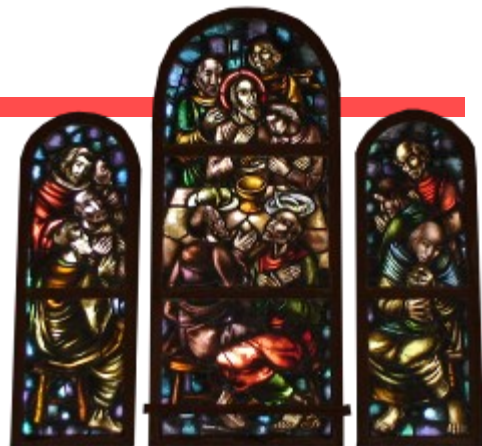




# The Journey

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

An Online Monthly Pictorial News Record



March 2021

## Let us this month

- \* Sing to the Lord!
- \* Attend online class with the priest Wednesdays at 6pm
- \* Get COVID vaccinated
- \* Think about and prepare for ministry in neighborhood
- \* Not forget our daily devotion reading
- \* Remember you **can** be a blessing to others- just do it

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# Life Saving Technique taught at St. Mary's



Instructor: Rae Costa



Student: Chuck Williams

BE PREPARED



*Photo by Graham White*

# Reflections

by Fr. Charles A. Browning II  
Priest in Charge

*I hate time.*

*Because time brings change.*

*And change makes me*

*Start all over again.*

These are the bridge lyrics to the song “Time Brings Change” by the Christian punk band MxPx, from their first album *Pokinatcha* (no, I don’t know what the title means either). Written while the band was still in high school, the words reflect something that resonates far beyond the sentiment of those waning teenage years, a notion that has continually come to mind ever since my own high school years when I first started listening to this band: change is hard. Because change does, as the song says, make us start all over again. When change occurs our momentum slows and we find we have to build things back up, but with the new information that the change brings along.

I think of this in the midst of all the changes that have happened for me and our society over the past year. And I’m not just talking about the COVID-19 pandemic, but things as broad as our political landscape and environmental future to more mundane things like new floors and the realities of growing older.

I’m currently sitting in my office after having replaced the flooring and I look around at the change that has come as a result. All of my furniture is in new places, which gives a fundamentally different feel to my office. I chose this layout, but it still causes me to make readjustments to my day-to-day living. There’s a learning curve.

The reality that I am no longer in my twenties has also become quite apparent as a result of my surfing. I always knew that surfing on Oahu would challenge me—if for no other reason than the sheer availability of waves after a decade of living with inconsistent surf—but I was not prepared for the consistent state of humility I’d find myself placed in here. In many ways it feels like learning to surf all over again. Added to this was the dreaded paddle of shame I made the other day after attempting to surf on a small board I bought shortly after moving here (but hadn’t yet surfed because I wanted to “work up to it”). Back in 2004, when I was eyeing a life in the surf industry, I would have been shredding on the blue five-foot-four quad-finned board that you could see in the background of videos filmed in my office. And somewhere in the back of my mind I thought that that version of myself was still “in there.” But seventeen years is a long time and it was a harsh reality to learn that

time does, indeed, bring change as I paddled back to the beach after not catching a single wave on that board.



"I'm currently sitting in my office...I look around at the change..."

Currently, we are all eyeing big changes. We've spent a year with the mores and customs of pandemic life and we are beginning to see that we've turned an important corner. Just the other

day I read in *The Atlantic* that we might even be able to gather in crowds *without masks* by SUMMER! As much as I've longed for that reality, I realize that I've grown accustomed to masks and social distancing and that such a change will be a shock to me (I imagine I will feel naked going into Foodland for poke without a piece of fabric covering my mouth). We all will have to "start all over again" in living a life without these things that have been definitive for the past 13 months or so.

After a season of cultural reckoning concerning sexism and racism, we are having to learn to "start all over again" in terms of how our institutions work. When we consider the realities of climate change and automation we realize we have much "starting all over again" to do in terms of how we commute and live and ensure gainful employment to people. And all of this because time brings change.

