



Parish Guide

Newsletter of The Church of the Epiphany
Washington, DC

March 2006
Vol. CXXXIII, No. 12

Rector's Journal

By the Rev. Randolph Charles

Ash Wednesday Preacher.

"I invite you to the observance of a holy Lent..." Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1, with Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at 8:00am, 12:10pm, and 6:00pm here at Epiphany. I encourage everyone, wherever you are on Ash Wednesday, to participate in corporate worship on this most holy day. **We are honored to have the Rev. Dr. Howard Anderson, Warden of the Cathedral College, as our preacher at the 12:10 liturgy.** There will also be choir and organ at 12:10 and 6:00. Invite someone to worship with you on Ash Wednesday.

Sunday Liturgy in Lent.

During the season of Lent, we will experiment with a slightly different order at the end of Sunday 11:00 liturgies. Following the communion motet sung by the choir, Christian will play an organ piece, as communion and healing continue. Then, we will stand for the postcommunion prayer and solemn prayer. During the dismissal hymn, the choir and liturgical leaders will process out and the dismissal will be said. The purpose of the dismissal is to send us into the world, to get us moving, to signal to the worshipping community that now is the time to do the ministry of Christ. Consequently, following the dismissal, we will leave the church building "to love and serve the Lord." Please let Christian, Anne-Marie, Susan, and me know how this experiment affects your worship. We want to hear from you.



Weekday Lenten Worship.

On weekdays during Lent at Epiphany, we will say Morning Prayer at 8:30am and Evening Prayer at 5:00pm. This practice will be another way by which we

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A Lenten Series on The Nature of Sin

By Seminarian, Ann Gillespie

I am passionate about reconciliation. Reconciliation means that a rupture in relationship has been restored, whether with God, our neighbors or ourselves. A necessary step in reconciliation is acknowledging our participation in that rupture.

As an adolescent, I was very uncomfortable with the word "sin". It was not a word I heard much except in church. "Sin" was not something my family talked about. "Sin" was not something we discussed in Sunday school. But I picked up the cultural associations of hell and damnation and the certainty that all human beings were sinners. That idea of sin and my relation to it left me with a rather queasy feeling. Then I grew up and experienced the cost of my sins and the gift of being forgiven. I experienced redemption through the love of Jesus Christ. I experienced the saving joy of reconciliation that is at the heart of our Christian witness. I have come to see sin as a way to measure my accountability to God, to my neighbors and to myself. I prefer now to look at human brokenness and sin as separation from God. I have come to see sin as an illusion of self-sufficiency, as an opportunity to recognize and deepen my dependence on God alone.

Lent is a time for penitence- a time for intentionally reconciling our relationship with God and the world. Part of our penitence is acknowledging and confessing our sins. In the Episcopal Church we confess our sins corporately nearly every time we worship. We also have available to us a rite for individual confession in the Book of Common Prayer. 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.

Note: The deadline for submitting articles to the April Parish Guide Newsletter is Wednesday, March 22

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."

The marriage of Tish Ganier and Peter Zone on February 11, 2006
For the election of Rector Randolph Charles, as first clergy alternate deputy and Epiphany parish administrator, Mary Dail as the lay alternate deputy to General Convention.

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."

Amelia Patricia Nelson, daughter of Jamie and Suzanne Nelson, baptized February 19, 2006

We remember those who have died

"Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants"

Mary Davenport, mother of Beatrice Moulton, who died January 23, 2006
Flora Symons, who died February 20, 2006

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 Curris, Charles W. Kean, and Keith Scoon;

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

For Aaron, Jim Argodale, Beverly Bachemin, Adam Beattie, Winston Blackman, Robert Blaine, Wanda Brewer, Brianna, Helen Burg, James Capen, Arlene Clough, Michael Crowe, Elena Curris, Ruth Dillard, Andrew Ferrill, Sarah Foreman, Kit Galdi, Kathy Gannon-Briggs, Fred Gustafson, Denise Hammes, Kathryn Hardie, Millicent Hutt, Mildred Keth, Dagmar Korth, Rick Knettel, Dorothy Lyman, Annie Maly, Frank Marlowe, Claudia McClannahan, Jeanette Michael, Bonnie Murphy, Hubert Nedd, Israel Rafalovich, Alma Roberts, Allene Robinson, Gene 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 March Birthdays

Leif Eskesen, Jasmine Hermonstine, Anna Walker, Marcia Doerr, Frank R. Taylor, Hope Childs, Irvin Dallas, Peter Raia, Tony Bautista, George Sisk, Pat Pickering, Michael Walker, Carly Riisager, Mary Briscoe, Lawanda Hermonstine, and Christian Clough.

