

Bede's Journal

The background of the cover is a photograph of a church interior. Two large stained glass windows are the central focus. The window on the left depicts St. Bede, a bearded man in a brown and white robe, writing in a book. The window on the right depicts St. Hilda, a woman in a blue and gold robe, holding a staff. Below each window is a small plaque with the saint's name. The floor is made of light-colored tiles, and a wooden pillar is visible between the windows.

April 2026

***The Monthly Newsmagazine of
St. Bede's Episcopal Church***

April at a Glance

Every Sunday, 9:10am - SoulWork

4/2 - Maundy Thursday

4/3 - Good Friday

4/4 - Holy Saturday, Movie Night

4/5 - Easter Sunday and Brunch!

4/8 - Simple Supper (*rescheduled from Holy Week*)

4/11 - Peninsula Folk Dancers

4/16 - Pizza Theology

4/28 - Monthly Vestry Meeting

Look Ahead and Save the Dates

Annual Parish Picnic - Sunday, May 17th

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Calendar

April 2026

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 3/29 - Palm Sunday Rite 1 - 8am Rite 2 - 10:15am | 3/30 | 3/31 NA Meeting - 7pm | 1 | 2 Book Group - 9am Women's AA - 12pm Maundy Thursday Dinner & Footwashing - 5:30pm | 3 Altar Guild Flower Team - 9am Good Friday Worship Services - 12pm & 7pm | 4 Sunrise AA - 7:30am Sand Hill AA - 9am Altar Guild - 9am Holy Saturday Movie Night! - 5:30pm |
| 5 Easter Sunday Rite 1 - 8am Rite 2 - 10:15am Easter Brunch after both services! | 6 | 7 NA Meeting - 7pm | 8 Simple Supper - 6pm | 9 Women's AA - 12pm Buildings and Grounds - 12pm | 10 Altar Guild Flower Team - 9am Parkinson's Caregivers Group Meeting - 12pm | 11 Sunrise AA - 7:30am Sand Hill AA - 9am Altar Guild - 9am Peninsula Folk Dancers - 2pm |
| 12 Rite 1 - 8am Rite 2 - 10:15am | 13 | 14 Parkinson's Caregivers Group Meeting - 12pm NA Meeting - 7pm | 15 | 16 Women's AA - 12pm Pizza Theology - 6pm | 17 Altar Guild Flower Team - 9am | 18 Sunrise AA - 7:30am Sand Hill AA - 9am Altar Guild - 9am |
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| 26 Rite 1 - 8am Rite 2 - 10:15am | 27 | 28 NA Meeting - 7pm | 29 | 30 Women's AA - 12pm | 5/1 Altar Guild Flower Team - 9am | 5/2 Sunrise AA - 7:30am Sand Hill AA - 9am Altar Guild - 9am |

Answers to Crossword puzzle in "Kid's Corner"

1. BREAD; 2. HOSANNA; 3. EMPTY; 4. THORNS; 5. SACRIFICE; 6. CROSS; 7. RISEN; 8. SLEPT; 9. LOVE

Across

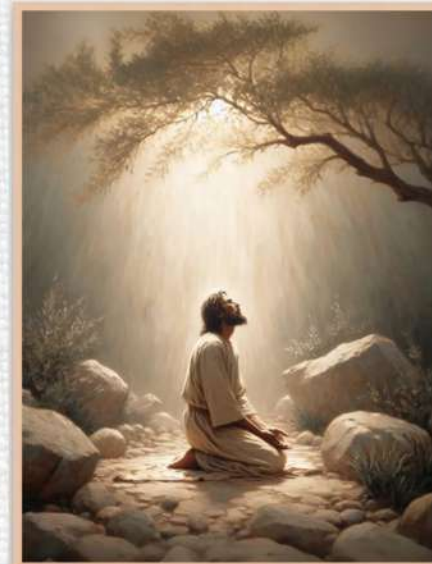
DOWN

Holy Week at St. Bede's

Palm Sunday has passed, but there are more days of Holy Week for us to celebrate together

Thursday, April 2nd - Maundy Thursday

We will begin with foot washing, followed by a simple meal. Next will be an informal "around the table" eucharist, then a move to Jarrow Garden to hear the story of Jesus' arrest in the gardens of Gethsemane. Finally, we will walk to the sanctuary for the "stripping of the altar". This is a powerful way to enter into the drama of that evening so long ago and bring it into our present shared experience. All ages are welcome. We do hope you'll come.



