TRANSITION
Holy Family San Jose
Journey of Transformation
Relational Courage
On the Cover:
Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves processes under the vibrant colors of All Saints’-Cristo Rey Episcopal Church in Watsonville.

Candle and stones from the Holy Land, courtesy of Canon Brian Nordwick, seen at Sargent House diocesan offices in Salinas.

Real Episcopal
A biannual publication by the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real.

PUBLISHER The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves
EDITOR/WRITER/PHOTOGRAPHER Elrond Lawrence
MANAGING EDITORS Canon Brian Nordwick, Canon Jesus Reyes
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Lisa Bennett, Kelsey Davis
THANKS TO Mary Beth Powell, Tiffany Martin

Visit www.realepiscopal.org for news and resources

DIOCESAN OFFICES
The Sargent House, PO Box 689, Salinas, CA 93902
(831) 394-4465 info@realepiscopal.org

Photography by Elrond Lawrence/Diocese of El Camino Real except as noted
A Message from Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves

Dear Friends,

After our convention, someone remarked, “I had no idea that transition could be so energizing!” It made me laugh in joyful agreement! I thought of how we are typically afraid of transition. We worry and grieve about what is ending and live nervously toward the advent of the unknown.

Interestingly, this convention (my last one to have as a diocesan bishop without a bishop-elect present) was one of the most energetic and forward-looking of any in which I have participated — in any diocese anywhere. Who knew transition could be so energizing! I was inspired and deeply appreciative of the stories we heard of churches engaging in new ways with their neighborhoods: relational “technologies” and collaborations among congregations and college chaplaincies that are reaching a larger and more diverse group of people with the good news of Jesus.

This issue of Real Episcopal includes the story of Holy Family: three congregations who, over a five-year period, have learned to love one another intentionally and become One in Christ despite cultural, racial, and organizational differences that keep so many faith communities separated. This is a story of deep reconciliation, reflecting the primary mission of the church: “to be reconciled with God and one another.”

Also in this issue is a check-in with Kelsey Davis, Curator for Emerging Communities, sharing her learnings of these first months of ministry among us. Additionally there are thoughts and testimonials from Patrick and Martha Dexter, George and Nancy Romer, and Board of Trustees Vice President Michael Coffin — all of whom are fully engaged in “becoming the church that does not yet exist.” They inspire as they are engaged in local ministries, alongside being committed to the diocesan strategic objectives of building leadership for the future, cultivating the treasures within our neighborhoods, and strengthening our connection with one another and the wider world.

We have created a culture in El Camino Real of experimentation, of “research and development,” if you will, and it is taking hold as a way of being. We are a learning community, which keeps life exciting and also in a state of regular transition and transformation. We are emboldened in the power of the Spirit each time we try and learn something new. And yes, it is so energizing!

May our effectiveness and impact continue to help others know the good news of Jesus Christ!

Blessings,
Recognizing a community need, members of St. Benedict’s Church in Los Osos have teamed up to provide free laundry service for low- to no-income residents. The “Laundry Love” volunteers show up at Osos Clean Laundry the last Wednesday of every month from 5-9 pm with quarters, detergent, laundry supplies and smiles. Each month the team serves about 20 people who each bring at least three loads of clothing and blankets to wash and dry. Photos by Danna Dykstra-Coy

In October, churches across the diocese brought their pets large and small to be blessed. Two examples of the fun were captured at St. Andrew’s Saratoga (below) and Church of the Good Shepherd near Salinas (lower left). St. Andrew’s photos by Kristin Cameron; Good Shepherd photo by Letty Sloma

GALLERY: AROUND THE DIOCESE
Top: The Rev. Jim Collins, interim priest-in-charge at St. George’s Salinas, gets “shaken down” at a murder mystery dinner and play in October at Madonna del Sasso Catholic Church in Salinas. The churches teamed up to produce a sold-out “Murder in the Malt Shop” evening that benefited local charities.

