

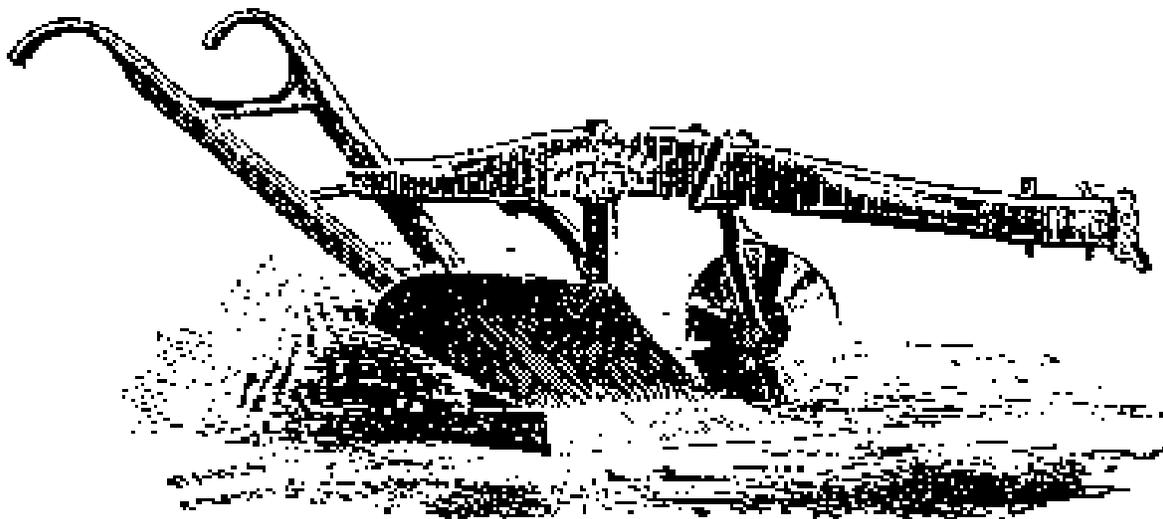


# *The Bells of Saint Mary*

## *November 2013*

All Souls, All Saints, Thanksgiving, Advent...  
It all seems like it is happening really fast!

Wait! Just a minute ago it was Pentecost...what happened? It is November. This Saturday we have our All Souls Day service at 6 pm, then the baptism of Evelyn Ortega on Sunday at the All Saints' Day service, and we will be heading for Veteran's Day and then Thanksgiving before we know it! So...here is a slow down and breathe message for you all.



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From Edward Hays wonderful book, Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim:

Psalm of the Feast of Autumn

*Tinted orange and yellow is the sunlight  
that pours through the stained glass window webwork  
of the countless gothic tree branches,  
as God's cosmic temple  
celebrates the feast of Autumn.*

*The aroma of burning leaves  
fills everyone of my pores,  
as blue-grey clouds of autumn incense rise,  
amidst the tall, tree pillars  
of basilica earth.*

*“Holy, holy, holy are you, God of Creation,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
holy, holy, holy are you.”*

*In sacred dance, great hosts of brown leaves  
circle-turn before earth's altar,  
whirling round like brown-robed sufis,  
lost in the ecstasy of God.*

*Their voices whisper ancient chants of God's secret name:*

*“Ahhh, so beautiful!”*

*“Ahhh, so breathtaking!”*

*“Ahhh, yes, ahhh!”—whispering the name of God.*

*I come like a pagan, unbaptized,  
a gentle outsider standing on holy ground,  
with shoes still on, yearning to be converted  
to this most primal worship,  
the awesome adoration of the feast of autumn.*

*O God, grant me the gift of conversion.*

(Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim, copyright 1989 by Edward Hays)

It rained last night (I am writing this on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October) and I am reminded that it is time to slow down...breathe, settle in. I read on Facebook where our parishioner wrote about her old fashioned wood burning stove that heats that she, Verne and Ryder live in. And how the smell of wood smoke is in the air and the pile of wood that Verne has cut for the winter is all ready to go, and I am reminded, again, that regardless of how busy we are, or make ourselves be, the seasons are changing. It is cool in the mornings and evenings now, and we are entering into the time of the year when the light fades early, the nights are longer and darker, and we come soon to Advent and a time of waiting, with great expectation, for the birth of the Savior Jesus.

So...slow down...say your prayers, come to church, and settle in to the wonders of the shorter days, the cooling evenings, and the time we have together to be the church of St. Mary.

With my hand on the plow,  
Fr. Michael+

### From the Communications Committee:

Do you remember that child's rhyme that was accompanied by fingers, thumbs and hands to illustrate the message? "Here is the church; here is the steeple. Open the doors and see all the people!"

