

*Morning breaks upon the tomb,  
Jesus scatters all its gloom.  
Day of triumph through the skies--  
See the glorious Saviour rise.  
Christians! Dry your flowing tears,  
Chase those unbelieving fears;  
Look on his deserted grave,  
Doubt no more his power to save.  
Ye who are of death afraid,  
Triumph in the scattered shade:  
Drive your anxious cares away,  
See the place where Jesus lay.*

*... William Bengo Collyer*

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12:00 PM –2:00 PM Tuesday

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# THE PRESS

APRIL, 2006

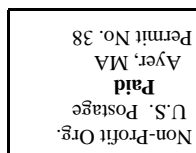
Dear People of St. Andrew's:

Holy Week brings us to the most solemn part of the Christian year in the prelude to Easter. During Lent, we have been preparing ourselves over forty days but during this last week everything intensifies as we focus on the great battle between God in Christ and the power of evil. These days commemorate the most significant events in the story of our salvation: Jesus going to his crucifixion on our behalf and in fulfillment of the Father's purpose of revealing his infinite love for the entire human race. The Holy Week services are meant to be drama in the best sense of the word so that we can apprehend more fully their meaning, not only in an intellectual sense but at the gut level of our being. I'd like to describe something about these services ahead of time as we approach these sacred days.

Palm Sunday which begins Holy Week commences with the liturgical re-enactment of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem when crowds hailed him as king, waving branches of palm. It is festive and exciting and processions and the singing of "All Glory, Laud and Honor" set the stage. Then the liturgy moves in the Eucharist to the Passion of Christ, focusing on Jesus' trial and crucifixion, particularly through the dramatic readings of these accounts in the Gospels. The contrast with the crowds on Sunday who would crown him king and their fickle cries of "Crucify him!" days later tell our own story of faith and failure in response to Jesus and his claim upon our lives.

Maundy Thursday is named for the Latin word "Maundatum" meaning "command" and referring to Jesus' command in the Gospel of John at the Last Supper that his disciples love one another as he loved them and us. The service focuses on Jesus' last supper with his disciples when he shared the Passover meal with them, instituting the Eucharist in that context. The Holy Eucharist is a central act of Christian worship in obeying Jesus' command that we do this "in remembrance of me."

The 1979 Prayer Book restores the ancient practice of foot washing to commemorate Jesus' act on that evening of laying out the model of Christian service when he washed the feet of his disciples. I will wash the feet of a symbolic group of 12 people. It is not possible due to time



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and logistics to do everyone's feet. At communion, a certain portion of the sacrament is reserved to be taken to a special altar in the chapel and kept there until the Good Friday liturgy and used for communion at that time. The main altar and chancel are stripped of all decoration and objects, after which the chancel lights are put out to commemorate Christ going into his Passion. The chapel will be open until 10 p.m. where a "watch" or prayer will take place before the Blessed Sacrament to commemorate Jesus' time in the garden in which he struggled in prayer before his arrest. Those who don't go to the chapel for a time are asked to leave in silence after the stripping of the altar.

There will be a simple service on Good Friday at noon with a meditation to help us focus on Jesus' self-offering on the cross at the time he was crucified. The Prayer Book provides for a liturgy which will be used in the evening with readings culminating in the Gospel of John, with his account of the crucifixion and the service climaxes with communion from the reserved sacrament consecrated the night before. Again, you are asked to leave in silence at the end of the service. The meditation at both services will attempt to help us focus on and understand in some way the immeasurable love of God revealed in the terrible suffering of Jesus our Savior on the cross.