Friday, April 3rd - Good Friday

Good Friday, the Friday before Easter, is the day on which Christians memorialize the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. **We will be offering two services on the day at 12pm and 7pm.**



Saturday, April 4th - Holy Saturday MOVIE NIGHT

Join us in the North Wyatt Classroom at **5:30pm** for a special showing of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "**Jesus Christ Superstar**"! Dinner will be served simple supper style, in that a main entree and beverages will be provided. Feel free to bring a side dish or dessert to share!

Sunday, April 5th - Easter Sunday

To commemorate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, St. Bede's will be holding our two regular **Holy Eucharist services at 8am & 10:15am.**



All are welcome to join us at our Easter Brunch after both services!

Outreach: Parish Picnic Marketplace

2026 will be the fourth year that we've offered a Marketplace at the Parish Picnic to fundraise for the Seccombe Outreach Fund. This year the Picnic will be on **May 17th** and it is not too soon to start planning! Although we will be downsizing the Marketplace a bit this year, we are hoping to have another very successful event!

Our 2026 Marketplace will be streamlined to offer fellowship events, tickets to theater or sporting events, and wine offerings. Please consider donating to the Marketplace this year.

Here are some ideas...

- Weekend brunch or afternoon tea
- Summer barbeque
- A bottle of your favorite wine
- Happy hour at your home
- A hike in the woods followed by lunch
- Golf or tennis outing and lunch
- Movie or theatre tickets
- Tickets for a local pro or college sports event
- Weekend getaway to a local hotel
- Children's picnic or birthday outing
- A cooking class or flower-arranging session
- The gift of your time, helping someone with home organizing, gardening or errands



The sky's the limit! Please contact Sue Sartor to make your contribution.

April Events at St. Bede's

Mark your calendars for all of the upcoming events happening on the St. Bede's campus, including our recurring social events!

Holy Week Continues!

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday Movie Night, and Easter Sunday! See page 4 for all of the details.

Wednesday, April 8th - Monthly Simple Supper

Join us for a Simple Dinner in Lehman Hall at 6pm on the first Wednesday of each month. Vegetarian options will be available. There is no discussion planned for this event, it is purely a social occasion. Bring a side dish to share (optional), and come gather with us!

Saturday, April 11th - Peninsula Folk Dance Event

Join the Peninsula Council Folk Dancers for an all-request dance party on the second Saturday of each month from 3-7pm, in Lehman Hall. There are dances from all over the world for all levels, beginning to advanced, and all forms (line, couple, and set). Dress comfortably, sneakers or low-heeled dance shoes recommended. Come enjoy the music! Please send requests and any questions to PFDCParty@gmail.com; a \$10 donation is appreciated at the door.

Thursday, April 16th - Pizza Theology

Ministry and Mozzarella! Enjoy a delicious pizza dinner and discuss the theological lesson of the month (announced in the weeks beforehand). Bring a side dish to share, or bring a friend. Full stomachs begin at 6:30pm in Lehman Hall.

Thursday, April 28th - Vestry Monthly Meeting

Vestry meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month. If you have a concern you wish to bring to Vestry's attention, please contact the Rev. Dan Spors in advance.

Book Group

Our St. Bede's Book Group meets at 9am on the first Thursday of every month in the Youth Lounge. Reach out to Ann Latta to be added to the email list for more advance information.

Genres vary from month to month and include selections of historical fiction, non-fiction, highly-rated new authors, and more. Discussion from different viewpoints and perspectives are encouraged, and books are selected monthly by the group.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 2nd from 9-10:15am in the Youth Room. All are welcome.

