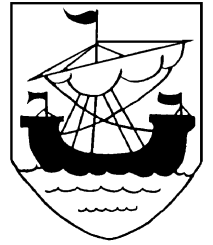


# Canterbury Tales

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



April, 2023

## From Koshy+

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord!

I am delighted that your vestry has asked me to join you at St. Anselm's for a short while. From what I heard from your wardens and the Rev. Kathy Trapani about you, your love for the church and each other, it is going to be a joy for me to partner with you in doing God's work here at St. Anselm's, however short a duration it may be. I thank God for your faith and patience in the search process. Know that God has already chosen a priest for you. In time, God will grant you your heart's desire as may be best for you.

Susan, my wife, and I, originally from India, lived and worked most of our adult lives on the East Coast, mainly in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. We have two children, a son, and a daughter. Son, Canon Rev. Ranjit Mathews, his wife, Johanna, and their children Dhruv and Kabir live in Connecticut, and our daughter, Manju, a Social Worker, lives in Concord, California. Now that we are retired, we plan to spend time with children on both coasts. And while staying with them, I intend to make myself available for ministry.

I am happy that we are beginning our journey together during the week of Easter. Eastertide is a time of new life and growth for the church, echoing that of nature in the spring. It is a time of riseness, action, and movement. After going through the rigors and disciplines of Lent and experiencing deaths to selves, we now emerge out of our own tombs, transformed and changed. We join with Mary saying, "He is risen, Alleluia!"

I look forward to opening the scriptures with you and sharing the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the church and on Zoom. Let us together recognize and experience the Risen Lord in our midst.

Blessings,

Koshy+



## *Anselm's Angels*

*"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude."*

*~ Cynthia Ozick*

A very special thank you to **Marian Mulkey** for all the work in coordinating and leading this year's Lenten Series in which participants explored the nighttime prayer of Compline.

Thank you to our dedicated Vestry members who have agreed to stay on throughout the extended rector search. Your vestry members are: **Neva Flaherty, Marian Mulkey, Judy Peak, Dimitri Seletzky, Elaine Sherwood, Gerry Starr, Elisabeth Ward, Chris Young, and JP Zhang.** Very big thanks to **Joan Martin** and **Marty Fischer** who are continuing in their roles as Senior Warden and Junior Warden, respectively.

Congratulations to our new Deanery Delegates: **Bob Eddy, Georganne Eddy** and **Chris Stone.** Thank you to our "retiring" deanery delegates **Neva Flaherty** and **Sheila Riedy.**

Special thanks to the crew who gathered in Jackson Hall to make palm crosses for our Palm Sunday service: **Edee Allison, Bob Eddy, Georganne Eddy, Sally Fischer, Joan Martin, Peg Matson, Joni Pearce** and **Katie Taggart.** And a big thank you to **Sylvia Williams** for gathering and preparing all of the palm fronds!

### *Holy Week Services In-person and Online*

#### Thursday, April 6

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**7 PM**

#### Friday, April 7

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

**NOON**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS (In-person only)**

**5:45 PM**

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (In-person only)**

**7 PM**

#### Sunday, April 9

**EASTER DAY**

**9 AM**

### *Vestry Meeting Update*

At the March 20 Vestry meeting our primary discussion items included:

- 1) Review and approval of Michael Lane Preschool's 2023-24 budget
- 2) Discussion of clergy transition
- 3) Next steps on church property concerns (roof, parking lot and other minor matters)

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

### *EASTER EGG HUNT*

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt in the memorial garden following the 9:00 AM service on Easter Day.

Plus a special guest appearance by the big rabbit!



### *COFFEE HOSTS NEEDED*

For those folks who have been attending in-person services, we have resumed holding coffee hour inside Jackson Hall. No huddling together for warmth in the courtyard this winter! We are in need of volunteers to host coffee hour for the first half of 2023. If you are willing to help out, please go to SignUp Genius and select a date or dates that will work for you.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044bada722a2f85-coffee> You may also contact Sylvia Williams at [sw94565@yahoo.com](mailto:sw94565@yahoo.com) or 925-586-0730 to reserve at date. Thank you!



Coffee Fellowship

*Canterbury Tales* is the monthly newsletter of

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church  
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web site: [www.stanselms.us](http://www.stanselms.us)

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. Koshy Mathews, Priest  
The Rev. Naomi Chamberlain-Harris, Deacon  
Cathy Witkay, Office Manager

## *The Senior Warden*

Happy Spring to all! Please join us at church on Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup> for our joyous Easter Celebration of Christ's victory over death. Following the service there'll be an Easter Egg Hunt for the little ones. I have it on good authority that Eric the Easter Bunny might be spotted and available for picture taking with anyone old or young! Also, be sure to attend the special Easter Coffee Hour in the parish hall after the service. This will be Rev. Kathy Trapani's last service with us. She has been instrumental in helping us through this transition time, providing spiritual guidance as well as support for the ongoing work of St. Anselm's. She will be missed as a friend as well as our spiritual leader.