Above: Bishop Mary’s August visit to All Saints’-Cristo Rey Church in Watsonville was filled with blessings: since her birthday in July was spent at General Convention, the congregation threw her a surprise “one month later” party after the morning service ... complete with food, cakes, and a performance of “The Danza de los Viejitos (dance of the old men).”
Transformation

We are on the threshold of a changing season.
We are experiencing the joy of anticipation, while grieving what has been.

Our church is on the threshold of a changing season, a season that invites us to be re-formed and transformed.

New life is coming,
A new way of being church is arriving,
are you watching for it?
could we move forward together?

We have journeyed through the long, winding months of ordinary time -- daring to deepen our awareness of the presence of God in our midst. Ordinary moments full of divine surprise have caught our attention, reminding us that love lives with us. Each of these encounters transforms and empowers us for mission. Advent invites us to keep watch for the Hope being birthed. We are the midwives, the co-creators, the collective that will discern how to be community, sharing in the gifts of God.

Courage and compassion will be our guide as we practice forming relationships, and listening for new ways to be church.

What a joy it is to be living this journey of transformation with you. Our first months together have been rich. We have covered 4,000 miles and over 50 meetings painted with dialogue, shared meals, laughter, tears, and dreaming. You have offered hospitality and spoken your truths, supporting and challenging new ways of being church. Skepticism and barriers have been held central in many of our conversations. Naming the shadows within this work only deepens the reality of wondering. We have pushed and pulled in loving ways, and my hope is that we continue to do so for years to come.
You are dreaming courageously, softening perceived boundaries, venturing outside of church walls, practicing vulnerability, risking faithfully, ready to embrace failure — all with the hope of loving our neighbors. Across generations, it is clear to me that there is a commitment to gathering in ways that reflect the Jesus Movement: sharing meals, deepening connection, transmitting tradition, engaging spiritual practice, celebrating diversity, and showing up for social equality. I’ve listened to the passion reflected in our youth and young adults for our church to be a place that is marked by radical hospitality, exploding with love for the whole world. Their questions, gifts, and concerns are cornerstone to building the church that does not yet exist. They are brilliant and deserve to be in places of leadership throughout our church. Invite their gifts.

People, not programs, are at the center of the movement. 

On a sunny day in Salinas, I found my way onto the porch steps of Sargent House. Throughout the day, our sidewalks are filled with a diversity of people passing through. As the sun touched my skin and my eyes listened to the neighborhood, I wondered where each might be going or coming on their own journey. Most of our neighbors that pass by happen to be college students and young families. What are their stories? What are their hopes and dreams? What realities do they face? Where do they feel safe and loved?

These wonderings were interrupted as a young man slowly passed by Sargent House. Perplexed to see someone sitting outside, he looked up, looked down, stopped, and turned back towards me. I waved gently and smiled. He waved back, shopping bag in hand, calling out “hey.”

“Hey, what’s up?” I said back.

“Oh, nothing. Just walking back from the grocery store,” he replied.

“Great. What did you get?”

“Some pancake mix. I love pancakes,” he replied enthusiastically.

At this point, I was still sitting on our green steps, as he stood on the sidewalk. Both of us unsure if we should move towards one another. Perplexed by the encounter, I stayed sitting.

“I love pancakes, too. What kind will you make?” I offered.

“Banana and chocolate chips. They’re the best.”
Clockwise from top left: Holy Family members pose for a portrait with Bishop Mary at the 2017 diocesan convention; multicultural signs; the Rev. Ruth Casipit-Pagio, rector; Holy Family’s welcome sign reflects its heritage; music at the 10 am Sunday service.

Opposite page: Holy Family members share the peace.
It’s been a long and winding path, but Holy Family Episcopal Church in San Jose has new life thanks to three congregations that overcame six years of challenges to establish a new, multicultural church ready for the future.

“Isn’t it marvelous? It’s family,” says parishioner Mindi Wojdylak, who joined St. Joseph the Worker Episcopal Church in Milpitas in 1976. Since then, she’s been part of a transformation that saw St. Joseph’s congregation merge with Holy Child Episcopal Church, a Filipino congregation who rented space at the sprawling St. Philip’s Episcopal Church campus on Hyland Road in San Jose. That marriage took five years to accomplish before the new Holy Family Episcopal Church was born; amazingly, that merger was followed the next year by a second combination, this time between Holy Family and St. Philip’s.

