

THE QUILL

Volume 21, Issue 6
Pentecost 3 (Fall), 2008

Friends of Music Announces 2008-09 Schedule!

You will soon be receiving a detailed flyer, but here are the currently scheduled dates for the coming year. For more information about how you can support St. Bede's Friends of Music, see page 5!

Oct. 19, 2008 (Sunday evening)
Season kick-off and jazz concert

Dec. 7, 2008 (Sunday morning)
Advent Lessons and Carols

Dec. 24, 2008 (10:30 p.m.)
Christmas Eve

Jan. 25, 2009 (Sunday evening)
Guitar Recital

March 15, 2009 (Sunday evening)
Lenten Evensong

April 12, 2009 (Sunday morning)
Easter

May 31, 2009 (Sunday evening)
Pentecost Evensong

June 28, 2009 (Sunday evening)
Summer Concert

2009 Stewardship Campaign Begins!

It's October, fall is in the air, and our annual stewardship campaign begins. The vestry encourages you to give stewardship materials your prayerful consideration.

These are tough times for everyone. But St. Bede's will be here for you—a place of prayer, reflection, solace, fellowship, and peace. Your time, talent, and treasure make this possible as we continue to grow and evolve into our "second century." Here are just a few highlights of this past year's accomplishments:

- ◆ New gates and railings! New signs!
- ◆ Expanded Eucharistic Ministry!
- ◆ Vicki Mouradian!
- ◆ Continuing outreach to and collaboration with the NYA, St. Joseph's Center, OPCC, the AIDS Project, and other venues and organizations!

Please give whatever you can with a grateful heart. We ask all members of St. Bede's to return their pledge cards (even if you can't make a monetary pledge) on Sunday, November 2. The cards will be collected during the service.

And please join us at the annual Stewardship Luncheon following the 10 a.m. service on November 2.

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CANON JIM'S JOTTINGS

This is the third of three issues of the Quill covering "Ordinary Time" -- that time of the year which is in a "Season after ...", in this case it is Pentecost. This Ordinary time covers the time between Pentecost and the 1st Sunday of Advent (May 12 - November 29).

In June/July, we are finishing up the program year and conducting Vacation Bible School.

In August/September, we are resting and gearing up for the new program year, commencing with Homecoming Sunday at the end of September. In October/November, we are in the midst of many busy activities as you will see in this newsletter.

Our program of **Christian formation** for all members, but especially for the children, begins after Labor Day. The young people have been meeting in September to prepare for a special presentation at Homecoming. They will have a review of their VBS experience on the last Sunday of September and the new term of classes will begin on the first Sunday of October. Elsewhere, Vicki will comment on our 2008-09 Christian formation year, but one schedule change is that we are asking ALL young people to be AT CHURCH by 9.45 a.m. We are hoping that they are able to have a full class experience and then come into the sanctuary so that all may join in receiving the eucharist and then give thanks. Also, we are currently seeking someone to staff the nursery from 9.30 - 11.30 on Sundays. It is a paid position and we are badly in need of someone to replace Mayra (who left in August).

Adult Christian formation options include:

The Bookworms of Bede meet on the 3rd Monday and are reading "Death Comes for the Archbishop" by Willa Cather (Oct. 20), "The Confessor" by Dan Silva (Nov. 17) and "A Year of Living Biblically" by A. J. Jacobs (Jan. 19).

Tuesday morning Breakfast and Bible classes each Tuesday at 9 a.m.

Wednesday evening classes following the 7 pm eucharist; this fall studying Book #10 in the *Church's Teaching Series*, **Christian Social Witness**. On one October Wednesday, we will take a break and have an open discussion of all of the propositions on the November ballot (it will be announced in the Sunday bulletin).

Another session of the VIA MEDIA class begins after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, September 28 and will run until November 23. This is a great class to attend if you are new to the Episcopal Church and/or if you wish to be confirmed or received into the Church and/or if you wish to reconfirm your baptismal promises at some point because of changes or growth in your spiritual path.

In a social setting, the **various groups** are meeting to plan and sponsor fall activities:

The Sisters of Bede reconvened in August to plan for the



Party of Parties on Saturday, Oct. 11 and the many venues were offered that evening.

