

The Gospel at St. David's



February 2012

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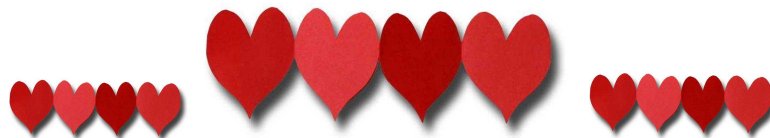
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1 Corinthians 13 ~The Gift of Love

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

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For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.



Love is in the air. Walk into CVS, Rite Aid, or any grocery store, and you will see chocolate hearts, displays of cards, and balloons.

Jewelry stores have so many diamonds in the windows; you practically need sunglasses to shield your eyes. Valentine's Day is here.

The love promoted by the advertisers this month is an emotional kind based on feelings. And what a wonderful feeling love is—the first grasp of your newborn as she winds her small fingers around yours, the look of love in the eyes of a bride and groom on their wedding day, the love shared between two old friends at their high school reunion. Emotional love is wondrous.

As Christians, we are called to a different sort of love as well. In addition to enjoying emotional love, Jesus calls us to love others as He loved us. But what does that kind of love look like?

1 Corinthians 13 gives us a glimpse. If you'd like to deepen your understanding of Christian love, here's a practical spiritual exercise for the month of February:

- *Start each day with prayer, including reading 1 Cor 13*
- *Each day, focus on one of the components of love (for example, on Monday you may focus on patience, on Tuesday, kindness, on Wednesday, avoiding envy)*
- *As you go about your day, look for opportunities to practice this manifestation of love, or to refrain from behaviors that are the antithesis of loving action. Across all the spheres of your life, including work and home, practice the discipline of extending Christian love in action.*

As we move into February, let's enjoy and celebrate emotional love; after all, love is grand. But let's also call ourselves to a deeper understanding of what it is to love as Christians. If we take the time, the "better angels of our nature" are sure to shine brighter than any diamond...

*See you in Church,
Rev. Suzanne+*

CONNECTIONS



Thank You



Jim and Margaret England want to thank the community of St. David's for a year of prayerful support and loving care, beginning last March when Margaret had a knee replacement, but especially when Jim was diagnosed with lung cancer in October. Every card, every phone call, every enquiry,

every person who travelled to Tierrasanta (over nine bumps and turned left into the condominiums!), every visit to the hospital, every time the choir asked after us, every visit with communion, every ride to the doctor, surgeon, hospital, every person who walks with Jim as he recuperates and every wonderful meal, has added up to a surround of love and care which has held us through it all and continues to do so. We are so grateful to each and every person. The chemotherapy continues to mid-March. Above all we are thankful for the surround of prayer, most especially for Jim, including the dedicated vigils of prayer during the surgeries. That shield of prayer kept him anxiety free throughout all the decision-making by the surgeons and oncologists and he is profoundly grateful. It has all kept us in the community throughout the whole year. Thank you, thank you St. David's. Many blessings on everyone. The Englands

St. David's Senior Center



The Gray Brigade welcomed the New Year with a rousing Game Day, followed by a wonderful exercise about Forgiveness led by Janet Shaw (Thanks so much, Janet!). Another Game Day and Janet's session were ably run by our stalwart volunteers while Debby was visiting her son in Italy. On January 27 we had a visit from our favorite group, Script-in-Hand Players, who had us laughing for an hour.

Here's our schedule for February:

Feb. 3 - Game Day (Scrabble, Uno, Kings in a Corner, Bingo)

Feb. 10 - Speaker about Assisted Living opportunities

Feb. 17 - Game Day and Valentine's Party

Feb. 24 - Jeff Watkins will read poetry and serenade us a bit

The Center opens at 9:30 a.m. and programs begin around 10-10:15 a.m.. All are welcome!

Foyer Dinners



IT'S FINALLY TIME!!!

We have had such success with the Foyer Dinners that the word has spread and many new people, as well as those in the Fall Dinner groups, are looking forward to getting together in a new group.

The Foyer Dinners are an opportunity to enjoy each other's company over a simple dinner or lunch. Each Foyer Group consists of three or four households who will gather in one another's homes or a location chosen by the group, for a meal and relaxed fellowship about once a month. For this series we will run between March and June.



Dave G. Getting ready to host his Foyer Dinner!

