

The Celtic Courier

June 2025

From the Rector

We've all heard the phrase that "history is written by the victors." This idea suggests that the winning side in a conflict or situation controls the narrative and interpretation of events. This means the victors have the power to shape how the past is understood and remembered, often through their own stories. There is, I think, a lot of truth to this sentiment.

Contrary to the victors' story, however, there is a powerful habit that grows in the hearts of those shaped by Scripture: the habit of looking to the edges. The stories of Jesus form in us a deep awareness of what is often left unseen, to ask of any given story: "*Who's missing? What voices are left out?*"

This is not just a habit of mind—it's a habit of the heart, formed by the example of Jesus himself. Again and again in the Gospels, Jesus turns his gaze toward those the world overlooks: Zacchaeus, perched awkwardly in a tree, desperate to see; the lepers, cast outside the city, forgotten and feared; and, most hauntingly, his own cross, raised beyond the city gates—outside the bounds of respectability and belonging.

To follow Jesus is to follow him there—to the margins, to the overlooked, to the places polite society avoids. This "penchant for the marginal" becomes a holy impulse. It pulls us toward justice, toward compassion, and toward the kind of love that doesn't just notice the forgotten but lifts them up.

This same impulse directs us to strive for gender and economic equality, racial justice, LGTQ+ rights, to support the causes of the many migrants in the Camarillo area, movements that, at their best, echo Christ's call to bring the last, the least, and the lost into the center of the story.

Faithfully yours,
Fr. Michael

do
JUSTICE

ST. COLUMBA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Michael P. Anderson, Rector

Francina Anderson, Director of Family Ministries

Brett Hanley, Director of Music

Dates to Remember



- ✓ **Morning Prayer**, 9:00 a.m., *Mondays and Wednesdays, except June 16 and 18*
- ✓ **Thursday Eucharist**, 10:00 a.m., *Thursdays, June 5, 12, and 26*
- ✓ **Project Hope Food Pantry**, 5:00-6:00 p.m., *Thursday, June 5 / 9:00-10:00 a.m. and 5:00-6:00 p.m., Thursdays, June 12 and 26*
- ✓ **Pentecost/Saint Columba's Day**, *Sunday, June 8*
- ✓ **Three Congregations Taizé at Mount Cross**, 7:00 p.m., *Friday, June 13*
- ✓ **Holy Trinity/Father's Day**, *Sunday, June 15*
- ✓ **Termite Fumigation Closure**, *Monday-Thursday, June 16-19*
- ✓ **Juneteenth**, *Thursday, June 19*
- ✓ **First Day of Summer**, *Friday, June 20*
- ✓ **Vestry Meeting**, 11:45 a.m., *Sunday, June 22*
- ✓ **Youth Group Lunch & Bible Study**, 11:45 a.m., *Sunday, June 22*
- ✓ **Reading Group Zoom**, 7:00 p.m., *Tuesday, June 24*
- ✓ **Lunch Bunch**, 12:00 noon, *Wednesday, June 25*
- ✓ **Adult Forum**, 11:30 a.m., *Sunday, June 29*

Termite Fumigation – June 16-19

The church, preschool, and church office will be **closed on Monday-Thursday, June 16-19**, for termite fumigation. All normal church activities will be cancelled on those days.



The deadline for articles for the July/August *Celtic Courier* is June 15. (There is no separate August newsletter.)

June Birthdays

Susan Doswell	8
Sarah Wigert	12
Nancy Hey	19
Paul Wanis	27



*Happy Father's Day
Sunday, June 15*

CROP Walk 2025

We received a check for over \$2,000 from our participation in the CROP Walk this year! All of the proceeds will go directly to purchasing of food for the families we serve who are in need. Many thanks to Bev Pearson for organizing the walk for St. Columba's! And thanks to all of you who walked, donated, assisted in the activities, or prayed for all of us. Your participation is so valued by so many people in need.

First Day of Summer



Rector: Our rector is the Rev. Dr. Michael Anderson. His email address is: michael.anderson@stcolumbaca.com.



