

The Arimathean

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Alleluia Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia ! This is the Church's Easter shout of joy. Jesus is alive. We hear again the account of the empty tomb, his appearance first to Mary then to the disciples, to fishermen on a beach, to two men walking on the road to Emmaus and to Thomas.

As Christians we believe that the risen Christ is Alive and continues to make his presence known to us. In the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday in Lent we heard about two people who came to Philip and said "Sir we wish to see Jesus." That request came before Jesus' death and resurrection but it reflects the quest and longing that we share with Christians in every time and place.

How do we "see" Jesus ? How do we experience the Risen Christ among us ? Some scholars believe that there are four primary ways. Most people have a primary attraction to one of these ways but just as with the food we eat, we all need a varied and balanced spiritual diet.

First there is way of the intellect; Jesus made known to us through learning. We come to know Jesus in this way through sermons, sermons, the words of scripture and hymns; through well ordered worship and the upholding of tradition; through study groups, classes and reading. This is the most familiar way for many Episcopalians.

Then there is the way of the heart. This is the way of personal experience, intuition, feeling, spontaneity and the urge to bring others to know the risen Christ as we do. This way is generally somewhat less familiar to Episcopalians but we do get a taste of it when we feel



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Thank you!

This past Lenten season was a very special one here at St. Joe's. I'm pretty sure if you ask anyone who was here for one or all of the activities, you would hear wonderful things said.

From planting Easter Garden's – which are growing by leaps in bounds in the McNeely room; – to seeing a group of all ages – under the leadership of Connie Barrett, learning to play the tone chimes and singing "The Lion Sleeps Tonight"; to watching small groups of people play board games on a quiet Sunday afternoon, of course having fun making colorful banners under the guidance of Barbara Brown, and finally the Brown Bag Dramas sure to bring smiles and laughter! It was a very special time that will long be remembered.

Thank you Pastor Claire for the fun, the learning and

making the story of Easter and life of Jesus, stay within us long after a Sunday sermon.

Now, to the remainder of the Thank You's. I apologize right off the top if I have left anyone out. Believe me, it was not intentional – it was a goof – unless of course it is Cathy Gmoser – then I did it on purpose! Just kidding! Nothing could be farther from the truth. In fact – I owe a great deal to Cathy – whose patience, understanding and professionalism has been a strength to me – and I have repeatedly goofed by not thanking her properly – So, please help me to warmly thank Mrs. Cathy Gmoser – for all she has done – for the Lenten events and anything else I might have forgotten.

There are many, many others who also deserve a spot light of thanks: Matilda

Scheib prepared sandwiches (the leftovers I'm sure were used to keep John going for a week!), Eunice Riblinger (if you haven't tried her broccoli noodle salad, you are missing something special) and Katie Saliba and Warren Stramiello were the brave first volunteers who prepared food for the first Lenten pot-luck luncheon. As a matter of fact, Katie and Warren repeatedly cooked for the five week event, from chicken and dumplings, to soups and spaghetti & meatballs!

Then there was the talents of Jennifer Haus and Suzette Atkins whose teamwork of soups and sandwiches wowed the crowd. I can't forget Althea Serrant, Jennifer Larrow, Marcia Brown, Barbara Brown, Donna Rosengren and Cathy Gmoser preparing wonderful savory dishes for

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A Message from Doreen McDermott!

Tues. March 10
Dear Friends at St. Joe's:

I am happy that the warm weather is returning and flowers are blooming again. Here in South Carolina, the daffodils and lots of pansies and camellias are blooming and its only the first week of March. I love reading the Arimathean and hearing about all the things going on but, it reminds me how much I miss all my church friends. I still only know a few people at Holy Cross by name, but I am getting more involved. I had my debut as lay reader on Ash Wednesday, and it went off without a hitch. I was nervous about

my Yankee accent but I didn't hear any negative comments. I have also volunteered to help make 250 bag lunches for the ecumenical Lenten services next week. I told the lunch committee About our Sandwich Brigade at St. Joe's and they liked the idea enough to adopt it for their luncheon. Everyone will take a bag lunch to enjoy in the garden (rather than the more traditional cold cut buffet which is usually served). The garden here is not as lovely as St. Joseph's but still has some charm. I had the opportunity to meet and talk with the new bishop of South Carolina,

Mark Lawrence, a few weeks ago. He has a difficult job ahead as some parishes in the diocese are threatening to leave the Episcopal Church over the issue of gay priests and gay marriage. He seems like a good thoughtful leader. We also had a guest speaker one Sunday who works with Fred Burnam. Some of you may remember Fred when he was at St. Joseph's or you may know of him from his work at Trinity Parish after September 11th. The Episcopal church can be a small world. My love and best wishes to all of you,
Doreen

**Wednesday,
April 22 & 29th**

Sandwich Brigade
9:30 a.m.

Actual Newspaper Ads ... Can you believe it?

