

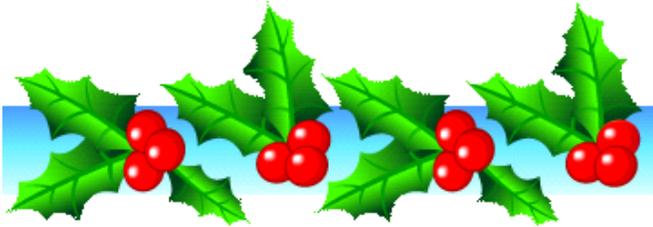
Times and Tides

St. Mary's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

Pacific Grove CA 93950 ❖ December 2008/January 2009

All-Parish Christmas Party

Saturday, December 20th
5:30pm to 8:00 pm



A festive evening in Edwards Hall
with
Potluck Dinner
Games
Arts And Crafts
Cookie Decorating
Music
Plus

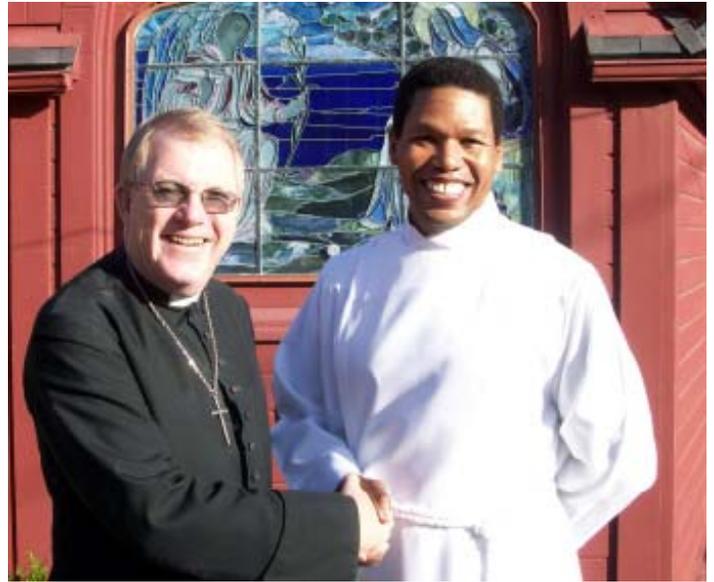
*We hope to have a visitor sure to
please children of all ages*

Join us and bring a friend!



Signup during
Coffee Hour

Questions?
Call
Brita Bruemmer,
333-1914



Welcome to The Rev. Michael Reid

Fr. Richard Leslie welcomed The Rev. Michael Reid on his first day as a Deacon at St. Mary's by-the-Sea on Sunday, November 30th.

Michael was born in Brooklyn, where his parents emigrated from Jamaica. He attended Catholic elementary and high schools, and received a BA from Adelphi, an MA from NYU, an EDD from Temple, and an MDIV from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific.

Before ordination on November 1, 2008, he served as dance therapist and motor development specialist for children with special needs. He moved to Los Angeles in 1984, and served as a director for several nonprofit organizations. In 2001, Michael moved to Carmel to become Director of Development and Public Relations at York School, and in 2004 enrolled as a full-time seminarian.

Michael has been a member of All Saints in Carmel. He is married, currently lives in Monterey with his spouse, Bill Robnett and their two Norwich terriers. Michael's daughter, Anais lives in Atlanta with her husband.

Welcome to St. Mary's, Michael! ❖

Mark Your Calendar!

The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves - Bishop Mary makes her first Annual Visitation to St. Mary's on Sunday, December 7, at the 10:00 a.m. Service.

To All Christmas Angels, Elves and All Other Caring St. Mary's Folks

For the past 10 years, the Saints of St. Mary's have supported families and children at Christmas who receive services from Monterey County Behavioral Health - Children's Services (formerly known as Mental Health). Although these are challenging times for all of us, for many of the families we serve, it is an especially difficult time, as they try to stretch budgets to include a celebration of Christmas.

We can help in an important way. I will have information on children and families (no last names) at Coffee Hour on December 7 and 14. You select the family you would like to help and bring gifts back to me at Coffee hour. I will get them to the clinician who works with the family. I will meet with the parents privately at your generosity. If shopping is your thing, we have some shopping at your checks into needed items, cards for stores like Target.

