



*The truth is that every man is in Christ;
the condemnation of every man is that
he will not own the truth, he will not
act as if it were true, that except he
were joined with Christ, he could not
think, breathe, live a single hour.*

... Frederick Denison Maurice

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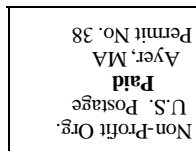


APRIL, 2004

The Christian Journey in one Day

At six o'clock in the morning on April 11th, we claim once again the mystery of the resurrection. As we made our way through Lent we find that all Lenten roads lead to the cross, burial, and the open tomb on Easter morn. Yet you may say, "I haven't kept a very holy Lent this year. I haven't done that which I hoped to do." God in his infinite mercy through our liturgy gives us one more opportunity to make our Christian journey. Often, we think of a journey as being one of slowly plodding, one methodical step after another. Yet on Easter morning the journey is made in one swift movement; it is more like a sprint. The Great Vigil of Easter is the ultimate Christian service. In a relatively short space of time we make our Christian journeys once again. The Great Vigil of Easter is the symbolic and liturgical vehicle by which we are transported through space and time whilst being formed by Word and sacrament. It is an elaborate and multifaceted service rich with sign and symbol that speaks to every part of our being. Our sprint begins as we gather at six o'clock on April 11th. We gather outside by a newly kindled fire to light the new Paschal candle. We then process into the darkened church behind the "marvelous flame". Once in our pews we then hear the invitation, "Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption." From that invitation we are awash in Holy Scripture and singing. Having been shaped and molded by Holy Scripture, we gather around the baptismal font. We reclaim our baptismal vows, either along with those who will be baptized, or as a body reaffirming our belief and commitment to Jesus Christ our Lord. Then the first of the three great Easter acclamations are made to the sound of ringing bells, "Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia." Having

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renewed our baptismal vows we gather around the altar to make Eucharist in celebrating the Easter Eucharist and receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. The bond of union with God in Christ established at the baptismal font is proclaimed in the reading from Romans 6. What has been hinted at in the readings from Hebrew Scriptures is now made explicit in the resurrection gospel. The Body of Christ which is the church, receives the Body of Christ which is the Eucharist, and enters into the rejoicing of the Great Fifty Days united to its risen Head. And as we leave the church we realize that the sprint may be ended but the journey continues on in a renewed life in the Kingdom of God. I hope to see you all at The Great Vigil of Easter—don't forget your running shoes.

Your servant in Christ,

Scott+

Stewardship Matters

Recently, the senior warden sent to each home of St. Andrew's an appeal regarding stewardship and finances of our parish. As you ponder her wise words please consider the vast number of ways you can support your Parish. In addition to efforts put forth striving to live on 90% of your income, please consider creative and inventive ways to help in your tithe. Some questions you may want to consider to help you in your discernment come by way of Dan Hotchkiss, an Alban Institute Field Consultant. "What is one's true relation to the money, property, and other wealth one 'owns'? Is our wealth truly ours? If so, how does our use of it reflect the condition of our soul? Do we hold it in trust for God? If so, how does God intend for us to choose among the many ways we might live in relation to it? How do we balance the competing claims of self-development, family obligation, charitable works, and—incidentally—the funding of our church? (Copied from Congregations, Nov/Dec 2001; pg. 20) As you reflect on these question please consider another meaningful, albeit often overlooked, means to give—**Planned Giving**. Basically this is giving through your will or also known as leaving a bequest.

On April 25th St. Andrew's will offer during the Adult Christian Formation time a short seminar on Planned Giving. Everyone is invited to join us in the Parish Hall for this very important and meaningful discussion.

Palm Sunday Bake Sale

On April 4th (Palm Sunday) the Christmas Fair Committee will hold a bake sale in the Peabody Room after services. Stop and purchase some cookies etc in time for the Easter holiday. Better yet, please contribute some of your own baked goodies, thereby helping to create a nice, big selection for everybody.

In addition, at the bake sale and every Sunday until Mother's Day (May 9th) the Christmas Fair Committee is selling chances (6 for \$5) on a quilt, hand made by Deb Savoie. Come and see it on display in the Peabody Room. The quilt is full bed size, in beautiful spring colors.