For Sale by Owner:

Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 45 volumes, Excellent condition. \$1000 or best offer. No longer needed. Got married last month. Wife knows everything.

Free Puppies:

Mother-AKC German Shepard
Father-Super dog - able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

Save the Dates

Search Committee:

Sunday April 5th after the 10:30am service

Coordinating Committee Meetings: April 6, 20 at 6pm

Vestry Meeting: April 20 at 7pm

Sandwich Brigade: Wednesdays April 22, 29 at 9:30am

Women's Workshop: Tuesdays at 10am

April 13 – Church office closed

Valhalla Residents Dinner – Please sign up

Worship:

Palm Sunday: Procession with Palms at 10:30am service – no Sunday School

Maundy Thursday: Holy Eucharist 7pm

Good Friday Service: Noon

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil: Holy Eucharist 7pm

Easter Sunday: Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:30am service

The Second Sunday of Easter April 19th

Sunday School at 10:30am

*Monday,
April 20th*

Vestry Meeting
7:00 pm

Prayer List

Billie-Ann's friend, **Brenda Letford**

Charles White's brother, **Sydney White**, his niece **Sheila**

White, Charles' family and **Rick Merrill**, classmate of

Camele White, Alla Borzova's father, **Alexander**, The

Barnaby family - especially Zach, **Carol Carroll, Maggie**

Jensen, the **Udogwu** family, **Arianna Fujimoto Harris**. Mary-Carol

Miller friends, **Jane Dunne & Carol Vanecek**, Barbara Brown's co-

workers, **Dottie Cunningham & Linda Dralle**, Jennifer Larrow's

friend, **Elizabeth Graves**, Althea Serrant daughter, **Grace**

Anderson-Smith, Barbara Brown, Debbie Gillett-Hermansen,

Nancy Platt, Carl Gmoser, the Carpenter's Kids in Mbabala,

Tanzania



Is it really going to happen? Yes!

Although a date has not been officially set for the end of May or early June – it will be very soon – St. Joseph of Arimathea is having a Tag Sale! We were thrilled with the response of this event – BUT – to make it work, we need volunteers. To make this a success there are many areas that need to be covered. Please consider helping out – we need: cashiers, greeters that would also be our security team, table helpers, bake sale help, servers of coffee and cold drinks, set up teams, clean up teams, teams that will haul anything not sold to Good Will, and a sturdy group to help bring large items to the sale and to Good Will if necessary.

We also ask, if you are bringing items – decorative, kitchen, even clothing – please wash them before you bring them in. We will do our best to keep things neat

and clearly marked for sale. If you have an item you think should sell for more, well, perhaps you need to have your own garage sale – but for those of you who wish to clean out your garage and basement – find items that will sell to provide much needed money for the church – that is what we're looking for.

The Tag Sale itself will take place in the McNeely room – since this our first time – if we find success – then perhaps we'll venture outside under tents in the future. We are also very blessed to have the services of the Hellthalers Hot Dog cart! Donations of hotdogs, rolls and condiments would be much appreciated.

If you are interested in helping please call: Patty-Young at 914-592-7166. If you are unable to help, but would like to contribute to the cause, please send

your check to St. Joe's. The money will be used to purchase food/drinks to sell. If you think you can help, but of unsure of just what – sign up anyway! It would be wonderful to have people simply walk about and greet people, offer tours of the chapel – extend the warm welcome and fellowship St. Joe's has to offer. THAT would be a tremendous help! So please, do not underestimate your abilities!

Oh, one last thing, if you would like a receipt for your items – we ask that YOU make the list of items, include your name and address, the church will fill out an official form and return it to you for tax purposes.

Please begin bringing your items in after Easter Sunday. Note: we will be making arrangements to pick up large items before the tag sale date. More information will be shared during announcements on Sunday.

**Monday,
April 6 & 20th**

Compact Committee
6:00 pm

Culinary Corner

Many of us gave up something we enjoy during Lent. Some of us wanted to give up winter, some chocolate, some all desserts! Well, not wanting to see any of us make unhealthy mistakes just because Lent is over, I thought about a way to have something yummy without all the calories. Please let me know what you think about these:

Cream Cheese Pastries

Bake at 425 degrees for 10 minutes

Makes approximately 30 pastries at only 31 calories each.

2 tablespoons butter
 ¾ cup sifted all purpose flour
 2 tablespoons margarine
 6 tablespoons low calorie preserves
 4 ounces low calorie cream cheese or Neufchatel cheese

1. Have butter room temperature. Add margarine, cheese and flour; blend thoroughly until mixture forms into soft dough.

2. Place dough on a large sheet of wax paper; cover with second sheet of wax paper. Roll dough 1/8 inch thick between the 2 sheets. Chill in refrigerator 20 minutes.

3. Peel off wax paper. Cut dough into 2 inch squares. Spread ½ teaspoon of preserves on each square. Fold corners to middle to enclose the preserves; overlap ends and pinch together.

