forever. To the south it was flat. To the west were the Black Hills in the distance and to the east were the Bad Lands.

The projects for this year were 1) to repaint the “ RED SHIRT ” sign made of concrete blocks, which is painted RED and built into the side of the hill at the southern edge of town. It was the Eagle Scout Project for one of the young people on the team the previous year. 2) Repair the “Half Pipe ” and the Powwow Shelter that had been on earlier Trips. 3) Build a new horse corral at Fr. Two Bulls Senior ’ s place. And 4) Build a new porch, steps and handicap ramp on the front of Christ Church.

We were assigned to different projects and I was assigned, along with Roger Magnuson and two of the youth to the work on the church. From time to time we had additional help from the other adults, the youth and from some of the young people from the village.

Our days were fairly long and the weather was quite warm. Some days the temperature went to triple digits. Our chief cook, Judy Lin, saw to it that ate right and drank plenty of water. Our bathrooms consisted of two outhouses plus two rented port-a-potties and a shower structure that had been built on an earlier trip.

We began the day with breakfast followed by “Circle ” time (a time of reading and reflecting on scripture followed by prayers). Then job assignments for the day. We broke for dinner (lunch) around noon and ended our around 6:00 or 7:00 in the evening and had a little

free time before supper (dinner). After supper there was usually a bonfire and then to bed (I usually went to bed **about the time the bonfire started)** . **We didn ’ t work on Sunday.** We attended Christ Church where Fr. Two Bulls Senior is the Vicar.

We took one afternoon off and visited the Crazy Horse Monument (which is under construction) blasted out of the mountain side not far from Mount Rushmore. It was begun some years ago and is being done with private donations (no government help) and when completed will be spectacular. It has a very special meaning to the Native American people.

On Friday night, July 30th, our work being done, we began putting things away and packing for our return trip home. We finished packing Saturday morning and headed out.

Our first stop was at “Wounded Knee ” on the southern part of the reservation. This is a place where, on December 29th, 1890, a group of about 350 Sioux, lead by Chief Big Foot, were taken by the US cavalry and massacred. There is a mass grave with 47 bodies and many more in individual graves. Apparently about 300 were killed. It is a very moving experience to be there.

After leaving there we headed south into western Nebraska and then west into Wyoming on our way home. Our last night we stayed in a motel, at a casino in Mesquite, Nevada. We got to sleep in real beds, have hot showers and relax for the first time in two weeks.

This experience was much more than a trip to a far away place to do some work. It was really about a group of people, who for the most part didn ’ t know each other, experiencing new and different surroundings as they got acquainted. We learned something about ourselves and each other, forming relationships that will be meaningful for the rest of our lives. Some lives were changed significantly. A **real sense of “it isn ’ t about me ”**.

For me it was a time of reflection. I was born about 250 miles south of Red Shirt in northwestern Kansas and, except for the Bad Lands (which are really spectacular and beautiful) this area reminds me of it with grass lands, very few trees and a farm/ranch house here and there on the horizon.. In a way it was like going back in time to my childhood. It was also a time of making new friends. I got about as close to some of the young people as an 80 year old can get. I also got to know some of the locals. Especially Fr. Two Bulls Senior and his wife Delores (the Native Americans I met were gentle, proud people, both the young and the old). And last of all it was an experience that brought me closer to God and gave me a greater appreciation of his creation.

Marno Goetsch is looking forward to going back.

Bill Wong, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Covina, CA

Six years ago coming into Red Shirt, it was my first ever trip home away from home by myself. I didn't have a lot of expectations, either. All I knew at the time was the place was super poor and filled with Indian people. Little did I know, this would be where the transformation of myself begin- from a clueless young adult in the church to one of the well-respected up-and-coming young adult leaders in the Episcopal Church today. How did I do that? I learned how to be a servant of God and team player first, which happened during my first trip. Then, on the second and third trip, because I was older than most of the campers, Father Michael expected me to be a big brother presence for the younger first-timers. Since I am not an outspoken person, I chose to lead by example, which has become my leadership style today. Believe it or not, when I applied these three things to my ministry work at my church and nationally in Chinese ministry (coupled with my talents), they worked really well.