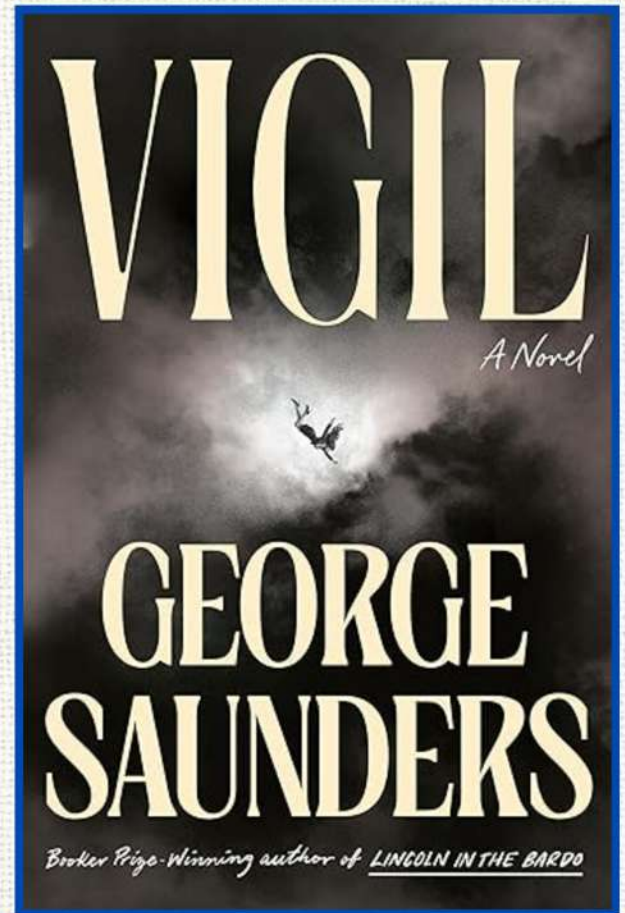
In "Vigil," an oil tycoon on his deathbed receives a visit from an angel.

Not for the first time, Jill "Doll" Blaine finds herself hurtling toward earth, reconstituting as she falls,

right down to her favorite black pumps. She plummets towards her newest charge, yet another soul she must usher into the afterlife, and lands headfirst in the circular drive of his ornate mansion.

She has performed this sacred duty 343 times since her own death. Her charges, as a rule, have been greatly comforted in their final moments. But this charge, she soon discovers, isn't like the others. The powerful K. J. Boone will not be consoled, because he has nothing to regret. He lived a big, bold, epic life, and the world is better for it. Isn't it?

This month's selection:
"Vigil"
by **George Saunders**



From the Rector

Greetings in the name of Christ,

Today, we are on the cusp of the Great Triduum and Easter Sunday – the Triduum being comprised of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter, and Easter Sunday (being the Sunday of Easter, and thus the Sunday that follows Holy Saturday, resulting in Easter Day).



So many things are going on here. We have Jesus' tender last moments with his friends when he broke bread, drank wine, and prayed together. We have his betrayal by Judas, his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, and his trial before the ruling council. We have his crucifixion. And finally, we arrive at resurrection.



It is a lot. It's a lot of heavy emotions, from fear to panic to sadness to joy. It's also a lot of church services and activities. We have five worship services in four days, which would be six services if a Great Vigil was planned for Saturday evening – in its place we have another activity planned, so it still makes for having something going on each day from Thursday through Sunday.

It is a lot. But I love it. It's our annual reminder of God's great love for us in the stories of Jesus' last days with his friends before the crucifixion and in the story of his return to life again. I bask in that, in

the invitation from the Church's traditions to contemplate the great love that God has for you and me. Christians throughout the millennia have told that story that God's love for us is so deep that God would sacrifice and suffer for us, in order that we would find hope and peace, and to bring us back into the fold of God's grace and mercy.

