

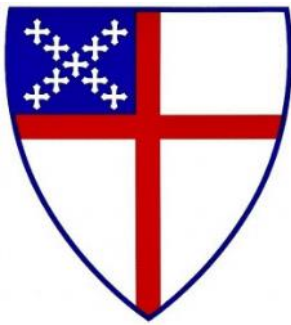


THE ANCHOR

JUNE 2020

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...

The word has a sound of hope! Of course, we never did close per se. We've continued to worship together, albeit virtually. We've continued to do bible study online. We've continued to minister and serve our community as best we can in midst of a pandemic. And while we've certainly had some things to celebrate through this experience, including a renewed and deepening spirituality for many of us, we still long to be back together physically, in-person, to experience Church as we have in the past.



Not being able to meet in our sanctuary has been deeply dislocating. I pray we all now have a much better sense that we are the “living stones” of living Temple (1 Peter 2:5), where Christ is present in our own hearts. Still, sanctuaries are important. The sanctuary is where we as a community have so often encountered God, in his Word, in the Sacrament, and in each other. It is where we as a community: have celebrated our birthdays and anniversaries, where couples exchanged their vows before God, where we've baptized both adults and children into the life of Christ, where we've been restored and renewed many times over, and where we find a peace that we don't often find anywhere else. Yes, sanctuaries are important.

Recently, California entered *phase three*, which permits in-person worship to resume. Of course, it isn't our elected leaders who decide when we reconvene in-person, it is us and our bishops. And what worship will be like when we do reconvene is a question that we have been wrestling with mightily for many weeks now. How do we offer all the meaningfulness of our worship while at the same time ensuring our parishioners' health and safety, especially those who may be particularly vulnerable?

Some of the necessary processes are becoming clearer. That is, the best practices that we will all conform ourselves to in order to demonstrate our love and care for others. These are part of our daily lives already and so will be familiar. We will maintain social distance between our family and those of others (by sitting six feet apart). We will make use of hand sanitizer which will be available at our arrival. We will bring our face masks from home (or accept a disposable one provided by the parish) and use it throughout the service. We will wave “hello” at the peace. We will not engage in congregational singing for now. And we will receive only the consecrated host, dropped into our open hand, at Communion.

Continued on next page...

Some of the above may seem draconian. And I understand that reaction. But all are for the wellbeing—the Christian love—of the other. Scientific data tells us clearly how this highly contagious virus passes from person to person, and how any one of us could be putting others at risk even while we are asymptomatic. We will also will not pass a plate at the time of the offering, rather we will have a central basin, where your offering will be gratefully received and will be blessed. This is our thinking, as of this writing.

In all likelihood, we will not have bulletins. But rather, we will project the liturgy, lessons and music on screens. I did this in my former parish for our Spanish service and it was well received. It is not what we are used to here, but I believe it will work for the time being. I anticipate that we will have one English service in the early morning, and one Spanish service in the late morning. The services will be live-streamed for those who are home-bound, for those not yet comfortable with returning to in-person worship, and for all those who have tuned-in to our worship since we've been putting our services online. This will necessitate an online worship and presence manager, either volunteer or more likely paid.

Our in-person services will have aspects that are prerecorded and projected, especially music. These pieces will also be incorporated into the online service, very much like we have them now. Well, if you're still reading and haven't thrown this newsletter across the room while declaring "THIS ISN'T THE CHURCH I KNOW AND LOVE," we now come to the thorniest issue of all, which is: where! Where will we meet? There is a challenge with the sanctuary. Unless we leave all the doors and windows open throughout the service, the airflow is not that great. But then, we cannot regulate the temperature either. Nonetheless, it could potentially work, but probably not for two services on a Sunday.

Sanitizing the sanctuary between the services every Sunday would be quite an undertaking. Along with the soft surfaces like pew cushions that are difficult to effectively clean, there are a lot of hard surfaces. If there was only one service in the sanctuary each Sunday and there was a whole week between services, then it might be possible. But that service would also have to be bilingual every week. And, I'm not sure either our English speakers or Spanish speakers would find that to be ideal. We presently have about three bilingual services a year and that seems to be about right.

