

the EAGLE

the newsletter of
St. John's of Lattingtown

150th Anniversary Year
Easter 2009

FROM FATHER SIMON+

I had to stop the car as I pulled out of the rectory driveway. I wound down the window. Was I seeing things? No I wasn't! There they were. They had appeared again. How they had managed in the cold and with the hard earth beneath I do not know but they had. I am talking about the snowdrops. They had burst forth, exploded out of the earth and they stopped me in my tracks. I had not noticed them even growing and yet they had and there they are now as I type this letter in all their glory growing outside my study window.

Bursting out, bursting out of the earth reminds us of Jesus bursting out of the tomb, out of death. The Gospel writer tells us about the tomb being sealed but Jesus couldn't be kept shut in, could not be locked in. Resurrection and Easter point us to a daily truth that 'you cannot keep a good God down' as my ordaining Bishop used to say. You cannot keep God locked in and trapped. God is the one who bursts out in all the unexpected places.

In our parish God has been bursting out all over the place. In people's love and care for each other, in new members, new ideas, in lively liturgy, in all the volunteer work and dedication shared to make the parish keep growing. In meetings, in services, in classes. God is bursting forth to inspire and encourage.

In our individual lives and families God is there bursting forth too in so many different ways. In all these ways God has been there all the time it is just we are too busy, too preoccupied to notice. I end with an illustration about Judy Garland that Father Harry Williams wrote about in the hilarious and deeply moving account of his life "Some Day I'll Find You."

He had been fed up and so went to the

movies and saw Judy Garland's film 'A star is born'. In it he says she kept trying to make her mark three or four times and failed completely. She was giving up all attempts at her stage career. Then this matriarchal woman gave her a talking too about the necessity of perseverance. She said that the road to success was always marked with failures along the way and she had to believe in herself and press on and keep trying. Father Williams said that while he was watching the movie the words of the woman came to him as the voice of God. He writes "in the thrill I was aware of God's presence with me in the cinema giving me new life and inspiring me with new courage. To speak to me deeply and powerfully seemed grotesquely funny. There was no knowing where God would explode next."

He concluded "On my way home I looked about me for somebody to slip on a banana skin. But nobody did, God, apparently, had exploded enough for one day" Sisters and Brothers, my dear friends, co disciples and family of God let us live more in tune and attentive to our Easter God who explodes and bursts forth in the most surprising and unexpected ways. This Lent I am keeping a list with the title "Where I see God at work". That title covers what I experience in society and community, church,



(continued on p.5)



CONTENTS

From Simon+	1
Our New Sexton - Kate Scefonas	2
History Around the Fire	2
Welcoming Newcomers	3
Looking for a Gift of Time	3
Notice of Annual Meeting	3
Pancake Supper Race	3
Greetings from the Sunday School and Godly play team!!	4
Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble Trip	4
Meditations and Ideas for the Season of Lent	4
Holy Week and Easter Schedule	5
A Prayer	5
Letters of Thanks from Outreach Recipients	6
A Poem from Simon+	8
Martin Luther King Day	9
Thoughts from the Gatehouse...	9
Bishop Coadjutor Candidates	10
Bishop Walker's Visit	11
Baptisms & Memorials	12



OUR NEW SEXTON - KATE SCEFONAS

Kate Scefonas joined the staff of St. John's of Lattingtown after spending several years devoted to philanthropic organizations such as AmeriCorps, Habitat for Humanity and CancerCare, among others.

Kate graduated with a B.A. from Fordham University, double majoring in Theatre Production (Stage Management) and Communications. Upon graduation, Kate worked in New York City as an Assistant Agent for The Gage Group Talent Agency, a firm that works with Broadway clients, while stage managing several Off-Broadway plays in her spare time.

Yearning to make a difference in people's lives, Kate decided to leave her comfortable job at Gage to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity in Georgetown, South Carolina as a Family Services Coordinator. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian ministry founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live. Kate has helped build houses with Habitat in South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, as well as New York. Before moving back to New York at the end of her pro-



gram, Kate co-organized and lead an international mission in which Habitat for Humanity built houses in Northern Ireland.

