

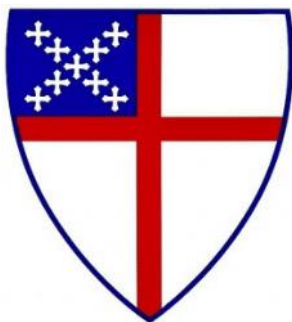


THE ANCHOR

JULY / AUGUST 20

St. Clement's by-the-Sea
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcoming all since 1929



**Member, Anglican
Communion**

PARISH MISSION:

*Follow Christ through the
way we live and love,
spreading the good news
of God in Christ, opening
our hearts to all, and
experience and spread
joy in the process.*



**“This Church of
Ours is Open To
All...There Will
Be No Outcasts.”**

-The Most Rev. Edmund
Browning *Emeritus*
Presiding Bishop



Reopening 2...

As you know from last month's *Anchor*, we are hoping to move toward some form of restored in-person worship this month. Our anticipated date for services is the weekend of July 18-19th. We've been working diligently to bring this about. Many of things that I wrote about last month have been obtained, though some necessary items have not yet arrived. and I am learning a tremendous amount in a short period of time about how to offer both in-person and on-line services, in both English and Spanish. These are things I did not realize I would have to know as a priest (e.g. the nuances of video editing, sound capture, live-streaming and the like). But, *adaptation and flexibility* are the keywords for our lives these days.



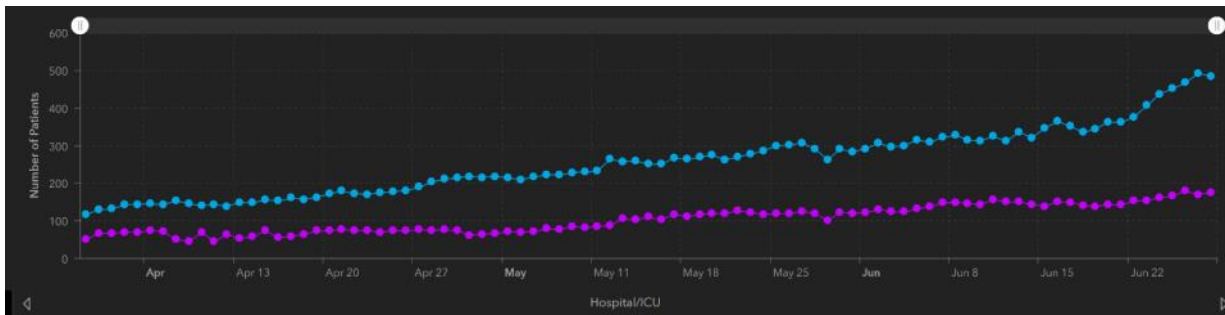
I'm very grateful to all of you who completed our short survey recently. Your comments were insightful, and we had almost 100 respondents, which reflects the importance and passion you have for St. Clement's and our plans. I'm grateful also to Fr. Jay (who put the survey together) and the committee of vestry members who worked with us to think through how we are going to safeguard our people and offer in-person worship. We've had a lot to consider in these weeks, and have been utilizing a diocesan checklist and guidelines to ensure that we are doing this rightly. I'll speak to some of the survey results below, address some of the frustrations that were identified there too and will communicate in more detail some of the specifics of what our restored worship will be like.

Of the many sentiments expressed in the survey, gratitude for our efforts was certainly high. We realize, don't we, that the world has changed. And everyone seems to appreciate that some adjustments are needed. Yet, there was also - for those of us who read between the lines - a deep desire to simply go back to the way things were. This is understandable. We've all experienced so much change in the recent times, we've tired of adapting and adjusting to our new reality. However, simply returning to the way things were is not a real possibility, at least not in the immediate term. Some asked, "why can't we just worship in our beautiful sanctuary?" This is our holy place and it is especially suitable for worship. This is a reasonable question for which there are several answers.

