



THE CHIMES

December 2007

Sunday Readings

December 2 Advent 1

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

December 9 Advent 2

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

December 16 Advent 3

Children's Pageant

Isaiah 35:1-10

Canticle 15

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

December 23 Advent 4

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

December 24 Christmas Eve

Psalm 96

Isaiah 9:2-7

Titus 2:11-14

John 1:1-14

3 pm— Family Service

5:00 pm— Music & Choir

5:30 pm— Service

10:00 Music & Choir

10:30 Service

December 25-Christmas Day

Psalm 97

Isaiah 62:6-12

Titus 3:4-7

John 1:1-14

10 am Service

December 30 Christmas 1

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Psalm 147

Galations 3:23-25; 4:4-7

John 1:1-18

Church Starts New Year Early

Beats the rest of the world by nearly one month

In fact, the church calendar does begin its new year on December 2 as we mark the First Sunday of Advent. At that time we move to a new year of scheduled readings, called the Lectionary; and we renew our sacred-story telling for another annual cycle. This year we will read mostly from the Gospel According to Matthew, listening to his voice to shape our always deepening relationship to Jesus Christ.

This year, as every year, we begin our stories with a focus on preparation. Some voices in these Advent stories invite us to prepare for the coming of Christ, and it is this message about preparation that has really worked its way into our cultural consciousness. It is a good thing to relate the call to prepare for Christ by paying attention to all the ways we prepare to make Christmas a meaningful holiday for family and friends. It would be a better thing for the rest of the world to wait for Advent rather than Halloween to start the Christmas preparation season, but I'm afraid that horse left the barn decades ago.

"We use Advent best if we use it to look honestly at our lives, to consider what we need to turn away from, and what we need to turn toward."

However, there's another preparation message in our Advent readings. If we listen carefully to the ancient voices of the prophets and apostles, we also hear that we are to prepare for the second coming of Christ, the ultimate end of history. These are confusing and often obscure descriptions of Christ's return to earth, of global wars, of earthly battles between the forces of evil and the forces of righteousness. Christians have divided for centuries over whether to take these stories as allegories, or as literal predictions, or as references to specific events that already took place during the days in which they were written.

The one thing that is certainly true and dependable is that we all come to the end of our days, and the Christian faith is that in that day we will meet our Savior face to face. These stories in Advent are told to remind us to take that aspect of preparation seriously. We use Advent best if we use it to look honestly at our lives, to consider what we need to turn away from and what we need to turn toward. Advent asks us to consider whether we would be at ease to meet our Savior, or whether we would feel ashamed. If shame is what comes to mind, Advent may be the time to reconsider some of the decisions we make and the habits we keep. If Christmas preparations are too frenzied and hectic, we are likely to miss that chance.

Enjoy getting ready for Christmas, but keep in mind that the best Advent includes time for quiet reflection, dedication to prayer, and the possibility of change.

Randall


ADVENT ADULT FORUM:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2


“A Wellspring of Hope for Swaziland”

8:45-9:45 in the Van Schaick Room

The Rev. Mrs. Voorhees is a noted general contractor and liturgical design consultant who has designed over 150 churches. She has developed a ministry in Africa called **ORMA's FUND: Health, Education and Hope for Africa from one person on the ground direct to another.**

This is a wonderful Advent Opportunity to listen to Cindy's story and gain an insight into the lives of people in Swaziland. It is a story about hope: a true advent story. Come and welcome Cindy to St. James! 8:45-9:45 in the Van Schaick Room. She will also preach at the 10:00 service and will meet with the St. James building committee after the service. 



The Reverend Orma Mavimbela, on the left, next to **The Rev. Voorhees**, is the inspiration behind Orma's Fund. She is the first female Anglican priest to be ordained in Swaziland, Africa. Orma, a retired civil servant saw AIDS orphans starving in the streets where she lived. Using her own pension fund, she began feeding them. Today, with the support of her bishop, she feeds over 250 orphans each day. (www.ormasfund.org) 

A Christmas Gift Alternative:

The Forgotten Families of the Tea Estates


Consider sponsoring a Family in the forsaken tea estates of Sri Lanka.

Recently our special guest, Kumari Kulatunga, with whom St. James has been in partnership since the December 2004 tsunami, identified the great need to find sponsors for these families.

For \$330 a year, she and her organization, *Healing Hands*, can provide a way for the children to go to school and receive some basic nutrition, now sadly lacking.