Kate returned to New York to continue her philanthropic work with CancerCare, a national nonprofit organization that provides free, professional support services to anyone affected by cancer. Kate left CancerCare to raise Wyatt, her beautiful baby boy who was born on February 9, 2008.

Kate's other passions include a healthy appetite for traveling, sailing, and writing. She devoted every summer during her college years to teach sailing at the Creek Club and makes every effort to travel abroad once a year, a vow that she has kept since 2000. Kate also maintains an intimate personal blog detailing her life as a single mother and chronicling Wyatt's life.

Driven by the desire to once again make a difference in the lives of those around her, Kate was thrilled at the opportunity to join the staff of St. John's of Lattingtown. Kate looks forward to being a contributing member of the St. John's community and is extremely excited about her newest endeavor.



Simon's new dog Barney says hello to everyone.

It was a cold night outside but 30 parishioners gathered and brought delicious food to share as well as their memories at another special event to mark our 150th anniversary. The evening was referred to as "Reminiscing about St. John's." Kate

our Sexton and Michael+ prepared the log fire and after a glass of wine and dinner we sat and shared stories. Ruth Colgrove and Amanda Schuster sat on chairs either side of the roaring fire and we all listened intently. Indeed everyone was on the end of their seats. What happened was an evening of oral history (which has been recorded and will be available on our website).

Conversation around the fire





WELCOMING NEWCOMERS

Here is a checklist with some simple suggestions and reminders for welcoming new or returning members and for appreciation the gifts they bring:

- ☛ Move over in the pew and share hymnals
- ☛ Introduce ourselves to people we do not know
- ☛ Watch for people standing alone during coffee hour and take the time to have a conversation with them
- ☛ Communicate that at whatever the stage in their journey, the door is open for them to “come” or “come back” (people have often been away for specific reasons: it’s important to value and listen to them, to be agents of reconciliation)
- ☛ Make sure that we have people’s contact information and give them a parish directory
- ☛ Follow up with people by email and shepherd them by asking them what their interests are and if they’d like to help with specific short term projects
- ☛ Invite the newcomers or returning members to attend meetings and classes

When we reach out to others and connect with them, we will find new life springing up inside of us. As we see Christ come to life in each other, we can proclaim together, “The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!”

St. John’s Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 3rd after the 10:30 service. All are encouraged to attend.

Qualifications of Voters: “All persons, eighteen years of age or older, who have been baptized and are regular attendants at St. John’s of Lattingtown’s worship and

PANCAKE SUPPER

On Shrove Tuesday, 70 people gathered to share in our preparations for Lent. Delicious pancakes were made and enjoyed – some in the shape of Mickey Mouse with M and M features! Very lively pancake races were held with participation by children and adults. What fun was had by all!

Father Simon and Father Michael shared some teaching about the meanings and traditions of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. Children and adults gathered in the cloister while we set fire to the palm crosses from last year and made ash for the next day. Thanks to Courtney Callahan and Hope Glenn and all who prepared pancakes and made the evening such a great one.

LOOKING FOR A GIFT OF TIME

Since October, members of the newly formed North Shore Interfaith Lay Association (NSIFLA) have been meeting monthly, examining ways to develop mutual support for existing outreach programs. One goal of the NSIFLA, comprised of representatives from Christian, Jewish and Muslim faith communities in our area, is to continue programs already in existence and to respond in new ways when a need becomes evident.

Recently, Nancy Polk, a NSIFLA representative from our parish, suggested that a real need for visitors exists at the Holly Patterson home in Uniondale. Nancy actively serves as an ombudsman at Holly Patterson and has observed first hand that many of the residents rarely have visitors and frequently have little or no contact with any family member.

The NSIFLA committee is currently working on plans for a program of visitation that will help to meet the needs of these residents. Most likely there will be preliminary meetings for training purposes. It is anticipated that volunteers will go to Uniondale as a team.

While details have not been ironed out, it is time for you to respond if you are interested in being a part of this new ministry.

If you are able to give the gift of your time to this program, please contact Nancy Polk (516) 626-1882 or Bobbe Maass (516) 671-3586.

contributors to its support during the twelve months immediately prior to such annual election or special meeting shall be qualified voters at any such election or special meeting, provided that the requirements of the New York State Religious Corporation Law have been satisfied.”

