

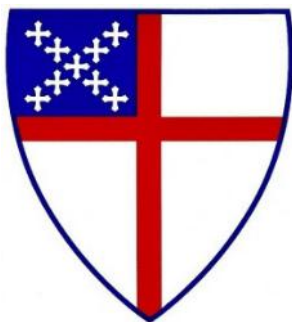


# THE ANCHOR

MAY 2021

*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



## **Youth...**

Like many Episcopal congregations in these parts, St. Clement's isn't exactly teeming with youth. We do have young parishioners, and some young families. Our teens, for example, are preparing themselves for their pilgrimage to Navajoland next year (we had some pandemic related setbacks but that is still happening). We have a few younger parishioners, mostly among our Spanish speaking congregation and the Marine Corps families that occasionally attend. Obviously, your rector too has a six-year-old at home and some grandchildren of parish families also attend with some regularity.



There are reasons for the demographic realities of many Episcopal congregations. Some say that our branch of the Jesus Movement tends to appeal more to the head than the heart. Or as they said in early generations, “this is the thinking person's Church.” And there may be something to that. Our worship style generally appeals also to those who appreciate time honored tunes, thoughtful liturgy, contemplative preaching and inclusive theology. It is possible, that like a fine wine, these are appreciated with age.

Meanwhile, a look around the neighborhood will reveal that there are many young people in our community. They don't necessarily make their church home here, but they do matter to us. We are not only the first church in San Clemente, we are also located next to the first school. Before the pandemic hit, one of the ways we served the needs of kids in our community was through our Peaceful Warrior, Tae Kwon Do program. We'd like to see that revived, but presently we have no instructor, as our former instructor has been doing all he can to keep his own school (in Torrance) alive. It has been a hard year for everyone but imagine if your livelihood depended on people be physically together, as with martial arts.

A group of us met recently and walked through our buildings, considering all our spaces and their possible uses for ministry, especially for youth in our community. We talked about many possibilities, what we could do during the week, and what we could offer for those who were interested on Sunday mornings. In many ways, these things ought not to be separate. We should always be proclaiming the love of God in Christ, and instilling in young people the sense of God's deep and abiding love for them. We should be equipping them for ministry in and to the world. And helping them to believe in all that is possible with God.

Of the various possibilities we discussed, in addition to reviving Peaceful Warrior, was a dance program. Not long ago, we were approached by a youth organization that does all kinds of dance and theatre. We also talked about what we might offer neighborhood parents, to support them, like day care or “parent's day out” or other kinds of programs (e.g. MOPS). One of the needs, I've heard mentioned from more than one source, is the need for tutoring. Many young people found distance learning over the last year to be really challenging. Some could probably benefit from more personal attention and guidance. That is something that many of our parishioners are qualified to do. And led us to ask, could our people help youngsters learn to read, for example, at grade level by donating an hour or two a week as a tutor?

...Continued on next page

These are all possibilities. What is clear is that we've got an awful lot of space, that largely sits empty during the week. We care if kids are prospering in school. We care if they are meaningfully engaged in activities that improve their lives and help them to know the love of God. We also take seriously the biblical imperative that we tell of God's wondrous and glorious deeds to the generations that will follow us, and that we will teach his ways to our children (see, for example, Ps 22:30-31 and Ps 78:4, 6).

Which brings me to what we do on Sunday mornings. Apart from the opportunity to worship, either live or by live-stream, we really don't offer much for families with young children at St. Clement's. We were offering a pre-recorded Sunday School program during the pandemic, and before that we offered Sunday School in person, but it has been a very small group for many years. The reality is that kids gravitate toward a critical mass. And that is particularly so for those kids in the "tween" years. When a young family arrives, they ask, "so, what do you have for our kids?" If the response is silence, they tend to go elsewhere. Also, if they find that theirs are the only kids involved, they also tend to go elsewhere, which is frustrating.