Easter, the great victory of God over the powers of death and darkness in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, begins at sundown on Holy Saturday. (Jewish custom begins a new day at sundown rather than midnight.) A new fire is lit and a large Paschal or Easter candle is taken down the aisle to be placed in a stand in the darkened church, representing Christ rising from the dead, his light dispelling the darkness and from that candle all the other candles are lit. This is followed by a great song of victory called the Exultet and lessons from the Old Testament referring to God's victory in many circumstances but always including the account of the Children of Israel delivered through the Red Sea from slavery in Egypt. This symbolizes our own deliverance through baptism in our identification with Jesus' death and resurrection. There may be a baptism but we will all reaffirm our baptismal vows before the organ begins the opening hymn of the First Eucharist of Easter. This is a restoration of the most ancient commemoration of Easter and is a full Easter observance, but in addition services are offered on Easter morning at the normal 8 and 10 o'clock hours.

It is hoped that all of us will take advantage of some, if not all, of these opportunities during Holy Week, to enter more fully not only with the suffering of Jesus on our behalf but also to more fully celebrate the incredible meaning of his resurrection for us and the world in which we live. By living out the drama of this week, the whole story of our salvation can come so much closer to our hearts as well as our heads and help us in our transformation into the image of Him who is the head of the Body to which we belong through him. May God bless us all.

Faithfully yours because of Him,



Alan B. MacKillop  
Priest in Residence

## How's your Memory?

A group of parishioners led by Church Historian Louise Rogers is sorting through scrapbooks and boxes of old photos. Help is needed to identify the people and occasions in these photos. Each Sunday in the Peabody Room there will be a table with some photos that we would like you to take a look at. Any help would be very much appreciated – and they are fun to see!

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One of the deepest paradoxes of Christian faith is that our continuity with the Christian past lies not in repeating what earlier generations said, but bringing ourselves before the same point of judgment and asking, with them, for conversion--which may mean that we do and say things they did not.

*Rowan Williams (Archbishop of Canterbury and Head of the Anglican Communion), Open to Judgement (Darton, Longman and Todd, Ltd., London, 1994), p. 262-3.*

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### *Editor's Note:*

*Next Issue: May 2006*

*Deadline: April 20th*

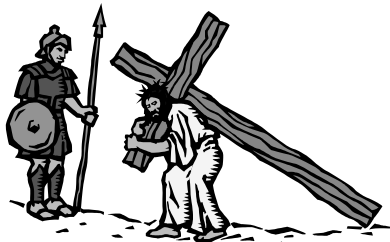
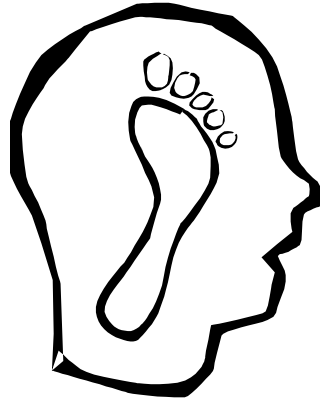
*Send submissions to: [acahill@hybricon.com](mailto:acahill@hybricon.com), or drop off your submissions at the Church Office during office hours or in the Peabody Room on Sundays.*

*Questions? Please call me at: (978) 448-4053 (home) or (978) 772-5422 x 323 (work).*

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

# Walk on Good Friday

Fortunately, here in New England, we have a chance of a decent weather day for walking in the GOOD FRIDAY WALK this year as the date is April 14<sup>th</sup>. This 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Walk in Harvard is a branch of the Good Friday Walk begun in Hingham in 1972. The ties for the Walk are strong with St. Andrews since many parishioners traveled to Hingham to walk before deciding to avoid the long busy drive and walk in this area instead. Thus the Harvard walk was begun. It is a community and family day for all. Many years later, the walk continues with warm community feelings with varied meanings for each walker and worker. It remains a special day of gathering, sharing and participating for the purpose of raising funds for Loaves & Fishes (2/3) and Sharing, Inc. (1/3.) Operating out of Devens and about to occupy their own brand new home, Loaves & Fishes is a food pantry and assistance program responding to hunger and poverty in our immediate area. Serving Ayer, Shirley, Groton, Littleton, Harvard and Devens, it was begun as a hot meal program at St. Andrews. Sharing, Inc. is a hand's on aid for rural poverty in the Southern United States focusing on children. How surprising it is to think of St. Andrew's strong beginnings and connections with both Loaves & Fishes and Sharing, Inc. Sponsor Sheets for the Walk are available in the Peabody Room along with a sign up sheet to donate food for the day of the walk. Last year 276 walkers and 60 workers raised \$32,439. Please come and join us for this personal way to help your neighbors in a positive way and to feel you have given a little something to improve the life of those in need. We look forward to your joining us. For any questions or additional information, please call Ruth Broughton at 978 486 8557 (rebroughton@verizon.net) or Laurie Heron at 978 621 6545.



