

Rector's Report Sunday Feb 23, 2020

From January 5 to 9, I was in Houston TX with my parents and brother, donating blood for my father's leukemia treatment. He still has not received my NK (Natural Killer) cells due to catch pneumonia, a staph infection and some other infections. His energy level and appetite are lower than ever. My NK cells are frozen and they hope to give them to my father when he regains some strength.

While in Houston I attended a weekday worship service at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, where I met the Rev. John Price, a pioneer in integrating near-death experiences with pastoral ministry and the author of *Revealing Heaven: The Christian Case for Near-Death Experiences*. I also visited a Norman Rockwell exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston and learned that Rockwell was an Episcopalian who grew up worshipping at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on 141st Street in New York City. (However, Rockwell was mostly a reluctant Episcopalian as a child since he had to attend choir rehearsal three times a week.)



I made it back to Eureka in time to officiate the glorious wedding of Lyn Klay and Jim Hendry on Jan 18, the vestry meeting on Jan 19, the Celebration of Past Clergy on Jan 26 and the Candlemas service/Annual Meeting on Feb 2, even though I had a nasty case of the Humboldt crud.

From Feb 14 to 16, Ashley and I hosted my clergy coach the Rev. Dr. Mark Anschutz, who arrived here from Cape Cod. He led a Couples Workshop in Lewis Hall on Saturday morning Feb 15 and then preached on Sunday Feb 16 along with leading a Renewal of Wedding Vows service for couples at 8 and 10:30 AM. Ashley and I attended the Silver Anniversary Celebration Concert for Rabbi Naomi Steinberg at Arcata Playhouse on Wednesday Feb 19 and then participated in the Eureka Town Hall with Congressman Jared Huffman on Friday Feb 21, along with Dan and Karen Price.

During this time, I have been in touch with the Bishop's Office about the closure of Sts. Martha and Mary parochial mission in Trinidad and Mike Morgan's complaints. I have continued serving on the Diocesan Commission on Ministry and working as the co-chair of the Academic Committee, evaluating papers and exams written by candidates for holy orders. I have finally received the proofs of my book, which I now need to index and check for errors before March 2. In my book's Acknowledgements, I thank Christ Church Eureka for giving me the space and time I've needed to complete my manuscript. Finally, I have spent many holy hours in the hospital, especially during Irene Hannaford's final days and final breaths, surrounding her with our love and prayers.

