



# Parish Guide

Newsletter of The Church of the Epiphany  
Washington, DC

February 2006  
Vol. CXLII, No. 12

## Rector's Journal

By the Rev. Randolph Charles

**Funding Parish Ministries.** On December 15, I reported that the parish operating budget had a deficit of \$74,199. As we prepare to close the books on 2005, our deficit is only \$15,996. THAT'S AMAZING!!! We made up almost \$60,000 within 4 weeks due to pledgers making final payments and contributors being generous with end-of-year donations. Here's some more great news. Currently, 144 households have pledged \$310,000 in support parish ministries for the 2006 budget year. On behalf of the Vestry of The Church of the Epiphany, I thank every one of you who chose to support financially the ministries of our parish.

**What I believe.** I believe that it will take money and members, a lot of money and members, for us to respond to the needs of the people of downtown Washington, for us to develop the ministries we feel called to do, for us to shape a faith community that equips disciples to carry the ministry of Christ into the world. I believe that two of the greatest challenges (or opportunities!) we face at Epiphany are providing the funding needed for parish ministries and inviting newcomers to discover a life of discipleship and mission through Epiphany.

**Adult Christian Formation.** The second half of Faith Basics takes place on Saturday, February 4, from 9:30am to 3:30pm. We will spend the day exploring five "Practices for Faithful Living at Epiphany." To put it another way, we will learn about five central activities which Christians participate in, five ways that we live our lives in faith, both as individual believers and as a faith community. Listed below are the five practices that we will be talking about on February 4; there also listed some specific activities attached to each practice.

*Continued on page 3*

**Note: The deadline for submitting articles to the March Parish Guide Newsletter is Wednesday, February 15**

## Looking Ahead - The Lenten Season at Epiphany

Epiphany will offer several opportunities for deepening our spiritual lives during the season of Lent which begins on March 1 when we observe Ash Wednesday with Holy Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes at 8:00am, 12:10pm, and 6:00pm. Below are three ways to participate in this journey towards Easter. More information about each will follow in our March newsletter and through the Epiphany website later this month.

### A Lenten Series on "The Nature of Sin," led by seminarian, Ann Gillespie

Forgiveness of sins was at the heart of the disciples' personal encounter with the risen Lord. As we prepare our hearts and minds for our risen Lord during the season of Lent, let's take a journey together exploring the nature of Sin. Over five weeks, we will address questions like:

What comes to mind when you hear the word "sin"?

How do we define sin?

What does it mean that all of us are sinners?

What does it mean to confess our sins?

What does it mean to be forgiven?

Is sin always individual or can it be communal as well?

Is sin always an action taken or can it be an avoidance of taking action?

Is sin merely a list of "do's and don'ts"?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said: "To escape sin may be the ultimate guilt." Is there a time when sin is OK?

Using scripture, our Book of Common Prayer and small group discussion, we will deepen our faithful understanding of the nature of sin as we make our journey to Good Friday and Easter.

"Therefore I tell you, her sins, which were many, are forgiven, hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." Luke 7:47

Look for dates and times in the March Newsletter.

*Continued on page 5*

# Parishioner News

## **We celebrate these new beginnings and accomplishments:**

*“Let us give thanks to God for all God’s gifts so freely bestowed upon us.”*

For Mano Govindaraj who became a citizen of the United States

For Nancy Augustine who completed her dissertation entitled “Does Religious Participation Promote Educational Attainment Among Youth?” This month Nancy begins as Senior Research Associate at the George Washington University’s Institute for Public Policy

## **We welcome these persons into the life of our parish:**

*“All praise and thanks to you, most merciful Father, for adopting us as your children, for incorporating us into your holy Church, and for making us worthy to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”*

Jane Price, Andrea Heitoff, Sara Ellen Swatt, Uchenna Ukaegbu

## **We remember those who have died**

*“Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants”*

Mabel Kennard, mother of Susan Walker, who died December 29, 2005

## **We remember these persons in our prayers**

For the members and family members of Epiphany who serve in troubled areas of the world, especially Robert Curriss, Charles W. Kean, and Keith Scoon;