Please make your check out to me, Rosemarie Axton, as it is the most direct way to access the donation. I will have letters of appreciation available for you, which may be useful for tax purposes. My address is: 622 McClellan Avenue, Monterey CA 93940

We have all sizes and all kinds of families. The clinician who works with the child and family is available for consultation, as am I. You may deliver the packages to the clinician at the work site if you like, and perhaps even meet him/her.

I'd like to leave you with one wonderful story of a member of St. Mary's, a saint who has gone on to the Lord, Ann Priem. Ann asked me to give her the largest, poorest family I had. And I did, a family of eight children. She brought in giant bags of gifts, and stockings for all she had made. But here's what I remember. She told me she hadn't had so much fun in years!

So if you're looking for some fun, or some deep spiritual joy this holiday season, see me after church, or call me with any questions, 646-8196. ❖

— Rosemarie Axton

Thank You from Karlen

Dear Prayer Shawl Knitters,

I have settled in to my position in Florida very well. There is something to be said for knowing your craft well. After 30 years of some kind, any kind, of kitchen duty and service, I have mastered it enough to not be in chaos. I love taking care of my employer and I am very peaceful while doing it.

Receiving the beautiful prayer shawl on my last Sunday at St. Mary's was more meaningful than I first thought. It started out being a farewell and "be safe" gift. As time went on, I realized it was far more than that.

Each person may receive a shawl

for a different reason – illness, for emotional strength, or perhaps for gratitude for a task well done. For me it fell into all of these.

In the time I have left in Monterey, I feel physically wonderful. My mind is clear and calm and I have an overwhelming sense of appreciation. In my mind I keep the beautiful shawl wrapped around me to continue to fill me up. I truly feel great love from all of you. Certainly where I am most happy is in the kitchen of St. Mary's and sharing grape and grain with all of you.

I have learned a great deal the past 12 years from the people of St. Mary's. From the youngest newborns entering into a blanket of love to the



Green the Church and Deck the Halls

St. Mary's Altar Guild appreciates your generous donations toward the purchase of cedar garlands, wreaths, potted poinsettias, and fresh floral arrangements to celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas. Poinsettias will be available for parishioners after both the 10:00 P.M. Christmas Eve service December 24 and the 10:00 A.M. Christmas Day service.

Sign-ups are available in Edwards Hall after Sunday services and in the Church office during the week. Checks may be given to Helen in the office, with a notation that your donation is for Altar Guild Christmas arrangements. As always, Altar Guild is thankful for your generous support as we prepare to:

Welcome Our New-Born King!

— Georgia Booth,
St. Mary's Altar Guild



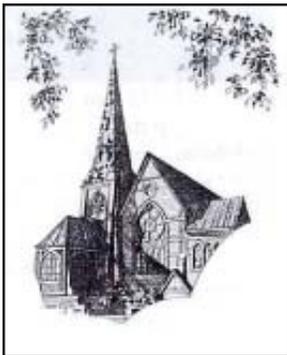
wonderful Olive Greenwald who welcomed me with open arms from the start and showed me what joy really is. I am blessed. I am blessed to call St. Mary's home. I know as time goes on, I will perhaps one day, make a difference at St. Mary's to the community as all of you have.

I will be attending St. Marks Church of the Good Shepherd in Jupiter for the winter. I promise to represent you well.

Thank you for my beautiful shawl. I cherish it and will use its love for a long, long time. Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and I will see you when spring has sprung!

*In friendship,
Karlen Poma
Times and Tides*

St. Mary's 2009 Stewardship Program Update



Dear Parishioners,

I want to express my sincere appreciation to each of our St. Mary's family of parishioners. Your thoughtful commitment of time, talents and financial support for the 2009 Stewardship Program Year is made in spite of a difficult year ending with many personal changes and challenges.

All of you have been so responsive to the calls made by our Contact Committee Team Captains, Rosemarie Axton, Steve Bruemmer, Jack Herbig, Michael Manlin, Onnette McElroy, Ann Pettit, and Keith Brown.