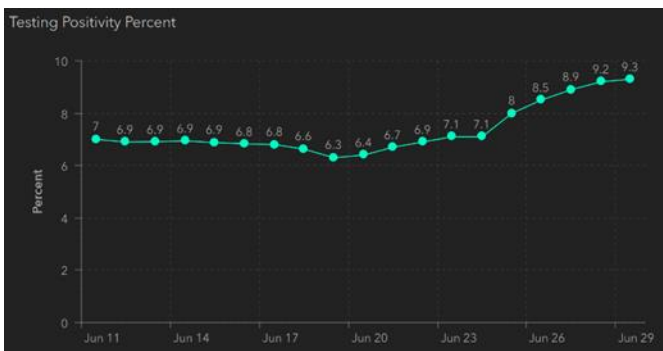
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The sanctuary is historic, and that is one of the things we most love about it. But historic things tend to be rather inflexible. Our pews are not ideal for social distancing. In fact, we've determined that our maximum seating in the nave of sanctuary would be about 12 people, compared with double that number in the courtyard. This is largely due to the flexibility of chairs (which can be put anywhere) over pews (which cannot be). There are the added challenges of cleaning the large number of hard surfaces, which may not react well to the type of cleaning we will have to do, as well as the near impossible task of sanitizing the soft surfaces (e.g. pew covers). There are other challenges beyond these. The bottom line: this space would at best provide one Sunday service a week for a dozen people and that will not meet our collective needs.

I know that this is disappointing, and I imagine your mind is racing with all kinds of solutions. Trust me please when I say that we've been thinking about this for a long time. For now, this is one of the sacrifices we will continue to make in the short term, for the health and benefit of all, as we look with hope to return to our sacred space in the not too distant future. "Why," you might ask, why do we have to continue to sacrifice for others? The following two charts might help. You've surely noted that the rate of infection is increasing in our county. The cumulative number of deaths in Orange County (as of this writing, 330) is sobering. And while San Clemente has not seen the magnitude of infections that places such as Anaheim, Santa Ana and Huntington Beach have, we take this risk seriously and act accordingly. We pray for those places and people who have seen much higher numbers.



This first chart shows¹ the number of current hospitalization in Orange County due to COVID-19. The lower lines shows those who are presently in the ICU. While you'll want to do your own research, and it is hard to show exactly where things are in this newsletter, what you can clearly see is that we are not out of the woods yet. Indeed, we are far from it.



The chart to the left shows the number of positive responses coming back from recent tests. And it is increasing. Many, perhaps most, of our parishioners fall into the "especially vulnerable" category. While some people out there seem ready to throw caution to the wind, we need to remember that we, Episcopalians, wash our hands, wear masks and practice social distancing for the health, safety and comfort of the other (not ourselves). Love of neighbor guides us.

Now to our somewhat revised plans, partly changed by your feedback. Even being on our courtyard, we are going to have limited seating. So, we are planning on having a reservation system, Mary Colarik and other committee members are evaluating such systems now. Your survey responses indicated that for the majority of you, making a reservation was not an obstacle to your planned attendance.

We will continue to offer our service on-line. The format will be slightly different and we are working on that now. You will see a kind of preview over the next two Sundays. Once we begin to meet in-person, because we will be live-streaming, the on-line service will not be available until Sunday morning. I've noticed in these weeks that some of you have been tuning in on Saturday evenings. That has been an interesting phenomena and one I discuss in more detail below.

Here is what we anticipate Sunday morning will look like: Having made your reservation, you arrive with your face mask and as you walk to the courtyard, an usher greets you. There is a sign that welcomes you back and indicates that social distancing is practiced here. The usher will take your temperature using a thermal scanner. I did not include that last item in my original plans, believing it too intrusive, but the vestry felt differently and temperature taking has become ubiquitous. Thanks to Kent Adamson for donating the thermal scanners. There will be a hand sanitizing station. You will be directed to your seat(s) under the pergola. You won't be handed anything and no offering plate will be passed. There will be a central place for you to provide your offering. As noted previously, the Peace would be exchanged with a friendly wave or nod, not with handshakes or hugs.