- Lynn Ferrillo

Have you seen "The Passion of the Christ"?

A Discussion of the new movie is planned for Good Friday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Please join us for a time to share your opinions and a cup of coffee. If you have any questions, see Rena Gagne.

Editor's Note:

Next Issue: May 2004

Deadline: April 20th

Send submissions to: acahill@hybricon.com

Or, drop off your submissions at the Church Office during office hours or in the Peabody Room on Sundays.

Questions? Please call me at:

H: (978) 448-4053

W: (978) 772-5422 x 323

*Be sure to include your name and telephone number on **all** submissions!*

Readings for April

Sunday, April 4 – The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

First Lesson: Isaiah 52: 13 – 53:12

The Old Testament reading is the poem of Isaiah that describes the suffering God's faithful servant.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2: 5-11

The reading from Philippians is an early Christian hymn announcing that Jesus' lordship is revealed not in power and divinity, but in self-giving love to the point of dying for us, his beloved.

The Gospel: The Passion Reading from Luke

The account of the Lord's Passion is read from Luke's Gospel, so that we may have a fuller sense of sharing with him in his redemptive acts of dying and rising for our salvation.

The reading today is one witness to the meaning of the Resurrection. In it, Peter makes a statement to the Jewish authorities when he and the other apostles are arrested.

Second Lesson: Revelation 1: (1-8), 9-19

John's vision of the last days in the book of Revelation begins with the salutation from the risen Lord, who has made us his royal priesthood and servants of God.

The Gospel: John 20: 19-31

This Sunday is always the time we hear the story of Jesus' appearance to his disciples on Easter Day and again the following Sunday, when Thomas – who had been absent the previous week – refused to believe them unless he saw the Lord with his own eyes and touched the scars from his crucifixion.

Sunday, April 11 – The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day

First Lesson: Acts 10: 34-43

Throughout the fifty days of Easter, the preferred reading on Sundays is from the Acts of the Apostles rather than from the Old Testament. These weekly readings from Acts describe the life of the first Christians and their proclamation of Christ's resurrection.

Second Lesson: Colossians 3: 1-4

The passage from Colossians reflects our share in the Resurrection, given us in Baptism.

The Gospel: Luke 24: 1-10

The Gospel reading is the account of the women at the tomb, when they learned that Jesus was risen.

Sunday, April 25 – The Third Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 9: 1-9a

The reading from Acts is the account of Paul's conversion from his stance as the first persecutor of the church to its greatest missionary and preacher.

Second Lesson: Revelation 5: 6-14

The second reading, from the Revelation to John, envisions the final conversion of the entire human race and of the whole creation.

The Gospel: John 21: 1-14

In this reading we hear John's account of the meeting which took place between the disciples and the Lord on the shore of the sea of Tiberias. It culminated, as did so many of the resurrection appearances, in the Lord sharing food with his disciples and in that way making himself known to them.

Sunday, April 18 – The Second Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 5: 12a, 17-22, 25-29

Holy Tuesday at St. Paul's Cathedral

On Holy Tuesday, April 6th, everyone is invited to the Cathedral for the liturgy of the blessing of the Holy Oils and to hear guest speaker Ned Hallowell. The liturgy begins at 12 Noon followed by a fundraising luncheon at which time Mr. Hallowell will speak on the theme of forgiveness. Also during this time he will be available to sign copies of his book Dare to Forgive. The Liturgy of the blessing of the Holy Oils also known as The Chrism Mass, dates back to the fifth century. The consecration of the Chrism oil (this is the oil with which the newly baptized are anointed) has always been reserved to the bishop. Additionally other sacramental oils are blessed—the oil of the catechumen, and the oil of the infirmed. The oil of the catechumen is the oil used in anointing those preparing for baptism. The oil of the infirmed is the oil used in the sacrament of Unction. Please make plans to attend this wonderful service and enrich your Holy Week observance.

Can You Help?