I know I have set a pretty high standard for future alums of the Red Shirt Project to come. But, I will say to all future alums this, "If a former know-nothing young person could reach this bar, you could also reach or fly above it! It's just a matter of if you use the skills you learned at Red Shirt or not. They are universal in everywhere where ministries need to be done. Proof: I personally relocated to my current parish 2 years ago, or 4 years after my first Red Shirt trip. After sitting on the sidelines for a few months, I decided to get involved in the church's ministries by using the same approach I learned in Red Shirt. It worked perfectly and I slowly become a well-liked member in my church community".

Rev. Ranjit Mathews, Assistant Rector, St. Michael's Parish, Milton, MA

Going on the Pilgrimage to Red Shirt was powerful for me, on many different levels. I had just gone on a one year mission trip to South Africa where I did work with youth on issues of HIV/AIDS in the surrounding area around Cape Town. I had gotten back from the States and my dear friend Michael Cunningham invited me to go on a Pilgrimage with other young people from L.A. to Red Shirt.

The God in me, said, "yes" right away. I mean, hey, I'm 'bout mission. And it was something. The trip, the journey, moving with mostly young Asian folk and other cool peeps was just great. We were on Pilgrimage in a white van from Los Angeles to South Dakota and we got to know each other in a deep, deep way. Little did we know of the way in which we would be transformed by the people of Red Shirt; From Rev. Robert Two Bulls and his father, to his family and other folks from the Lakota First Nation Folk.

I mean, you could say we did "work" on their sacred ground and yeah, we did help to put up a basketball court and build a fire pit; but it was profoundly more than that. It was about meeting on holy ground and finding God in one another. Two groups who otherwise would be seen as different finding the love that transforms all of us. That's not to say we weren't moved by the reality of economic poverty that most folk live in on the reservation; but for me that was only a small bit of what I left with.

It was about the Eucharist on an open field. Celebrating together, breaking bread, sharing smiles, being Jesus to one another. This pilgrimage is something that I have never forgotten because the people on that sacred piece of land have remained forever embedded on my heart. I take them with me and remember their smiles, their tears... ..and for that, I submit my transformation. That is the God of my understanding.

Financial Statement

(As of April 30th, 2010)

Undesignated checking/savings	\$68,108
Designated checking	\$23,602
Designated fund obligations	\$23,602
Parish mortgage	\$367,547

	Actual Apr 10	Actual Jan - Apr 10	Budget Jan - Apr 10
Income	\$30,563	\$113,276	\$116,333
Expenses	\$35,571	\$128,375	\$125,512
Net income/(loss)	(\$5,008)	(\$15,099)	(\$9,179)

June Birthdays

Sharon LeRoy	06/02
Annja MacPherson	06/02
Roberta Brownell	06/03
Charlotte Hayes	06/03
Nathan Stanley	06/03
Steven Richardson	06/04
Heather Kleinhammer	06/06
Jeanne Kendall	06/07
Kathleen Elizabeth Ortiz	06/08
Ron Fairbanks	06/09
Neiko Pagaling	06/14
Michael LeRoy	06/16
Ann McCarty	06/16
Alicia Hamilton	06/17
Kira Munson	06/19
Stan Sheldon	06/19
Sheryl Murray	06/22
Raymond F. Down	06/25
Zeek Brownell, Jr.	06/27
Leticia Contreras	06/28
Donald Rowland	06/29



June Work Party

If you are a member of Team Luke, it's your turn to help keep the church looking good on June 12th at 8:30 AM. Members are: Regina Lingl (lunches), Bob Lingl, Anita McManigal, Roger & Virginia McConnell, Dana Manchester, and Glen Newcomb .

