



# The Bellringer

## Liturgical Reform (or refocus) for Lent, from the Rector

After 8.7 years of ordained ministry, I have decided that we need some new liturgies. Liturgy is supposed to be a reflection of our lives and our work, with all of us sharing those with God and one another. Liturgical innovators have been working on some new possibilities, like a funeral for a beloved pet, but we could still use some specific to us and our lives. Therefore, I propose these Sunday church services, some to be silly and some in earnest:

Prayers at the revelation of raccoon skulls underneath the church.

The baptism of a new boiler/exorcism of an old one.

A liturgy for the death of a Junefest goldfish (or other pets)

A liturgy for the adoption of a pet.

An honest liturgy of divorce and separation.

A liturgy for the beginning of a new school year, with a blessing of the back-packs.

A liturgy for caring for those who grieve.

A liturgy for commitment to "green" policies.

A liturgy for those who have lost jobs, to be honored for everything that they are, instead of only their employment status.

A liturgy in the wake of a mass tragedy.

A liturgy for the joy of a great world event, like the liberation of Egypt.

Prayers for NO MORE SNOW (Just saying).

I also believe that there should be liturgies for our homes, ones for the ongoing issues of our lives. Judaism somehow, because of persecutions, figured out that we need liturgies in our homes, but we did not. Perhaps, we can scoop them for these particular ones.

Prayers to stay calm with a tired, cranky spouse/partner/child. (add parent?)

Prayers that our children will not have to be in therapy because of our mistakes.

A liturgy for someone who becomes a biological parent for another couple.

A private liturgy for the death of a loved one when that person's funeral is either a) not-religious or b) a religious service from a faith you adamantly disagree with.

A prayer for the person who cut you off in traffic.

Prayers for perseverance for those seeking a new church or house of worship.

Prayers for observing Holy Week when you have to work or are vacationing.

Of course, if I really think about it, the Eucharist is ideally an umbrella liturgy for all of these possibilities. The Eucharist is supposed to be a place of repose for our joys, griefs, pains, and whatever we face. And we offer those to God as a way of seeking grace and trusting that God's love is more powerful than anything else. And everything we pray at home should be a preparation for that.

I know that during Lent, many people take on a task or give up something. I like that as a way of focusing us on what is coming. But my hope and prayer for all of us for Lent 2011 is that we offer prayers at home and at church to give our joys, grief, and pains over to God. And we gather at the Eucharist. There, we steep ourselves in the story of God's redemption of even the worst events, the killing of God. And we steep ourselves in Easter and new life. We find ourselves in that story. Because the point of Lent, Easter, and any liturgy we do is this: to hand over to God all our lives and to remember that God's love will remake them, no matter whom we are or what we face, and our journey is to share bread and serve one another along the way.

God's Peace,

Brad

## Treasurer's Year-end 2010 Report

We ended the year 2010 with little financial change from prior months. We managed our expenses exceedingly well and we were able to transfer unspent moneys earmarked for outreach and capital needs to our reserve funds. Our revenue picture improved, with the final fundraising effort -- our wreath sale -- bringing in more than budgeted. Overall our fundraising efforts were right on the money, generating the total we had budgeted. Other revenue sources did close to or better than expected -- like plate, space use and investment income. It is only because of these successes that we were able to end the year on a positive note, because our pledge revenue was significantly below the number we budgeted. Essentially, of the \$133,000+ that was pledged from families for 2010 we received only \$127,000 -- a \$6,000 shortfall. The reason we are showing a \$5,000 surplus despite this shortfall in pledge income is the receipt in December of a pledge for 2011, which we will need to pay for our current 2011 operating expenses. After adjusting for that prepayment of 2011 income, we ended the year with an excess \$230 rather than a \$990 loss.

<b>Financial Operations through December 31, 2010:</b>			
	<i>Expenses</i>		<i>Revenues</i>
	<i>Paid</i>		<i>Received</i>
<b>Administrative</b>	\$ (39,123.15)	<b>Fundraising</b>	\$ 40,396.14
<b>Contingency</b>		<b>Plate</b>	\$ 22,616.08
<b>Priest</b>	\$ (86,716.30)	<b>Pledge</b>	\$134,302.50
<b>Service/Program</b>	\$ (22,149.16)	<b>Space</b>	\$ 7,173.00
<b>Diocese</b>	\$ (17,433.00)	<b>Investments</b>	\$ 7,551.52
<b>Outreach</b>	\$ (3,821.00)	<b>Mem Funds</b>	
<b>Property</b>	<u>\$ (37,566.38)</u>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$(206,808.99)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$212,039.24</b>
(deficit)/surplus	\$ 5,230.25		
budgeted deficit	\$ (990.00)		

# Education

## Adult Education for Lent

*History of Christianity, the first 3,000 years starring Diarmaid MacCulloch.*

In this Adult Education Program, we will be watching the DVD series based on MacCulloch's well-received book of the same name. The book was listed as one of the best of 2010 by *The New York Times*. MacCulloch excels at telling the story of Christianity by showing many different perspectives, including those you have never heard, especially those outside traditional realms. As a former Anglican Priest, who left the church because of his sexuality, this should be a timely and interesting presentation. During the program, a light lunch will be served. Each session will be about an hour. If you are available to help set up and host, please speak to Father Brad.

