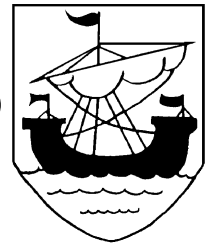


# Canterbury Tales



The Newsletter of St. Anselm's Church, Lafayette, California

March, 2023

## From The Interim Rector

### A Time for Turning

Whenever we initiate someone into the Body of Christ through the sacrament of Baptism, the candidates (or their godparents on their behalf) are asked a series of questions about their intention. The first three are called the "renunciations" by which the candidate renounces the things of this world that stand opposed to God's kingdom. The next question addresses what, in baptism, the candidate is turning toward: "Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your savior?" In the early Church candidates began the baptismal rite while physically facing toward the west. Then, in very dramatic fashion, they turned eastward toward the rising sun as they affirmed their commitment to following Jesus. It was a physical reminder that, in baptism, we intentionally turn away from one way of thinking, doing and being toward another, which is new life in Christ.

Lent is a season for and about turning. It is a time for and about reorienting, refocusing, and re-visioning, of letting go of whatever holds us back from becoming what God wants us to be and moving toward the new and resurrected life God has waiting for us. Usually, we think about Lent in terms of our individual journeys of faith. But it is relevant to communities of faith, as well. It is particularly relevant to St. Anselm's Parish as we continue to move through this time of transition, between what we have known in the past and what we hope and envision for the future, especially when this transition has taken a bit of an unexpected "turn," and will be a little longer than first expected.

I invite you this Lent to think about turning, and to embrace this season as one in which to intentionally, joyfully, and expectantly turn your focus and attention to the new life God intends for us, even when we do not know what, exactly, that will look like. May we each use this season to recommit ourselves to following Jesus as we prepare for the renewal of our own baptismal promises at Easter.

I wish you a holy Lent.

Kathy+



## Anselm's Angels

*Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others.*

*- Booker T. Washington*

Thank you to **Palmer Hightower** and **Allen Zhang** for collecting Souper Bowl donations after church and to **Keith Pearce** for helping count the contributions!

St. Anselm's raised more than \$560 for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties.

Our Lenten season was solemnly begun with our traditional Ash Wednesday services. Thanks to the **Altar Guild, Chris Young** and **Shanda Young** for preparing the ashes and transforming the sanctuary with the Lenten cross and purple drapes. Thanks to our lectors: **Ann Brown**, and **John Powers**; LEMs: **Peg Matson** and **Marian Mulkey**; and ushers: **Don Liddle** and **Doug Merrill**. And a very big thank you to **Chris Young** serving as our Zoom cameraman at the noon service.

Thank you to **Marty Fischer** for once again heading up the Harvest Festival campaign for Trinity Center and to everyone who contributed. Our check was presented to **Leslie Gleason** and **Pam & Ed McGrath** on February 26th.



**ANNUAL MEETING**

Our parish-wide Annual Meeting will be held immediately following the 9:00 AM service next Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> both in-person and via Zoom. We will be recapping events of 2022 and electing our new Deanery Delegates and Alternates. Please plan on attending – your participation is important!

**PALM CROSSES**

The Altar Guild invites you to join them on March 26th to make the palm crosses for Palm Sunday. We will gather in Jackson Hall immediately after the service. No experience necessary and we will provide all of the supplies. Everyone is welcome!

**EASTER LILIES**

Help decorate the sanctuary for Easter Day by donating an Easter Lily. The order/dedication forms are available in the service bulletin or contact Cathy Witkay in the office. Please complete the form and turn it in with your check for \$15.00 per plant, made payable to the Altar Guild, no later than this Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Please do not use the church Venmo account for Altar Guild payments.

*Daylight Savings Time  
begins on  
Sunday, March 12th*

*Remember to turn your clocks  
AHEAD one hour on  
Saturday, March 11th*

**LENTEN SERIES 2023**

This year's Lenten Series is centered on the nighttime prayer of Compline. Prayers for a "peaceful night and a perfect rest" can be a source of renewal and comfort through uncertain times and across all seasons, regardless of the hour of day. Following a brief overview of the origins of the Daily Office and Compline, the series will offer many opportunities to reflect on and unpack the wisdom, comfort and renewal that this time-honored prayer service can offer.

We meet at 7 p.m. via Zoom on three Tuesday nights in Lent: March 7, 14 and 21. Each session will last between 45 minutes and one hour. Each night will include study, discussion and a concluding Compline service. All are welcome for just one session or for the entire series.