The Great Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race





GREETINGS FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND GODLY PLAY TEAM!!

Greetings from the Sunday School and Godly Play team here at St. John's! We hope that you are enjoying our journey together with God as we approach Easter. As we continue to grow and develop, we have been making slight changes to our children's education programs on Sunday mornings so that they can run smoother and more efficiently. The latest change is that ALL children will now begin church with their parents on Sunday mornings. After the first hymn, Sunday School and Godly Play kids will be led by their teachers to their classrooms. We hope that this will enhance your worship experience at St. John's by providing a time for you to pray as a family in church and by streamlining the drop of process for you as well as for visitors and guests.

As we begin to plan for Sunday School and Godly Play next year, please contact Michael+ if you are interested in teaching, greeting or helping with attendance. Thanks so much for your participation this year. Our kids have grown in their relationships with God and we have had a lot of fun along the way.

Below are the latest important dates to keep in mind for your Sunday School and Godly Play children:

March 22	Regular Class
March 29	Regular Class
April 5	Palm Sunday – All kids in Church for special family service!
April 12	Easter Day – No Sunday School
April 19	Regular Class
April 26	Regular Class
May 3	Special Sunday School Godly Play program with Michael+
May 10	Mother's Day – All kids in Church for special family service!
May 17	Regular Class
May 24	Memorial Day Weekend – No Sunday School
May 31	Pentecost – All kids in Church for special procession!
June 7	End of the Program Year – Parish Celebration (Time TBA)

EBONY ECUMENICAL ENSEMBLE TRIP

On Saturday, February 28th a group from the parish took the train to Penn Station and then to Jazz at Lincoln Center to hear the Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble conducted by Betty Forbes, the wife of former Senior Minister at Riverside Church – Dr. James Forbes (who came over personally and greeted our parish group!) The music and atmosphere were amazing. Drums, tambourines, incredible Gospel singing and lots else. We enjoyed our parish trip and sharing food and fellowship together. Watch the bulletin for more social events in the future. We are a Church that loves to be together in fellowship! All always welcome!



MEDITATIONS AND IDEAS FOR THE SEASON OF LENT



Ash Wednesday followed with good numbers of parishioners and friends participating in liturgies throughout the day. Our first Eucharist was at 7 a.m. and our last class finished at 9 p.m. It was a full day in church for sure! People showed up throughout the day to receive ashes with the words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." One young person showed up at 9 p.m. after hockey practice just so he wouldn't miss out. A model of faithfulness for us all to follow! The atmosphere at worship was very moving and parishioners took away the Episcopal Relief and Development booklet filled with helpful meditations and ideas for the season of Lent. In between all the services our Lent Theology School began with 35 participants engaged in lively discussion on the theme "What is Theology?" This program runs throughout Lent. Contact the office for details.



HOLY WEEK AT SAINT JOHN'S - ALL ARE WELCOME

Liturgy of Seder Wednesday, April 8th at 7pm

Palm Sunday

April 5th
Parish All age Liturgy of the Palms and Eucharist at 8 and 10:30 with outdoor Procession with Donkey at the 10:30 a.m. service reminding us of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem



Easter Sunday

April 12th Sunrise
Service at: 7:00 a.m. at Morgan Park Bandshell
9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. at Saint John's

Sacred Triduum The Sacred Three Days

Maundy Thursday

Confessions before Easter 5:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Candlelit Tour of St. John's Church 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Liturgy of Maundy Thursday at 7 p.m.

Good Friday

10:30am: Stations of the Cross for the Parish Family - a simple and moving service for all ages.
Noon: Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday for the whole parish

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil at 7:30 p.m.
- joining our Bishop at the Cathedral, Garden City

THE TOMB CANNOT KEEP HIM! (continued from page 1)

rience in society and community, church, family, amongst friends and personal life. Will you join me in keeping a similar list and use it as a means of developing an appreciation for the Easter truth? The Easter Tomb cries out "You cannot keep a good God down". May our Church ring with praise for God's 'out-bursting' in all of our lives and in our parish.