The chairs will be pre-sanitized and set in place. After the service, ushers will spray the chairs with sanitizer (thanks to Laurie Baxter for obtaining this solution and to Steve Ambellan for providing the sprayer). Tatia Wallett has helped design these processes. The chairs will then dry between services, while we simultaneously finalize our digital upload of the service for those at home. We won't have physical bulletins for many reasons. Not the least of which is the number of people who have to touch them before you receive them. Also, given that we must put the service online, making a physical bulletin creates much more work for our staff. Lastly, I've noticed over the years that we throw piles of paper into our recycle bins every Sunday. The bulletins aren't taken home or used beyond the services, which is a poor use of our limited resources, isn't it?

We will save about \$5K a year on printing and paper cost by not printing bulletins. That's a lot! Your survey results did indicate that screens are not your most favored option. And I understand the hesitation. Let me assure you that our worship will remain *fully Episcopal*! However, we need to utilize screens if there is going to be any music to accompany our worship, which is extremely important to many of you. Music is an essential part of the way we make a joyful sound unto the Lord, even if that music is (for a time) prerecorded and displayed on a screen. What we know about singing is that it propels particulates much further than simply talking. So, 6ft is not sufficient, and singing through a mask is not really possible. Sadly, some of the earliest clusters of Coronavirus outbreak involved choirs rehearsing together.

Very little of the above is new information, and on the survey about 75% of you indicated that you did plan to attend such services, while 25% indicated that they were not ready to attend public worship. Both are faithful answers and it is important that we do everything we can to accommodate all our people. If we find that demand is greater than our supply of seats, we will adjust the reservation system to ensure a balanced and equitable distribution. Further, given the number of you who indicated your desire to attend in-person already, we are planning on an additional service in English on Saturday evenings. This would be a "low service" with no music or screens. It would be on the courtyard, and you would bring your own chair and your *Book of Common Prayer*.

The Saturday evening service will not be live-streamed. Masks and reservations will still be necessary. So, when you go to make your reservation you will be given the option of which service you plan to attend for the coming weekend, “Saturday Evening, 5pm; Sunday Morning, 9am; or La Misa en Español, 11am.” And there may be a few other questions, like “do you require handicapped parking?” Some noted the service times in the survey, and it is important to address that. Because we will be in our courtyard, and it will involve noise that could impact our neighbors, we really cannot begin before 9am. Further, there is all the set up and cleaning before, between and after services. There is the finalizing and uploading of digital content following both the Sunday services and other considerations. While we liked the prior schedule, we need some flexibility to make this work.

Are you still with me? Or is your mind dizzy with the details? Some have asked, “why bother?” Why not just wait longer, until the world gets back to normal. The answer is that we don’t really know when that will be, do we? I’m reading a book now entitled, *Epidemics and Society* by a Yale Professor. The author points out that the first recorded pandemic lasted for 200 years and had 18 waves! Though I do not think we will be dealing with Coronavirus or these adjustments 200 years from now, this text has helped me to keep a sense of perspective. We may well be dealing with it for a lot longer than any of us anticipated. Everything then that we are doing now is necessary, not just for the immediate present but surely for some time to come. And most of it is new to us, so I am grateful for your continued support and patience.

As always, I welcome your feedback, frpatrick@scbythesea.org

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Patrick

¹ Both charts, as well as many others are available at: <https://ochca.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/cc4859c8c522496b9f21c451de2fedae>



RESTING AND VACATION TIME

As I try to figure out what to write in this small article, I realize that the whole reason I am struggling to find words and ideas is because that is exactly how I feel about this year's vacation, I am struggling to define and plan a meaningful vacation in the midst of this pandemic and our new reality.

If we were not in this whole health mess, I know exactly where I would be. Every year during this time, Nicholas and I travel to Guatemala to visit the family and spend an incredible time in my beautiful country of the "Eternal Spring." That is how locals call it as the weather usually is lovely. In fact, I was sharing with Fr. Patrick that Facebook and my family have been pretty good at reminding me of what we are missing. Pictures from years past have been populating my Facebook page as a reminder of what I cannot have this year. Perhaps this is your case as well. We make plans and sometimes those plans do not work out but I am certain that even though plan changes, God's love remains with us.



