

The Communicator December 17, 2024

Sunday's service was a special musical experience! We were graced by two solos from one of Mexico's upcoming opera stars - Alondra Vargas - who stayed over after "The Sopranos," (SMAAA's house concert the night before) to support our choir. Reverend Tamara Newell



stepped in to help Father Doug after he felt a bit of a relapse Saturday. The Jeffress Family - stalwarts of our congregation who wear so many hats - lit the Advent Wreath. We

welcomed back Susan Kirago

after a training course took her away from us for too many months! We're also delighted to learn that Tamara and Roberto Newell have acquired a home in Cuernavaca. Now we can hope to see lots more of them.



SMAAA's House Concert, hosted by Onagh Ash in her lovely home, received rave reviews for the patron's dinner and concert that followed. Kudos to Onagh, Judy, Victor Manuel, Casey, Cesar and Santi who worked so hard to make this event such a success.

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Also on this Third Sunday of Advent, Reverend Gillian Ball hosted her annual Advent/Christmas Service at her home church in Tepoztlan with beautiful powerful words and a focus on light and nature in the Celtic tradition. Celebrating the Eucharist in that location with the faithful of the Saint Francis Mission was ethereal - hummingbirds flitting overhead, dogs underfoot and the sound of water and fire in the air. Thank you to Gillian and John once more for making this possible.

And, as if these two worship services weren't enough (!), there was also a performance of **Contra Canto**, the young girl's chorus that has been supported by Onagh Ash and others. The talent singing of those young girls is quite astonishing. Maestro Arturo Suaste (at right), is shown holding up a big banner announcing their next performance at Teatro Teopanzolco, March 3. Observing the rapid development of this girls chorus has been delightful. For more information checkout their [Facebook page](#).

Next Sunday, December 22 @10:45, is SMAAA's annual Lessons and Carols. We hope you can join in singing your favorite Christmas carols and



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hearing the Christmas story retold. If children can arrive a few minutes early, they're invited to participate in the Procession of the Nativity and carry figures from the Nativity Scene, as we sing "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem."

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PRESENTA

2024

4to
CONCIERTO
DE
MÚSICA
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GLORIA
A DIOS EN LAS
ALTURAS

LUNES 23 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2024
10:00 HORAS
CATEDRAL DE NUESTRA SEÑORA
DE LA ASUNCIÓN DE CUERNAVACA

EN LA CATEDRAL DE CUERNAVACA

MAYOR DE CUERNAVACA

CASA DE LA CULTURA

COMUNIDAD CLÁSICA

December 23, 7PM, is the 4th annual **FREE** Christmas concert produced by Walter Lopez and Thomas Esakin, Associate Producer, Nick Silver, as their gift to the people of Cuernavaca.

Last night we were privileged to attend a concert preview, held at Nick and Jennifer Silver's home. Rest assured this is going to be their best production ever. Your ticket(s) to this concert can be obtained from the church on Sunday. As it is held in the beautiful Cuernavaca cathedral, you need to get there early as the cathedral will fill up quickly. In past years a ticket allowed one to enter early and hopefully that will be true again this year.

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A full choral Christmas Eve Service at Saint Michael's will begin at 5PM on December 24 with our Christmas Day service commencing the following morning at 10:45AM. We are grateful to our choir for all the extra hours they are spending this holiday season preparing for these services. Maestro Victor Manuel Morales is hard at work rebuilding the Saint Michael's choir and we appreciate each and every one of you. Thank you. AND, a special thanks to Isabel Graves who not only serves as choir leader but helps Debbie Jeffress with the Hospitality Ministry, and manages to send photos of services each Sunday.

We are currently accepting nominees for the Vestry. If you would like to nominate a parishioner or self nominate, please contact Senior Warden Judy Frothingham.

End of year offerings and pledges are greatly appreciated, and anticipated!! Our Senior Warden informs me that so far we have received no pledges, at least on our website. Please check out how user friendly it is. We also welcome your feedback.

<https://saintmichaelcuernavaca.org/index.php/donation-form/>

For those of you who prefer to use printed pledge forms, they are on the back table of the church.

For bank transfers in **Mexico (BBVA)** please use the following information:

BBVA Bancomer

Account number: 0119910468

CLABE: 012540001199104681

Your end of December action will allow us to be fiscally responsible prior to the preparation and submission of our 2025 budget in January.

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Special thanks to photographers Pat Manners, Amanda Hooten, Isabel Graves and Onagh Ash.