

MAGNA CARTA

SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA
Volume III, October 2018

St. Edmund's parish

is part of the global
Anglican Communion
The Most Reverend and Right
Honorable Justin Portal Welby
Archbishop of Canterbury

+

The Episcopal Church in the United States

The Most Reverend
Michael Curry
Primate and Presiding Bishop

+

The Diocese of Los Angeles

The Right Reverend John H. Taylor
Bishop Co-Adjutor
The Right Reverend Diane Jardine
Bruce
Bishop Suffragan

+

Saint Edmund's Church

The Reverend Dr. William J. Doggett
Interim Rector
The Reverend Canon Judy Heffron
Assisting
The Reverend Canon George F.
Woodward III
Rector Emeritus
The Reverend Heather Blackstone
Youth Director
Brother Michael Jones, AOHC;
Spiritual Direction

+

The Vestry

Mr. Ron Harrington, Senior Warden
Mr. Michael Harrigan, Junior Warden
Ms. Amy Hulick, Clerk

Class of '18

Nancy Dini
Michael Harrigan
Stephen Rolfe
Robert Wycoff

Class of '19

Laureen Chang
Bob Packer
Dr. Larry Schulte
Kevin Snaer

Class of '20

Joel Athey
Tony Faught
Ron Harrington
George Seitz



From the Interim Rector:

In the Episcopal Church there is no single “right way” to worship. The Book of Common Prayer has many options to choose from in both text and practice, and among those facets of liturgical style about which the BCP is silent, there is a very broad range of styles and choices that are part of the tradition that we Episcopalians have inherited. So whenever a new priest is at the altar, things are always a little bit different, because no two priests have the exact same style or experiences as a presider.

When I come to a new parish I always make changes in the worship practices. This partly has to do with my own style, and partly to do with the fact that I believe it is important for a congregation in transition to experience more of the variety in our tradition that they may have gotten from their previous rector. That broadened experience will not only aid in the discernment process, but also make the congregation more comfortable with whatever liturgical practices the next rector brings. I can assure you that I don't make changes for changes sake. I always have a reason behind the choices I make, and I am always happy to share my reasoning with you.

Many of you have noticed some of the changes already in place. I want to explain those, and let you know about a few more changes to come.

First off, let me say a few words about the bulletins. I believe the main factor in bulletin design and layout has to be ease of use, especially for visitors who may be unfamiliar with Episcopal worship. There are some excellent scientific studies about readability that show that the text that is easy to read quickly is at least 11 point size, is in a non-italic serif font, and is left-justified (ragged right). I try to include the service music (the ones that begin with “S” numbers, like the Sanctus and Gloria) in the bulletin because they generally have short introductions, leaving no time to find them in the hymnal before it is time to sing. Some of the titles of things have changed as well. We use “First Reading” and “Second Reading” instead of “Old Testament” and “Epistle” because the first reading isn't always from the Old Testament and the Second Reading isn't always from one of the epistles. We use “Presider” instead of “Celebrant” according to the recommendations of the Standing Liturgical Commission because in fact we are all celebrating the Great Thanksgiving.

In the service itself, I found when I got to St. Edmund's that the bulletins indicated a time of silence after the first reading and the sermon, but that they were never observed. I added the bells to mark the silence because in my experience people are more at ease entering into prayerful silence if they aren't anxiously wondering when it will end.

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Some have asked why we now clear the altar at the end of Communion instead of re-veiling the chalice and paten. The simple answer is that we don't normally reset the table with the dirty dishes after a meal. The historical answer is that this is a practice that comes from catholic churches in which multiple consecutive masses at the same altar made it necessary to be ready to begin a service immediately after the previous one was dismissed. Since we do not have that need, we have gone back to what is normative Episcopal practice. The Altar Guild and Servers have told me that it also makes their lives easier, so that's an added bonus.

Others have asked about the elevation bells after the words of institution for the bread and wine. This is a practice that dates back to a time in the Middle Ages when the laity only received communion once a year, and most of the time they came to church just to see the consecrated elements. Since the prayer of consecration was whispered, the bell warned the congregation to stop their prayers and conversations and look up. It's a practice that was rejected by Protestants in the Reformation, but came back into the Episcopal Church at the end of the nineteenth century with the Anglo-Catholic movement. The practice seems more fitting with the Rite I service than Rite II, so I have retained it at the 8:00 service, but not at 10:00. I confess though, that since it hasn't been the practice at any of the parishes I have served before, I still sometimes forget.