Consider sponsoring a family yourself or partnering with someone else to sponsor a family. Kumari will send pictures and give a progress report for all sponsors.

\$330...less than a dollar a day...provides a new life and hope for the children of these Forgotten Families.

Consider sending this alternative Christmas gift in honor of someone you love this Christmas. Your check will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Kumari. Please make your check out to St. James by-the-Sea with the "FORGOTTEN FAMILIES" in the memo line. 

The Rev. Eleanor Ellsworth

TIS THE SEASON.....ALREADY!

By The Rev. Maryanne Lacey

The Christmas holidays always seem to sneak up on us....there never seems to be enough time to get everything done.

The holidays can be such a stressful time that many people feel overwhelmed and exhausted by the time Christmas arrives. Making lists and checking them twice (as the song goes) is only the beginning. Then there's shopping, wrapping, baking, decorating, etc.

Holiday time can also be a happy time of being with loved ones and creating new memories each year.

For some of us who have lost a loved one, who is grieving or may be alone, the holidays are not a time of joy, but of sadness and loneliness.

Although there are many confidences of God's compassion and love in scripture, such as:

*"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed,
yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken,
nor my covenant of peace be removed,"
says the LORD,
who has compassion on you.*

Isaiah 54:10

Or this...

"I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow." Jeremiah 31:13

The Burial Service in our Book of Common Prayer begins with these words:

*I am Resurrection and I am Life,
says the Lord.*


*Whoever has faith in me shall
have life, even though he die.*

*And everyone who has life,
and has committed himself
To me in faith,
shall not die for ever.*

BCP pg. 491

Yet, scripture and the prayer book—as comforting as their words are—those of us who are alone or without a loved one during this time of year often find ourselves unable to get in the “holiday spirit.”

If you are one of those people, I invite you to join me on December 12th and 19th at 6:30pm in the Van Schaick Room for a time of sharing, remembering and tips on how and what to do to take care of yourself during the holidays.

If you are interested, please RSVP to Maryanne Lacey, 459-3421 x 104. 


Peace, Maryanne



The Stephen Ministry Logo: The logo Stephen Ministry congregations use consists of a cross and circle, together with a broken person and a whole person. The broken person stands behind the cross, symbolizing the brokenness in our lives as a result of our sin. The whole person stands in front of the cross because it is through the cross of Jesus that we again are made whole. The circle symbolizes both the wholeness we receive through Christ and God's unending love for us.

Stephen Ministry equips lay parishioners to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. Not counselors or therapists, they do not intervene or give advice. They are not social workers or spiritual healers. Stephen Ministers commit to “be there” for his or her care receiver, meeting faithfully for about an hour each week, for as long as they are needed—from a few weeks, to several months.

Our current Stephen Ministers at St. James meet monthly for group discussion and review.

We have a group that is currently in training. They meet one Saturday each month for 10 months. At the end of their training they will be commissioned, joining 450,000 people throughout the world who have become Stephen Ministers serving over 1,000,000 people. 

Regarding the works of the Centennial Committee Thanks for the Memories...

Thank you to the hardworking and creative committee who put together the exceptional celebration tea party. We all had a wonderful time and appreciate our heritage even more.

Thanks to David Fast for sharing his wonderful artwork of our parish on the cover of our keepsake Centennial Celebration program.

Thanks to Marvie Norris and Dean Kaul for the slide



show of our history. Finding and putting together all those pictures helped us all have a better sense of our history. Thanks to Mandy Davis and her Sunday School Teachers and all the children who did the pageant on our history for us. It was the highlight of the day! Thanks to all the ladies who made those delicious tea sandwiches! *Midge Coburn, Jr. Warden* 🏰

From Blayney Colmore, past Priest at St. James.

It went by so fast I can hardly believe I took nearly a 10% piece of the action in St. James history. It was an unparalleled pleasure for me to arrive back from the Green Mountains of Vermont just in time to take tea and crumpets at the Centennial Celebration.