Bede the Bat

I know that Mr. Beeler announced that I would be on vacation, and I am, but I just had to write to ask if you got to attend the Ordination and Consecration of our new Bishops. I went, and I hope you were there, too. Lots of excitement, and lots of excited Episcopalians. It was all very impressive and I saw many of my friends from St. Mary's and St. Peter's. Amid all the pomp and circumstance, I began to think about what the end result is, and what my church is really about. Through all the great music, the beautiful liturgy, the color and diversity, it's really all about how we carry out the words of the opening hymn. It is printed in the beautiful booklet that everyone who attended the ceremony received. The hymn is called "The Great Commission" and it speaks about the Church carrying out all the things that we are duty bound to do. It speaks of mission. What exactly IS mission and how are we to find what our mission is? I suddenly realized that a part of our mission is something very close to home and that's the other thing I wanted to tell you about.



A part of that sense of mission finds its reality in the Red Shirt Project. Some among us have been taking part in this mission for years. Others are new to its call, for make no mistake, this is a true calling. I am told that until you experience the true mission of Red Shirt, you have missed something unique and real and honest. Those who have made this mission their own are witness to how our brothers and sisters survive under trying circumstances. People who have been there have said to me that it is impossible not to put yourself in their place, to feel as they feel, and that you can not come away from the experience unchanged.



Some members of our St. Mary's family have experienced Red Shirt. Ask them what it has meant to them. Like me, you will be fascinated by their stories. Maybe it's time to live your own story with the good people at Red Shirt. If you can't do that, a contribution would be welcome. That's what I will do just as I did last year. Support the mission that is Red Shirt. As Martha Stewart is fond of saying, "It's a good thing."

Until next time, blessings from your friend, Bede, the Bat in the St. Mary's Belfry

Blessings from Bede, the Bat in the St. Mary's Belfry

*The Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool is vested in her bishop's robes at her ordination and consecration on May 15, 2010.
(John Beeler photo)*

St. Martha's Guild Spring Tea

On April 17th the St. Martha's Guild hosted over 120 people, with guests spilling out to the 2 tables on the patio, as we were blessed with a beautiful day. We had plenty of hot tea, sandwiches, scones, cookies, and chocolate dipped strawberries.

Each table was decorated by a 'Martha' around the theme "We Are Proud To Be Pinned To The Lord," and featured a quilt top overlay and a handmade pin cushion for each guest. Those doing tables were: Anita McManigal, Louise Larson, Suzy Griffin, Lou Hodges, Heidi Holdsambeck, Jeanne Kendall, Jane Longley, Cynthia Leroy, Bonnie Fairbanks, Alice Drus, Peggie Gould, Ruth Hicks, Barbara Manchester, Linda Everly, Kay Rowland, and Norma Anderson. Suzy also designed and decorated the food table.

Some ladies made their own pin cushions, but most of us had Cynthia do them for us. Anita was in charge of flowers, and again some members chose to do their own, but the flowers for many tables were done by Anita's committee. Heather Quinn was the Tea Lady again this year, and with her assistant Charlotte Compton did a great job.



Mary Reuterskjold photo.

Jane Longley, Cynthia LeRoy, and Jeanne Kendall designed and made all the original invitations, and Molly Gerald made fliers advertising the event. Jeanne and Ruth headed up making the gift baskets that our guests love to receive. Many of the quilts were made by Charlotte Compton and many of the quilts on the walls were done by Mary Saladino's mother.

Mary and Charlotte Hayes helped set up the room. Elizabeth Hatcher greeted our guests and helped to seat them. The clean-up committee was headed by Alice Drus. Edythe Ortiz, Carol Shuemaker, and Kathy Gonzales spent all day in the kitchen, and many others were in and out during the event. This tea is a labor of love for all of these ladies. We would probably do it every year just because it is such fun for us.... truly "Radical Hospitality".

Many of our guests let us know how much they enjoy our gift of love and we appreciate that so much. Thanks not only to the Marthas team but to all you parishioners who came and brought a friend.

We will try to get the pictures up on the wall in the next few weeks so that you can see them.

Norma Anderson

The Vestry Speaks

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

The vestry reflected on Isaiah 61: 1-4; the first thought was, why is God vengeful? A second reading brought out that Isaiah was really telling us to be thoughtful, loving, compassionate, and caring. This is what Bishop Bruno spoke about at the Ordination/Consecration of our new Bishops on Saturday, May 15th.