Praise God, we've been provided a very suitable place for worship in such times as these, and that is our courtyard, with our new pergola. We are presently working to improve its shade-providing capacity. What makes this space particularly good is the excellent airflow and the ability to prearrange seating where it is already situated six feet apart. Further, it is wired for sound which I tested, and it works well. The plastic chairs we would use in that space can be much more easily sanitized after one service and left to dry for the next. While it also has some challenges, it is a space where projection is much easier on screens than the sanctuary, which is not well suited for them.

One could make similar claims about the parish hall, and that is a space we are also considering. But the airflow is less and we'd have to bring the chairs outside to sanitize them after each service and then put them back in place once dry. So, much more work for volunteers on a Sunday morning, who will already be very busy. Incidentally, regarding those chairs, we are looking into getting better and more comfortable ones, which we desperately need anyway. Our present blue chairs, while beloved, have run their course, and are costing us more to maintain than they are worth.

We come to the question of when. When will we resume in-person worship? Well, a few things to consider. Firstly, we haven't been so authorized to resume in-person worship by our bishop. Secondly, if you've been reading the eblasts and Anchor newsletters, you are aware that we are in the midst of a major restoration project (after considerable damage from a rainstorm in mid-April). At this point, we don't even have a functioning ladies' restroom on the main floor. The hallway is off-limits due to the construction. And the roof is being repaired and rebuilt in some areas.

I'm anticipating at least three to four more weeks until we are whole again. Further, some of the items we've ordered to help ensure your safety are the very same items that every other parish in Christendom is trying to obtain. So, they are on back order. Given all of the above, I would say early to mid-July would be a reasonable expectation. It could be sooner. We might find ways to better accommodate the sanctuary. Our restoration work might get done more quickly than I imagine. We may receive our masks, hand sanitizing stations, and other materials before then. But, I find those possibilities unlikely, I'm sorry to say.

In the meanwhile, we will be patient. We will continue to be creative and adaptive. We will continue to pray for those who have perished from this terrible affliction, and for those who daily are discovering that they have become infected. We will pray for our parish, our diocese and our National Church, our Anglican Communion, the other denominations of the world – including our Full Communion partners – and all of those of good will who love God. This is what we will do because we are a people of prayer, because we have self-control and because we are filled with Christ-like love.

I know how hard this is! I miss you, and I miss us being together in-person to worship our God and King. I know what you've read here probably isn't what you expected, and it may be some time before things seem exactly as they should be again. As always, I welcome your feedback: frpatrick@scbythesea.org.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Patrick



A Word from Mo. Norma

CRISTOSAL...

You may wonder what Cristosal is and what it means. So, let me start from the beginning. At the end of last year, I was asked by Bishop Taylor if I could represent the Diocese as a Board member of Cristosal, which is a non-profit organization that does social justice work in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

I must confess that at the beginning I wasn't sure if I would have the time or energy to add more work to my life but I couldn't say no to my Bishop and the idea of working with this organization that helps people in Central America and my own home country, Guatemala, was extremely appealing to me. As of January, of this year, I became officially a Board of Directors member.



My original plan was to share with you my experience and my learnings as I was scheduled to visit El Salvador back in March for our first Board meeting. It is a tradition that once a year all the members of the board fly to El Salvador and spend a few days together. An important time to get to know each other, to be introduced to the staff in El Salvador, planning the year, and experiencing the country and the work that Cristosal does.

Unfortunately, as in the case of many other plans, COVID19 prevented us from meeting in person. I was definitely disappointed as I had so many plans for the trip. I was looking forward to eating *pupusas*, a very traditional meal from El Salvador and also meeting my mom, who was going to take a bus and join me there.

Now, this did not stop us from getting together as Board of Directors. We have been virtually meeting every month since then and the work continues, especially with this new challenge of the pandemic which has definitely affected greatly our Central American countries. Cristosal has been very intentional about monitoring the human rights of the community so they may not be violated.

