

The Arimathean

Inside this issue:

Tag Sale Postponed	2
What St Joe's Means to me	3
Save the Date	3
Prayer List	5
Glastonbury Thorn	5
Culinary Corner	6
Altar Flowers	6
Interfaith Committee	7
Work Crew Thank You!	7
Glad Tidings!	8

The Journey of St. Joseph of Arimathea Episcopal Church Search Committee

By Althea Serrant

This morning as I walked around my neighborhood, I observed the fallen trees, the uprooted trees and many memories of the storm. My thoughts were that nature takes care of everything and we now must move on. The thoughts came to me as I thought about writing this article.

We have finally chosen the minister for our church, Reverend Choate, with the help of God. He was selected by the members of the Search Committee and then finally "Called" by the members of the Vestry.

The process began in the Fall of 2008 with the following members: Suzette Atkins, Jennifer Larrow, Mary-Carol Miller, Ben Alexander, Clive Brown, Donna Rosengren, Charles White, Sharon White, and myself Althea Serrant. The task seemed daunting at first, but with the talents of each member, the task became less and less daunting. As the chairperson of the committee, I found that by acknowledging and respecting each member on the committee's strength, I was able to divide up the task so that we would all have equal input in the success of the team's functioning. The committee members stayed together in the Fall of 2009 when we had to reopen the process.

During this second phase of the process, we regrouped and decided to dedicate our time until the end. We did it, by supporting each other for the nineteen months and mostly importantly, we received many words of encouragement, words of wisdom and patience from members of the congregation, we continued to gain confidence and renewed momentum.

We then invited the Canon of Deployment, Canon Orso, to review the process at a combined Search Committee, Vestry



(Continued on page 2)

Tag Sale Postponed

Yes, it is sad but true – we are going to postpone the Tag Sale until the Fall. There has been so much to do in preparation for our new Rector, the work to the memorial garden, reorganizing the office, not to mention the hard work the entire Search Committee

has done in the last nineteen months!

We've just worn everyone out with hard work! However, do not worry! For all those who have already begun to gather things to sell – we are going to have space available in the McNeely room – so you can begin to bring

your items in after the Picnic in June! We can gather things during the entire summer and have a glorious tag sale come the cooler months.

Remember – we're still going to need your help and support to make it a successful event.

Search Committee Journey, cont.

members meeting. The Canon reminded us that the Church Profile that was created earlier in the year was based on the congregations' responses to the survey. This profile was used to advertise the position again in Fall of 2009. We received fifteen applications from priests who wanted to work with us. We each read the applications and resumes to select the candidates that matched our church's profile.

Once we reduced the numbers to nine possibilities, we received approval from the Bishop's office to proceed with

the chosen applicants. The process continued where the committee members checked references, visited churches, read the candidates' sermons and interviewed the candidates. During this second round, we volunteered about one hundred to one hundred twenty hours each on the process. This included traveling almost 500 miles by some of the members. Finally, we submitted three names to the Vestry in February 2010.

The Vestry members then reviewed the Church Profile, reviewed the applications and

interviewed the applicants. Each Vestry member spent at least ten hours reviewing the applicants before making a decision. Once the candidate was chosen, the name was submitted to the Bishop for clearance and approval.

On behalf of the members of the Search committee, we would like to thank you for your patience and support. We are confident that if we all work together with Reverend Choate our church will continue to grow.

Welcome Reverend Choate!

**Monday,
April 12th**

Vestry Meeting
7 pm

What St. Joseph's Means to Me

By: Cynthia Billings

When Patty asked me if I would write the "What St. Joe's Means to Me" column for the April Arimathean, I was both flattered and humbled! I have "been away" from St. Joe's over four years now (since I moved to Texas) and often still think about what a truly "heavenly" place it is! I am a "cradle Episcopalian" having been baptized 77 years ago in Mexico

City where I was born. I have always had a deep reverence and respect for the Episcopal Church. I was a member of St. Joe's (still think I am) for 53 years.

During all those years I:

1. Taught Sunday School for 10 years.
2. I sang in the choir – when they needed an "extra" voice.

3. Served on the Vestry for two terms.
4. Was a member of the Search Committee which called Father Haddad.
5. Worked in the office every Wednesday for about 10 years (after I retired)
6. And started the monthly newsletter "The Arimathean".

Why did I do all these things?
Because St. Joe's is

(Continued on page 4)

Save the Dates!

