



The Word

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, San Francisco

Ordinary Time /
Advent & Christmas

October—December
2017

Benedictine Stewardship

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. . . All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. . . they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.” Acts 2:42-47

The Rule of Saint Benedict

The early Church did not act out of scarcity, but abundance – the abundance of the Lord’s presence, and of one another. The essence of the monastic movement was an attempt to recover the spirit of the early Church. Thus, when Benedict talks about stewardship in the Rule, what he’s looking to do is recreate what is described in those five verses of Acts 2. What we see there is a community that has worked out what its mutual relations are going to be. They have learned how they are going to be about the business of caring and being cared for.

We know little about Benedict himself, apart from his traditional dates of birth and death, 480-543, and that there is a section in THE DIALOGUES of Pope St. Gregory the Great devoted to Benedict’s life and miracles. Benedict’s most important contribution, his Rule, was composed sometime in the mid-sixth century, and is a relatively brief document, consisting of a prologue and 73 short chapters describing the nature, content, and duties of monastic life. It has served as the guidepost for western monasticism, and, indeed, as a foundation for the development of modern western civilization, which was influenced by Benedictine monasticism and its offshoots. The Rule, almost 75% scripture quotations, offers much to those who take the time to dialogue with it. Additionally, the Church of England, the spiritual ancestor of the Episcopal Church, was largely formed by Benedictine monasticism, particularly liturgically and spiritually. So, taking some time to consider stewardship from this point of view might bear fruit.

Prioritizing people

At the core of Benedict’s understanding of stewardship is the care of persons. Whether it be the abbot (the head of the community) or the cellarer (the one in charge of the goods and services), the first order of business is how people are treated. This is an important lesson for us as we think about stewardship today. So often we think of it in terms of “time, talent, treasure,” which is all well and good, but what we really think about is – money. If we think first of the gift of the people in our care, remembering our accountability before God for them it can make a difference in how we go about planning, and accomplishing the real stewardship we have. Benedict makes special mention of the sick, children, guests, the aged and the poor on several occasions, as do the scriptures, and this should remind us just how much these people make Christ present to us. As we go about our stewardship each year, how are we serving those Jesus called “the least” of his family, toward whom he holds special care? Stewardship, Benedict-style, goes beyond the budget, and into the heart of how we approach all aspects of life together.

Listening from the heart

Further, perhaps we should extend that mutual care along to mutual obedience, another term dear to Benedict’s heart. When he uses ‘obedience’ he’s talking about listening to one another deeply, like we listen to God, with “the ear of the heart.” It opens us to the community around us, which enables us to make a difference because we’ve really begun to listen to one another. Thus, Benedict’s mutual obedience opens us to the “good zeal” leading us to love God and our neighbor in the way Paul talks about in Romans 12, and Benedict describes in chapter 72. Aquinata Bockmann, OSB, offers this insight in her Perspectives on the Rule of St. Benedict:

Pursuing what suits me (or what I consider useful), seeking fulfillment of my inauthentic needs, leads into a vicious circle. With each fulfillment, desires increase and new ones keep arising. Benedict points in the opposite direction. It is in extending ourselves toward others that we also achieve true self-actualization, a happy life (Prologue 15). When we strive only for ourselves, we go astray; when we aim at the true benefit of the others, we attain happiness for ourselves. Here Benedict shows a concrete way of making the other, and ultimately Christ, the center of our own life.

Inside this issue:

Sunset Music & Arts	2
Calendars	3-5

“Father John the Dwarf said: ‘A house is not built by beginning at the top and working down. You must begin with the foundations in order to reach the top.’ They said to him, ‘What does this saying mean?’ He said, ‘The foundation is our neighbor whom we must win, and that is the place to begin. For all the commandments of Christ depend on this one.’”

When we lay the foundation of care of persons, then we can move to the care of time, places, and things – the other aspect of stewardship, but which often takes most of our attention.

Benedict charges the cellarer to care for the utensils of the monastery as though they were “the vessels of the altar,” because nothing is negligible. Benedict takes very seriously God’s word at the end of each act of creation, “and it was good.” (Genesis 1:4ff). If God’s creation is good, and God has entered our world – taking flesh in Jesus Christ – then created reality takes on a whole new purpose, and so should our care of it. Time, places, and things all become the tools for the building up of the community; they are means to the end of life together.

Benedictine stewardship is about mutual care, about the right use of time, places, and things, and finding the holy in the ordinary...including money. Our stewardship should be about seeing abundance, not mourning scarcity.

—The Very Rev’d Steven A. Peay, PhD is Research Professor of Homiletics at Nashotah House Theological Seminary in Nashotah, WI. (from www.ecfvp.org)

Incarnation Makes a Difference!