Foyers offer a relaxed way to spend time with other members of the parish. We will have sign-up sheets available on Sundays at church or by request on the internet.

The deadline for signups is Sunday, February 18th.

For further information please contact Jamie Wood at jamiewood2@cox.net or either Anne Kellett or Jamie Wood at church.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Presented by St. David's Men's
Fellowship



from 5 pm - 7pm, in the Mission Center
Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Featuring "Uncle Bill's" Mickey Mouse
Pancakes for the kids (adults ok too)

Donation: \$3.00 (Kids 6 & under eat
free!)



Meets Saturday 2/18

Please join us for food and fellowship at 8:00 am in the Mission
Center. Bring a breakfast type food to share, as you are able.
The Men's Fellowship meets the third Saturday of each month.

Women's Fellowship ~ February

February 24, 2012 6:30 pm
Jean Kockinos hosts.
(619-276-2645 2689 Cowley
Way.)



Wednesday Evening Gatherings

St. David's Wednesday Evening Gatherings are held on the last Wednesday of each month from 4-6pm.

January's gathering was on the 25th at the Offshore Tavern and Grill, 2253 Morena Boulevard. Seventeen of us had a great time.



.....not pictured are Ronnie Rich and Janet and Bob Shaw

February's gathering will be on February 29th at the Bay Hill Tavern, 3010 Clairemont Dr., at Burgener and Clairemont Drive. Join us and bring a friend!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Saints and Seasons

The creches stayed out longest, as usual, waiting for the arrival of the magi. Not that Mary and Joseph themselves awaited the sages from the east - they had no way of knowing that they were even on their way, and



had been this long time, bringing their strange treasures. They were busy just getting by, trying to get used to having a child, struggling to keep him warm and dry and fed. The magi themselves knew not where their journey would

end; the child was 2 by the time they arrived.

We have managed to take that sacred moment when God took flesh, and have frozen it in time. I wonder if Mary and Joseph don't look down at our creches and chuckle a little. I can hear Mary laugh and say "' The Little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes!' Remember how he cried, Joe? Sometimes I wondered what I'd gotten myself into! Look at me kneeling there- you'd think we had nothing to do but be lost in adoration! Oh, we did have our moments of wonder, but they were usually after Jesus had finally fallen asleep and we lay exhausted among the animals."

But now the mystery of that Incarnation is packed away 'til next year, along with it's amazing implications. Already, in mid-January, Valentine's Day is being hawked in the stores; love for sale. Packed away also is the fact that, at least from the outside, the story doesn't have a happy ending.

But before we leave the mystery of Christmas behind altogether, the Church asks that we pause and consider it once again as we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the temple on February 2. (Luke 2:22-38) Much as we do at Baptism, Mary and Joseph bring the offering of their son to the temple. Two faithful people who have watched and waited for the Hope of Israel see and recognize Jesus that day: the prophet Anna, aged 84, who had been married a scant seven years and since then has lived as a widow in the temple until that day; and so did the aged prophet Simeon, who takes Jesus in his arms and proclaims that now he can die in peace, having seen the arrival of the "light to enlighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel." (BCP Pg 120)

But even in the midst of fulfillment, of recognition and celebration, the shadow of the cross hangs over them here as Simeon turns from her Son to Mary and says "and a sword will pierce your own soul too." And ours as well.

*Louise Buck
February 2012*

Notes from the Lib

This month features books that have been waiting for some time to be processed into our library.



Celtic spirituality, long an interest in our library, is the richer for two books newly added: Philip Sheldrake's "**Living Between Worlds, place and journey in Celtic Spirituality**" is a slim book that touches on the importance of sensitivity to the natural world, to journey, to pilgrimage in Celtic Christianity.

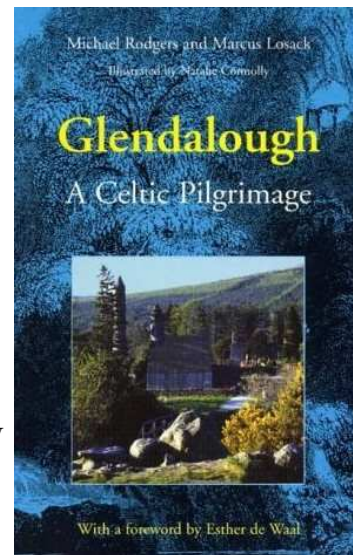
"**Glendalough, a Celtic Pilgrimage**" by Michael Rodgers and Marcus Losack describes in detail such a place of pilgrimage in Ireland, and by reading this guide one can experience some measure of the journey, and learn of the ancient artifacts along S.