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

Fellowship & Light's Lenten Series - SEARCHING SELF, FINDING GOD

By Susan Walker, Program Associate

"We live in an age that struggles with God – the name, the idea, the reality or unreality of God. We struggle with God because we are wired for God and are restless without God. But our Western culture has buried the God of Jesus Christ in a coffin of antiquity and has raised to life new gods – idols of our selfish desires." (The Humility of God 159).

In Lent we are called to self-examination – seeing ourselves as we truly are, and also seeing God with us, sharing our joys and sorrows. The Lenten Fellowship & Light series will read parts of *The Humility of God* by Ilia Delio, OSF, to discover the God of humble love known to Francis of Assisi. Through presentations and theological reflection in groups we hope to see ourselves more honestly, and in doing so, see God more clearly.

At 6:30pm we begin in the Parish Hall with a simple supper of soup, bread, and fruit. A \$3 donation is requested. At 7:00pm we gather for worship in the church lit by candles. Scripture and prayers will reflect the Lenten season and our need to slow down and listen. From 7:30 to 8:30pm there will be 30 minute presentations on selected chapters of *The Humility of God*, followed by group discussion. Copies of the book are available for \$14 in the church office and on Sundays at hospitality hour.



Please join us for this four-week series beginning March 15.

Faith Story

By Christian M. Clough, Director of Music Ministries

Sunday 22 January 2006

During the winter of 2001, our staff retreat at St. Thomas's, New Haven, fell through, and my rector suggested that I use the two suddenly free days to go on retreat. He recommended that I look into a visit to the Order of the Holy Cross, in West Park, NY, or the Society of Saint John the Evangelist, in Cambridge, MA. I had never been on such a retreat before, and found the idea of a time of quiet spiritual refreshment enticing, if a little intimidating.

I chose the house in Cambridge, because I could get there easily by train. We were expecting big snow that weekend. I boarded the train at 2:30 in the morning, and arrived in Boston at 6:30. I walked to my destination – through downtown Boston, across the river, and all the way through Cambridge, to the monastery, adjacent to Harvard, and overlooking the Charles.

I was warmly received and shown to my room. The house schedule was explained, and the commitment to silence in the common areas made clear. Before leaving my cell for the common room downstairs, I said a prayer for the brothers, my fellow guests, and for myself. At that time, I was having serious faith questions. I am, after all, a student of science, and all the unknowns and doubtful parts of Christianity were weighing heavily on my mind then = so little physical proof to back up those stories and miracles. I had brought along to read Martin Smith's *The Word Is Very Near You*, a guide to praying with scripture. I plowed through it, then wandered into the bookshop for a break. I found a shelf of sermon collections by Barbara Brown Taylor, whose name I already knew, and among them a book entitled *The Luminous Web: Essays on Science and Religion*.

As I only have a couple of minutes, I summarize: Taylor's book was a source of clarity, comfort and courage in my faith. But, it was not only *The Luminous Web* that warmed my soul. My first retreat was a turning point for me. The quiet and rhythm of life in the monastery guest house, the hospitality of the brothers, and the beauty and simplicity of each day's several worship services opened my heart to hear God's word as I hadn't experienced it for a long time. I returned to New Haven only two days later, but significantly refreshed. Science and religion stood closer to each other. Liturgy had revealed some of the mystery and beauty of the divine. I was at peace with myself and with God.

The Community Funding Ministry Team Is Gearing up for 2006

Nancy Augustine, Community Funding Ministry Team Leader

The Community Funding Ministry Team was planning to meet in late February to develop a strategy for funding parish ministries through grants, corporate giving, and fundraisers. Each year, the budget approved by the Vestry depends in part on outside funding. The Community Funding Ministry Team is charged with seeking funds to support The Welcome Table, cultural activities, and general expenses.

A number of benevolent and charitable organizations in Washington and elsewhere provide grants for specific kinds of activities. Most grants require recipients to have non-profit or 501(c)(3) status, which Epiphany has. Many of these grants exclude religious activities specifically; the nature of these exclusions and the reporting requirements are two important criteria for deciding whether we will pursue a particular grant opportunity. Higher priority is placed on grants that fund activities that Epiphany is already engaged in.

