



I have noticed that a number of other priests in the diocese send out a weekly email to the parish so that they can touch base, share a spiritual reflection and pass on a few things that are happening in the diocese.

So, this is my first email in that direction. It will be posted on the church's Facebook page as well as the website. Hopefully you find it enjoyable and a helpful reminder of what's up.

Easter here at Good Shepherd was amazing, glorious. The music, the celebration, seeing the church which holds 170 had 270 people at the 9:00 am service. I am not quite certain how that works, it certainly seems to defy physics. However, that is a good metaphor for the resurrection: "The Church of Jesus Christ.... Defying Physics since AD 33."

I invite you to the season of Easter, a feast season for fifty days. Keep the celebration going! I hope to see you this Sunday. The Gospel is the disciples on the road to Emmaus, which is one of the most amazing and wonderful Gospels.



Diocesan Mutual Ministry Review Meeting @GSEC

May 20th 10:00 pm and 2:00 pm
10:00 am- noon Fr. JaR Pasalo, Parish Hall
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Fr. David Kennedy, Church

We are inviting as many people as possible for a very special meeting.

What is it?

Our bishop, Rt. Rev'd Robert Fitzpatrick, (also known as "Bishop Bob") has asked the diocese to do a mutual ministry review. That is known in other places as your annual performance review. Bishop Bob, it turns out, is the first bishop ever to have a performance review in the

Episcopal Church! He is courageously using this as an opportunity to not ask “how am I doing as your bishop”, but “how are we doing together as the Episcopal Church in Hawaii”?

Good Shepherd will be holding two different meetings, primarily to recognize our cultural diversity and to make space where people feel most free to talk.

The first will be lead by our very own Fr. JaR Pasalo at 10:00 am to noon in the parish hall. He is particularly adept at understanding Filipino ministry in our parish and diocese. The second is with Fr. David Kennedy from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the church. You can choose the one that works best for you.

They are going to ask you to give input not just what it means to give feedback to our bishop, but to ask some fundamental questions, the most important one is “why?”. Why are we Christians? Why bother going to church when you could go to the beach, or sleep late, or give your time an energy to something else?



The mutual ministry review process is going to be an invitation to the Episcopal Church in Hawaii to “be real”, to ask how we engage in the ministry of Jesus, his church and his kingdom. It will also form part of our long range planning process, as we will be asking our parish to envision a new future for Good Shepherd in faithfulness to Jesus and his Kingdom.

Who should be there?

VSC

We scheduled the review instead of a VSC (Vestry, Staff, Committees) meeting, because all of those people should be there. And then, everybody else, should be there too! :-)

Youth

We need our adults and youth to be there. Unless you would like the direction of our parish and diocese to be shaped by Old People. :-)

New parishioners

People who are new to the parish have fresh perspectives. You can also help us see us for who we really are and your impressions of our parish.

Long Term Parishioners

People who have history bring a perspective to our community.

So....everybody?

Basically.

7:00 am community “Talk Story” This Sunday April 30th, after the 7:00 am service

We announced way back in Lent that we were going to get together and talk about the 7:00 am service. Please come and stay for a few minutes. It will be a time to ask about what is working in our worship, what we can do to strengthen it and how we can develop it.

See you there!

Looking for EM’s and EV’s EM/EV training: May 13th

Check out the newsletter for the details on Eucharistic Ministers (those who serve the chalice at the Eucharist) and Eucharistic Visitors (those who take communion to the sick and shut-ins).

We need folks who feel called to both of this ministries. See you there!

Study Leave

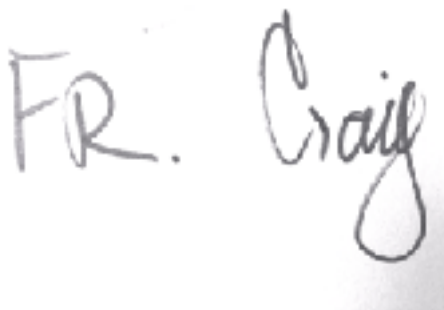
I will be away from May 2nd -12 on study leave. Clergy in the diocese are called to “lifelong learning” in order that we might best serve in the church.

I started a certificate course in Congregational Development, Mediation and Conflict Resolution before coming to Hawaii and I am going to continue it. The course is at a Mennonite college in Ontario which specializes in peace and conflict resolution.

The time after Easter is one of the few windows to be away from the parish. I appreciate your prayers while I am away.

A generous grant from the diocese is helping make this possible.

Richest blessings in Easter Tide.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "FR. Craig". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large loop on the 'g'.

