



St. John's Chapel, Del Monte

News Letter #34

January 13, 2021

Dear fellow members of St. John's:

What is going on at St. John's? You may have had this thought a number of times in the last month or two. First of all, you need to know that the Vestry has been working very hard to maintain our special spiritual home. The church office is continuing to function and stands ready to answer any question you might have. We are continuing our commitment to our Monterey society by keeping our parking lot open for the ladies of One Starfish and our Parish Hall continues to be a welcome respite for the ladies of I Help. As you are well aware, there are many in our society who are in great need at this time and, be assured, that your Vestry and your Church are continuing to offer our best to those in need.

We continue on our search for a new rector. We have been investigating a number of possibilities and we are working with the Bishop to facilitate our beginning of a new chapter with a new Rector. The pandemic has made this a difficult activity for us but we will prevail.

You might be asking, "What can I do to ensure the future of St. Johns?" All of us have an active part to play in securing this new future. It is true that we cannot gather together at this time, but

you can play a part in keeping St. Johns safe and active. The church needs you to continue or initiate your pledge. This will enable the Vestry to secure that safe harbor for you when that glorious day of reunion returns. All of us should have received our loyalty statements (pledge cards) for this year. Have you completed yours and returned it to St. Johns? As you depend on the Vestry to keep our church viable and ready for you, so we need you to assist us in keeping this dream alive. This period of our civic and religious life is very challenging and, at times, depressing. What can we do? Where can we find a solid foundation to stand upon during this time of challenge? Remember that God encouraged us to build our house on stone and not on shifting sand. That is where we are now—we have a house built by those brave Episcopalians of the Past. They built upon the rock of tradition and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. This is our moment to join with them in the history of St. Johns. The baton of responsibility is now in our hands. We will need those who are working in house to keep our church open and we will need those who will continue to provide the financial resources to allow us to succeed. You are all part of that great “Bastion of Religious Freedom”. St. John’s needs you to continue to give of your dedication and treasure today so that we all share in its glory in the future. I do encourage all of us to continue to pray for the future of St. John’s and for our ability to re-start our journey in the Glory of God. Fear not, because we have the strong arm of Jesus to clear the darkness and provide the way to success. I sincerely thank all of you that have pledged to fulfill that commitment that you made. I encourage those of you who have not yet initiated that pledge to do so in the near future. The Vestry and all of the future of St. Johns are counting on you to answer this call.

Yours in Christ
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