Kevin's road to Glendalough, said to be a "thin place" between this world and the next.

A variety of books on the topic of social justice are available in our library. Sister Helen Prejean's "**The Death of Innocents**" is a moving account of the death penalty gone wrong. (Our copy is inscribed by the author, and it's interesting to note the pressure and intensity of her signature.)

For years we have had books on the subject of homosexuality in our collection, and one more has been added: John J. McNeill's "**Taking a Chance on God**", subtitled "Liberating theology for gays, lesbians, and their lovers, families, and friends." The author, a Jesuit priest, was expelled from the church for his views on the sexuality of gays and lesbians. The theme of his book is to reconcile those condemned by the church, any church, for their sexuality, and to convey the love of God; to go past anger, fear, shame and judgment and experience faith and community.

"**Queen by Right**" by the British author Anne Easter Smith has been added to our fiction shelves, a gift of Marge Weston. The author has researched in great detail the life of Cecily Neville, Duchess of York and wife of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York. The mid-fourteen hundreds in Britain saw brutal



power struggles and colorful royal characters, and Cecily was in the midst of it, mother of two kings, Richard the III was one of them. Don't skip the family trees at the front, or the glossary at the back, for it all makes a rich get-a-way to a vivid period of history.

Jean Kockinos, Librarian

Daughters of the King

At our last meeting on January 9th we shared a very nice dinner prepared by some of our members.

We continued our study of **The Story of Ruth: Twelve Moments in Every Woman's Life** by Joan

Chittister. We discussed the chapter, Recognition, and shared individual experiences from times in our lives when we received and did not receive recognition for our accomplishments. The author states that "Recognition is a necessary dimension of human development. It is the offspring of the theology of creation. What God did, God recognized as good. What we do as co-creators of the universe to make this world a decent, better place deserves to be recognized as well. Without it we smother the part of the human being that strives to be most human and most godlike at the same time. . . . To be recognized is a sign I am alive and that someone else has seen the godlike gift and the human beauty of it."

After the book discussion, Margaret Fox shared with us an article from Weavings called the "Blessing Speech" by Gerrit Scott Dawson. It compared and combined the Story of Ruth and the birth of Christ. We found this to be very interesting and apropos for our study of Ruth. We ended with a prayer circle. Our February meeting will be on Monday the 6th at 5:45 in the Education Center. If anyone is interested in this group or would like more information, please contact one of us or come to a meeting.

Leslie Cohan and Gail Decker





Junior Daughters of the King

For their service project this month, the girls helped de-green the church on January 9th. Afterwards they had lunch and discussed the next two chapters of the study guide for new members. They talked about the early history of the group, beginning in 1886. They also learned that the purpose of Jr. Daughters of the King is to bring girls into a loving relationship with Jesus and help strengthen the spiritual life of the parish. They talked about the Jr. DOK motto which guides their service to others.

They also said the Jr. Daughters Prayer:

God of love, God of life, God of holy strength,

Guide us that by our daily practice of Prayer and Service we may draw others to Christ.

Help us to reach up in hope, receive in spirit, respond in faith, and reach out in love for all.

We pray that your Kingdom will come for all creation,

All people living together in love and peace. For His sake, Amen

The new girls finished their training at the Shaws' home on January 23rd.

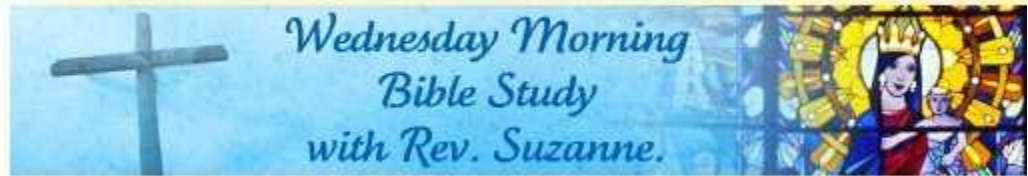
They will take part in a Service of Admission at the 10:30 service on February 12th. At 4:00 that afternoon they'll come to the Mission Center to cook and serve a meal for the Interfaith Shelter guests.