From the Rector

“The cross is
God's truth
about us, and
therefore it is
the only
power which
can make us
truthful.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian from the first half of the 20th century, wrote in his book *The Cost of Discipleship* that the grace of God is a costly grace, because it cost God a great deal to bring it about. If God's grace were cheap, then the natural conclusions that follow are that good living are not all that important. But if this grace is costly, then I ought to take it seriously in

how I live. If the mercy and grace of God came at a cost, then I owe God my heart and my obedience. If the grace of God came cheaply, then what does it matter.

Truly, the calling that Jesus gave to his friends and which they have passed on to us is that our lives matter, and doing good and bringing peace, justice, and love into the world as we follow in the way of Jesus matters.

That is the call of the meaning of Easter on us, that we would learn from Jesus, mourn with his friends, celebrate with Mary and the others at the empty tomb, and go out to spread the love of God to all the world. May this week and the Easter season be a blessing to you and to everyone.



Blessings to you all, and may God be with us always.

Dan+

Meet the New St. Bede's Organist

Meet Eric Kinsley! *Eric signed on as the new organist at St. Bede's in March and has met the position with confidence, positivity, and skill. Read on to learn more about him...*

First and foremost, I am a father of eight — four biological daughters and four foster children, two sons and two daughters. Family is the foundation of who I am, and opening my home to children who were in need has been among the greatest honors of my life.

Music has been the other thread woven through every chapter of my life. I hold a Doctor of Musical Arts in Harpsichord Performance from the Manhattan School of Music, and have spent my career as a musicologist, harpsichordist, and educator across decades and continents. Until recently, I served as Senior Lecturer in Music at California Lutheran University, where I had the privilege of teaching for many years. I remain active in education as part of an outreach program, Upward Bounds, a group of college educators who utilize the CLU campus to help high school students prepare for college. My scholarly work includes several books and a forthcoming book on the composer Schroeter and the history of the piano concerto in London, due for publication in 2026. I have had grants from several institutions including The National Endowment for the Arts. Over the years I have performed at venues including the Getty Center, Symphony Space, Disney Hall, The Bing Theater, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and the Discoteca di Stato in Rome, and have recorded on the Centaur Records label.



Meet the New St. Bede's Organist

at California Lutheran University, where I had the privilege of teaching for many years. I remain active in education as part of an outreach program, Upward Bounds, a group of college educators who utilize the CLU campus to help high school students prepare for college. My scholarly work includes several books and a forthcoming book on the composer Schroeter and the history of the piano concerto in London, due for publication in 2026. I have had grants from several institutions including The National Endowment for the Arts. Over the years I have performed at venues including the Getty Center, Symphony Space, Disney Hall, The Bing Theater, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and the Discoteca di Stato in Rome, and have recorded on the Centaur Records label.

Ministry through music is where my professional life and my faith meet most naturally. I have served as Organist and Choir Director at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Thousand Oaks since 2010, and previously as Music Director at Trinity Church in New York City — roles that have allowed me to offer my gifts in service to something far greater than myself.



*Ask Eric about his music career, or his dog, Yubaba (left).
Could she be a long-lost cousin of Tony, the office dog (right)?*

Celebrate Eastertide

Are you looking for more Easter worship beyond Easter Sunday? Take some time in the second week of April to acknowledge the remaining days in the "Octave of Easter", and read into the days following Jesus' resurrection.

The lectionary readings for each day of Easter Week is listed below, along with summaries of the Gospels. All readings can be found in any bible, or organized by day at www.lectionarypage.net.

Easter Monday

Psalm 16:8-11

Acts 2:14,22b-33

Matthew 28:9-15

Easter Tuesday

Psalm 33:18-22

Acts 2:36-41

John 20:11-18

Easter Wednesday

Psalm 105:1-8

Acts 3:1-10

Luke 24:13-35

Easter Thursday

Psalm 8 or 114

Acts 3:11-26

Luke 24:36b-48

Easter Friday

Psalm 116:1-8

Acts 4:1-12

John 21:1-14

Easter Saturday

Psalm 118:14-18

Acts 4:13-21

Mark 16:9-15,20

Matthew 28:9-15

Jesus exits the tomb, meeting with Mary Magdalene and others. The chief priests, after hearing of what had happened, devise a plan to pay off the soldiers, telling them that the disciples had taken Jesus' body away.