Happy Easter. The Tomb cannot keep Him!

Simon+ Priest-in-Charge

A PRAYER FOR HISTORY MAKERS

Almighty God, God of history makers, we thank you for your presence in history and beyond it. Thank you for this House of Prayer and everything and everyone that have helped shape it and craft it. Keep us attentive to our past, present and future remembering that you are the God of all in whom all history begins and ends. This we pray in the name of Jesus, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega. Amen.



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 e-mail: mommas@i@aol.com website: www.mommashouse.org

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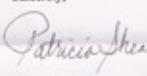
December 10, 2008

St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church
 Rev. Simon Foster
 325 Lattingtown Road
 Locust Valley, NY 11560

Dear Rev. Simon Foster:

Thank you for the grant, check number 8652, dated November 25, 2008 in the amount of \$3000. As soon as we have raised the additional monies, we will expeditiously install a security camera system at the Glen Cove house.

Understanding the many projects needing funding, we are most grateful to the committee for favorably accepting our request. The safety of our residents is paramount to us. We will keep the good people of St. John's apprised of our progress.

Sincerely,

 Patricia Shea
 Director
 PS/xyz

Robert W. Radtke
 President

December 10, 2008


Episcopal Relief & Development
 Healing a hurting world

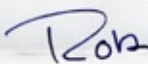
The Rev. Simon Foster and
 Ms. Edith C. Haack
 St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church
 325 Lattingtown Road
 Locust Valley, NY 11560


Dear Simon and Edith,

Thank you for the very generous support from the Outreach Committee of St. John's of Lattingtown Church. Your support of our work in Haiti means a great deal to me personally and those we seek to serve.

Episcopal Relief & Development's partnership with St. John's is one that I hope we will be able to nurture and develop in the coming months and years.

I wish you both a blessed Advent and joyous Christmas.

Yours faithfully,


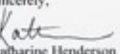

Face to Face | Faith to Faith
 A program of Auburn Theological Seminary

January 26, 2009


The Rev. Simon Foster and Ms. Edith C. Haack
 St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church
 325 Lattingtown Road
 Locust Valley, NY, 11560

Dear Rev. Foster and Ms. Haack:

Thank you so much for the gift of \$1,500.00 given by The Outreach Committee of St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church to Face to Face/Faith to Faith.

Sincerely,

 Katharine Henderson
 Executive Vice President

We are so grateful for St. John's support, especially during this crucial time in the world situation!


Grace Day School
 Laurance E. Anderson, Head of School

December 11, 2008

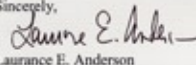
The Rev. Simon Foster
 Mrs. Edith C. Haack
 St. John's of Lattingtown Church
 Outreach Committee
 325 Lattingtown Road
 Locust Valley, NY 11560

Dear Rev. Foster and Mrs. Haack:

We are thrilled and most appreciative of your recent contribution of \$3,000 to Grace Day School. Please know your generosity will be earmarked for outreach to deserving school families whose circumstances warrant financial assistance.

The children who benefit from this fund are the ones that need some help escaping from the limitations of their neighborhood public school. Your gift enables us to provide opportunities that would otherwise not be an option for certain students currently enjoying Grace's Christian and academically-challenging educational program. We truly feel "all" of our students are well qualified to grow both intellectually and spiritually, through the learning environment offered at Grace.

We take great pride in what we offer our students and truly appreciate your continued commitment as we develop our students, our future. Wishing you and yours a beautiful Christmas Season! Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

 Laurance E. Anderson
 Head of School

*Thank you so much for your kindness + keeping God's in your thoughts + prayers!
 L.E.A.*

HOSPICE CARE NETWORK
 Experts in End-of-Life Care

December 23, 2008

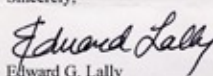
The Rev. Simon Foster
 St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church
 325 Lattingtown Road
 Locust Valley, NY 11560

Dear Rev. Foster,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the volunteers and staff at Hospice Care Network, I would like to thank you for forwarding the \$2,000 Grant to Hospice Care Network, designated to the Children's Bereavement Fund.