The parish feels like a place set aside for celebration of all we humans hope, and have, and may become. My time at St. James was a more thrilling finish to my time as a parish priest than I could have hoped. I marvel at where you, with the deft and spirited prodding of Randal Gardner, propose take the mission of this amazing church. It tastes like delicious icing on the cake of my life. 🏰



The Centennial Tea

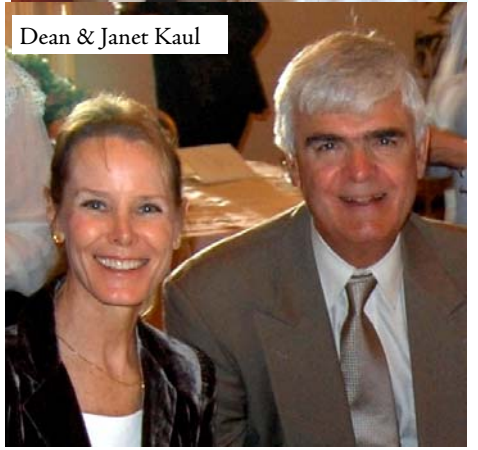
Councilman Scott Peters announces the San Diego City Council Resolution that November 9, 2007 is "St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church Day"!



The Rev. Randal Gardner & Councilman Scott Peters



Roger & Ann Craig



Dean & Janet Kaul



Ellen Clark Revelle



Chairwoman Anne Williams (center) & Guests

Kids brought down the house with their Historical Revue!

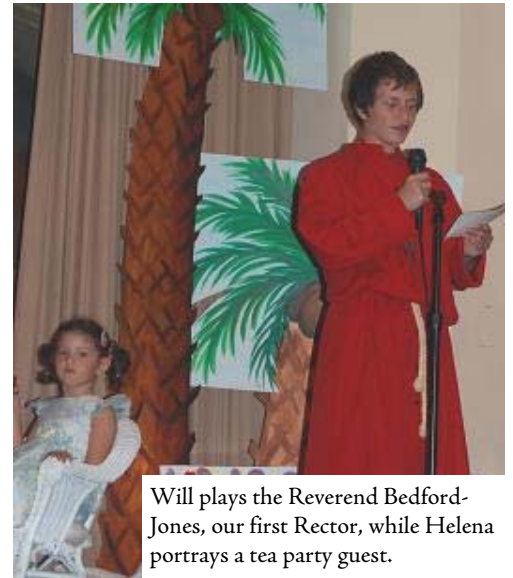
Kendall and Sadie portray Anna and Charles Bentham.



*Did you see us perform at the old-fashioned Tea,
Telling the tale of St. James by-the-Sea?
A costumed event so delightful to hear....And this
month our Pageant brings glad Christmas Cheer!*



Annika is Molly Booth!



Will plays the Reverend Bedford-Jones, our first Rector, while Helena portrays a tea party guest.



Helen is Ellen Browning Scripps!



Chris reads the role of Louis J. Gill!



"Spencer by-the-Sea"

Special Thanks to Lisa Gordon, Nancy Knox Brown, and ALL of the wonderful volunteers who made our play happen!!

Children's Ministries December Schedule

December 2, 9, & 15

Christmas Pageant rehearsals are underway!

December 16

Our *Christmas Pageant* will be performed at the 10am service on this Third Sunday of Advent!!

December 23

Sunday School does not meet.

December 24

Special Children's Presentation at our 3pm Christmas Eve Service!

December 25

Merry Christmas to all!

December 30

Sunday School does not meet.



Isaac, Blake, Evan, Adam, Will, Chris, Sadie, Miss Mandy, Kendall, Vance, Galileo, McLaren, Annika, Spencer and Helen....what a talented team!

Centennial Tea Celebration—Children's Ministries

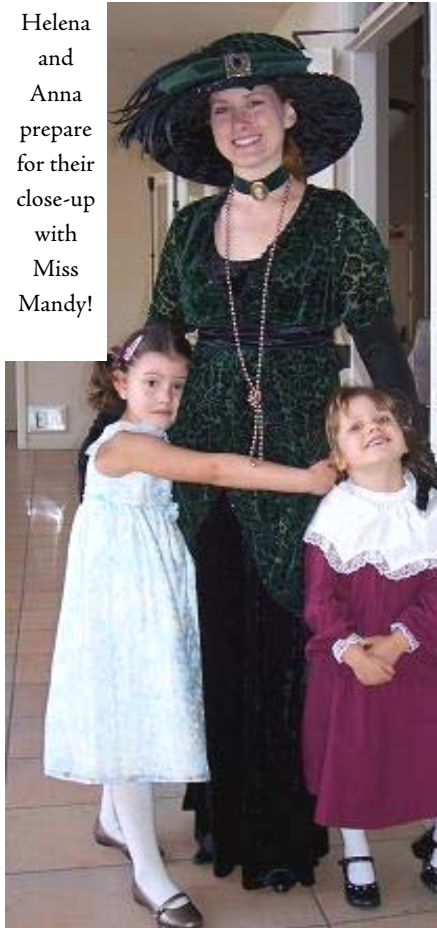


A pensive McLaren (Virginia Scripps) with the rest of the cast!