After the approval of the minutes and receiving the treasurers report, the vestry skipped all other issues to discuss the financial plan to be presented to the parish on Pentecost Sunday. The letter you received may have seemed short and to the point, which it was intended to be, but it took your vestry two hours to come up with it and the supporting data to be presented at the meeting. This was a very intense vestry meeting with many issues brought up, such as increasing attendance/membership which would increase revenue, having fundraisers, and getting the parish to meet the 12% increase in revenue from last year that was pledged at November's New Consecration Sunday, to name just a few. These are all valid ideas but singularly or collectively they will not solve our financial problems. Only the parish embracing sacrificial giving is going to solve the problem. Your vestry, financial committee and Rector believe that the parish will take sacrificial giving to heart and resolve our problem.

The communication committee submitted guidelines for advertising in the bells but it was tabled to next month due to the length of the meeting.

That's all for now,
Your Vestry

The Growing Season

You never know where you will find some useful new knowledge. I found this list of Athabascan Values on the back of Fr. Michael's bathroom door:

Self Sufficiency	Hard Work	Care and Provision for the Family
Family Relations	Unity	Humor Spirituality
Honesty	Fairness	Love for Children
Sharing	Caring	Village Cooperation
Responsibility to Village		Respect for Elders and Others
Respect for Knowledge		Wisdom from Life Experiences
Respect for the Land		Respect for Nature
Practice of Traditions		Honor Ancestors

In the May/June 2010 issue of Group magazine a survey of 20,000 Christian youth revealed their self reported top twenty needs. The survey read: "I need help with:

- building a positive relationship with God.
- building a positive relationship with my parents.
- managing or dealing with the stresses in my life.

someone to help me answer some of my big doubts about the Christian faith.
understanding my Christian faith better.
in knowing how to share my faith better with friends and others.
my academics.
figuring out my future choices [college, job, career, marriage, etc.]
dealing with depression.
my overwhelming commitments.
the pain I feel in life.
developing more and better friendships.
ending my dependence on drugs or alcohol or tobacco.
making better moral choices in my life.
receiving forgiveness for the things I've done.
living a healthier lifestyle—eating better and exercising.
time management and discipline in my life.
resolving conflicts.
sorting out sexual issues [sexual activity, gender issues, homosexuality, etc.]
girlfriend/ boyfriend issues.”

And now you are wondering what is the connection between these two lists and where am I going with this? A very good question. The Sunday that Bishop Bruno came to for confirmation felt to me like a glorious day for St. Mary's. The faithful were all gathered together for one service that week. I looked around attempting a mental head count. I realized that it really is possible in a church this size to know every one and be known by everyone. This is something we all long for. The power and significance of a congregation should never be measured by numbers, but instead by the strength of its unity. Jesus empowered his disciples to go out and grow the Kingdom, not create super sized mega churches. It was the power of community bonds and faith that enabled the church to grow throughout history. We have much to learn from our Native American neighbors and by the devotion and commitment of the early church communities in the Book of Acts.

We don't always like to admit it, but we live in a very segregated society. Racial, ethnic, class, socioeconomic, and educational divisions still separate us. The young are scheduled into activities that are self contained, almost youth ghettos. Church is one of the last places in our society that is truly intergenerational. This is something to em-



Palm Sunday procession (John Beeler photo)

brace and rejoice in. Young and old can worship together, learn together, serve side by side and enjoy true fellowship together. I make this appeal to all the adults and elders of our church. Look at these two lists. What values can you impart to our young through your words and example? Seek out our youth, particularly the two young men who were confirmed, Ryan Daly and Nic Hay. Are there needs and concerns you could help them with from your own life experience? Can we find ways as a congregation to truly be the Body of Christ together?

This summer I invite you to join the tribe of St. Mary's. Come and play and learn with us at Sacred Circles Vacation Bible School [June 28-July2]. Share your skills and talents with us. The children will never forget it. On Tuesday evenings {June 28- July 20] gather up your clan and come be a part of Summer Nights at St. Mary's. We will share dinner, an experience in Native American spirituality, and stories, songs and prayers around the campfire. The parents of our Sunday School children are pitching in to provide activities on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM. The children will come into the service at the Peace and receive communion with their families. This gives our devoted teachers a time to refresh and renew themselves. On months with five Sundays, like August we will have a special children's Eucharist.

