

Saints Alive News

March
April



THE MISSION OF ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS
TO HAVE A CARING PRESENCE IN THE COMMUNITY
AND TO SHARE BY WORD AND ACTION THE LOVE
OF CHRIST WITH ALL PEOPLE.

2010

Volume VII, Issue II

The Rt. Rev. Robert O'Neill
Bishop of Colorado

The Rev. E.J. Rivet
Priest-In-Charge

The Rev. Nancy Angle
Deacon

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Ed Rosendale

Bonnie Smeltzer

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Dickie Calvert, Clerk

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Highlights

- *Pastoral Ponderings*
- *Notes from Nancy*
- *Lenten Series*
- *Holy Week Schedule*
- *Haiti Update from the Diocese*

Luke 10:36-37

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

*Pastoral Ponderings . . .**March, 2010*

During my message to the community on Ash Wednesday, I referred to an understanding of Lent as a time of a lengthening of days. The extension of daylight drives out the time of darkness. The church has taken the word from its original meaning and overlaid it with an understanding of the light of Christ coming upon us during the season of Lent. Jesus is known to be the light of the world, the one who came to lead us out of darkness. As we engage a holy Lent, we seek to use the light of Christ to show us the way of God.

There are six Sundays in Lent including Palm Sunday. After Palm Sunday comes the Day of the Resurrection, or Easter as we know it. As we proceed through Lent, we are given an opportunity to examine the ways in which our lives are tested, our faith revealed, and our hearts fed. As we come to the end of the season, we hear the Passion narrative. We recall the Last Supper, the agony in the garden, the betrayal and arrest of Jesus, and his suffering. As we walk with Jesus to the cross on Golgotha, we are reminded that many stood and watched; some expressed compassion while others jeered him.

In the Jewish context, we hear the words “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor.” Here is a story about the people of Israel, how they came to be in Egypt, how they became enslaved, and how they were delivered from bondage. The story of Jesus is a parallel version for us. The words we might use, “A Galilean healer gave himself for us.”

Lent is for us a faith journey. Each of us finds meaning through a letting go of, or a taking on, a habit. Hopefully whichever we choose may bring us closer to the divine realm. Easter will dawn upon us brightly; we will hear again the halleluiahs resound. The glory of God is revealed anew! As the sun rises, may each of us rise to worship the Risen Lord, the Son of God, the One who redeems us from bondage and sin.

Our story continues because of the Risen One. Once again we find our lives refreshed able to proclaim joyously the source of our salvation. In his light we boldly walk forward declaring ourselves sisters and brothers of Christ. He has shown us the way and informed us of our duty before God. As declared in Micah 6:8, “the Lord requires that we do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.” This is the resurrection message for us as we follow Jesus. The Risen Lord is with us all the days of our life, continually leading us toward the heavenly kingdom.

Alleluia, the Lord has risen. He has risen indeed!

Father E.J.

Notes from Nancy . . .

Last week, many of us heard the ancient words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return,” as the ashes from last year’s palms marked the sign of the cross on our foreheads. In the many years I’ve been an Episcopalian, the cycle of Ash Wednesday, the Lenten season, the Passion on Palm Sunday, and Holy Week have carried me to the joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. Friends in churches that don’t recognize this season of preparation do not seem to understand why it is so important to us. On the other hand, I sometimes wonder what they are missing by not taking these weeks to prepare themselves – to meditate, to pray, and to wonder – for the great celebration to come. I believe we must celebrate a good Lent if we are really to celebrate a glorious Easter. A few weeks ago, I found the following poem in a book I hadn’t opened in a long time. It seemed so appropriate for this time, and I want to share it with you now.

Celebrate!

by Martha Keys Barker

Celebrate! Celebrate the Christ life.

Celebrate the miracle – water wine, bread broken.

Celebrate the joy – lame men leaping, lost sons found.

Celebrate the power – seas stilled, hearts healed.