Corporate giving entails asking our neighbors directly for financial support, which on its face can be an uncomfortable task. One of the principles that the Community Funding Ministry Team may adopt is to coordinate our efforts with the work of other ministry teams and staff to build relationships in the community. The idea is that our neighbors should know who we are, understand what we do, help us to understand how we can be a good neighbor to them, and then step up to the plate to help us carry out the ministries that in turn help the community.

A number of ideas for fundraisers have been discussed, such as used book sales, bake sales, Epiphany coffee mugs and note cards and/or Christmas cards. Plans for implementation will have to consider resource needs, as many fundraising activities are labor intensive, and whether revenue can be expected to justify the level of effort. The number and nature of fundraisers will be limited to ensure that potential donors do not come to see us as the institutional equivalent of the parent who regularly asks coworkers to buy expensive wrapping paper, cookies, candy bars, calendars, etc. this ministry. How? Spread the word about Epiphany.

The Community Funding Ministry Team will also carry forward discussions on whether to establish a

separate 501(c)(3) for The Welcome Table and associated ministries. Establishing a degree of separation between the ministries and the Church could open the door to more sources of funding, but it could also demand the secularization of some activities that we undertake in the spirit of acting on our faith.

One idea that I hear again and again at Epiphany is that we are all ministers. Although there is a Community Funding Ministry Team with members who meet and who are charged with the above responsibilities, I urge all members of the Epiphany community to participate in our efforts. Tell people you know about the great things we do here, how important our ministries are to us as an institution and to each of us as members. Give the Community Funding Ministry Team your ideas and offer us leads. You don't have to ask anyone for money; we'll take care of that. Finally, remember us in your prayers as we try to discern the path to our objectives. We'll keep you posted on our progress.

Rector's Journal Continued from Page 1

can be more intentional about our faithful living during the season of Lent. If you would like to assist in the leading of daily Lenten worship, please contact me.

Good Friday Preacher.

Good Friday is April 14. **We are fortunate to have the Rev. Dr. Michael Battle, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Vice President of Virginia Theological Seminary, as our preacher for the Good Friday Liturgy at 12:10pm.** Invite someone to worship with you on Good Friday.

Resource Developer.

I have hired **Margot Young to be our resource developer.** She will work with the Community Funding Ministry Team to find additional financial resources from grants, corporate giving, and fundraisers in order to support the ministries that we are called to do. Margot was our music administrator during the interim period and has had experience in fundraising for non-profits. She has already secured \$22,000 in grants for Epiphany, but the year-end goal is \$200,000. Margot and the Community Funding Ministry Team, which is led by Nancy Augustine, need the input and support of the parish in order to meet our funding goal. Please hold this critical ministry in your prayers, and share with Nancy and Margot your ideas and suggestions.

Urban Missioner Log

By Anne-Marie Jeffery

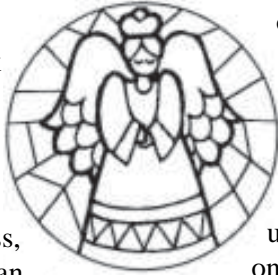
Why is Epiphany doing Street Church? Why are we going to Franklin Square Park on Tuesdays, on the corner of 14th and I Street, starting February 28, 2006 at 1 pm, to have an outdoor service? Debbie Little, founder of the common cathedral in Boston, an outdoor service for the homeless, says it best when she said why she started an outdoor service for people on the streets. “We needed to pray,” she explains of the community already growing around her. “We needed to pray, to celebrate, to talk and be present to people who sit around or pass by. We needed to pray for the city, to raise up the concerns of the streets, to bring alive a presence of hope and faith and hospitality. We needed to have communion.”¹ The “community growing around her” were the homeless, the people she encountered on the street, and the people she had begun to worship with.

When we think of the needs of the homeless, we usually think about shelter and food not an opportunity to pray with others. However, like many of us, the homeless have a need to pray and to have a community to worship with. Going into a church building, sitting next to well-dressed church-goers, and keeping up with the expectations of being part of a congregation could discourage some from becoming part a faith community. Just having any sort of community is difficult if you are homeless.

