



# The Red Door

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

November 2020

### POSTINGS FROM THE PILGRIM PRIEST

### DAVID BAILEY

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, November 1, we will celebrate the Feast of All Saints. The song "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" is a traditional favorite among Anglicans. And if we can sing on November 1, we will sing it!

There are many definitions of "saint" used in the Anglican Communion. From the New Testament, all followers of Jesus Christ are designated as saints ("Holy Ones"). So you and I are saints according to St. Paul. Then there are the "major" Saints, known and recognized throughout the Christian world. It has been the custom to name our church assemblies after these Saints (like St. Mary the Virgin).

But . . .

There are also those followers of Jesus Christ who are less well known, but who suffered persecution for the faith and died in the peace of Christ. One such saint is my personal favorite: Li Jia-Yun, better known in America as Sister Kang Teh Ai. Sister was one of five Chinese women who took the vows of sisterhood in the Community of the Transfiguration at their Convent in Wuhu China. Sister entered the novitiate at the age of 18 and became a life professed nun eight years later, in 1950. The American sisters had to leave China during the Com-

I sing a song of the saints of God  
Patient and brave and true  
Who toiled and fought and lived and died  
For the Lord they loved and knew  
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen  
And one was a shepherdess on the green  
They were all of them saints of God, and I mean  
God helping, to be one too

munist Revolution in 1948. Very shortly after Teh Ai had been professed, the Convent in Wuhu was closed by the Communist regime and all of sisters were scattered. Most of them died within a few years, and the Community lost touch with Sister Teh Ai. Through the efforts of her childhood friend, Dr. Martha Kang, Sister was located over fifty years later in China. Alone, she had kept her vows that she would serve God and never marry. She had been sent to do hard labor by the Communists but never gave up her belief. The Red Guards had taken away her Bible, but she had kept the symbols of her faith and calling (a Jerusalem cross and ring given to professed sisters) by sewing them into the padding of her jacket. She lived her life as a Christian and a Sister – alone – for decades. Her health had been ruined by her hard labor

and she was profoundly deaf, but when Dr. Kang was finally able to visit her in 2004, Martha would hear Sister pray and hum hymns until she fell asleep.

Strenuous efforts were made by the Community to bring Sister Teh Ai "home" to the main Convent in Cincinnati, but these efforts were to

no avail. Sister died on February 4, 2007. Dr. Kang was allowed to travel once again to China and to bring Sister's remains back to Cincinnati for burial in the Community section of Oak Hill Cemetery in Glendale. She rests with her Sisters until the Day of Resurrection.

When asked what she missed most about life in the Convent, Sister Teh Ai responded "the sound of the bell calling us to worship". Now, when I hear the sound of church bells, I remember Sister Teh Ai and give God thanks for the life and witness of this heroic Christian.

Your brother in Christ,

*David+*

They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds  
of thousands still,  
The world is bright with the joyous saints, who love  
to do Jesus' will.  
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,  
In church, or in trains, or in shops or at tea,  
For the saints of God are just folk like me,  
And I mean to be one too.

*All Saints' Day—November 1*

## VESTRY

Bob Lowell, Sr Warden  
Richard Davis  
Charles Everhart  
Sandy Ferrell  
Judy Franklin  
John Joy

*Feel free to contact any Vestry member with questions, concerns, ideas, etc.*

Newsletter editor—John Glaze  
*Submissions to THE RED DOOR are welcomed. © items cannot be published without consent of the owner.*

## Who is this little girl?

*(answer next month)*



*Last month: Charles Everhart*

## Vestry Report

The long awaited day, October 18, 2020, the first Sunday when we as Episcopalians could start to celebrate a modified version of Eucharist, has again been postponed indefinitely. Only time, the Governor, and the Bishop will set a new date for in person worship and the Celebration of Eucharist to resume. Church Services have been suspended and online live streaming continues. Only essential people needed for the live streaming of the service are allowed to be present on Sunday Morning. We are very thankful for all the faithful people who continue to serve us for the online service.

The election of Vestry Members will take place during the Annual Meeting sometime in January. The date will be determined at our next Vestry Meeting in November. The October Vestry meeting was cancelled when services were suspended. When we can return to in person services, nominations for the Vestry should be placed in the offering plate on a separate sheet of paper marked Vestry Nominees. You may also mail your nominations to the Church office or call the Church Office during business hours with the names of the nominees.

Bob Lowell and Sandy Ferrell end their terms of office in December 2020. Jon Joy and Richard Davis' terms end in December of 2021, and Judy Franklin and Charles Everhart's terms end in December 2022. We have had a faithful and hardworking Vestry and much has been

accomplished in the last two years. All are and have been valuable members of the Vestry. Please consider the needs of our church and congregation as you pray for people to serve.

Like everybody in our congregation and our world, we hope things will get back on track soon, with coffee hour, Monthly Brunch and more.

You may soon see some major work being done to the church, both inside and out, with major help from the Diocese in funding and guidance. A building that is 150 years old doesn't come without major upkeep and repairs. We can only do our best in maintaining our old and beautiful structure. The work on the organ has been completed and the final payment mailed. St. Mary's is in better financial shape than it has been in a long time, thanks to You the members of St. Mary's, the hard work and oversight of the Vestry, and the spiritual guidance of both Rev. George Sherill and Rev. David Bailey.