The St. John's Guild reconvened with a September luncheon at my house and plans for the fall Bazaar & Bake Sale on Sunday, November 23.

The **Friends of Music** 2008-09 schedule will kick off with an amazing jazz concert at 4 pm on Sunday, October, 19 (see the information elsewhere). I do want to say one thing about the Friends of Music that will also be repeated in a letter that is coming out from the FoM board. Without the **Friends of Music**, we would not have a choir and we would not have the musical support for the congregation -- both in the wonderful special services on Christmas Eve and Easter Day, but throughout the year. I would strongly encourage you both to support the FoM with your memberships and also with your attendance at their scheduled events, starting with October 19. Also, bring friends, invite your neighbors, re-arrange your schedule! Without the Friends of Music, we would not have our wonderful section leaders and without the section leaders we would not have a choir -- it is as simple as that. Without the Friends of Music, we would not have the money it takes to have the special music at the holidays. Please seriously review the materials when they come out this fall.

The Vestry has completed some major work this summer on the **Buildings and Grounds**:

We recently removed all of the ice plant that was growing on the west side of the property outside of the wall. This project began because we needed to repair the water line to the house at 3582 Grand View in two places. Having to fight our way through the ice plant to dig a six-foot hole led us to decide that it might not be the best ground covering for our property. That work also necessitated the trimming of some, and then finally all, of the bushes on the west side of the wall.

We also completed some minor repairs on the dishwasher so that it would perform better.

We are working with Paul Collins to complete the application needed to get a variance so that our new sign might be installed. I am hoping that this application will be made by the end of October and that we will be able to move forward soon thereafter.

We have also been working with Paul to complete the plans for the Columbarium and the proposed-Education/Offices building. In 2009, we will have a series of meeting to discuss these plans and receive parishioner reaction, input and ideas (more about that at the Annual Meeting in January).

Finally, and I think not inconsequentially, I have been working on the items that had been stored in the east hallway upstairs since the renovation of the offices several years ago. Much has been filed. Even more had been shredded and thrown out. My goal is that all of the boxes will be out of my office by the end of the year.

CANON JIM'S JOTTINGS, CONTINUED

The Vestry is getting ready to look at the area of **Stewardship** as we approach 2009. There is much to do as we look at the obligations we have taken on with Vicki's being hired in a half-time position. I am glad to report that she is also working half-time for The Episcopal Homes (the Kensington in Alhambra and the Canterbury in Rancho Palos Verdes). However, we will have to stretch if we are to live into being able to fulfill our covenant with her. Please look for the materials to come out soon, and for the stewardship talks on the final weekends of the month of October. Our annual stewardship ingathering will occur on All Saints' Sunday, November 2 and the annual Stewardship luncheon that follows the 10 a.m. service.

Pastorally, we have made some changes in how things operate:

The Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV) now will be assigned to those parishioners who are permanently or semi-permanently shut-in. At this time, that is Eugenia Eaton, Elsie Harter and Frances Knight. This does not mean that the clergy will not see them, but that the normative scheduling of home communion will happen through the LEVs. Members who are hospitalized for short-term stays will see either the clergy and/or the LEVs depending on their level of care.

Fr. Jason Cox was with us for the final time in his 2008 cycle of services on September 7. I am thankful that Fr. Jason was able to be with us this year after Golie's departure and in those months before Vicki will be ordained to the priesthood (currently scheduled for January 10, 2009). We hope that he and Josh will be with us as they can in the future. Fr. Ryan Newman (no relation), the Chaplain at Campbell Hall in No. Hollywood, was the guest preacher and celebrant on September 28 when I was in Minnesota at a conference on pre-marital & marital counseling.

As I said earlier, Vicki is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, January 10 at St. John's Pro-Cathedral. Save the date!!!

As we face the beginning of the new Church Year on Advent 1 (November 30), it is a time when all can review if and how they would like to be involved in the public worship of the Church. One may serve as a lector (reading lessons or leading intercessions), a Eucharistic Minister (serving the chalice or bread at one of the services, as needed), a greeter/usher, or as a member of the choir (which rehearses before and after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday).

