

THE BELOVED DISCIPLE

NEWSLETTER

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40 Fifth Street, Petaluma, CA 94952 www.saintjohnepiscopalpetaluma.org



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SINCE 1856

707-762-8872

Everyone Welcome!

Who Is Jesus?

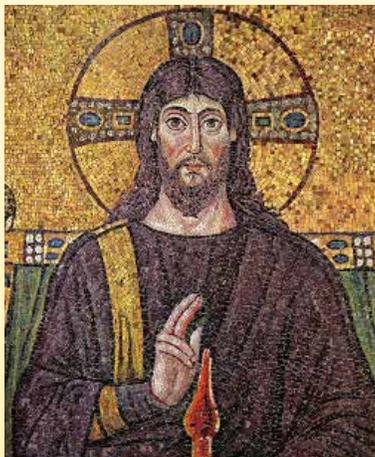
BY REV. DANIEL C. GREEN

Who is Jesus? It's not a question that gets asked very often. People who have decided that the answer is irrelevant would not put it that way, because it says that it is a question that does not belong simply to the past but also to the present and the future. It requires an answer that is alive. And Christians often seem reluctant to ask it with genuine curiosity because it might betray a lack of faith. The answer is supposed to be a given. For some the aliveness of Jesus is a very personal and private matter. They might say that "Jesus is my Lord and Savior," in a way that implies that if he was yours, too, you should already know what that meant. For others, the aliveness of Jesus is a tenet of doctrine, the content of a clause in the Creed, "on the third day he

was raised up from the dead." As such it is unalterable and immune to interpretation.

It's not that those ways of answering are incorrect or even incomplete, but they run the risk of losing something crucially important about the aliveness of Jesus. In Anglican tradition, there is a way of understanding who Jesus is that is not about private piety, but about common prayer. He stands forth manifestly, not in authoritative dogmas, but in the community that gathers in his name. But his life is not circumscribed by the hearts of the faithful, still less by the charism of the church—he goes everywhere and belongs to everyone. The answers we have to "who is Jesus?" are like those 16th century maps of the Americas. Pretty good accuracy and detail along one edge, and a whole lot of terra incognita.

This is in part because he is alive
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Early Christian mosaic from Ravenna, Italy, showing the gesture of blessing



The Risen One at Emmaus painted by Rembrandt in the mid-17th Century

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS



Sacred Cabaret

ST. VALENTINE'S POTLUCK
Saturday, February 15, 2014
6:00 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Cabaret

FOR A LIST OF PERFORMERS SEE PAGE 7

BOOK STUDY 2014: PART ONE

Who Is Jesus?

Beginning February 16
at 11:45 am in the Library

with The Rev. Daniel Green
and Gordon Gilmore

SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS

ST JOHN'S U 2014

February 22
10:00 - 12:00 noon

In Touch with the Unconscious

Authentic Movement
with Meg Tinsley, MFT

SEE FLYER ON PAGE 8
FOR MORE INFORMATION

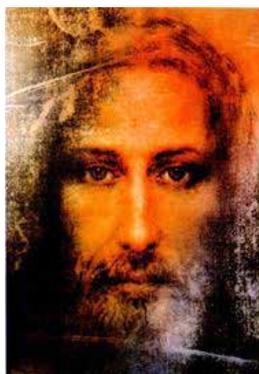
Who Is Jesus?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 with the Spirit of God, and the riches of God are unfathomable. And it is in part because he is a human person, from a time far distant from our own, from which very little else survives to tell us about him. And it is in part because his human story, and the Holy Spirit, have journeyed to us from that time through continents and across oceans and centuries, and have incorporated persons and cultures into his life everywhere he has gone. Now Jesus lives in Korea and Malawi, Finland and Uruguay, in custom and art, music and language, of forms as diverse as the human family.

