



A Prayer for our 136th Year (and beyond)

Dear Members and Friends of St. John's Chapel,

In June, we celebrated the one hundred and thirty fifth Anniversary of the founding and mission of St. John's Chapel. Many prayers of thanksgiving and joy were offered to God for all the life-giving ministry and sustaining faith that has flowed through this congregation into the world from this place. So, what do we do now? First, continue to recall that past, and second, recommit to that mission as we step forward into our one hundred and thirty-sixth year, and beyond. To that purpose let us now pray.

Heavenly Father,

As we have celebrated 135 years of parish life and faith within this community of St. John's Chapel, we offer you our thanks and our praise. We thank You for the gift of this family of faith: for every person, every prayer, every act of kindness, and every moment of grace that has shaped our parish through the years.

Thank You for the ways our faith has been lived out here: through the celebration of the Sacraments and through lives transformed by Your Word.

We thank You for the community that has been formed within these walls and beyond: for friendships



rooted in faith, for generations who have prayed together, served together, and carried one another through times of joy and sorrow. We also remember with love those who are no longer with us: the priests, lay leaders, families, and parishioners who helped build this parish community and whose faith continues to inspire us. May they rest forever in the light and joy of Your presence.

Lord, we thank You for the many blessings You have poured upon us, for the times we have reflected Your love, for the moments we have excelled in generosity, compassion, and service. With humility, we also acknowledge the times we have fallen short: the opportunities missed, the wounds caused, and the ways we have failed to live fully as Your disciples. Yet through every season, Your guiding hand has remained upon us.

As we have celebrated our 135th Anniversary, renew our hearts in faith and mission. Help us to continue building a parish rooted in prayer, united in love, committed to serving others, and to the worship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the same Spirit who has guided this community for these 135 years continue to lead us forward with hope, courage, and joy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fr. Rick



Senior Warden's Message July 2026



On June 14, 2026, precisely 135 years to the day, we gloriously celebrated the anniversary of St. John's Chapel Del Monte. Originally constructed as a place of worship for guests at the nearby Hotel Del Monte, the chapel property was donated by railroad tycoon Charles Crocker and the structure funded by efforts of his daughter, daughter-in-law and the public. The structure is a rare representation of an English style church designed by master architect Ernest Coxhead, and an outstanding example of his Shingle Style architecture. When it was completed, the chapel faced the Hotel Del Monte and was a short footpath stroll away.

Dedication, on June 14, 1891, was led by Suffragan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. William Ford Nichols of the Diocese of California. Over time, many prominent vacationers attended services at the chapel, including President Theodore Roosevelt, who attended services on May 10, 1903.

When a new state freeway was planned in 1957, the chapel was moved and repositioned in its present location, once the site of the former hotel flower nursery. Award-winning Architect Robert Stanton expanded the church to its present size and designed the neighboring parish hall.

St. John's Chapel Del Monte was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 21, 2020.

When we look around this evocative and charming space, we can imagine the hundreds of worshippers who, like us in the present, have come to St. John's over time for solace, inspiration, comfort and to give thanks. We may no longer hear their voices, or their prayers, or the children laughing. But we can sense the bonds of relationships between members over the generations, the hopes and joys, the celebrations, the sorrows withstood, the sacrifices endured, the courage displayed, and the devotions offered to God.

As we celebrate this major milestone in the life of St. John's Chapel Del Monte, we recall with appreciation the rich life and struggles of faith that lie behind our history, and in doing so we appreciate even more God's faithful presence through the years as St. John's Chapel has glorified Christ and served others. This is a symmetry of who we are, and who we have been, that reveals the patterns of our past and the steadfastness of God in our future.

We wholeheartedly welcome you to our St. John's Chapel family. While you are with us, please ask for God's blessing, on yourself and on St. John's long and continuing presence on the Monterey Peninsula.