I know some people have been brave enough to travel but I am not feeling confident enough of our safety measures as I know that the virus is still out there. For example, I would not be able to travel to Guatemala because the international airport is currently closed. Guatemala as in the case of many other countries, even ours, is still experiencing a high rate of infections and deaths. My heart cries as I know that while I am thinking about vacation and resting, many other people are struggling to provide to their families, others are grieving the loss of a loved one, and still others are worried in hospitals or at home wondering how their bodies will react to this disease. My prayers are for healing and wholeness.

I am grateful that my son and I are healthy. I am grateful that our community has not been impacted too much and I am hopeful that this shall pass. It may not be as fast as we expected it but, God willing in the near future I will be able to travel to Guatemala, and we will be able to plan as we did in the past. And it is my hope that this terrible experience will make us better human beings and better stewards of God's creation. We are all together in this.

As always, I would love to hear from you. Perhaps you can give me an idea for a small local vacation or let me know how you are planning yours. Please know that you are loved and that even though we are not able to be together, we are together in Christ, our Lord and our God. I shall see you when I get back on August.

In Christ,

Mo. Norma Guerra

714.581.3841

RevNorma@scbythesea.org

- Spirituals -



Many of you know that I was raised in a Mormon family. Of course, we had many recordings of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Being a classical music nerd even as a child, I often listened to these recordings, relishing in the lush musical settings often accompanied by the Philadelphia Orchestra. One of my favorite LPs contained selections with titles of “Goin’ Home,” “Deep River,” and “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.” I knew nothing of these songs’ musical origin. I only knew that there was something deeply soulful in their melodies and texts that resonated with me: the idea of being a stranger in a strange land and finally “goin’ home,” or being invited to “that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace.” It was comforting to know that in this often-scary world that God’s “got the whole world in his hands!”



When I joined choir in Jr. High School, one of the first song’s we learned in Boy’s Glee was the spiritual “I’m going to ride in the chariot in the morning, Lord.” It was always a crowd-pleaser with audiences and so fun to sing. Here’s a video of a high school quartet singing that exact arrangement. Notice that after the introduction the quartet starts a “call and response” section where one singer leads off and the remaining singers answer back (a trademark for many spirituals). <https://youtu.be/Ec30tulxtW8>. As an adult, I joined the 140 voice Pacific Chorale, a semi-professional choir located here in Orange County. In the early years, the chorale would program spring concerts of Americana. I always looked forward to these concerts which would often conclude with three or four spirituals. Audiences loved them, often jumping to their feet at the conclusion of each. One of my favorites is “In that Great Getting-Up Mornin’” arranged by Jester Hairston, a champion of the African-American spiritual. Here’s a fantastic video of Jester performing that wonderful song on a TV show from the 70s: https://youtu.be/d_JJ1Xtr7Yc.

Spirituals are uniquely American (sometimes known as Negro Spirituals). They come from West African people who were savagely brought over from West Africa to be slaves. They were not allowed to sing and dance the songs they knew and loved from their homeland by their white masters. Often, they would meet in secret to keep their cultural backgrounds alive. Slaves were eventually encouraged by their slaveholders to adopt Christianity. This wasn’t initially welcomed by them but they started to see similarities in the biblical stories being taught to their own indentured lives: the Israelites being held as slaves by Pharaoh and Moses demanding to “let my people go.” They also identified with the idea of finding peace after death in heaven. In some instances, they used songs to tell other stories such as the life of Jesus (see “Amen” below). These songs were often sung after church services, in their own way and fashion, away from conventional church services of the time. They wrote other songs to help them get through their heavy work in chain gangs or out in the cotton fields. And other songs are thought to have been coded messages on how to escape slavery via the underground railroad or other ways of escape (check out “Wade in the Water” the below thought to throw off blood hounds). Some spirituals were also full of fun and joy. This musical form often has strong rhythmic details aiding in keeping the music together across large spaces (fields, camps, railway repair, etc.). The “call and response” style proliferated. Some popular titles of spirituals include “Swing low, sweet chariot,” “Steal away,” “Ain-a that Good News,” “Ride on, King Jesus,” “There is a balm in Gilead,” “Scandalize my name” or “Little David, play on your harp.”