Multicultural mergers are unheard of in the wider Episcopal Church, but these three congregations – working with the Diocese of El Camino Real staff – have achieved two in six years’ time.

The first merger concept was considered in December of 2008, when the vicar of St. Phillip’s proposed the idea of combining with Santa Maria Virgen, a Latino church in Milpitas, and Holy Child. This exploration ended when Santa Maria Virgen’s clergy and congregation decided to leave the Episcopal Church in mid-2009. In 2010, at the request of St. Joseph and Holy Child, Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves and the Rev. Canon Jesus Reyes, Canon for Congregational Development, restarted and guided some open-ended conversations to explore the feasibility, energy, and desire of merging the two churches.

“For Holy Child it involved moving from East San Jose to Milpitas, and that was a big consideration,” explains Reyes, “but the gatherings were very good, very positive.” They used a technique called “fears and hopes” that listed columns for each. “There was a long list of fears about bringing together two very different congregations,” he said. “They were very honest and transparent… the list of fears was almost twice as long as the hopes.”

Three congregations, one future

Embracing a Holy Family

Embracing a Holy Family
But after they prioritized the lists into “core fears and core hopes,” he adds, “they perceived there was more energy around hopes than around fears. They saw there was room for taking chances. That’s when they decided to move forward.”

At that time the Rev. Ernie Boyer was priest-in-charge of St. Joseph, while the Rev. Ruth Casipit-Paguio (now Holy Family’s rector) was vicar of Holy Child. The process took several years because the congregations couldn’t follow examples of other Episcopal churches that had successfully completed a merger. “There weren’t any!” says Reyes. “They blazed the path.”

Supported by Kaleidoscope program materials, the congregations were given the time to get “culturally comfortable” and get familiar with each other’s worship styles. The diocese avoided forcing the merger, allowing the churches to continue operating as two parallel congregations who were learning to get along.

Beside the myriad of administrative and practical details that accompany a merger, the greatest area of tension at each church was the potential loss of identity. Reyes explains that each church struggled when the time came to dissolve their individual mission statements.

“The fact of dissolving was so threatening,” Reyes recalls. “There’s a sense of prestige, of history … there are so many aspects. You have to learn to be generous in letting go.” He encouraged congregation leaders to allow the legal language, but to honor the identity and ministries of Holy Child and St. Joseph the Worker. “That’s when they became one.”

Bishop Mary formalized the Holy Family union with a celebration in Milpitas in late 2015. During her sermon, she said, “You know how to do this. And maybe in the future you may be asked to do it again.” That proved to be a premonition.

By late 2016, St. Philip’s San Jose was in a fragile state, struggling with an aging congregation who was rapidly shrinking in number and income. Sunday service attendance was so low that the church couldn’t attract new visitors. They were reaching the end of a Mission Opportunity Grant funding period, and the small congregation was being spread thin and steadily losing the capacity to properly maintain the spacious church grounds.

At the same time, Holy Family’s congregation was renting space at a United Methodist church and had limited access to the property, limiting growth. They also faced an upcoming lease contract that would increase rent and reduce the number of hours that Holy Family could use the property.

Both situations sparked the idea for a second merger. Holy Family would gain a tremendous property and would no longer need to pay rent anymore, and St. Philip’s would once again become a large, thriving parish. The difference this time is that the process would be rushed, since Holy Family was nearing the end of their lease contract. The process began in early 2017 and was completed just six months later, just before the diocesan convention on the first weekend in November. The new Holy Family held their first Sunday services at the former St. Philip’s the day after convention.

Today Holy Family offers three multicultural services on Sundays: a 10 am Anglo/Filipino service, a 12:30 pm Latino service, and a 4:30 pm Filipino service. A joint service is held on the first Sunday of every month. The Rev. David Starr has since joined the church as associate rector, assisting Rector Ruth Casipit-Paguio. On a recent visit, the 10 am service was bustling with parishioners of all ages, filling the church with warm friendliness and vibrant energy. The coffee hour was one-of-a-kind, with Filipino dishes sharing counter space with bratwurst left over from an Oktoberfest event.

