Choir Trip

John-Luke Addison, Director of Music

We have an exciting announcement! For the first time in several years, our choir is going to be taking a group trip in Summer 2021 to make music in Europe, this time as Cathedral resident choir at St. Alban’s Cathedral, UK! This is an amazing opportunity for our music program, as a high-profile international tour affirms the goals, and subsequent achievements, that we have been working on since my arrival. Cathedral residencies are highly exclusive, and our application and audition materials were carefully reviewed and accepted. The trip will be planned and coordinated by Music Celebrations, International.

A Cathedral residency involves daily services of Evensong (usually around 5 p.m.), and a Sunday Eucharist service at the end of the week. St. Alban’s Cathedral, which is 30 minutes northwest of London, has a brilliant construction and acoustic, with the longest nave of any UK Cathedral, and a fantastic pipe organ (which has recently been refurbished). The 42 Cathedral choirs in the United Kingdom normally take the summers off from singing, which allows visiting choirs from around the globe to travel and make music in their beautiful historic buildings.

The England trip is open for anyone who wishes to be part of the traveling choir, and family members are more than welcome to come as well. The dates are August 1-9, 2021, and anyone interested should contact me directly at jladdison@stbartschurch.org for a brochure and financial details. The commitment will involve monthly rehearsals, and some Evensong services around San Diego as we get closer to the departure date to practice the music. All hotels and most meals are included, and there will be several trips to London and other nearby cultural places throughout the week.
Choir Trip

continued from page 1

John-Luke Addison

In the meantime, we will be selling Mozart Requiem CDs to help raise money for the trip. This is a recording from our performance in November 2019 with full orchestra and our own section leaders as soloists. CDs will be for sale in the church office for $10, and in the courtyard at select services. We will also be having music events over the course of the year to help raise money, including a Cabaret night, and an English Tea Party.

Thank you in advance for your support, and I hope you are as excited as I am!

St. Alban’s Cathedral, UK where St. Bartholomew’s Choir will be singing summer 2021.

Tim McLellan Named Associate Director of Music

John-Luke Addison, Director of Music

The St. Bartholomew’s Music Ministry is pleased to announce that, after a period of discernment and visioning, bass section leader Tim McLellan has been promoted to Associate Director of Music. In addition to Tim’s current role as section leader, he will assist John-Luke in directing the music ministry for the Parish, and co-directing the Choir School. Tim brings with him many years of experience in teaching, working with children and youth, and working with choirs, and St. Bart’s is very fortunate to have him in this new role.
Our St. Bartholomew’s Thrift Shop closed on February 22 after more than 53 years in business. The thrift shop opened in October 1966 with leftover items from a rummage sale.

Over the years the thrift shop touched the lives of those who shopped and those who volunteered. Many special friendships have been made while working together.

Proceeds from thrift shop sales benefitted St. Bartholomew’s Outreach partners. True to this mission, household and clothing items remaining in St. Bartholomew’s Thrift Shop on the final day were donated to St. Luke’s Refugee Network. St. Mark’s Interfaith Community Services also received leftover merchandise.

Thank you to everyone who has shopped at St. Bartholomew’s Thrift Shop, volunteered at the thrift shop, purchased items from Fr. Al’s Nook at St. Bartholomew’s or at the annual Christmas Bizarre, and donated items throughout the years. We would not have had a thrift shop without you.

If you volunteered at St. Bartholomew’s Thrift Shop, share your experiences, favorite moments, or most unique item donated with news@stbartschurch.org. We’ll feature your reflections in the April issue.
Weekly News Online, In the App and By Email

Kristeen Evans, Communications Manager

The weekly news (printed version) that you find inserted into the service bulletin each week when you arrive at church is also available electronically. You can read the weekly news on the St. Bartholomew’s the website (stbartchurch.org - scroll down about half way on homepage) and on the St. Bartholomew’s app homepage. Both are updated every Thursday. The weekly news you find on the website and app is the same news that is sent to your email. The website, app and email versions of the weekly news are the most complete version - containing all information and important links.

If you’re not receiving the weekly news by email, you can subscribe online at bit.ly/subscribe-stbarts or click Subscribe from the main menu on St. Bartholomew’s website (stbartschurch.org).