“Every problem has a soft spot. If it is too big for us, we can take it to God. No problem is too big for God.”
—Brother Andrew
(from *ChurchArt.com*)

THE CELTIC COURIER
PUBLISHED MONTHLY
ST. COLUMBA'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
1251 Las Posas Road
Camarillo, CA 93010
ISSUE 6

From the Treasurer

April, for the month and year-to-date, we are behind again. Our expenses are where we expected them to be; our income is a little low because we haven't created any income from fundraisers and we're a little behind on pledges. The CPA on our committee, Maria Fernandez, projects that it is due to April being tax season. We're projected to need to use about \$19,000 of the \$100,000 we have in Reserves this year. We have plenty of funds in the bank so things are not urgent.

You are all amazingly generous. Please continue to give what you can and what you pledged. We are truly blessed!

The Buildings & Grounds Committee is still busy. The termite tenting was delayed due to the weather and it has been scheduled for June to meet the Children's Learning Center's needs. This is a huge project because we have to tent every building at the same time since they are all interconnected. That means that many people will be working to get food out of the areas that need tenting.

The septic tank at the rectory was pumped out again and inspected; further work might be required on it. The Committee is working on other projects that need to be done. Thus far, all the funds for these projects are coming from Designated Funds, not the budget that we use to pay salaries and normal operating expenses.

I'm repeating this but it's still true: part of these Designated Funds are grants from the Endowment Fund that can be spent on ministries or Buildings & Grounds projects. We still have about \$30,000 from the 2023/2024 grant of \$59,000 to spend on repairs and improvements. The tenting should cost about \$20,000. And the Endowment can provide another grant of 3-5% per year (equating to \$30,000 - \$50,000) for further work. This is a good start to pay for what needs to be done. We are so blessed to have our Endowment Fund and give thanks for everyone who has donated to it!

We do have some more expensive repairs coming up though, so we may be asking for extra funds for those specific projects, like the parking lot repaving. The Committee is back to work planning and getting bids for some of the work needed on our campus.

We continue to bless each of you as we count your pledge on Sundays or receive it via PayPal. We're doing this together to maintain our church family, grow it to spread God's love, and continue the work that God intends for us to do.

If anyone would like to join us on the Budget & Finance Committee or see what we're doing in more detail, you are more than welcome. We can truly use more help, thoughts, and ideas. We want to be transparent with expenses and income. If you would like to see the most recent Financial Report, please just ask. We don't take anyone and their contributions for granted. Thank you all!

Gail Hill, Treasurer

On behalf of the Budget & Finance Committee

(Bev Pearson, Maria Fernandez, Diane Off, Sarah Monroe-Allen)



LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will be **Wednesday, June 25**. Come and enjoy lunch and fellowship, hosted by Michele Hauser, Diane Off, Beanie MacLaurie, and Jarrel Fuller, at **Noon** in the parish hall. **Sign up** on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Saint Columba's Day Celebration

On Sunday, **June 8**, we'll enjoy our Annual **Saint Columba's Day** Celebration with **worship at 9:30 a.m.**, celebrating our Saint's Day, and then stay around for **a time of fun and fellowship**.

We'll have a relaxing gathering after church, with hot dogs and drinks provided, and games to enjoy. **Please bring a dish to share for our potluck meal.** Mark your calendars



St. Columba's Book Club



Our book club has selected a novel, *Piranesi* by English author Susanna Clarke, for our first book. The book is “set in a parallel universe made up of hundreds of halls and vestibules, which triggers a gradual loss of memory and identity in newcomers. The story is told through the research notes of the eponymous narrator, who reconstructs the story of his own arrival as he explores this world. *Piranesi* won the 2021 Women's Prize for Fiction.”

We'll meet on **Zoom** on **Tuesday, June 24, 7:00 p.m.** Contact Fr. Michael, michael.anderson@stcolumbaca.com, for the Zoom link.

St. Columba's Endowment Fund

St. Columba's Endowment Fund was established to make funds available for ministries and other activities in the future. We created the Iona Society as a way to honor and thank the members, both living and deceased, for their donations. We currently have over 50 members of the Iona Society.

With donations from you, in any amount, we have been able to grow the Fund to over \$1 million! Each year, we have been able to make grants from the fund to the church. Examples of how the grants have been used: to help pay for the parish hall roof, to purchase computer equipment for livestreaming equipment, and the first year of Francina Anderson leading our children's Christian Education program and Youth Group. The grants are always made from the money we have earned from our investments and never touches the money given by parishioners.