Your generous contribution affirms our commitment to bring grace and dignity to patients and families at the end of life. Through special gifts like yours, we are better able to carry out our mission. Your donation may help an uninsured patient get the care he or she needs, or it may provide bereavement services to a young child or an adult learning how to live after the loss of a loved one, or it may provide transportation for a caregiver to visit a loved one in a hospice facility. However your financial support is used, you can be sure it will be used in our community, and it will make a big difference in the lives of hospice patients and families.

Thank you again for your generosity and for sharing in the mission and vision of Hospice Care Network.

Sincerely,

 Edward G. Lally
 Vice President of Development



December 15, 2008

The Reverend Simon Foster
Priest-in-Charge
St. John's of Lattintown Episcopal Church
325 Lattintown Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560

Dear Reverend Foster,

Thank you very much for the generous grant of \$2,000 from St. John's of Lattintown Church in support of the Island Harvest Weekend Backpack Feeding Program.

We are so delighted that the Church chose to support this much-needed and loved program for a third year.

Across Long Island, NY – and indeed the entire United States – the bleak economy and spikes in food prices have put additional burdens on struggling families, causing even more kids to enroll in the federal school lunch program. Sadly, this means that more kids are vulnerable to hunger on the weekends, when they cannot access meal benefits.

That's why our objective is to distribute 35,000 food packs this year to 1,300 students – which is double the number of students served in 2007-08.

The Church's continued generosity and foresight will help us to achieve these objectives, and improve the quality of life of children at-risk of hunger on Saturdays and Sundays.

We are sending a separate thank-you letter to Edith C. Haack. Once again, we greatly appreciate this grant. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like more information. Best wishes to you and the entire St. John's congregation for a wonderful holiday season!

Sincerely,

Thank you so much!
Randi Shubin Dresner
President and CEO

To comply with IRS regulations, no goods or services have been provided to you by our organization in consideration of your gift. Please retain a copy of this letter for your tax files.

We would like to acknowledge this gift on our annual report and other publications. Please contact us if you prefer to be anonymous.



GRENVILLE BAKER
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

December 8, 2008

The Reverend Simon Foster
Priest-in-Charge
St. John's of Lattintown
325 Lattintown Road, PO Box 448
Locust Valley, NY 11560

Dear Reverend Foster:

I would like to thank you for your donation of \$2,000 to support Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club's Healthy Choices after school program (check #8647 received December 8, 2008). Your generosity is greatly appreciated and we are fortunate to have you as a partner in our work.

Our Healthy Choices after school program helps address the obesity epidemic by taking a preventative approach to enable at-risk boys and girls ages 6 to 18 to improve their health and wellness through physical activity and nutritional educational programs.

Established in 1950, Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club serves as the cornerstone of youth services in our community. I hope you take great satisfaction in knowing that you are truly making a difference for so many young people. Very simply, we couldn't do it without you.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 516-759-5437, ext. 17.

Sincerely,

Ramon Reyes
Ramon Reyes
Executive Director

Many thanks for ALL you do to help our community and the children of our area - Happy Holidays - Ramon

In accordance with Internal Revenue Service requirements, we confirm that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution. Please retain this letter as your official receipt for tax purposes.



tuesday's
children

December 8, 2008

The Rev. Simon Foster
Edith C. Haack
St. John's of Lattintown Episcopal Church
325 Lattintown Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560

Dear Rev. Foster and Ms. Haack:

Thank you so very much for your generous support of Tuesday's Children and our Mentoring Program. We are most appreciative of your grant donation of \$1500 as part of the Outreach Fund raised at your Annual Fall St. John's of Lattintown Episcopal Church Fall Fair.

We are enormously grateful to St. John's for its generous commitment to helping the children of 9/11 reach their fullest potential. I look forward to keeping you apprised of our progress. Once again, thank you for your enduring commitment to our mission.

Best regards,

Terry Sears
Terry Sears
Executive Director



FREE HEALTH CARE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED

Your continued support is much appreciated

On behalf of RotaCare and the people we serve, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you for your kind donation of \$ 2000 -

Annually, we serve over 3,500 of our neediest neighbors at our location in Uniondale. Our facility is staffed 100% by volunteers who provide the only medical care available to our patients.