**St. John's Chapel, Del Monte:
A Special Rose Garden Dedication
7 June 2026**

Following the Holy Communion service on Sunday, June 7th Elizabeth Barratt, our Senior Warden, speaking on behalf of the Vestry, made the following Presentation:

"We're delighted to present this plaque to honor Bill and Margee Bennett for their 23 years of service to this lovely rose garden. The garden itself enjoys a long history at St. John's. The idea for a memorial garden dates all the way to 1963, with initial plans to develop the unused space between the chapel and the parish hall.

Parishioners had to wait until May 1979 when the brick patio was added. During COVID the patio was much appreciated when it became the designated spot for our outdoor services so we could continue to meet despite the church building being closed.

The formal dedication of St. John's Memorial Garden took place in June 1980. By then it was already well

planted, thriving and formally blessed.

Since 2003 the garden has been lovingly maintained by Bill and Margee Bennett. Their dedicated work began when to their astonishment they discovered that a landscaper had left the beloved bushes "ma-cheted" as Margee put it. They began by pruning the bushes as best they could, nurturing them back into blooming shape and recovering from the butchering they had endured.

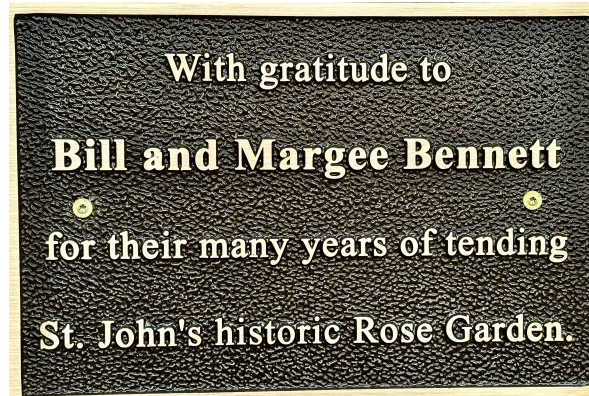
Since that time, they have been eager volunteers in the rose garden, maintaining the healthy plants and replacing those occasionally reaching the end of their years. At present our garden holds 89 rose bushes. Each January, with the help of volunteers, 60 sacks of manure are delivered to be spread around the bushes, with each bush getting its own additional helping of bone meal, fertilizer and tender loving care.

So, Bill and Margee, we thank you for your consistent devotion to the care and maintenance of this serene and lovely

blooming space, and in the years ahead everyone visiting the garden will notice this plaque and remember your loving service."



Photo thanks to Suzanne Gill



Altar Flowers: The Flower Chart is in its usual place in the Parish Hall. Reserve those important dates now. Costs are \$40.00 for regular seasonal flowers, greenery and candles, OR \$50.00 for roses.



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The Gala 135th Anniversary Luncheon, Grand Dining Room, Monterey Elks Lodge 1285, June 13, 2026



Head Table with Monterey Bay in the background: Clockwise from lower left - Elizabeth Barratt, Paul Haglund, Soraya Haglund, D'aun Miles, Fr. Rick Miles, Col Gary Ohls, USMC (R)



Luncheon camaraderie with past Senior Warden Geoff Holland and Amy Holland



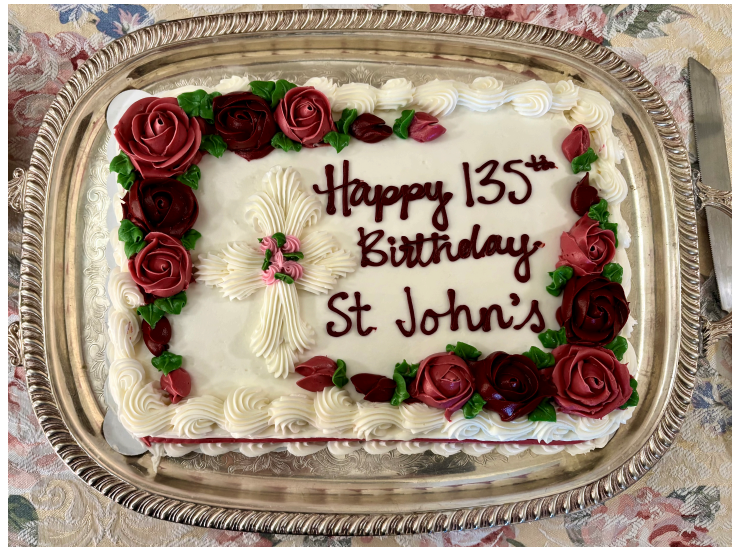
Presentation of Chapel's 135 year history by Elizabeth Barratt, Chapel Historian