Things to look forward to:

I will be bringing more Eucharistic Prayers from various parts of the Episcopal Church, but we will use each of them for a while so that you can get used to their rhythms and savor their images. The one we will use for Lent will knock your socks off (unless you have given up wearing socks for Lent)

The Prayer Book Rubrics strongly suggest that Prayers of the People be written or improvised to reflect the current concerns of the congregation. We have been using prayers written by Father George, but as bringing the concerns of the world to the parish is traditionally a Deacon's role, I have asked Deacon Mark and he has agreed to begin writing our prayers sometime in the near future.

Starting with the first Sunday of Advent, we will be including the Collect of the Day, the Psalm or Canticle, and our Scripture readings in the body of the bulletin instead of using the inserts. The reason for this is, once again, readability. When the readings are long, the inserts are sometimes printed in nine or even eight point type. That is, to be frank, just too darned small.

Please don't hesitate to ask if you wonder why I am doing something in the liturgy that interests or confuses you. It's a subject I'm always delighted to talk about, and can usually tell you far more than you ever wanted to know.

Bill+



Mass On the Grass—September 30th at Dann & JoJeanne Angeloff's home.

FINANCIAL UPDATE AND OUTLOOK



Actual key financial figures for 2018 compared to the 2018 revised budget:

| | <u>2018 Revised Budget</u> | <u>Actual 8-31-18</u> |
|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pledge Income | \$325,000 | \$214,095 |
| Total Income | \$507,022 | \$362,985 |
| Total Expenses | \$594,211 | \$431,268 |

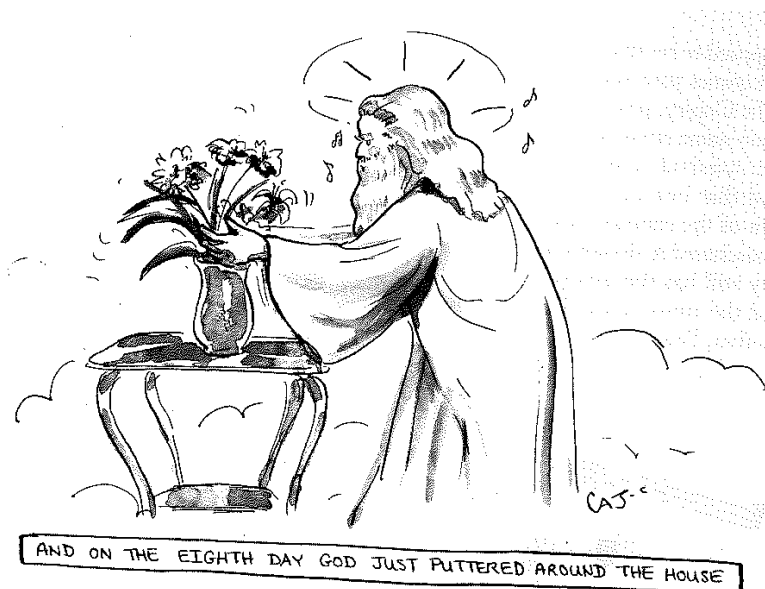
Expenses to date are slightly higher than budgeted due to costs related to the transition which includes the office move, rectory repairs and staff changes. Income continues strong as pledges are being met in a timely way and non-pledge operating gifts have been higher than budgeted. Cash flow remains positive bolstered by the unbudgeted operating gifts and the repayment of the bank loan with an interest-only loan from the endowment. Receipt of all Next 75 pledged gifts for 2018 and a strong early response to 2019's stewardship campaign will help ensure that the church ends 2018 in a strong position for next year.

In July a parish-wide meeting was held to describe the changes undertaken by vestry this year. The offices were moved to the DeKruif Building and new renters have been found for the old office spaces. An interest-only, five-year loan was taken out from the endowment to

provide the parish with some time to determine whether the parish can continue to support the rectory or needs to sell it. This loan was used to repay the bank loan, resulting in a significant decrease in annual cash needs. A review of recommended expense ratios for churches similar to St. Edmund's was undertaken and supported the conclusion that administrative salaries needed to be reduced which resulted in the elimination of one position in our office. As a result, the projected deficit for 2019 is very close to breakeven.

Vestry continues to look at additional ways to reduce expenses and increase income but our financial position is much stronger than it was even at the beginning of the year with a much improved outlook for 2019.