John 20:11-18

John's account of Mary Magdalene encountering Jesus after his resurrection.

Luke 24:13-35

Jesus talks to two disciples who do not recognize him. They tell him of what has happened. Jesus joins them for supper, breaks bread with them, and they recognize him. He vanishes and they rush to find the other disciples to tell them that the Lord has risen and appeared to them.

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus appears to the gathered group of disciples and tells them not to be frightened, that the scriptures of Moses and the prophets have been fulfilled, and that they have witnessed the beginning of repentance and forgiveness of sins.

John 21:1-14

Jesus appears to the disciples fishing by the Sea of Tiberias, orders them to cast their net to the right side of the boat where the fish was suddenly plentiful. This is Jesus' third appearance since rising from the dead.

Mark 16:9-15,20

Mark's account of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene, two disciples, the eleven at the table. He tells the eleven to go and proclaim the good news.



Kid's Corner! *For the young and young at heart*

Spring has sprung! Here are some fun activities to enjoy the season.



DIY Bowling

Using empty water bottles, toilet paper rolls, books, or stuffed toys, create a triangle on the floor. Use a ball of any size to knock them down!

Playing indoors? Use a squishmallow or rolled up socks as a ball!

Alphabet Hunt

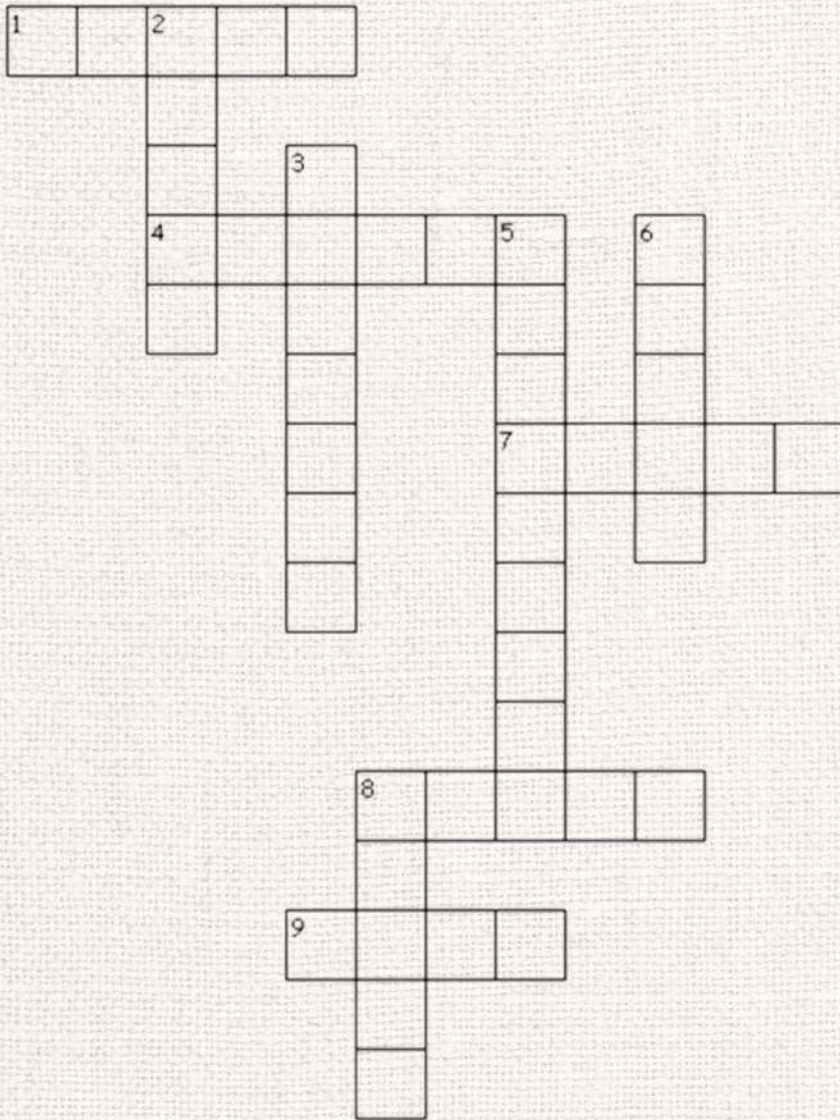
Boost your kids' literacy skills by turning the outdoors into a letter-finding adventure. Pick a letter and have the kids point out as many things as possible that begin with that letter. For example, if the letter is "D", they may say dirt, dogs, or dandeloin.