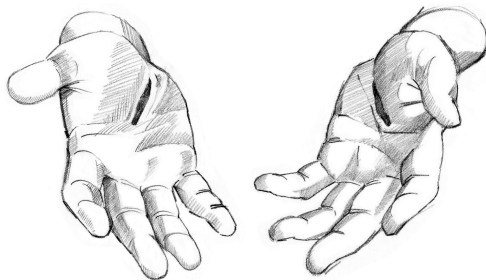
We invite you to become a member of the Iona Society. You just need to fill out a Declaration of Intent. Please remember St. Columba's Endowment Fund in your will or estate plan or make a donation. The Declaration simply says that you intend to make a donation at some time—during your life, or after you have passed. Please pray about this—and we hope that you join the Iona Society!

Poem of the Month:

Wind

by Bruce Bond

Give me proof, said Thomas,
——— and he could see a hole in the palm before him,
and inside the wound a glimpse
——— of the valley on the other side,
——— what I call, for want of other words, *the world*,
——— never *my world*,
——— never the earth faith alone imagines.
This year is the hottest year on record,
——— and you can feel it pouring through the hole.
You can feel the wind that is invisible,
——— though we see it in the olive trees,
what the air moves aside, as if to say, *Am I not the proof you
wanted.*
——— *Am I not the blood.*



It's hard to believe that another school year is almost over, and that we will be saying goodbye to our precious Butterflies in just a few weeks! It has been a wonderful year of exciting growth and amazing memories for us all. Now, our Summer Camp program is gearing up. We are excited to welcome back a couple of alumni to serve as "junior counselors" this summer! The bonds of St. Columba's stretch a long way it seems. We wish a glorious beginning of summer to each of you!

Sarah Wigert for the CLC Board



Youth Ministry: Middle and High School students are invited for lunch, games, and Bible Study. Our last meeting before summer is **Sunday, June 22**, from **11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Any parishioners who are interested in cooking or donating for the youth lunch will find a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Save the Date Episcopal Dodger Night



Episcopal Night at Dodger Stadium will be **August 29**, for the Dodgers vs. Diamondbacks game, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Dodgers have raised ticket prices this year, so the cost will be \$42. A drone show will follow the game. Watch for more information.



Three Congregations Taizé

If you're interested in a contemplative, meditative type of worship, the Three Congregations (Camarillo United Methodist, Mount Cross Lutheran, and St. Columba's Episcopal Churches) are offering in-person Taizé-style prayer, held in the intimate setting of the Mount Cross sanctuary (102 Camino Esplendido, 93010) on the 2nd Friday of each month, at 7:00 p.m.—**Friday, June 13**, this month. Taizé is an international, ecumenical community in France, dedicated to peace and reconciliation, whose prayer includes meditative singing, scripture, silence, and spoken prayer.

A Celebration of Our Baptism **Deanery One Youth Event**

All youth and children in Deanery One are invited to participate with their families on **Saturday, July 19**, here at St. Columba's, from **9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**, hosted by the Deanery Youth and Children's Subcommittee.

Churches in the Deanery have been invited to host booths that relate to baptism with things such as art projects with water and paper, science with water, a bible story retelling—Jesus' baptism or another baptism, reusable water balloon toss on the labyrinth, creating baptismal candles or another small gift to provide to all the upcoming baptizands in the deanery, or bubble prayers or other bubble play, and possibly prayer stations that churches or individuals will host for families to interact.

We will end the day with informal prayers and a cookout-style luncheon. RSVP to attend and/or host a booth to Francina Anderson, francina.anderson@stcolumbaca.com, by June 26.

Celtic Christmas Faire - **Save Books to Sell**

Our annual fundraiser, the Celtic Christmas Faire, will be November 8-9. It's never too early to start setting aside books that you might like to pass on to fellow readers. We will once again be having a book sale to raise money. So, find a spot on a shelf or wherever, and tuck that book you just finished away. Thanks so very much!

Give Glory, Share Beauty **Sponsor Flowers for the Lord's Altar**

Would you like to honor a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or simply give thanks? Sponsoring the altar flowers is a meaningful and beautiful way to do just that.

