



Notes from St. Anselm

December, 2013

Events Calendar

Friday/ Saturday Dec. 6/7 –	Diocesan Convention
Saturday, Dec. 7-	Greening of the Church, 11 am.
Sunday, Dec. 8 -	Bishop's Committee Meeting Christmas Party, Food in the Afternoon
Saturday, Dec. 14-	Dinner, Program and Toy Distribution 7 pm Parish Hall Vietnamese Congregation
Wednesday, Dec. 11-	Posada 9pm, Mass 11pm , Our Lady of Guadalupe
Tuesday, Dec. 24-	Christmas Eve Eucharist, 7pm
Wednesday, Dec. 25 -	Christmas Day
Saturdays, 10-noon-	English Club, Vietnamese Church
Sunday Services:	8:30am Spanish, 10am English, 11:15am Korean 10:30am Vietnamese in “Little Church”
Saturday, January 11-	1pm Bishop's Committee
Saturday, January 18 -	Annual Meeting

News from Father Jeffrey Clawson

Father Jeffrey has returned from a three week trip to Europe during which he visited friends in England, religious sites in Rome and Assisi and the Taize Retreat Center in Burgundy, France. He reports that it was not only an enjoyable but also an inspirational and spiritually meaningful journey. We are happy to welcome him home to St. Anselm.

The Kelly Fund conundrum is completely resolved and the funds are now available for use in areas designated by the conditions of the trust. The Bishop's Committee has placed the funds in the Diocesan Investment Trust , as recommended by Diocese Treasurer and Controller Larry Sawyer and Ted Forbath .

Meeting times for the Bishop's Committee will be changing as of January. They will be held on the second Saturday of every month at 1 pm, beginning on January 11, 2014.

Father Jeffrey will attend the Annual Diocesan Convention on December 6th and 7th.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of St. Anselm Church will be a food sharing potluck on January 18. Voting will be held to fill vacancies on the Bishop's Committee. Requirements for membership on the committee include being 18 years of age or older, being a confirmed or received member of the Church, and making a monetary pledge for the support of the church. Please see Father Jeffrey for further details.



Joyous Baptism for Edina and Faustino Florio Kassuba

A large gathering of family and friends joined the congregation on Sunday, November 24 in welcoming into the church Edina and Faustino, children of Cecilia Florio and Kate Kassuba. Father Jeffrey Clawson performed the rites. Parents and godparents participated in the beautiful ceremony. Following the church service, a delicious dinner, coordinated by Rose Mueggler, assisted by Lola Watson, Melissa Gunawardena, Rachel Santos and Tee Harrell, was held in the parish hall.

The congregation has followed with great interest the process through which Kate and Cecilia traveled to the Democratic Republic of Congo to adopt and bring home these two dear children and wishes them and their family every happiness.

Dinner, Program and Toy Distribution

Mother Minh-Hanh and her congregation will hold their annual holiday dinner and toy distribution on Saturday, December 14 in the Parish Hall beginning at 7 pm. Toys will be given out to children who attend. M. Minh-Hanh's grandson, Nathan, will perform from 7:30-8pm. Nathan is a magician, comic and generally entertaining young man, and his performance is sure to please. See M. Minh-Hanh for more details.

Welcome Luncheon

On November 11, Rose Mueggler invited all those who rent space at St. Anselm to a luncheon in the parish hall . Almost seventy people attended, including families and students. It provided a good time to get acquainted and show appreciation for the work each of the groups is doing. Helping Rose with cooking and serving were Jesse and Rachel Santos, Tee Harrell, Barbara Sandberg, Marco and Martina, Jovencio and Father Ricardo of the Old Catholic church, along with several of his parishioners.

People and Places

Minh-Hanh Nguyen and her husband, Minh, recently returned from a road trip along the central and northern California coast. Using the roads less traveled and with no fixed destination, they found delightful places to eat and to stay. The fall colors, while not as varied as in eastern states, accented the scenery, which is among the most memorable anywhere. M. Minh-Hanh says she is especially grateful that her husband is now well enough to travel, and they hope to take more of these “blue highway” trips.

On Saturday, Charlie and Lola Watson and John and Tee Harrell attended a concert in Glendale of the Kama Women’s choir, directed by Chong-Hyun Song. Father Jeffrey Clawson also was at the concert, which was a benefit for Whispering Hope. All reported it to be an outstanding musical event. Chong-Hyun Song, who studies at the Juilliard Institute and is also a pianist, will be directing the music for our Christmas Eve service.

Former Member Cathy Standiford sends best wishes to all at St. Anselm. She has found a church home at the United Methodist Church in Tustin.

Thanks to Mother Alene Campbell who was at St. Anselm while Father Jeffrey was in Europe. We enjoyed having her as our supply priest.

Several St. Anselm folk gathered for lunch at the Harbor Seafood Buffet on November 5 to celebrate the birthday of Tee Harrell and enjoy good food and company. RoseMueggler is the organizer of this monthly event and encourages everyone to join in. See Rose for more information.

Guy and Janet Talbott recently completed a road trip that took them 2500 miles through the western states. They also spend time at their second home in Paso Robles, and are looking forward to the coming ski season.

Anne and Terry Yensen are on a Caribbean trip that will include vacationing in Florida and a cruise to the Bahamas.

