



# Talk Story



St. Jude's Episcopal Church ~ Where Jesus talk is a daily walk.

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Volume 7 ~  
Special Edition 4.5  
April 10, 2020

## Despite COVID-19 Restrictions Holy Week will be observed



Holy week begins with Palm Sunday, April 5th. A Palm Sunday service will be available on our church website.

[www.stjudeshawaii.org](http://www.stjudeshawaii.org)

The worship page will be changed throughout Holy Week for:

Palm Sunday

Maunday Thursday Service

Stations of the Cross on Good Friday

Easter Sunday

### Talk Story Special Edition

*Despite the closing of our church building due to CDC guidelines, our church body remains strong.*

*This Special Edition of Talk Story is to advise you of new on-line worship services planned for Holy Week and to update you on how our church continues to thrive in the midst of the Corona Virus pandemic.*

*Stay blessed, stay calm, **stay home.***

*Cindy Cutts, Editor in Chief.*



Original artwork by Debbie Johnson.

In contemplating the cross, I always see its light, the ever present hope of Christ's intervention in our lives. Here in Hawaii the perfect blues and greens of God's creation I've placed in symmetry to give a sense of security, stability and balance that this time desperately requires. While our freedom is physically limited, the undeniable beauty of God's creation still surrounds us and is our comfort.

Debbie Johnson



## A Note from the Bishop's Warden

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By Contributing Editor Don Hatch

Holy week is coming, and St. Jude's is ready to share it with you on our web site at <http://www.stjudeshawaii.org/worship.html>

Rev. Mary and Jim Janda headed home to Salt Lake on Sunday, March 29th. This was a month earlier than planned, but with travel restrictions going into place we all thought it was best for them to get home and stop traveling as soon as they could.

This does not mean we are without a priest. During the last several weeks St. Jude's has been closed for Sunday Services. Instead of being at church, the services were recorded and posted on our web site.

Rev. Mary may not be with us, but she is still our priest. She is in our hearts and we are in hers. She is still recording the sermons and sending them to us.

Rev. Mary welcomes your email messages.

[pastor.maryjanda@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.maryjanda@gmail.com)



**PLANNED on-line services**  
**Holy Week, April 3 ~ 12, 2020**



**April 3 9:30 a.m.**  
**Palm Sunday**



**April 9 6 p.m.**  
**Maundy Thursday**



**April 10 6 p.m.**  
**Good Friday**

**Stations of the Cross**



**April 12 9:30 a.m.**  
**Easter Sunday**

# Saturday means something good

## Is cooking at St. Jude's

Due to the various problems associated with COVID-19 warnings, the Bishop's Committee regrettably voted to temporarily close our showers on Saturday. However, there was a strong commitment to continue our Saturday soup kitchen. The original plan was to switch from soup to take-out sandwich lunches. On March 28<sup>th</sup>, Karen, Anna, and Rev. Mary made a variety of fresh sandwiches, bagged them up individually, with chips and cookies.

The new plan for Saturday soup distribution dawned with a small band of volunteers. The doors to the church were barricaded with tables, to create a sort of "take out window" for beverages and meals. The outdoor restroom was accessible to visitors. The line for soup distribution outside was also intended for appropriate social distance spacing, and visitors were strongly encouraged to stand 6 feet apart. Everyone was instructed to wash their hands in the restroom, prior to picking up soup from our kitchen. We served over 100 people.

The sandwich plan proved to be problematic in procuring the grocery supplies and the cost was nearly three times that of our regular soup menu. So, it was decided to return to serving soup in a portable container, and keep the social distance serving line, outside of the church building.



Line up outside the church for sandwiches.



**Karen & Rev. Mary distributing take-out sandwiches.**

April 4<sup>th</sup> was the first opportunity to try out that new idea. Hungry people continued to flock to St. Jude's and somehow, we continued to provide for them. It's as if St. Jude's is part of 21<sup>st</sup> Century "Loaves and Fishes" miracle. We always seem to have enough. Other community resources, such as Big Island Giving Tree, use our facility to distribute food. We are hopeful that the Ka'u Food Pantry will return to our site, soon. It's just a fact – the hungry are fed at St. Jude's. The faces of those who come to us on Saturday are evidence that we must continue to offer food at St. Jude's as long as we possibly can.

## Volunteers needed

But to continue the Saturday soup distribution, we must have more volunteers. If you or someone you know, would like to volunteer for set up, take down, making the soup or serving the soup, please call

**Karen Pucci at 510-778-5500 or email her at [pooch53@gmail.com](mailto:pooch53@gmail.com).**

St. Jude's is also committed to staying safe and following CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. All volunteers must practice solid social distancing, wear protective gear and support efforts to keep everyone from contracting COVID-19.



# LEMONADE

BY CORDELIA BURT

Once again when St. Jude's is given lemons, we make Lemonade. What a time for lock down. We can't possibly miss all the services of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

Well, we're not going to. Pastor Mary has recorded her sermons and services for us and Karen and Teri have read lessons and prayers and Cindy has mashed it all together to make us happily attend church virtually.