Each bouquet offered at the Lord's table is a living prayer—lifting up our joys, our memories, and our gratitude before God.

Here's how you can participate:

- ❖ Find the flower chart on the door in the narthex and sign up next to your preferred Sunday.
- ❖ Fill out the form—Let us know who or what your flowers are honoring.
- ❖ Place your form and \$50 check (made out to *St. Columba's Altar Guild*) in the colored envelope provided and place in the collection plate.

Your gift adds beauty to our worship and meaning to our prayers. Thank you for helping us keep the altar blooming with love and reverence.



Fresh ideas to improve health habits. There are changes all around us. Try plant-based food instead of steak with a dab of butter on top. Be mindful of groundwater by properly disposing of pills.

Maybe give a couple of things a try. Gift-giving might focus on health-related items. Give someone spices to replace a salt habit. Small dumbbells or a yoga mat might be a Valentine's gift. Toning your muscles and relaxing using yoga to promote sleep is healthy.

A large 2024 Harvard study published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* found that widespread adoption of the Planetary Health Diet might greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, fertilizer use, and land needed for farming. The diet was also tied to significant reductions in premature death from heart disease and cancer among 200,000 people followed over 30 years.

You can also reduce your carbon footprint by driving less and walking or cycling more. Take part in local environmental clean-up events (which gets you to socialize). The hope is to be motivated—wanting change for yourself—to make lasting health possible.

The Parish Nurses





Re: www.health.harvard.edu, February 2025, "Harvard Health Letter—fresh ideas to improve health habits."



JUNE 2025



**Welcome
Summer**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Ascension Sunday Holy Eucharist 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30	2 Morning Prayer 9:00 Chapel Boy Scouts 6:00 PH	3 Staff Meeting 10:00	4 Morning Prayer 9:00 Chapel Craft Group 2:00 PH Women's AA 5:45-6:45 PH Women's AA 7:00 PH	5 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Project Hope: 5:00-6:00 PH CLC Chapel 11:15 Choir 6:00 	6	7 DOK 10:00 (Ofc.)
8 Pentecost C/ St. Columba's Day Holy Eucharist 9:30 Potluck Picnic 10:30	9 Morning Prayer 9:00 Chapel Boy Scouts 6:00 PH	10 Staff Meeting 10:00	11 Morning Prayer 9:00 Chapel Craft Group 2:00 PH School Board 4:00 Women's AA 7:00 PH	12 Project Hope: 9:00-10:00, 5:00-6:00 PH Holy Eucharist 10:00 	13 Three Congregations Taizé at Mount Cross 7:00 	14
15 Trinity C/Father's Day/Courier Deadline Holy Eucharist 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30	16 Termite Fumigation—Everything Closed	17 Termite Fumigation—Everything Closed	18 Termite Fumigation—Everything Closed Women's AA 7:00 Patio	19 Juneteenth Termite Fumigation—Everything Closed	20 First Day of Summer	21
22 Pentecost 2C Holy Eucharist 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Vestry 11:45 PH Youth Group 11:45 Ofc.	23 Morning Prayer 9:00 Chapel Building & Grounds Committee 12:00N Ofc. Boy Scouts 6:00 PH	24 Staff Meeting 10:00 Reading Group Zoom 7:00	25 Morning Prayer 9:00 Chapel Lunch Bunch 12:00N PH Craft Group 2:00 PH Women's AA 7:00 PH	26 Project Hope: 9:00-10:00, 5:00-6:00 PH Holy Eucharist 10:00 	27	28
29 Pentecost 3C Holy Eucharist 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Adult Forum 11:30 PH	30 Morning Prayer 9:00 Chapel Boy Scouts 6:00 PH			Our food distribution schedule this month is: The 1st Thursday of the month, 5:00-6:00 p.m.; the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 9:00-10:00 a.m. and 5:00-6:00 p.m.		

Visit us on the web!
www.stcolumbaca.com

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ST. COLUMBA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1251 Las Posas Road
Camarillo, CA 93010

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: (805) 482-8831
E-mail: office.manager@stcolumbaca.com



June 8 – Saint Columba's Day Celebration
July 19 – Deanery Youth Event
August 23 – All-Parish Concert
August 29 – Episcopal Dodger Night