To be added to the invitation list, please email Marian Mulkey at [marianmulkey@comcast.net](mailto:marianmulkey@comcast.net).

**LENTEN SOCK DRIVE**

It is time for the Deacon's Sock drive for our homeless friends at Trinity Center. My basket will be off to the right as you enter the church and I will be collecting your gifts of new white heavy socks from now until Palm Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. After Palm Sunday, I will deliver the socks to Trinity Center. If you would like to contribute but are not able to go to a store to purchase them, please write a check for \$20.00 made out to St. Anselm's with a notation on your check designated for the Sock drive, and I will do your shopping for you.

As always, I can't thank you enough for your generosity in helping to take care of those less fortunate than ourselves. You are truly a blessing. Naomi

***Holy Week Services  
In-person and Online*****Sunday, April 2****PALM SUNDAY 9 AM****Thursday, April 6****MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM****Friday, April 7****GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE NOON  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS 5:45 PM  
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7 PM****Sunday, April 9****EASTER DAY 9 AM**

*Canterbury Tales* is the monthly  
newsletter of

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Editor: Cathy S. Witkay

In-Person & Virtual Sunday Service:  
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

St. Anselm's Staff  
The Rev. Kathy Trapani, Interim Rector  
The Rev. Naomi Chamberlain-Harris, Deacon  
Cathy Witkay, Office Manager

## *The Senior Warden*

As we are moving toward Daylight Savings Time the rain keeps coming. What a blessing to be having our reservoirs continue to fill with water! Also, as we observe a Holy Lent through self examination, self denial and/or taking on a Lenten practice to grow our faith, the Holy Spirit is filling our personal reservoirs to enable us to have a closer walk with our Savior Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God.

On Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> Marty Fischer, our Junior Warden, announced that the search for our next rector continues. The Rector Search Committee did an excellent job of bringing qualified finalists to the Vestry. The Vestry followed this with well thought out interview plans and questions. Unfortunately, both finalists felt called to other parishes. One of them had two other parishes that had made a call. Since our Search Committee had already done the ground work for the search, the rector position has already been reposted. As candidates apply the committee will begin their process of interviewing to find our new finalists. As was previously done, the Vestry will then take on the final interviewing. We are confident that we will find a good match for our parish community as this process continues. Please keep the Search Committee and Vestry members in your prayers for guidance and discernment.

Joan Martin

## *Vestry Meeting Update*

At the February 13th Vestry meeting our primary discussion items included:

- Review and approval of the 2022 financial report
- Review and approval of the 2022 Diocesan Parochial Report

For more information, contact any member of the Vestry or Rev. Kathy. Vestry meeting minutes and financial reports are available on request.



## *Hello From Michael Lane Preschool!*

We have been busy planting California Poppy seeds, learning about how plants grow, weeding, noticing the buds on some branches, practicing taking on and off our rain jackets and boots, and enjoying the rain and the sun! We enjoyed reading many versions of the book "Stone Soup" and acted out the story. As a grand finale, we each brought a vegetable from home and made the soup together for our snack. I brought the stone!

Acceptance letters for the 2023-2024 school year have been sent out, and we are enjoying our last few months of preschool while also looking ahead towards an exciting new year of learning.