We will raise our hands, palms out to celebrate Palm Sunday. We'll hear the readings and service on Maundy Thursday, walk the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday and come together on Sunday morning to celebrate Easter by saying loudly "Alleluia, Christ is Risen, The Lord is Risen Indeed, Alleluia".

We will continue with Sunday Service in this manner until we are able to once again meet in our buildings, at which time the new fire will be lit in the courtyard and carried into the building singing "The Light of Christ, Thanks be to God."

After all, we know that we are the church and we are carrying Christ's light within us.

Have a glass of lemonade.





## GIFT OF THE CROSS

BY PHYL LAMON



On my wall hangs a cross, nothing fancy, no exotic wood, no golden inlays or precious jewels. Just a common piece of 2X2 made into a simple cross. At its heart is a heart, roughly hewn out of a small piece of olive-wood, perhaps from Jerusalem? A draped linen strip moves gently in the air currents, sending a 2000 year old message, "He is not here. He is risen!"

The man who brings me the cross is a gentle soul, offering it tentatively, as though I might not find his gift good enough. He once was someone, or so they tell me, but a brain aneurism has all but erased who he used to be. Now, he is a simple cross maker. He only has bits of his olive-wood left to work with, so I am truly honored to be a recipient.

I look around for a place to hang his precious gift. Marla runs for the ladder while I scrounge for the hammer and a nail. The cross maker waits patiently, holding the olive-wood heart against his own. At last, Marla drives the nail home in the perfect place, high up on my wall. As he reaches up to release the cross to her he has tears in his eyes. So do I!

He is gone now, far too good to be here where he could no longer meet the expectations of mere mortals. I don't know why he chose me to receive one of his special crosses. I didn't know him well, but I will always remember his gift!

This Easter Sunday, let us also remember HIS gift! We are Easter People whether we celebrate on line or in person.

Aloha! Phyl.



## SPIRIT OF ST. JUDE'S IS ALIVE AND WELL

BY REVEREND MARY JANDA

COVID-19 has dared to diminish the efforts of this Community of Faith, known as St. Jude's, but has failed miserably.

With no public worship or other gatherings possible there have been videos of worship made, extra communication via phone calls,

texts and emails delivered to the members.

Zoom has allowed for face-to-face contact. This has allowed for a personal touch during this time of isolation and social distancing.

The spirit of St. Jude's is alive and well!





## ZOOMING WITH EFM

By Cynnie Salley

Zoom is my new favorite computer program. Three weeks ago, when Ray and I started our isolation, I had never heard of it and now, it's connecting me to the world; at least to the part of the world I know and miss.

St. Jude's is a true Christian community, where love prevails and holds it together as they follow in Jesus' footsteps to the best of their ability.

I so miss that interaction: the hugs, the worship, the aloha hour, the love, the togetherness, the friendship, the prayers, the caring for each other and on and on.

Last week, with Cindy's encouragement and help, the EFM class met online using Zoom.

It was wonderful! Wonderful to see everyone's faces and hear their voices and we now are going to continue the class in that mode. Because it was so successful, we continued on and broadened our scope and did Mary's Way of the Cross, for Good Friday, which will be shared on the St. Jude's website.



**Zoom meeting proves to be a success for St. Jude's EFM class.**

Mary Janda joined us from Utah, Cindy was our Zoom guru and recorder and the rest of us had learned enough to join in and participate. What is so important is that it has given us a venue to be with each other.

We remain a Christian Community and now have a means to keep it together through interaction. We will have to figure out how to best do that!





# VIDEO WORSHIP JOY

BY TERI MARTINDALE

What do you do when your church has to close its doors because of a viral pandemic?

Well, if you are a member of St. Jude's community, you get to meet, keeping a social distance of six feet, with a group of people who will become your new BFF's.

Our "Talk Story" editor, Cindy Cutts, suggested a small group get together to do a "Communion under Special Circumstances" as a video. So with the permission of Bishop Robert Fitzpatrick, we began video recording services.

The Reverend Mary Janda who has been our resident/guest priest since the beginning of the year, led us with an introduction of who St.

Jude's is, then to an opening prayer followed by parishioners reading the lessons for the

4th Sunday in Lent. Reverend Mary read the Gospel and preached a homily, followed by the recitation of the Prayers of the People, the Lord's Prayer and the Benediction.

The following week we met again following the same outline and put the service for the 5th Sunday of Lent and Palm Sunday on video. The services were downloaded to our web page and our Facebook page. Music was added and emails were sent out to the community to let them know how we could worship together.

It is really difficult to be apart from our greater worship community, especially during the Lenten season and coming up to Easter. The EfM class has begun to meet via "Zoom". During the last class we were discussing Holy Week, and what services we are used to attending and feeling sad that we can't be together for Maundy Thursday, Stations of the Cross, or Tenebrae. We grieved together that we can't decorate the church for Easter Sunday, and we can't be together for Easter worship service.

So the EfM group decided we would video the Stations of the Cross by "Zoom."

