Vicar The Rev. Sharon Sheffield

Bishop's Committee Allen Stout, Bishop's Warden Jeremy Richmond, People's Warden Andrea Utzman, Clerk Lynne Richmond, Minutes Secretary Lance Brooks, Treasurer John Mitchell, Bookkeeper Shelley Arnold Camelia Jolly Jim Lisanti Cynthia Riley

Minister of Music & Organist Editor of Canterbury Tales William Henderson

Associate Organist & Webmaster Marc Skuster

St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church 5306 East Arbor Road Long Beach, CA 90808 (562) 425-4457

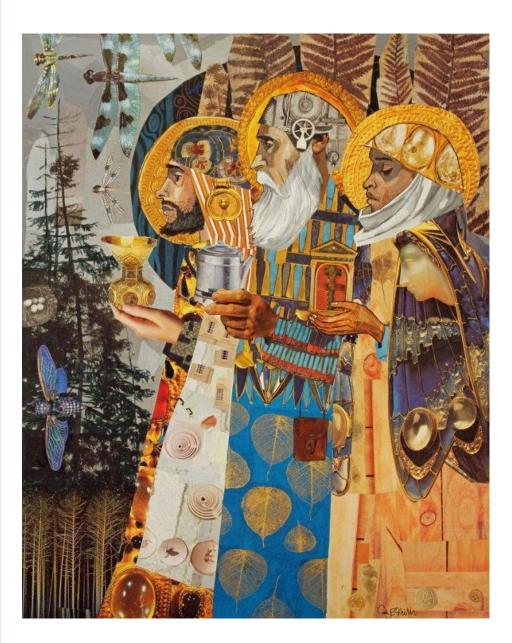
Vicar's church email: stlb47@verizon.net

Vicar's home email: revsharonsheffield@gmail.com

Vicar's Cell: 562-833-3393

Web homepage

CANTERBURY TALES JANUARY 2023

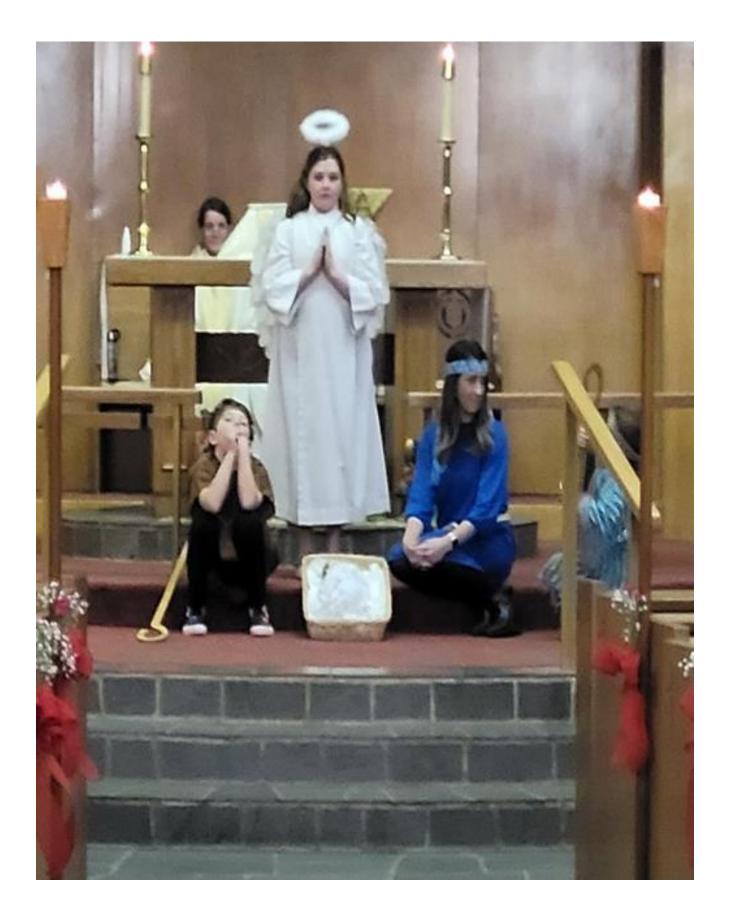


FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY JANUARY 6

CHRISTMAS THANK YOUS!

Thank you to everyone who made our Christmas services so beautiful. By my count at least thirty people in our community were involved with decorating, singing, playing the organ, reading, serving at the altar, and making sure our services were livestreamed. It truly does take a community to make our services both reverent and beautiful. Thank you for all your efforts this year. – *Mother Sharon*









ADVENT FOOD DRIVE INGATHERING

Thank you to everyone who has already brought in their offerings. Please bring your food bank items to church by January 8 so that we can get them to the food bank in good time for distribution.

SERVICE CHANGES ARE COMING!

We took a poll several weeks ago regarding your comfort level in having parts of our services return which went away due to COVID. Per those results, we are bringing back the peace during the services, and the processional and recessional by the choir at the 10:15 service. You also indicated that you would like to see communion at the altar rail again. We are working on how that can happen safely and with a minimum of fuss. Thank you for your input, and please let the Bishop's Committee know what you think of the changes when they happen in the new year.



OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE HERE

The 2023 offering envelopes are in the church narthex and ready for pickup. Please pick them up when you come to church to save on mailing costs. If you need your envelopes mailed or delivered to you, please let the church office know and we will be happy to make

arrangements for you. A helpful hint, if you are not already doing so: there is a place in the envelope packet to write down your pledge amount. We do our best to send out updates during the year, but it helps us help you if you keep track of your offering, too.

ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

At the December Bishop's Committee meeting, the Committee voted to have our Annual Meeting on February 5, to allow a little more time to put together the meeting booklet and financial reports. We will have one service at 9:00am, and will begin the meeting in Larkin Hall immediately after the service. We will return to our old tradition and have a potluck brunch so we can eat and meet at the same time. Please bring something to share with your church family. Of course, if the COVID situation changes, we will reevaluate an in-person meeting. But for now, plan on an in-person meeting where we will conduct our usual business of hearing reports of ministries, passing the 2023 budget, and electing two people to the Bishop's Committee and two alternates to Diocesan Convention. If you have any questions, please talk with any member of the Bishop's Committee. See you at the Annual Meeting!

ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS DUE

If you are the head of a ministry or parish group, your report for the Annual Meeting is due in the church office by January 16, so that it can be formatted and included in the Annual Meeting booklet. Please submit your report via email if at all possible, as that will make compiling the booklet much easier. Thank you for your assistance!



CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT

THE SQUARE DANCE IS ALMOST HERE!



Please come to the Square Dance and supper on Saturday, January 14. Dancing is from 5-7pm, with a simple supper afterwards. The dance is free to attend, and supper will be a minimal cost so everyone can enjoy the evening. Please RSVP on the Shoreline Squares website (<u>www.shorelinesquares.com</u>) so we make the right amount of food. No

partner or dancing experience is necessary to enjoy the event, but we are asking everyone to provide proof of vaccination and to wear a mask. See you all there!



WHAT DO DEACONS DO?

Deacon Steve Alder will preach and talk about the diaconate at both services on Sunday, February 12. The deacons of the diocese are visiting communities throughout the diocese so we can all learn about what deacons do and how they are an integral part of our church life. Please give Deacon Steve a warm welcome and come prepared with questions about the diaconate and the vocation of a deacon.

HELP US RAISE THE ROOF!!!

Sponsor an event! It's easy!

Pick a theme, create a menu or activity

Choose a date, time & place

Decide how many guests

The Bishop's Committee is asking you to help create a series of themed fundraising events to be attended by our parishioners and friends. This year the funds raised by these events will go towards much needed repairs of our roof. Please consider participating as a host as we undertake this daunting task. We look forward to a series of events with great fun and delicious food for 2023! If you need ideas for an event or help deciding on what to charge, please speak to Shelley Arnold, and she will help you. Important: If you would like to host an event in Crosby Hall or Larkin Hall, please notify us as soon as possible so we can ensure the facility will be available. The patio courtyard at our church offers wonderful possibilities as well. If you would like to host an event, please fill out the form below and return it to Shelley Arnold by Sunday, February 6, 2023. You can either bring it to church or email it to shelleyarnold1@aol.com

Host(s):	s):			_ Date:	
Time: Address/Location:	Max # of Guest: _		_ Price:		
Description of Event:					



Birthdays

Patrick Riley 1/4, Maria Gordon 1/5, Wilma Oppenheim 1/6, Andrew Gordon 1/10, Charlene Owen 1/13, Auggy Sanchez 1/14, Mike Sheffield 1/17, Salim Khoury 1/22, Shelley Arnold 1/23, Lynne Richmond 1/25, Sabrina Hicks 1/27, Paul Ivory 1/31

> **ANNIVERSARIES** KENT & LYNNE RICHMOND 1/25



The world, especially the people of the United States, and for peace all over the world and wherever there is oppression or trouble.

Serving in the Armed Forces at home and around the world: members of the U.S. Army: Adam and Boston; the U.S. Marine Corps: Sean, Adelangel and Jesse; the U.S. Air Force: Jordan, Joshua and Carlos; the U.S. Navy: Jonathan; and the U.S. Coast Guard: Jennifer and Corey.

The protection and guidance of Parishioners and Friends: Bertha, Ariana, Alyssa, Ana, Joe, Deb, Erin and her family, Joey and his mothers Beth and Jan, Penny and her family, Chris and his family, Daniel, Sandra, Sue, Josef, Brandon, Michaela, Rosie, Nathan, Jan and Paul.

The healing of Parishioners and friends: Karen, Liz, Carlene, Samantha, Patrick, Allyson, Bert, Allen, Joanne, Rosie, Jim, Bill, Linda M., Diana, Susanne, Ana, Joe, Rae Ann, Kathy, Lindy, Linda O., Gingi, Becky, Dawna, Michael, John, Ginger, Deb, Lisa, Kathryn, Nancy, Earl, Pat, Chuck, Ellie, Nick, Asgeir and Rosa, Joshua, Joyce, Andrew, Donna, Bob F. Linda, Beverly, Paige, Kathie, Billie, Eric, Alex, Doris, Diane, Joan, June, Toni, Rachel, Helen, Pat, Bill, Bruce, Lynn, Jane, Fran, Laura, Ryan, Tori, Claire, Lance, Sabrina, Susan, Karen, Dave L., Steven, Alan, Jared, Marguerite, Scott, Charlie, Margo, Gwen, Jean, Becky, Ray, Jeff, Lee, Audra, Fran, Charlie, Sean, Geri, Florence, John, Karin, Jim L., Katya, Sue, Lu, Richard, Judy, Cindy, Jazlyn, Daniel, John, Alberto, Carolyn, Kim, Jason, Jennie and support for all families and friends caring for loved ones, especially Tami and Mark, the people of Ukraine, India, Vietnam, Peru, Nigeria, Haiti, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Sudan, Myanmar and all parishioners and friends with health problems.

Homebound and Special Needs: Karen, Samantha and the homeless, the poor and the unemployed, affordable housing for families, the end of COVID-19, Ebola, AIDS, and Cancer in the world, and for those suffering from mental illness.

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