Lent is the perfect time to focus on this fact. This is because Lent is a season about reflecting on change. We aim to acknowledge and change

our direction (which is what "repent" means) in terms of how sin affects us. And we do this while taking stock of how deeply things changed as a result of Jesus crucified, buried, and risen from the dead. Lent is about letting go of established habits and taking on new ones, all in the name of us drawing closer to the Lord who lives and who has utterly changed the fabric of our reality.

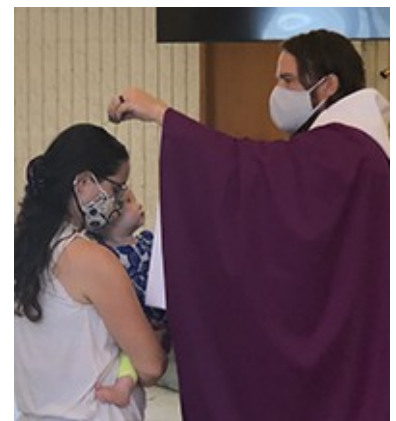
Mike Herrera, the singer and songwriter of MxPx, closes out his song by singing:

*I guess I can work with time.*

*But does time work out?*

Given that we know that Lent leads to Easter, we can say that yes, time "works out." But the process of that working requires fits and starts, interruptions to our momentum, and the acceptance of the new reality that change brings.

**Ashes made on Tuesday**



**Sprinkled on Wednesday**

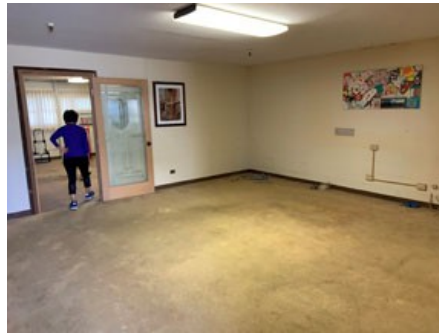
**Ash Wednesday 2021**



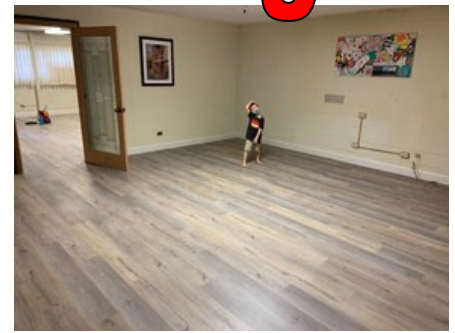
# Church Office Flooring



Old



Stripped



New

Thank you to Christopher Date for his logistics coordination on the office flooring project and to the following volunteers for their help moving furniture, equipment, boxes, etc. on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Rose Chu, Pablo Cortez, Isaiah & Roy Horimoto, Misty Kiyuna, Leland Lee, Bill & Jackie Mok, Carlton Pang, Cindy Tokita and Chuck Williams.

Volunteers put back the chair book holders and books in the sanctuary that was excluded for months.

Mahalo from Fr. Charles and Charlene



← Taking stuff out

Thank you to the company who installed the new office floor—Viloor Flooring

← Putting it back again

## You Are Encouraged



Training for all Lay and Clergy

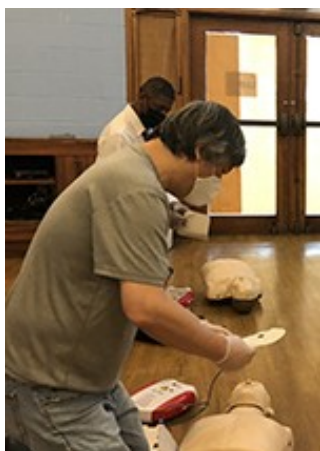
Online Saturday, March 13, 2021

9:30am - 1:00pm

Register now for the Diocese of Hawai'i's Online Spring Training 2021

<https://www.episcopalhawaii.org/spring-training-2021.html>

# First Aid/CPR/AED Training



Left: William Mok preparing to place the AED pads on the dummy.



Right: bandaged leg of a class participant



Upon completion of training, William Mok received a congratulatory packet containing gloves and a plastic barrier to use when performing mouth to mouth resuscitation.

Fr. Charles Browning II, Fr. David Blanchett Sr, Senior Warden William Mok and Junior Warden Christopher Date, are First Aid/CPR/AED Certified. It is asked that any others with same certification please let your Parish Administrator know.