I have been wondering how can I help this wonderful organization while in the midst of this crisis that has affected the whole world. At first, I did not have too many answers, the plans and ideas I had would not work in a time of pandemic. Maybe this is why it took me so long to let you know about them. Thanks be to God, the Holy Spirit has made me realize that I can start my work with this organization by telling you their story and how my journey has met theirs and hopefully how this will bring you along as well.

A Word from Mo. Norma

Let me share a little bit more about Cristosal and if you have the chance please visit their website at <https://www.cristosal.org/home>. Their mission statement is the following “Cristosal works to advance human rights in Central America through rights-based research, learning, and programming.”

Some of the work that they do is to “support victims of violence by providing protection when they need it most, repair the effects of human rights violations through strategic court cases, and work with municipalities to build safer, more democratic communities.” What I especially appreciate of their work is that they empower people with education and resources so they can voice their own needs and claim the justice that they deserve.

I could keep going telling you more about the work they do but I would like to write a little bit more in our next newsletter and hopefully by that time you have been able to visit their website, join their newsletter and perhaps join our cause by making a financial gift.

As always, I would love to hear from you. 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.

In Christ,

Mo. Norma Guerra

714.581.3841

RevNorma@scbythesea.org



A Word from Fr. Jay

I spent most of my priesthood as a high school chaplain, so I know just how important the concept of graduation is. Consequently, I wanted to take a few minutes to acknowledge and honor those who might be graduating – and not just from high school, but from college, or sixth-grade, or wherever you may find yourself. All graduations are important to us as a parish family because they mark a period of significant transition, a turning-point in the lives of those we love. Indeed, they mark a time of looking towards new adventures.



In packing for that adventure - in sorting out which clothes to take, which books, and which cords and chargers, I'd like to offer an unsolicited suggestion of something to bring along on your journey. I'll expand upon it in a minute, but for now, put very simply, that suggestion is to include God on your voyage.

In the beginning of St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians, the author is obviously upset as he declares that the early Christians have deserted Christ and have turned to a different Gospel, to a Gospel which is indeed distorted. And like those people of the early Church, in order to determine if we too are living by a false Gospel, we must know what the real Gospel is. That is, we must ask ourselves what it means to live our lives as God would have us. Put succinctly, we need to know what it means to be a child of God.

Now, I could write pages on this one, but because I want you to finish this article while remaining my friends, I'll condense it down to two basic rules of life, just as Christ did. That is, to be a child of God, we must love God as deeply as we can, and we are obligated to treat one another as we would be treated. Nothing new here. Hopefully, you've heard it on numerous occasions.

This truth that Paul spoke to the Galatians is the same one we try to live out today. And yet we still need reminders, don't we? We still distort these simple truths today just as the people of the early Church did. We still manage to find countless things to place first in our lives other than God.

One thing that I noticed in my career was that many of my students had an attitude of me first. They weren't obnoxious about it but it seemed as though every move that they made, every choice or decision, was determined by the effect it would have upon their major, their degree, their career, and ultimately upon how "successful" they'd be in the future.

Unfortunately, it was unusual when I saw my students making decisions, making life choices based upon anything like how much fun they'd have, or how interesting something was, or, God forbid, how their choice would impact the world around them...how it would influence God's plan and their fellow human beings. No, the concern was mainly in reference to getting ahead, to getting that GPA necessary for grad school, or achieving that perfect resume. And of course, this kind of mentality, the placing of career goals and material wealth ahead of most everything is not just prevalent in our youth but is ubiquitous in the world we live in.

Now don't get me wrong, being a high-achiever is not inherently a bad thing, and yet if we are not careful, this achievement oriented attitude, a characteristic that we all often take pride in, can become for us the thing that most separates us from our God. So, I re-offer that one little piece of advice... include God in your adventures. Notice, I'm not advocating that you give up goals or past accomplishments. I'm merely suggesting that in the midst of these achievements, and in making your goals realities over the next years, you keep God in the picture.

