

March 2005

From your Supply Priest

Dear Friends,

When Art called me up and asked if I'd be able to be with you from Epiphanytide through Easter Sunday I thought: "How providential this is!" For it was at this same time of year (three years ago?) that I came to you for the first time. You were recovering from a very difficult period in your life as a parish, and it was thrilling for me to observe, as the time passed, how you recaptured new life and hope. Then Fr. Pollock arrived, and after a rich ministry among you, has retired. And here I am again! If it weren't for a good number of you I remember fondly from my first visit, I'd not recognize you, there's such a sense of activity and readiness for whatever the future will bring! It's the task of the supply priest to encourage this hopefulness, and the best way I know of doing that is to provide a sense of continuity and stability. Then when your interim priest arrives, you'll be ready for whatever changes and new directions he or she may have to offer.

In the meantime, I want you to know how helpful Art Elgin has been to me, steering me in the right direction! And Judith has done an exemplary job in answering my questions about worship and providing the Sunday bulletins. I'm also excited by the contributions Marilyn Carollo and Mark Cook are making to our worship—and our music.

I close by reminding you of the services, beginning with Palm Sunday, on March 20, and ending with Easter Day. I hope you will be at those services, and also at the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday (7:30 p.m.), which commemorates the Institution of the Lord's Supper, and the solemn liturgy on Good Friday, at either 12 noon or 7:30 p.m. I can't tell you how much richer Easter will be for you if you have first made this journey in the Way of the Cross.

God's peace be with you,
Perrin



Confirmation

Starting the second Sunday of April we are planning a confirmation class. The class is tentatively scheduled to be held between the services. If you are interested we need to know by April 1. The confirmation ceremony will be held on May 21 at the cathedral. This is open to both children and adults. If you are already confirmed, you can come if you would like to reaffirm your commitment to the church also. Please contact the church office and leave a message 301-948-8201



Via Media News

The Via Media group will meet on Tuesday, March 15, at Al and Anne Wasson's home at 7:30 PM. The topic will be "Sin: Roadblocks to Abundant Life". There will be a 20 minute video followed by a discussion. All are welcome. Call Anne at 301-774-9015 for information.



Pastoral Care

If you have the need for pastoral care, please contact the Church office (301) 948-8201

St. Bartholomew's Newsletter

March 2005

Local Outreach

We have acquired a new family at Gaithersburg Elementary School. This family is headed by a single female parent with six children. She has recently moved here from Baltimore and we have given an emergency donation of food gift cards to assist them. The staff at the school is helping her to apply for assistance in Health and Human Services. Until then, she is living in one room with a person she met at another church. One of the difficulties is that she does live in a woman's house (who now wants \$300 a month) and HHS will not provide housing unless she lives on the street. The staff is working to get her into a shelter which will speed the process.

We will be preparing baskets for children and toiletries for mothers at the Krahnke Center on the 13th of March in the backroom at the Parish Office. We will not be collecting this time since we have a number of items from the last collection we can use.

The Local Outreach Committee will do a collection in April or May for a child with cancer to attend Camp Friendship in the summer. More details will be announced in the Bulletin.

Once again we will contribute toward prom dresses for students at Gaithersburg High School in April. Prom season begins in May!

Committee members will serve dinner and leave breakfast items at the Sophia House in April on the 2nd. We need volunteers for June 6th. One or two persons should be enough. Please contact Judy Docca at 301-977-7591 or at doccajud@comcast.net.

Judy



Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

Episcopal Relief and Development is working with affected communities in Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, and Thailand. Within days of the devastating earthquake and tsunamis, ERD provided initial emergency relief such as food, shelter, medicine, and other critical supplies. As part of planning a comprehensive relief and development program, ERD is partnering with local communities to help them rebuild.

"The totality of this disaster is so enormous. Millions of lives have been ruined," said Mark Spina, ERD Program Director. "This tragedy hit people where they live and where they work. It is particularly difficult for societies that depend on the sea for their livelihood."