But everywhere he goes, the question "Who is Jesus?" is not an academic one, not a matter for idle speculation or disinterested analysis. It is a summons to follow, a call to a mission. And this call demands that we give some accounting of the faith that is in us. It requires that we have an answer to the question of who he is that is the best we can give. It will always be partial, and must change and grow as we do, but it must come out of the whole of who we are as members of his body; a harmony of feeling, thought, and intuition, speech, ac-

tion, and suffering, knowledge, ignorance, and wonder, faith, hope, and love. We cannot help but answer in our own language, the language of our hearts, but also of our families, our culture, and our times. We must give our answers, and hear what others have to say, and test and refine them in the crucible of conversation, in the real life of the Christian community and the world beyond it, where Jesus also lives.

In 2014 I am inviting us into further exploration of the question, "Who is Jesus?" I'm not sure exactly what this will look like for each of us, or what route our journey will take, but the landmarks might include daily reading of the New Testament in the context of Common Prayer, and some adult study and discussion series after church on Sundays. I have faith that there are no unknown monsters lying in wait ahead, just the old familiar ones—cynicism, complacency, hypocrisy, triumphalism, fear—and I trust that the Captain of our quest is the master of all of them. Most of all, I am interested to know how this question is alive in you at this time, and how I can help you in your investigation, and your answering. ■

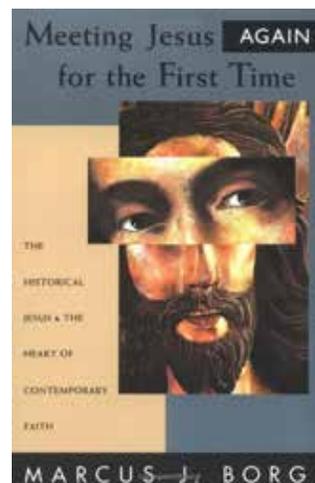


An image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus from the Catholic Church tradition (left), a 20th century Jesus image based on the Shroud of Turin (center) and a contemporary sculpture (right).

Epiphany Book Study

Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time

by Marcus J. Borg



**Beginning February 16
Sundays at 11:45 am
in the Library**

**The Rev. Daniel Green
& Gordon Gilmore**

will lead the discussion

To register call the Parish Office at 707-762-8872 or email office. sjecz@gmail.com Indicate whether you would like a copy of the book, which costs \$15.

Marcus J. Borg is Canon Theologian at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, Oregon. Internationally known in both academic and church circles as a biblical and Jesus scholar, he was Hundere Chair of Religion and Culture in the Philosophy Department at Oregon State University until his retirement in 2007.



At last month's Annual Meeting, Father Daniel led parishioners in the commissioning of its vestry for 2014.

New Vestry Elected at Annual Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 26th saw the election of new members to St. John's vestry. **Joanna Butler, Susan Hadenfeldt, and Kristin Ikola** were elected to three-year terms. **Rebecca Smith** was elected to fill out the remaining two years of Tom Nash's term. The meeting concluded with the commissioning of the new and continuing members. Continuing members are **Kathryn Ivers, Connie Prim, Tom Rotella, Monty Sullivan, Victoria Temple** and **Joanne Woodland**. Victoria Temple has been chosen by Fr. Daniel to serve as Senior

Warden. The vestry will elect a Junior Warden from among its members later this month. The Wardens, along with the Priest-in-Charge, form an Executive Committee, that helps steer the vestry's business forward between meetings.

On Saturday, February 8th, the vestry will gather for an orientation meeting to review its canonical responsibilities as the board of directors of the parish corporation, make agreements about the conduct of its business, discuss its oversight of the various committees under its

purview, and plan next steps toward realizing the congregation's goals. Its regular monthly business meeting will take place on February 18th at 7 p.m. in the Library. Members of the parish are always welcome to observe. Requests to be on the agenda should be made by a week before the meeting, to any vestry member.