For all who seek healing, especially: Ed Adams, Margaret Barge, Theresa Davies, Kathrine Ebert, Floyd Godfrey, Bertha Harrison, Cornell Jackson, William Person, Arlene Riley, Edgar Romig, Norwyn Rowe, Flora Symons, and Kirk White;

For Aaron, Jim Argodale, Beverly Bachemin, Martha Barger, Adam Beattie, Winston Blackman, Wanda Brewer, Brianna, Helen Burg, James Capen, Michael Crowe, Elena Curriss, Mary Davenport, Ruth Dillard, Andrew Ferrill, Sarah Foreman, Kit Galdi, Kathy Gannon-Briggs, Fred Gustafson, Denise Hammes, Kathryn Hardie, Millicent Hutt, Dagmar Korth, Rick Knettel, Dorothy Lyman, Annie Maly, Frank Marlowe, Claudia McClannahan, Jeanette Michael, Bonnie Murphy, Hubert Nedd, Israel Rafalovich, Allene Robinson, Wanda Rucker, Damu Smith, Crystal Taylor, Ofelia Vitek, Ryan von Gogh, the von Gogh family, Amy Warder, Maureen Waters, Carmen Williams, Regina Williams.

## **We celebrate these February Birthdays**

Ron Shafer, Dan Schoeps, Renee Brathwaite, Gracie Smoot, Beatrice Moulton, Robin Murphy.

Jeffrey Howard, Hannah Reiser, Marsha Shinkman, Thelma Smith, Richard Warren, Alan

Richard, Randolph Charles, Diana Butler-Bass, Scott Jones, Jennifer McCarthy, Flora Symons,

Dante Brathwaite, Mano Govindaraj, Ed McGovern, Deb Price, Christian Raia.



*The monthly “Parishioner News” acknowledges the transitions in life, accomplishments of our members, and the times of celebration. Please tell us of your news by phoning the parish office or emailing us at [info@epiphanydc.org](mailto:info@epiphanydc.org)*

**Hospitality:** Welcoming the stranger, seeing Christ in all persons.

Apply the principles of acceptance, healing, and reconciliation to daily living.

Invite others to come and see if Epiphany can help them become disciples.

Volunteer at The Welcome Table.

**Discernment:** Listening to God.

Spend quiet time in prayer with God every day.

Pray that the parish depend on God's guidance.

Include discernment in the process of parish ministry development.

**Testimony:** Proclaiming by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

Share with others the comforts and challenges of a journey in faith.

Discover ways to be a public witness to Jesus' message of peace and justice.

Tell a Faith Story at liturgy.

**Stewardship:** Faithfully managing relationships with the earth, ourselves, others, and money.

Change personal behaviors in order to be better stewards of the earth.

Share with others the joy and gratitude of receiving gifts from God.

Practice proportionate giving.

**Sabbath:** Setting aside time for God.

Keep a rhythm of restorative time during the week.

Help develop a parish norm of resting and trusting in God.

Encourage fellow parishioners to avoid burn-out.

**What I believe.** I believe that all of us who try to walk in the way of Jesus Christ, all of us who seek to be set free by the truth of God, all of us who yearn to feel the Spirit moving in our hearts, we all strive for a deepening and honest relationship between what we say we believe and how we live our lives. We want to have a sense of integrity and authenticity about our faith. We want belief and behavior to match up.

**Confirmation at the Washington National Cathedral.**

On February 11, at 10:00am, the Bishop of Washington will confirm, receive, and reaffirm parishioners in the diocese. Faith Basics is the course at Epiphany that prepares candidates for this day of commitment. Anyone who feels called to confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation is requested to call me and attend the Faith Basics session on February 4. I encourage all adult parishioners, especially you who have come to Epiphany in the last year, to be confirmed. If you were confirmed

in the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, or Orthodox Churches, you can be received. If you were confirmed in the Episcopal Church, you can reaffirm your baptismal vows.