Diversity & Inclusion Workshop

Costa Dillon

As part of our efforts to develop a parish community that is welcome to all and illustrates the principle of All Are Welcome – No Exceptions, we will be holding a Diversity and Inclusion Workshops for members of St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church. This workshop will explore what we mean by diversity and inclusion, as well as recognizing and identifying barriers to inclusion. It will be led by Costa Dillon, Vestry member and retired National Park Service ranger with extensive experience in teaching and training. To register contact Beth Dean, bdean@stbartschurch.org.

Saturday, March 7
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

NEWCOMER COFFEE

Sunday, March 15

New to St. Bart’s (or perhaps have been here for a while but still feel new)? Join us for a casual meet the clergy coffee. We’ll get to know one another, learn a little about St. Bart’s and answer any questions you might have.

after 10:15 a.m. service
Church Office
Every Wednesday in Lent we welcome a guest speaker from another faith tradition - each answering the same four questions about faith. You'll be surprised how much we have in common.

March 4: Yusef Miller, board member of his mosque, active in Interfaith Community Services, among many other things.

March 11: Professor Rico Monge, Associate Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at USD and an Eastern Orthodox deacon.

March 18: Professor Karma Lekshe Tsomo, a Buddhist nun, and professor at USD teaching Buddhism and World Religions.

March 25: Rabbi David Castiglione, Senior Rabbi at Temple Adat Shalom in Poway.

April 1: The Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas, Associate Pastor and the Rev. Mark McKone-Sweet, Rector at St. Bartholomew’s will conclude this Lenten University series recapping all we have in common with other faith communities.

Children's Lenten University is available for children age 4 through 5th grade. Register with Maureen and Karen, children@stbartschurch.org.

Youth CREW for grades 6-12 meets every Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Everyone gathers for a shared soup supper at 6 p.m., children and youth too!

Contact the Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas, athomas@stbartschurch.org, with questions.

Register online stbartschurch.org/LentenUniversity

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Children in the 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday School class begin Communion Recognition instruction on Sunday, March 8. Students explore the history and traditions of our church and the reason why we celebrate communion. The highlight of the class comes as they lead the communion service in a final celebration of their new knowledge and understanding.

Register and get more information at the Children’s Ministry table in the courtyard after the 10:15am service or email children@stbartschurch.org.

The St. Bartholomew’s app provides the most timely information about our church community and it’s always with you! Every week the service bulletin can be viewed in PDF format on the homepage of the St. Bartholomew’s app. Tap Service Bulletins, then choose your service time.

If you’re attending Evensong or ReGeneration service, those service bulletins will be on the promotion page (currently the promotion page features Lenten University: More in Common Than We Think).

If you have questions about St. Bartholomew’s app, contact news@stbartschurch.org.
All Aboard the VBS Railway

Maureen Hovannesian, Children's Ministry Co-Director

Vacation Bible School at St. Bart's is scheduled for June 15-19 for children age 3 years old through 5th grade. Older children and teen, 6th grade and older, are welcome to volunteer for the week. Of course, we always welcome adult volunteers.

This year’s VBS theme is Rocky Railway. At Rocky Railway, kids discover through life’s ups and downs that Jesus’ power pulls us through. Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, engage in fun snack-eating experiences, take part in one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them to trust Jesus.

Early registration begins February 10 with a $5 per family early registration discount. Registration continues until spaces are full, which happens quickly. Don’t miss out! Register early!

For more information about St. Bart’s VBS or to volunteer yourself or your teen, contact Maureen Hovannesian, mhovannesian@stbartschurch.org.

Youth CREW Builds Relationships

Courtney McWilliams, Youth Director

Recently a group of sixteen of us went to Belmont Park, most of us for the first time. We had a fantastic time, not just running around playing laser tag or screaming at the top of our lungs on rides, but laughing and connecting with one another. It was so nice to see everyone having such a good time together. Really investing in real relationships with one another. I enjoyed seeing newer students connect with “veterans” of the group, no clicks were to be seen. It’s a personal goal of mine for everyone to always feel a part of our group, whether it’s the first time or the 100th. If friendships weren’t created on this trip, they were strengthened.

I have loved getting to know each student in Youth CREW. These young people are so insightful, kind and loving, not only to each other but to those they don’t even know. I urge you all to take a quick lesson from them. Watch as they welcome others into their group. They don’t care if someone looks like them, talks like them or has the same hobbies as them. I see them sharing with strangers and with each other. Their smiles are infectious. I know personally, I can’t help but smile when I am around them. They can and will bring light to any darkness. I am proud of each and every one of these teenagers. They truly care about everything around them and you may even learn something if you stop long enough to hear what they have to say.