I can't say "See you Sunday!" as I would like to do, but I can say that I pray for you and your families in this crazy time of separation and anxiety. Take care of yourselves and your loved ones and I hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

*Bob Lowell*

Senior Warden

## NEWS

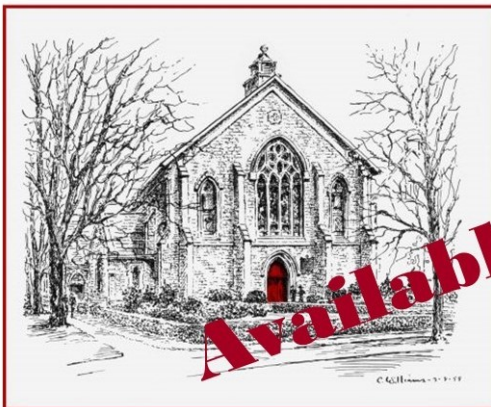


A lovely note from  
Bishop  
Nedi  
Rivera

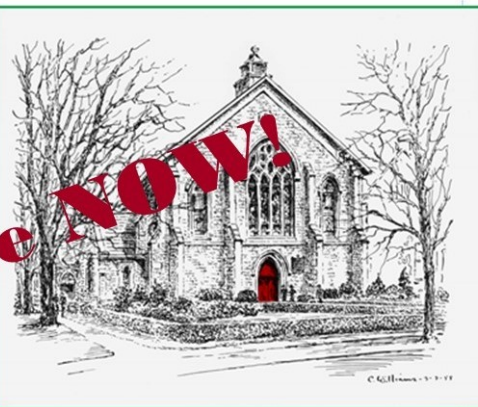
*Beloved in Christ,  
What a loving day!  
You were so gracious  
about our tardiness  
and so welcoming.  
Thank you for being  
the light of Christ in  
your ~~and~~ neighborhood,  
and in our lives.  
Edusings, Toni & Bob*



## St. Mary's Episcopal Church THE MOVIE—Vol 2



St. Mary's  
Episcopal Church  
THE MOVIE-Vol 1



St. Mary's  
Episcopal Church  
THE MOVIE - Vol 2

Available NOW!

NOW AVAILABLE! Volumes 1 & 2 of THE MOVIE are now available! For only a donation to the organ fund (totally your choice as to the amount), you, too, can have these DVDs to enjoy over and over.

Volume 2 contains stories about many of the people who have called St. Mary's their home parish, information about all of the priests who have labored here, with in-depth looks at several of them. The choirs who have served St. Mary's are covered...as much information as we have. There is an in-depth look at the history of the organ and the organists who have served here.

Volume 3 is in production now! It will include a look at the new building, the members of St. Mary's who chose to become priests, the Norman V. Statzer Memorial Garden, and more information about the people of St. Mary's!

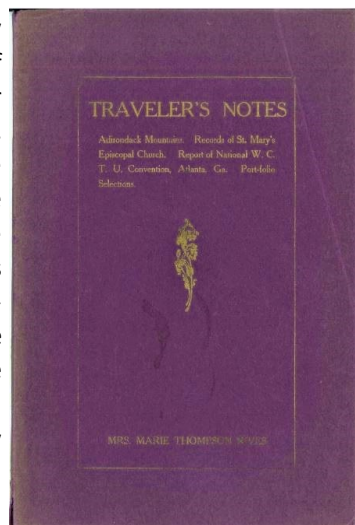
### *Marie Thompson Rives*



We have learned about Marie Thompson Rives, wife of Dr. Edward Rives, before. She was the daughter of Judge Henry Thompson and Eliza Jane Trimble Thompson, more commonly known as "Mother" Thompson, one of the founders of WCTU. Here is a photo of her and then the cover from two booklets she wrote. The Travelers Notes book, according to the first page, was printed in Hillsboro in February of 1915 and meant for private distribution. She includes several articles such as Adirondack Mountains, which had originally appeared in the Hillsboro Gazette in July and August of 1911; a story of Easter Day of 1889, which had appeared first in the Church Chronicle; an article called St. Mary's Church To-Day which includes the building up of St. Mary's, priests who have served as well as many of the lay people, long lists of members of the Altar Guild, the choir, etc.

She includes a report of the Atlanta Convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of 1914. There is a report by Mary Boyd Yeoman, on a meeting of the Friday Club. She includes several of her own poems and then a Memorial to Margaret Rives King, the donor of the St. Mary's Organ. The final story, by Marie is titled "The Old Closet" and it first appeared in the Hillsboro Gazette in February of 1895.

Our large altar candlesticks were given in memory of Marie T. Rives.



13NOV—David Harner  
15 NOV—Shirley Gilliam

# *The Red Door*

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
234 N. High St.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133

## NEEDS AT SAMARITAN OUTREACH

*Samaritan Outreach continues to depend upon donations to meet their current needs. Please consider helping us to make a big donation to them! There is a collection box in the foyer of the new building.*

***Diapers: Size 3 and up***

***Laundry detergent***

***Paper goods:***

***Paper Towels***

***Toilet Paper***

***Women's Sanitary Napkins***

***If you would prefer to mail a monetary donation:***

***Samaritan Outreach Services***

***PO Box 242***

***Hillsboro, OH 45133***

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church Information

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
234 N. High St Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-2043

**The Rev. David Bailey**

The Diocese of Southern Ohio  
The Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal, Diocesan Bishop

**WEB SITE:**

**[www.smehillsboro.weebly.com](http://www.smehillsboro.weebly.com)**

SUNDAY WORSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10:00 am

*Streaming on Facebook only*  
**NO IN-PERSON SERVICE**