Epiphany has a wonderful ministry on Sunday morning when we serve breakfast to 200 downtown poor. We keep our doors open during the week to provide a place to rest and a place to worship. Street Church provides another place for the downtown poor to worship and to be in community. Taking worship to the streets and inviting the people there to become involved is another step close to making worship a transforming experience for all those who participate.

Common cathedral in Boston has been encouraging similar ministries in other cities. They ask that each of these ministries be guided by the commitment of **common cathedral** to stay on the street, and to keep the love of God and neighbor at the heart of the ministry.²

Common cathedral is very clear about their purpose and it is also the purpose of Street Church in downtown DC. Our purpose is to proclaim the good news, and that good news is about “the eternal compassion of God for all people.” “Saving sinners or pronouncing judgment on certain people is not the mission. Our hope is to



offer hospitality to anyone who gathers, and, through that hospitality, to let God do the work that only God can do – with and through and for everyone.”³ This means that “we lay aside our claims about righteousness and open ourselves to being changed by God’s desire for us to recognize one another as kin.”⁴ The focus is on celebrating the incomprehensible love of God for all people and the sacred connections we enjoy with one another regardless of the details of our lives.⁵

Here is a quote from a **common cathedral** member as he describes his experience of street church, “*Common cathedral is a miracle under the blue sky because I wouldn’t have gone near a church and this brought me back to God.*” Billy, street dweller.⁶

Street Church is an opportunity to invite those who may never go near a church to become part of a faith community and open ourselves to be changed by the people we encounter. If you can come and experience Street church, do. If you would like to volunteer to make bag lunches and to invite people to participate before the service, call or email Anne-Marie Jeffery (202-347-2635, ajeffer@epiphanydc.org). Pray for this ministry. Pray that the lives of all who participate may be transformed into the lives that God desires for each of us.

(Endnotes)

¹ Street Church, A Companion Guide, Ecclesia Ministries, 67 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116, ecclesia-ministries.org, p. 5.

² Street Church, p. 2.

³ Street Church, p. 8.

⁴ Street Church, p. 8.

⁵ Street Church, p. 9.

⁶ Street Church, p. 8.

Lenten Series on Nature of Sin continued from page one

Over five Sundays, at 10:00am in the Willard Room, we will engage around:

March 5: The Nature of Sin – Ask the Theologians and Tell them what you Think

March 12: Scriptural Meditations – Enter into the Bible Stories where Sins are Forgiven

March 19: The Ten Commandments – Merely a list of Dos and Don’ts?

March 26: Sacramental Confession - What is it? Why do it?

April 2: Communal Sin - A brief look at the Theology and Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer

March 2006 Calendar

The Church of the Epiphany

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ash Wednesday 8:00 Holy Eucharist 12:00 AA/ Al-Anon 12:10 & 6:00 Holy Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes	2 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 Renovation Ministry Team	3 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	4
5 1st Sunday in Lent 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/ Lenten Forum on Sin 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist / Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour	6 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Renovation Ministry Team	7 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert 6:00 Open Communion Group	8 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	9 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	10 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 5:30 20/30's Happy Hour	11
12 2nd Sunday in Lent 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Lenten Forum on Sin 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:45 Seniors Lunch and Meeting	13 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Renovation Ministry Team 6:30 Come and See Ministry Team	14 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert	15 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	16 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	17 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	18 8:30 Diocesan Racial Reconciliation Workshop
19 3rd Sunday in Lent 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Lenten Forum on Sin 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:45 20/30's Brunch/Hospitality Ministry Team 5:00 Capitol City Symphony Concert	20 Saint Joseph 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Renovation Ministry Team	21 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert 6:00 Community Funding Ministry Team 6:30 Group Spiritual Direction	22 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	23 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Weekday Associate Lunch 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	24 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:40 Downtown Sounds for DC Kids	25 The Annunciation 10:00 Loaves Group
26 4th Sunday in Lent 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/ Lenten Forum on Sin 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist /Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:45 Epiphany Book Club 12:30 Worship Ministry Team 12:30 20/30's Brunch/Epiphany Book Club 12:45 Epiphany Cluster Leader's lunch 3:00 Washington Men's Camarata Concert	27 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Vestry	28 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Concert	29 9:00 -6:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	30 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	31 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 4:00 Lenten Retreat at Cathedral College	

LENT AT EPIPHANY

SUNDAYS AT EPIPHANY

7:15am	Welcome Table Bible Study
8:00am	Welcome Table Eucharist
8:45am	Welcome Table Breakfast
10:00am	Nursery
10:00am	Adult Forum: The Nature of Sin March 5 – April 2
11:00am	Holy Eucharist/ Godly Play: For children ages 4-11
12:15pm	Hospitality Hour

Adult Forum: “The Nature of Sin”: Forgiveness of sins was at the heart of the disciples’ personal encounter with the risen Lord. For five Sundays at 10am, we will address issues such as communal sin and personal sin, what confession and forgiveness mean, and is sin ever OK?