**Program 1 on March 13<sup>th</sup>:**  
*The First Christianity;*

**Program 2 on March 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
*Catholicism: The Unpredictable Rise of Rome;*

**Program 3 on March 27<sup>th</sup>:**  
*Orthodoxy: From Empire to Empire;*

**Program 4 on April 3<sup>rd</sup>:**  
*Reformation: The Individual Before God;*

**Program 5 on April 10<sup>th</sup>:**  
*Protestantism: The Evangelical Explosion;*

**Program 6 on April 17<sup>th</sup>:**  
*God in the Dock*

## A Look Ahead in Adult Education

During the Easter Season, an Adult Inquirer's Class will begin. This is a class designed to teach the basics of Christianity as we know it and is offered as a preparation for Confirmation or Reception, which can happen when the Bishop of New York visits St. Augustine's on November 1<sup>st</sup>, All Saints' Sunday. The class will begin after the 10:30 service and will include lunch, finishing by 1 each week. Please speak to the Rector as soon as possible if you are interested in participating.

The Schedule will be as follows:

May 15<sup>th</sup>: The Scriptures

May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Church History to the Reformation

May 29<sup>th</sup>: The Reformation and Beyond

June 19<sup>th</sup>: Liturgy and the Sacraments

Then, in the fall, if you are interested in being Confirmed or Received, there will be two additional classes on Confirmation and Life as a Baptized Christian.

## Youth Confirmation

**Youth Confirmation Parents' Meeting April 3<sup>rd</sup>, after the 10:30 service.** Confirmation Classes will begin **May 15<sup>th</sup>** for youth who are currently in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade or older. This class is informational and can be used as progress toward being confirmed in the Fall. Confirmation is an adult affirmation of baptismal vows. If you are interested, please attend the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Parents' Meeting. There will be four classes each in the Spring and Fall. Classes are offered from 5:00-6:30 on Sunday evenings. At the parents' meeting, content, commitment and dates will be discussed.

## Parish Events & Outreach

### Carpenter's Kids Pledges

We are in the process of compiling St A's 2011 last year of your five year commitment offering to Carpenter's Kids. Pledges (\$50.00) for 2011 are due on March 20th. Please place your pledge in the offering plate with **Carpenter's Kids 2011** in the memo section of the check. If you need to know the status of your pledge please contact the Parish Office.

Carpenter's Kids is a program which sponsors children in Africa orphaned by HIV/AIDS. The program provides these children with food, clothing and school supplies.



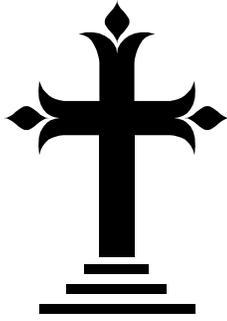
### Baptism

**Are you interested in the Sacrament of Baptism for you or your child?** Lent is an especially appropriate time to prepare for baptism. If so, please speak with Father Brad following the service, or call the parish office at 271-3501.



### Children's Mite Boxes

Mite Boxes will be distributed to our Parish's children through their Sunday School classes, and are also available at the back of the church for anyone who did not receive a box or needs a replacement. The children are invited to collect change in these boxes during Lent. All the funds will be used to help purchase socks and soap for our Parish's adopted African AIDS orphans through the Carpenter's Kids program. Children are encouraged to bring the boxes to Sunday School each week where they will be added to a larger container to be counted after Easter so that we can share with the children the total amount they collectively were able to raise.



## Easter Flowers

If you wish to donate Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving, your donation can be put in the collection plate, or dropped off or mailed to the parish office. There are envelopes in the back of the church. The suggested donation is \$20, but any amount is acceptable. Please be sure to specify the names of those you wish to remember, as well as your own and write "Altar Fund" on your check. *To ensure all names appear in the Easter bulletins, they must be given to the office by Sunday, April 17.*

## Third Annual 5K Run

The 4th running of the St. A's 5k and Fun Run will be held on **April 30<sup>th</sup>**! We'll start and finish at Senasqua Park. We plan to have an organizational meeting soon and invite anyone who would like to volunteer to chair a committee (it's really not as serious as it sounds) to contact Jenn Latham at 248-0524 or send an email to: (<mailto:jennlatham68@yahoo.com> [jennlatham68@yahoo.com](mailto:jennlatham68@yahoo.com)). We're looking forward to another great race. Proceeds this year will benefit a local charity.

## Save the Date

June Fest – June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

&

Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> –

Harvest Moon Dinner Dance & Auction

## June Fest Requests

White Elephant! - We are looking for a Chairperson! If interested, the job is yours! Please call the Parish Office at 271-2032.

Clothing Sale - Regina Hertl is looking for several volunteers to assist her in the two weeks leading up to JuneFest to help sell donations on the lawn. If you are available please contact Regina at 271-1348 or [regahe@optimum.net](mailto:regahe@optimum.net).

