

## Oasis California Report 2013

Oasis California gains our first deacon, expands ministries, and celebrates Pride 2013

Oasis California has grown and expanded our ministry to LGBT people during the past 12 months. Our accomplishments in the past year include:

- Welcoming the Rev. Diana Wheeler as the first deacon assigned to Oasis California. You'll find us — usually led by Oasis California Deacon Diana Wheeler — celebrating a flash mass in the Castro on Christmas Eve or carrying an icon of Harvey Milk in the parade that remembers his life or distributing palms in the Castro on Palm Sunday. You'll also find Diana dispensing pastoral care on a blanket in Dolores Park on most warm Sunday afternoons or working with the Imperial or Ducal Court.
- Serving as a focal point for distribution of information on same-sex marriage in this diocese. Need a copy of the new liturgy for marrying same-sex couples? Searching for scripture choices for this service? Check out the Oasis California web site at [www.oasisca.org](http://www.oasisca.org).
- Coordinating our diocese's participation in San Francisco's annual Pride Parade. Most of the money we receive each year from the diocese is devoted to this effort. We use our funds to charter a cable car bus so those who cannot walk the parade route can join in the celebration. The diocesan budget also allows us to participate in each year's Castro Street Fair.

Years ago, by establishing The Parsonage our diocese began to minister to the Bay Area's LGBT people. After the AIDS epidemic ravaged that ministry Bishop William Swing adapted the Oasis program from the Diocese of Newark to serve our diocesan LGBT ministry. Now we see a need to renew and revise our organization to better meet the needs of LGBT people in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



We invite you to join in the process of redefining Oasis California. You can start by signing up for our Oasis California e-newsletter by either scanning the image to the left with a qr scanner app on your mobile phone or by visiting our web site at [www.oasisca.org](http://www.oasisca.org). Our Facebook pages include:

- for Oasis California, <http://bitly.com/oasisca>
- for Open Cathedral Castro, <http://bitly.com/oc-castro>
- for Sacred Cocktails, <http://bitly.com/sctails>