Nonetheless, being ready and having something: Sunday School and nursery care, for example, lead primarily by volunteers, is essential. This is so even if those volunteers often find that they have no students to teach or infants to care for on a given Sunday, or a few Sundays. Such an effort however, requires the willingness of our people to volunteer. Would you?

As noted at the start of this article, we don't have a lot of kids now in the parish. So, do we offer programs geared toward the people we have, or do we offer programs that will be of interest to those not presently in our pews? I.e. do we offer programming for the parish as it is, or the parish as we'd like it to be? Clearly, both are needed. But, my general approach is that of the former Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple, who famously stated that "the Church exists in the world primarily for those who are not yet its members" (my paraphrase).

Whatever we do during the week, and the programming that we offer in support of families and youth, should probably be in some way complementary or an extension of what we do on Sunday mornings. In many ways, our very desire to help, to connect and serve the needs of those around us (who are not members) is already that. It is a way of putting our faith in action, and not primarily for our benefit but for the benefit of the other. However, such programs should always be a way of entry into the Church, into relationship with Christ. While those who benefit from our programs may never become regular parishioners here, they should always be actively invited to be and be aware that programs exist here for their children on Sunday.

There are other Christian traditions that do a better job at reaching youth. And many churches, especially those with schools, tend to have actively engaged youth and young families. In discussion with my clergy colleagues, I find Episcopal congregations like ours have very much the same picture. Very few engaged young families, which makes consistency in Christian Education programming extremely difficult. Those with schools, have more youth involvement and usually more resources. In talking with my clergy peers (of other traditions) here in San Clemente, I find a willingness to work together, to have all our youth get together regularly to do activities. Such collaboration is really important, and should augment what we offer here. We are considering now, for example, how our youth can be engaged with the youth at Our Savior's Lutheran. And we are grateful for the opportunity to work together to serve the needs of youth in their faith formation.

All of the above is to say that we recognize a challenge and are prayerfully discerning a meaningful path forward. We want to use the gifts that God has given us to best serve the needs of our community. We care about everyone, and we want to be help youth to know of the saving deeds of God, in Christ, and his great love for them. We want to instill a sense of positive, self-worth, perseverance and faith, among other values (like: hope, compassion, tolerance, patience and kindness). This is no easy task. But with God all things are possible.

As always, I welcome your feedback: [frpatrick@scbythesea.org](mailto:frpatrick@scbythesea.org)

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Patrick



## **What are your fellow parishioners saying about our small group ministry called COVENANT GROUPS?**

I've found participating in Covenant Group a rewarding experience as it helps me see faith through other people's thoughts and experiences - and helps me develop in my own journey. *Ray S.*

I am enjoying getting to know a few St. Clement's women on a more personal level--women I perhaps would not have gotten to know by attending just Sunday services. I also enjoy the support and compassion for one another and our individual lives. *Mary C.*

The Covenant Group has been an opportunity for me to gain a better understanding of the Bible and a chance to discuss and share different thoughts and perspectives with good friends. I look forward to the weekly meetings!! *Daisy H.*

It has made me think about what the scriptures really mean and I find the interpretations by others in the group revealing as they often have interpretations different from mine. *Lanneau M.*

I've found participating in Covenant Group valuable because it is a unique way to delve into the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday, listening to and learning from other participants' insights while also deepening the intimacy of fellowship. *Katrina S.*

I've found participating in Covenant Group valuable because it makes me focus on my beliefs and organize them and it gives me new perspectives as I hear of those of others. *Peter K.*

Our co-ed Covenant Group has been an opportunity for meaningful, in-depth conversations with Christian friends about religious topics, and the intersection of our lives with our beliefs. I have never experienced this type of fellowship before, where you have both the time and the covenant relationship to talk about very important, and intimate, topics. I can see our Covenant Group as a continuing part of my spiritual life. *Judy J.*

## **Give it a try!**

Currently, four groups (Co-ed, Women and Men) meet weekly (via Zoom) for Fellowship, Bible Study and Prayer. The Friday 11AM in-person daytime women's group meets (masked and socially distanced) outside.

