



The Ivy Leaf

October 11, 2020

Welcome...

to St. Matthew's. We're delighted to worship with you this morning, whether this is your first time here or your thousandth. The Episcopal tradition values all parts of the human person—heart, mind, and soul. We believe that all three are gifts from God, and God both sustains them and invites us to use them in God's service. Our passionate emotions, our questions and searching, our yearning for something deeper—God values them all, because God values all of us. Wherever you are on your journey in life, we hope you find something in this community that feeds your soul and strengthens you to share in God's work in the world.

Stewardship 2021:

Sharing Our Strength, Keeping Our Faith, Ensuring Our Future

This Sunday marks the start of the season where we take time to reflect upon our spiritual journeys and how we all share in the support of the mission of the Church. Today, Phil Carter, a relatively new member of St. Matthew's, will share highlights of his faith journey. Next week, Emilie Brooks, a longtime member of our Church and School community, will share her thoughts.

As I mentioned in my *Tau Cross* article, we are entering a season of stewardship that feels very different from previous years. Uncertainty has become a part of the economy and people's planning for the future. One of the great strengths of our parish is that households have made financial stewardship a priority and people give out of their abundance. Our parish rests upon a strong financial foundation because so many make stewardship a priority. In the weeks ahead we will once again ask every household connected to St. Matthew's to prayerfully consider making a financial pledge for the upcoming year. Stewardship pledge materials will be mailed later this month. Your yearly financial support through pledging allows St. Matthew's to continue to sustain our community of faith. Your support at any level is greatly appreciated.

Blessings,
Fr. Eric+

Teen Beach Clean Up Service Day

Dear Friends,

We have a service opportunity that has come through the Peninsula Multifaith Coalition to help clean up Poplar Beach in Half Moon Bay this coming **Monday, October 12**, between **4:00-6:00 pm** on the Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day Holiday.

With many people spending time at the beach in this pandemic, the amount of trash has rapidly accumulated and our beaches need help. Following the trash pick-up, PMC will offer some packaged snacks and a chance to discuss future plans to create a teen interfaith leadership council!

- The city will provide parking passes for the volunteers.
- For safety, participants will be clustered in "family bubbles" to offer social distancing.
- Wear a mask and dress for the weather. Bring work gloves if you want.
- Parents can join in the effort, stay in cars, or drop off. Plan to pick up at 6:00 pm.
- To sign-up please follow the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/teen-beach-clean-up-tickets-121988931177>

About the Peninsula Multifaith Coalition: Offering educational, service, and spiritual events throughout the year, the PMC brings together diverse faith communities to discover our shared values, learn from one another and serve our wider community. St. Matthew's has been a longtime partner with the PMC, joining in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and an interfaith dialogue with Peninsula Temple Beth El.

For more questions please feel free to contact me at 415-309-8968.

Blessings,

Fr. Jay+

St. Matthew's Sunday Bike Ride - October 18, 2020

As we continue to create ways to stay connected and healthy while being safe, join our Sunday Bike Ride on **October 18 at 2:00 pm**, starting at Ryder Park in San Mateo. We'll take a leisurely ride following the Bay Trail toward Foster City and back, practicing safe social distancing, and having fun outside for the whole family.

The San Francisco Bay Trail connects over 350 miles of bay shoreline for bikers, hikers and bird watchers to honor nature and enjoy the outdoors. Here's the link for the Bay Trail: <https://www.bayday.org>. Our ride is subject to weather and air quality. We also have a few bikes available to borrow. Contact: Fr. Jay at RevJWatan415@gmail.com.

Day School Alumni News—Henry Hinds, Class Of 2011

Henry Hinds, St. Matthew's Class of 2011, recently had an esports award created in his name by the Colorado College esports team in honor of his help in growing the esports community. The MysticMonk3y Award, named after Henry's gamer tag, emphasizes passion and leadership in esports while maintaining academic excellence. Learn more about the award [here](#) and [click here](#) for an extensive interview about Henry and esports at Colorado College.

Do you have news about a St. Matthew's alum to share? [Email the Day School](#) to let them know!

Feast Of St. Matthew Scavenger Hunt Lives On!

Last month we announced an All Parish Scavenger Hunt to commemorate our patronal feast day. We have decided to give more people a chance to go on the challenging Scavenger Hunt!

Instructions and the Scavenger Hunt List are available here on our website: <https://episcopalstmatthew.org/2020/09/scavenger-hunt/>.

For those of you without a printer, there are extra copies in the phone booth by the Church Office door. Please wear a mask and socially distance from one another when you are on Church grounds and beyond.

A special thank you to Janine Gerzanics and Carol Kalb for adding the more challenging items to our list. We look forward to seeing your pictures—have a fabulous time!

Peace and many blessings,

Fr. Eric, Fr. Jay and Deacon Lauren

Blessings and Prayer List Additions

Names for blessings and prayers can be submitted by emailing or calling the church office: office@episcopalstmatthew.org or 650-274-0795.

Contributions and Pledges

Your generous financial support helps St. Matthew's fulfill its mission: to live God's love, to share the Gospel, and to grow spiritually. Thank you for continuing your giving during these times. Contributions and pledges can be mailed to the church or made online at: episcopalstmatthew.org/giving/donate-now/.

Food Bank Need Continues

As the COVID-19 crisis continues, Second Harvest Food Bank has seen dramatic increases in need. If you are able to provide financial support, donations can be made online here: <https://give.shfb.org/donatenow>.