Maundy Thursday	The Chapel will be open for silent prayer & reflection.
Good Friday	Service at noon with Reverend Richard Sloan.
Saturday 4/3	Easter Vigil at 7pm
Sunday 4/4	Easter! Followed by the famous Easter Egg Hunt!
Monday 4/5	Church Office Closed
Tuesdays	Women's Workshop at 10am – bring a bag lunch!
Wednesdays 4/21,28	Sandwich Brigade at 9:30am
Martial Arts Classes	Monday & Wednesdays 7pm-9pm
Monday 4/12	Coordinating Committee Meeting 6pm
Monday 4/12	Vestry Meeting 7pm
Monday 4/19, 26	Coordinating Committee Meeting at 7pm
Sunday 4/18	Valhalla Residents Dinner

AND on Sunday, April 18, 2010 – St. Joseph of Arimathea warmly welcomes our **NEW** Rector The Reverend Horace Choate! Please join us for worship and hear his first sermon at 8:30am & 10:30am. Afterwards, please join us for a special coffee hour to meet and greet Reverend Choate!

What St. Joe's means to me, cont.

(Continued from page 3)

indeed a "very special place". I feel the congregants are "my family". Everyone is always so friendly and caring. I remember on Wednesdays when I was upstairs in the office, the ladies where downstairs making bag lunches for the homeless (Sandwich Brigade) or making cancer pads for hospital patients (Women's Workshop). There was always time for a happy hello at coffee hour after the 11a.m. service (I taught Sunday School at 9:30 and attended the service afterwards). I keep in touch with Addie Clark, Jinny Cutler, Grady Jensen. That's what it is all about! Keeping in touch!

In addition to all of the above, there are other more subtle "beauties" about St. Joe's. First, the building itself. I was there when it was honored as a national "gem" and given the honor of a national historical site. It is a truly beautiful chapel/church (the stained glass windows over the altar is spectacular!). The

grounds are beautifully and lovingly cared for as so many of our loved ones are buried there (both my mother and father are buried in the back above the brook – I planted a verbinum bush a the site and hope it is still blooming!). Our beloved Pastor Walter McNeely is buried on the church grounds also.

I still get the monthly issue of The Arimathean thanks to Patty and am happy to learn about what is "going on" plus all those wonderful recipes!

One of the most memorable "moments" at St. Joe's was at Christmastime when Walter McNeely was Rector. A couple of Sundays before Christmas the Sunday School children were asked to bring a "gift" of some kind (toy or game) which would be given to children less fortunate (e.g. in hospitals, homeless etc.). The children would come into the sanctuary with their packages in their arms and lay

them by the Communion kneeling rail. I can still see them to this day (they are now probably in their 70's!).

I also had the extraordinary privilege of taking a trip to the Holy Land in 1996 with Father Haddad (his father was 12th Episcopal Bishop of Jerusalem). What an amazing place! Can't believe I visited so many holy sites associated with Our Lord (Bethlehem, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee etc). It was one of the most memorable journeys I have ever taken. I have a copy of my journey's "reflections" which I shared with parishioners from the pulpit – if you are ever interested and ' if I can find it!

I miss St. Joe's more than anyone knows!

Mondays in April

Coordinating
Committee 6 pm
(except 4/12—7 pm)

Prayer List

Alla Borzova's father **Alexander**, Patty Young's friend **Oliver** Simco, **Debbie** Gillett-Hermansen, **Clive** Brown, Billie-Ann Grant's friend **Brenda** Letford, Louis Grant's father **Lloyd**, **The Carpenter's Kids**, Paige Lockwood's friend **Jack** Demers, **Connie** Barrett, The **Udogwu** Family, Charles White's brother **Sydney** and niece **Sheila**, Mary-Carol Miller's friends **Jane** Dunne & **Carol** Vanecek, Jennifer Larrow's friend **Elizabeth** Graves, Barbara Brown's friend **Dottie** Cunningham, Carol Rohl's friend **Jamie**, Althea Serrant's daughter **Grace** Anderson-Smith, Marion Hellthaler's friend **Janet** Aurrigemma, Warren Stramiello's Grandmother **Shirley** Wurst, **Robert** Ewen.



Thank You!

Just a note to thank ALL of you who are now on the Arimathean email list! It saves on postage and paper and gets the news to you the fastest way possible! Thank you so much!

The Glastonbury Thorn

Most everyone knows St. Joe's has a Glastonbury Thorn – let me reassure you it still stands and weathered the terrible storms that have passed through the area. Although a few branches are damaged, with a little care, and perhaps a tie or two – it will be fine and continue thriving.

Just the other day as I was cleaning out some files, I found this short article about the little

tree I thought you might find interesting.

The small tree or shrub known as the Glastonbury Thorn produces two crops of flowers a year. In Christmas and in Spring. The flowers are white in small clusters and the shrub bears fruit resembling tiny apples, bright red in Autumn.