—Gail Rolfe
Treasurer



MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER



Fall is upon us, temperatures notwithstanding. Kick-off Sunday launched a new program year at St. Edmund's. I had the chance to be on campus for the first several days of the Nursery School year, and watching the fresh young faces of our children, their parents and our teachers was inspiring. Our parish has been blessed. Fall 2018 finds us in healthier financial condition, and looking forward to a balanced budget for 2019. We have engaged new ministry teams, and continue our transition work. We have so much for which to be thankful.

Our congregation has responded generously with calls for their time. We reinstated ministries helping with administration, buildings and grounds, and lay pastoral care. Almost 30 parishioners donate time to those ministries, and we all benefit from their dedicated service. Thank you!

Our clergy, Mother Judy, Rev. Heather and Deacon Mark provided us with spiritual love, constancy, and support over the summer. We are so grateful for their pastoral care and leadership as it allowed us time to prayerfully contemplate our personal and parish roles during this transition period.

We welcomed our interim rector, Father Bill Doggett, in August. We look forward to his leadership, advice and counsel as we prepare our Parish for our future permanent rector. Working with the Vestry and Transition Committee, he will help

us determine where we wish to go, to set goals and develop the requisite plans to reach them. As an example, one of his first challenges to us has been to renew our focus on outreach. Outreach need not be accomplished at great expense, but we will hear about expanding our ministries more into our surrounding community.

Thank you to all that joined in the Summer Socials, the welcome to Deacon Mark on his appointment to St. Edmund's, and the end-of-summer evening welcome to Father Bill. An amazing number participated, and with Nancy Dini's leadership, these many events kept the parish vibrant and connected throughout an especially hot, dry summer.

As we remember these blessings, we need to stay together as we move ahead. During this period in transition, most parishes lose members. Some will leave us, too. I am so impressed by the gracious support and good spirits each Sunday that I hope we can face this challenge together.

In the coming year, we have an opportunity to shape the future of St. Edmund's; not for just for us, but for our children, and likely, for our grandchildren. I hope and pray that you share my excitement for the coming year!

— Ron Harrington
Senior Warden



"I hate to be a downer, but, statistically, people are more likely to die from heart disease than by getting hit with one of those things."

SUMMER SOCIALS



On Saturday, August 25th over 80 parish friends gathered on the Close to celebrate the final summer social of 2018. Rum punch, wine and beer, and a wonderful array of good foods added to the early evening affair.

Nancy Dini reported a successful summer of 18 socials entertaining over 125

Parishioners — a joyful opportunity to bond us together during this transitional period. Nancy sends added appreciation to Amy, Tony, Heather, Antonio, Sylvia and Mark and all the parishioners that attended for making it such a success.

— *Nancy Dini*



NEWS FROM ST. EDMUND'S NURSERY SCHOOL

As St. Edmund's Nursery School heads into fall, our calendar is full. We kick off October with a special Blessing of the Animals and round that up with our first school spirit days. Our Fall Festival will be held on campus Friday, October 19th beginning at 3:30pm with games, entertainment, food, a bake sale and an opportunity for Alumni to return and help welcome all the new families here at SENS. We welcome parishioners to attend as well. Please contact the Nursery School for information on this fun event.

We look forward to our Halloween parades with the children to wrap up the

month and then dive into getting ready for our Thanksgiving celebrations.

We have begun school tours as of October 1st. If you are interested in getting more information about our school programs, we offer tours between the hours of 9:30am and 11:00am, by appointment only, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Friday is open for walk-ins but we encourage you to still call and schedule a visit.

Wishing all a beautiful fall season.

— *Liz Westphal*



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The summer months have come and gone very quickly, and we've already welcomed our sensational choir back into Sunday services. The music department cordially welcomes Fr. Bill, our new Interim Rector. He is an experienced musician, and he will be joining in the performances at some point this year. He is also a composer, and the choir will be performing several of his compositions this season.

Our outstanding Bell Choir is under the leadership of Bob Packer this year, and they are continuing their regular playing schedule this year. They are tentatively slated to perform at the liturgies on St. Edmund's Day, and at the Family Service on Christmas Eve. Bob and Constance hosted a Summer Social for the Bell Choir and St. Edmund's Choir at their home in August. A grand time was had by all.

The St. Edmund's Choir will perform at both Christmas Eve services, and the Modern Brass Quintet will be joining us for the 9:00 PM liturgy, as per usual. They have been performing for our Christmas Eve liturgy for the last 10

years, so it's always a pleasure to welcome them back, and we appreciate their loyalty to us.