“We believe in celebrating and embracing differences,” Wojdylak points out. “It’s like the food. Where else would you get this combination?”

“This parish is very welcoming to children,” said Ian Greensides, who worshipped with his kids at the service. He’s been a member since the Holy Child era, when he recalls it was the “first Episcopal church that was really multicultural.”

Armin Busse joined St. Joseph in 2012 when the churches were in the process of merging. He believes that experience carried over an understanding which helped make the second merger easier, “in the sense of being sensitive to each other and respectful.”
“We are a happy family of diverse cultures trying to blend together and accept one another,” says Casipit-Paguio. “We honor our differences by listening to one another and embracing each other with compassion and sincerity. Being a loving community of diverse backgrounds is our greatest strength.”

“Every time we gather at Holy Family, I am awed at God’s tremendous guidance and abundant grace that enable us to make a difference,” she adds. “Holy Child brought the most members, most of whom were young. St. Joseph, on the other hand, had contributed so much financially while St. Philip’s provides the space where we now worship. Each congregation had dedicated leaders and they’ve all contributed to our growth.”

“We knew it would be a challenge,” says Gloria Duncan, a Gilroy resident who’s been a member of St. Philip’s since the 1980s and now serves as secretary for the Holy Family vestry. “I am thankful we have people who are willing to work and get things done despite the challenge. We’re still working out difficult issues but in a positive way . . . that’s why I stayed. That’s what keeps us healthy.”

“It took six years to merge Holy Child and St. Joseph, and about six months to merge the second time. That was the greatest challenge,” recalls Shonna Close, who was a senior warden during both transitions. “The paperwork is a killer,” she states, along with deciding logistics and merging vestries. She credits then-Diocesan Chancellor Nancy Cohen as a huge help throughout the complicated process. “Part of the problem is that you don’t know the questions to ask.”

“For Holy Family [the second merger] was a wonderful opportunity,” Close stresses. “We were renting and looking for property and as anyone in this valley knows, it’s next to impossible. We knew we could get through this and be OK, trying to be cognizant of everyone’s feelings and realizing that not everybody is going to be happy all the time.”

Indeed, the congregation is still working to bring very different cultures together and not all parishioners are happy with mingling Tagalog in hymns and prayers. Other recent bumps in the road include facing the loss of the St. Philip’s name and the need to grow cultural groups and bring more Latino worshippers to the 12:30 service.

Carol Bower, who has been an active member and leader at St. Philip’s since 1973 along with her husband, feared that the church’s identity would be lost, but believes that didn’t happen. “In my opinion, this was the natural place for us to grow. We’ve always welcomed everybody and to have back Holy Child is awesome. And to have St. Joseph, who we’ve been close to for years, is awesome. It’s creating home with a wonderful family. Any negative thoughts aren’t there anymore.”

“Reverend Ruth has been the glue,” Bower adds. “She’s got the energy, charisma, sincerity, and love in her heart that must be the size of California.” Bower and several parishioners praised Casipit-Paguio, plus Rev. Ernie Boyer and the Rev. Lucie Thomas, former priest-in-charge for St. Philip’s, now retired. “What a wonderful group of clergy to give us birth … and David Starr is going to be an asset too.”

“So many of us believed that this [merging] was God’s will, so we just did it,” adds Close, “and tried to do it with joyful hearts. Now we can do some things that none of us had been able to do on our own.”

What excites Bower most is a family filled with youth and new energy. “We have life here now,” she says. “There are youngsters – we haven’t had kids in a long time. To have that life of children and energy and hope is the most rewarding gift that this merger has brought. It’s also nice to have a lot of people in church on Sunday, and getting to know them all. Our worlds all got larger, yet smaller… we’ve become a great community.”
The 38th Diocesan Convention

Relational courage and the church that does not yet exist

“You are beautiful.”

Bishop Mary Gray-_Reeves repeated this message again and again during her annual address during the 38th Convention of the Diocese of Camino Real on October 26—27. Unveiling the newest annual theme, “Relational Courage” – a theme she borrowed from Jennifer Baskerville-Burroughs, Bishop of Indianapolis – she encouraged delegates, clergy, and all in attendance to reflect on how they arrived at the Episcopal Church, how the church has enriched them, and how they have enriched the church.