Dear Alan and People of St Andrew's

Thank you for a delightful time at this past Wednesday's Lenten Soup and Study. I enjoyed being with you and I appreciate your warm welcome. Thank you as well for the lovely statue of our Lord ( a Central American Santos hardly qualifies as tacky religious art!). It is lovely and I thank you for that additional kindness. I hope our conversation helped broaden the considerations for your future discussions of the life in the Anglican Communion. We do indeed live in "interesting times", to quote that ancient Chinese curse, and I suspect the waters will become far more muddied before they clear. However, this holy season reminds us of what is absolute and essential, namely the love of God made flesh in Jesus his son; offered for the forgiveness and redemption of the world on the cross; and raised to the new life of grace through the power of his resurrection. In all our issues and conflicts and controversies, may that truth remain our focus and our faith.

In Christ,  
Fr William Bergmann+

**PLEASE NOTE!** The final Lenten Program in our series with a soup supper and speaker will be on TUESDAY, APRIL 4th, beginning at 6 p.m., rather than on Wednesday. This is to accommodate the schedule of our speaker, The Rev. Jurgen Liias, rector of Christ Church, Hamilton/Wenham on the subject of Human Sexuality, Part II, a conservative view.

## The Choir is Alive!

St. Andrew's Choir is alive and well and will be preparing for Holy Week and Easter, the feasts of the Passion and Resurrection of Our Lord. Anyone who would like to sing is asked to come on Sundays throughout Lent at 9:15 (sharp!) in the chancel. On Saturday, April 8, all choir members will have a mini-retreat at Groton School. We will spend the day in fellowship learning music, eating together, and getting to know one another. The rehearsal will begin at 10am and the day will end at 4pm. Bring your own picnic lunch, drinks provided. Please contact Michael Smith at mwsmith@groton.org or 978-448-7635 if you have questions.

# Maxi Mardi Gras

It was a great evening- the February 28th Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. The men and teenagers did the cooking for about 50 people (more than planned for!). The tables were loaded with Mardi Gras beads and candy — we all had fun!

The raffle basket, which was donated entirely by Dianne Bunis and won by Mary Medeiros, along with cash donations, raised almost \$450 for the Sunday School. In addition we received 18 bags of food and \$41 for Loaves & Fishes. A good start for Lent!

There once was a pious young priest,  
Who lived almost wholly on yeast;  
"For," he said, "it is plain  
We must all rise again,  
And I want to get started at least."

## Online X-Press?

It has been suggested that in order to keep mailing costs at a minimum we make the X-Press available by electronic link to parishioners with e-mail at some point. It is already available on our website, <http://www.standrewsayer.org>. The mailing list will soon be updated and expanded so we can take advantage of bulk mailing rates at the US Postal Service. Let us know what you think - talk to Fr. Alan, Sue Hildreth, Dick Dubrowski or any Vestry person.