The Ladies who Lunch!

Helena and Anna prepare for their close-up with Miss Mandy!



Our elegant cast (with Miss Heather and Miss Devi) on the beautiful stage of the La Jolla Women's Club.



Father Waddy closed our performance with a Benediction



(Above) The "wave" rolling across the stage kept our story moving!

For unto us a child is born....Don't miss the Christmas Pageant on December 16 at 10 am, and a special Children's Performance on Christmas Eve at the 3pm service!

October 2007 Vestry Notes

By Midge Coburn, Jr. Warden

The vestry met on Oct. 30, 2007. One of the main topics of discussion was the recent fires in San Diego and the response of St. James. Although St. James Hall was open for shelter, it was not needed. Randal Gardner reported that the two families needing shelter were placed in parishioners' homes. Garth Howe reported that St. James Hall has been designated as a local disaster relief center by the Red Cross and could be used as such in the future. Eleanor Ellsworth reported that Bishop Mathes has formed a Task Force to plan for responding to any future disasters.

Mike Angell, who is Diocesan Chaplain to UCSD, joined us and reported on the progress and challenges in his ministry to the students. He asked St. James for support for the UCSD mission. There was much interest by the vestry in the mission and the program.

Randal Gardner reported on progress of searching for a full time Youth and Family Minister. The search has been difficult as there are few qualified candidates. The search is continuing with anticipated good results. Given that the Via Baranca rectory would be unlikely to be occupied by a Youth and Family Minister in the next six months, the

vestry unanimously directed the Church's Real Estate Committee to rent the residence for a six months term.

On financial matters, Pete Davis reported that the Audit Committee is still getting bids for a new audit firm to do an audit for the church.

Garth Howe presented the financial reports for September and they were unanimously received by the vestry. An investment account was authorized for the Memorial Fund which emphasized balanced growth and income performing at a 9.4% in this current year.


Chuck Dick reported that stewardship letters have been mailed and estimates of giving are coming in.

A nominating committee for the Vestry will consist of outgoing members Robert Traylor, Chuck Dick, Cindy Covell and Zeke Knight, along with Randal Gardner. The people nominated will be asked to consider standing for election for vestry in 2008.

Other business included the approval of hiring Anne Daly as Wedding Coordinator and Rebecca Williamson as Assistant Wedding Coordinator.

The Mutual Ministry review is also underway, with question-

naires being mailed out to 39 parishioners, staff and clergy. The purpose of this review is to assess the mutual ministry of the rector and vestry. This will assist future planning.

There was also discussion of the help that our parish has given to St. John's Fallbrook, which is a divided parish. The Altar Guild, under the leadership of Alice Fleming, has shared items to set up their altar. In addition, Minister for Communications at St. James, Sue Adams, printed their Sunday programs for several weeks. The vestry was pleased that we have been able to help St. John's and encouraged such actions in the future. 

This Monthly Column:

According to our **Behavioral Covenant** *the vestry commits to communicate its decisions and the congregation commits to keep informed.* Because the vestry meeting is late in the month, we miss the deadline for the Chimes, so this report will come to you a month later. Should there be items or decisions that need to be immediately reported, they will come by email or in announcements in the bulletins or in the Sunday morning announcements.

Four Vestry Positions are open for Nominations from Electors

The Nominating Committee of St James is soliciting and encouraging nominations from qualified parish electors for four Vestry members to serve a three year term from January 2008. The Nominating Committee, chaired by the Senior Warden, Zeke Knight, consists of the Rector and Vestry members whose term of office expires at the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting, January 27, 2008. As such, the Nominating Committee this year is Zeke Knight, Chair, The Rev. Randal Gardner, Cindy Covell, Chuck Dick, and Bob Traylor.

Nominations should be submitted directly to a member of the Nominating Committee. Each nomination should be supported by the signatures of six parish electors, as well as a statement that the nominee has agreed to serve. Self nominations are permitted with supporting signatures. A short biographical sketch should also be attached with the nomination, including evidence of the candidate's active participation in the life of the parish.