Finally, I am sure that you are aware that both the Bishops of our Diocese and the Vestry of our Parish have gone on record as opposing **Proposition 8** on the November ballot. Proposition 8 is an initiative measure on the 2008 California General Election ballot. If passed it would amend the California Constitution with a new section that would read "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." The ballot title, as prepared by the Attorney General "Eliminates Right of Same-sex Couples to Marry." Our position is consistent with the actions of the 2006 General Convention of the Episcopal Church which

passed a resolution that stated, in part: "That the 75th General Convention oppose any state or federal constitutional amendment that prohibits same-sex civil marriage or civil unions." (A-095). To that end, we have hosted a gathering to train clergy and laity how to work toward the defeat of this legislation. I will be including this as part of the focus when I preach of October 5 at both services. We have materials in the narthex about the staffing of telephone banks in the days prior to the election. This is not the same thing as the Church's revising its marriage service. I am sure that will be a topic at the 2009 General Convention, to be held next summer in Anaheim. Currently, the Vestry is reviewing a suggestion that we offer "A Blessing of a Civil Marriage" to all couples and let the "civil" part be done by the state.

I was away the last weekend of September at a meeting in Minneapolis for those who train people to use the marital counseling materials developed by Life Innovations. I have worked with this company since 1979. At that gathering, I was one of the people honored for their long service with the company. On the same weekend, I joined members of my family to scatter the ashes of Ralph Reber, my uncle by marriage. In the second week of October, Vicki and I attended the fall clergy conference of the Diocese of Los Angeles meeting in Palm Springs. It did not cover a Sunday, but our absence caused the Breakfast & Bible class to be cancelled on October 14.

My best wishes and prayers for a very active and fulfilling fall. The next *Quill* will come out at the end of November and will focus on **Advent-Christmas-Epiphany**.

In Christ,

Jim Newman+

St. John's Guild News

Thanks to Saint John's Guild for purchasing two altar candlesticks and one chapel candlestick, and for paying to have the Luther Hall stove cleaned by a professional cleaning service. Special thanks to Barbara Pace for securing the cleaning employees. More generous gifts from the members of the Saint John's Guild!

Please remember that the Saint John's Guild collects "Campbell's Labels for Education Programs" to support the Hill-sides Home for Children. For more information about the Hill-sides Home, go to: <http://www.hillsides.org>.

Some Campbell's products are: Campbell's Soups, Marie's Dressings, Dips, and Glazes, Ms. Paul's Frozen Foods, Swanson Canned and Frozen foods, V8 Vegetable Juice, Campbell's Healthy Request, Open Pit Barbecue Sauce, Campbell's Chunky Soups, Early California Olives, Campbell's Beans and Tomato Juice, Prego and Campbell's Spaghetti Sauces, Pepperidge Farms products, Vlasic Pickles and other products, Franco-American products, Sanwa Ramen Pride Soups, Casera Frozen Foods, Betis Olive Oil, and Spaghetti-os.

EDITORIAL FROM OUR COMPANION CONGREGATION IN ENGLAND

So the *Lambeth Conference* has passed and the oft-predicted collapse of the Anglican Communion has not occurred. For this we can be grateful to the skilful handling of the Conference by our Archbishop.

So we live on as a Communion. The upside of the conference was the stress on global challenges, especially in terms of poverty and the environment. Many bishops and their spouses spoke of the way their eyes had been opened by first hand reports from other parts of the globe - examples of the Communion in action at its best. The downside - and it's a big downside - is that those of us working for a more inclusive church have, once again, been asked to stand back; no progress has been made on the global issues of homophobia with the great damage it causes churches all over the world; and the church in England continues to be mired in controversy over an issue which should by now be long past. Anglicans in the United States and Canada are being asked even more to place their concerns on hold, and there is no clarity from the Conference about how we move on these issues. The concept of some sort of *Covenant* between the churches of our Communion continues to be discussed, although many believe the problems this would bring are greater than any advantages. The question remains - how do churches with such varying interpretations of scripture hold together?

Does it matter? The world has hardly changed as a result of the Conference! Or has it?