Our service of Lessons and Carols will continue, and is scheduled for December 9, at 7:30 in the evening. We will be joined as usual by our friends from the LA Master Chorale and LA Opera. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Some of you may have noticed that the organ's big trumpet stop at the rear of the main church sanctuary has been silent recently. This past summer the bearings in the rear blower gave way, and the blower is being reconditioned. We hope to have our beloved Trompette en Chamade, as the stop is named, back up and running by Christmas.

During this time of transition and budget re-evaluation, we are grateful to the Packer and Mueller families for stepping up and making sure the great music traditions at St. Edmund's continue uninterrupted.

—Robert Hovencamp
Director of Music



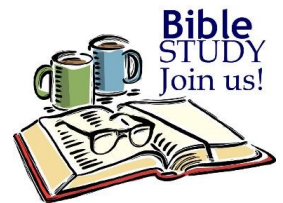
AUTUMN BIBLE STUDY

As promised last spring, there will be a Bible study, beginning October 24th, on the Book of Jonah in the Old Testament.

This study will consist of three meetings on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., October 24th, November 14th and the 29th, in the Cowan's Room.

Everyone is welcome! Bring your Bibles, if you have one, or one will be provided. Contact Mother Judy with any questions you may have (909) 392-4898.

—Mother Judy



FROM OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR



It is currently estimated that there are currently over 40 million adults dealing with anxiety disorders but that number appears to be rising on a daily basis. Among children, 25% have been diagnosed as dealing with some form of anxiety. Research has shown that untreated children are at a higher risk to perform poorly in school, miss out on social experiences and engage in substance abuse. We want our children to not only succeed but to live the happiest and healthiest life possible. Sunday mornings this fall we are practicing different forms of meditation, prayer and relaxation so that our students are equipped to deal with the innumerable struggles they face every day. By experimenting with various mindfulness practices, we hope that our students will foster a discipline of being able to take a moment when needed and also be present in the moment rather than rushing through to get something done. Parents are always welcome to join in as these practices are best learned through modeling. For guidance on various practices please subscribe to Faith Builders or Faith Builders Jr. Each week we will be walking through new practice and providing tips on how to make your favorites a part of your daily life.

Upcoming Youth and Sunday School Activities

Sunday, October 7

Blessing of the Animals

The Sunday school will be in worship with either their pets or a photo.

Join us that evening for Youth Group Haunted Hayride at the Old LA Zoo Take a ride on a hay wagon as you are

transported into the unknown. Legend has it the haunted woods contain clowns waiting to unleash their bag of tricks on passersby.

\$35 for hayride or \$45 for entrance to all of the activities

Friday, October 19

SENS Fall Festival

Sunday, October 28

Nightmare Before Christmas

El Capitan Theater

\$11 for tickets, more if you want ice cream afterwards

Sunday, November 18

Beginning of Christmas Pageant Rehearsals

Christmas Craft Fair and Yoga

Sunday, December 2, on the Close following the 10 am service.

Sunday December 2nd, the Close will be transformed into a magical Christmas festival! Local handmade crafts will be available for sale as well as tacos and cupcakes. There will also be games, face painting and a petting zoo for the kids.

At noon, a space will be cleared for a yoga class with two special guests, Spanky and Pippin. These dwarf goats will jump, play and entertain participants and spectators. If you would like to be added to the yoga waitlist please contact Rev. Heather Blackstone

youth@saintedmunds.org

or 626-793-9167.

— *The Reverend Heather Blackstone*
Director of Youth

TRANSITIONS...FROM FR. BILL

Whenever a parish experiences a significant transition, whether it is a change in leadership, a change in financial circumstances, a new building or the loss of an old one – anything that significantly changes the routines and relationships of the parish – it causes anxiety. The level of anxiety depends a great deal on both the significance of the change and the spiritual health of the congregation, but even in the most spiritually healthy of parishes, the departure of a long-term rector is bound to stir things up.

As Christians, we are called over and over again by Jesus to “be not anxious,” but sometimes that is easier said than done. And free-floating anxiety has to land somewhere, so you may have noticed some people in this community have, on occasion, seemed more concerned or more determined or less willing to compromise about certain things than in non-anxious times. Maybe you have even been one of those people now and again.