"It is easy to give boats and nets to people who've lost their livelihood," said Spina, "but ERD is involved in strengthening communities from within. That's what makes our work sustainable."

The needs are overwhelming and more support is required to restore communities. To help families devastated by the earthquake and tsunamis in South Asia, donate to the South Asia Relief Fund at www.er-d.org or call 1-800-334-7626, ext. 5129. Gifts can be mailed to: Episcopal Relief and Development, South Asia Relief Fund, PO Box 12043, Newark, NJ 07101. Episcopal Relief and Development, an independent 501c3 organization, saves lives and builds hope in communities around the world. For more than 64 years, ERD has provided emergency assistance in times of disaster. When the immediate crisis is over, we rebuild devastated communities and offer long-term solutions in the areas of food security, health care, and HIV/AIDS.

March 2005

Letter from the Senior Warden

Dear fellow parishioners:

I first want to thank you for electing me as your Senior Warden.

It has been an interesting learning experience in the few weeks since the Annual Meeting. As I said then, while I have done a lot of things in my life, being in charge of a church with no permanent rector has not been one of them. I now know how much I don't know. Fortunately, thanks to Judith Schneider, Stevie Grimes and the Altar Guild, Mark Cook and Marilyn Carollo with the music, Anne Fitts with the Sunday School, Harry Bennett with the newsletter, the Ladies Guild, the chalice bearers, lay readers, ushers and many others, much of the day to day operation is on auto-pilot. However, as I have mentioned before, I am going to need your help, and I am sure I will make some mistakes. I hope you will understand, and I welcome any suggestions.

We are blessed to have the services of The Rev. Perrin Radley through Easter. If any of you have not heard him, I would urge you to come to church. He is wonderful.

After Easter we hope to have an Interim Rector in place. The Interim Search Committee is nearing completion of its work, and will be selecting from some very good applicants. In the meantime, at the March Vestry meeting, we hope to be able to name the Search Committee to begin the process of selecting a permanent Rector. If anyone is interested in being considered to serve on the Committee, please give your name to Judith Schneider or me.

At its meeting following the Annual Meeting, the Vestry chose Judy O'Neil as the Church Register and Bill Fitts as Treasurer. I am very thankful that Tim Smith has agreed to undertake the difficult task of chairing the Stewardship Committee and Judy Docca will continue her wonderful work with the Local Outreach Committee.

In the near future the Vestry plans to assess and address the needs of St. Bartholomew's. We do know that we need to resume the growth planning process. In the spring and fall we are planning some Saturday workdays and will need your help. As we know more about our needs, we will keep you informed.

On another subject, there are some adults who have expressed an interest in being confirmed this year; and, probably, there are some children who are ready to be confirmed. After the Interim Rector is on board, we hope to start a confirmation class in time for the May 21st service at the Cathedral. If you would like to be confirmed or have a child you would like to have confirmed, please let us know before April 1st.

The Vestry will be meeting in the undercroft on the 4th Wednesday each month. The meetings are open to the congregation. If any parishioner has any questions or wishes to bring something to the attention of the Vestry, please feel free to join us.

I realize that this report has been somewhat rambling, but it is my first try at this. Please excuse, but I do want to bring as much as possible to the attention of the congregation. St. Bartholomew's is faced with a period of some uncertainty, but we have been in a lot tougher situations in the past and pulled through. Let's continue to work together.

Many thanks,
Art Elgin

St. Bartholomew's Newsletter

March 2005

2005 Holy Week Schedule

- March 20 Palm Sunday Services**
8:00 a.m.
The Blessing of the Palms
The Reading of the Passion
and the Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 11:00 a.m.**
The Liturgy of the Palms, outdoors
The Blessing of the Palms
The Reading of the Passion
and the Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- March 24 Maundy Thursday Service**
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
followed by the Stripping of the Altar
- March 25 Good Friday Services**
12 noon Good Friday Liturgy
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy
- March 27 Easter Sunday Services**
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Annual Easter Egg Hunt
following the 11 a.m. service