The Conference emphasised listening and dialogue. As one bishop wrote: 'Our time together has indeed demonstrated to us the breadth and richness of the Communion. ... With the many differences among us we have found ourselves profoundly connected with one another and committed to God's mis-

sion. Many of us have experienced a real depth of fellowship in our Bible Study Groups and have been moved, sometimes to tears, by the stories our brothers and sisters have told us about the life of their churches, their communities and their own witness. For many bishops ... they have understood for the first time what a precious thing it is we have in the Anglican Communion and indeed what it is to be an Anglican. There has been a wonderful spirit of dialogue and we want that to continue beyond the Conference by every means possible. For many of us have discovered more fully why we need one another and the joy of being committed to one another. At a time when many in our global society are seeking just the sort of international community that we already have, we would be foolish to let such a gift fall apart.'

Listening to another's stories can have a profound effect. It can positively change our perceptions and, consequently, our actions.

Many years ago, when I was studying in Israel, a Jewish theologian reminded us that there can be no lasting peace without justice, and justice comes as a consequence of the quest for truth. The process may probably be a long one with little to show along the way. But, in the end, the desire for truth, gained through dialogue with the other, is the bedrock on which unity is built. And that process is one which has much to offer the world.

Fr. John-Francis Friendship

St. Andrew's, Romford, England



Sunday School News

Our Sunday School program began September 28, 2008. We have introduced a new format and a new curriculum based on the Revised Common Lectionary. The children meet together in the Atrium Room at a **new time, 9:45 a.m.**, for readings from the RCL, prayer, and song. After this introductory worship, the children meet in their age appropriate class rooms for study and activities based on the RCL lessons of the day. At the time of the Eucharistic, all children will join their parents in church for the sacramental meal and remain until the conclusion of the service.

Fr. Jim and I are excited about our new curriculum and format! Parents and children will be learning the same lessons each Sunday, hopefully inspiring family discussion to enrich the liturgical year experience. We also feel that it is very important that our Eucharistic meal be a shared experience not only by families together but also within the context of the church family.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me on my cell: 310.625.7364.

May the Lord bless our new church school year.

In Christ,

Deacon Vicki

Support YOUR Friends of Music 2008-2009 Season!

Many people say that music is one of the things they like most about St. Bede's.

The Friends of Music program was started in 1996 to be a source for concert events and Evensongs that would supplement the already existing Sunday morning music program. But as time has gone on, music (like nearly everything else in this world) has become more and more expensive to produce. The Friends of Music has had to gradually take on more and more of the responsibility for funding the regular Sunday morning music, and less and less money has been available for concerts and Evensongs. We have now reached a point where our entire budget is devoted to funding two of the four section leaders whose presence is essential for the existence of a choir on Sunday morning. As things stand now, we can only produce concerts, Evensongs and special services on a "break even" basis. You may be surprised to find out that this even extends to special music on Christmas Eve and Easter morning. Yes, funding for these two most important services of our year is now in jeopardy.

The Friends of Music Board of Directors is certain that the congregation does not want to see the music program deteriorate. And so, we will soon be asking for your contributions in order to keep the program alive and thriving.

You are probably already familiar with the "tempo" level contributions (Presto, Allegro, Andante, etc) that members and friends of the congregation have so generously made in the past.

In order to keep the high level of performance that our congregation has gotten used to over the years, we will be asking you to consider making an additional contribution this year. To give you some idea of what our expenses are, here are some suggestions for underwriting opportunities that we will be making available:

\$150 to underwrite a post-concert or Evensong reception

\$200 to underwrite one performer in a duo, trio or quartet

\$300 to underwrite the traditional Christmas Eve midnight service

\$300 to underwrite one choir soloist for one month

\$300 to underwrite an Evensong

\$450 to underwrite a solo recital and reception

\$500 to underwrite printing and mailing costs for a season

\$1200 allows us to keep the Easter music

Any underwriting contributor who wishes it will receive prominent acknowledgement in the program. But mostly, we hope that you will want to do a little bit extra this year to keep our music program alive and well. Difficult as it is for us to contemplate, without these contributions, we will have to scale back our program.