Blessings, Janet Shaw

Jr. Directress



Bible Study



**Wednesday Wednesday Morning Bible Study
at 9:00 a.m. in the Library
with Rev Suzanne.**

This Study is open to everyone.

Discovering the Psalms:

Passion, Promise and Praise-Join Anytime

This new study shows forth the richness of the Psalms in terms of spirituality, personal growth, and worship. It includes a 49-day guided reading of selected Psalms.

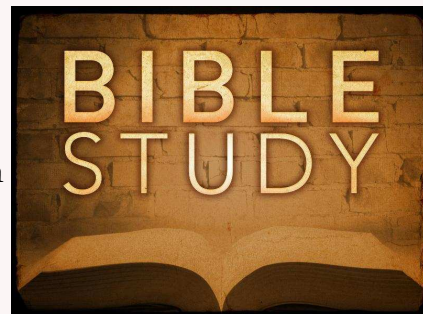
Seven Sessions:

- The Book of Psalms: An Introduction
- Prayers and Poetry
- Prayer Book for God's People
- Psalms of Sacred History
- Psalms of Trust
- Psalms of Lament
- Psalms of Praise

For more information contact Rev. Suzanne Watson at rector@saintdavidschurch.com

**Wednesday Night Bible
Study**

For the Wednesday night
offsite Bible Study, please check with
Bob Shaw (619-990-810) or Louise
Buck (619-275-2845.)



WORSHIP

**THE REV MARTHA ANDERSON TO PREACH AND
PRESIDE
AT SAINT DAVID'S!**

Sunday February 12

Both 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Services

*Don't miss out on the joy of welcoming
Martha back to the Altar as priest!!!*



**The Bishop's Annual Visit will be on
February 26!**

**The First Sunday in Lent ~
February 26, 2012**



**The Rt. Rev. James R. Mathes, Bishop
will be Celebrating
at St. David's at both the 8:00 a.m. and
10:30 a.m. services.**

**Bishop Mathes will also be speaking at
the adult forum.**

Please plan to attend.

If you would like to be baptized,
confirmed, or received into the Episcopal
Church, please contact Rev. Suzanne at
rector@saintdavidschurch.com.



Behold the Wood of the Cross

When someone walks into St. David's sanctuary for the first time, they can't help but notice the beautiful wooden cross hung high upon the wall. By its beauty and placement, it draws the eyes, and hopefully the mind and heart, upward.

In order to enhance our focus on this central Christian symbol during Lent, we are going to adjust slightly the visual environment of our surroundings. We will reduce the visual impact of the two corners where the choir and the band

reside, by removing extra chairs and stands, and by exchanging white chairs for the blue ones. The piano will be moved as close as possible to the choir so as to open up the space surrounding the cross.

During the Liturgy of the Word, the clergy and acolytes will take the seats in front of the pulpit, so that the congregation's sight lines can more easily move across the altar and up to the cross. During the Great Thanksgiving, the vested ministers will be at the altar, as usual.

These are minor changes in many ways, but our hope is that they will allow our gaze to move more readily toward that wondrous cross, the sign of our salvation.

"May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." Galatians 6:13-15

Father Tom

Ash 
Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Services

Holy Eucharist w/imposition of ashes:

7:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m., & 7:00 p.m.

Open time for imposition of ashes:

7:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Altar Guild



Into my first month as Altar Guild director, I want to thank Father Tom for the gifts of linen which once belonged to the late Rev. Boone Sadler. Many of you probably remember Father Sadler. He was so instrumental in the Lord's work, for which the Lax-Sadler lodge at Camp Stevens was named in his honor.

On February 19, following the 10:30 AM service, a meeting is scheduled among the active Altar Guild members, and for those who wish to come on board. The Altar Guild is a wonderful ministry. In my opening letter last month, you would have noted that I served for many years in the same ministry at St. Paul's Cathedral.

A heads up: we will be in need of palm fronds for Palm Sunday, which falls on April 1 (no fooling) this year.

Blessings, Bill

**Preschool Chapel
January 25, 2012**



COMPASSION & JUSTICE

WHAT IS THE INTERFAITH SHELTER?

