



Sacramento - Fair Oaks

Dear Members and Friends,

November 27, 2018

The word “apocalyptic” is usually used for something like “end of the world horrific,” when what it actually means is simply “uncover,” or “reveal.” In the Revelation to John what is revealed is how the earth and human evolution can and may develop in cooperation with the divine hierarchies and Christ. The macrocosmic view. But there is a microcosmic view in which the spiritual world, spiritual beings work into and with every single human life and destiny. There are no accidents. What comes to us is tailored by the divine and is the means by which each of us can and may learn, grow, and evolve. Every human life is a revelation, an apocalypse.

With the **beginning of Advent** we celebrate the birth of the new Christian Year. And there is truly something mysterious about the death of the old year and the birth of the new, a renewal in time, like an awakening at dawn, an apocalyptic working. We can sense this new, vital, evolutionary spring before the altar in the prayers of Advent.

You will see in the program a **flurry of activity** that always accompanies this first season of the year. Wreath making, Advent Fair, Candle dipping, Shepherds Play, etc. These are opportunities to invite friends and neighbors and introduce them to The Cristian Community. We invite your participation, but also your willingness to help!

For the last year we have been trying to **bring more “form” into the congregation**, clarifying tasks, needs, etc. and trying to get people to take on specific tasks, short term or longer, and clipboards with lists have appeared in our community spaces with these tasks enumerated. I encourage you to see if you can’t help with one or the other community needs.

One of those “needs” that does not appear on any list is **the need for more servers!** If you think you could help in this way, a server’s training (short and easy, no quizzes) can be arranged. Remaining In the realm of “vestry,” the care and maintenance of all that is connected with the sacraments, there is always a **need for sewers** for vestment making/repair, altar cloth fabrication, etc. Most recently, this has been and is carried by Pati Callan (thank you!), so please speak with her if you can help.

There is one person (who may speak for many?) who has repeatedly opined that following the Act of Consecration on a Sunday, people would quietly leave the chapel before beginning their active and lively conversations for the sake of those who want to allow the just experienced sacrament to echo in their souls...in peace and quiet!

Our church building has being going through a gradual metamorphosis or renovation, as we pursue our **change of use permit from** the county, which has proven a much longer process than we initially anticipated. Now in fact, we cannot proceed further until we have resolved the septic or public sewer issue. We are actively exploring hooking up to the sewer system and will know shortly whether or not this is the right and sensible route to take. Additionally, we will need to make changes to the upstairs bathrooms to be fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as improvements in the concrete and asphalt areas around the church and a new “back” door. Meanwhile, **our church and community spaces are looking more and more beautiful!**

With warm greetings for the Winter Triad of Christ Festivals,

Sanford Miller