For you, the graduate who has a keen interest in science, you might find God in the picture as you prepare for a career as a doctor and end up devoting a portion of your time each week to the care of those without income. And you, the budding engineer, you may begin to feel God tugging at your shirtsleeve as you use your skills to help create a better world for your children. Or you, the one who doesn't have a clue as to where to turn next, you might be surprised to find that God has some very exciting plans for you. All of you, whether you end up as a teacher, a plumber, or a lawyer will have opportunities to make the Kingdom of God a closer reality...but it won't happen by accident, you'll have to plan it that way, you'll have to consciously include God.

You can include God by having the courage to ask the difficult questions that have no finite answers; the courage to be joyous and vulnerable and alive; the courage to dare, to take risks; the courage to love where loving is not easy; the courage to accept your own selves and others, just as you are, as children of God, loved without qualification. My hope and indeed my prayer is that the members of the Class of 2020 will never lose the child within, the eager, open, questioning child, able to rejoice in all the excitement of God's world, to play, to laugh.

St. Augustine once wrote that "without God, we cannot, without us, God will not." And while true for all of us, it seems especially appropriate for those embarking on a new adventure, for the Class of 2020.

From our Book of Common Prayer:

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, AMEN.

May God bless each of you as you begin a new chapter.

Fr. Jay Young

(I welcome your comments. Please email me at frjyoung@gmail.com)



Congratulations, Class of 2020!

Lucas Benicio Casellas



Graduate of Santa Margarita Catholic High School.

Lucas will be studying Political Science at New York University.

Kate Spencer



Graduate of Choate Rosemary Hall, Cum Laude.

Kate hopes to work locally over the summer and will begin Business Studies at the University of Pennsylvania

In the fall.

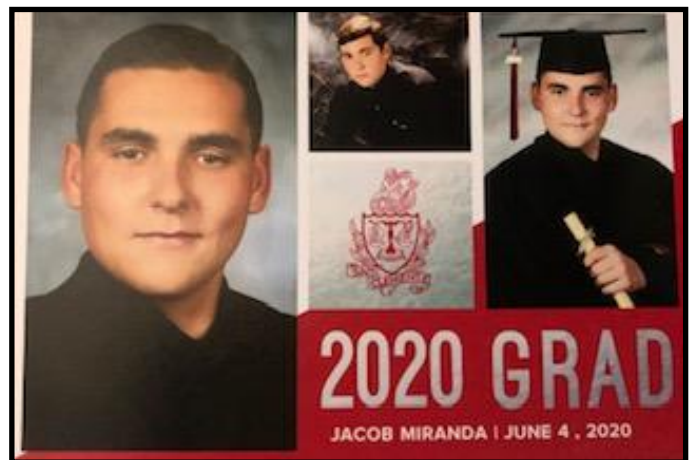
Ryan Casey



Graduate of Aliso Niguel High School.

Ryan plans to continue life guarding and will be studying Business at Saddleback College.

Jacob Miranda



Graduate of San Clemente High School.

Congratulations, Class of 2020!

Arthur Sauls



CSU Fullerton Graduate with B.A. in Music Education, Choral Emphasis.

Arthur will be student teaching at CSU Fullerton in the fall.

What's next for you?

I've been accepted into the Single Subject Teaching Credential Program at CSU Fullerton. I'll be starting student teaching in the fall.

What's your endgame - what career are you working towards?

By the time I finish my student teaching year, I'll be ready to search for a job as a High School choir director. I don't see myself having an endgame, per se - I may go back to grad school, teach at the collegiate or university level, or more. We will see!

What's your favorite style or type of music?

Barbershop music, followed by film scores.

What is a favorite memory or event you have from university?

Singing on stage at the Hollywood Bowl, and seeing Maestro John Williams conduct the music from Jurassic Park, E.T., and especially Star Wars - the music that had the most impact on me as a child.

Who's your favorite composer?

John Williams.

Restoration Project

Dear Friends,

Just when we thought we were catching up with projects around the church Mother Nature played a trick. According to one of the neighbors the storm during Holy Week was the worst they've seen in 35 years.

The end result was a flooded downstairs area caused by a sump pump failure and a damaged upstairs caused by a roof leak. The ensuing dialogue between the Vestry, contractor and insurance company to determine what is covered and what isn't has been an interesting adventure. The extent of the damage that we may be liable for, could be in excess of \$45,000.