Jesus said, "I am the living bread which came down from Heaven; if anyone eats of this bread he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh ..." (John6:51)

Lay Eucharist Ministers (LEMB) are honored to carry Christ to those who are unable to attend church. The Holy Eucharist feeds life, comfort, hope to lonely, suffering, captive people. Would you care to take our one bread and cup out to the Body of Christ - those who wait in need to be fed at home or in the hospital?

St. Andrew's asks you to consider serving in this ministry. Communion is the heart of our worship together and attention must be given to all the faithful company of believers. This is of utmost importance, a sacred privileged journey to Celebrate the Eucharist with eager, grateful parishioners.

St. Andrew's Godly Play April 2004

April 2004 Schedule of Stories and Wondering Questions

<u>Date</u>	<u>All Grades</u>
Apr. 4	Faces of Christ V and VI
Apr. 11	<i>EASTER—No Church School</i>
Apr. 18	Mystery of Easter
Apr. 25	Circle of the Holy Eucharist
May 2	Silence
May 9	Crosses

Faces of Christ V and VI

Lent is the season when we prepare for the mystery of Easter. We move toward the Mystery by hearing stories of Christ's journey to the cross and resurrection. We have been remembering Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God, his Desert and Discovery experience, Jesus as Healer and Parable maker, His offering of Bread and Wine, and this week, the One Who Was Easter and Still Is.

I wonder what part of this story you like best? I wonder what part is the most important part? I wonder where you are in this story? What part of this story is about you? I wonder if there is any part of the story we could leave out and have all the story we need?

Mystery of Easter

This lesson gives an introduction of the relationship of Lent to the Mystery of Easter and how Easter overflows into the season of Easter.

I wonder if you have ever seen these colors in church? I wonder what happens when you see these colors? I wonder what part of Lent you like best? I wonder what part is most important? I wonder how sadness and happiness can make joy? I wonder where joy comes from? I wonder how you know when joy is here?

Circle of the Holy Eucharist

This presentation and material develop the themes in the Holy Eucharist; it helps the

children connect the sequence of liturgical actions and images from their Godly Play experience with St. Andrew's weekly church celebration.

I wonder what part of the Holy Eucharist you like best? I wonder what is the most important part? I wonder what part is especially for you? I wonder if we could leave anything out and still have everything we need?

Silence

We hope to foster an inner peace – an assumption that silence is not empty but full. Using a labyrinth from the Chartre Cathedral, and our Christ candle we practice being comfortable with silence and stillness.

I wonder where the silence materials are? I wonder where the silence is? I wonder where the silence comes from? I wonder how silence speaks?

Crosses

This lesson explores a sacred symbol, letting them think about what crosses really represent, and how to work with crosses to find the cross that is just right for them.

I wonder which cross you like best? I wonder which is the most important cross? I wonder which cross is especially for you? I wonder if you would like to make something about how these crosses feel to you?

Holy Week at St. Andrew's

This year you are invited to any and all of the various events as we make our way from Palm Sunday to Easter Morn. Our schedule is a bit different than last year. Some services have been added others deleted. Our hope is to provide a variety of opportunities for us all to enter into a deeper relationship with God in Christ through our worship life.

Holy Week

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

8:00AM—The blessing of the Palms and Rite I Holy Eucharist

10:30AM—Gather in the Parish Hall for the blessing of the Palms and the Procession into the Church.

Monday in Holy Week—

7:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

Tuesday in Holy Week—

7:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

12:00 Noon—The blessing of The Holy Oils liturgy at St. Paul's Cathedral, all are invited. Guest speaker Ned Hallowell

Wednesday in Holy Week—

7:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

The Triduum

Maundy Thursday—

7:00 AM Morning Prayer

7:30 PM—Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist with foot washing and stripping of the Altar.

The church will remain open until 12:00 a.m. for vigil at the Altar of Repose in the chapel to commemorate Christ's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane and his words, "Would you not watch with me one hour?"

Good Friday—

12 Noon—The Good Friday Liturgy and veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday—

10:30 AM—The Holy Saturday Liturgy

Following the Holy Saturday Liturgy preparation of the church will take place, preparing it for The Great Vigil of Easter.