An ancient legend relates that when Joseph of Arimathea

ended his long pilgrimage in England, he drove his walking stick into the soil of Glastonbury. The staff budded and flowered into white blossoms and acquired the habit of producing these flowers each Christmas.

Pilgrimages were made to the holy thorns each Christmas, in the belief that to touch them would purify evil and disease of mind or body.

Culinary Corner

Wow, after reading Cynthia Billings wonderful article, I feel pressure to provide a high caliber of recipes! Thank you for your kind words Cynthia! St. Joe's misses you very much too!

Here is the simplest marinade for chicken I have ever seen. My family loves it. When I can't grill outside, I bought a grill that sits on two burners of your stove (the other side is a flat pancake skillet).

Ingredients:

2 tablespoons Soy Sauce (I've even used those leftover packets you get when you order take out Chinese food!).
2 tablespoons of lemon juice (bottled is fine)
2 cloves minced garlic

I use a lot of skinless chicken breasts in my cooking – I've learned if you split the breast, and place them in a glass bowl (that would be two breasts halved so four pieces total. Have more chicken? Just double the recipe).

Let them sit for 15 minutes, turn then 15 minutes more.
Grill for about 3-4 min first side, about 2-3 on the second depending on how thick your meat is – remember if its pink in the middle – that's not a good sign, put it back on the grill for another minute or two.

I've served this chicken with everything – from rice to roasted new potatoes (SO easy – slice in half, put on a baking sheet – drizzle with olive oil, salt and pepper – crank your oven to 400 degrees and roast for 20-30 min. stirring them around half way through) – YUM!

Please let me know what YOU came up with! Enjoy!

Altar Flowers

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 4 | Kit McClendon Saliba the proud grandmother of Warren Hardin Saliba Stramiello in celebration of his Baptism and Easter. |
| April 11 | Mary Jo and Gerald Tuttle in loving memory of their son Jerry Tuttle Jr. and by Grady Jensen, Eliza Jensen and Richard Wisniewski in loving memory of Maggie Jensen. |
| April 18 | Herbert L. Camp in loving memory of Geoffrey C. Camp, Eunice Riblinger in loving memory of Jane and William Sigmund Sr. and Will Sigmund Jr., and by Dominick & Eleanor Festa in loving memory of Anna & Stephen Durec. |
| April 25 | Sis Fortune in loving memory of her mother and father and by the Patterson family in loving memory of Josephine Marino and Rosemarie Patterson. |

Interfaith

By Barbara Brown

The Interfaith Caring Community sponsors many different projects each year. One annual tradition is the concert held for the benefit of MIDNIGHT RUN. Midnight Run is an

organization that provides food and other supplies to the street people in New York City. Their operating office is in Dobbs Ferry and many of the churches, synagogues and other organizations

in the county provide food and help with the distribution of it during the city runs. The concert this year is at 3pm on Sunday April 18th at the Dobbs Ferry Lutheran Church.

Work Crew

On March 27th an amazing group of parish members, organized by our own Dr. Ben Alexander, joined together one afternoon and worked miracles in the memorial garden!

After the terrible storms that have passed through this area, there were many, many limbs broken, large trees downed, and debris all over the property.

Jen & Randy Haus brought a trailer that was the saving grace of everyone's Back! A

countless number of trips to and fro gathering broken limbs to the curb made the job so much easier. Then if that were not enough, they provided hamburgers and hotdogs for lunch!

A very special thank you goes out to: Jennifer & Christopher Larrow's Family, Rick Ewen, Barbara Brown, The Haus Family, Charles White, Warren

Stramiello, and Richard Wisniewski. If I missed anybody - Thank You Too! Thank you Dr. Ben – for bringing this wonderful group together. The NEXT work party is Scheduled for April 11th after the 10:30am service – bring your work gloves!



ST. JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA

2172 Saw Mill River Road
White Plains, New York 10607

(April 2010)

Life is like a wheel,
sometimes you're at the top,
sometimes you're at the bottom.
~Philippine Saying

Rick Ewen, Sr. Warden
Chris Larrow, Junior Warden
Vestry: Ben Alexander, Suzette Atkins, Clive Brown, Catherine Gmoser, Jennifer Haus,
Donna Rosengren, Katie Saliba, Althea Serrant,
Donna Rosengren, Treasurer * Patty Young, Clerk
The Arimathean, published monthly (except July/August) by St. Joseph of Arimathea Church
Catherine Gmoser, Layout Grady Jensen, Historian

Glad Tidings!

Happy Birthday to:

04/04	John Scheib Patty Young
04/06	Nancy Platt
04/08	Catherine Gmoser
04/08	Ann Owens
04/15	Elizabeth Benomar
04/28	Kamron Larrow
04/29	Christopher Larrow, Jr.
04/30	Danielle Marryshow

