



October 8, 2020

Thursday Weekly Epistle from Fr. Peter

Penny will be out of the office on Monday, October 12. Messages will be checked on a regular basis. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Olds.

From Fr. Peter: There is so much information that I want to share with you. *First, as I recently learned the indicators to Covid-19 mirror those of the Flu. By getting my flu shot I have helped those who will diagnose me should I become ill. Letting doctors know that I was inoculated with this year's flu shot, will help them to dismiss that illness and look for possible Covid treatment. There are exceptions where people are told by their doctors to not take the flu vaccine, and I respect that. For the rest of us, and for each other, I encourage you to get this season's flu shot.*

Secondly, I love voting. Every time I do I feel connected to my government and fellow voters in a way I cannot explain. On Tuesday I received my ballot in the mail, voted, and took my signed and dated sealed envelope to Lodi City Hall where, inside the main doors they have a very heavy, well secured ballot box, and I cast my vote. Please consider doing so yourself. Below are the Lodi areas where you can drop off your ballot, should you not wish to mail yours. Should you want your vote placed into a ballot box, but you are unable to leave your home, please phone me and I will arrange for two volunteers to pick up the completed, and sealed ballot from you, and place it into a box. I will ask that they provide the information to you (time that they placed it in, location of the box, and unique box identification number, which is posted on the front. Having your voice heard is important, and I want to encourage you to participate. These are just two ways, as Christian Episcopalians we can serve our community.

Also, as some of you know via our conversation with the Bishop on Wednesday, and mine on Tuesday, it appears that we will refrain from in person gathering for a while longer. I want to thank you for your patience as we clergy and congregations in the diocese make these hard choices not for our own sake, but for the sake of those around us. As conversations about re-opening continue, I will keep you informed. Finally, Marie and I are delighted to be present on property this Sunday for an hour (see the announcement below), and look forward to those of you who will drive through to say "hello" with a wave (Harry will join us a little bit after 1pm, as soon as he walks over from his job at Wal-Mart). We feel so honored to be called here to our parish and look forward to seeing the faces of those of you who make up the body of Christ known as St. John's!

FRIDAY

FRIDAY Noonday Prayer on Our Facebook Page - At noon, merely go to "Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, Lodi, CA Facebook Page" and there will stream Fr. Peter's brief Friday service of Noonday Prayer, beginning on page 103 in The Book of Common Prayer (you can still follow along without one).

THANKSGIVINGS

Sunday, October 4 Memorials/Thanksgivings (correction):

Left off from last week's memorials, but never forgotten our dear friend Fran Nieman. It has been two years from October 4 that John's loving wife, Fran passed from this earth to our Father's heavenly arms. We always will remember her service to our church and her humor.

Sunday, October 11 Memorial/Thanksgivings/Celebrations: John Nieman in remembrance of my beloved Fran's memorial service on Oct 13, 2018. Gwin Paden in loving memory of her parents,

Robert & Christine Jones, Aunt Marion Hopkins & her stepfather, AA Talmage. Donna Hoffman & Linda Harkins in celebration of Barbara Jones' birthday, October 13.

SUNDAY (WORSHIP/COFFEE HOUR)

Sunday Worship, October 11, at 9:30 a.m., with Coffee Hour Immediately Following: Meet our Seminarian - Our Thursday Epistle will direct you to where to view our pre-recorded Sunday worship service on our Facebook and YouTube Pages.

Sunday Virtual Coffee Hour! Coffee Hour for Sunday October 11 - See the Zoom link below to join us at coffee hour after the 9:30 am Morning Prayer Service. You will have the opportunity to meet Jessica Harmon, our seminarian intern who is doing her field Education with us, virtually, from the East Coast!