At St. Mary's, the congregation is all over the community -- calling on shut-ins, feeding the homeless, collecting backpack materials and a myriad of other outreach activities. And, of course, the congregation is at church for regular services and other special events like weddings and funerals.

How do you know what is when? Do you print out the monthly calendar from the website (control/print) and post it on your refrigerator as a planner and reminder? Do you have more time for church every week besides the hour or so on Sunday mornings?

St. Mary's provides meaningful committee work, movies, e-Talks, work parties and a wide variety of activities that welcome you to participate. In fact, the majority of St. Mary's church life is lay-person-driven. How could we manage without our wonderful volunteers?

Please consider adding yourself! "See all the people!"

Kati Smith Plummer

## Angel Tree Time

The Outreach Committee is working with Good Samaritan services and Domestic Violence Solutions on the Angel Tree Project during Advent, again this year. The names and gift ideas will be available for selection on December 1<sup>st</sup>, with presentation of the gifts at the altar on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. The parish is invited to participate in this annual giving at Christmas project.

**Thank you!**  
**The Outreach Committee.**



*Catalina Bowman with “Mozart”, one of the first animals to arrive for blessing on October 7th.*



*Kristina Failing brings her dog to be blessed. Photo by John Beeler.*



## The Bookworm Recommends:

### ***Blood and Beauty*** **By Sarah Dunant**

As author Sarah Dunant states, the Borgia family has suffered from bad press for centuries. Slander and political gossip became accepted history of brutal, corrupt times. In *Blood and Beauty*, Dunant takes facts and historical research and blends them into a well-reasoned novel of the Borgias, focusing on Rodrigo, who became Pope Alexander VI.

Rodrigo is a master manipulator who, early in his priesthood, realizes that if he were pope, his power and authority over the princes of his world would be supreme. As a native of Spain, in a single lifetime, he could never hope to achieve a similar place for himself and his family as enjoyed by the principal families of the Italian city-states---Medici, Gonzaga, Ferrera, Orsini, Sforza---who have long, entrenched histories of influence and rule.

But in a ruthless age, Rodrigo is ruthless and patient in the achievement of his goals. His briberies and convoluted promises secure him the Papacy and from his Holy See, he can dictate wars, marriages, treaties, the division of the New World's spoils, and bring kings and princes to beg for his favors.

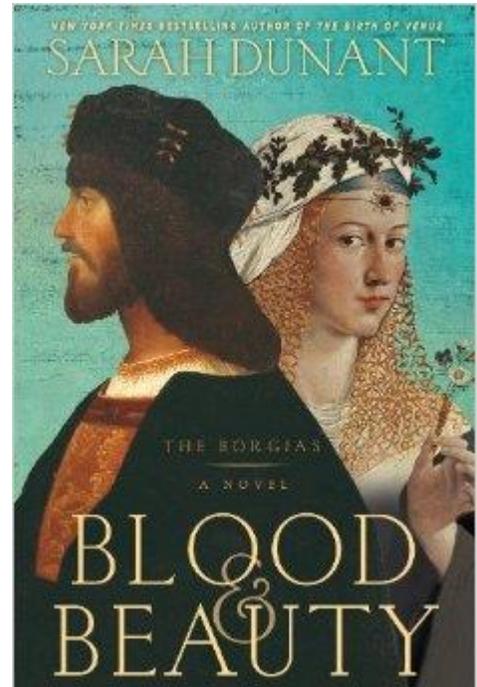
Dunant dissects the marriages of Lucrezia, the Pope's beloved daughter, who is used as a pawn in his various power plays. But even more fascinating is Dunant's exploration of Cesare, the Pope's most famous son, whom Machiavelli addressed in *The Prince*.

While an acquaintance with Renaissance history is helpful, *Blood and Beauty* can stand as a wonderful novel on its own merits.

"It is one of Alexander's great talents: how much he can enjoy life and how, when things are going well, he is happy to invite others to enjoy it with him." (p. 178)

Even though Alexander is an unattractive figure and personality, Dunant manages to give him the charisma that his world recognized and the reader becomes aware of how much his grand plan succeeded, changing world events and establishing a dynasty.