Also, last year the clothing aspect of our outside sale brought in a considerable amount of money and provided an outreach project. This year we will again be selling clothing for \$1 per item. Please keep us in your thoughts as you spring clean.

## **Lenten Events 2011**

**Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> Mite Box distribution at Church Services.** Mite boxes will be distributed to raise money for children in Africa who are orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Tanzania. The money raised will be used for school supplies and clothing.

### **Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Noon: Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes.

7 PM: Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes.

**Sunday March 13<sup>th</sup>,** After the 10:30 Service, *and after every 10:30 service in Lent: History of Christianity, the first 3,000 years starring Diarmaid MacCulloch.* See Adult Education for Lent for more information. This session will focus on Program 1: The First Christianity. Lunch will be provided. This first session will show Program One: The First Christianity, tracing Christianity in its many forms from Africa to Asia.

### **Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> and all Wednesday evenings in Lent:**

7 PM A service of Light and Prayer

**Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup>,** After the 10:30 Service, Lunch and a *History of Christianity, the first 3,000 years starring Diarmaid MacCulloch.* See Adult Education for Lent for more information. This session will focus on Program 2: Catholicism, The Unpredictable Rise of Rome. Lunch will be provided.

**Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup>, Instructed Eucharist at both services:** There will be two Instructed Eucharists during Lent this year. This first service will focus on the Liturgy of the Word (the service of readings and prayers before Communion), asking the question, "What's so Christian about this? And What's so Jewish?" The service will continue as usual, with different notes of interpretation along the way.

**Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup>,** After the 10:30 Service, Lunch and a *History of Christianity, the first 3,000 years starring Diarmaid MacCulloch.* See Adult Education for Lent for more information. This session will focus on Program 3: Orthodoxy, From Empire to Empire. Lunch will be provided.

**Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Instructed Eucharist at both services:** This second Instructed Eucharist for Lent will focus on the Liturgy of the Table, or Communion, asking the question, "What's so Christian about this? And What's so Jewish?" The service will continue as usual, with different notes of interpretation along the way.

**Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup>,** After the 10:30 Service, Lunch and a *History of Christianity, the first 3,000 years starring Diarmaid MacCulloch.* See Adult Education for Lent for more information. This session will focus on Program 4: Reformation: The Individual Before God. Lunch will be provided.

**Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>** After the 10:30 Service, Lunch and a *History of Christianity, the first 3,000 years starring Diarmaid MacCulloch.* See Adult Education for Lent for more information. This session will focus on Program 5: Protestantism: The Evangelical Explosion. Lunch will be provided.

### **Palm Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> :**

9:45 AM: Liturgy of the Palms in the Parish Hall. Children's Event will be held during the service.

**Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup>** After the 10:30 Service, Lunch and a *History of Christianity, the first 3,000 years starring Diarmaid MacCulloch.* See Adult Education for Lent for more information. This session will focus on Program 6: God on the Dock. This session explores some of the successes and failures of Christianity, including Christianity's failure to stop Nazi Germany. Lunch will be provided.

**Maundy Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>:** Agape Meal and Maundy Thursday Liturgy. Enjoy a meal with friends. The church will provide some mainstays, and invites you to bring some simple, Middle-eastern fair for this traditional meal followed by the service. The meal starts at 6:30. The service begins at 7:30.

**Maundy Thursday Overnight Vigil, April 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning:**

9:00 PM: Following the Maundy Thursday Liturgy, sign up to keep vigil in the Sanctuary overnight.

**Good Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

7:00 PM: Good Friday Liturgy

**Holy Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>:**

7:00 PM Service: **The Great Vigil of Easter; this is the holiest liturgy of the year, complete with candles and a bonfire.** During this service, we commemorate the passing from death to life.

**Easter Day:** April 24<sup>th</sup>, Easter Day

9:00 and 1100 AM services: Children's activities will be provided during the sermon. Easter Egg Hunt will happen BETWEEN the 9 and 11 AM service.

**Easter Day:** At services, ingathering for Carpenter's Kids Mite Boxes.

<u>Rector</u>	<u>The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche</u>		
<u>Rector Emeritus</u>	<u>The Rev. David B. Wayne</u>		
<u>Deacon</u>	<u>The Rev. Deacon Keith McKenna</u>		
<u>Deacon</u>	<u>The Rev. Deacon Sharon Manning-Lew</u>		
<u>2010 VESTRY MEMBERS</u>			
Senior Warden:	<u>Elizabeth Hoffman</u>	Junior Warden:	<u>David Wixted</u>
Treasurer:	<u>Holly Anzani</u>	Clerk:	
<u>Class of 2011</u>	Lisa Cohen	<u>Class of 2012</u>	<u>Class of 2013</u>
	Laura Seitz	Holly Anzani	Richard Olver
	Leigh Anna Harken	Kelly Jackson	Chris McColl
		Meaghan Shawcross	Thomas Eshoo
<u>Meeting Schedule:</u> Vestry, 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.			

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**Address correction requested**



**March 2011**

Dated material - please deliver