We do make a difference in this world, in a variety of ways. Recently, we collected \$620 for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. This money has been sent to Episcopal Relief and Development and will give immediate assistance to people in Texas who are still suffering.

Of course, the world goes on, and there has been another devastating hurricane since. We can’t do everything for everyone, but we can do something for someone now and again. And we have! Thank you to everyone who gave to the hurricane relief collection!

—The Rev. Darren Miner

Sunset Music | Arts

Affordable, high-quality, cultural and music programs

Venue: Incarnation Episcopal Church,

Web: <http://sunsetarts.wordpress.com>

Tel: 415-564-2324

Rimsky-Korsakov String Quartet

St. Petersburg, Russia

Tuesday October 10, 7:30p.m.

Shtrykov-Tanaka Duo

Maksim Shtrykov, *clarinet*

Misuzu Tanaka, *piano*

Saturday October 14, 7:30 p.m.

Grammy nominated Emilio Solla TribuTango

Emilio Solla, *piano*; Pablo Aslan, *bass*;

Javier Sanchez, *bandoneon*

Friday October 20, 7:30 pm

San Francisco-Munich Trio, Munich, Germany

Friedrich Edelmann, *bassoon*

Rebecca Rust, *cello*; Dmitriy Cogan, *piano*

Saturday October 21, 4 p.m.

Minsky Duo with special guest soprano Jamie Lee

Nato, *violin*

Monica Chew, *piano*

November 11 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Derek Tam and Erik Andersen in concert

Derek Tam, *harpsichord*

Erik Andersen, *cello*

Friday December 1, 8 p.m.

Holiday Concert with the

San Francisco Boys Chorus (Apprentice & Intermediate)

Sunday December 10, 7 p.m.

Christmas Lessons and Carols Service with

San Francisco Renaissance Voices

Vaughn Jones, organ

Saturday December 23, 4 p.m.

Holiday Bazaar

Friday November 10 & Saturday November 11

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

October 2017

October 2017

November 2017

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 1 - 7	Oct 1 10:00am 11:15am Rite I Communion	2	3 10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music	4 12:00pm 1:00pm Lunch with Your Clergy (TPC Harding Park Clubhouse, San Francisco, CA 94132, USA)	5 6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group	6 7 Parish Retreat	
	8	9	10 10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music 7:30pm 9:30pm Rimsky-Korsak ov String Quartet	11	12 6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group	13	14 7:30pm 9:00pm Clarinet and Piano ensemble Shtrykov-Tanak a Duo
Oct 8 - 14	15 10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion	16	17 10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music	18	19 6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group 7:00pm 8:00pm NERT Meeting	20 7:30pm 9:30pm Emilo Solla Tango Trio	21 4:00pm 7:00pm Friderich Edelmann and Rebecca Rust Concert
	22 10:00am 11:15am Bishop's Visitation & Pontifical Mass	23 1:00pm 2:30pm Finance Committee Meeting	24 10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music	25	26 6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group	27	28
Oct 15 - 21	29 10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion	30 Office Closed	31 10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music 1:00pm 2:30pm Vestry Meeting	Nov 1	2	3	4
	Oct 22 - 28						
Oct 29 - Nov 4							

Unless noted, all events are located at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, 1750 29th Avenue, SF, CA. Please check our online calendar for any changes or updates.

November 2017

November 2017							December 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4						1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 29 - Nov 4	Oct 29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4
				12:00pm 1:00pm Lunch with Your Clergy (TPC Harding Park Clubhouse, San Francisco, CA 94132, USA)	6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group		
Nov 5 - 11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	10:00am 11:15am Rite I Communion	9:00am 2:00pm Bazaar Setup	9:00am 2:00pm Bazaar Setup 10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music	Office Closed 9:00am 2:00pm Bazaar Setup	6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 9:00am 2:00pm Bazaar Setup 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group	10:00am 2:30pm Holiday Bazaar 7:30pm 8:30pm Taizé Healing Service	9:00am 12:00pm SF Deanery Convocation (St. Gregory's Episc 10:00am 2:30pm Holiday Bazaar 7:30pm 9:00pm Minsky Duo Concert
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Nov 12 - 18	10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion		10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music		6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group 7:00pm 8:00pm NERT Meeting		
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Nov 19 - 25	10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion	1:00pm 2:30pm Finance Committee Meeting	10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music	Office Closed	Thanksgiving Day 6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group		
	26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2
Nov 26 - Dec 2	10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion	Office Closed	10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music 1:00pm 2:30pm Vestry Meeting		6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group		

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December 2017

December 2017							January 2018						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
31													