Your kind donation will be used to continue our mission and serve those among us who are in need. We greatly appreciate your support of this program. Thank you again for your help.

James J. Amato
RotaCare Board of Directors



Glen Cove Boys & Girls Club
at Lincoln House, Inc.

Make a gift...Make a difference...Change a life

*Agustina is just one of the many kids you helped last year!
Thank you,
Julie Brubaker*



February 16, 2009

The Reverend Simon Foster
St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church
PO Box 448
Locust Valley, NY 11560-0448

Dear Mr. Foster:

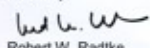
Thank you for St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church's generous contribution of \$2,600.00 to Episcopal Relief & Development. Your gift was received on Wednesday, January 28, 2009, designated for the Middle East Fund.

Your contribution to the Middle East Fund helps Episcopal Relief & Development to respond to urgent need in Gaza. We are partnering with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in central Gaza City to serve people who have been injured and displaced by the recent fighting.

The Al Ahli Arab Hospital treated hundreds of injured civilians during the most recent uprising and Episcopal Relief & Development is helping the hospital meet the rising costs of treating patients. Our partners will need continued support and we are committed to helping people heal and rebuild in the wake of the recent crisis.

You can learn more about our work in Gaza by visiting our website, www.er-d.org. Thank you for your prayers and compassion. Your partnership is transforming the lives of vulnerable people worldwide.

Faithfully,


Robert W. Radtke
President

Thank you!

Episcopal Relief & Development is an independent 501(c)(3) organization, contributions to which are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. No goods or services were provided to you by Episcopal Relief & Development in exchange for your donation.

The World is Bigger – By Simon Foster

Head full of stuff
 All seemed important
 Until the seagull
 Wide winged and majestic
 Stretched and soared
 Sea underneath
 Teeming with life
 Together proclaimed
 The world is much bigger
 Human being with all your concerns
 Remember abundant life is everywhere
 Atoms bounce, clam shells vacate
 Fish swim and breed
 Birds feed and screech
 Two swans serenely float
 A Golden Retriever ears upward
 Keeps a brown eye on them
 Then sniffs a rabbit or squirrel
 Boxer or Lassie he nosily sees
 Yes, Human beings you matter
 Your stuff matters, kind of
 But never forget life is inside
 Outside, between, never forget
 While you are occupied, preoccupied
 Creation carries on,
 Bursting, throbbing, wavelingly, swimmingly
 Around you, over you, beneath you
 Growing, breathing, moving
 I have come that you may have life
 The Gospel cries out
 Clam, seagull, dog, rabbit
 Swan, tree, organ, organ pipe
 Life in all its abundance
 Life is more than our stuff
 If we forget it we miss
 Miss the truth,
 The world is bigger
 And the Source of Life
 Much bigger

December 8, 2008

Dear Rev. Simon Foster and Ms.
Edith Haack,

*My thanks to you and your Board
for the generous donation of \$1,500
for our Pastoral Care program.
Please accept my best wishes to all of
you during the holiday season and
the year to come.*

*On behalf of the children of St.
Mary's, thank you and the St. John's
of Lattingtown Episcopal Church for
caring, and sharing.*

Sincerely,





St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children is committed to improving the health and quality of life for children and families with special needs.

St. Mary's Foundation for Children
29-01 216th Street, Bayside, NY 11360



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY 2009 IN GLEN COVE

Simon+, Michael+ and Victoria Crosby all spoke at this very special anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr., with the nation's first African-American president to be sworn in the following day.



Photos courtesy Peter M. Boudraitis Photography – Layout by Digital Printery

The best prayer is to rest in the goodness of God, knowing that goodness can reach down to our lowest depths of need. From Julian of Norwich

THOUGHTS FROM THE GATEHOUSE...

Lent and Easter are often experienced as opposites. Lent being understood as a time of lament, introspection and discernment while Easter is a time of celebration and uninhibited joy. While these attributes may be true for each season – this kind of characterization can easily lead us to essentialize Lent as a “sad” time and Easter as a “happy” time. We can begin to devalue and even avoid Lent as too depressing, especially in the midst of our own hardships and challenges in life.