Receiving instructions From Ms. Rae Costa are Chuck Williams (rear) and William Mok (front). Not pictured is Fr. David Blanchett. First Aid/CPR/AED Certification consist of on-line and in-person training.



Instructor, Rae Costa shows the AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) that students were taught to use. St. Mary's defibrillator is located in the sanctuary

Get your COVID vaccination



# Meet Our Sexton

## Chuck Williams



**Chuck Williams, Sexton with Cindy Tokita**

Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent are twelve words that describe the Scout Law - what every scout strives to be. The Sexton of St. Mary's Episcopal Church without any doubt, encompasses all twelve before mentioned words. Which, by the way, makes you, me, the church and our neighborhood blessed.

Our Sexton's name is Charles Williams but he goes by Chuck. Born in Germany and raised in New York, He has served honorably in the Navy (1968-1970), Marines (1976-1984) and Army (1984-1994). He has been an Hawaii resident since his Army discharge.

Chuck did a lot of landscaping, cleaning premises, security, etc. Working at churches, St. Stephen's, St. Luke's, St. Mark's, St Timothy's in the past, it was 2014 when he started working at St. Mary's Episcopal as a contractor. 2016 Chuck was hired as a Sexton. Chuck commented, "I felt blessed by the Lord! My career at St. Mary's is Great. As I am a human, I sometimes over do my tasks."

Chuck does volunteer outreach for homeless people on his own time. He often picks up donations that are offered and distribute them to the needy. One of the things he is known for is that he doesn't smoke nor drink. Chuck remarked: "facing a better life." Its been 22 years since his last drink.

Concerning the Church and his life, Chuck said that, "God is my Commanding Officer!" Concerning the parish, he clarified, what he likes best about St. Mary's Episcopal is "Everybody is like a family to me." "I'm Comfortable"

Chuck has been to Jamaica, Cuba, Vietnam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia but Hawaii is his favorite and home - home for 30 years.

Charles Williams loves God. He said, "I pray to God everyday." "Things will come when you pray to God." "I'm happy, I can't complain." "God is Good!" "I'm in a warm climate."



**Chuck Williams removing sign after Sunday worship service.**

**Photo top right: is photo of Chuck which is now located in Soldier Chapel St. Mary's**



Feb 28, 2021

From Laurie Lee

A (this) butterfly visited the flowering plants outside church this morning. It stayed in the area for quite a while near the end of the service.

“Thank you Lord for your promise of new life in you”



## Visitor Highlight



Morgan Pomaikai Lee  
Honolulu

Chris Ridgeway  
Chicago

[smomjourney@yahoo.com](mailto:smomjourney@yahoo.com)

### The Journey Team

JOURNEY EDITOR:  
Fr. David H. Blanchett



PROOFREADER:  
Charlene Date  
(not pictured)

WEB MASTER  
Richert Au Hoy



WRITER/PHOTOGRAPHER  
James Maruyama





# Road Map



An Online Monthly Pictorial News Record

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The Journey  
BACK ISSUES  
Click Here



## Vestry Meeting

10:15am  
March 21

## Palm Sunday Service

Sunday, March 28th



## Sunday Worship Service 9:00am

In-Person and Live Streamed  
on YouTube & FaceBook

**Kitchen Closed: March 11-30**

**Gathering Room Closed: March 11-28**

**Chapel Closed: March 19-20**

## Palm Cross Making

Friday, March 26th



## March Birthdays



12-Chuck Williams  
20-Kimery Ushijima

*Tamae & Stanley  
Endo*

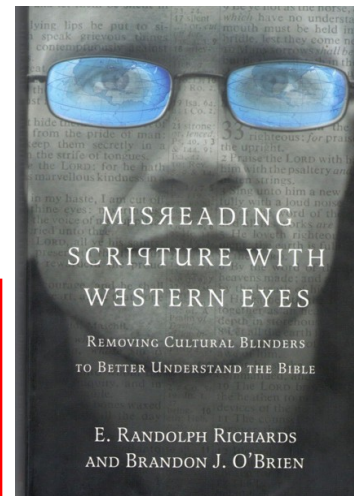
March 15

## Christian Formation Classes

Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes

Wednesdays: March 3, 10, 24 & 31 at 6pm

Live Stream on YouTube



## Prayer Ministry

8:15am  
Sundays in  
Soldier Chapel