One of my tasks as your Interim Rector is to both ease that anxiety and to make sure that it doesn’t land on the unsuspecting. And since good information is one of the best ways to ease anxiety, here are some things about the transition process you should know:

First, although a rector transition involves change, parishes are always changing. Members are born, marry, die, join, and move away. Programs that once served the parish well are ended because they no longer have the participation or leadership to sustain them, and they are replaced by new programs which we hope will serve the changing congregation and neighborhood. A rector transition is more visible, and affects more of the community directly than many of these other changes, but the thing to remember is that you are already experienced with embracing, tolerating, or suffering through change.

Second, there is an orderly and well-designed process for a rector transition. It involves a fair amount of congregational reflection on who we have been, who we are now and who we hope to become before beginning to invite potential next rectors into the process of discernment with us. The great thing about this process of self-reflection, as long as we can be honest with one another about our memories, our needs, and our hopes, is that churches grow stronger and more vibrant through the process. The difficult part of the

process is that the second half of it, after the Transition Committee has heard and digested the information about the congregation and the Search Committee is in conversation with candidates, is that the process becomes necessarily confidential, and even as the Search Committee is at its busiest, it may seem to the rest of the congregation that nothing is happening. This can be another time for anxiety.

Third, I am here with you through this whole process. Most of you don’t know me very well yet, but I have been trained to lead congregations through this process, and I promise to bring the best of my skills, insights and spirit to being your pastor through any anxious times. Besides my priestly duties as pastor, teacher and worship leader, I have specific tasks as an interim in looking at the relationships, programs and systems whereby St. Edmund’s lives out its mission, to help you be ready to welcome and thrive with your next rector. But my main task as Interim Rector is to do my best to make sure you feel you are in safe enough hands that you will take all the time you need to reflect, discern, and call the right person to be your next rector. I don’t know any parishes that rushed through the process that didn’t come to regret it.

When I say “safe,” I don’t mean that everything will stay the same. Change is, as I said, always happening in a congregation, and it would be a waste of my time here if I didn’t bring my experiences and ideas to you while I’m with you. But I won’t make changes without a reason, and I won’t keep my reasons secret. Because I hope, by the time I bid you all farewell, you will be able to say, “we don’t always like change, but we’re pretty good at it”.

Some of the things that I hope to see during my time here include:

Revitalization of the St. Edmund’s outreach ministry. This is the subject that more of you have talked to me about than anything else. I am delighted that this is true because, in my mind, a church that isn’t engaged in outreach isn’t really a church. St. Edmund’s has gifts that this neighborhood and the larger world need, and we can figure out ways to better share those gifts. When people think about outreach ministry, often their minds turn to offering financial support to individuals and groups in need, and that is certainly one way to do outreach.

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But our treasures are so much more than that – we have the wisdom and the energy of our members, we have our buildings and grounds, which are empty a lot of the time, and we have the ability to cooperate with other churches and organizations to do more good in the world than any of us could do by ourselves.

Begin accessibility planning. Our facilities are not as handicapped accessible as they should be. I realize that solving this will be expensive and is not a short-term project. But I have asked the Vestry to try to put some money in next year's budget to hire a consultant to give us an idea of what our options are and what the costs might be so that you can both begin to budget for that project and make your rector candidates aware that this is something in the works.

Perform a hospitality inventory. I plan to put together a committee of members and people from outside St. Edmund's that will review every aspect of what it is like to come here. We'll look at how easy it is to find out about and to find the church, what changes we might need in signage around the campus, what it's like to find a seat and find your way through the

service, how easy it is to find a restroom, to learn about the church, in short, everything we might do to make visitors and newcomers feel more welcome.

Review all of the systems and documents of the parish. This is a process that is already underway. I plan to look at the bylaws, the employee manual, wedding and funeral information materials, the parish register, how we submit receipts for reimbursement, make budget requests, letters of agreement and contracts – in short, everything I can find, and, using my knowledge of what has worked well and what has not in the many other parishes I have served, make recommendations, where I feel they are needed, for change.

These are the priorities that I have identified so far. If you would like to be part of any of these projects, or if you have ideas that you are passionate about, please let me know.

Blessings,
Bill+



All Parish Summer Social on August 26th.





ST. EDMUND'S FALL FUNRAISER

Please join us for our Fall FunRaiser!

In a private setting we will enjoy special selections of San Antonio Winery's hand-crafted wines, served with a delicious assortment of antipasti and hors d'oeuvres, along with a personally guided tour of the winery ~ the oldest producing winery in Los Angeles, with over 99 years of winemaking.