**What I believe.** I believe that the adult faith journey is all about curiosity, formation, and commitment. The point is that Jesus continually calls us to come and see, to grow in the faith, and this diocesan confirmation liturgy celebrates the fact that believers have grown to the point of wanting to make a greater commitment to Christ and the church. I believe that Epiphany is filled with committed people; if you have not been confirmed, please call me.

**New Orleans and Mardi Gras!** I hope that a group of us from Epiphany will go to New Orleans this spring to help rebuild one of the most important cities in our nation. There is both a diocesan and a national church group through which we can work. My idea is that we go down for four days of work and four days of music during the New Orleans Jazz Festival. We can help with construction, contribute to the area's struggling economy, and enjoy what the Crescent City loves to share – music, food, and hospitality. Stay tuned for more details later. **IN THE MEANTIME, THERE IS MARDI GRAS!** On February 28, we will celebrate Mardi Gras at Epiphany. The schedule is listed below:

6:30	Music and Dancing
7:00	N'awlins Dinner
7:30	Royal Coronation
7:45	Street Procession
8:00	Ashes from Palms
8:15	More Dancing
9:00	Good Night!

There will be great food, live music, dancing in the streets (really!), wild costumes and not-so-wild dress, and a king or queen of the night. Invite your coworker, friends and family. There is a charge of \$10 per adult and \$4 per child to cover expenses. Make your reservations by calling the parish office (202-347-2635) and letting us know how many will be in your party.

**What I believe.** I believe that a healthy parish has fun together. I believe that laughter is meant to be shared and that dancing is a good thing. I believe that there is something very special, even sacred, about sitting down at table with people that you love and people you just met, to share a great meal, to break bread and drink a glass of wine and be with each other as friends.

## Black History Month and Music at Epiphany

By Christian M. Clough, Director of Music Ministries

It is awkward for me, a small-town white boy, to write or speak authoritatively about cultural and racial diversity, in music or any other cultural realm. And so, I want to preface this month's column with a disclaimer of sorts. I hope to raise some questions and highlight some things that we might consider individually or as a community, but I don't expect to reveal any profound truths about music and Black history, and their intermingling here at the Church of the Epiphany.



As Randolph and I have been discussing plans for music in the month of February, we are both committed to reusing the South African hymn "We are marching in the light of God" (which closed our worship on Sunday 8 January), with the hope of making it a part of the church's repertoire. This hymn is a protest song from the days South Africa's apartheid system, akin to "We shall overcome" here in the United States. While its musical style strays far from 'traditional' church music for many of our members, its inclusion reflects the diversity of our community, and is a joyful statement about our community's life in God's light.

We are also, at least as much as ever, committed to including hymns from the broad black church tradition throughout the month, while not displacing our standard hymnody. The hymnal *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* is an important resource, but in my opinion, is light on 20th-century black gospel music. The *African-American Heritage Hymnal*, a more recent book from the Roman Catholic publishing house GIA, offers a broader selection of different sacred music styles. In the months and years ahead, perhaps we can include some selections from that or other resources. I understand that, while Black Americans have themselves re-appropriated somewhat the so-called 'negro' spirituals of the slave era, there is still some discomfort around their use. Their popularity is growing as an American folk-music tradition in the same way that singing school (e.g., *Sacred Harp*), bluegrass and old-timey traditions have recently gained cultural legitimacy and renewed popularity, but the association of the

spiritual with white repression of blacks still lingers. It is important that we deal sensitively with such issues, and that we as a church are open to discussing them.

Finally, I'd like to share an important, if obvious, observation. Black Americans are a diverse group, and likewise, so are the musical traditions, growing out of communities and cultures from different hemispheres, continents, countries, islands, languages and denominations! Our worshiping community includes a slice of that diversity, and our musical tradition cuts across only some of it. I am grateful to be here, ministering with you, learning as I go, and trying to bring to light the unfamiliar and the neglected, while maintaining and nurturing the local musical tradition that has nourished this congregation for more than a century and a half. I invite your comments, requests and suggestions.