Also elected at the meeting were **Susan Hadenfeldt** and **Laurie Warren**, to serve as Delegates to Diocesan Convention. **Bill Rhoads** was elected to serve as an alternate. Additional openings to represent St. John's to the Diocese, and the Diocese to the parish, are available. Contact the Priest-in-Charge if you are interested. ■

LECTIO DIVINA for

Lent with TOM ROTELLA

The Lectio Divina group for Lent will begin meeting every Wednesday morning from 10:30 am until noon in the church library starting Ash Wednesday, March 5th and ending April 16th. Facilitated by **Tom Rotella**, Lectio is a sacred way of reading scripture and letting it speak directly to you. It is a spiritual practice that has been used for centuries. Tom will select scripture from both Old and New Testaments, including the psalms. During the first part of the meeting, a discussion question having to do with some aspect of one's

spiritual journey will be passed out. Sharing our answers in this safe space will help deepen our relationships to one another. The second part of the meeting will consist of reading the selected scripture passage several times while asking group members to let a word or phrase speak to their heart. We will then share the word or phrase with each other and our reasons for selecting it. During the meeting, there will be times for prayer and reflection. No registration required. Simply show up at the library. There is nothing you need to bring. If there are some meetings you are unable to attend, that's okay. Any questions, please call Tom at 981-8684. ■



*Father Daniel expressed the deep appreciation living among members of our parish community for the dedicated service of outgoing vestry members **Patty Graham, Clif Hill** and **Frances Frazier** (from left to right).*



Wisdom of the Ancients

From the February, 1904 edition of *The Instructor*, the monthly newsletter of St. John's, Petaluma.

The Bishop's visit on the 2nd Sunday after Christmas was greatly enjoyed by all who had the privilege of listening to his loving words of counsel. At the Rector's request he remained over Monday and addressed the Womans' Auxiliary, giving an account of his work in distant portions of the field, and telling his needs and future plans for church extension. Much enthusiasm was shown by the ladies present and much encouragement for future work received, as they listened to the recital of the painstaking, faithful labors of our beloved Bishop, and many good resolutions were formed for the coming year. ■

WORKSHOP with The Rev. Daniel Green

Praying from the Book

Daily Practice with the Book of Common Prayer

Sunday, March 2, 2014

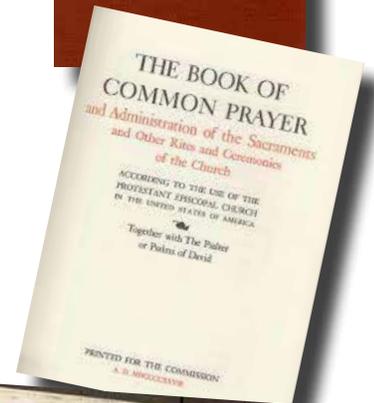
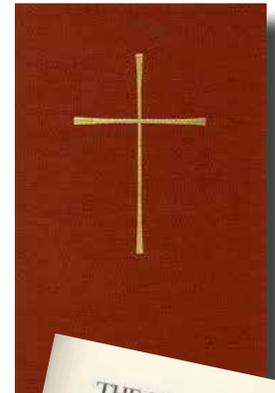
11:45 am to 1:00 pm

Parish Library

There is no charge to attend

This workshop provides a brief introduction to the 1979 Book of Common Prayer as a resource for the practice of prayer in the course of private and family life. It will be helpful to those who would like to take on a positive Lenten discipline, as well as those who are just curious about the "other parts" of the Prayer Book.

It is especially recommended for those who are considering the challenge from Bishop Beisner of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California to use the balance of 2014 for daily reading of the New Testament, in the context of Common Prayer.



SOME OF THE...

MANY FACES OF JESUS DEPICTED IN ART & FILM

Parish Goals FOR 2014

- 1 Create a worshipping community that experiences harmony by honoring the depth and richness of Episcopal tradition and the best of contemporary currents in liturgy and music.
- 2 To move from Priest-in-Charge to Rector by January 2015.
- 3 To advance the mission of St. John's with effective communication that invites and empowers our congregation to lead and serve, and creates positive and accessible points of connection with the wider community.