For more information or the Zoom link to join in, contact:

WOMEN: Mondays, 7 p.m. Contact Laura Casellas: [Laura.casellas@yahoo.com](mailto:Laura.casellas@yahoo.com) (203)451-7598  
or

WOMEN: Fridays, 11 a.m. Contact Hilary Viscount: [hviscount@gmail.com](mailto:hviscount@gmail.com) (714)932-2210

MEN: Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Contact Beto Casellas: [betolaura@mac.com](mailto:betolaura@mac.com) (704)661-6994

CO-ED: Thursdays, 7 p.m. Contact Ken and Laurie Baxter: [kbaxter@choc.org](mailto:kbaxter@choc.org) (630)674-5017



# Parish Work Days



# Thank You





## New System to Stream Worship Service From Sanctuary

A new audio-visual (AV) system to provide streaming of worship services has been recently installed in the sanctuary.

On-line viewing of the current outdoor worship services, started in response to the COVID restrictions on in-person worship, has proven very popular. Father Patrick said, "Our worship services are reaching more people than ever, including people who are new to St. Clements and even people in other states. Many of our own parishioners have expressed their gratitude in having an option of attending worship from their home, and at a time of their choosing. This is also a blessing to provide remote viewing for other types of services in the sanctuary, such as baptisms, weddings and memorial services. "

There was an additional goal to simplify the setup and eliminate wires of the current courtyard setup. A professional company was selected after guidance was received from multiple sources, including Vestry member, Michael Grombone and the local Presbyterian church. The new system consists of two cameras and an enhanced sound system. Our wunderkind, teen operator, Max Ulz, will continue to run our streaming from the new AV room, which is the room just behind the organ. The system is ready to be used when worship resumes in the sanctuary, which is expected to be no later than June 12.



Vestry member Michael Grombone and Father Patrick setting up equipment in the new AV room.

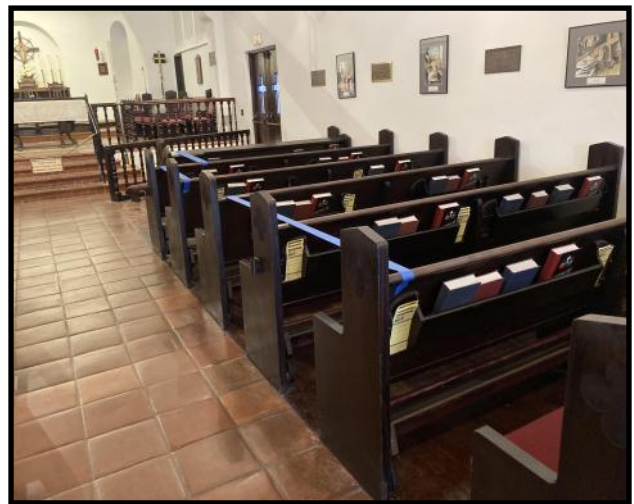
## Sanctuary Open For Prayer on Sunday Morning

For many St. Clement's parishioners, the sanctuary of St. Clement's is where they feel closest to God. Our beautiful historic church is way more than a building to all of us; it is our spiritual center.

To support parishioners and members of the community during the period until the sanctuary is fully re-opened, it was suggested that the sanctuary be open for prayer before and after the Sunday 9 a.m. outdoor worship service. The suggestion was made at the recent online forum of parishioners to discuss the re-opening of the sanctuary,

We are happy to say that the sanctuary will be open for prayer on Sundays from 8:30 to 9 a.m., and from 10 to 10:30 a.m. (at the conclusion of the outdoor 9am worship service). Pews have been taped off in accordance with CDC and diocesan spacing guidelines, making it easy to find an available pew.

Opening of the sanctuary commenced on Sunday, April 25. Volunteers (ushers) are required to support this ministry. Please contact the church office to volunteer. An usher sign-up sheet will be distributed shortly.