WHEN

October 13, 2018 ~ 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

WHERE

San Antonio Winery ~ 737 Lamar St., Los Angeles, CA 90031

COST

\$50 per person

RSVP

Receipt of your check, payable to "St. Edmund's Episcopal Church," is your RSVP ~ please note "Fall FunRaiser" in the memorandum and number of reservations. Amy Hulick will be collecting checks on the Close on Sundays.

Checks may also be mailed to the church office: PO BOX 80038
San Marino, CA 91118

If you cannot attend, but would like to offer a donation to St. Edmund's or would like to contribute to St. Edmund's beyond the per person reservation, please note that in the memorandum of your check. Thank you!

Questions?

Contact Amy Hulick (626) 840-5352 or akhulick@gmail.com

Please note... Our event will include heavy hors d'oeuvres. San Antonio Winery, however, has a lovely dining room with delicious meals, should you wish to stay for dinner to continue socializing and celebrating on your own.

ALTAR GUILD - FLOWER OFFERINGS



Flowers are an important and valued component of our Eucharist celebration each week and are solely made possible by parishioner donations. Flower offerings are made for a variety of reasons. Perhaps your offering is made in memory of or thanksgiving for a beloved family member or friend, or in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, or another life milestone.

Flower donations are needed for approximately 41 Sundays per year excluding Sundays during Advent when only greens adorn the altars; Sundays during Lent when dried branches adorn the altars; and Christmas Day and Easter Sunday when special flower offering solicitations are made.

During the last 12 months, only 12 donations were received for the remaining 29 Sundays, and Altar Guild reserve funds were used for those Sundays. The reserve funds are the result of your generosity at Christmas and Easter, and they allow us to continue to have flowers on Sundays when a flower offering has not been made. Unfortunately, the reserves are in danger of being severely depleted.

The Altar Guild is charged \$90.00/week for the flowers used in both the Chapel and Church. Traditionally, one parishioner makes this donation; however, parishioners might consider teaming with other parishioners and sharing the weekly cost. All donations, no matter the amount, are a blessing to the entire St. Edmund's community.

In January 2019, we will once again provide a sign-up board for flower offerings. It will be placed outside the front Chapel entrance for the 8:00 am service and moved to the Church Narthex for the 10:00 am service. Donations will continue to be made using the form below, but donors are asked to sign their name on the sign-up board for their chosen Sunday. This will help others to choose available dates.

The below "tear off" form is provided, along with mailing instructions, for your convenience. You will also find it in the Announcement section of the weekly service leaflet. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Diane McCracken (ddmccracken@hotmail.com).



FLOWER OFFERING

OFFERING MADE BY: _____

SUNDAY DATE FOR YOUR OFFERING: _____

OFFERING STATEMENT FOR SERVICE LEAFLET: _____

Please complete this form, make your check payable to St. Edmund's with a notation on the memo line "Altar Guild", place both the form and the check in the Flower Offering envelope found in the pew, and deposit the envelope in the offering dish passed by the ushers. Alternatively, you may mail the completed form and your check to the Church office (P.O. Box 80038, San Marino, CA 91118; Attention: Isabel Roa).

As stewards of your donations, the Altar Guild is grateful for your support.

ST. EDMUND'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1175 SAN GABRIEL BOULEVARD
SAN MARINO CA 91118
(626) 793-9167
www.SaintEdmunds.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Six months after saying good-bye to Fr. George, we are well into our transition. Much has been accomplished: we had an inspiring History Day; we have welcomed Fr. Bill as our interim rector; and we have received 90 responses to our survey and begun compilation of the responses this month. We are looking forward to sharing those responses with all parishioners at post-service meetings on Sunday, November 4. The survey responses together with the discussion on November 4 will help inform the process that the Vestry, facilitated by Fr. Bill and his experience with transitions, will undertake to help define our future goals and the skills required by our new rector in order to achieve those

goals. The resulting Parish Profile and Rector Profile will lead to the establishment of our Search Committee.

We are grateful to all who have participated in the small group discussions, have taken the survey and who have volunteered their time to help in ways large and small to make this transition as successful as possible.

Your support, positive attitudes and participation are deeply appreciated. In the meantime, we hope all will join us on October 13 for a fun tour and wine-tasting at San Antonio Winery! As always, please contact any member of the Transition Committee if you have any questions about the process.

—Gail Rolfe
Transition Committee Chair