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 26 - Dec 2	Nov 26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2
						8:00pm 9:30pm Derek Tam (harpsichord) and Erik Andersen (viola da gamba and cello)	
Dec 3 - 9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Advent 1 10:00am 11:15am Rite I Communion		10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music	12:00pm 1:00pm Lunch with Your Clergy (TPC Harding Park Clubhouse, San Francisco, CA 94132, USA)	6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group	7:30pm 8:30pm Taizé Healing Service	
Dec 10 - 16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Advent II 10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion 7:00pm 9:30pm SF Boys Chorus Holiday	1:00pm 2:30pm Finance Committee Meeting	10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music		6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group		
Dec 17 - 23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Advent III 10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion	1:00pm 2:30pm Vestry Meeting	10:00am 11:00am Holy Eucharist with music		6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group 7:00pm 8:00pm NERT Meeting		4:00pm 5:30pm Lessons and Carols Service
Dec 24 - 30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Advent IV Christmas Eve 10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion	Christmas Day 10:00am 11:00am Christmas Day Eucharist		Office Closed	6:30am 7:30am Walk & Talk 12:00pm 1:00pm Adult Christian Study Group		
Dec 31 - Jan 6	31	Jan 1, 18	2	3	4	5	6
	10:00am 11:15am Rite II Communion						

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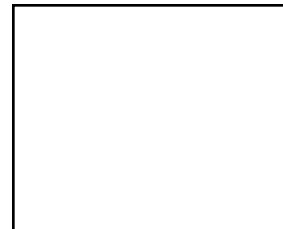
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Current Resident or

The Word

Published by the Episcopal Church of the
Incarnation, San Francisco

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Bernadette Michiels,
Wayne Padgett,
John Rana,
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Dick Schoenbrun,
Celia Taylor,
Judy Wargo,
Scott Wargo, and
Margaret Webber.

The Departed

Daisy Takahashi Cavalli,
Jim Elliott,
Lauren Gerson,
Noé Ichaï, and
Stefani Schatz.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATION

The members of the Altar Guild request your donation to decorate the Church for the Christmas season. Please make checks payable to the Altar Guild. *Thank you!*



Important News about The Word

- ⇒ The deadline for submission of articles for the next issue of *The Word* (coming in January 2018) is **December 15, 2017**. Please submit your articles to comebefed@aol.com.
- ⇒ We are now online! Find us at:
Web: www.incarnationsf.org
FB: www.facebook.com/incarnationsf
Twitter: www.twitter.com/incarnationSF
Blog: incarnationsf.wordpress.com
Blog: incarnationsf.tumblr.com
- ⇒ SUNSET MUSIC | ARTS
Web: sunsetarts.wordpress.com
FB: www.facebook.com/sunsetmusicarts
- ⇒ Remember to check out the online calendar on our Web site for any updates to events

HELP NEEDED FOR OUR BAZAAR

I WILL HELP WITH the items below that I have checked:

Make items to sell at the Bazaar _____

Donate baked goods for the Bake Shoppe _____

Donate supply items i.e. Coffee, Tea, Wine, Apple cider, Sparkling water (circle the items that you want to donate) _____

Donate special items for the Collectibles and the Silent Auction ____

Donate items for the Food or Wine Raffle Baskets _____
(These donated items need to get to Tamara by Oct.16)

Cash donation -which is always welcomed _____

Help set-up the Bazaar, Nov. 6-9 (9:00 to 1:00) _____

Help work on the Bazaar Sale days, Nov. 10 & 11 _____

Help clean-up after the Bazaar on Saturday @ 2:30 _____

All the items need to be at the Church by Monday, Nov. 6

Please complete this form and give it to Carolee Padgett, Jill Smith
or mail it to the Church 1750 -29th Ave. San Francisco, CA 94122

Name:_____ Phone #_____



HOLIDAY BAZAAR

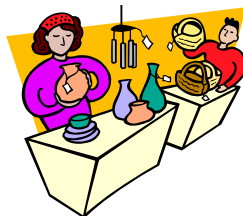


at

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

**Needlework, Handcrafted items, Collectibles,
Jewelry, Loose beads-including Vintage and Collectible,
Baked goods, Silent auction and Raffles**

Christmas boutique (continuing each Sunday 11:30-12 until Christmas)

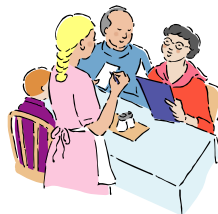


Friday, November 10th

&

Saturday, November 11th, 2017

10:00 am to 2:30 pm



Sandwich Lunch offered both days:

11:30 - 1:00 pm \$10.00

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

1750 Twenty-ninth Avenue

San Francisco, California 94122

between Noriega & Moraga in the Sunset District, street parking available.