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Our Focus in 2014

Join us in welcoming outgoing vestry member **Frances Frazier** to the Communications Team! We are a committee whose mission is to accomplish one of our Parish's three goals for 2014. We come from across the parish community — attending 8 am and 10 am services, with children in Sunday School, focused on fundraising, carrying the Altar Guild, producing communications media, serving at the altar, baking bread and fostering dedicated community service.

Over the past two years we have focused inward, creating a "tool kit" that keeps us connected and informed. This year we'll improve our website and put procedures in place to use it more effectively, and we'll create essential print material. But slowly this team is beginning to turn it's attention outward, thinking about a media campaign to support our historic preservation project and "creating positive and accessible points of connection with the wider community." That's what is so great about Frances joining the team—she brings knowledge, experience and passion for outreach to the table. Welcome, Frances!

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM MEMBERS

Frances Frazier	Connie Prim
Susan Hadenfeldt	Rebecca Smith
Kristin Ikola	Monty Sullivan
Jason Klein	Victoria Temple

What Is All this “Discernment” About?

On March 20th we will enter the final year of the Letter of Agreement governing Fr. Daniel's tenure as St. John's Priest-in-Charge. During this year, the Vestry and Daniel will embark on a process of mutual discernment to examine the future of the ministry to the congregation. To facilitate this, the Vestry has established a **Discernment Committee on Calling a Priest-in-Charge as Rector**. The committee will meet for the first time this month. If you were wondering how the discernment process works follow this link http://www.saintjohnsepiscopalpetaluma.org/userFiles/2093/info_rector_discernment.pdf to see some materials provided by the Diocese about Christian discernment as it relates to calling a Rector. As you can see the Discernment Committee has a big (but very exciting) job ahead. — **Clif Hill**

FEBRUARY 23RD CONFERENCE

Faith, Family, Farms & Food Access

The focus of this conference is enabling faith communities to promote access to local healthy food and support local farmers. Sessions will address: growing food at the congregation site, at a community garden, or small farm; educating your congregation about the Farm Bill and other food policy advocacy opportunities; how can congregations reflect their religious values with food policies for on-site events; and religious perspectives around food and sustainability. The event will also feature strategies to support access to fresh local produce for low-income people in the community.

The conference will be held Sunday, February 23rd, 2014 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marin in San Rafael. Registration begins at 1:30 pm. and the program runs 2-7:00 pm. Reservations are strongly recommended as space is limited. Registration is \$45 prior to February 10th and \$55 afterwards and includes: a resource guide and a dinner featuring delicious local food.

The conference design emphasizes a small-group workshop approach ensuring all participants will be able share to their knowledge and questions. To help congregations establish or develop projects or programming, the conference will feature members of local congregations who are implementing innovative programs. Several local farmers interested in working with congregations will attend also. Presenters will include Buddhists, Christians, Jews and Muslims. To register or for more information go to www.interfaith-food.org or call (707) 634-4672.

Sacred Cabaret

PERFORMERS

"The Subject Tonight Is Love"

featuring

Sunday School Choir

Michael Eodice

Bruce Elliott & Frances Frazier

Patty Graham

Margot Ikola

Kate Klarkowski

Amanda & Teresa Peter

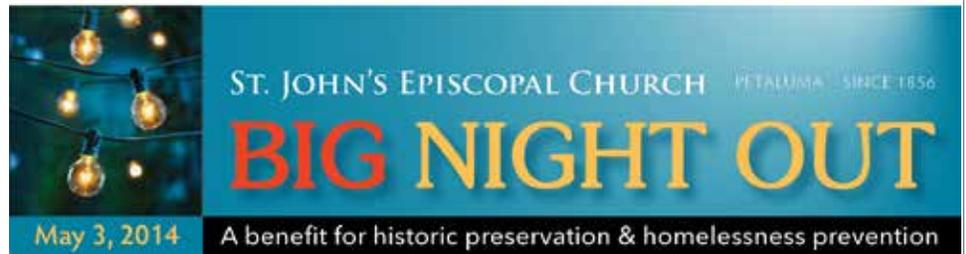
Marti Shortridge & Larry Temple

Roger Wise



Jesus Resurrected from the Isenheim Altarpiece, painted by Matthias Grünewald, between 1512 and 1516.