A qualified parish elector must be:

- *At least sixteen (16) years of age;*
- *A regular attendant at worship at St James;*
- *Registered for the previous 60 days in the congregation as a baptized person or communicant;*
- *A regular financial contributor to the parish as verified by the records.*

To be considered as a nominee for the Vestry, a nominee must:

- *Be qualified as a parish elector and be at least eighteen (18) years old;*
- *Enjoy a reputation for active participation in the life of the parish;*
- *Be committed to principles of Christian stewardship and be willing to participate actively in the stewardship program of the parish;*
- *Be willing to work to build consensus even while representing a particular voice or point of view.*


In December, the Nominating Committee will begin consideration of all nominations. After the December Vestry meeting, the list of qualified nominees, their biographical sketches, and their answers to specific questions regarding their call to serve on the Vestry will be published in the January Chimes. Nominations will be closed eighteen (18) days prior to the Annual Meeting to be held on January 27, 2008. Election of the qualified nominees shall be by ballot at the Annual Meeting, in accordance with Diocesan Canons and the St James By-laws.

The Nominating Committee will also nominate people to serve as delegates for the 2009 Diocesan convention in February 2009. Any qualified parish electors who are interested in being a delegate for the 2009 convention should contact a member of the Nominating Committee. 



By
Pat Franco

With Thanksgiving just days away, it seems natural to review the joys of the past year. Certainly the month just passed was special. We celebrated Baptisms, Confirmations and a Centennial—a special time and we have gratitude for all it. Still, our Prayer ministry outreach reminds us of those in need. It is a privilege for DOK's to walk deeply in the hearts and lives of fellow sojourners with needs. We are saying farewell to one of our members, Elizabeth Woods. She died peacefully at home with her family, looking forward to her own resurrection with joy. Bonnye Johnson and Ellen Peek preceded her in death earlier this year.

The Quilting ministry is doing well. We've distributed prayer quilts to seven people. We look forward to expanding this ministry in the New Year. A special thank you to the Centennial crew for making the Centennial a time we will all remember. 

Hospitable:

a: given to generous and cordial reception of guests,

b: promising or suggesting generous and cordial welcome,

c: offering a pleasant or sustaining environment

That is St. James! You can help make us even more welcoming by joining the Hospitality Guild. For information on this new and important ministry, please contact Chris McCormack! 858 459-3421 x 107 

The St. James Flower Guild presents

“The Art of Altar & Chapel Flower Arrangements”

**Saturday, January 4th
9:30-Noon**

Brunch Served

The Flower Guild, those people who create artistic and gorgeous arrangements for our altar and chapel, are going to let you in on their secrets.

Join in for a hands-on class that may uncover a new ability. It promises to be a fun and lovely morning - and a nice brunch.

It may be a good time to spend with mother or daughter creating beauty and having fellowship with these great women who bring beauty to St. James by-the-Sea every week. RSVP by **Wednesday, January 2** to the office. 858 459-3421.

News on St. James Hall

Stay tuned for the grand re-opening of the freshly painted St. James Hall! And make sure you keep the hall in mind when talking to friends, relatives & business associates who are planning events. The hall is one of our great assets and a beautiful venue for a variety of events. Please refer inquiries to Chris McCormack in the parish office. Let's get St. James Hall jumping!

The Lunch Bunch meets at Noon, Wed., December 19th!



Once again Lunch Bunch brings our Pastor for Music Ministries, Steven Townsend, to fill the Van Schaick room with carols and music, and probably paper and pencils for his Christmas Quiz...a very popular and boisterously received bit of fun. Mark your calendar for **December 19th**, as Martha Jane Weaver also joins us to help capture the Christmas Spirit in song.

Ann Williams has just published a new book called *Chuckles and Love*. Ann and her daughter Sandy Smith will be selling/signing the book at the December Lunch Bunch. The cost is \$20.00 and all proceeds from the sales on that day will be donated back to church to help underwrite future Lunch Bunch expenses. Lunch will be served by Girard Gourmet for just \$7.00. RSVP by Dec. 18th to the church at 858-459-3421...and bring a friend! *Muggie Harris*

“Men of St. James” Dinner

Wednesday, December 5 at 6 pm

Join us the first Wednesday of the month at 6 pm for a social time, then dinner at 6:30.

This month, Dec. 5th, the Men's Dinner Group features **Jim Benson, noted TV historian and host of the syndicated radio program "TV Time Machine."**

Armed with a wealth of video knowledge, Jim has conducted hundreds of interviews over the past several years with many of the finest stars and behind-the-scenes artists from the golden and silver age of television.

