



Bellringer

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February 2006

Interim Priest:
The Rev. Betsy Johns Roadman

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church ♦ 6 Old Post Road North, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520 ♦ 914-271-3501 (Parish Office)

February 2006

4	Saturday	10 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Introductory Centering Prayer Workshop
		5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II
5	<u>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</u>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
		9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II
7	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Education for Ministry
11	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II
12	<u>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany</u>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
		10:00 a.m.	Children's Eucharist
		11:15 a.m.	Youth Council Meeting
14	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Education for Ministry
15	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting in Parish Hall
18	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II
19	<u>Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany</u>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
		9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II
20	Monday		Parish Office closed in observance of President's Day holiday
25	Saturday	3:30 p.m.	Bible Study
		5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II and Healing Service
26	<u>Last Sunday after the Epiphany</u>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
		9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II
28	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Education for Ministry



Contemplative Prayer Workshop:

In prayer we acknowledge God as the supreme source from which flows all strength, all goodness, all existence, acknowledging that we have our being, life itself, from this supreme Power. One can then communicate with this Source, worship it, and ultimately place one's very center in it.

Piero Ferrucci, Ineffable Grace (p. 254)

Contemplative prayer is a wordless, trusting openness of self to the divine presence. It's about the simplest form of prayer that there is. Through it, we connect with the natural intimacy with God deep within us.

On Saturday, February 4, we have the opportunity to be introduced to and to practice contemplative prayer. Two members of Contemplative Outreach of Westchester will lead a workshop at St. A's parish hall, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Coffee and tea will be provided; please bring a bag lunch. A donation of \$20 is suggested. Scholarships are available.

Please contact the parish office (271-3501) to sign up.

Looking ahead to March:

March 1 – Ash Wednesday

12:00 Noon Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist Rite II
7:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist Rite II



Dear friends:

As many of you know, our family had the privilege of spending the first two weeks of January in Kenya and Uganda. We were on safari in three locations in Kenya; and meeting with clients and local partners of Enterprise Development International – a non-profit organization that does micro-lending in third world countries, including Uganda.

Among the families and herds of animals, we saw birth, feeding, mating, and death, over and over again, right in front of us. Among Enterprise's clients, we heard the stories of individuals', families', and communities' struggle against poverty.

These extraordinary experiences engendered some of the most important conversations that Larry and I have ever shared with our sons. What is our relationship with God's creation? What is our responsibility for the protection of the environment? What can we learn from those who not only live on a fraction of what we have, but also manifest peace and joy in the midst of a situation that looks intolerable to us? How does our understanding of who we're called to be as people of God need to change, given what we've just experienced?

And then, on our first night back home, the 16-year-old son of friends of ours in Ossining died in a car accident. More questions: Where is God in this? How does such a tragedy affect the way that we live our lives each day?

There are no easy answers to any of these questions, but the realities of life force us to address them. Every experience that impacts our lives gives us the opportunity to reflect theologically on that experience, to intentionally seek God in it, to sink the roots of our faith ever deeper, to more firmly grasp the hands of those with whom we're in relationship.

In trying to make sense of these last few weeks, I feel like I need to return, yet again, to square one. All I can say with absolute certainty at this moment is, simply, "God is." I'm so grateful for this parish family – a loving and safe community in and through which all of us can wrestle with our hard questions.

Blessings –

Betsy

Prison Ministry:

The Diocesan Commission on Criminal Justice welcomes the participation of anyone interested in prison ministry. Please contact The Rev. Canon Charles Pridemore regarding the meeting schedule.

Ossining Prison Ministries at Sing Sing offers hospitality to family members visiting inmates as well as a children's program for those whose relatives are incarcerated, on Saturday and Sunday mornings. For more information, please contact Betsy Roadman.

Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison offers college courses to inmates at Sing Sing. There are many ways to be involved. Call Hudson Link for more information (941-0794) or check out their website at www.hudsonlink.org.



St. A's Bible study of the Gospel of John will meet on February 25 at 3:30.

The reading assignments can be found at the back of the church or on our website: www.stacroton.org. Call parishioner Joe Kolanko for more information: 232-1402.

The following are parishioners who are running for open Vestry positions. There are currently 5 openings: 3 - three year terms and 2 - one year terms. Elections will be held January 28-29 at all services, polls close at 11:15 a.m. before the Annual Meeting on January 29.



Duncan Cleary

Town/village in which you currently reside: Croton on Hudson

Family information : married to Mary Ellen O'Neill, we have two daughters Mary Kate (11) and Nora (7)

Work, hobbies, interests : I'm a musician. Music is my work and hobby. I'm interested in learning about the Bible

and our religion. I really enjoy my EFM group (Education for Ministry) and look forward to our lively meetings.

What is one experience of your time at St. Augustine's that stands out for you? My first service at St. A's (Christmas Eve!) being greeted (by name) at the door by David Carlson, who gave me a big hug, and said, "It's great to have you with us."

Dana Garrett



Town/village in which you currently reside: Croton on Hudson

Family information : 2 Children: Caitlin, 15 and Ben, 11.

Work, hobbies, interests : My most important job is being a Mom to 2 great kids. But to help pay the mortgage, I also work at CNN as a

field producer, which involves coordinating coverage of live news event as well as taped segments. During those



rare moments when I'm not at work or attending to mothering or household responsibilities, I enjoy spending time outdoors taking walks, playing the piano, reading and doing sudoku puzzles.

What is one experience of your time at St. Augustine's that stands out for you? For me, June Fest is the event that most captures what St. Augustine's is all about: a community working together, in a spirit of love, toward a common goal. For the last several years, I have been in charge of Children's Games. I'm always touched by the number of people, young and old, who come to help out, and by their enthusiasm. The other, more peaceful, moment that has special meaning for me is the Christmas Eve service, when we dim the lights and sing Silent Night by candlelight.