Nourish & Preserve



How You Can Help!

There are a number of ways you can help make The Big Night Out a success. Here are the most important:

- 1 Donate a favorite bottle of wine to "**St. John's Cellar**," a package of wines we are putting together for the silent auction. See **Kevin Jones** or **Jason Klein**.
- 2 Help with event **sponsorships & donations** to the silent and live auctions. See **Kevin Jones** or **Jason Klein**.
- 3 Distribute "**Save the Date**" postcards to friends, family, neighbors who might wish to receive an invitation to The Big Night Out. Postcards are in the narthex of the church and in the Parish Hall.
- 4 Consider becoming a **host home** for the evening. This means you will have a themed dinner for between 8 to 12 people at your home after the kick-off reception in the Parish Hall. See **Kathryn Hardt** or **Betty Petrillo**.
- 5 Help with the details of the **kick-off reception**. See **Connie Prim**.
- 6 And last but not least, make a commitment to help restore our church and support COTS' Food Box Program by **coming to the event** and **invite a friend** to join you!

INVITATIONS TO THE BIG NIGHT OUT WILL BE MAILED THE FIRST WEEK IN MARCH. If you wish to hand deliver an invitation to someone, you may pick up an invitation packet in the Parish Office beginning March 3rd. The packet consists of a cover letter, the reservation form, a list of host home menus and a list of our raffle items.

If you see Jason, Kevin, Kathryn, Connie or Betty at church, stop and talk to them, or give them a phone call. Tell them how you can help. Thanks to those of you who have already indicated business connections that might turn into a sponsorships and/or donations. And, a big thanks to those of you who are already on Kevin, Jason and Connie's teams, and our committed host homes. All of us on The Big Night Out Steering Committee are so very grateful to you.

Time is creeping away from us. We need your help and need it soon.

Sharing Our Stories

GETTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU

As a relatively recent Episcopal transplant to St. John's Petaluma, I have been blessed to make new friends with its truly remarkable parishioners. Among them is **Victoria Temple**, who I think I met on my first Sunday in late October of 2013. She immediately made an impression on me as a talented, well-spoken woman with an open heart and a welcoming mind. I was not surprised to learn that within a few months, Victoria was to take office as senior warden of St. John's. Her term began last month.— **Helen Mossman**



Visionary. Perhaps that adjective is over-worked, even as it also might describe the slate of to-dos that goes along with the person who bears the title. Victoria Temple, the web design student, inveterate community service volunteer, participant in all things church-related, artist, concert producer, writer of beautiful prose, wife of Larry, is visionary.

We talked on the telephone at 5 o'clock on a Wednesday evening because that was the only time we could meet for an interview. Victoria started by telling me she and her husband read a news story about the breakup of the Episcopal congregation in Petaluma. She said she had been confirmed a Presbyterian as a teenager and Larry was brought up a Southern Baptist but neither of them affiliated with a Petaluma church.

"It seemed to us that the new St. John's Episcopal was a place where we could find a church home," said Victoria. She spoke of how a spiritual life had always been important to her, but that as she was growing up she began to be "at odds" with organized religion. When she was a student in high school, the pastor of her Presbyterian church publicly opposed the Viet Nam War.

"They fired him," she said. "His congregation just fired him."

She could not fathom how a man who represented peace could be fired for serving the will of God.