SEASONAL PARISH EVENTS AT 10am

April 9	Palm Sunday Parish Event
April 16	Easter Parish Event

“LENTEN REFLECTIONS”

Daily meditations for the forty days of Lent, written by Epiphany members, our Welcome Table congregation, and Weekday Associates, are available on Sundays.

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Monday

8:30 am	Morning Prayer
12:10pm	Holy Eucharist
12:30pm	Centering Prayer
5:00pm	Evening Prayer

Tuesday

8:30 am	Morning Prayer
12:10pm	Concert Series
5:00pm	Evening Prayer

Wednesday

8:30 am	Morning Prayer
9am-6pm	Labyrinth Open
12:10pm	Holy Eucharist and Healing Rite
5:00pm	Evening Prayer
6:30pm	Supper (\$3)
7:00pm	Evening Worship
7:30pm	Program Begins March 15

Thursday

8:30am	Morning Prayer
12:10pm	Holy Eucharist
12:30pm	Faith Connections begins March 16
5:00pm	Evening Prayer

Friday

8:30am	Morning Prayer
12:10pm	Holy Eucharist
5:00pm	Evening Prayer

Wednesday nights: Fellowship & Light:

“**Searching Self, Finding God**”. As we struggle with our reality of who God is, Francis of Assisi and the God of humble love will help us look at ourselves, our relations with the world and with God. We will be reading *The Humility of God* by Iliia Delio, ofs.

Thursday midday series: Faith Connections, an abbreviated version of Wednesday evening’s program.

DATES TO NOTE

Tuesday, February 28 Mardi Gras 6:30-9:00pm

Wednesday, March 1 Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes 8:00am, 12:10pm, 6:00pm **Preacher at 12:10pm, The Rev. Dr. Howard Anderson, Dean, Cathedral College**

Friday, March 31, 5pm - Saturday, April 1, 4pm Lenten Retreat at Cathedral College:

“Discernment and Prayer”

Led by Br. Roy Cockrum, SSJE, a member of the oldest religious order for Anglican men. This retreat setting workshop will offer practical guidance for praying about significant life choices drawn from the wisdom of St. Ignatius of Loyola. For information on costs and how to register please go to the registration form on page 6.



HOLY WEEK

Sunday, April 9 - Palm Sunday

8:00am	Holy Eucharist & Blessing of Palms
10:00am	Palm Sunday Parish Event
11:00am	Holy Eucharist & Liturgy of Palms

Thursday, April 13 - Maundy Thursday

12:10pm	Maundy Thursday Liturgy
6:00pm	Agape Meal
7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Liturgy followed by The Watch until 10:00pm

Friday, April 14 - Good Friday

12:10pm	Good Friday Liturgy, Preacher, The Rev. Dr. Michael Battle Virginia Theological Seminary
1:30pm	The Way of the Cross

LENTEN RETREAT DISCERNMENT AND PRAYER



Friday, March 31, 5:00pm through Saturday, April 1, 4:00pm
At Cathedral College (on the grounds of the National
Cathedral)
3510 Woodley Rd, NW, Washington, DC 20016

RETREAT LEADER, Br. Roy Cockrum, SSJE

This retreat setting workshop will offer practical guidance for praying about significant life choices drawn from the wisdom of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Br. Roy is a member of the Episcopal order The Society of St. John the Evangelist, the oldest religious order for men in the Anglican church. Their monastery in Cambridge, MA is a welcoming community for retreatants. They also manage Cowley Publications which publishes books and resources for spiritual formation.

COSTS:

Single room accommodations and all meals \$150

Shared room and all meals \$125

Commuter attendee, Saturday lunch only \$60

Not a silent retreat, but there will be an atmosphere of quiet and we will conclude the day on Saturday with a contemplative Eucharist in the chapel.