Easter Day—

6:00 AM—The Great Vigil of Easter

8:30 AM—Easter Breakfast in the Parish Hall

9:15—9:45 — There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on the Grounds.

10:00 AM—Festal Choral Eucharist

Lenten Almsgiving is Celebrated

On April 18th please be sure to bring your Hope Chests to the church. These "Hope Chests" were distributed as the Episcopal Development Relief [EDR] Fund boxes. In accordance with our renewed sense of mission to the world in which we live, this program was a Lenten discipline. At the 10:30 AM service on April 18th the member of the Outreach Commission will present the EDR boxes at the offertory. If you committed yourself to giving to this very worthwhile charity please return your boxes on April 18th.

The Second Annual Easter Breakfast to Fund Campership Program

Don't fret about getting up on Easter Morning and feeding the family—BRING 'EM TO CHURCH for a wonderful breakfast.

Many of you may remember the first Annual Easter Breakfast last year; single-handedly organized and offered through the yeoman efforts of Susan Grinstead (alas, Susan has moved to Las Vegas). This year, the Outreach Commission of St. Andrew's has taken up the standard and will be hosting the Easter Breakfast. Not only is this a wonderful time to gather and share a meal together, we have a second purpose. On Easter morning the breakfast is the tool by which we hope to raise funds supporting our Campership program. The Camperships have been offered by St. Andrew's to children who wish to attend summer camp but lack the funds and resources to do so. The Breakfast will take place at 8:30 AM in between The Great Vigil of Easter and the 10 o'clock Festal Choral Eucharist. Please make plans to join us for this time of fellowship with a mission.

Easter Egg Hunt

Between the two services on Easter morning, there will be the traditional hunt for candy-filled eggs on the Church grounds. I am asking for donations of plastic eggs and candy which can be placed in a carton in the Parish Hall. If there are any teens who would like to help hide the eggs, please let me know. And collectors - don't forget to bring a basket or bag to put your eggs in!

Nancy Barringer, Church School Coordinator

Special Diocesan Convention

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts held a Special Diocesan Convention on Saturday, March 13, at Boston University. Our rector, Claudette Hunt, and I attended, and, though our paths did not cross, so, I understand, did our Organist/Choirmaster, Judy Adams.

Our Bishops have decided that diocesan conventions will not simply be "business as usual," and so introduced the convention with these words – "This special gathering will be a continued celebration of mission strategy – with every congregation growing in mission – and a *focus on evangelism through music.*" Dispensing quickly with a few business items, including a status report from the Assessment Formula Committee, the morning session moved to music. We tried, and practiced, various musical responses that would be used in the following service of Holy Eucharist, including a humming exercise that I found unsettling and in which I did not participate. But I thought the special guest, Dr. Horace Boyer, a delightful and entertaining teacher. Dr. Boyer is a renowned musician, a retired professor of music at UMass/Amherst, and a scholar in the field of African-American gospel music. His name appears often as arranger of gospel hymns ("Go Down, Moses," for example) in the 1982 Hymnal.

In a letter sent to clergy and delegates to Convention, our Bishops wrote, "In the afternoon we will discuss and vote on the resolution and close in worship with Dr. Boyer." The full title of the resolution so briefly mentioned is "Resolution on the Support of Same-Sex Civil Marriage." The resolution reads as follows: "Resolved, that this Special Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts join with its Bishops in affirming its commitment to civil rights by recording its support of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court's holding in *Goodridge v. The Department of Public Health*, that to deny same-sex couples the right of civil marriage is unconstitutional in this Commonwealth." Immediately following the reading of the resolution, its proposer stood to request that a vote on it be postponed to the November diocesan convention. A second proposer spoke against that ("Justice delayed is justice denied"). Two dozen speakers spoke passionately; only 2 were not supportive of the resolution. The movement to postpone a vote was soundly defeated, a second movement with compromise language (civil *unions*, not civil marriage) was also defeated, and the resolution passed overwhelmingly. Your rector and I cast our votes against passage of the resolution.

- Susan Leeming, St. Andrew's delegate to Convention

April 2004

St. Andrew's Church

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 Office Hours: Monday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 Tu - Fri 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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