The Temples attended their first St. John's service on the last evening the Episcopalians worshiped in their temporary quarters at Elim Lutheran Church. The following Sunday marked the return of the temporarily dispossessed Petaluma congregation to their historic home at Fifth and C streets.

"Not too many months later, Jeanie Nelson took me aside and asked me to be on the altar guild," Victoria said.

She didn't know anything about the order of worship or the significance of the various parts of the liturgy but she learned quickly. Over the next five years, she progressed from altar guild to vestry and from thence to junior warden. Father Daniel appointed her senior warden, succeeding retiring senior warden Clif Hill.

As she learns to cope with the new responsibility, Victoria commented, "It's a much more serious job than one would think."

As top lay person-in-charge, Victoria has an obligation to serve Father Daniel, making sure he has the time to carry out his pastoral duties — and making sure he takes the time to be himself, to be with his family and to be as free as possible of the endless minutiae that can overwhelm a parish priest.

"I think we have a gold mine in Father Daniel," she said. She cites the belief she shares with him that the culture change that has already taken place in the 21st century must be met with innovative changes in the way people practice their religion.

"The church needs to keep up," she said, referring to the use of technical systems and philosophical mind-sets that can work good as well as evil in the lives of humankind. "We will need to take care of each other."

She pointed to simple basics like sharing the use of water and healthy food, and a more serious dedication to helping the poor. For Victoria Temple, being part of St. John's Episcopal Church is being part of a body of good people, people who honor and enjoy each other and in turn serve the community of Petaluma as a whole.

"If tomorrow there is a terrible earthquake in Petaluma, the first thing I want to do is rush to the church, to Cram Hall, where we can come together to see what is needed and how we can help," she said. ■

February 22

In Touch with the Unconscious

with Meg Tinsley, MFT

Authentic movement is a Jungian-inspired expressive, improvisational movement practice that offers a way of becoming in touch with the unconscious through the body. No movement experience is required, though it is helpful to be able to sit on the floor for about 30 minutes at a time. Please email Meg Tinsley, MFT, at fuzemeg@rocketmail.com to confirm your attendance and for further information.

March 8

Chanting the Lord's Prayer in Aramaic

with Devi Mathieu

Explore the sound and substance of some of the teachings of Jesus, in particular the Lord's Prayer in Aramaic, the language Jesus spoke. We will experience simple, traditional practices of chants, prayer and contemplation common to Jesus, his disciples and the people of ancient Palestine. This exploration will be based on the work of Aramaic scholar and teacher Neil Douglas-Klotz.

March 22

Praying with the Body

with The Rev. Daniel Green

Praying can be more than words addressed to God. In this workshop we will explore how posture, gesture, breath, sound and movement can bring concentration, awareness and wholeness to the practice of prayer.

April 5

Religious Art of the Renaissance

with Bruce Elliott, Ph.D.

This Easter season Dr. Bruce Elliott will offer a visual presentation on religious art of the Renaissance, featuring works by Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Rafael and Titian. We will explore ways in which these masters apply their artistic skills and their Renaissance humanist values to infuse Biblical narratives with new life.

May 24

The Story of the Spirit in Man & Mathematics

with Larry Temple

A presentation on the sacred story revealed in the Primary Numbers 1 through 13 including a form drawing workshop in Sacred Geometry, Forms, Rhythm, Essence and Qualities. There will be paper, rulers and compasses available for some simple geometric form drawing.



Bringing Christ to Life

ST. JOHN'S
U

SPRING 2014

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

40 Fifth Street
Petaluma, CA 94952
707-762-8872

ST. JOHN'S U

10:00 am - 12:00 noon

presentations
take place in

Norman Cram Parish Hall

350 "C" Street
Petaluma, CA 94952

For more information
contact **Frances Frazier**

707-484-8229

Franfrazier@aol.com

[saintjohnsepiscopal
petaluma.org](http://saintjohnsepiscopalpetaluma.org)