Again my special thanks to our Contact Committee, Co-Chairmen - Al Alvarez and Phil Frey and to Helen Reames, Stewardship Secretary and Card Coordinator. Here are the numbers as St. Mary's winds up the 2009 Annual Stewardship Program:

Stewardship Program	2009	2008
Commitments Received through Dec 1, 2008	\$ 241,052	\$ 295,246
Commitments from St. Mary's Family Households	119	145
Family Household commitment cards not yet received	28	0

I would like to encourage all who are still holding their commitment cards to prayerfully consider their commitment for 2009 and hand deliver or mail your commitment cards to Helen Reames, at the St. Mary's Church office no later than, **Monday, December 8th**.

If you have any questions about the status of your 2009 Stewardship Commitment or have not received your commitment cards from one of the St. Mary's Team Captains, please give Helen or Richard a call at (831) 373-4441, as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Bob

Bob Uehling,
Stewardship Program Chairman

A Special Thank You!

St. Mary's has some terrific teachers who have been with our children throughout the fall:

Godly Play II: Brita Bruemmer, Carrol & Phil Galanti, Rob Sholl & Lisa Taylor

Godly Play I: Barrett Heywood, Chrissy Finch, Fritz Renner, Gabriella Perez, Heidi & Rich Nalwasky, Karen Weill, Kristen Maurice, Laura Hubrich, Lindsay Synstebly, Merilee Kolpaczyk & Onnette McElroy

Toddler & Nursery: Barb Utter (Head Teacher), Elizabeth Bishop, Laura Welch, Shane Dallhman & Katherine Sholl, as Youth Group member assisting adults.

They are all wonderful colleagues and dedicated teachers. If you would like to join their ranks, you are most welcome. Please give me a call or send an email and I will arrange training. We could use a few more teachers in the spring. All parents, and any interested adults, are encouraged to participate. As you know, the children are delightful.

A Note for Your Calendar:

Our Christmas Pageant, directed by three dedicated St. Mary's dads, John Donahoe, Steve Bruemmer and Fritz Renner, will be on **Sunday, December 21**, following the 10:00 a.m. service.

Pageant dress rehearsals for the full cast, will be during the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 14 and 21.

Godly Play will resume class on Sunday, January 4. The Toddler/Nursery Room will be staffed on each Sunday throughout November and December.

May you experience the timelessness and wonder of Advent. As we say in Godly Play: "We are all on the road to Bethlehem."

Attention Sunday School Teachers & Parents

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, January 10, from 9:00 a.m. - Noon.

Holding the highest standards for our children, and conforming with diocesan policy, we will be hosting a "Safeguarding God's Children" session. Diocesan and insurance policy require all teachers and chaperones of children and youth, as well as church childcare providers, to complete the "Safeguarding God's Children" course. Parents, not currently teaching or chaperoning, are encouraged to attend. We will meet in Edwards Hall where refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to:

– Celeste Ventura 626-8878
or cavco@sbcglobal.net

Alert!! All Currently Serving Military

We are initiating a military family photo bulletin board. Please send a photo of your family group to:

Carrol Galanti
994 Ransford Court
Pacific Grove CA 93950.

We will start putting up the photos as soon as we receive them. You are a constant source of inspiration to us all. ❖

Hello and Greetings to our Friends at St. Mary's!

We wish to "Thank You" again for your past support for The Bulisa Project. Thanks also for allowing us to share with you some of our work experience there at the Health Clinic in Bulisa, Uganda. With your generous support, we have been able to do much in the way of improvements there in the little village clinic.

Imagine that such a large area would only have one doctor for every 100,000 people. And with a life expectancy of 45 in Uganda, there is much to be done in regards to health care.

Bulisa is a small village with only one medical facility in a 100-mile radius. We will return there in January 2009 to complete some carpentry work, to improve the water system, and to provide some much-needed medical supplies, equipment, and furnishings.

We also hope to bring some eyeglasses, so if you have any old pairs around that you no longer need, we will provide a new home for them in Uganda! You can leave them with Fr. Richard, and we will gladly pick them up.