St. Anselm at the Forefront at Immigration Reform Fast

From November 18 through November 22, five dedicated young people camped in Brea outside the office of Congressman Ed Royce and went without food in a fast to call attention to the need for just, family-oriented immigration reform.

The event, sponsored in part by the Orange County Congregation Community Organization, received substantial coverage in local papers and media. Father Jeffrey Clawson of St. Anselm moderated the press conference on Monday, November 18, and conducted the closing ceremony on Friday, November 22. At this time, each of the fasting participants spoke of what it meant to them to undertake this difficult task. Each stressed that it was not a protest, but rather a spiritual experience in compassion and understanding. They read a poem they had composed in Spanish and English expressing their hopes for a time when families will not live in the shadow of undocumented status.

Although some anti-reform protesters were at the closing ceremony, the mood of the fasters and their supporters was one of reconciliation. The fast was a way to seek justice for families who have been separated by deportation or who live with the threat of it. Leading the fast were Luis Brava, who spoke at our church last year, and his sister Maria are college students who have lived in this country virtually all their lives, but who are undocumented. The hope is that by their calling attention to the need for a just and equitable immigration law, Congress can be urged to act.

Representatives of Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez and local officials visited the encampment during the week and offered support. Representatives of Congressman Ed Royce did not meet with the fasters.



Getting to Know Peter Mueggler

Peter Mueggler is a pillar of St. Anselm, but if we were to say so, he would turn it aside with a witty comeback and a self-deprecating smile. That's the kind of guy he is, intelligent, capable, dedicated, hardworking and with a great sense of humor about himself and all around him.

Peter began life in Switzerland near the Bodensee, one of four children of a Swiss father and an American mother. Growing up, he became a Boy Scout and enjoyed the outdoors.

When he was seventeen, his parents moved to the United States and it was then he learned English. A year later, he joined the US Army Signal Corps. He was sent to the mountains of Northern Italy to set up and operate radio stations. He attained the rank of sergeant before leaving the army at the age of 21.

Back in California, he attended UCLA, graduating with a degree in physics. He went to work at Douglas Aircraft, in the Missiles and Space Systems division, and continued his studies part-time, earning a master's degree from USC. Throughout its several buyouts and transformations, he continued to work for the same company for thirty-eight years, most of it at the Huntington Beach facility, retiring from what was by then Boeing in 2004. He was a senior manager in engineering specialties, science groups whose work included electromagnetics, heat exchange, environmental controls and electronics, but his basic interest is in mathematical modeling and probability theory.

He was married and had one son, Anthony, who passed away in 2003 at the age of 28 of Crohn's Disease. Anthony was a talented young man who began playing piano at the age of four and was a gifted pianist.

Peter's mother was Lutheran and his father Catholic. He was raised in the Catholic church, but characterizes himself as not very religious in his youth. On returning from his Army service, he attended a Lutheran church but about the time his son was born, he and his wife felt they needed to find a church better suited to them. They came to St. Anselm in 1978 and Peter has remained here ever since. There was, he says, something about the Episcopal way of worship that filled a need.

In the early 1980's the Vietnamese Cross Cultural Center came to St. Anselm and also the start of the Vietnamese congregation. Peter was senior warden at the time, and oversaw the building of the "little church". It was completed in 1984 and Dr. Nguyen was its first priest.

At present, Peter is Bishop's Warden of St. Anselm, and de facto treasurer. He spends countless hours in the office, organizing, keeping track of finances and generally doing whatever needs to be done. A Eucharistic lay minister, he assists Father Jeffrey at Sunday services.

Peter is optimistic about the future here at St. Anselm. "I like what I see", he says, "we have problems but we are dealing with them." Having only recently recovered from a serious heart attack, and newly married to the former Rose Cayco, he appears to be thriving on the challenges. We are lucky indeed to have this scientist-problem solver as our lay leader. Thank you, Peter, for all you do, and may God continue to bless you, for you are a blessing to St. Anselm.

New Priest for Korean Congregation

Father Jeffrey has announced that the Korean congregation now has a new priest, Father Jonathan Won. Father Koh and other supply priests have been filling in while a priest was chosen, and their help has been appreciated. We welcome Father Jonathan and look forward to working with him and the 11:15 congregation.

Clergy Meeting to Discuss Homeless Issues

On Wednesday, January 15, Father Jeffrey Clawson, Rev. Cheryl Raine of the First Presbyterian Church and Rev. Ginny Wheeler of the United Methodist Church will meet with other clergy and lay people interested in helping the homeless. The lunch meeting is being coordinated by the Association of Local Ministries and Missions in Action, and will be held in St. Mary's lounge at St. Anselm. Please see Barbara Sandberg or Marge England for more information.

Help With News

In the next issue, we will be starting a new feature, **Memories**. We will be asking long time members, including those who are not living nearby or attending St. Anselm at this time, to send us their recollections of how St. Anselm has been in the past. We go back more than fifty years, and letting newer member know the history will give a sense of the continuity of our faith community. Send your memory stories to the address below, or mail to 9711 Swallow Lane, Garden Grove, CA 92841.

If you have items of interest for this newsletter: events, honors, travels or comments, please let us know. You may email to tnmengland@gmail.com or call 714-539-3219.