During a recent vacation in Utah, a different image came to mind that helped me to grasp the beauty of Lent and Easter in a new way. I spent much of my week skiing in various resorts around Salt Lake City. I rode the lifts dozens of times each day. I could not help but think of several iconic biblical stories that happened on mountaintops. Moses receiving the 10 commandments and the Transfiguration of Jesus to name just two. As I rode the lift to the top of the mountain I would become more and more excited to reach the peak. The peak, after all, is the most exciting place to be on the mountain. I could see for miles and miles around up there. Everything seemed right with the world! But after a while I would have a desire to return to the base of the mountain to regroup, to rest and

to plan for the days ahead. I realized that being in the valleys was equally meaningful and indeed exciting. There was the anticipation of rising to the peak again. I had a different perspective on the mountains and the light and shadows in the valley had a very different quality than they did at the mountaintop.

I began to think...perhaps Lent and Easter are not opposites – they are just very different perspectives from which we gain insight into our lives and our relationships with one another and with God. Living with God in community is like being in the mountains. Sometimes we're up, sometimes we're down. Lent is not a time to hang our heads and wallow in sorrow. It is a time to look within and take stock of where we have been and where we hope to go as people of God. If we take the time to appreciate the valley, the mountaintop becomes even brighter when we arrive there together on Easter morning.

May the remainder of your time in the valleys of Lent be fruitful and may the mountaintops of Easter be as glorious and life changing as the first Easter was for the disciples.

Grace and Peace,

Michael+



Leonora Antonia Ronga and Troy Peter Steger



Alyce & Jason Panico at son David's baptism

Baptism of Luke Gilbert



On Saturday March 21st, the Diocese of Long Island will have elected a Bishop Coadjutor at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City. This Bishop Coadjutor will assist Bishop Walker for the rest of his years as diocesan Bishop and will then become the diocesan bishop after Bishop Walker's retirement. Simon+ along with Nancy and Frank Polk will be casting votes in the election along with clergy and laity from each of the parishes in the diocese. Michael+, who is canonically resident in the Diocese of Newark will be helping to count ballots during the special electing convention. This is an exciting and important moment in the life of the Diocese. Please continue to pray for our bishops and for all who have worked so hard leading up to this election. "Come Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire."

CANDIDATES FOR BISHOP COADJUTOR:



The Rev. Ronald G. Abrams
Reverend Abrams is currently the rector of St. James Parish in Wilmington, N.C. He grew up at St. George's, Hempstead, NY. After completing his degrees at C.W. Post College and Virginia Theological Seminary, Fr. Abrams served as assistant rector at St. Mark's, Westhampton Beach and then Rector of St. Ann's, Bridgehampton. In 1991, he and his family moved to the Diocese of East Carolina where he was Rector of Holy Trinity, Fayetteville, NC before accepting the call to St. James in 1999.



The Very Rev. Peter Eaton
Dean Eaton was born in Washington, DC, and raised in the United States, Barbados, and the United Kingdom. Ordained deacon in 1986 in San Juan, PR, and priest in 1987 in Canterbury Cathedral, he has served six dioceses as a pastoral assistant, college chaplain, and parish priest. He has been the Dean of Saint John's Cathedral since 2002.



The Rev. Dr. Titus Presler
Parish experience in Massachusetts, where I was ordained in 1979 after General Seminary, included curacy at suburban Christ Church, Hamilton, serving several other congregations, and eleven years as rector of urban St. Peter's, Cambridge. My wife Jane and I have four grown children. Mission in Zimbabwe in the 1980s led to a Boston University doctorate in missiology, presidency of the Seminary of the Southwest in Texas, and currently being sub-dean at General. I'm non-stipendiary priest associate at Grace Church, White Plains. A deputy to five General Conventions, I chaired the Standing Commission on World Mission and served on Executive Council.