The Ladies Guild

The next Ladies Guild meeting will be on Monday, March 14, 2005 at 12:30 PM in the Undercroft. It is a Potluck luncheon which will begin at 12:30 PM. This will be a discussion and work session preparing for our next Lions dinner on Thursday, March 17, 2005 and getting out flyers and other information about our upcoming Azalea sale beginning in the latter part of April this year. Louisa Riggs, a lifetime member of St Bartholomew's, has a birthday in March. Tell her how much you appreciate all she has done for St Bartholomew's during the past 80 years when you wish her a happy birthday. All women of the Parish are invited to join the Guild.



Laura Grimes is back on duty overseas. Anyone wishing to send her a card or letter may use the following address:

1st Lt. Grimes, Laura 4768
129th Corps Support Battalion, 129 LTF
APO AE 09391

March 2005

Sunday School

March is a big month for Christians all over the world. It's a big month for our Sunday school also. We will devote the entire month to the Easter story. Our study of Easter will be as described in the book of Matthew. On Palm Sunday we have a combined class which we will begin to instruct our Sunday schoolers on communion and what it means. I am also told that there we will have a reenactment of Jesus riding into Jerusalem as a part of the service. This promises to be a very special service which you will not want to miss.

On Easter Sunday following the 11:00 am service we will have our annual Easter egg hunt. The hunt has been an Easter Sunday tradition at St. Bartholomew's for over 15 Years. We will hide over 400 eggs and every child finds a bag/basket full of eggs with a prize inside. Invite a friend or neighbor to come and give our church a look. This is always special and a fitting way to celebrate the good news of Easter.

Starting with the first Sunday in April and every first Sunday until the end of the school year in June, the Sunday school will start the service in the undercroft. We will join the rest of the congregation in time to go to the altar and participate in communion. Those children who are confirmed can participate in communion and anyone yet to be confirmed can receive a blessing at the altar. We feel that it will help provide a greater understanding of what we are doing and what being a Christian, and Episcopalian, is about. Below I have included a Sunday schedule for March and April.

"We are all children in the eyes of God"

The Easter Story

March 6	Jesus Predicts His Death	Matthew 20:17-20
March 13	The Resurrection of Jesus	Matthew 28:1-20
March 20	Palm Sunday — The Lord's Supper	Matthew 26:17-30
March 27	Easter Sunday — No class	

Lessons Jesus Taught Us

April 3	Seven Woes	Matthew 23:1-16
April 10	The Parable of the Wedding Banquet	Matthew 22:1-14
April 17	The Parable of the Talents	Matthew 25;14-30
April 24	The Sheep and the Goats	Matthew 25:31-46



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 5005
21611 Laytonsville Rd.
Laytonsville, MD 20882

Scheduled Activities

Upcoming Events

Through Easter The Rev. Perrin Radley, Supply Priest

February 16 through March 16 — Wednesday Evenings in Lent
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Easter Week See Schedule on Page 4 for Details

March 20 Palm Sunday Holy Eucharist 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
March 24 Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist 7:30 p.m.
March 25 Good Friday Liturgy 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m.
March 27 Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Annual Easter Egg Hunt following the 11:00 service

Sunday Schedule

8:00 a.m. The Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Junior Choir Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. The Holy Communion - first, third and fifth Sundays
Morning Prayer - second and fourth Sundays

Sunday School Activities are held during the 11:00 a.m. service

Nursery Available

J2A meets 2nd & 4th Sundays in the Education Building
Fellowship Coffee Hour follows both Sunday services

Regular Weekly Schedule

Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (during Lent)

St. Bartholomew's Church P.O. Box 5005 21611 Laytonsville Rd. Laytonsville, MD 20882 Office Hours: 12:00 -- 3:00 p.m. weekdays	Phone Numbers: Office: (301) 948-8201 Church: (301) 948-8202 Fax: (301) 990-7787 Web Address: www.saintbartholomews.org E-mail: stbart@comcast.net
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