Citing the arrival of new Curator for Emerging Communities Kelsey Davis, and the launch of the diocesan Leadership Innovation Fund, she stressed that “we are the asset we most need to develop.”

“We can offer programs, make our worship as slick and performative as can be, offer the best and brightest sermons, the most moving of liturgies, and the greatest hospitality practices ever,” she said. “But ours is an incarnational faith. If we are not present, then the essence of Christianity is not present.”

Relational courage will be required, she added, as the diocese and its new bishop come into relationship – and into partnership – together.

“It has taken all of us and our courage to explore and practice new ways of exercising power,” she explained, “power held by many, discovering new connections of energy, and uploading more gifts and talents from more relationships, locations and sources. We have, in fact, practiced a ‘stewardship of episcopate’ oversight, that has been highly communal.”

Bishop Mary’s 12th convention appearance was historic in being her final solo convention appearance; next year, she will share the stage with a bishop-elect who will succeed her in January of 2020.

“In this partnership we have discovered reconciliation of the brokenness of years past, we have discerned our relevance as a diocese both locally and globally, and we know the experience of resurrection,” said Gray-Reeves. “We have learned the rhythm of dying and rising and followed it into new life. We have loved and argued, laughed, and cried.”
“Each year we have grown in knowledge, courage and experience in becoming the church that does not yet exist,” said Gray-Reeves. “Having spent a year pondering identity, it is time to step out a little more boldly with our beautiful Episcopal self.”

“The Spirit of God is moving through this diocese with compassion, creativity, and courage,” said Curator for Emerging Communities Kelsey Davis (above), who preached Friday at Evening Prayer before the convention banquet.

Davis asked the assembled crowd to open their hearts and practice the courage it takes to lean into the people and places they might otherwise overlook. She recalled a favorite Irish saying, “It is the shelter of each other that the people live,” and added that “we are the shelter that we long for.”

Both the Bishop’s Address and Davis’ sermon are available to read at the “Convention” page at www.realepiscopal.org.

The convention included a moving and creative celebration of life: congregations wrote the names of those baptized in the past year on blue flags, and those who had died on red flags. The flags were then fastened to the stage as a tribute, seen above with Katy Dickinson.

On Friday evening, eight diocesan volunteers were honored for their years of service and immeasurable contributions to the Diocese of El Camino Real.

Right: Bishop Mary presented the annual Bishop’s Cross awards to the Rev. Caro Hall, St. Benedict’s Los Osos, to Richard Smith of St. George’s Salinas, and to the Rev. Canon Jesus Reyes. Lower left: Simple Servant awards were presented to Susie Ferguson and Holly McCullough, Episcopal Church in Almaden, and to Jo Greiner of St. Luke’s Los Gatos. Lower right: Bishop’s Heart awards were presented to Barbara Creed, who is retiring as chair of the Personnel Commission (husband Chris accepted the award) and to Linda Morris, St. Jude’s Cupertino, for having attended every convention since the founding of the diocese in 1980!
Thank You, Donors!

In this issue, we’re recognizing all who have given to the Diocese of El Camino Real since January 1, 2018 (through mid-October). Your generosity helps us to offer important new ministries and continue the good work across our diocese. Please forgive any errors or omissions and email corrections to marybeth@realepiscopal.org or to lisa@realepiscopal.org. Thank you for your gifts!

