

## The Communicator March 12, 2024

Don't forget! Wednesday, March 13, 4pm is the third in the SMAAA 2024 Lecture Series, "Get to Know Your Neighbor." We are so honored to welcome Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, **John Mitchell**. Come, learn while being entertained by John's stories from many years as a Los Angeles Times Reporter. We also hope to learn a bit about how he managed to re-connect with high school classmate **Gail** and find true love!

This past Sunday Father Doug was too ill to be in the pulpit. He called on the **Rev. Tamara Newell**, retired priest of Saint Michael's and she stepped into the lurch. We, of course, loved having her there. It turned out to be quite a serendipitous Sunday as **Gail Nava** brought a guest and when **Charetta Chatut** was introduced Tamara was almost beside herself to see one of her dearest childhood school chums in the back pew. It was all she could do to stay in the pulpit! Truly, only in Cuernavaca do things like this happen; here they happen all the time!



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The ladies of the **Jeffress Family** were our readers Sunday; **Onagh** caught this sweet photo of **Suzie and Natalia** leading the Prayers of the People.



The Tepoztlan/**Patty Hogan** springtime crew (**Jeff, Ruth, Claire and Carolyn**) were out in good force... two pews full this past Sunday! We are always so glad to have you all and we're delighted you will be staying through Easter! We also had

visitor **Patty Giffen** from Washington State. Patty is studying Spanish at Cemanahuac but is loving Cuernavaca's community so much that we expect she will be back soon for a much longer stay.



Your Vestry had a busy agenda and long meeting on Monday, March 11. Lots on their agenda passed and it is all good news for us! First, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous giver we are not in the red this quarter! Whoever you are, we are so very, very grateful!

Next, the Vestry approved a SMAAA Bilingual Summer Camp for children as proposed by **Suzie Jeffress** and supported by two of her colleagues at Mary Mount! More details in the next Communicator but we sure hope it will bring in some young people (and their families too).

**Amanda Hooten and Thomas Esakin** proposed a spiritual support group to be available to the LGBTQIA+ community. We welcome this addition to our outreach. The welcoming banner (Thank you **Judy**) in front of our church says it, "**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE.... NO EXCEPTIONS.**" We are walking our talk.



**Father Doug, Pat Manners, Judy Frothingham** and your communicator met last week. Pat is head of the new Pastoral Care Ministry she will gradually be introducing. It was a fruitful meeting and it

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was determined we'd start with phone calls to those who are ill, shut-in or just haven't been at church for a few weeks. We are hoping we can add more services as needs arise. If this ministry calls you, please talk to Pat. Pat has also designed a Visitor Card which will be available in the back of the church starting next week! Look for it!!! And... if you bring visitors, be sure they fill out a card.



**Father Doug** has Covid! Again! Poor soul. Please keep him in your prayers. Lent, approaching Holy Week and Easter is not the time of year any priest or minister wants to be sick. We are fortunate to have **Tamara Newell** able and willing to fill in for him as needed. **Gillian Ball**, too, is a wonderful substitute though Gillian and John's grandchildren are here visiting this week limiting Gillian's availability.

We have started collecting funds for Easter flowers and we will be doing a special bulletin insert for Easter with the names of all those being remembered. **Please** either write to me or see me at church to provide names, birth and death dates of your loved ones and to give me your donation. Any amount is acceptable. All pesos will be pooled together to be sure we have a Beautiful Display of Easter flowers on our altar. The Eucharist will be given that day in celebration of "Lives Well Lived and Loved." Names of your loved ones will be read aloud.

Easter Sunday will be the baptism of our new acolyte, **Santi Adrian Hernandez Diaz!** In celebration, **Onagh Ash, Carol Hopkins, Santi's parents, Cesar and Casey and Santi's Godparents, Sonia Moctezuma and Charly Moctezuma,** will be hosting an Easter Brunch immediately following the service. Please join us for this joyous occasion. Santi rang the bell for the first time last Sunday; **Suzie Jeffress** captured the moment.



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Palm Sunday, March 24, is less than two weeks away! Is that possible? On that same day, **Jim Papp's** Funeral will be held at San Pablo's in Alpuyecá, 9AM. **Bishop Treviño** will celebrate. We hope some of us can be there to honor Jim and to support Jim's husband **Roberto**.

Good Friday is March 29. Services are at 12 noon. Please try to be with us on this most solemn day. It is a beautiful service — an important one for us as Christians.

And now for the photos! I know (smile) they are the only reason some of you read The Communicator. First, I want to recognize a cadre of ever faithful photographers. **Amanda Hooten, Pat Manners, Onagh Ash, Lorena Molina** are just the best. They always seem to be everywhere taking great shots of all of you at yoga, at Spanish Class, at Senior Club — even at church. If you take a good SMAAA photo please share it with me.



Thursday Yoga photo... thanks **Amanda**. This is not as easy as it looks but we sure have a good time and each week we add one or two more yogis! **Ann's** voice is hypnotic and **Lupita Vines** is always there to help us get into more difficult poses.

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Sharing Hospitality Hour after church. Doesn't the grass look great? Thanks **Debbie, Guadalupe and Remegio** and everyone else who helps make this such a special time! We almost always have visitors for the Hospitality Hour who have not attended church. We are a very friendly lot. This is a good time of year to invite a friend or neighbor to church. We rarely have anyone come once who doesn't return. This community is so gracious, so kind and so welcoming that our visitors bask in that warmth.