- Spirituals -



In 1993, the Episcopal Church published a supplement to our *Hymnal 1982* called *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* (we often refer to it as LEVAS) which contains many spirituals. The first version published in 1981 was intended for African-American congregations. But, having recently gone through the Civil Rights Movement and with a growing desire to be a more unified church, this version “II” was carefully and lovingly put together for all of us. In the hymnal’s Introduction, Archdeacon Murphy observed:

“White people, too, want to rejoice and sing “Blessed Assurance” with abandon. This is especially true of young white children who can’t get with the program on Sunday mornings after rocking out to Michael Jackson or Whitney Houston all week.”

We are blessed as a church to have these spirituals (hymns) as part of our musical offerings and heritage. I find a deep sense of meaning in so many of them and love singing them, too. Originally, spirituals were written in unison – for one voice or melody to be sung by all. Over the last 150 years, many have been skillfully written out with gorgeous harmonies and fantastic rhythmic qualities. I hope you’ll take a few extra minutes here to enjoy these final selections. The first is of Marion Anderson, an exceptional mezzo-soprano who helped break down the color restrictions back in the 30s, 40s and 50s. She’s singing the wonderful narrative spiritual “Go Down, Moses” in an arrangement by Harry Burliegh who championed the Spiritual musical form for the concert stage. The 2nd is a riveting arrangement of “Elijah Rock” by Moses Hogan. Listen carefully to how many different rhythms are going on along with the various countermelodies. It’s one of my favorite pieces. And, finally, a recording by the amazing all-female singing group “Sweet Honey on the Rock” performing the “code song,” “Wade in the Water.”

“Go Down, Moses” sung by Marion Anderson, arr. by Harry Burliegh: <https://youtu.be/qY3pOa0lqCl>

“Elijah Rock,” arr. by Moses Hogan: <https://youtu.be/Wyt5wIJQr-k>

“Wade in the Water” performed by Sweet Honey in the Rock: <https://youtu.be/RRpzEnq14Hs>

“Amen” performed by Jester Hairston: <https://youtu.be/IJyh27LsFWs>

“Deep River” performed by The Mormon Tabernacle Choir with the Philadelphia Orchestra, 1965: <https://youtu.be/JdVKdchfpgE>

I hope you’ve enjoyed this musical experience. I think you’ll agree that there’s much meaning and beauty in this uniquely American artform. If you are up for just a bit more, check out this wonderful concert of spirituals performed by Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle. You will experience all of the emotions hearing some spirituals you know and many that you’ll want to know better. <https://youtu.be/jl90ujfO1vw>

Blessings,

Larry Gates

Music Director

larry@scbythesea.org

- Columbaria -



Three years after its commencement, the columbaria project has been completed. The final touches were completed last week with the installation of the roof designed to harmonize with the decorative used brick in the Memorial Garden. The structure is now ready for consecration and then the interment of ashes. Many thanks to all who were involved in realizing the completion of this project.



- Junipers -



The historic Hollywood Junipers adjacent to the courtyard have been meticulously trimmed during this quiet time at the church.

The trees were planted around the same time as the church, 1929, and are part of the historical designation. They needed trimming in order to maintain their health and also to protect the sanctuary building.

The trimming was especially timely because of anticipated use of the courtyard, with the newly-completed pergola, for outdoor worship.

The labor was donated by skilled parishioners and supported by the church beautification team.



- Restoration Project -



Hello friends.

Here's an update on the reconstruction project.

We signed the upstairs reconstruction and ladies restroom reconstruction/upgrade contracts on June 24th. During the demolition of the ladies restroom major flooring and joist deterioration were noted. The contractor is in the process of accessing the damage and submitting a quotation for the repairs.

The parquet flooring in the hallway will be replaced with vinyl planking. The flooring will continue into the ladies restroom which will be upgraded to include new toilet fixtures, canned lighting, trough sink, touchless faucet and soap dispensers. In addition new mirrors and new or reconditioned partitions will be installed.

We are postponing the reconstruction of the basement area for now. It is our intention to rent out space and buildout to suit the possible tenants' needs.