From February 4 through February 17 we will host participants in the Interfaith Shelter Network. Who are the people we will be hosting? The Interfaith Shelter Network is a program which works with social service agencies and faith communities to provide shelter, food, support and training for homeless families and individuals who are attempting to put their lives together.

Each guest is screened by and works with a case manager to see that they are involved in or pursuing employment and/or education. In the Clairemont area, the program is run by a community service agency (Social Advocates for Youth) and consists of eight weeks at three churches, with support provided by various other churches.

Our guests are housed in the Mission Center. Dinner is brought in by volunteers, and volunteer hosts spend the evening and night in the Center with the guests. Breakfast and sack lunches are provided from supplies in the Center each morning.

During the two-week period of the program at St. David's the guests leave each morning (usually no later than 7:30 or 8:00 a.m.) and return no earlier than 5:00 or 5:30 p.m. They do not remain on church grounds during the day, but are involved in the activities established with their case managers, and the children attend school.

Your help is vital. If you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions, please contact Jean Payne (858-270-3883) , Debby Park (858-270-5978) or Bob Shaw (858-459-6911).



Thank you St. David's!



Operation Diaper Drop was a Success!

St. David's parishioners Melinda Murdock, Fred Conway and Polly Carmona drop diapers off at the Oxford Head Start Center in Chula Vista. Pictured with them is Buffie Boyer, Head Start Director. St. David's collected 1960 diapers toward the overall total of more than 14,000!!

Congratulations

to Ann Packard and Leslie Cohan,
this year's recipients of the Copeland Award!



GRATITUDE & GENEROSITY



St. David's Budgets and financials
can be found on our website at
www.saintsdavidchurch.com
under the Vestry page.

Link to St. David's Full 2012 Budgets

YOUTH/CHILDREN MINISTRIES

Children's Ministry



We are truly blessed with wonderful children and great teachers!

Our Christmas Eve and Epiphany pageants shared the holy stories in a beautifully spiritual and understandable way. Many thanks to Kendra Thomas and Gillian Joshi for all the time and effort to organize the pageants and to our Youth Directors, Katie Turley and Chris Moreno, and all our teachers who provided support.

We have just finished the twelve days of Christmas, the second most holy season of the Church Year celebrating the birth of Jesus - the coming of Emmanuel, "God with us." Now we have Epiphany, begun with the visit of the Magi, symbolizing "God with us" being shown forth to all of humankind. This is a quieter time in our Church Year just before we begin the seasons of Lent and Easter, the holiest and most active season of our Church Year. During February both classes, *Godly Play* and *All things New*, will continue with the sacred stories of the Parables and of Jesus' ministry.

We are blessed to be able to work with St. David's children and thank you all for your support. Our Sunday morning schedule (which is posted on the classroom doors) continues to be:

9:15 am Music with Miss Kendra - Mission Center

9:30 am Lesson Time - classrooms

10:25 am Parent pick-up - classrooms

Parents are always welcome to join us for "Music Time" in the Mission Center. Childcare is available every Sunday for our little ones from 8 am to 12 noon, downstairs in the Education Center. Also, for those in the *Godly Play* class who do not want to come into church until communion, childcare is available right after class. Snacks are provided. Please contact me at 619. 276.8522 or mcw95@san.rr.com with any questions, comments, or concerns, or if you would like to join this joyful ministry.

Peace - Mary McCormick-Whitehouse

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Epiphany Tree Burning





CALENDAR/SCHEDULES

CALENDAR & SCHEDULES AT ST. DAVID'S



St. David's now has an online

"Google Calendar" on our website.

This calendar gives you year-round access to see what is happening at St. David's current and future months.

Click below: to go to the calendar page of our website:

[link to: St. David's Google Calendar.](#)

[Click here for February Calendar PDF](#)

[Click here for: February Serving in Worship Schedule](#)

VESTRY/FINANCE

**We thank our outgoing Vestry members for
their service:**



- Margaret Fox
- Ann Packard
- Lynn TenEyck
- Lane Woolery
- Jamie Wood

*Welcome to our new
2012 Vestry Members:*

- Chris Moreno
- Janet Daugherty
- Jane Krikorian
- Melinda Murdock
- Bill Myers



And congratulations to our new Senior Warden, Rick Kruse.