Thanks again for all your prayers and support. Projects like these can't happen without your caring. ❖

□ *With Love in Christ,*
Heidi and Bill Sullivan
www.thebulisaproject.com

The Work of Walking Together in 2008

By Kathy Herbig

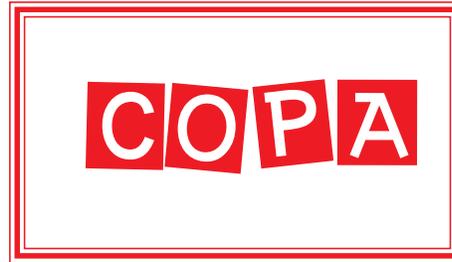
This has been a busy year for Walking Together, the St. Mary's ministry that works with COPA (Communities Organized for relational Power in Action). COPA is an interfaith organization in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties made up of 20 Christian and Jewish communities and several non-profit agencies that are committed to improving life in our region.

During the first half of 2008, COPA developed an agenda, built community support for it, and secured the support of our County Supervisors. We held dozens of meetings to identify the issues that people in this region feel are most pressing in healthcare, community safety, housing and economic development. St. Mary's parishioners are working to advance several of these Monterey County projects:

Community safety in Salinas means undercutting gang violence by strengthening parents and by providing alternative activities for young people. Two projects are underway. At Sacred Heart and St. Mary's-of-the-Nativity Catholic churches, COPA is holding a series of "Achievement Academies" with the parents of catechism students. The academies hold discussions on how to guide children to make the most of their years in school. A second project is development of 14 new soccer fields on vacant county land in Salinas. Soccer is a popular game in Salinas, but many young people do not get to play this sport because there are never enough soccer fields to practice

and play on.

Healthcare in Monterey County could be extended to hundreds more children who are already eligible for federal and state-funded programs, if only their parents knew where and how to sign up for the programs. COPA is organizing sign-up campaigns in parishes where volunteers will help interested parents assemble their application forms and documents so they can apply for the medical care that is available to their children.



COPA's **economic development** team is focusing on expanding the education and training of local nurses in Monterey County, many of whom are from other areas of the country and even from overseas.

Walking Together parishioners see our work as complementing the long-standing outreach of St. Mary's Christian Social Concerns Commission. When volunteers at the Christian Social Concerns desk hand someone a bag of groceries, some warm clothing, or a voucher for a motel room, they are putting into practice Jesus' teaching that we feed the hungry, cloth the shivering, and house the homeless. When volunteers in Walking Together, in cooperation with other parishes, help children play soccer instead of hanging out in gangs, help the uninsured get medical care, or make more opportunities for local people to train for good jobs, we are working in a larger context to care for people as Jesus taught us. ❖



From left: Winston Elstob, Anne Blankenhorn, Kimberly Brown, Darleen Trautsch, and Phyllis Strecker

Help Wanted!

These Christian Social Concern volunteers need your help. They need people to help stock the food cupboards, interview clients and fill food bags. No experience needed, on the job training. Please call Darleen Trautsch at 375-6322. ❖

Getting to Know All About the Altar Guild

Father Leslie will host an Altar Guild In-service on Saturday, January 17, 2009. We will gather at 10:00 a.m. in the church. This is an opportunity to meet our new Deacon, Michael Reid, and learn about Altar Guild's ministry. All current Guild members are encouraged to attend.

We welcome new members, and hope you will join us to learn more about us and our joyful work! If you have questions and/or wish to RSVP, please contact Georgia Booth (Altar Guild Coordinator) @ 372.6329 or georgiab@redshift.com. ❖

— Georgia Booth, St. Mary's Altar Guild

Times and Tides Publication Schedule

To help all of our newsletter contributors, the *Times and Tides* publication schedule for 2008 - 2009 is as follows:

Publication Date	Content	Deadline for News
February 1, 2009	February & March 2009	January 15, 2009
April 1, 2009	April & May 2009	March 15, 2009

Please leave your news and photographs in the *Times & Tides* mailbox, or email them to me: kmnevin@sbcglobal.net.

Please attach your articles — created in MS Word only — to your email. Due to space considerations, please, please, please limit your articles to no more than 300 words.

Thanks!