This summer pay attention to all the readings from the Book of Acts. Pentecost is the longest liturgical season of the church. It is also the time to tend to all those seeds that have been planted all year long to make this truly the growing season of the church.

Trudy Ardizzone
Missioner for Christian Formation



Palm Sunday procession (John Beeler photo)

Prayers of our Parish

We ask that you hold these persons in your Daily Prayers.

Lord, open our hearts to Your perfect will and to Your loving prayerful nature; that we can faithfully intercede on behalf of those we bring to You now in prayer:

Issac Holdsambeck, Gwinnie Howard, Delores TwoBulls, Irene and Don Cunningham, N. Joyce Crenshaw, Catherine Gibson, Ron & Uini Davis, Stan & Jessie Sheldon, Sheila Holley, Lee and Isla Hill.

AMEN

Please Note:

Prayers of our Parish will be updated monthly. If you would like to add or continue a name to the POP, please fill out a Pink Prayer Request slip or Pew card, submit via our website www.stmaryslompoc.org, call any of our Prayer Tree members, or email Stephanie Bastian at jeffnsteph95@msn.com. Thank you!

“Whenever two of you on earth agree in prayer, it will be done by My Father in Heaven.” Matthew 18:19



Jeff Bastian and Sarah Cunningham led the Palm Sunday procession. As he did last year, Ted Jackson played the bagpipes “for the glory of God”. (John Beeler photo)



Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce, left, and Bishop Mary Glasspool, right, are applauded by diocesan priest Dan Ade, deacon Jamesetta Hammons, Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and a congregation of some 3,000 at the May 15 service of ordination and consecration. Photo: Janet Kawamoto

On May 15 parishioners from St Mary's, St Peter's and St Mark's joined each other on a bus trip to the Long Beach Arena to witness and worship at an historic event. The Diocese of Los Angeles consecrated two new Bishops Suffragan : Diane Jardine Bruce and Mary Douglas Glasspool. The ceremony was resplendent. Bagpipes and break dancers, drummers, singers and brass---more bishops than I have ever seen in my life. Liturgy traditional and adaptive. Despite the hugeness of it all, it was both deeply personal and spiritual. Bishop Bruno's homily spoke of his and our journeys of faith. He remembers a time when he just wasn't too sure that the church should be calling female priests.

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori showed us to take all the time we needed to consecrate the missions of these two wonderful women. We were joined in prayer. We breathed together.

The theme was one of diversity, "a mosaic of our shared ministry." I am old enough to remember the old jokes about Episcopalians. "God's Frozen Chosen" and "The Republican Party at Prayer" I am old enough to remember someone clapping a doily on my head when Stewart and I were rehearsing for our wedding at St Peter's. So I revel in reaching out, in seeing my faith on a large and diverse stage, both figuratively and literally.

The diocesan website (ladiocese.org) promises that the entire service can be downloaded. So far I haven't succeeded. Maybe the site is too busy. But I'll keep trying. There are parts I will want to see and hear again and again. Canon Deborah Dunn's singing of "All my Troubles, Lord" was breathtaking. I want to hear again the Nigerian fanfare and "Sing a New Church." I want to hear familiar verses in languages other than my own. I want to hear again the homily and just hear Bishop Barbara Harris voice again.

I wish you had all been there.

Jeanne Johnston

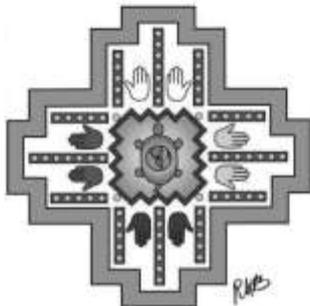
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June, 2010

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Red Shirt Project

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“To serve God and all people, wherever they are in their journey of faith.”

Sunday Eucharist
8:00 AM and 10:00AM

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