



ST. JOHN'S MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Seek + Serve + Celebrate

The Eagle

May 2019

In This Issue...

May 5

*Holy Eucharist
8am & 10am
with Coffee Hour*

May 12

*Holy Eucharist
8am & 10am
with Coffee Hour*

May 19

*Holy Eucharist
8am
Family Service with
Children's Choir at 10am
with Coffee Hour*

May 26

*Holy Eucharist
8am & 10am
with Coffee Hour*

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia!!

Thank you to all who made our Holy Week and Easter worship together so meaningful and nourishing! That includes you, and everyone! Our altar guild, organist, choir, cherubs, choristers, the ensemble, lectors, acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, office staff and volunteers, flower donors, youth group, brass quartet, all who came and were part of our liturgies – EVERYone! Joy and Love were everywhere!



Now we're in Eastertide, and Spring. We're abundantly aware of new life – of the Resurrection. Certainly Christ's resurrection is in our hearts and on our minds. What does that mean for you? As I said in my Easter homily, this reminds us that "Our God is a God of Love." We are promised everlasting life by and in the God who Loves us so much, that Christ gave of himself to prove it to us!

So what are you going to do now? Anticipate resurrection!

I've taken some time away to be on silent retreat. These seven days are rest and refreshment and they are days for me to ponder the question I posed: What am I going to do now? As I pray and sit with my questions, God has a lovely way of guiding me to insights. Anticipate resurrection!

I'm understanding resurrection not only as Jesus' resurrection and the promise of life everlasting – not only my own resurrection on the Last Day and my living forever with God. I've been invited to a resurrection of God's love for me, and my sharing of that abundance with others and all creation. Resurrection is not a one-time event. It is an ongoing recirculating relationship with God and my neighbors. Resurrection is a transformation of the heart.

Listen to the apostle Peter as we read now from Acts. He was transformed from denying Jesus and hiding from the authorities. The Gospels tell us he and the others encountered Jesus in the days following his crucifixion.

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

The Rev. William Cruse

ST. JOHN'S WARDENS

Ken Bledsoe, Sr. Warden

Janice Hardy, Jr. Warden

VESTRY

Nancy Abbott

Kristin Canty

Jason Farrar

Carolyn Greenberg

Lynda Hammond

Kevin Haas

Barry Hardy

Pat Tarbutton

John Woods

CLERK OF THE VESTRY

Barry Hardy

FINANCE CHAIRPERSON

Nancy Abbott

TREASURER

John Greenberg

BOOKKEEPER

Ellen Joyce



The Eagle

Ellen Joyce, Editor

Articles can be submitted in
writing, or by E-Mail to:

ellen.joyce@

stjohnsramsey.org

Jesus came to them and reiterated his messages. The giving and receiving, resurrection and transformation continued. Love was flowing. And at Pentecost, Peter was resurrected, transformed, and became one who proclaimed God's Love fearlessly and openly, as much by his actions as by his words.

It's remarkable that in the days after the crucifixion, the disciples went back to business as usual. They had been transformed by Jesus' teaching, then fear drew them back to old ways. And Jesus went looking for them. When they found the tomb was empty, his followers went on with their lives, seemingly forgetting all that Jesus had told them. Peter went back to fishing. Others were on the road wondering what to do now, and still others were startled when Jesus joined them at their table. They weren't looking for Jesus. They weren't anticipating resurrection. Jesus went looking for them and continued his encounters with them.

How often do you settle for the comfortable and familiar? Does fear draw you back to old ways? What do you do when Jesus finds you? Or do you go out and seek Jesus – anticipate resurrection and transformation?

As Christians, we are people of the resurrection. We are called to participate in the receiving and giving of Love to *all* creation. Easter calls us to be resurrected, to be transformed, to become even bolder People of the Way, living The Way of Love. We are transformed from fear and doubt as we live into this faith and trust the Spirit that was breathed into each one of us. Abounding in the blessings God has given us, we live in the Cycle of Blessings, praising "God from whom all blessings flow; circling through earth so all may grow; vanquishing fear so all may give; widening grace so all may give!" Seek Jesus. Anticipate resurrection. Transformed in God's Love, let us go forth into the world boldly proclaiming God's Peace and Justice. Alleluia! Alleluia!!

Peace - Bill+



Rummage Sale News



Due to ongoing construction it became necessary to cancel our spring rummage sale.

While it is disappointing, it is the right thing to do.

So where do you donate the items you were going to donate to St. John's?

Please consider supporting the Community Thrift Shop in Midland Park. They will gladly accept your in-season clothing, linens and other household items. St. John's receives a percentage of each item sold. Our account number is 21.

The shop is located in the lower level of the Midland Park Shopping Center (corner of Godwin Ave. and Goffle Rd). Donations are accepted every Monday from 10-2 and the first Saturday of the month.

Please contact Mary Welton (mhsvelton@yahoo.com or 201-825-8629) for more information.



The next get-together to knit scarves and hats for the Seamen's Church Institute will be on Wednesday, May 22nd. at the Boma's house. We'll meet at 12:30, and Marina will very kindly provide lunch.

All are welcome, even brand new knitters.

Please phone Marina at 201- 529-2316 you are able to come.

Outreach

Please mark your calendars. St. John's used bike & used, working sewing machine collection for "Pedals for Progress" will be Saturday MAY 11th from 9 – 12. Remember how much fun it was last year? And on top of that you developed new skills and at the end felt really good about what you had accomplished – improving the life of a family overseas. We cannot do this without you. If you have not already signed up to help and would like to, see the signup list in the church hall on Sundays or email christinepotts@optonline.net . We still need more volunteers. Thank you!