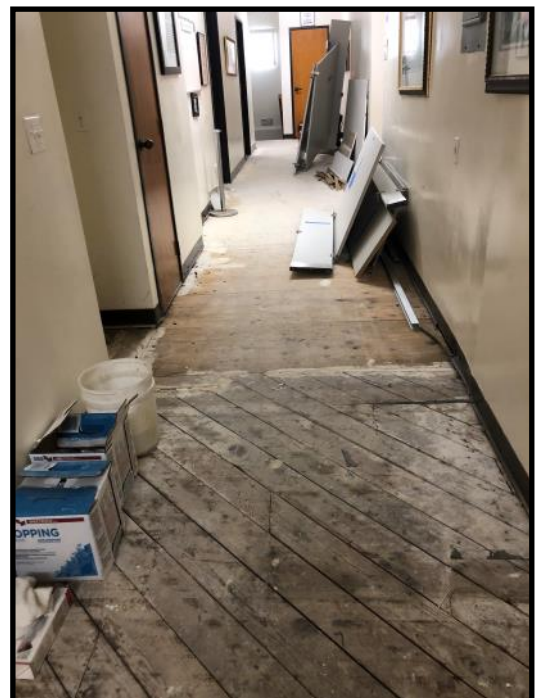
While all work on the roof has been completed and gutters were installed last week.

If all goes well the reconstruction should be complete by mid to late July.

⇒ Rich Suda
⇒ *Buildings and Grounds*



Ladies' Restroom



Hallway

Journey in the Desert: A Spiritual Treasure Map

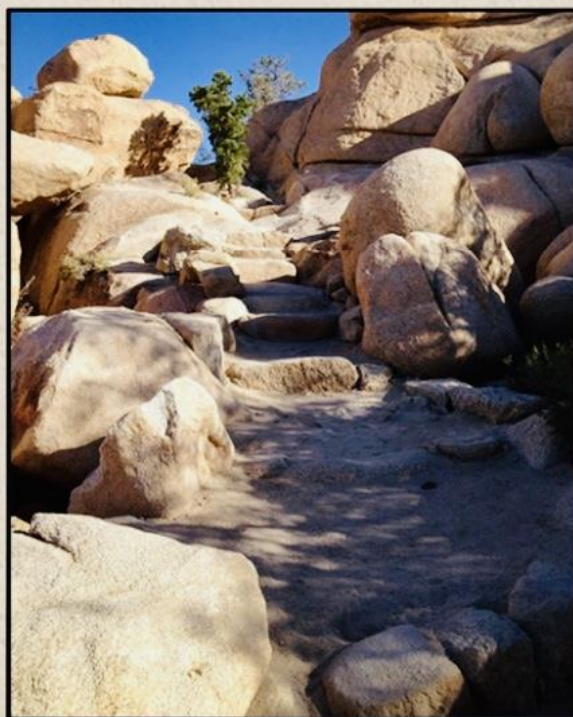


Image by Sr. Karin Nürnberg, CSJ

Saturday, July 25, 2020 • 9 am to 12 pm

Offered via Zoom (Video Conference)

Center for Spiritual Development • Presenter: Fr. Brad Karelius • Fee: \$40

Join others **online** as we explore treasures of the desert experienced by Jesus and the monastics – solitude, silence, and surrender – using the American Southwest and the travelogue of Fr. Brad Karelius, author of *Desert Spirit Places: The Sacred Southwest*, as a backdrop. Fr. Karelius will present his own desert encounters after his life fell apart in the catastrophic health crises of his son Erik. We will discover resources for our own journey within desert wisdom and Ignatian spirituality, with significant time for personal contemplation and group discussion. This workshop was part of the men's series and due to great popularity is now offered to the wider community **online via Zoom**. Please visit the Center for Spiritual Development's website for information on our presenter, Fr. Brad Karelius.



FOR INFORMATION & TO REGISTER:

Call (714) 744-3172, email TheCSD@csjorange.org
or go online at: www.TheCSD.org

A Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange • 434A South Batavia Street, Orange, CA 92868-3907

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray..."