### Music news

I am pleased to report that the Epiphany Choir's 20 December concert, "Readings and Music for Christmastide", generated \$1561 dollars for our Welcome Table Ministry. Thank you for your generosity!

### Calling all seniors!

By Bertha Harrison, Pastoral Care ministry member and Epiphany representative to Episcopal Seniors Ministries

Our goal is to become organized and set to go by April. Therefore, let us all get together and discuss it over lunch on the first Sunday in February, February 5, at 12:30 pm. Most churches in the diocese have some kind of seniors group which provide a time and place for fellowship and discussions of items of interest. Epiphany doesn't have such a group - yet. Therefore, we are calling all seniors.



Our time of fellowship can include anything – bible study, taking trips together, inviting speakers to address issues that interest us.

So come to the Willard Room on February 5 at 12:30pm. Lunch will be provided by the pastoral care ministry team. Please phone me to RSVP and help us know how many to plan for. See you then!

## Urban Missioner Log

By Anne-Marie Jeffery

In my work as Urban Missioner, one of the ministry teams I work with is the Diversity Ministry Team. I thought that in my log for February, Black History Month, it would be good to focus on this group and the ministry they do, especially one of the upcoming events, which I am very excited about. The Diversity Ministry Team's mission is to raise up diversity issues in the life of the Epiphany community. Being a diverse community doesn't let us off the hook from being aware of issues around diversity. The upcoming event that I am excited about is a Racial Reconciliation workshop which is offered by the diocesan taskforce on Racial Reconciliation at our church.

Over the past couple years there has been much talk about racism in the Episcopal Church. There have been resolutions passed at General Conventions and our diocesan taskforce came about as a result of a resolution in 2000. Today, all graduating seminarians are required to take some kind of racism awareness training.

I have experienced a few incidents in my life which involved race, but since I grew up being part of the majority culture in the Caribbean, I was spared what many African Americans who grow up in this country go through. It took me several years to begin to really understand what it is like to be black in America. Sure I have seen movies of how it used to be in the South in the 1950s and I have read about the civil rights movement, but here are some of the things I have heard from my friends that have woken me up to how pervasive the effects of racism are and how those effects are present in the people's lives. When I went through the racism training in seminary, one of interviewees on a video we were watching said that every day he woke up and wondered how his race was going to affect him that day. A very good friend of mine, who is black, turned to me and said that she felt the same way. I heard from another friend that each day she goes to work and thinks that today there will not be an incident that reminds me of her race and that every day she is wrong.

In seminary, I was part of a group that organized several seminars on racism. The series was called "Going beyond the Guilt." One of the most amazing times was during a discussion after a speaker. One seminarian, who was white, got up and asked if there was still a problem with race and why all this focus on it now. It may seem like an ignorant question but this was honestly where this person was. One of the staff members, who was black, said "Because I still feel that I am treated differently because of my race," and she began to share some stories from her life. You could see that the seminarian who asked the question was astounded at what he was hearing. He truly had not known that the kind of experiences she was describing were still going on - even in the Washington DC area. He could not imagine that anyone would treat this woman that he knew this way.

Last year, four of us from the Diversity Ministry Team and took the Racial Reconciliation training offered by the diocese. We were so taken with it that we wanted to

share it with more members of Epiphany. It was different from the one I had in seminary and what I like about this workshop is that it meets you where you are and doesn't accuse or tell you where you should be. The main focus is to make you aware of your experiences with race. The workshop begins the process of re-orienting people from racial divisions/barriers to racial sobriety and reconciliation. It also allows you to hear experiences of others, hear their pain and their frustrations. It really is a sharing of stories - a sharing that leads to healing. We may not feel that we are racist, but we all live in this society in which racism is present, and we need to be aware of or at least reflect on our experiences with race. I invite you to come to Epiphany on Saturday, March 18 for an experiences in Racial Reconciliation. We will be joined by others from across the diocese. We can't change anybody but ourselves, but when the healing beings within each of us, it begins to spread.