Bishop Orris J. Walker, Jr. and Canon Diane M. Porter visit St. John's



Bishop Walker made his Episcopal Visitation to us along with Canon Porter, the Bishop's Deputy for Episcopal Administration on March 1st. This visit was a highlight of our 150 Anniversary year. A Festival Eucharist was held with processions of banners, ringing of bells, playing of violin, special choral music and a special liturgy. A presentation of flowers and an Anglican Rosary by a teacher Courtney Callahan and the children of the Sunday School was made to Bishop and Canon Porter as well as a vote of thanks from Tom Gimbel, Churchwarden thank-

ing both for all their care, advice and alongsidedness. After a rousing singing of *A Mighty Fortress is our God*, Bishop blessed a new set of vestments commissioned by the parish on Father's Simon's anniversary of ordination to priesthood designed by vestment maker Colleen Hintz. Bishop and Canon Porter then cut a cake in their honor and to mark 150 years of worship here. It was a glorious and happy day and one we will all remember for a long time."



The Rev. Lawrence Provenzano
Born in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn on January 25, 1955, Fr. Provenzano attended schools in Brooklyn and Queens. He holds a Bachelor of Science from the State University of New York and a Master of Divinity from Christ the King Seminary. He was received as a priest in the Episcopal Church in April of 1984. After serving as a curate and priest-in-charge of Christ Church, Westery, RI and rector of St. John's North Adams, MA Fr. Provenzano became the rector of St. Andrew's, Longmeadow, MA in 1995.



The Rev. Peter A.N. Sabune
For twenty-seven years, I have served in New York and New Jersey, focusing my ministry on justice, reconciliation and faith lived through service. I serve as Pastor and Chaplain at Sing Sing; chair the Province II Immigration and Prison Networks; and serve on the Executive Council and on the board of Forward Movement. I was Vicar at St. James' Church; Canon at Saint John the Divine; Dean in Newark, NJ; and Associate at Trinity Church.



The Rev. Caroline Stacey
Rev. Stacey was born and grew up on a farm in Essex, England. She studied music at St. Andrews University, Scotland before attending Berkeley-Yale Divinity School and being ordained in the US in 1990, as the Church of England did not at that time ordain women to the priesthood. Mother Stacey has served parishes in New Haven, CT; East Lansing, Michigan; and New York City during her 18 years of ordained ministry.

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the newsletter of
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clergy

The Rev. Simon Foster, Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Michael Sniffen, Assistant

office hours

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

If you would like to talk to the clergy about anything, need priestly ministry or would like to receive Holy Communion at home or in hospital due to sickness, please call to make an appointment.

In case of Emergency, please contact the clergy on the Pastoral Emergency phone when the office is closed. The number is 516 491-3936. The priest on duty will get in touch with you as soon as possible

FUNERALS & MEMORIALS

Lenice May Holley Hertweck

Alma E. Harr

Sydney Holmes Bales

Georgina Ellen Moffat

James J. Reardon

BAPTISMS

Charles Bruce Posillico

Luke Gilbert

David James Panico

John Marrs Gillies

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

THE CHURCH IS OPEN

Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12:00 noon for Rest, Refreshment and Prayer. The Parish Library is open at the same time. Please come and browse, select a book, write - use your Parish Library.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If there is someone in need that you would like to have prayed for, please fill out a yellow "Prayer Request" card which may be found on the Chapel altar rail. They will be prayed for at the daily services here. Alternatively call Simon+.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you or someone you know are hospitalized and would like a visit from the clergy, please call or have someone call the church office. Due to government privacy regulations, the hospitals can no longer tell the clergy who has been admitted.

PARISH CARE COMMITTEE

If you are in need of temporary services for companionship, local transportation and transportation to church, pick up your prescriptions, help with shopping or referral information to community services, please contact the Parish Care Committee. They are a group of parishioners who have volunteered to help. Please contact Janet Willis, Chairperson.

EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

ECS is the social service agency of the Diocese of Long Island with offices and programs in Queens, Brooklyn, Nassau, and Suffolk counties. Professional/confidential counseling is available for problems experienced by individuals, couples, and families. Consultations are provided on a sliding scale by appointment. ECS can be contacted by calling:

(631) 665-7701 or (718) 465-8585. Simon+ is the Vice Chair of the Board of ECS with Bishop Walker as Chair.

<http://www.ecslongisland.org>

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