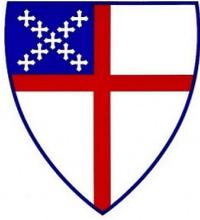


# THE ANCHOR

DECEMBER 2016

The monthly newsletter of St. Clements by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

Welcoming all since 1929



**Member, Anglican  
Communion**

## PARISH MISSION:

*Follow Christ through  
the way we live and  
love, spreading the  
good news of God in  
Christ, opening our  
hearts to all, and  
experience and spread  
joy in the process.*

**“This Church of  
Ours is Open To  
All...There Will  
Be No Outcasts.”**

-The Most Rev. Edmund  
Browning *Emeritus*  
Presiding Bishop  
of the Episcopal Church



## Hope...

There is no doubt that the seasons of Advent and Christmas are ones filled with hope. That hope takes many forms, from the anticipation of our children of a man in a red suit bundling down our chimneys and leaving yearned for presents under the tree, to the great Christian hope of a world transformed, of the Kingdom of God upon the earth, and the enduring and eternal peace that reign will bring.

Our hope then is joined with that of those more than two millennia ago who longed for the promised Savior, who would set things aright and restore that which was broken. We yearn for his arrival with that same expectation, need and desire. And we are a people filled with hope, as we look to that day. A day when one need not say, “know the Lord,” for all will know him, in his fullness, from the least of us to the greatest (Hebrews 8:11, Jeremiah 31:34).

Generally, I would say that everything is better with hope! It has been said that life without hope is bleak and gray, which is true. But, few such things ever are said about a life with hope. The result of a hope-filled life may be more self-evident. It is a life with greater optimism and purpose, even if that hope is beyond what some would consider rational. As the Psalmist says, “Happy are those...who hope in the Lord” (146:5) and as we likewise hear in Proverbs, “the hope of the Righteous ends in gladness” (10:28).

While having hope does open us up to possible disappointment, when our hopes aren't fulfilled (or not fulfilled in the time that we would like), hope also helps us to persevere through difficulties and to endure in spite of doubts. Hope in a world with more mercy, love, justice and peace, inspires us to work for just such a world in our own circumstances. With hope we wait eagerly, and work patiently to see our hope fulfilled.

When we have hope we orient our lives around that hope. Just as couple, who anticipates an addition to their family, buys the crib, paints the room pink or blue, and begins to make their nest ready for the arrival, so we prepare ourselves around the hope that we anticipate being fulfilled in our world. Those looking for the Reign of Peace, for example, look for ways to sow the seeds of peace in their own relationships and communities.



*Continued on next page*

What is your hope this season? Perhaps you indeed hope for peace in our world, more understanding between people in our own nation, or maybe your hope is in something closer. Perhaps you hope for more peace within your own family. Do you hope for those words from your beloved that you have longed for years to hear? Do you hope for forgiveness, and a new beginning? Can you name aloud three of your great hopes! Now pause and imagine, what would the world be like if those hopes were realized.

What is hope from a biblical perspective? St. Paul tells us that Hope is faith in things "unseen" (Romans 8:24-25). Who needs to hope in something that already is, asks Paul. We hope for that which is not yet, but which we dare to believe will be. And we wait for it with patience. Hope isn't so much a noun but a verb, as in "to hope." In the Bible, hope is an expression of our confidence in God's goodness and mercy and a conviction that the promises of God will be fulfilled.<sup>1</sup>

Hope is something in which we trust, even when present circumstance makes our hope difficult to imagine. They say "you hope for the best and prepare for the worst." I hear that a lot and it is both a nice cliché, and sometimes really good advice. However, we probably tend to over emphasize the latter part of that expression rather than the former. How often do we actually "hope for the best"? Do we dare to believe that our hope is possible?

The Psalmist has much to say on the subject of Hope. One of my favorite quotes is one that links our hope with God's saving deeds of the past. In other words, it makes the case that our hope for the future is grounded in what God has already accomplished for us in our history with God. Further, it links our hope with that of all of humankind, God being God of all. "By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and the farthest seas" (65:5).