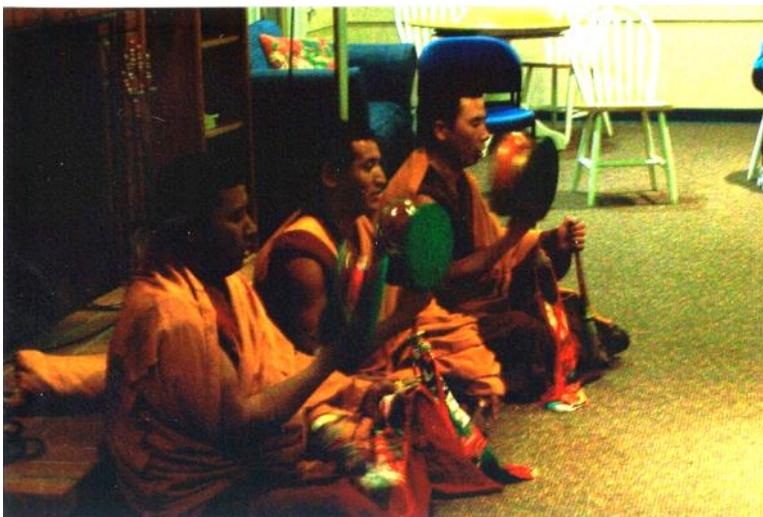
Kati Smith Plummer



## Our evening with the Buddhist Monks



After prayers and blessing, the monks prepare their plates (above) and enjoy their meal with our hostess Suzy Griffin (right) before their presentation. (below)



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*Sunday Eucharist*  
 8:00 AM and 10:00AM

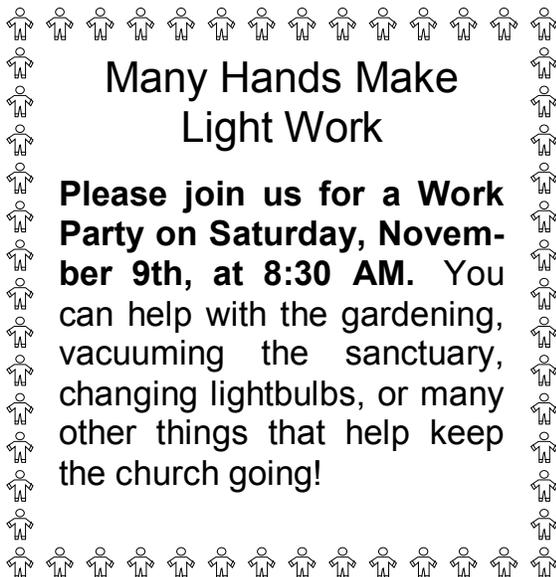
Church Office Hours  
 Monday - Thursday 10 AM - 4 PM

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Julie Anderson	11/05
Dana Manchester	11/05
Donna Vordale	11/07
John Daley	11/10
DeLores [Dodie] Ellis	11/10
Sheila Holley	11/10
James Gibson	11/12
Carol Shuemaker	11/12
Frances Aranguren	11/14
George Bowman	11/15
Natalie Ricci	11/16
Robert B. Glasgow	11/18
Glenna Baker	11/19
Peter Drus	11/19
Nancy Straight	11/20
Mary Bliss	11/22
Anne Gusland	11/22
Christopher Woods	11/22
Roberta Woods	11/23
Henry Culmer	11/25
Kathleen Gonzales	11/27
Malcolm Anderson	11/28



**Many Hands Make Light Work**

**Please join us for a Work Party on Saturday, November 9th, at 8:30 AM.** You can help with the gardening, vacuuming the sanctuary, changing lightbulbs, or many other things that help keep the church going!

# Financial Statement

As of 9/30/2013

Undesignated checking & savings	\$81,879
Designated Checking	\$29,676
Total	<b>\$111,555</b>

	Actual Sep '13	Actual Jan - Sep '13	Budget Jan - Sep '13
Income	\$27,265	\$231,164	\$234,049
Expenses	\$23,277	\$217,524	\$236,353
Net income/(loss)	\$3,988	\$13,640	(\$2,304)

## Prayers of the People

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

*Lord, open our hearts to your perfect will, that we may faithfully intercede on behalf of those we bring to you now in prayer:*

**George Bowman, Gisele Boyd-Snee, Isla Hill, Sheila Holley,  
Shelie Jackson, Stan Sheldon, Rachel Williams, and Keith Wright,**

And those serving in the armed forces remembered by our parishioners:  
**Alana, Allan, Bill, Carl, Carlos, Eddie, Ericka, Gustavo, James, Jason,  
Josh, Kevin, Kimberly, Matthew, Michael, Paige, Patrick, Robert, Simon,  
Ryan, Virginia, and Whitney.**

*AMEN.*

Please Note:

**Prayers of the People will be updated monthly.** If you would like to add or continue a name to the POP, please fill out a Prayer Request slip or Pew card, submit via our website [www.stmaryslompoc.org](http://www.stmaryslompoc.org) call any of our Prayer Ring members, or email Stephanie Bastian at [jeffnsteph95@msn.com](mailto: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