Nature Paintbrushes

Gather leaves, sticks, grass, or flowers and use them as paintbrushes with watercolors or mud on paper. Don't have any paint on hand? Use water and see how detailed your painting can get before it dries in the sunshine.

Easter Crossword



Across

1. Taking this during the last supper symbolized Jesus' body
4. Jesus was forced to wear a crown made of these instead of a crown meant for a real king.
7. The angel told the women, "Don't be afraid, Jesus isn't here; He has ___!"
8. Instead of praying the disciples did this when Jesus went off to pray by himself.
9. The main reason the God gave His only son, Jesus, to die for each of us.

Down

2. On Sunday the two Mary's didn't find Jesus but a tomb that was ____.
3. The word people shouted to Jesus that means blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
5. Jesus became the ___ for us, so we could be forgiven for our sins.
6. Jesus was meant to die on this.
8. This was put in front of the tomb so nobody could steal Jesus' body.

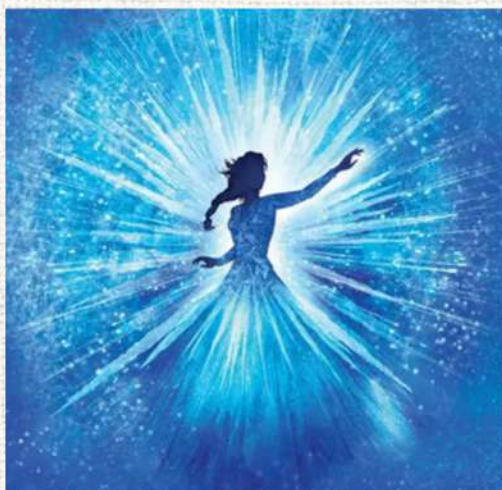
Admin's Passion - Theater in the Bay Area

Hello People of St. Bede's!

Here is a fresh batch of upcoming productions! Please consider supporting local theaters with your dollar. Titles marked with a "*" are appropriate for all ages. Titles marked with a "R" are intended primarily for adult viewers.

*"Frozen" at Palo Alto Players

April 24 - May 10 | Palo Alto Lucie Stern Theater | [Buy Tickets Here](#)



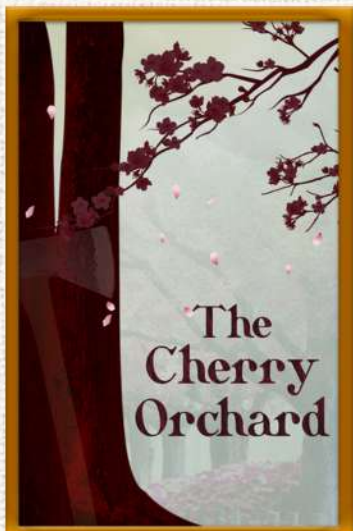
Expected to sell out! Buy your tickets early!

In the beautiful kingdom of Arendelle, Princesses **Anna and Elsa** grow up sheltered inside their castle, isolated from the world and increasingly distant from each other. When Elsa is crowned queen, the magical powers she's desperately tried to conceal from her sister take control, and she flees into the mountains. As a ferocious winter descends on Arendelle, Anna sets off on an epic journey to find Elsa and bring her home – with the help of

hardworking ice harvester Kristoff, his loyal reindeer Sven, and a happy-go-lucky snowman named Olaf. Full of magic, humor, and a stunning musical score, Frozen is a powerful tale of sisterhood, acceptance, and finding the real meaning of true love.