## ST CLEMENT'S OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



In December 2017, St. Clement's partnered with Christ Lutheran Church and started the San Clemente Laundry Love ministry. Every third Wednesday of the month, this ministry, staffed with volunteers from both churches, supplies money, laundry supplies and warm hearts to the homeless and underserved of our community. Since 2017, laundry love has been going strong, only missing 3 sessions in 2020 when we honored the stay at home and social distancing recommendations during the Covid 19 pandemic.

For a little history, Laundry Love is a national program that started in California approximately 17 years ago. Laundry Love washes the clothes and bedding of low/no income families and person(s) across the U.S. Throughout the country, Laundry Love brightens the lives of thousands of people through love, dignity, and detergent by partnering with diverse groups and laundromats nationwide. -Our Laundry Love "clients" may be entirely without shelter or living in a motor vehicle, weekly/monthly-rated motel, low income housing or transitional shelter and experiencing financial struggle or loss.

Since the St. Clement's/Christ Lutheran ministry began in 2017, we have provided clean clothes to 291 different families or individuals! At any given time, we have about 70 active clients who participate in these services. Some of our clients we see monthly; some only when they need additional help during a particular month; some only once. We spend about \$500 per month just on doing the laundry. Our Laundry Love ministry is funded from the generous donations by the parishioners of St. Clement's and Christ Lutheran, from several annual grants we have received from the City of San Clemente, and our participation in the annual San Clemente Outlets Shopping Extravaganza Charity Fundraising event that takes place in October.

Our volunteers work one or two hours per month at Laundry Basket South in San Clemente. If you talk to any of our volunteers, they will tell you this ministry is much more than putting soap and quarters in machines for the clients who utilize these services. We get to know them, hear their stories, celebrate when they secure a job and empathize with them when they go through troubled times. Since the start of the pandemic, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, owners of Laundry Basket South, have volunteered their time working with our clients to help make the Laundry Love experience safe for both our volunteers and clients during the pandemic. We could not have continued this program during the pandemic without their generous help.

As we come back together in person as a congregation, you will be hearing more about this program, and the October San Clemente Outlets 2021 Shopping Extravaganza Charity Event which the vestry approved for Laundry Love's participation. Until then, if you wish to volunteer, you can contact me via e-mail at [ringlish@cox.net](mailto:ringlish@cox.net).





## **Camp Stevens opens registrations for Summer 2021 sessions**

Camp Stevens, the diocesan facility in Julian, has been given the go-ahead by the state of California to open registration for Summer 2021 resident camps, contingent on the COVID-19 rating scale (which must remain below the purple tier). Sessions already are filling up quickly, according to a recent camp Facebook post.

Adventure Session 1 (6 days, Ages 8 – 15): July 11 – 16

Adventure Session 2 (6 days, Ages 8 – 15): July 18 – 23

Adventure Session 3 (6 days, Ages 8 – 15): July 25 – 30

Adventure Session 4 (6 days, Ages 8 – 15): August 1 – 6

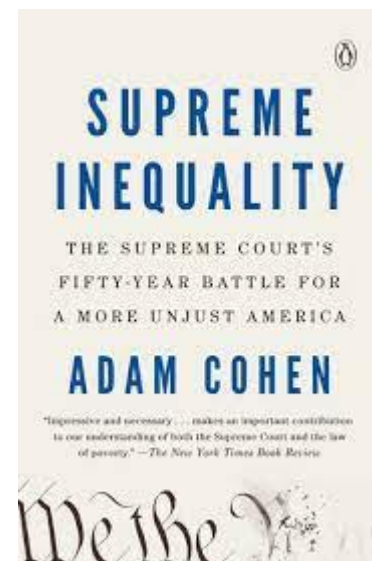
The usual Mini Camp, International Odyssey, or Wilderness Adventure sessions will not be offered for Summer 2021. Each week of camp will have a reduced total capacity as well as reduced group sizes. Groups will keep separate from other groups, meals will be primarily outdoors, and there will be health checks and other safety measures in place.