I leave you with these insightful words - Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions.

Youth CREW Mission Trip

April 16-19

Life-changing experience in Mexico.

I urge you all to take a quick lesson from them. Watch as they welcome others into their group. They don’t care if someone looks like them, talks like them or has the same hobbies as them. I see them sharing with strangers and with each other. Their smiles are infectious. I know personally, I can’t help but smile when I am around them. They can and will bring light to any darkness. I am proud of each and every one of these teenagers. They truly care about everything around them and you may even learn something if you stop long enough to hear what they have to say.

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Youth CREW Mission Trip

April 16-19

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As many of you know I am a movie fan. Particularly those we find today on the streaming service Netflix. As a student of church history, I found myself interested in two recently released films.

The Messiah
Created by Michael Petroni, The Messiah asks a very clear question: If a man appeared in 2019 claiming to be a prophet of God and built a sizable following through media attention and social media exploits, how would we respond? Would he be embraced, doubted or treated as a charlatan and a fraud?

In this film, the man is Al-Masih. He begins attracting followers in Syria and, as you might expect, his increased influence causes unrest among the Israelis, particularly an agnostic Shin Bet and an Israeli agent named Aviram. The CIA is also concerned. Eva Geller is a doubting and vaguely Jewish CIA operative. Plenty of Muslim religious figures also have concerns about Al-Masih.

Do you know who doesn’t have concerns? A Baptist family operating out of a tiny town in Texas. Father Felix has begun to doubt his role as a minister looking over a diminishing flock. His wife Anna is drinking a wee bit on the side and hoping to reach out to her successful televangelist father for financial help. The daughter Rebecca who is looking for a way out of town, which comes by way of her dad deciding he must follow Al-Masih.

It’s not a coincidence the greatest sin associated with the Christian responses to Al-Masih is an excess of exuberance. Christians desperately want to believe he is the second coming of Jesus. Although Al-Masih never directly claims this. Reactions from the Muslim characters seem to indicate that this character may also be the last Mohammed who returns at the end times with Jesus. The Jewish characters express their doubts in a stubborn and intellectual fashion.

At one point Eva’s character declares, "What was Jesus, after all? Just a populist politician with an ax to grind against the Roman Empire" and Aviram, prone to self-hatred, replies, "Wow. Spoken like a true Jew."

For those who know the Gospels, you can see some parallels although this is really fiction, but I found it interesting. There are many twists and turns throughout the plot - some predictable and some not.

There are ten chapters of about 45 minutes each so you can binge-watch it or watch a little at a time. The film’s strengths lie in its exploration of how modern society might react to the Second Coming, or how easily we all could be duped by an elaborate hoax on a global scale. You decide!

The Two Popes
The title alone is irresistible. Two popes! Usually, there’s only one, but this time, there’s two! Late in the film, when Pope Benedict XVI first floats the idea of stepping down, soon-to-be Pope Francis says it himself: “Two popes?!”

The Two Popes has all the potential to be another success on Netflix —something that might seem like a highly religious slog for Church geeks but easily shows its warmth and humor in an intimate setting. The film explores these holy men as unfailing in their faith but capable of weakness all the same. They tease each other and argue about soccer and acknowledge their own egos and struggles in connecting with God. In one late scene, they even tango.

Director Fernando Meirelles builds his movie around the showcase scenes between Benedict and Francis in specific settings - a garden in the Pope’s country home that grows wilder as their conversation gets heated, the Sistine Chapel - that emphasizes the grandeur of their debate, and each man’s power.

Late in the film, drone shots of various border walls around the world drive home points about opening up the church to non-Catholics. The stylish choices show us flashback scenes to Francis’s youth and early life as a priest in Argentina.

This fictional story based on Anthony McCarten’s 2017 play The Pope. It is portrayed with confidence and conviction, perfectly balancing the demands of a film that is both a lighthearted look at an unlikely friendship and a serious grappling with what the Catholic church has become, and what it might yet be.

Progressive Catholics may bristle at the message of uncomplicated hope that ends the film. It embraces Pope Francis as a reformer and, while acknowledging the ongoing abuse scandals, is perhaps too eager to act as if they are a thing of the past.

But for non-Catholics like us, or anyone who hasn’t thought in a while about why the Pope matters, the film is a fascinating proof of why the Church remains central to more than a billion people worldwide and the struggles it faces. One of my favorite scenes is when Francis says to Benedict, “There is dust on the pew seats in our churches we need someone who can sweep off the dust.”