Mary and Jim Janda had returned to their home in Utah, so nine of us in the Ka'u District and Reverend Mary in Utah all

connected on "Zoom."

We had one run through for rehearsal and then we were on! Nine wom-

en reading their parts and chorus-

ing "Lord hear our prayer," and we were done.

What a joy it has been for me to work with "The few! The proud! The members of St. Jude's!"

I hope you all enjoy the videos we have been blessed to put together for our worship time. I look forward to the time when we can all be together for worship once again.

Stay safe! Be well!  
Shalom,  
Teri

*What a joy it has been for me to work with "The few! The proud! The members of St. Jude's!"*

Teri Martindale





# HIGH TECH HOLY WEEK

BY CYNTHIA CUTTS, EDITOR IN CHIEF

It's been painful to watch our church building, the bustling hub of community activity, grow dark and silent. Parishioners have reached out to one another in various ways through this COVID-19 quarantine; and quickly it became clear that *St. Jude's might be down, but it's NOT OUT!* Volunteers continue to distribute food to the hungry at our church and the WiFi is still keeping the community connected to cyberspace. And membership is thriving in support of one another.

Our EFM mentors, Cynn timer and Teri, have been gracious in checking in on our class members, when class was suspended in mid-March. Their hearts were set on continuing the program remotely. Zoom was the platform selected and this past week, we met for a Zoom meeting.

This was no small task! None of the group claimed to be tech savvy. And none of them were working with high tech devices. It was more challenging because I was in isolation, and unable to make tech house calls, to help the girls get Zoom up and running on their tablets, laptops or smart phones.

But despite the odds being against them, nine women showed up, *on time*, for the first EFM Zoom meeting. It reminded me of the old TV show, *Hollywood Squares*. My computer screen had nine boxes with faces, all beaming with joy.

It took awhile for everyone to learn how to use Zoom – there was a lot of everyone talking at the same time, and even more laughter. But before long, we were chatting, discussing and hanging out together in a very social setting, while still remaining quarantined. As the meeting continued, I sat back and watched the smiling faces of women I have come to admire and love. It was clear from all the chatter that they had missed each other, and that they were so happy to be back together again. But moreover, they were all eager to support and encourage one another.

The meeting was supposed to be a trial run, to see if Zoom was a good fit for EFM class; and everyone agreed, we wanted to try it. But what

I didn't plan on was how quickly the "trial run" morphed into a planning meeting for Holy Week on-line services.

Don't ever suggest something can't be done, to the women of St. Jude's! These non-techies were determined to help me pull an on-line Holy Week together.

Thanks to some bold risk-taking, enthusiastic participants and old fashioned grit, we have planned two additional worship services for Holy Week. This includes Maunday Thursday and Good Friday's Stations of the Cross, which features all of the EFM class members.

*Don't ever suggest something can't be done, to the women of St. Jude's.*

Cindy Cutts

Please note – I say "Planned Services" because this cyber worship stuff is new territory for all of us. I *think* the services are all saved in the correct format for upload-

ing to the website. But, I'm realistic – I know that I make mistakes, computers crash and technology fails. So please be kind if a file for a service doesn't load, or a link is broken. I'm testing everything before it's released, but if a virus can freeze the world, one can probably mess up our website too.

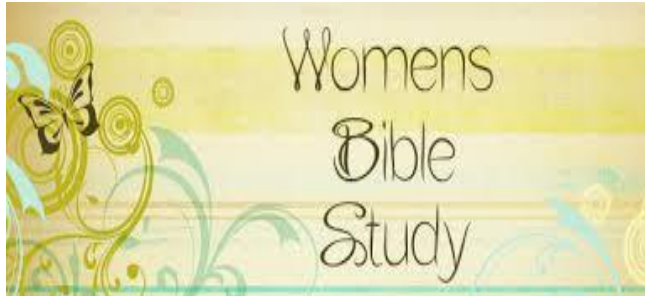
Reverend Mary Janda has been a rock through all of the demands I've put on her for filming sermons, prayers, et al. She remains our spiritual leader through the month of April, from her home in Utah. She is a gift from Heaven!

I tapped Cordelia's brain and vast history of Episcopal traditions, to be sure we follow all the protocol for the season. Honestly, that sweet woman knows everything!

I asked Dan for digital music, and he made recordings of himself singing! SCORE!

I've seen God working through a lot of people this month and while this on-line service planning is a bit overwhelming for me, it's also put me in a new role where I can learn a lot. I'm so grateful for my Zoom team, who have helped make Cyber Holy Week happen.





**Temporarily Suspended**



**Varied**



## Lemonade Party

Temporarily Suspended

Monthly Church Clean up

## Talk Story

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***We welcome submissions!***

**Submission Guidelines:** 500 words maximum.

Uplifting, informational and reflective stories, news,  
recipes, photos, memories, etc.

**For more guideline details visit** [www.stjudeshawaii.org](http://www.stjudeshawaii.org)



Photos must be submitted as jpgs & emailed as attachments.

Submit via email to: [cynthiaanncutts@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiaanncutts@gmail.com)

**Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

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