Camp Stevens offers a tiered pricing structure, allowing families to choose the price which best meets their budget. Camp fees are confidential and each camper receives exactly the same experience regardless of price paid.

[Click here to learn more](#)

**Social Justice Book Club**  
**Meeting on Zoom**  
**Thursday, May 20 at 7pm**

We will discuss the second half of the book, Chapters 5-8, of ***Supreme Inequality*** by New York Times bestselling author, Adam Cohen.



Even if you missed the April meeting, please join us for a lively discussion.

Contact Laura Casellas, [laura.casellas@yahoo.com](mailto:laura.casellas@yahoo.com) or Francis Viscount,

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**Bible Studies**



Join us on Wednesday's at 11am for our weekly Bible Study.

We will be meeting in the Parish Hall on **May 12th** to begin our new series, ***Faith and the Cinema***.

The Zoom option will be available for those who cannot attend in person.

You need not be a biblical scholar to participate. Just come with a desire to learn more.

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**Vestry Meetings**  
**Tuesday, May 18th**  
**7:00 pm**

**Currently meeting via Zoom.**



## 2021 UTO Ingathering

On May 16th we will total up all of the monies contributed to the United Thank Offering and send one check to the diocese. 100% of what is collected this year will be given away to support innovative projects focused on care of creation led by Episcopal/ Anglican ministries.



Blue Boxes may be dropped off during Sunday service or brought into the lobby during the week.

*Any questions, please contact*

*Mary Ann Morrison 949-361-0031*



FAM Food Distribution...

Join us for our Friday food distribution with FAM. Many are facing economic hardship right now, and FAM has been blessed with food donations from farmers (who formerly sold to restaurateurs). A crew of volunteers has been here on Fridays, putting the food which FAM provides into bags and then placing those bags in the trunks of people's cars as they drive through our parking lot. **Our distributions take place from 2:00 pm - 4:00pm, with volunteers turning up at 1:30 pm. Upcoming distribution dates are: May 7th & 21st** Thank you to all of the amazing volunteers that have been serving. If this is a ministry that would appeal to you, please let us know that you can serve. We'll need volunteers to set up our tables in the parking lot every other week, help to unload the food and sort it into boxes, to distribute it, and to clean up afterwards. Please sign up today ([info@scbythesea.org](mailto:info@scbythesea.org))!



**- May****Birthdays -**

1-Claudia Berber

11-Grayson Scot Wallett

2-Elaine Viele

15-Myrna Gray

3-Mel Mothershead

17-Gail Milne

5-Rod Rodriguez

18-Kevin Delgado

7-Bob Corless

22-Deborah Neville

8-Iliana Farias

24-Kenneth Baxter

8-Bob Gergen

24-Christi Seminoff

11-Christian Miller

**- May****Anniversaries -**

6- Patrick &amp; Christina Crerar

27-Jon Ulz &amp; Susan Leal

20- Stephen &amp; Thuy Jones



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Mother's Day is coming up on Sunday, May 9th, and some of you may be shopping for the perfect gifts to honor your mother on her special day!

When you purchase your Mother's Day gifts at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://Smile.Amazon.com), and have designated St. Clement's by-the-Sea as your preferred charity, AmazonSmile donates a portion of the sale to us. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor both your mother, the church, and her mission. Note: this works any day, so you don't have to wait for occasions such as these. Whenever you purchase on Amazon, make sure you're using AmazonSmile, and a portion of your purchases goes to your favorite charity. It's that easy, and doesn't cost you one cent more.

For assistance, please contact Spring: [info@scbythesea.org](mailto:info@scbythesea.org)

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

## **San Clemente's First Church**

*Welcoming all since 1929*



### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

*Currently holding Outdoor Services as well as streaming on YouTube channel*

202 Avenida Aragon  
San Clemente, CA 92672

**OFFICE HOURS**  
**Vary during these times.**

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The Rev. Patrick Crerar, Rector