"Mission: Possible"

"Evangelism - Strategy & Vision - Strategic Plan Ministry Team:"

Erik Evans, Roseann Myers, Suzanne Watson & Rick Kruse.

Our mission, "Mission: Possible", is a unique opportunity to help raise St David's to the next level and further leverage that which God calls us to do, i.e., "PWM" - further develop our Program, spread the Word and Multiply. To accomplish this a team of people who are passionate about Evangelism is being gathered.

Let's examine this more closely...

Evangelism

Let's start with the basics. What is Evangelism? The Greek term is "euangelion" (yoo-ahn-GHEL-ee-ohn), which can be roughly translated as "good news." As we share the Good News of God made known to us through Jesus Christ, we are practicing Evangelism.

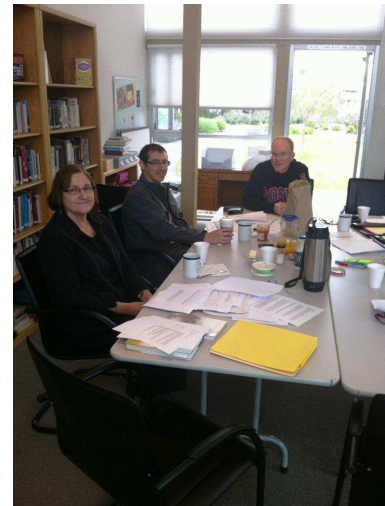
There are many ways to share the hope that is in us. Considering the vast diversity of God's creation, it should not surprise us that God is using multiple mediums to proclaim the Good News and offering encounters with Jesus Christ.

This diversity is a blessing, a gift from God.

Our challenge is to discern the way that God is already moving in someone's life, and so be able to identify the best way to share the Good News in that situation.

It should be a comfort for us to realize that we never engage in Evangelism by ourselves. God is the primary evangelist. We are the instruments, the channels, of God's grace. We plant, another waters, but it is God who gives the growth. Beyond that, we understand the Church to be the Body of Christ in the world today. We are part of an "Evangelism team." We do our part, our faith community does their part, and then we trust the rest to God.

Evangelism and Congregational Development will always be dance partners, as both are needed to make disciples of Jesus Christ. And Stewardship, as "money follows mission," is needed to support our practices. However, the primary focus of the Evangelism component is those who are outside the walls of the Church. That is our "target group."



As we develop creative strategies for Evangelism, our vision must be cast with an outward focus.

Rick Kruse

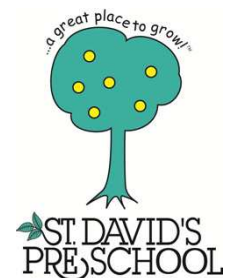
PRESCHOOL

The logo for St. David's Preschool features the text "St. David's Preschool" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a blue rectangular background. This blue background is set against a light blue background with a thin yellow horizontal stripe. The entire graphic is enclosed in a green border.

January brought a boom in our enrollment with many new friends joining our Preschool. We are blessed every day with the smiling faces of all our beautiful children. We also had our new 2-year-olds' teacher, Karen Drolet, join us. We welcome them all to our caring, loving community and look forward to getting to know them better.

The children saw some beautiful and unique animals brought to us from the Wild Animal Safari Park. The animals included a great-horned owl, an anteater, an armadillo, and a very soft chinchilla. The children were very good about touching the animals gently and keeping quiet and still so as not to scare the animals. It was a good lesson on respect and caring. I am sure the teachers, parents, and I enjoyed the program as much as the children did! We learned some new things about the animals too!

Blessings to you all,
Silvana Vollero,
Preschool Director



NEWCOMER SPOTLIGHT

Letter from Visitors: 1/10/12

Dear Fellow People of The Way:

Wow, you certainly are "sweet"! We so enjoyed being with you as you celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany. Your ministries are so all-inclusive and you worship "in style".

It "dawned on me" when we arrived home in Calimesa that the flower you gave to me is most certainly the one used in remembering St. David! Thanks so much. Do you celebrate your patronal feast on March 1st? (We have worshipped at St. David's, Glenview, Illinois.)

A special thanks to the holy women at the healing station. They surely comforted me when I was in great need.

May the Blessed Trinity continue to watch over all of you as you go about your daily lives serving Jesus Christ.

Shalom,

Edith and Enrico Gnasso

[Forward email](#)



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