*Lenten Reflections continued from page one*

### **"Lenten Reflections" An Update on a Parish Booklet for Lent**

Those of you who have done your reading, reflecting, writing and artistic expressions may be wondering when you'll be able to view the finished product. In just a few weeks we intend to make available copies of the "Lenten Reflections" booklet. Though submissions are still coming in, we are excited about the prospect of having the heartfelt words and images of Epiphany parishioners, weekday associates and Welcome Table worshipers in a document that will move our hearts and minds - an effort in discerning what God is saying to us in the Old and New Testament scriptures; how the Spirit moves us in our daily lives - whether through narratives, poetry or art. We are also planning to have the contents of the book available on our website. If you have any questions about the project; or if you would like to make a contribution, please e-mail Teresa Hobgood ([dandilan24@aol.com](mailto:dandilan24@aol.com)) with your questions/ideas/suggestions.

### **Lenten Retreat at the Cathedral College - Discernment and Prayer**

The Discernment Ministry Team is pleased to announce that Br. Roy Cockrum from the Episcopal order of The Society of St. John the Evangelist in Cambridge, Massachusetts will be our Lenten retreat leader March 31-April 1 and preacher at both services on Sunday April 2. This Lenten tradition will be a time to savor the atmosphere of the Cathedral College, located on the grounds of the National Cathedral. We will come together on Friday, March 31 at 4pm and enjoy time for fellowship before our dinner and evening gathering led by Br. Roy. On Saturday we will continue our time together with shared meals, presentations by Br. Roy, and some free time for exploring the Cathedral grounds or bookstore. The day will conclude with a celebration of Holy Eucharist in the College chapel. Costs for the Lenten retreat will vary, depending on room accommodations (single or shared) and overnight or Saturday only participation. Details will follow soon.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship & Light	<b>2 The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple</b> 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	<b>4</b> 9:30 Faith Basics 7:30 Catholic University Symphony Concert
<b>5 5th Sunday after the Epiphany - Theological Education Sunday</b> 6:45 Gospel Art 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Theological Sunday Forum 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist / Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:45 PM Seniors Meeting	<b>6</b> 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer	<b>7</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert	<b>8</b> 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	<b>9</b> 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:30 Downtown Sounds for DC Kids - Shout Band 5:00 Wedding rehearsal - Tish Ganier	<b>11</b> 4:00 Wedding Tish Ganier
<b>12 6th Sunday after the Epiphany</b> 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Getting Ready/Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour	<b>13</b> 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 5:30 Come and See Ministry Team 6:00 Renovation Ministry Team	<b>14</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert	<b>15</b> 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	<b>16</b> 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	<b>18</b>
<b>19 7th Sunday after the Epiphany</b> 6:45 Gospel Art 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Getting Ready/Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Baptism/Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 5:00 Washington Metro. Philharmonic Concert	<b>20 Church and Parish Office closed in observance of Presidents' Day</b>	<b>21</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert	<b>22</b> 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	<b>23</b> 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>24 Saint Matthias the Apostle</b> 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	<b>25</b>
<b>26 Last Sunday after the Epiphany</b> 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Getting Ready/Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist /Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:45 Epiphany Book Club	<b>27</b> 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Vestry	<b>28 Shrove Tuesday</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert 6:30 Mardi Gras				

## Epiphany Expands Its Internet Offerings

By Nancy Augustine, Website Ministry Team leader

You may have noticed in recent months that the Epiphany web site ([www.epiphanydc.org](http://www.epiphanydc.org)) has undergone a major overhaul. A sharper design, better navigation, and substantially more information about the parish mean that visitors, parishioners, and members of the community have a better opportunity to find out about us from their own desktops. This is an important resource for us because it offers a readily accessible source of information for everyone that is interested in what's going on at Epiphany.