In 1997, Jim began his largest classic TV endeavor, co-authoring Rod Serling's *Night Gallery: An After-Hours Tour* (hailed as one of the finest books ever written about a television series), and later served as creative consultant on the Night Gallery documentary, *"The Art of Darkness."*

Jim will share his stories of his work and his insights into Rod Serling's *Twilight Zone*, with video clips and stories of how Serling wove

theology, mythology, science, and good storytelling into the innovative and memorable TV program that ran from 1959 to 1964.

Take a moment to visit Jim's website: www.tvtimemachine.com.

Reserve a spot for dinner by calling the office. Dinner is \$15, with the first—time attending on the house. RSVP by Dec. 4th to John Kosky at 858 270-0679 or call the office for information.




AN ADVENT EVENING

**Tuesday, December 11th:
It's an Advent Surprise!**

Please RSVP by December 10th to the office at 858 459-3421. \$15 for catered dinner by Girard Gourmet.

EvenSong

Sun., December 9th at 5 pm

Evensong will be offered at St. Mary's Chapel on the campus of The Bishop's School. The Rev. Blayne Colmore will be the officiant. Based on the daily services of the medieval Church, Evensong, as arranged in the Book of Common Prayer in the Anglican Church, has been sung for 500 years. Sit silently and simply listen or join in the singing of hymns and of the prayers. However you participate, you are most welcome at EvenSong in St. Mary's Chapel. 

The December Music Schedule

December 1 at 2:30 & 4:30

San Diego Children's Choir
Christmas Concert
858 587-1087
www.sdchoir.org

December 2

Friends of Chamber Music Concert
805 452-6533
admission free

December 9 at 5 pm
EvenSong

Bishop's School, St. Mary's Chapel
858 459-3421 x 109
Worship Service

December 9

San Diego Early Music Society
619 291-8246
www.sdemms.org

December 15

San Diego Chamber Orchestra
Messiah Performance
858 350-0290
www.sdco.org

December 16

Violin Studio Recital
Hernan Constantino
admission free

December 24

St. James by-the-Sea
Christmas Eve

5 pm & 10 pm

With Choral Eucharist following at
5:30 & 10:30

Coming in 2008—

The last two performances of this season's series The St. James Music Series



January 27th, **Cantus**— a male vocal chamber ensemble dedicated to exalting the human spirit through the performance of innovative and engaging musical programs. Their program will draw from male choral music standards, as well as from works commissioned by Cantus, folk tunes and rock music.

March 2, **Ensemble Galilei**. *First Person: Stories From the Edge of the World* is a collaboration of the National Geographic Society and narration by NPR's *Talk of the Nation* host Neal Conan. Brilliant performances, narratives from great world explorers, and spectacular images convey the intellectual, physical, and spiritual challenges faced by these extraordinary men and women. The artwork, maps, and photographs are astonishing and supported as the music of the Celtic Harp and fiddle, recorders, viola da gamba, and percussion evoke the essence of their journeys. Call Steve Townsend at 858 459-3421 x109.



The San Diego Children's Choir *Holiday in Harmony*

Rejoice in the season with the San Diego Children's Choir presenting "**Holiday in Harmony**," one hour of seasonal music with traditional Christmas Carols, Hanukkah songs and American Spirituals accompanied by the La Jolla Sinfonietta. It will be performed at St. James by the Sea on December 1 at 2:30 and 4:30. To purchase tickets call the San Diego Children's Choir office at (858) 587-1087. For more information visit us online at www.sdchoir.org





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The St. James Gift Shop News—Christmas!

What a fantastic Christmas Open House. We opened Saturday Morning, November 10, to a huge crowd. One of our first customers was a couple from Rancho Bernardo who had lost their home in the fire, along with their collection of nativities. They told us that they knew they could find something at St. James Gift Shop. They did indeed, with the purchase of a beautiful hand carved and hand painted Russian Nativity. We made a couple very happy, with the gift of an angel from Hungary for their tree this year, and a new nativity to start a new life with. Stories like this warm our hearts!. Thank you.

Our Christmas Bazaar will be on December 8 and 9, with artists showcasing their merchandise. Treasures abound! Stop in- our holiday hours are Monday through Saturday 9 am to 6 pm and Sundays 9 am to 4 pm. Paul Treadgold will be joining our sales staff through the holidays, and we are excited to have him back from college!

We will once again make a donation to the Americas Foundation in Tijuana of toys for the children. In January, on the 6 and 7, the Gift Shop will once again donate 20% of our proceeds to Dorcas House. The Gift Shop will also have a booth at Diocesan Convention in February at St. Margaret's. *Karen Fast, Gift*

