



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

April 2013

FROM THE



RECTOR

Christ is risen!
Alleluia!

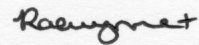
Last weekend we celebrated the resurrection of our Savior with a packed church! It

was a wonderful culmination for the holiest of weeks, which included the loud hosannas of Palm Sunday, a contemplative Celtic Eucharist, the retelling of the story of Jesus by our Godly Play kids at the Maundy Thursday supper and service (along with fabulous Middle Eastern food), a solemn and reflective Good Friday service, and the wonder of the Easter Vigil, with the baptism of two parishioners.

Thank you to all of you who made this week so special. With ten services in eight days, the presences and willing service of so many people was a gift. Thank you to the ushers, acolytes, altar guild, choir, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, greeters, coffee hour hosts, Godly Play teachers and kids, and all who cooked, decorated, and prayed!

But Easter isn't over! Easter Day is just the beginning of "The Great Fifty Days," which culminates on Pentecost. We will continue to hear the stories of Christ's resurrection and its impact in the early church, and think about how it shapes our lives. And stock up on those sale Easter eggs – for us it's not too late!

Blessings,



WARDEN'S COLUMN

Children of Easter - Living into the Resurrection

The Victory is won! Jesus has healed our brokenness and reconciled us with God the Father. Why then do we still worry so much? Why are we so afraid?

As Christians it is time for us to live into the promise of the Resurrection. What does that mean? I think it means living our lives with the knowledge that we are perfected in Christ. We need not worry about failure, because the victory is won. We can put our best foot forward in confidence that with the support of our Christian brothers and sisters we will succeed in whatever is God's will.

Christians live in an upside down world. We are probably familiar with phrases like "whoever is last will be first, and whoever is first will be last", or that "the meek shall inherit the earth". The laws of human nature do not apply to the children of Easter, to the Christians living into the Resurrection. So why do we try to run our church according to the laws of human nature and like a corporation? Why do we expect success of our parish to come from perfection? The cross was a symbol of failure, but through Jesus the cross is a symbol of victory.

In our upside down Christian community what is important is trying. Our success is being a place where anyone can try something with the confidence that their Christian brothers and sisters will celebrate the victories and pick you up after your failures. Our success is in being a place where you don't have to be afraid of failure. It's a place where together with the help of God, we work on getting it "right".

So this Easter season I invite you to try something new. It may be singing in the

choir, or teaching Sunday school. It could be helping on altar guild, or ushering, or serving at coffee hour, or anything that serves Christ in each other and the community! I invite you to live into the Resurrection and not worry about getting it wrong. To just try with the knowledge that in our Christian fellowship we will succeed.

Peace and Blessing,
Chris

"How does this congregation serve God's mission to God's people in this community?" Gathering on April 28

During the Bishop's Address at the Diocesan Convention in January 2013, Bishop Provenzano, in reviewing the life of the diocese today, asked every congregation to reflect on and respond to a vital question during the season of Easter.

"How does this congregation serve God's mission to God's people in this community?"

He asked us to have a gathering, to provide food and a casual setting, and to create space to hear the voices of everyone engaged in the congregation's life. He asked us to be imaginative and bold, but he also gave a clear charge: to engage in reflection and then provide a written response to him and to the Diocesan Council by Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

So, on Sunday, April 28, following the 9:30 a.m. service, we will gather over lunch to explore this. ALL parishioners are encouraged to attend. A program will be provided for our children.

For more information, or to help with the lunch, talk with the planning team: Chris Mauro, Peter Cahill, Jennifer Lawrence, and the Rector.

OUTREACH

Donations to the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry can be made at any time. They may be left in the cart in the hallway of the Christian Education building. Especially needed at this time are juice, jelly (and peanut butter), pork and beans, and ravioli. When the cart is full, please take a turn transporting the food to the pantry. The next time St. James parishioners will serve at the pantry will be during the summer.

Prayer Shawls are helping to keep our ill parishioners warm and are transporting our love and prayers to others in need, as well. If you would like to be part of this ministry, contact Wylie Hunt at 751-5618.

Protestant Campus Ministry at Stony Brook University continues to collect toiletries for Hurricane Sandy victims and women transitioning from domestic violence. All those Christmas gifts you can't use, or small bottles saved from hotels, or gift bags from your dentist would be perfect. Donations may be placed in the basket in the narthex.

Camp DeWolfe Service Saturdays are being held this spring. Sign up for a service project today at Camp DeWolfe in Wading River. Spring dates are Saturday, April 6 and 20, and May 4. See the website at www.campdewolfe.org. Summer staff opportunities are available for college students and recent graduates. Check the website for an application which must be returned in April.