Celebrate the pain – Judas kiss, Peter denial.

Celebrate the anguish – “Jerusalem, Jerusalem!”, “Father, why?”

Celebrate the whole of it. Ah, there’s the celebration, so deep it cannot stop.

When the candles have burnt, the streamers fallen, the balloons shriveled –

To celebrate the whole of it, there’s the celebration.

Celebrate all of us together; celebrate the whole of us.

Celebrate the miracle – breath restored; celebrate the joy – coming alive.

Celebrate the power come in wind and flame.

Celebrate all of us!

Not only the successful ones, the pleasing ones, the attractive ones,

But celebrate the also rans, the left out, the difficult.

Celebrate us – celebrate all of us. Together.

Ah, there’s the celebration.

We Wish the following a Very Happy Birthday!

Clo Barbour ~ 3/5

Pamela Heller ~ 3/7

Sarah Pankow ~ 3/25

Ken Hubbs ~ 3/27

Wanda Pascall ~ 4/22

Betsy Leonard ~ 4/29



Reminder: Saturday Breakfast, Mar 13th, Pancakes, 8-10 am

Saturday Breakfast, Apr 10th, Biscuits and Gravy, 8-10 am

Haiti Update from the Diocese . . .

Last week, Bishop O'Neill reported that the diocesan wide "Epiphany Appeal for Haiti" ended successfully, thanks to both "unparalleled generosity across the diocese" and the matching grant of \$75,000 from the Anschutz Foundation. To date, the diocese has raised over \$510,00 and a few more donations are still coming in. These funds will be distributed to the Haitian people through both the Colorado Haiti Project and Episcopal Relief and Development. Both organizations have already begun providing food, shelter, medical care and safe drinking water to the victims of the January Earthquake. Bishop O'Neill expresses his deep appreciation to the people of the diocese for their prayers and generosity.

SAINTS' ALIVE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Saints' Alive is published every other month. Your articles are always appreciated.

Deadline for March/April issue is February 15th. Send information to:

saintsalive@allsaintsepiscopal.info



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

150 Sippelle Drive



LENT 2010

From Jesus to Christ

The First Christians

An audio-video study of the origins of the New Testament images of Jesus during the five weeks of Lent. The series presents fascinating images of the content of Jesus' ministry, the circumstances of his crucifixion, and the social and religious problems facing the earliest churches.

February 24,	7 PM, Video 1:	The Message and Ministry of Jesus
March 3,	7 PM, Video 2:	The Rise of Christianity
March 10,	7 PM, Video 3:	The Impact of the Gospels
March 17,	7 PM, Video 4:	The Religion of the Roman Empire
March 24,	7 PM, Closing Discussion:	Wrapping up the images.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

March 31	Wednesday in Holy Week	
	7:00 PM	Tenebrae: Service of Light and Darkness
April 1	Maundy Thursday	
	6:00 PM	A Christian Passover Meal
	7:00 PM	Holy Eucharist & Stripping the Altar
April 2	Good Friday	
	Noon	The Way of the Cross, a walking meditation
	7 PM	Tenebrae, St. John's New Castle
April 4	Easter Sunday	
		Ecumenical Sunrise Service: Cottonwood Park
		8:15 AM Easter Festive Eucharist at St. John's NC
		10:30 AM Easter Service at All Saints'
		Noon Easter Potluck Brunch

Shrove Tuesday was a Blast . . .

This event has become an annual event, celebrating an All Saints' Mardi Gras, just hours before Lent began at midnight. The pancakes were delicious and the fellowship was marvelous as we frolicked the night away. The Godly Play kids helped serve and provided the core for the Talent Show. Yes, we had a Talent Show. I am sure they are lining up now for next year's show, as this one provided a stage for the budding talent in this congregation.