Episcopal Church Women 2019 Film Fest

The theme of St. John's 2019 ECW film and book season is a continuation of our 2018 theme "Discrimination and the Christian Response". Last year our discussions were based on Mark 12:31: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." This year we are taking it a step further with Philippians 2:3b: "In humility, consider others better than yourselves."

These verses provide a compass for following Jesus and spreading God's love in our world. This is always easier said than done, of course. We will use these verses as a basis for discussing the complexities of our spiritual journeys. All parish women and friends are invited to attend.

We will meet at St. John's on Monday, May 6, at 7:00 pm in the downstairs lounge to view and discuss the film A United Kingdom starring David Oyelowo and Rosamund Pike. This 2016 British film is based on the true story of the heir to the throne of Bechuanaland (currently Botswana) who fell in love with a white woman while in London studying law just after World War II. Their controversial marriage put his kingdom into political and diplomatic turmoil. The South African government, fearing that the mixed marriage of the king of its neighboring country would create unrest and threaten the stability of the entire region, pressured the British government to end the marriage. A United Kingdom was screened at the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival and was the opening film at the 60th London Film Festival.

Our remaining 2019 season:

May 6: A United Kingdom

June 3: End of season dinner

Please join us at St. John's on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm for an evening of camaraderie and thought-provoking discussion as we support each other in our spiritual journeys. For information, contact ECW co-chairs Marilyn Bartholme or Janice Hardy (HardyCJR@aol.com or 845-357-8244).



Music Notes

HALLELUJAH!

Songs of the Easter Season

With the combined voices of the Ramsey Faith Communities
under the direction of:

Dr. Paul S. Undreiner - First Presbyterian Church

Drew Kreismer - St. John's Memorial Episcopal Church

Fran Morton - Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Sunday, June 2, 2019

3 o'clock in the afternoon

First Presbyterian Church

15 Shuart Lane

Ramsey, NJ 07446

Reception to immediately follow

All are welcome!

St. John's Annual Fundraising Flower Sale

Pick up for flowers is May 4th!

Questions? Contact Kate Kezmarsky at katedewan@aol.com.



Church School

St. John's Church School

May 2019

The children and youth of St. John's participated in an outreach project of preparing the monthly dinner for St. Paul's Men's Shelter during their class session on April 28th. The preparation took place in the Parish Hall under the guidance of the classroom teachers and parent volunteers. The entire meal was delivered to St. Paul's on Wednesday, May 1st. We are proud to be one of the 30 area churches and 300 volunteers who bring prepared food to those in need.

In this month's class sessions, the children are learning that in the Easter season the light returns as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Sunday after Easter they learned that the disciples were hiding out of fear of the religious authorities, and that Thomas was coming even more slowly to a realization that Christ is risen. The disciples were travelling in un-certainty, only recognizing Jesus in the breaking of the bread. The light does grow, the faith does grow, and the church does grow. Throughout this season we begin to capture a sense of the unstoppable nature of the Christian church. The light does shine brighter. Faith in the risen Christ is contagious!

Church School Monthly Calendar

- May 5 Church School - 10:00 AM, Chapel Service (P-2) with Ruth Roshong
Desk Attendant: Elkie Beninati, CS Staff Meeting: 11:15 AM
- May 12 Church School - 10:00 AM - Mother's Day
- May 19 Family Service: - 10:00 AM with Choristers and Cherubs, No Church School
- May 26 No Church School - Memorial Day Vacation Schedule

Looking Ahead

- June 2 All Children will Attend the Baptismal Service at 10AM
- June 9 Church School - 10:00 AM, Pentecost
- June 16 Family Service - 10:00 AM with Choristers and Cherubs, No Church School,
Father's Day, Trinity Sunday, Recognition of High School Graduates
- June 23 Summer Kool Kids Program - 10:00 AM - Meet in Grades 3-4-5 Classroom
with Mrs. Hammond

**ST. JOHN'S
MEMORIAL
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

A House of Prayer for
All People



301 East Main Street
Ramsey, NJ 07446

Phone: 201-327-0703

Email:

ellen.joyce@stjohnsramsey.org

Check us out on the Web:
www.stjohnsramsey.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday Services

Holy Eucharist
8 AM & 10 AM

Church School

9:45AM Infant & Child Care

Celtic Prayer

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM



The Rev. William Cruse
Priest in Residence

The Rev. Richard Louis
Rector Emeritus

Drew Kreisner
Organist/Choirmaster

Ellen Joyce
Parish Administrator

Megan Kendall
Youth Missioner

Upcoming Event Calendar

May

- May 1 Stigma Free Walk and Talk a Thon
- May 4 Plant Sale Pick-up
- May 6 ECW discussion of "United Kingdom"
- May 11 Pedals for Progress
- May 18 Confirmation is at 10am, Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral, 608 Broad St, Newark, NJ 07102
11:00 AM Memorial Service for Mary Lou Mack

June

- June 2 Seventh Sunday of Easter - Baptism
Hallelujah! Songs of the Easter Season Concert
- June 3 ECW - End of season dinner
- June 7 & 8 Spring Musical - "St John's Goes To Hollywood"
- June 9 Pentecost - Canon Greg Jacobs, presides at both services, and we offer a thank you and farewell reception as he retires at the end of June.
- June 16 Trinity Sunday - Family Service and Honoring Graduates