In addition to being very funny and entertaining it’s a flick worthy venture for anyone intrigued enough by the title. Say it with me: two popes! Two popes! The Two Popes!
Regular Meetings

SUNDAY
Children’s Choir Rehearsal (ages 7-13)  
11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Interfaith Community Services (ICS) - Merle’s Place  
1st & 3rd Sunday, 4-6 p.m.  
Contact Jill Henderson, 760-807-8445

MONDAY
Boy Scouts  
7 p.m., Parish Hall
Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
7 p.m., Choir Room

TUESDAY
Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry  
Tuesdays (except fifth Tuesday), 1 p.m., Quilt Room
Centering Prayer  
5 p.m., Education Building, Room 3AB
Our Space  
2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., Education Building 1st Floor

WEDNESDAY
Interfaith Community Services (ICS)  
Serve breakfast, fourth Wednesday 6 a.m.  
Contact Jill Henderson, (760) 807-8445
Thrift Shop Work Night  
Last Wednesday at 4 p.m., Thrift Shop
Schola Cantorum Rehearsal  
6 p.m., Choir Room
Youth CREW  
6 p.m., Youth Room, September-June
String Ensemble Rehearsal  
7 p.m., Choir Room

THURSDAY
B.P.U.S.A.– Bereaved Parents  
4th Thursday, 6:30 p.m., 3AB
Choir Rehearsal  
7 p.m., Music Room

Support Groups

AA MEETINGS  
Sundays, 6 p.m., South Parish Hall  
Mondays, 9:30 a.m., Parish Hall (Women only)  
Tuesdays, 12 p.m., South Parish Hall  
Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., South Parish Hall (Women only)  
Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m., Parish Hall  
Thursdays, 12 p.m., South Parish Hall (Beginners)  
Fridays, 9:45 a.m., South Parish Hall (Women only)  
Fridays, 12 p.m., South Parish Hall and 6 p.m., Room 3AB  
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m., South Parish Hall

AL-ANON  
Mondays, 12 p.m., South Parish Hall  
Tuesdays, 12 p.m., Parish Hall

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News from the Hill is a monthly publication of St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway, CA 92064.

Editor: Kristeen Evans, Communications Manager

Deadline for submission of articles and announcements is the 10th of the month for the next month’s newsletter. We welcome your submissions of information for publication. Please contact news@stbartschurch.org.

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Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Clergy and Staff

Clergy
The Rt. Rev. Susan Brown Snook, Bishop .............................................................. 619-481-5454
The Rev. Mark C. McKone-Sweet, Rector ......................................................... 858-432-7107 | revmark@stbartschurch.org
The Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas, Associate Rector ........................................ 858-432-7114 | athomas@stbartschurch.org

Honorary Clergy
The Rev. Robert Crafts, Priest-in-Residence
The Rev. Roy E. Hoffman, Priest-in-Residence
The Rev. William Zettinger, Deacon-in-Residence

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John-Luke Addison, Director of Music, Principal Organist .............................. 858-432-7112 | jladdison@stbartschurch.org
Jenny Yun, Organist

Christian Formation for Children and Youth
Maureen Hovannesian & Karen Matsumoto, Children’s Ministry Directors .... children@stbartschurch.org
Courtney McWilliams, Youth Director .............................................................. youth@stbartschurch.org

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Cheri Hoffman, Director .................................................................................. preschool@stbartschurch.org

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Vestry and Terms

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Nancy Peterson, Junior Warden (2022)
Larry Burgess (2022)
Mark Davis (2023)
Rachel Demler (2023)
Costa Dillon (2021)
Shinobu Horne (2023)
Susan McCormick (2023)
Jim Oaks (2023)
Cathie Roy (2021)
Will Smith (2022)
George Tynan (2021)
Will Oakes (2021) - Youth Representative
Fr. Mark McKone-Sweet

Terry McCune, Treasurer
Pauline Getz-Enos, Chancellor
Akiko Tamano, Clerk

Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Palm Sunday Evening Prayer

led by the Handbell Choir of St. Bartholomew’s

Sunday, April 5
4 p.m.

Hear the joyful ringing of bells as we celebrate Christ’s arrival into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, led by the Handbell Choir of St. Bartholomew’s, as they lead the service of Evening Prayer and transition our hearts for the drama of Holy Week.

ALL ARE WELCOME!