"The Cherry Orchard" at Los Altos Youth Theater

April 16 - May 10 | Bus Barn Los Altos | [Buy Tickets Here!](#)

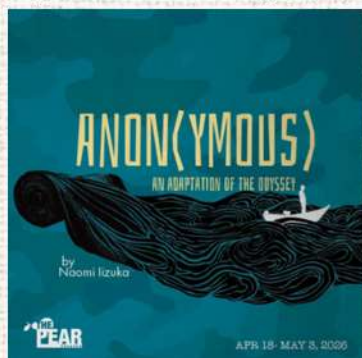


The Cherry Orchard by **Anton Chekhov** delves deeply into the emotional landscape of the Russian aristocracy's decline and the burgeoning middle class at the dawn of the 20th century. It poignantly follows the Ranevskaya family as they return to their beloved ancestral estate, facing the imminent auction that threatens to strip them of their heritage due to overwhelming debts. With a unique adaptation by the brilliant Tom Stoppard, the play not only preserves Chekhov's profound insights but also invites contemporary reflection on materialism and social change.

Admin's Passion

"Anon(ymous): An Adaptation of the Odyssey" at Pear Theatre

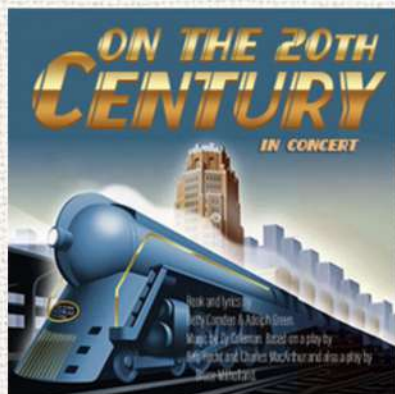
April 18 - May 3 | Mountain View | [Buy Tickets Here!](#)



A powerful journey of identity, resilience, and the search for home. Lost in an unfamiliar world, a young refugee named Anon navigates a perilous odyssey across a fractured landscape, encountering a cast of strangers—some kind, some cruel, all searching for something. Separated from his mother, Anon must rely on his wit, courage, and hope to survive as he moves through a tapestry of haunting, poetic, and surreal encounters.

"On the 20th Century: In Concert" at South Bay Musical Theater

April 18-19 | Saratoga | [Buy Tickets Here!](#)



A night of dazzling, fast-paced musical comedy! This Tony-winning spectacle is a whirlwind of romance, ambition, and outrageous antics set aboard a glamorous 1930s luxury train. Follow a down-on-his-luck Broadway producer as he schemes to win back his former muse—now a Hollywood star—before their train reaches New York. With a sparkling score and madcap humor, *On the Twentieth Century* is a first-class ticket to theatrical delight, with some extra-special touches for the fundraiser event.

"The Play that Goes Wrong" at Hillbarn Theatre

April 23 - May 17 | Foster City | [Buy Tickets Here!](#)



Welcome to the Cornley Drama Society's opening night of *The Murder at Haversham Manor*—a classic whodunit where, unfortunately, everything that can go wrong does. Misplaced props, collapsing sets, forgotten lines, and hilariously clumsy actors turn this murder mystery into a full-blown theatrical disaster. As the determined (but hapless) cast and crew struggle to make it to the final curtain, the chaos only escalates, leaving audiences in stitches. With its perfectly timed physical comedy and nonstop mishaps, *The Play That Goes Wrong* is a side-splitting tribute to the magic of live theater—when everything goes spectacularly, hysterically wrong.

A photograph of St. Bede's Episcopal Church in Menlo Park, CA, with a rainbow in the sky. The church has a prominent steeple and is surrounded by greenery. The text is overlaid on the image.

***Thanks for reading this
edition of Bede's Journal!***

***See you on Sundays at
St. Bede's Episcopal Church***

***2650 Sand Hill Dr.
Menlo Park, CA 94025***

***www.stbedesmenlopark.org
650-854-6555***