First, a trio from the choir, Jo Darnall, Jean Proud and Dickie Calvert, sang a wonderful hymn, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." They set the bar for their harmonizing. Next, Betsy and Dale Leonard recited some poems, augmented by some original words from Dale. Great Job! Very Entertaining! Next, Deacon Nancy, Jane, and Fr. EJ brought back an old favorite of theirs, singing "Gonna Walk to That Glory Land." No harmony for them, so the Choir Trio beat them technically, but equal in Spirit. The Godly Play members led the audience in the famous, "When the Saints' Go Marching In" while they paraded through the parish hall, led by Dom Harrison as the leader and tom-tom player followed by Rachael, Sarah, and Hannah Pankow. If that rendition didn't raise the "Saints," we don't know what will. Then, as a finale, Sarah Pankow, on the French horn, and Fr EJ on the trumpet, played from a selection of songs, practiced only minutes earlier, before the supper. They really took home the prize, as their performance was planned, yet impromptu, and really demonstrated that talent is among us all. Great job everyone for volunteering to entertain. Everyone was a winner! Thanks to our cooks and servers, Scott Pankow and Deacon Nancy on the pancakes, Dickie, Jessica and Jane on the Fat Tuesday bacon, ham, and sausage. The free will offering will provide funds for outreach for the Children's Church and for expanding the Godly Play education program.

Lenten Video Series . . .

From Jesus to Christ, a PBS video, was selected as this year's Lenten study. Each Wednesday during Lent, members of the community are invited to view and discuss the video which presents the rise of Christianity during the first 3 centuries of the Church. The series includes 4 one hour presentations, of which the first documents the ministry of Jesus and it's effect on the Jewish population of Jerusalem. Following each showing, a lively discussion occurs. Come join us as we explore the origins of our Christian faith.

Bishop's Committee News . . .

Betsy Leonard, our new Bishop's Warden, was installed on Sunday, January 31st, following the Annual Meeting, on January 24th. Bonnie Smeltzer, new Bishop's Committee member, joined her at the installation. Doug Saxton who stepped down as Bishop's Warden, after several years of meritorious service, has agreed to serve as Chairman of the Stewardship Committee.

The newly organized Committee met for their first time on February 7th, to begin planning for the upcoming year. The primary topic concerned the completion of plans for Saints Forever Legacy Society. Materials have been distributed to regular parishioners and Friends of the Church. More info on this to follow.



Dear Partners in Mission,

Thank you for your prayers and support in recent weeks. Much of my mental and emotional energy has been directed towards Haiti and its situation lately, wondering and praying how I could best help. The solution is to spend two weeks near the end of March helping with the teaching program that is being held at Hospital Albert

Schweitzer, www.friendsofhas.org/projects/rttp.php3. Please pray with me that the work I do then, along with the work of the other volunteer teachers, is a blessing for the many people who have become permanent disabled during the earthquake and through life's standard accidents and diseases. The earthquake has rudely brought the need for rehab services to the forefront which many of us are praying will result in many advancements in the limited rehab that the country has had available up until now.

A few nights ago I was delighted to hear the pleasant sound of rain outside, as it has been very hot, dry and dusty lately. While reveling in the wonderful sound and smell of rain, I thought also of the Haitians on the other side of the island living in the street with little to no shelter. Sure enough, early the next morning the rain hit Port au Prince. Those living with sheets as shelter, discovered a taste of the reality that will be theirs should more tents and other, better shelters not become available before the rains begin in the spring. Of course, there are immense needs in Haiti for aid of all sorts and I know many of you have the wonderful option to double your money through the matching funds grant that Bishop O'Neill was able to secure! Gloria a Dios! Thank you for your generosity for the Haitian people in their time of extreme trial. May God bless and guide you in all you do!

In Christ,
Cathy

Cathy Donahoe is a SAMS Missionary and Physical Therapist serving in the Dominican Republic. All Saints' Chapter of the Daughters of the King sponsors her ministry. Donations: SAMS, PO Box 399, Ambridge, PA 15003

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