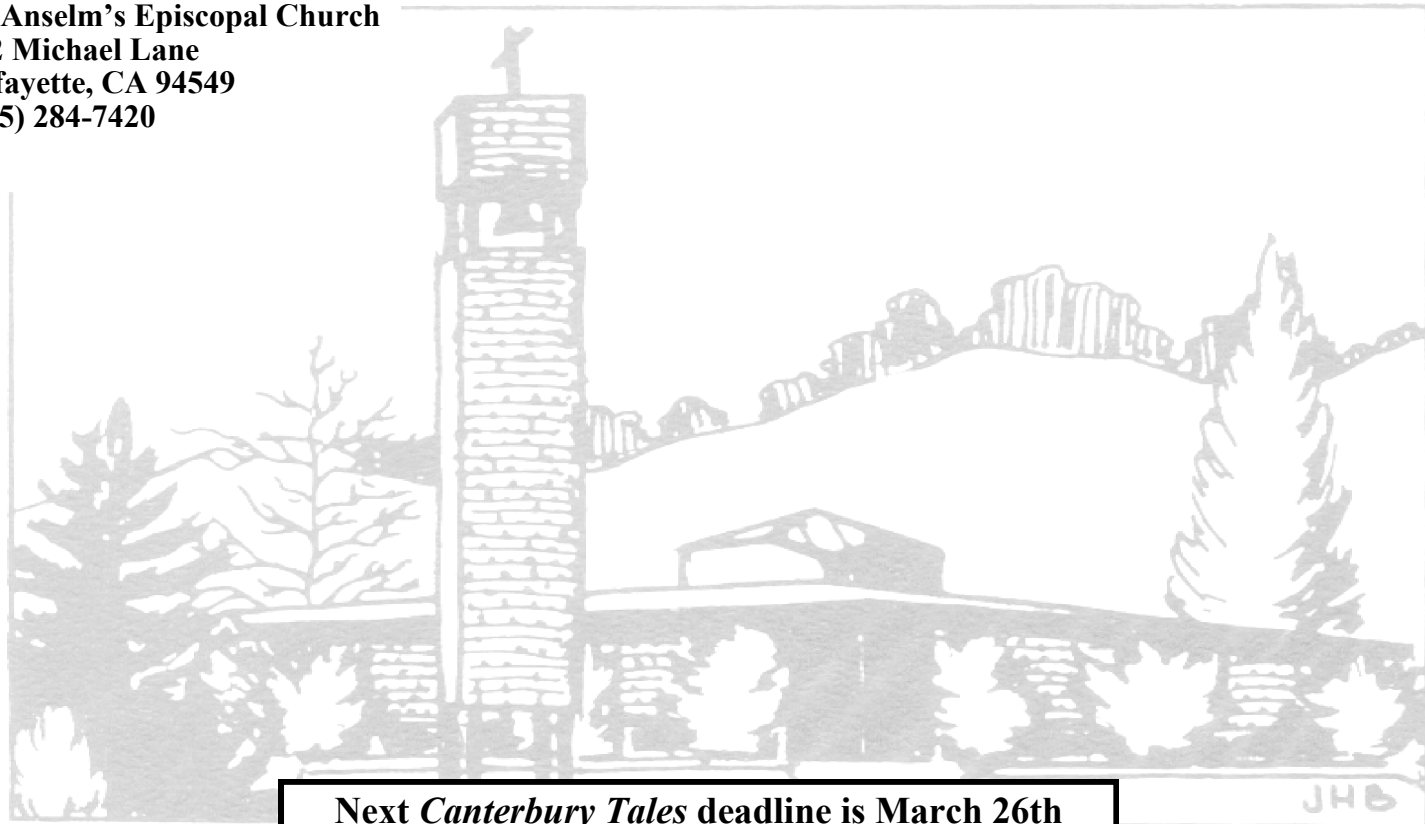
This year Michael Lane Preschool celebrates its 20th Anniversary! We are inviting all alumni families to our Parent Social and Auction on April 29th and are hoping to see some faces new and old!

We hope you are enjoying these winter days!

Warmly,  
Holly Higgins, Director



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**Next *Canterbury Tales* deadline is March 26th**

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

**March 1st and each Wednesday in March — Rector Search Committee** will meet via Zoom at 7:00 PM.

**March 2nd and each Thursday in March — Evening Bible Study** will meet via Zoom at 7:00. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at [orchidsnrch@yahoo.com](mailto:orchidsnrch@yahoo.com).

**March 7th and each Tuesday in March — Morning Prayer** will be held via Zoom at 9:00 AM. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at [orchidsnrch@yahoo.com](mailto:orchidsnrch@yahoo.com).

**March 7th — Grief Support Group** will meet via Zoom at 12:00 noon. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at [orchidsnrch@yahoo.com](mailto:orchidsnrch@yahoo.com).

**March 7th, 14th & 21st — Lenten Series** will be held via Zoom at 7:00 PM. To be invited, email Marian Mulkey, [marianmulkey@comcast.net](mailto:marianmulkey@comcast.net).

**March 12th — Cancer Support Group** will meet via Zoom at 11:30 AM. To be invited, email Julie Rinkenberger at [jrpmaggie@hotmail.com](mailto:jrpmaggie@hotmail.com).

**March 19th — Annual Meeting** — will be held in-person and via Zoom immediately following the 9:00 AM service.

**March 20th — Vestry** will meet via Zoom at 7:00 PM. Vestry members will receive an email from Chris Young with the meeting link.

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