Lee Adinolfi
Ms. Helen Alam
Sonia Alam
Jason and Macy Andrews
Jean Arndt
Rosemarie Axton
Joseph Baldwin
Roger and Dottie Barney
Lisa Bennett and Robin White
Anne Bevier
Jeremy and Kathy Bond
Georgia Booth
Phillip Boyce
Kenneth and Helen Brady
Bill and Pat Braithwaite
Don and Susan Britton
Wanda Bryan
John and Marilyn Buentz
Sally Cadigan
Peter and Margaret Campbell
Duncan and Ann Clarke
Ernest and Jill Cockrell
Michael and Diane Coffin
Nancy Cohen
Ollie Collins
Donald and Diane Cooley
Richard and Frances Coulter
Christopher and Barbara Creed
Arturo and Angela De la Cruz
Karl and Sarah Delong
Patrick and Martha Dexter
Jeffrey Diehl and Rob Keim
Matthew and Katherine Doar
John and Janet Duncan
Rosi Edwards
Wendy Elers
Peter and Meme Enemark
Lenore Erickson
Frank and Robin Fiedler
Ed and Wendy Fincke
Eric and Kathryn Fisher
Chuck and Bobbi Flagg
Robert and Diane Frankle
Kimmel Fudge
Susan Gabbard and Janet Strahan
Tim and Mary Ann Gee
Cathy Gildea
Bruce and Jean Givetz
Mary Gray-Reeves
Charles and Karen Greenleaf
Emily Griffith
Thomas and Mary Hawkins
Mary Ann Hayward
Arnold and Janet Hedlund
David and Tina Heidmann
Joe and Beth Heston
John and Mary Hjalmarson
Shirley Holgate
James and Lillian Homer
Anne Hootman
John and Cindy Howard
Michael and Mary-Nona Hudson
Jeff and Mary Hultquist
Fred and Marge Huxham
Albert and Anne Isaacs
Ed Jacklitch
Laurie T. Jarrett
Pitch and Cathie Johnson

James Mangin
Toshiko and Yasuko Matsui
Robert and Mary McCorkle
Nayan McNeill and Jo Greiner
Steve McShane
Charles and Jean Mendoza
Barbara Miller
Stanley and Marjorie Moniz
Richard and Rachel Mueller
Martha Mykszak
Howard Nelson
Althea Parks
Jon Perez and Robert Munoz
Christine Perrin
Harold and Valerie Pestana
Rick and Ann Pettit
Hugh and Carolyn Platt
Jeffrey Pugh and Jennifer Stern

Michael Coffin, St. James’ Paso Robles

“I support the Bishop’s Appeal because it funds innovation that ensures we are prepared for the future. It allows our parishes and deaneries to try new ways of connecting with the communities they serve, without taking on financial risks that would otherwise limit imagination and creativity. I consider it a venture capital investment in the Episcopal Church of the future—which is absolutely necessary for our growth in a changing world.”

David and Martha Jones
Nancy Jones
Carl and Evelyn Kiepen
Robbie Kilpatrick
Scott Kindred
Steve Kottmeier and Sue Ramar
Jacqueline Kramer
Bill and Terry Krivan
Ann Lane
Erlond and Laura Lawrence
Louisa Lim
David Richardson and Eliza Linley
Harriet Linville
Debra Low-Skinner
Lloyd and Carol Lowrey
William Mertely and Jill Lucas-Mertely
James and Rhoda Lynch
Barbara Lyon

Beverly Pursley
Richard and Joan Raiter
Rowland and Pat Rebele
Bill Reed
Alvin and Sonja Reetz
Jim and Mary Riedel
Susan Robertson
Dennis Romley
Steve and Kim Rooks
Milo and Mary Scherer
Tom and Virginia Scott
John and Nancy Severson
Becky Shan
Anne Sherwood
Channing and Mary Smith
Morgan and Elisabeth Snow
Sandra Sobie
Support the Bishop’s Annual Appeal

Since the launch of the Bishop’s Appeal, the Diocese of El Camino Real has been transformed by your gifts! We’ve enhanced support to congregations that need:

- Clergy transitions
- Strategic and financial planning
- Leadership training
- Congregational development
- Communications & website consulting
- Development and planned giving advice
- Educational assistance

With the arrival of Curator for Emerging Communities Kelsey Davis and the launch of the Leadership Innovation Fund, we are helping congregations reinvent themselves for the future. And with your help, we’ll continue to focus on ministry programs that serve our congregations and communities:

**Your Gift Supports Mission Opportunity Grants**

This grant program supports innovative congregation ministries that require extra assistance, helping them launch or expand outreach into their surrounding communities.