Computer: <https://zoom.us/j/93073195951?pwd=NTZLYm5WRDIwVHltb2pEdzU1OE5kUT09>

Meeting ID: 930 7319 5951

Password: 1055

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,93073195951#,,#,1055# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,93073195951#,,#,1055# US (Houston)

Telephone: +1 301 715 8592 US

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 930 7319 5951

Password: 1055

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/93073195951?pwd=NTZLYm5WRDIwVHltb2pEdzU1OE5kUT09>

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Jessica Harmon Our Field Education Seminarian - As Fr. Peter announced earlier, he is supervising a seminarian who will be serving St. John's from afar! Jessica is a seminarian originally from Fresno. She's currently completing her 3rd year at Yale Divinity School. Her time at seminary has given her the opportunity to explore theology and liturgy in new ways, plus she now has an entire class of people to talk Greek and Latin with instead of boring people at coffee hour. Before seminary, Jessica was a graduate student and teacher of linguistics in Los Angeles. She is looking forward to reconnecting with the Central Valley over the coming months (especially looking forward to good, fresh, produce after a couple of New England winters). Jessica loves exploring her home (whether that's Connecticut or California) by finding used book stores and out-of-the-way hiking trails.

Saturday October 10th - Deanery Day (We are Northern 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) - Deanery Day Message! As published in the Friday Reflection last week, we hope you will all share this important information regarding deanery day! Bishop David, Canon Anna and others will present information for Diocesan Convention. We will hear about resolutions and the budget for 2021! Clergy and convention delegates are required to attend. Wardens, treasurers, and other leaders are encouraged to join as well (parishioners can observe, as well)!

Join the Zoom meeting [HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 863 0770 8543

Passcode: 586377

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,86307708543# US (San Jose)

If you are unfamiliar with Zoom, and would like to test it out beforehand, please contact Rev. Angela (dioadmin@diosanjoaquin.org). Peace, The Rev. Angela Lerena; The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin; Diocesan Administrator.

Sunday Afternoon 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.: LIVE Happy 1ST Year Anniversary to Fr. Peter Drive Thru!

Can you believe that October 13, 2020, marks the one-year anniversary for Fr. Peter as our Rector! Please jump in your car and come to church to participate in a drive through appreciation for Fr. Peter. Wave, smile, shout your appreciation of Fr. Peter as you drive through the church parking lot where Fr. Peter and family will be waiting to see you. We will have someone collecting cards and feel free to add a monetary gift for Fr. Peter. Thank you. Karen Olds (626) 716-4192 Cell

Are You Going to Pledge This Year? Our Pledge Season begins this Sunday! Our pledge is a promise to what we will give over to God, unencumbered, and unassigned for the upcoming year. I will speak more about this traditional Episcopal Church practice in my Sunday sermon. Pledging is a wonderful opportunity to trust God through our release of treasure. My hope is that engaging in this practice together we will witness the spiritual benefits in one year's time. *Fr. Peter*

A Note From Your Treasurer: St. John's financial responsibilities continue each month and we depend on your pledges to meet them. We would like to thank those who kept up on their pledges over the Summer and remind those who let their pledges slip to please bring them up to date. You may choose to mail in a check or use our new Givlify app to send in your payment.

CLASSES, CLUBS, MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday Class 10:30 a.m. – Bible Study through Paul's Letter to the Ephesians (one hour/session) –

Every Tuesday until it concludes, Fr. Peter will facilitate a shared learning experience using this Epistle from Paul.

Creation Care Team: Plastic waste is becoming one of the biggest problems for most parts of the world. If we do not find ways to effectively and economically recycle the various types of plastic being produced, we will continue to pollute an already endangered world. To give you a sense of the problems we face the Creation Care Team invites you to view two movies. *The Story of Plastic*; This is available to rent on Amazon Video Prime for \$2.99, or for free by going to the website storyofplastic.org and joining a virtual viewing community. *Plastic Wars*; This is a PBS presentation available on Youtube. We would love to hear your comments about both or either of these movies. You can email them to derek147a@gmail.com.

Participation with No Children Left Hungry Continues - The Parishioners of St. John's have been incredibly generous in contributing to our food outreach to children and seniors during this difficult time. We have made one large purchase of shelf stable food which was given to the No Children left Hungry program and special fruits for the seniors. In between time we have been delivering milk, bread and eggs to the shut-in seniors so they have some fresh food. We will be making another large

purchase this next week to share with those in need. We give thanks to God for all that He blesses us with so that we may share with others! *Cheryl Nix, Pat Fehling*

Interested in Being A Reader for A Sunday Service? If you would like to participate in the Morning Prayer service offered each Sunday, please contact Penny at the Church Office. You can email: stjohnslodi@sbcglobal.net or call 209-369-3381. After confirming a date with Penny, Fr. Peter or Dcn. Tom will send you the information you need to participate. It is a great way to stay connected and participate.