Please register as an overnight or day participant by filling in the form on this sheet. Participants who commute should arrive Friday evening after dinner, at 7:30pm, and Saturday morning at 9:30am.

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Reserve one single room \$150

Reserve a shared room [roommate
_____] \$125

Commuter [includes Saturday lunch] \$60

Any special dietary or mobility needs?

Do you need a ride? _____

Can you provide a ride? _____

Contact Eleanor Engh if you have questions about the weekend, 703-370-3906 or e_engh@comcast.net. Space is limited. Please register by March 19.

Return this form to: Church of the Epiphany/Lenten Retreat
1317 G ST, NW Washington, DC 20005

Focus on Epiphany's Resident Organization: The Center for Pastoral Counseling of Virginia

By Cheryl Zandt Venzor, M.Div.

The Center for Pastoral Counseling of Virginia is happy and honored to be a part of Epiphany's community ministry. The work of pastoral counseling is personally oriented and addresses the spiritual, emotional, and psychological concerns of individuals, couples, and families in a setting where they can express themselves honestly and explore their faith (and any other area of life) without judgment. This directly benefits the life and health of congregations and communities that those people then re-enter with healing and renewed perspective.

While we are a fee-for-service non-profit organization, we also want everyone to be able to come to us who wants to work with us, so we use a sliding scale according to income. Last year CPC gave about \$500,000 to the DC and Northern Virginia community in low-cost and free counseling services. Epiphany, one of the busiest of our fourteen locations, played a large part in our being able to do that by continuing to provide a place for our counseling and classes.

Currently, there are four CPC staff members working in pastoral counseling office here at Epiphany. Cheryl Zandt Venzor, the center coordinator for the Epiphany office, is here on Mondays and specializes in working with severe anxiety, clergy issues, and spiritual crises. Doug Thorpe, our organization's administrative coordinator, is here on Tuesdays and specializes in working with couples in John Gottman's model. Kevin Ogle is here on Wednesdays and specializes in working with couples in the Imago model of therapy. Rusty Lynn is here on Thursdays and specializes in working with substance abuse, recovery, and GLBT issues. All four are ordained clergy as well as clinically trained psychotherapists.

We are truly blessed to share in ministry with Epiphany and thank you for your support. To learn more about our organization and pastoral counselors, you can visit our website at www.pastoralcounseling.com or call us at (703)903-9696.

This month the Parish Guide concludes its articles on the resident groups housed here in the Parish House. We are fortunate to share space with such an interesting and diverse group of neighbors. And, we hope that by shining the light on their organizations and activities, we will come to know one another better and deepen our sense of community here on G Street.

SENIOR LUNCH MEETING A HUGE SUCCESS

By Larry Ellis, Pastoral Care Ministry Team

The senior lunch meeting held on February 5, saw a turnout of approximately 20 seniors. After eating and chatting, Jennifer Cate, Pastoral Care, led a discussion of what group members envisioned for future gatherings.



There was a lively discussion among those present with a number of ideas including:

Establishing a literary group (writers sharing poetry, prose, memoirs)

Fellowship

Home events

Interviews with Tripp Jones that would contribute to an oral archives of the church

Attending musical events

Developing a resource center for senior issues

Participating in community service projects

Computer training

Discussion of transportation issues

Establish a buddy system

Shopping

Establish a ministry of letter writing/visiting sick and shut-ins

Informal coffee mornings during the week

Bible Study

Senior retreat

Sunday lunches

Using Episcopal Senior Ministries as a resource

One theme mentioned several times was the establishment of community service projects. There was a sense that not only was fellowship important, but the group wants to use its considerable skills and creativity in assisting others through various projects.

Marcy Hunter, Director of Volunteer Services, Episcopal Senior Ministries, was the guest speaker and participant. Marcy brings a wealth of information and resources to the group as it endeavors to establish a viable, working organization.

The general consensus of the group was that time is needed to process all of the ideas and suggestions presented. We decided that at our next meeting in March we would continue the dialogue and start making some concrete plans.

The Church of the Epiphany is represented on the Episcopal Senior Ministries Board of Governors by Anne Schmidt and Larry Ellis. The parish representative to ESM is Bertha Harrison.

The next meeting will be held Sunday, March 12 at 12:45pm in the Willard Room. We hope that all seniors will take the opportunity to attend and participate in this endeavor.