The 2013 Episcopal Charities Annual Appeal is being held now. This is one of the few charities where 100% of your gift is given out to help others. Hurricane Sandy recovery and relief efforts on Long Island will continue to be one of Episcopal Charities' priorities, along with mission grants, to programs throughout the diocese. So be generous and rest assured that your money will be well-spent. Checks should be made out to "Episcopal Charities of Long Island". Since 25% of the money St. James parishioners donate will be returned back to our parish for our own outreach, be sure to put "St. James, St. James" on the memo line. Envelopes are in the narthex. Mail your donations to Episcopal Charities, 36 Cathedral Avenue, Garden City NY 11530. Learn more at www.episcopalcharitiesli.org. **Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk will celebrate its 25th Anniversary** with the Roger Metcalf Memorial Golf Classic on Monday, May 20 St. George's Golf and Country Club, Stony Brook NY. For more information, call 422-4828.

- Sue Krall

ANSWERED PRAYERS?

Every Sunday, for years now, we've been praying together: "*The world now has the means to end extreme poverty. We pray we will have the will.*" Now there is evidence that our prayers – along with the generosity and hard work of many good people – may be helping to make that goal a reality.

The evidence comes in a video from an organization called TED Talks. TED (for Technology, Entertainment, Design) invites speakers to share their passion and their expertise in a wide variety of subjects. Then TED makes videos of those talks available online at TED.com. In one recent TED Talk, Bono of the rock group U2 updated the

progress the world has made combating extreme poverty.

Bono is one of the leaders of ONE.org, whose Millennium Development Goals are the inspiration for our poverty prayer at St. James. In his talk, Bono reports that in 1990 almost half the people on our planet, 43% of the world's population, were living in extreme poverty – less than \$1.25 a day. By 2010, that percentage was cut in half, to 21%. That is amazing. But even better, the data shows that if current efforts continue, the percentage of people living in extreme poverty will be 0% by 2030.

“The world now has the means to end extreme poverty. We pray we will have the will.”

One more fact from the video. The number of children under age five who die from the effects of extreme poverty has been reduced by 7,256 per day. That's over 7,000 kids saved every day by the campaign to end extreme poverty.

I urge you to view the video. It's good news. You can find it at ONE.org or TED.com. If you're interested, you can also learn how to join the worldwide ONE campaign.

- Jack Schultheis

VOICES FROM GODLY PLAY

Did you do something special for God during Lent?

By Miss Carol's Class

I shared my toys with someone even though they did not share with me. *Sarah*

I complimented my mother. *Jake*

I read my Bible and talked to Jesus for half an hour. *Kenny*

I gave up using my ipad for Lent because Jesus gave up food for 40 days and gave up so much for you, so I did something for Jesus in return. *Kerrick*

This is what I think we should do. Study the things Jesus has done for us. *Calvin*

I gave up my favorite food. Ice cream. *Annabelle*

I listened to my mother when she said clean up my toys. *Jesse*

I was kind. *Brendan*

I've been praying and learning more about the things Jesus did for us. I helped my brother when he needed help. *Eowyn*

I prayed at dinner. *Maggie Ann*

FESTIVAL OF FILMS & FAITH

The Festival of Films and Faith will again be held at 7 p.m. at Theatre Three, 412 Main Street, Port Jefferson, this spring. Protestant Campus Ministry is one of the sponsors. All films will be followed by a panel and audience discussion and then a reception. A free ticket to all three films will be available in the narthex. These are always interesting evenings.

The Hedgehog - April 16

When Paloma, an articulate, artistic girl of eleven living amid luxury and hypocrisy faces doom for her twelfth birthday, she encounters Renee Michel, the gruff, intelligent concierge from whom she begins to learn that soul-mates are to be found beneath the prickliest exteriors.

Win Win - May 1

Small town attorney Mike, struggling to stay solvent and support his family, compromises his integrity as he and the family become involved with Leo, who needs senior care and Leo's troubled daughter and grandson. The fine ensemble cast epitomized "everyman" and "everywoman" in the complexity of their temptations and loving relationships.

Monsieur Lazhar - May 21

A Montreal middle school class is shaken by the suicide of their well-liked teacher. Bashir Lazhar, an Algerian immigrant with minimal qualifications is quickly hired to replace her. The film explores his relationship with the students and administration as they cope with the tragedy. As he helps the children to heal, he faces again his own painful past.

- Sue Krall

LUNCH BUNCH

The April get-together of the Lunch Bunch is scheduled for Tuesday, April 30, 12:30 p.m. at Acropolis Restaurant on Smithtown Blvd. in Nesconset. Contact Fjeril Deal at 724-3720 to make your reservation.

- Fjeril Deal

GOOD FRIDAY BLOOD DRIVE

Thanks to all our blood donors who gave so generously of themselves (we received 25 units of blood), and a special thank-you to Sue, Polly, and Joan, who made the appointments for us.