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135

*The Anniversary Silver Tea following Holy Communion,
St. John's Chapel, Del Monte, Parish Hall, June 14, 2026*



The Business News

Finance Committee Update

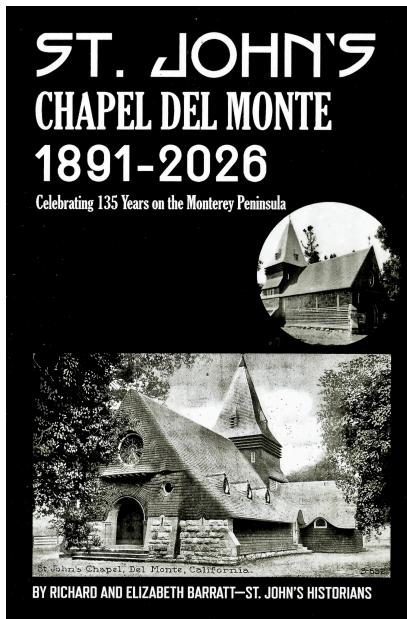
Since the publication of the May newsletter, we have had several good things happen. While no one has adopted an expense, we have received a couple of extra donations, and a few people have caught up their pledges. All good news.

Please keep St. John's Chapel in your prayers as we navigate the months ahead.

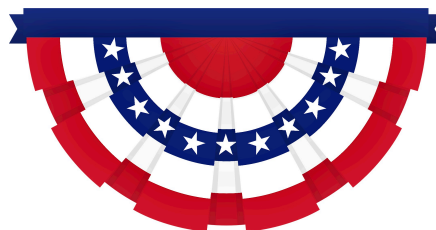
Sincerely,
Finance Committee

St. John's Chapel Current Financial Encapsulation June 2026

Available Funds in Checking	\$ 57,031.77
June Expenses	\$ 19,100.84
Bottom Line (+/-)	\$ 37,930.93



It's here! The history of our beloved chapel, which has taken Dick and Elizabeth Barratt the past four years to research and complete (Elizabeth wrote the text, Dick organized and set up the illustrations) is now available for purchase. You may buy your copy after the Sunday service during the upcoming weeks. Book cost: \$30.



St. John's Chapel, Del Monte July 2026 Schedule

Date	Activity	Notes
July 4	Independence Day	
July 5 Trinity 5	10:00 AM - Holy Communion	Fr. Rick Miles Presiding
July 9	1:00 PM – Vestry Meeting	Centennial Hall
July 12 Trinity 6	10:00 AM - Holy Communion 11:30 AM – Vestry Meeting	Fr. Rick Miles Presiding Centennial Hall
July 19 Trinity 7	10:00 AM – Morning Prayer	Licensed Lay Reader Conducting
July 26 Trinity 8	10:00 AM – Morning Prayer	Licensed Lay Reader Conducting

NOTE BENE: SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY FRONT OFFICE

St. John's Chapel, Del Monte & Our Military Connection



David Jones, longtime member of our congregation, is undertaking the daunting task of chronicling the members of St. John's who have served in the military. Our connection to the military goes back even before the US Navy acquired the Del Monte Hotel. David is asking everyone in the congregation to search their memories and provide him with names, photographs in uniform (or partial thereof), any military memorabilia, and any history you might have. He can be reached at davediane1@comcast.net, or you're welcome to chat with him during "coffee hour" after service on Sundays.



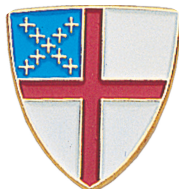
Editorial Policy

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