SENIORS NEWS

Each month *Senior Link*, published by Episcopal Senior Ministries for the Diocese of Washington, lists upcoming events of interest to seniors. Here's the news for March and April. For additional resources and events, visit esm.org.

Saturday, March 4, 9am – noon at Friendship Terrace Retirement Community. Age-in-Place Family and Friends Day. Come prepared to interview with employers who are interested in hiring seniors. For more information, call 202-244-7400, ext 13.

Tuesday, March 28, 1pm at Grace Episcopal Church, 1607 Grace Church Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Housing Options for Maintaining Independence in Senior Years. Join Steve Gurney, editor of *The Guide to Retirement Living*, for an overview of senior housing options in the Metro area. This program is sponsored by the Episcopal-affiliated housing communities of the Diocese of Washington. Register by calling 202-414-6315. Light refreshments will be served.

Renovation Update

By Tripp Jone, Leader, Renovation Ministry Team

Renovation Ministry Team Members: Jill Bezek, Randolph Charles, David Downes, David Hamill, Tripp Jones, Pat Pickering, Tom Riggs, Ed Riley, Gloria Said

The Renovation Ministry Team completed a thorough review of the written Statements of Qualifications from several architectural firms interested in our project here at Epiphany. At our February meeting, the list of potential architects was narrowed down to three. We have now invited these three firms to come and make formal presentations to the Ministry Team during the month of March. They will not be making specific proposals on what to do with our facilities, but rather presenting information about their prior projects and the process they use in working with a client. We are excited with the high caliber of work done by these three firms. We know our job of choosing one is going to be difficult. We are hoping to make that important decision during a meeting at the beginning of April. We continue to ask for your prayers as we continue this important work on your behalf.

As we stand on the verge of choosing the architect that will accompany us on our journey to a renovated building, let me reprint for you the Renovation Principles that you, the parish, and the Renovation Ministry Team developed last year. These are goals that we will continue to strive to achieve as we move through this process. May we always remember that God is with us on this journey.

We at Epiphany

We would like our church facility to make a clear statement of our parish identity. The space should be flexible, standing ready to serve the varied needs of a diverse congregation, the downtown poor and neighborhood office workers, and it should also maintain a traditional feel that honors our rich 163-year history. Realizing that the structure has undergone numerous renovations, we would like to restore the best of the church's architectural past. As much as possible, we would like to use or put to new use existing artistic details, and perhaps add new works that will assist the space in proclaiming the epiphany of Christ as the savior of the world.

are called by God to journey in faith together

We would like our church facility to help us in building community. We want it to be a space that can be used in a variety of ways - for worship, the arts, and outreach, supporting God's people in all of their activities. Through this renovation, we would like to make as much use of the space as possible. We would like the varied activities that could occur here to dictate the use of the space as opposed to the space dictating what type of activities can occur. We would like the space to encourage movement and journey and the ability for people to connect with each other.

and to reveal the presence of Christ in the world

We would like our church facility to be an expression of our faith as Christians, Episcopalians, and members of the Epiphany faith community. We would like our space to encourage and support our belief that we all share in Christ's ministry. The worship space should be spiritual, meditational, and inspiring, giving the sense to anyone entering that God is in this place. The parish house should provide the facilities to support our ministries.

by sustaining a community in which all are welcome

We would like our church facility to assist us in proclaiming that all are welcome here. It should be beautiful, inviting, and instructive of our mission and purpose. We would like a space that is accessible to all, both at the entrance and everywhere within. It should be a place of comfort and retreat from the hustle and bustle of the city.

by celebrating liturgy that nurtures us and sends us forth

We would like our church facility to allow people to connect with each other, a space that allows for different types of activities that support our mission, a space where everyone can freely and more fully participate. The worship space should allow for a wide variety of liturgies. It should emphasize the sacraments of baptism, our entrance into the faith and eucharist, our reminder of Christ's abiding and empowering presence.

by caring courageously for our neighbors and ourselves.

We would like our church facility to demonstrate our care for all by being "people friendly." The space should allow free movement throughout with no barriers. The garden, the worship space, and the parish house should combine to give the people of Epiphany Parish a place to experience God and be renewed and to do the ministry of Christ in downtown Washington.