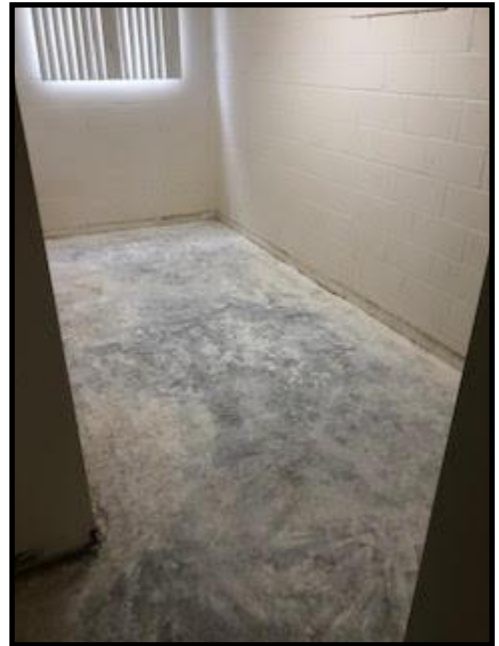
Repair work on the roof is scheduled to begin the last week of May. The reconstruction work should start within two weeks once the insurance's forensic engineer submits his report.

We'll keep you posted as we begin to make progress in the reconstruction phase.

Rich Suda

We are making great progress towards restoration. All of the water damaged areas have been dried out and are ready to begin being restored. Workers have begun on the roof. We are moving forward. Thank you to every person who has supported this unexpected restoration project to our beautiful St. Clement's.





Happy FATHER'S Day

JUNE 21, 2020



YOUR SHOPPING MATTERS

Shop for Father's Day at
smile.amazon.com
and Amazon donates
amazonsmile

The advertisement features a dark blue background with white text. On the right side, there is a photograph of three items: a white ceramic mug with the word 'DAD' written on it, a black Amazon Echo smart speaker, and a blue wristwatch with a brown leather strap.

Dear Friends,

Father's Day is coming up on Sunday, June 21st, and many of you may be shopping for the perfect gifts to honor your father on his special day!

When you purchase your Father's Day gifts at Smile.Amazon.com, and designate St. Clement's as your preferred charity, AmazonSmile donates to us. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor both your father, the church, and her mission.

For assistance, please contact Spring: info@sbythesea.org

June Birthdays

3-Melanie Grigg
 5-Peter Knapp
 9-Diana Olmedo
 12-Christina Crerar
 12-Kate Spencer
 14-Michael Badstubner
 14-Tom Seminoff
 16-Robert Hagstrom
 17-Anna Brownell
 17-Amanda Patterson



18-Judy Johnson
 20-Judith McDonald
 21-Wendy Berube
 22-Bishop Diane Bruce
 22-Jowan Mothershead
 22-Cindy Young
 24-Kent Adamson
 24-Gerald McDonald
 27-Pat Kensler
 30-Brooks Spencer

June Anniversaries



7- Tom & Christi Seminoff
 14- Mel & Jowan Mothershead
 17-Robert & Susan Hagstrom
 19-William & Tatia Wallett

23-Claire Morrison & Fred Robinson
 27-Bertie & Bob Lloyd
 27-Mark & Sherilee Pocino

Items of Interest

From time to time, we are made aware of items that folk no longer need but that others may want or need. We are adding a section to our monthly Anchor as a way to let others know. Pictures of items can be emailed to info@scbythesea by the 20th of the month to be included in the Anchor newsletter.

Please contact Brigitte Bower via the Parish Directory for details regarding this chair & ottoman.



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

San Clemente's First Church

Welcoming all since 1929



SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00am Holy Communion Rite I, Nursery

10:00am Holy Communion Rite II with Choir, Nursery, Sunday School

12:00pm La Misa en Español

202 Avenida Aragon
San Clemente, CA 92672

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—9:00am-1:00pm

Tuesday-Friday—8:00am-1:00pm

Phone: 949.492.3401

E-mail: info@scbythesea.org

Website: www.scbythesea.org

The Rev. Patrick Crerar, Rector