Prayer Practices to Nourish Men



Saturday, August 29, 2020 • 9 am to 12 pm

Offered via Zoom (Video Conference)

Center for Spiritual Development • Presenter: Fr. Brad Karelius • Fee: \$40

This **online** workshop will explore ways of praying that can feed the spiritual hunger that the men of today experience. Prayer has the power to transform our inner spirit and how we experience God in the movement of everyday life. Sustaining a daily life of prayer that does not demand of us energy we cannot muster, includes familiar and repetitious ritual that is clearly defined and time limited.

With this in mind, we will learn about and experience three forms of structured prayer in order to foster a discipline of daily prayer: The Examen of Consciousness: a daily practice of gratitude and discernment of God's movement in our lives; Centering Prayer: practicing the presence of God and listening for God's inspiration as to how we might live our lives; The Daily Office/Breviary: as a way of reflecting upon the word of God through the day.

Please visit the Center for Spiritual Development's website for information on our presenter, Fr. Brad Karelius.



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Call (714) 744-3172, email TheCSD@csjorange.org

or go online at: www.TheCSD.org

Masks, a reality of today...

Wearing face masks has become an every day reality for us. But for many, they did not know from where their masks would come. Jane Fladd decided to take this opportunity to be a blessing (*as many of you have*). Jane created 175 masks for Navajo Land and 75 masks for a Women's Shelter in Carlsbad.

These are beautiful masks that will be such a blessing to those that will be using them. Thank you for your generosity Jane.



Bible Studies



Our Bible Studies, in both English and Spanish will be on
Summer Hiatus.

Bible Study will resume September 2nd



Vestry Meetings

Tuesdays, July 21st & August 18th

7:00 pm

Currently meeting via Zoom.

- July & August Birthdays -

7/1-	Patricia Wilkes	8/1-	Bill Murphree
7/2-	Brandon Garcia	8/2-	Margaret Johnson
7/2-	Jon Ulz	8/2-	Russ Kerr
7/2-	Katherine Workman	8/3-	Steve Ambellan
7/3-	Janet Lee-Thorp	8/3-	Roger Morrison
7/10-	Bertie Lloyd	8/6-	Marc Allen
7/12-	Pat Sawyer	8/7-	Mary Ann Morrison
7/14-	Patrick Warren	8/9-	Cindy Hunter
7/15-	Carolyn Allen	8/9-	Mabel Murphree
7/17-	Ryan Casey	8/11-	Amy Ambellan
7/17-	Muriel Langford	8/17-	Pat Corless
7/17-	Lisa Warren	8/17-	Gabriella Rose Crerar
7/18-	Carina Lovell	8/23-	Belkis Carbonara
7/20-	Russ English	8/23-	Susan Leal
7/21-	Sarah Tomeo	8/23-	Bill Morrow
7/21-	Joe Wharton	8/25-	Siria Garcia
7/24-	Jacob Miranda	8/26-	Nancy Badstubner
7/26-	Brigitte Bower		
7/26-	Frank Soto		
7/27-	Laurie Adamson		
7/31-	Susan Hagstrom		
7/31-	Lilly Miranda		

- July & August Anniversaries -

7/3-	Claudia & Jorge Berber	8/15-	Geoffrey & Olga Harris
7/29-	Bob & Pat Corless	8/29-	Gerald & Judith McDonald
8/1-	Bill & Mabel Murphree	8/31-	Jason & Mikael Feeney
8/8-	Kenneth & Laurie Kathleen Baxter	8/31-	Rod & Gloria Jean Rodriguez



St. Clement's by-the-Sea EPISCOPAL CHURCH

San Clemente's First Church

Welcoming all since 1929



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Currently meeting online

ANTICIPATED JULY 19 JOIN US FOR WORSHIP OUTSIDE

9:00 am Holy Communion Rite II

11:00 am La Misa en Español

202 Avenida Aragon
San Clemente, CA 92672

OFFICE HOURS

Vary during these times.

Phone: 949.492.3401

E-mail: info@scbythesea.org

Website: www.scbythesea.org

The Rev. Patrick Crerar, Rector