Diversity Ministry Team

By Melanie Eversley

The other night, I watched a television documentary about a race riot that took place in Rochester, NY, in 1964. On the surface, Rochester - a medium-sized upstate city - looked like the ideal place to live. Successful companies were based there. Jobs were a over the place. Employees at Kodak and Bausch & Lomb received big Christmas bonuses and spent them on new furniture and cars.



But underneath that surface were some harsh inequities. When African-Americans migrated to Rochester from the South, the large companies would not hire them. The city would not build public housing. Realtors would not sell or rent to African-Americans outside of one particular ward, and the housing there was full of rats and roaches.

One summer night, all that blew up. Rioting lasted over a few days. One witness recalled the pure “venom” that came from the white police force and from the African-American residents of Rochester. The announcer suggested that the true source of all this pain was the way in which African-Americans and white Americans had originally come together in this country. That, of course, would be slavery.

Certainly, things have changed since the 1960s in lots of ways, but that statement reminded me that no matter how relationships appear on the surface, there may be something completely different taking place underneath. And dealing with the underneath is how you begin to reconcile the entire relationship.

That is what we’ve been trying to do here at Epiphany, as we expand on our position as one of the most diverse church parishes in the Washington metropolitan area, perhaps even the country.

About a year ago, the Diversity Ministry brought a number of speakers to Epiphany who each explained what it was like to walk in their shoes. The goal of that series - and of the ministry overall - was and is to ease our members into one day being able to have frank conversations with one another about diversity. Those who work in the diversity field say these sometimes uncomfortable

conversations are the only way that each of us can get past our issues and enjoy peaceful, productive and enjoyable relationships with one another.

On Saturday, March 18, members of Epiphany will have an opportunity to begin engaging in this kind of sharing. That is when the Episcopal Diocese of Washington will bring its Workshop on Racial Reconciliation to the parish. The event will run from 8:30 to 3:30. It is free.

If you plan to attend, please call the church office at 202-347-2635 or email meversley@aol.com by March 13. Some of us with the Diversity Ministry have been fortunate enough to take part in one of these workshops. I can tell you, it really does force you - in as comfortable a way as possible - to get to the heart of the matter and engage in honest conversations with other participants. And you’ll be fine when it’s all over — in fact, better off and more peaceful.

Says Rev. Jacques Hadler, co-chair of the diocesan Task Force on Racial Reconciliation, “The purpose of the workshop is to help people see how racialized our society is and to move from a don’t-talk culture about race to a do talk-culture, so that we can have conversations about the realities about race with each other.”

In reading about racial reconciliation efforts across the country, I have noticed that all are based on the knowledge that this is something that God wants of us. And reconciliation does seem to be the ideal word to describe the process.

The Office of Reconciliation Ministries, based in Pasadena, Calif., says that all of us have been given the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians, chapter 5, verses 16-21). According to verse 20 in the New International Version of the Bible, “We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.”

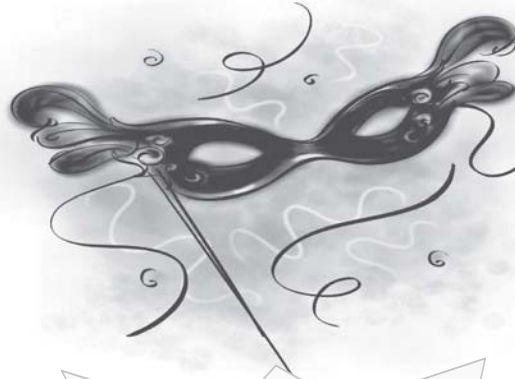
Prof. Jerram Barrs of the Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis writes that James, chapter 3, verses 9 and 10, call us to honor all others. “With our tongues we praise our Lord and Father. With our tongues we call down curses on people. We do it even though they have been created to be like God.”

So come on out on the 18th and learn more about yourself, your fellow parishioners and others in your community. We promise, you’ll enjoy the experience.

Celebrate Mardi Gras at The Church of the Epiphany with us!!!

Live
Dixieland
Band!

Cash Bar



New Orleans-
style Dinner
Adults: \$10
Children: \$4

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2006
6:30 - 9:00pm
Epiphany Parish Hall,
1317 G St, NW

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 - ASH WEDNESDAY AT EPIPHANY

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

8:00am, 12:10pm, 6:00pm

Preacher at 12:10pm - The Rev. Dr. Howard Anderson, Warden, Cathedral College

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