Individuals and groups have already agreed to sponsor the January and June concert events and one Evensong. The remaining opportunities to support the program are still up for grabs!

Urgent Need !

St. Bede's Nursery needs volunteers to staff on Sundays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. We have not been able to fill this position and would appreciate help until we are able to do so. Anyone who is comfortable with our Babies of Bede is eligible! That includes singles, young adults, moms, dads, grandmas, and grandpas! **Please consider giving two hours of your time once in awhile.** I will post a sign-up sheet outside the nursery door.

If you know of someone who might be interested in the position, please have them contact me on my cell: 310.625.7364. If you know of two people who might be interested, every other week would be great and so on and so forth. For those who would be staff, St. Bede's would ask for two references, pay for a background check, and arrange for sexual misconduct training. The job, sponsored by the St. John's Guild, would pay \$25.00 for the two hours.

Thanks and blessings,
Deacon Vicki



Sisters of Bede 2008-2009 Party Venues

Special thanks, again, to everyone who hosted and attended parties in our 2007-2008 Venue series. Our combined efforts allow us to gift \$3,000 each to the church 20th Century Fund, and to The Neighborhood Youth Association! This result is truly a blessing and a real catalyst to the 2008-09 campaign. And what a campaign it is!

A compelling assortment of offerings for every taste awaits you; from exquisite culinary specialties to delight the most discerning palates, to unique personal pampering and outdoor events for the whole family. Make your selections now to secure your participation at one or more of these exciting venues while there are still spaces available.

We'd like to also thank everyone who is hosting a party this year, and look forward to great fun and fellowship at each one.

For more details visit St. Bede's Website, or see the flyers on the board in Luther Hall. For sign-ups and reservations please e-mail Daphne Moote at moote@ca.rr.com, or see any of the Sisters at church. It's party time!

ST. BEDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE PARISH OF MAR VISTA, VENICE, OCEAN PARK & PLAYA VISTA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

3590 Grand View Blvd

Los Angeles, CA 90066

Phone: 310-391-5522 or 888-802-6722

Fax: 310-391-8113

Rector's Pager: 310-569-1575

Curate's Cell: 310-625-7364

We're on the Web!

www.stbedesla.org

Hear Sunday's Sermon!

SERVICES & CLASSES

SUNDAYS: 8 am, Holy Eucharist (no music)
10 am, Church School & Nursery
10 am, Holy Eucharist (w/choir)
6 pm, Evensong or Evening Prayer

TUESDAYS: 10 am, Morning Prayer & Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS: 7 pm, Holy Eucharist & Healing
7:45 pm, Adult Class

TUESDAY BREAKFAST & BIBLE

WEDNESDAY EVENING FORUM:

Oct: "The Church's Teaching Series-10: Christian Social Witness"

22: Human Sexuality

29: Conclusion

Nov. "Great Figures of the New Testament (Parts 1-5

Nov. 26—No Class

"THE OTHER MONDAY"

November 10: TBA

BOOKWORMS OF BEDE

Oct. 10: Cather, *Death Comes to the Archbishop*

Nov. 17: Silva, *The Confessor*

***ST. BEDE'S
VESTRY & STAFF***

RECTOR: The Very Rev. Canon James Newman

ASSISTANT, CHRISTIAN FORMATION: the Rev. Victoria Mouradian, Curate

ASSISTING CLERGY: the Revs. Giles Asbury, Jason Cox, & John Hancock

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Frank Basile

VERGER: Michael Gallagher **HEAD SACRISTAN:** Jeannette Young

FACILITIES MANAGER: Tom Ledsam

VESTRY

Reed Wilson ('10) — Senior Warden Liz Mohler ('10) — Junior Warden

Rea Crane ('10) Tom Elliott ('09)

Akani Fletcher ('10) Kathy Hartley ('09)

Michael Mullins ('09)

Dean Pace ('09) Alice Short ('10)

Annette Graw — Clerk Laird Hegamin — Treasurer

Jennine Townsend — Financial Secretary

DELEGATES/ALTERNATES TO CONVENTION

Annette Graw (D)/Kyle Ferstead (A) - ('09)

Michael Mullins (A)/ Jerry Hornof (A) - ('10)