4. Place pastries on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake in hot oven (425 degrees) 10 minutes or until golden. Cool slightly before removing from baking sheet. Enjoy!

Valhalla Dinners

Please sign up !

Thank you! Cont.

the third pot luck lunch. You could tell it was good – no one made a sound while eating – it was just enjoyed!

On March 22nd, the hospitality of Donna Rosengren, Alexandra Benomar and Billie-Ann Grant fed the

masses and sent everyone home with a full belly.

Finally, on March 29, two brave men Rick Ewen and Randy Haus, along with his wife Jennifer and with Suzette Atkin's support – provided a hotdog/hamburger grilling

sensation.

It has been a wonderful season on so many levels. From the spiritual understanding to the fellowship of such an amazing church family. We are all truly blessed.

Front Page Letter, cont.

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deeply moved by word or music, by the glow of candle light at the Christmas service, the joy of Easter or on those occasions in worship when spontaneity takes hold and surprises us. It is the way that calls us down to coffee hour after the service to enjoy some informal time together. It is the way in which those who attended this year's very successful Lenten program experienced the joy of Christ's presence among us through a variety of playful activities.

Next comes the way of the Kingdom. This is the way of activism that moves outside of the confines of the Church into the wider world. This is the way striving to make the world a better place for all. This is the way of those who work of social justice, freedom and peace. Here at St. Joe's it's manifest

in the meat program, carpenters kids, sandwich brigade, Valhalla dinners and the Christmas party with the children from the Coachmen residence. It is the way those who volunteer with all kinds of community organizations, experiencing Christ's presence in all kinds of unlikely ways and places using their time, talent and resources to help a world in need.

The fourth way is the of stillness. This is the way of quieting one's inner and outer self in order to listen more intently to God. This was the primary way of the monk Thomas Merton and it's of the Episcopal monasteries and convents. It is the reason some are attracted to "Centering Prayer" or silent retreats. It is a way that can be hard to come by in our Sunday worship and busy lives.

Indeed it is the way that has been least in evidence in my time at St. Joe's.

The wonderful news is that this lack may soon be remedied as we move ever closer to the reality of having a labyrinth in our church garden. Once it is built it will provide a time tested, traditional way quieting one's body and mind and entering into the mystery of God who is infinitely more than we can imagine or comprehend. The labyrinth is deceptively simple to use yet it is a powerful tool. I don't yet know exactly when a labyrinth may be built here but I do know that we are moving very much closer to making it a reality. It will bring a new spiritual dimension to the life of the parish. We all need a balanced spiritual diet !
Alleluia, Christ is Risen!
Pastor Claire

Attorney's Advice No Charge—continued

Continuing with this series, this month I'd like to share the section on Credit Card theft:

"Unfortunately, as an attorney, I have first hand knowledge because my wallet was stolen last month. Within a week, the thieves ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a Visa credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a computer and received a PIN number from the DMV to change my driving record information online. Here is some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know:"

1. We have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately. The key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them.

2. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to the credit providers you were diligent, and this is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one). However, here is what is perhaps the most important of all (I never even thought to do this.)

3. Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. By the time I was advised to do

this almost two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them dead in their tracks.

Now, here are the numbers you always need to contact about your wallet and contents being stolen:

1. Equifax:
1-800-525-6285
2. Experian:
1-888-397-3742
3. TransUnion:
1-800-680-7289
4. Social Security Administration Fraud Line:
1-800-269-0271

Thank you so much to Gerry Tuttle who sent me this email to share. Please keep sending warm thoughts to Gerry and Mary Jo!

A Message from the Jr. Warden & Tanzania

Hi All!
The word from Mbabala parish is that they would love for us to come visit them. They are attempting to build a church for their parish. How can we help? Maybe we could have a "loose change" drive.

Bring in all those loose pennies and nickels and dimes and quarters! We will set up a collection place, take it to our bank, and see the money gets to Mbabala. It is truly amazing how much they can do with the same amount of money

we spend on going out to dinner for one night. If anyone has specific messages that they would like to write, please let me know!
Your Junior Warden,
Connie Barrett

A Calling Chain

I'm sure many of you have heard of the calling chains that local governments set up in their communities. These are simply a once per day call made to individuals to check on them and make sure all is well

I thought perhaps this might be a good idea for St. Joseph to do. Not to be noisy, not to

interfere, but to simple call and check in. So many of our members live alone – just knowing someone out there can be depended on to give a call is very comforting.

However, the question is: how do we do this? Thus I am reaching out to ask two questions:

1. Would you be

interested in this? And 2. Would you be interested in being part of the calling team?

Please give this some thought and share your thoughts and ideas with me. Thanks a bunch!

Breathe Deep,
Think Peace

Patty
914-592-7166

A Prayer in Spring

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers of today;
And give us not to think so far away,
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here.
All simply in the springing of the year.