So, welcome friends to a season of hope. It is also a season of peace, joy and love, but let us begin with hope. Let us be first and foremost a people of hope. A people who hope in and trust in the promises of God. Let us be a people who have hope in one another as well. As people who have seen their hopes fulfilled in the long promised Messiah, Jesus, let us be a people who dare to have hope in the Kingdom, the Reign of God, of which he so often spoke.

Blessings to you and your families and those you love, throughout these holy seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany,

*Fr. Patrick*

<sup>1</sup> See "Hope" in *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*, Vol. 3, David Noel Freedman, Editor-in-Chief (New York: Doubleday, 1992), Pgs 282-283

## World Culinary Tour Success!

*The World Culinary Tour November Fundraiser was a great success and raised over \$5,800 for our church. Thank you to all the hosts and volunteers. The food and drink was first class and the entertainment was unforgettable. Please enjoy these pictures taken by parishioners on that memorable night.*





*Celebration of the Virgin of Guadalupe*  
Sunday, December 11th

Combined Bilingual Service at 10:00 am  
(8:00 am will occur as usual)

*Christmas Flower Offerings*

**Due Sunday December 11th**

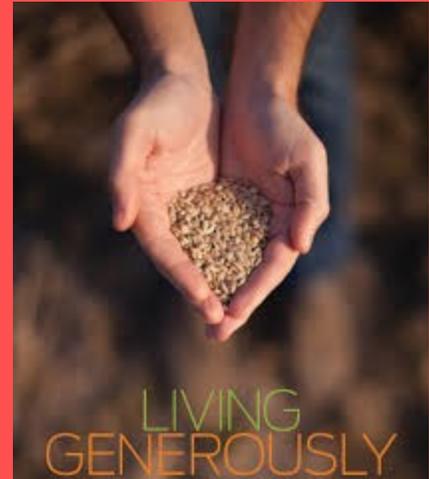


*Envelopes and forms will be made available during coffee hour on December 4th and 11th.*

Please place your Christmas flower offering along with your dedication in the Sunday offering plate or in the office drop box. The drop box is located to the right of the church office door.

## *Dear Friends...*

If you have not already turned in your pledges for 2017, please turn them in as soon as possible to the church office. You may also email Father Patrick or Karen Williams your pledge amount. Thank you for your continued support!

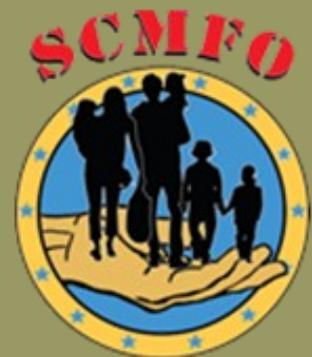


## *Christmas Giving*

St. Clement's is participating in the San Clemente Military Family Outreach "**THANK A FAMILY**" program for Camp Pendleton families who requested assistance with Christmas for their children.

St. Clement's family has 2 children (a boy age 7 and a girl age 1 year) and a baby boy on the way (due in late December). The family is being deployed overseas in March and they've indicated that what they'd like most for their kids is clothing.

Please help make this an abundant Christmas for the family by making a donation to purchase Christmas presents for the children and trimmings for their tree. Please place your donation (cash or check) in the Sunday collection or send/deliver your donation to the church office **by December 18th**. Please indicate on your donation that it is for the **THANK A MILITARY FAMILY** outreach.