— Kitty Nevin, Editor

On the Record

From Helen Reames
Parish Office, 373-4441, ext. 10



BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER	JANUARY
1 Patricia Aversano	1 Audrey Baldwin
Dick Peckham	2 Joan Elstob
4 Nathan Jarvis	3 Ann Smallwood
7 Ian Croll	4 Bruce Obbink
Jacob Sisson	5 Winston Elstob
8 Jennifer Thamer	6 Lois Rockefeller
Barbara Freeman	7 Rosi Edwards
10 Kimberly Brown	8 Darla Woodruff
11 Elsie Kohler	9 Cora Gorman
Bud McCollister	Hannah Renner-Bennett
Brita Bruemmer	10 Richard Baldwin
12 Betsy Brown	Kirsten Matsumoto
13 Melanie Sholl	Michelle Ford
Kathy Leslie	11 Stephanie Boughton
15 Doris Beach	Jan Plunkett
16 Ashley Hunter	12 Rachel Taylor
17 Cynthia Guthrie	15 Richard Straight
Kendall Finch	16 Charlie Howell
18 Betty Howell	18 Grant Voth
19 Gwen Peckham	Andrew Hunter
Jean Smith	Sacha Burn
22 Don Gamble	19 Mary Riedel
23 Polly Thomas	Susan Smelser
26 Barbara Utter	Rachel Smelser
27 Darleen Trautsch	20 Celeste Ventura
Loren Byrne	25 Isabella Perez
30 Merrilee Kolpaczyk	27 Jeffrey Weill
	29 Jason Frey
	30 Donna Daunt
	Sybil Dove



WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

Mellanie Moran
Claudia Sisson, and her children,
Jacob and Jillian

rites of passage Births

Clare Welch, born Oct. 23, 2008

Note from Helen:

I only have about half of the parishoners' birthdays in my records. If you'd like your birthday listed in *Times and Tides*, please email me: Helen@stmarysbythesea.org.

Thanks! Helen Reames

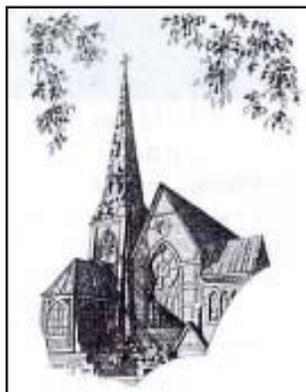
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St. Mary's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church
 146 12th Street
 Pacific Grove CA 93950

Nonprofit Organization
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December 2008/January 2009 Issue

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



St. Mary's by-the-Sea Calendar of Events, Meetings and Worship Services

December 2008

Date	Day of Week	Time	Event	Location
5	Friday	8:30 a.m.	Order of St. Luke	Library
5	Friday	1:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Guild Room
7	Sunday, 2 Advent	10 a.m.	Bishop's Visitation	Church & EH
8	Monday	4 p.m.	Pastoral Concerns Mini-Xmas Tree Decorating & Potluck Dinner	Edwards Hall
10	Wednesday	7 p.m.	Christian Social Concerns	Canturbery Woods
11	Thursday	5:15 p.m.	Finance Committee	Guild Room
12	Friday	7:30 p.m.	Taize Service	1st Pres., Monterey
14	Sunday, 3 Advent	10 a.m.	Lessons & Carols	Church
15	Monday	7 p.m.	Vestry	Guild Room
20	Saturday	5:30 p.m.	All-Parish Christmas Party	Edwards Hall
21	Sunday, 4 Advent	11:30 a.m.	Children Christmas Pageant	Edwards Hall
24	Wednesday, Christmas Eve		Office Closes at Noon	
24	Wednesday, Christmas Eve	5 p.m.	Bringing of the Creche Service	Church
24	Wednesday, Christmas Eve	9:30 p.m.	Carols and Concert	Church
24	Wednesday, Christmas Eve	10 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service	Church
25	Thursday, Christmas Day	10 a.m.	Christmas Day Service	Church
26	Friday		Parish Office Closed	
27	Saturday	5:30 p.m.	I HELP Dinner	Edwards Hall
29-31	Mon, Tues, Wed.		Parish Office Closed	
January 2009				
1	Thursday		Office Closed — New Year's Day	
2	Friday	1:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Guild Room
4	Sunday, 2 Christmas	Coffee Hour	St. Mary's Greeting Cards Sale	Edwards Hall
8	Thursday	5:00 p.m.	Sunday School Steering Committee	Clay Hall
9	Friday	7:30 p.m.	Taize Service	TBA

*Note: This calendar is subject to change. Please let Office Manager, Helen Reames, know about any changes or additions.
 Helen@StMarysbytheSea.org, voice: 373-4441 ext 10.*