John Harbeson

Town/village in which you currently reside: Croton on Hudson

Family information : Spouse: Ann; son, Eric, and daughter-in-law Jessica (in Tallahassee); daughter, Kristen (in Baltimore)

Work, hobbies, interests: Professor of

Political Science and International Relations (C.U.N.Y.), Companion Diocese Committee (Secretary) of the Diocese of NY; Co-coordinator, Interfaith Housing Network; Eucharistic Minister, Lector, substitute organist; NY Choral Society; Croton Chorale

What is one experience of your time at St. Augustine's that stands out for you? Sharing with the parish the experience of the Diocesan pilgrimage to the Diocese of Matlosane.



Penelope W. Morgan

Town/village in which you currently reside: Croton on Hudson

Family information : I am unmarried and have no children

Work, hobbies, interests : Elder Law Attorney with a special area of interest in health care issues. My office has

been in Ossining since 1984. I do a weekly Bible study for residents of Brandywine Nursing Home. Am in my second year of EFM and plan if I ever retire to become a health care chaplain.

What is one experience of your time at St. Augustine's that stands out for you? I came to St. A's in June of 2001 after 30 years in another parish. At St. A's I found acceptance and warm fellowship among like minded interesting people. I enjoy serving on the altar every three weeks in rotation on Saturday evenings when I also get the opportunity to read the lessons.



Laura Seitz

Town/village in which you currently reside: Croton on Hudson

Family information: I raised 3 children at St. Augustine's. My mother, Julie

Dumper, aged 99 and a parishioner, currently lives with me.

Work, hobbies, interests: Retired teacher at CHHS, active in my village politics and other volunteer organizations, gardening, sailing, historian, wrote a book and working on another about local history.

What is one experience of your time at St. Augustine's that stands out for you? I served as senior warden during "the time of troubles" before David Carlson came, when things were very desperate but we pulled through.



Loren Zack

Town/village in which you currently reside: Yorktown Heights

Family information : I have been married 21 years to Jeff, and we have two children: Alyssa, 11½, and Spencer, 4¼! My Dad, Tony is 86 and lives in the Springvale Inn in Croton. My in-laws,

Ben and Jackie, also in their 80's live in Freehold, NJ but plan to relocate to our area.

Work, hobbies, interests : I graduated from Pratt Institute's School of Art and Design in 1983. Although my first love is fine arts, I worked as a commercial costume jewelry designer for 12 years, before becoming a stay at home Mom. Since then, I've taught children's art classes at CCCA, provided childcare, taught camp.... And now assist in a variety of roles in Jeff's Brand Design Studio. To relax I love taking long walks by the ocean.

What is one experience of your time at St. Augustine's that stands out for you? One of my favorite moments all year is being in our Sanctuary on Christmas Eve, and looking into the eyes of the people I love, by candlelight.

Vestry Minutes from the January Meeting.

Outreach - Outgoing Chair Cathie Elliott reported that St. A's has collected close to \$1,000 to send down to Christ Church in Bay St. Louis.



Buildings and Grounds - Outgoing Chair Mark Anzani reported that the reason parishioners could see their breath in church last weekend is that our new boiler arrived minus a necessary part. He said that the part should be installed and the church should be warm by this weekend, 1/21-1/22.

Youth Council - Chair Louise Levey reported that the YC made a total of \$586 from the bake sale and sun catchers in December, \$400 of which was used to buy a bike for My Sister's House, a safe house for abused women. She also reported that the YC is planning a trip to Madison Square Garden on 2/17 to see the Harlem Globetrotters. There will be a YC trip to Bear Mountain for ice skating this winter, date TBA.

Search Committee - Chair Mark Anzani reported that all SC interviews with candidates for rector should be completed in mid February. The SC will then bring the



list of possible candidates down to three, and they'll present the resumes of those three to the Vestry. The Vestry will then meet with each of the candidates, and the final decision should be made by the end of March or the beginning of April.

The Vestry would like to thank outgoing members Mark Anzani and Cathie Elliott, and outgoing Senior Warden Kim Westphal, for their years of selflessness, patience, good humor and hard work in the service of St. Augustine's. We are truly blessed to have had their wisdom and their fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

--Chris Moore, Clerk of the Vestry

Treasurer's Report

December Operations: Financial operations continue to be strong, despite a severe lag in pledge receipts. At year end, pledges were over \$8,000 behind budget (although an improvement over last month). Overall,

expenses came in lower than expected, mitigating the sharp decline in pledge income. Chief among these were Search expenses, which came in lower due to the prolonged nature of the search process. Income categories have been stable and in line with the budget. The wreath sale was a success, generating over \$2,600 to support operations. Year end results for 2005 and the 2006 Operating Budget will be presented in the Annual Report at the Annual Meeting.

Information about Christ Church, Bay St. Louis, MS, which was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina and for which St. A's has been collecting funds, is available at the Diocese of Mississippi's website: www.dioms.org. Click on "Find a Church," then "Christ Church, Bay St. Louis." Click on "Latest News" to find out what other churches who are partnering with Christ Church are doing.

Interim Priest
Rector Emeritus:

The Rev. Betsy Johns Roadman
The Rev. David B. Wayne

2005-6 VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden: Kim Westphal Junior Warden: Ty West
Treasurer: Holly Anzani Clerk: Chris Moore

Class of 2004 Cathie Elliott Class of 2005 Ellen Irvine Class of 2006 Betsy Joslyn
Dana Garrett Terri Huntington Louise Levey
Mark Anzani Gerald Ardito Chris Moore

Meeting Schedule: Vestry, 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.

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Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520
www.stacroton.org

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