# Something for Everyone

## Book Discussion Group

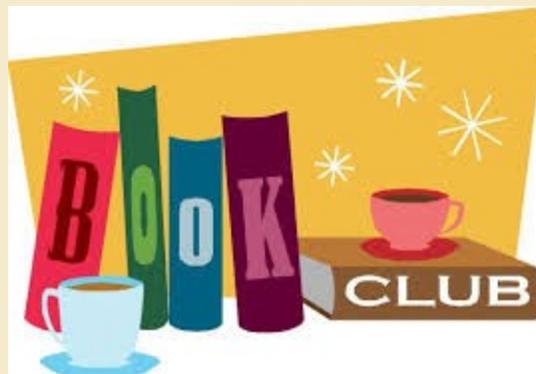
The Improbability of Love

Tuesday, December 6th, 5:00 pm

At Rocco's

**For more information about this group please  
contact**

**Mary Ann Morrison at 949-361-0031**



## Anchor's Potluck Supper Club

Will be resume in

January

(no December Anchor's)

Please check at coffee hour for the sign  
up sheet in January



## Oh Come, all Ye Faithful!



Pastor Brenda leading us in prayer

Join us for Laundry Love, on  
**Wednesday, December 21st at  
 1:30pm** for training  
 and feel the magic of Christmas  
 by sharing the joy of  
**Laundry Love!**



Gathering for training

### WHERE:

**Laundry Basket South**  
 2405 S. El Camino Real  
 San Clemente, CA 92672  
 (next to *Molly Blooms*)

Parking in the alley

### WHEN:

Third Wednesday of every  
 month—

Dec. 21st next gathering

Volunteers meet at 1:30  
 pm for set-up and brief  
 training

### OPEN TO THOSE IN NEED:

2:00 - 6:00pm (last load at  
 4:30pm)



Registration Table



Steve Bruce and volunteers from

St. Clement's, Christ Lutheran and FAM



Helping Families in Need



Loading the machines

This is an exciting outreach journey for our parish as we join together with our friends at Christ Lutheran Church to provide free laundry services to our San Clemente homeless population and those living in poverty. As volunteers, we not only help the Laundry Love customers wash their clothes, but listening to them as we work side by side.

### There are many ways you can help:

1. **Become a Laundry Love Volunteer.** There are many roles in Laundry Love ranging from checking in the customer's; putting soap and quarters in the machines; working side by side as the customers load the washers, dryers, & fold their clothes.
2. **Contribute financially:** it costs approximately \$8.00-\$10.00 to do 6 loads of laundry.
3. **Contribute supplies:** Laundry soap, dryer sheets, bottled water and snacks are some ideas.

**SIGNUP AT CHURCH OR E-mail Tina Inglish at [ringlish@cox.net](mailto:ringlish@cox.net) /949.285.9576 or call Karen Williams at 949-836-0003**

## *Advent Schedule of Events*

### *Mark your calendars!*

**Wednesday, December 21st, 7:00pm**

#### **St. Andrews UMC Blue Christmas or “Longest Night”**

This is a holiday service for those who have lost someone dear to them, or for whom the holidays are difficult. This will be an ecumenical Service at St. Andrew’s UMC.

Fr. Patrick will be offering the Eucharistic Prayer. Several churches will be involved with combined choirs.

**Thursday, December 22nd, 5:00pm**

#### **Clean and Green the Sanctuary**

**followed by a chili dinner.**

Please join us to prepare the sanctuary for a beautiful Christmas and enjoy fellowship with other parishioners.

*All ages welcome, the more the merrier!*



**Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve**

4:00 pm: Children’s Pageant of Christmas (with youth Bell Choir)

8:00 pm: Noche Buena, Spanish Christmas Eve

9:30 pm: Carol Sing-A-Loud

10:00 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (with choir, organ and harp)

**Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day**

10:00 am: Christmas Day Service

*(note: no 8am or 12pm service)*



*Ring in the New Year with these upcoming  
January events!*

**Sunday, Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Day**

**Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus**

Combined 10am Service in English, 12pm in Spanish

(Note: no 8am service on New Year's Day)

**Thursday, January 5th**

**Eve of the Epiphany Service**

More information coming

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

The Baptism of Christ Sunday



**Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Annual Meeting of the Parish**

Combined service in English at 9am, brunch in the Parish Hall, with presentation and vestry elections.