The latest addition to the web site is an interactive area where users can read and respond to articles, essays, and other postings that will change fairly frequently. This portion of the site is called "Looking for Light: An Epiphany, DC Blog," and it is accessible at [www.epiphanydc.org/weblog/](http://www.epiphanydc.org/weblog/). You can also reach it through the main page of the Epiphany web site, [www.epiphanydc.org](http://www.epiphanydc.org). The Epiphany blog was set up to facilitate communication among members of the Epiphany community, broadly defined. Our homes and jobs are scattered across the DC metro area, some of us come on Sundays, some of us come on weekdays, and some of us don't come much at all. Yet this is a place where we can all come together for a different kind of fellowship. It is intended to support individuals in their own faith journeys and to assist the Epiphany community as a whole in its own faith journey. It does this by providing a common area for members to share ideas and inspirations.

Randolph, Anne-Marie, and some parishioners will provide the main postings, at least initially. Everyone is invited to respond. Three categories have been set up to get us started. "Milestones" is a place where you can share your personal news. "Prayer requests" allows users to ask members of the Epiphany community to pray

on your behalf. "Sunday reflections" will have the text of the Sunday sermon, reflections on the readings, and whatever other discussions about the Sunday worship service. The Epiphany blog is NOT intended a forum for decision-making. It may be used as an additional (but not primary) means of keeping the community apprised of events and activities at Epiphany and elsewhere. The content of the Epiphany blog is likely to shift over time as we explore together what works and what doesn't. This is a community effort. As such, we encourage all members to submit comments and suggestions, and to think about ways that we can improve this site and use it to complement other facets of Epiphany.

In the coming days and weeks, plan to visit the blog, as well as the Epiphany web site, and let us know what you think.

## Book Club Plans for February

By Larry Ellis

The Epiphany Book Club selection for February is Edward P. Jones, *The Known World*. It is written by a local author who has made a considerable "splash" with his first novel. The story is about slavery; the viewpoint is from blacks who are slave owners.

The back cover of the paperback says, "In one of most acclaimed novels in recent memory, Edward P. Jones...tells the story of Henry Townsend, a black farmer and former slave who falls under the tutelage of William Robbins, the most powerful man in Manchester County, Virginia. Making certain he never circumvents the law, Townsend runs his affairs with unusual discipline. But when death takes him unexpectedly, his widow Caldonia, can't uphold the estate's order and chaos ensues. In a daring and ambitious novel, Jones has woven a footnote of history into an epic that takes an unflinching look at slavery in all its moral complexities".

The Book Club will meet Sunday, February 26 at 12:45pm in the Willard Room. The book is available as a paperback and should be available in most bookstores.

## Faith Formation in February

By Susan Walker, Program Associate

During February Epiphany's faith formation series, Fellowship & Light continues its focus on our relationship to the environment and our spiritual growth toward God. What are the theological issues? How interrelated are the concerns for our global environment and the way we work and live in downtown Washington? How do our daily habits affect the poor among us? What is ecological justice? Is it enough that I recycle my papers and keep the thermostat lowered? These and other questions will guide our presentations and discussions. Each evening begins with a simple supper at 6:30pm, followed by contemplative evening prayer service at 7:00pm. Our study takes place from 7:30-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

### The focus for Wednesdays in February:

**February 1:** Urban Agriculture – “The Fertile City”

**February 8:** Personal Stewardship – “Hidden Costs of the American Dream”

**February 15:** Franciscan Spirituality and Creation. *We welcome guest speaker, Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF, PhD, Associate Professor and Director of Franciscan Studies at The Washington Theological Union and the author of A Franciscan View of Creation: Learning to Live in a Sacramental World. Dr. Delio is actively engaged in the religion and science dialogue. She was a recipient of the Templeton Course Award in Science and Religion (2000).*

**February 22:** Parish Stewardship – “Being a Green Congregation”



Plan to make Fellowship & Light part of your New Year's resolution to learn and grow in the faith. Please join us for all or selected sessions.

The Rev. Randolph Charles, Rector

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