



The Ivy Leaf

October 18, 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 we will take time again to reflect upon our spiritual journeys and how we all share in the support of the mission of the Church. Today, 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+

St. Matthew's Sunday Bike Ride Today

As we continue to create ways to stay connected and healthy while being safe, join our Sunday Bike Ride today, **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.

UTO Ingathering in Pandemic Time



Our traditional Fall United Thank Offering ingathering won't be in person on a Sunday morning this year, but contributions to the good work UTO grants enable can be made via mail and online, by **next Sunday, October 25**.

You can donate by using this link:

<https://unitedthankoffering.org/give/> (in the "Diocese" box, write *California*, and in the "Parish" box, *St. Matthew's*);

or, by mailing a check to St. Matthew's, made payable to the League for Service, with the memo line labeled "UTO". For more about UTO, see last month's *Tau Cross* newsletter: [The Tau Cross](#).

New Day School Virtual Tour

The Day School has published its first virtual tour of the St. Matthew's Campus. Take a look at [our campus tour](#) for beautiful views of our church, school and grounds.

8th Grade Chapel Talks

Every year Day School 8th graders each give a Chapel Talk. It's a very important right of passage for them as they pick a Bible scripture and write a homily about it by telling a story about themselves and some significant event or quality of their lives.

St. Matthew's very own student and parishioner, Mika Taira, is delivering hers this **Monday, October 19 at 8:40 am** and since we are dealing with COVID-19, no one is allowed to go to church to watch it live. Instead, we are all watching her live

stream on Youtube. If you'd like to watch, here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC446wxwEnaNzvtISRr0yiw>.

These 8th graders really do their school proud. They bare their souls and say the most astonishingly mature things in these chapel talks. It has always been a highlight of the St. Matthew's experience.

Organ Pipes Available

I wanted to let you know that Sally Krakow has 3 organ pipes that she is willing to deliver to you if you would like them. They are 98", 96" and 81". Please contact her to make arrangements at rwkssk@sbcglobal.net or phone her at (650) 342-9603.

For those of you who took some of the organ pipes, please send me the pictures so that we can add them to our website: lmccombs@episcopalstmatthew.org

Peace and love,
Deacon Lauren

Book Group: *Little Fires Everywhere* for October

The St. Matthew's Book group will meet via Zoom on **Wednesday, October 28** at 7:00 pm to talk about Celeste Ng's novel, *Little Fires Everywhere*. All are invited to join. (A Zoom invitation will be emailed to all registered members of the group. If you don't already get these emails, contact the [church office](#) to ask for the Zoom invite.)

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>.