## *Year-End Gifts for Church Maintenance and Improvement Would Be Gratefully Received*

*By Judy Johnson, Senior Warden*

A big thank you for all the engagement by the family and friends of St. Clement's during this year. In addition to expanding our spiritual community and our parish outreach, parishioners have been generous in strengthening the finances of the church

However, in managing the church budget the Vestry has deferred both maintenance and capital investment for the second year in a row. Some of those needs are quite urgent. If you are able to support the church with a year-end gift it would be very appreciated and responsibly used.

Here are some critical needs; you are invited to designate your gift to a particular fund, or "general fund" which gives the Vestry more flexibility to combine contributions. Any amount is appreciated. Together we are strong.

**\$4,000 – Repair leaking tile roof.** A section of the roof in the main building is currently covered with a tarp and a prayer. This is the highest priority maintenance project.

**Air Conditioning.** There are three pressing needs for air conditioning units. Bids have been obtained and we would like to do the work this winter, when prices are lower.

**\$5,100 – Peaceful Warrior room.** Almost 100 youth attend class in the late afternoon and evenings multiple times a month. In addition to student comfort, the air conditioning would reduce the noise to the neighbors directly adjacent.

**\$6,500 – Parish hall and kitchen.** More than 600 people attend recovery meetings each week in the evening at St. Clement's. The room heats up quickly with so many people, especially in the warmer months. The back door and windows are opened to provide some relief, which is very noisy for the neighbors. Additionally, the summer heat impacts the church's own use of the parish hall when we have events in the afternoons and evenings.

**\$7,200 – Church sanctuary and library.** Sunday attendance drops when the sanctuary is too hot. It's also very stifling for Father Patrick, the choir, and others serving at the altar. Classes and meetings in the library are also negatively impacted.

**\$10,000 – Properly repair and replace the leaking roof.**

**\$1,000 – Window coverings for the parish hall.** There are recovery meetings in the parish hall four nights a week. Our neighbors directly behind the parish hall have requested that the church cover the windows to cut out the glaring light into their living space, and to deaden the sound.

As Senior Warden I have been continuously inspired by the many ways that the people of St. Clement's live their faith. There are so many contributions of time, talent and treasure as indeed we are called to give. Whether you are able to support this request or not, please know that you are much appreciated.

**Do you know a parishioner that needs help with rides, meals, or that would like a home visit?**

Please contact the church office or Tina Borden for further information.

***Sandwich Making for the Welcome Inn***



**December 19th**  
**9:00 AM**  
**Okie Hall**

**Centering Prayer Group**  
 meets each Monday at  
 6:00pm in the Library

For more information,  
 please contact Matt Duncan

### Parish Register

December/Diciembre  
 HAPPY BIRTHDAY / FELIZ CUMPLEAÑOS

Colin Casey	1
Celia Lovell	4
Donald Morgan	7
Will Wallett	8
Misael Hernandez	9
Joe Silva	13
Jose Garcia	14
Ken Hite	16
Tracy Hazzard	17
Marlene Brown	18
Neal Harrison	20
Jason Feeney	21
Tina Borden	22
Iridiana Farias	22
Rocco Carbonara	25
Norah Feeney	25
Daniella Mancuso	25
Gustavo Carillo	26
Isabel Grigg	27
Larry Smith	27
Andrea Morris	30

### Happy Anniversary / Feliz Aniversario

Jack and Patty Clark	29
Larry and Pat Sawyer	27
Don and Marjorie Atkinson	28



## St. Clement's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

### St. Clement's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

*San Clemente's Historic Landmark #1*  
202 Avenida Aragon, San Clemente, CA  
92672

Phone: 949.492.3401

Fax: 949.366.8944

E-mail: [info@scbythesea.org](mailto:info@scbythesea.org)  
Website: [www.scbythesea.org](http://www.scbythesea.org)  
Rector— The Rev. Patrick Crerar



### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8 a.m. Holy Communion Rite I, Nursery

10 a.m. Holy Communion Rite II with Choir,  
Nursery, Sunday School

12 p.m. La Misa en Español

### OFFICE HOURS

9am-3pm Monday-Thursday

9am-12pm Friday