- Edna Rousseau

MILLS HALL

Spring spruce up of Mills Hall team wishes to thank all who donated mirrors: Tony B., Robin B. and Donna A. – it was tough making a decision as all would have worked well. Also, we wish to thank Patti Prentiss (wife of Andrew, our sexton), for laundering and rehangng all 17 Mills Hall curtains and washing those mighty windows. Now we are asking for anyone who may have a carpet connection. The summer emphasis will be on the entrance to Mills Hall after Nursery School closes for summer. The indoor/outdoor carpet and treads need to be replaced for such. Our church hall is a rental option for parties in our community as well as for church affairs. The rentals contribute to our church budget. Thank you and blessings!

- Alex Rich and Lil Moleti

CHOIR NOTES

A special "Thank You" goes to all of those who contributed their time, energy, and musical talents to make the choir a success for Holy Week and Easter. Joining us for the first time were Anita Bonvento, Don and Margo Goodman, and Ruth Ward. Back for another festival season were Alec and David Douglass and Rachel Linthwaite, as well as our long time faithful members: Nancy Caponegro, Ron Davies, Anne Gwin, Laurie Mannix and organist, Istvan Dioszegi. It was a pleasure working with so many talented singers!

- Dara Linthwaite

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAY

Save the date: May 17th ! Who was it that said “Faith without works is worthless”? Habitat for Humanities has a “Build Day” scheduled for May 17th , and we’re invited to put some work behind our faith!

Ken LeCluse and Peter Cahill are organizing the group from St. James and Resurrection Byzantine Church in Smithtown to work on a house for someone in need right here in Suffolk County that day. Tools, nail pouches, hard hats, gloves, and directions are supplied, along with some great fellowship. No experience necessary, just a willing heart. Take it as a challenge to do some faithful work on a Friday. Bring your friends along, it will be fun. Participants must be at least 16 years young; bring your own lunch. For more details see Ken or Peter after the 9:30 a.m. service, or call Peter (265-0719) or Ken (588-1176).

- *Peter Cahill & Ken LeCluse*

SANDY HOOK SUPPORT

The surviving children of the Sandy Hook massacre still need ongoing psychological counseling. The cost for many of the parents is not covered by insurance. Churches and other organizations are responding by selling angel ribbons as a gesture of understanding their plight. Sunday we will have these ribbons available in Mills Hall for a \$3 donation. Any extra funding will provide necessary help for the parents to forward their cause with trips to D.C. for the automatic assault weapon ban. Thank you for your help.

- *Lil Moleti*

LIKE TO READ?

This month, some recommendations on the English Reformation:

Diarmaid MacCulloch has written a prizewinning and very readable biography of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, titled simply, *Thomas Cranmer* (Yale University Press, 1998). He also wrote a shorter book on Edward VI, *The Boy King* (University of California Press, 2002). And if you’re interested in the whole sweep of church history, his recent work, *A History of Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years* (Penguin, 2009) promises to be similarly good.

For those who enjoy absorbing their history through fiction, Hilary Mantel’s *Wolf Hall* (Picador, 2010) and *Bring Up the Bodies* (Henry Holt and Co., 2012), both winners of the Mann Booker Prize, give insight into the complexities and intrigues of this period, both religious and political.

- *Raewynne*

SPEAKER AT STONY BROOK SCHOOL

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Yaphank will sponsor Professor Louis Markos, who will speak on “Engaging the Culture for Christ” on April 20. The focus will be on how we can be effective witnesses and apologists for Christ in the 21st century. The event will take place at the Stony Brook School, Carson Auditorium, 1 Chapman Parkway, Stony Brook. There will be a session from 2 - 4 p.m. for high school students and from 7 - 9 p.m. for the general public. Suggested donation is \$20.

APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 Office closed
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 2 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 3 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 4 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 6 Mills Hall rental - afternoon
- 7 **Holy Eucharist I with Lessons and Hymns 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II with Lessons and Hymns 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
- 8 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 12 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Nursery school "Special Persons Day" 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 14 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
- 15 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 16 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 18 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Nursery school Spring Fling 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 21 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
- 22 Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 23 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.

- 24 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 26 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Mills Hall rental 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- 28 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
Lunch and parish meeting 11 a.m.
- 29 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Lunch Bunch 12:30 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Hank Hull
Karen Douglass
David Douglass
Kenneth Grigoletto
Fjeril Deal
Heidi Glogg
Bryan Petschauer
Jesse Dean
Lindsey Noack
Chris Noack
Thomas LaMano
Richard Tracy
Arlyne Gureck
Joseph LaMano
Mike Neyssen

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Hank & Eileen Hull