As we move into April we are beginning a new chapter at St. Anselm's. While we are continuing our search for our next rector, the Rev. Koshy Mathews will be joining us as our Long-term Supply Priest. Koshy+ has written an introduction of himself that is also included in this issue of Canterbury Tales, please be sure to read it! Rev. Koshy will be with us regularly on Sundays and be working an average of ten hours a week. Being a retired priest who has also been an Interim Priest, Koshy+ will be working with the Vestry, Cathy Witkay and the parish to support us as we continue going forward. Please be sure to wear your name tags on Sunday mornings so Koshy+ and his wife Susan are able to get to know us by name more quickly.

I opened this article by inviting you to the Easter Sunday service. I also encourage you, if and when at all possible, to attend services in person. We are an open, warm and encouraging parish family. We gain even more as we worship and fellowship together. As the mornings turn warmer and brighter after this long winter please join us in whatever way works best for you.

Joan Martin

## *Michael Lane Preschool Update*

Hello from Michael Lane Preschool! Lately we have been reading many different versions of The Three Little Pigs and acting them out. With the wet weather, we have been painting umbrellas, reading about storms and rain, and appreciating a warm snack (oatmeal, rice, pasta!) on a cold day. All families who purchased rain slickers and boots are sure happy they did after this wet winter!

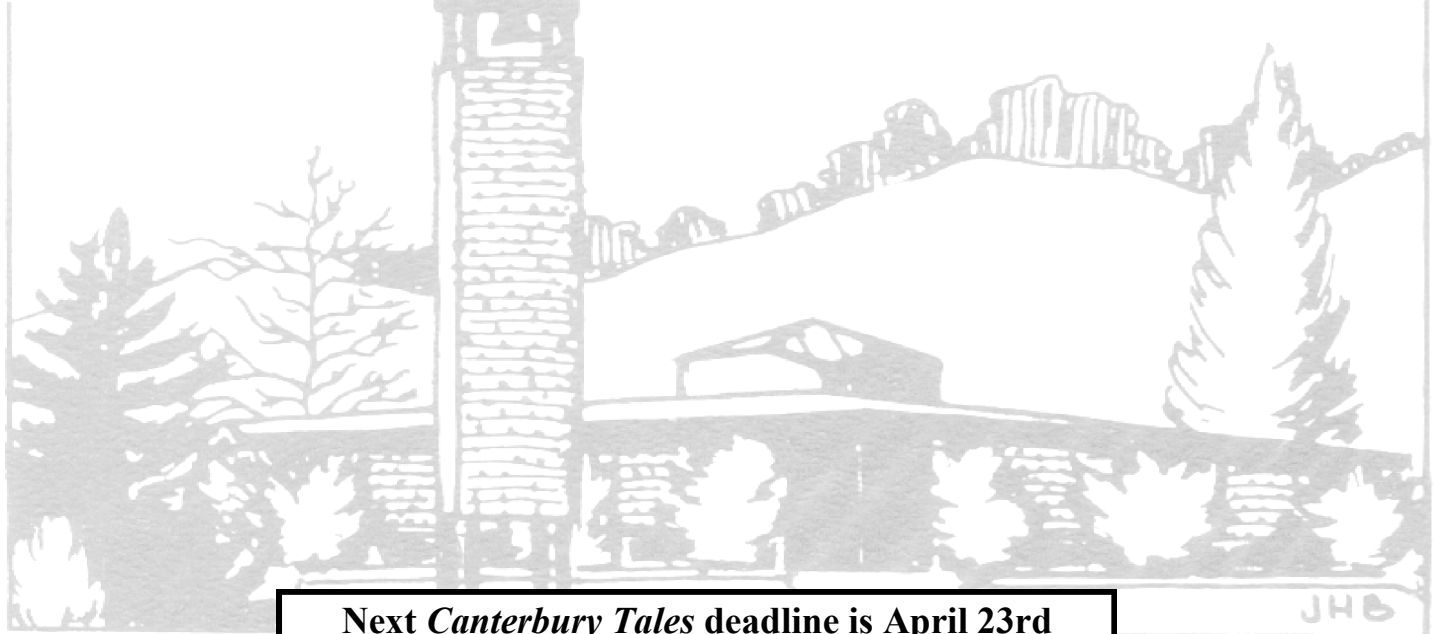
This year Michael Lane Preschool is celebrating its 20 year anniversary! We are hosting a Happy Hour in Jackson Hall and have invited previous, current and future families, staff and our friends at St. Anselm's. Please stop by and raise a glass with us!

Happy Spring,

Holly Higgins, Director



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**Next *Canterbury Tales* deadline is April 23rd**

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

**April 4th and each Tuesday in April — 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).

**April 4th — 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).

**April 5th and each Wednesday in April — Rector Search Committee** will meet via Zoom at 7:00 PM.

**April 6th and each Thursday in April — Evening Bible Study** will meet via Zoom at 7:00. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at [orchidsnrch@yahoo.com](mailto:orchidsnrch@yahoo.com).

**April 16th — Cancer Support Group** will meet via Zoom at 11:30 AM. To be invited, email Julie Rinkenberger at [irjpmaggie@hotmail.com](mailto:irjpmaggie@hotmail.com).

**April 17th — 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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