# Holy Week Schedule

PALM SUNDAY, April 9

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I:  
Liturgy of the Palms and The Passion  
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II:  
Liturgy of the Palms and The Passion

HOLY WEDNESDAY, April 12

12:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with  
Prayer for Healing available after communion

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 13

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II:  
Commemoration of the Last Supper and  
Institution of the Eucharist,  
Foot Washing  
Stripping of the Altar and  
Watch at the Altar of Repose until 10 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, April 14

12 p.m. Noonday Service with Meditations  
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy

HOLY SATURDAY, April 15

Lighting of the New Fire (Paschal Candle)  
Easter Vigil, Holy Baptism and  
First Eucharist of Easter

EASTER DAY, April 16

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

## BAKE SALE

A bake sale will be held on Palm Sunday, April 9th, in the Peabody Room during coffee hours. Donations of bread, muffins, cookies, pies, etc. will be greatly appreciated. Proceeds of the sale will provide seed money for the Christmas Craft Fair in November.

## Sunday School Raffle Raises \$430

When Treasurer Sue Hildreth heard that the Sunday School needed funds to replace old chalkboards and buy new corkboards, rug pads and other items, Sue got the idea to have a raffle and raise some of it by selling tickets to win a gift. Dianne Bunis bought and arranged numerous edible items into a beautiful basket that was on display for a couple of Sundays and the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Parishioners generously bought tickets and the winner was Mary Medeiros. The spirit of the event energized one parishioner to contribute her can of loose change and another family who missed buying tickets to write a check. All contributions were gratefully received by church school coordinator Nancy Barringer and teachers Jeanne Cassin, John Ferrillo and Yvette Nasworthy. Nancy is writing a shopping list now!



## Church Milestones

- ✘ Congratulations to Rosanna (Simmons) and Andy Cassavechio upon the birth of their daughter, London, early in the year. She will be baptized in in April.
- ✘ APRIL 4TH FIFTY YEARS AGO John and Peggy Braat were married in Pearl River, New York with family and friends in attendance. A happy honeymoon in the Poconos was planned - but they didn't count on the big blizzard, which made it impossible for them to reach their destination. Unable to go on, they stopped at a house and asked if they could stay until the worst was over. The couple asked if they were married and Peggy said, "We have 5 children!" (from John's previous marriage and not mentioning they had actually only been married a couple of days before!). Their family is feting them with a party on April 1st.
- ✘ ANOTHER GOLDEN MILESTONE will be achieved on March 31st when longtime parishioners Michael and Sonia Hayward celebrate 50 years of marriage as well. They were married in Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, England (the future birthplace of the ALPHA program), where they lived until emigrating to Ottawa, Canada and then to Massachusetts. Michael and Sonia, who now live on Cape Cod but spend their winters in Florida, will be joined down south for the big occasion by their family.



Congratulations and Best Wishes from the St. Andrew's family to all those celebrating milestones!

## Paper Clips

On Saturday, April 1, a small group from the church will be attending a showing of the documentary "Paper Clips" at the Marion Campbell Performing Arts Center at Groton School. It tells the story of how students at a rural Tennessee elementary school learned the history and tragedy of the Holocaust by collecting one paper clip to represent each individual killed by the Nazis. A discussion of the movie will take place after the screening. The event begins at 7 pm. See Nancy Barringer for details.

# Vestry Meeting Highlights

Highlights from the February, 2006 Vestry Meeting:

- ✘ Rectory Rental Update Given by Vic Burton. Current tenants leaving as of 2/15/06; received interest from another family who could begin renting as of March 15<sup>th</sup> if their references check out favorably. If not, backup plan is to advertise in local papers and contact realtors.
- ✘ Priest-in-Residence Report Given by Fr. Alan. Church attendance has been good. New Sunday School schedule will begin this Sunday. Good Annual Meeting with election of talented Vestry. Will be hiring Michael Smith (Music Director from The Groton School) as new organist, who will begin on Ash Wednesday. Fr. Alan is preparing a Lenten Program for Wednesday evenings.
- ✘ Sr. Warden's Report Given by Russ Harris. Recommended keeping principles while updating methods in order to build a strong parish, taking risks and using creative energy of talented Vestry.
- ✘ Jr. Wardens' Report Given by Mary Medeiros and Carolyn Smith. Drain pipe over door and sill beneath need replacement. School in Ayer requests use of Parish Hall in April (proceeds to Red Cross). Dick Dabrowski requests that the Vestry review website, and comment on ways of making St. Andrew's a welcoming place, i.e. the availability of the Snuggery for families with infants; reserved pews in the back for late-comers; handicap accessibility.
- ✘ Treasurer's Report Given by Sue Hildreth. Collection Procedures distributed and reviewed. January 2006 budget distributed and reviewed.
- ✘ Contracts Review: Lili working on Janitor Contract. Property and Liability Insurance reviewed by Marilyn
- ✘ Vestry Retreat to be held 3/18, likely at Grotonwood.
- ✘ Diocesan Leadership Day Scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> at BU
- ✘ Parish Hall Security — Wardens investigating buzzer system as well as new locks.
- ✘ Pastoral Care Commission Report Given by John Ferrillo. Investigating the possibility of hiring a taxivan or hiring the River Court driver to pick up people for Sunday service.
- ✘ Organist Report given by John Ferrillo. Michael Smith has been hired as St. Andrew's organist. Many thanks to the search committee.

# A Word from the Senior Warden

'Humor' and 'humility' seem to come from the same root word. It makes sense that these two words might be related. Good-hearted humor focused on our own weaknesses [both as people and as a church], keeps us humble [unlike the Pharisees]. When we remind ourselves of our weakness in comparison with the perfection of God, there are advantages. First, it keeps us focused on the perfection of God and His son, Jesus Christ, and, second, reminds us to take ourselves less seriously, and the power of God's kingdom more seriously.

Russ Harris

# Take a Hike for Humanity



**Habitat for Humanity North Central Massachusetts announces 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Hike**

You can make a difference in the lives of families in need when you Hike for Humanity at Mt. Monadnock on May 20 or 21. This 11<sup>th</sup> annual Hike for Humanity raises funds to build simple decent homes that low-income families can afford.

Hiking Mt. Monadnock is a great way to support Habitat for Humanity while enjoying the mountain scenery and spring weather. Hikers collect pledges from family members, friends and co-workers. Money raised will help build Habitat houses in north central Massachusetts. The summit is about 3 miles on well-traveled trails over easy to moderate terrain. For those not up to hiking to the top of the mountain, alternative paths near the base are available.

Hike on your own, with family and friends, or form a team of up to ten members. When you return to the base, finish off your hiking adventure by bidding on the silent auction items, including a Nemo Tent. For more information visit our website [www.ncmhabitat.org](http://www.ncmhabitat.org) or contact the Habitat office at (978) 348-2749 or [hfhncm@verizon.net](mailto:hfhncm@verizon.net).

# April 2006

## St. Andrew's Church

Tel: (978) 772-2615  
Office Hours: 8:00 AM –12:00 PM M, W, Th, F  
12:00 PM –2:00 PM Tuesday

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<p><i>16</i></p> <p>8:00 AM HE I 10:00 AM HE II Easter Egg Hunt between the two services</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>9:30 AM Bible Study Office closed</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Parents Helping Parents</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>12:30 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer 5:00 PM Confirmation Class 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>12:20 PM St. Andrew's Weavers</p>	<p><i>21</i></p>	<p><i>22</i></p>																																																	
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<p><i>30</i></p> <p>8:00 AM HE I 10:00 AM HE II</p>	<p><b>Other Parish Hall Activities:</b></p> <p><b>4/12— Boy Scouts, 6:30-8:00pm</b> <b>4/13 and 4/27—Girl Scouts, 3:30-5:50pm</b> <b>4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27—AA, 7:00-10:00pm</b></p>					<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">May</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td style="text-align: center;">M</td><td style="text-align: center;">T</td><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center;">T</td><td style="text-align: center;">F</td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td><td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td><td style="text-align: center;">20</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td><td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td><td style="text-align: center;">27</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td><td style="text-align: center;">30</td><td style="text-align: center;">31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	May							S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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