**Your Generosity Supports Formation for Reconciliation and Evangelism**

The diocesan team on Formation for Reconciliation and Evangelism (FRE) is charged with supporting the educational needs of the diocese. Funding helps our diocese build leadership for the future by bringing workshop speakers, exploring and adapting programs and developing Christian education materials.

**Your Philanthropy Helps Fund the Partnership Commission**

The Partnership Commission helps congregations build mission-based partnerships that bring hope, healing and reconciliation to their local communities.

We’re changing the DNA of El Camino Real into a learning, collaborative and dynamic community. We’re raising the commitment and the skill level of congregations, helping them connect and inspire leadership in one another. Many congregations now minister in their local communities, which is how they will thrive. Help us bring God’s healing and hope to a chaotic world! Please make a tax-deductible gift by visiting [www.realepiscopal.org](http://www.realepiscopal.org) or by using the attached envelope.

---

Debra Spencer and Jim Rolens  
St. Mark’s, Santa Clara  
John and Manel Stanley  
Susan Stanley  
Duane and Ann Stevenson  
Tom and Jill Stolarik  
Bruce and Keely Sweeney  
Doroteo and Helen Tade  
Bob and Dale Tatum  
Bob and Nancy Taylor  
Fred Terman and Nan Borreson  
Marjolie Thomas  
Laura Trovato  
Anne Fuller Wall  
Dennis and Francey Ward  
Will and Sandy Watkins  
Curt and Margaret Weil  
Martin Lewis and Karen Wigen  
Carol Wilcock  
Bob and Pat Williams  
Katharine Wilson  
Hugh and Carol Wright

Patrick and Martha Dexter,  
Calvary Santa Cruz

We signed on to the Bishop’s Appeal in 2013 and have been annual donors ever since. Our gifts have been rewarded many times over! The Appeal allows the diocese to go beyond the administrative and organizational necessities that are covered in the annual budget. With Appeal funding, the diocese can explore activities and take risks in areas that are beyond individual parishes, but the results and knowledge gained can benefit all of us.

For example, this funding allowed the diocese to establish a communications office which has led to better connections between and among us. Funding for Mission Opportunity Grants has expanded creative outreach efforts in parishes throughout the diocese, and in 2018 we welcomed Kelsey Davis, Curator for Emerging Communities. Innovative programs such as this allow the diocese to experiment with new programs and services that can be a model for individual parishes. We’re proud to support the diocese individually and we invite you to join us. Your gift can make a difference!

George and Nancy Romer,  
Episcopal Church in Almaden

“It is a privilege to vote in this country and one not to be taken lightly or for granted. This simple but important act ensures that we have a voice and role in our country. It is with this same thought that we financially support the Diocese of El Camino Real. We wonder what would happen to our larger church if people didn’t make the purposeful intent to support it. We believe it is part of the fabric of stewardship for our beloved church to support the diocese, as it is the foundation for all 40-plus churches as we walk the walk of the Jesus Movement.

Our simple act of stewardship ensures the voice and role of our diocese. Through it we are encouraged to believe and wonder in the spiritual, and create ways to be relevant to our community – Jesus, where the “rubber meets the road.” The diocese influences our pathway and we respond and influence the diocese in our successes, born of wonder and symbiotic creation.”
Year-End Giving Tips

**IRA Charitable Rollover** – Are you looking forward to paying income tax on your 2018 required minimum distribution? If the answer is “no,” and if you are 70 and a half years or older, then consider making your Bishop’s Annual Appeal donation directly from your IRA. A gift of up to $100,000 sent directly from your IRA to the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real is not reportable as taxable income!

**Stock that has gone up in value** from when you acquired it is known as “appreciated” stock. By not selling your appreciated stock, but rather giving it directly to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal, you may be eligible for a charitable income-tax deduction and you will avoid paying capital-gains tax on the sale.

Please contact your financial advisor to discuss these options for your charitable gift to the 2018 Bishop’s Annual Appeal. For information about how to make these direct transfers, contact Tiffany Martin at tiffany@realepiscopal.org or Lisa Bennett at lisa@realepiscopal.org.

Follow the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real via Along the King’s Highway, our weekly e-newsletter, and our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages.

www.realepiscopal.org