



The St. Mark's Roar

The Reverend Jacqueline McGrady, Rector Telephone (781) 272-1586

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

March 2005

Holy Week at Saint Mark's

Palm Sunday March 20 8 and 9:30 AM

This day is a celebration of Holy Eucharist with the blessing and distribution of palms, and a special procession.

This day is also called Passion Sunday because we recall the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is the end of his life.

Maundy Thursday March 24 7:30 PM

This evening is a service commemorating the Institution of the Last Supper. We will learn about the origins of Holy Communion and celebrate the Eucharist.

A Vigil March 24-25 11 PM—6 AM

This year we will be holding a vigil, or watch, in the sanctuary from the "dead of night until dawn." This time signifies the period when Jesus asked his disciples to watch with him the night before he was crucified.

Good Friday March 25 NOON and 7:30 PM

Our worship on this day is centered on the crucifixion of our Lord. This special service will include distribution of communion from the reserved sacrament, also known as the mass of the presanctified.

Easter Day March 27 8 AM and 10 AM

The Day of Resurrection!

On Easter we celebrate Holy Eucharist in the grandest festival style. Join us for the most holy of all the church's holidays.

Come let us proclaim together,
"The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

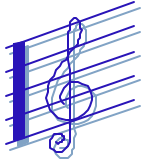
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Dear Friends in Christ,

Please join us for worship as we journey together during this most significant time of the church year.

Peace,
Pastor Jackie†



Musical Notes Susan Dearborn, Organist and Choir Director

Schedule Changes in March

On Maundy Thursday, March 24th, we will be having the Youth Choir before our service, from 6 to 7 p.m. The service begins at 7:30 p.m. The Adult Choir will rehearse immediately following the service. The Adult Choir will be leading the hymns and singing anthems at both the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.

To recognize the hard work of all our choir members in preparing for Holy Week and Easter, we will not be having rehearsals for either the Youth or Adult

Choirs on Thursday, March 31st. We will resume our regular Thursday night schedule of rehearsals on April 7th.

Easter Music Preview

On Easter Sunday the Adult Choir will sing at both the 8 AM and 10 AM services, with new Gradual and Offertory anthems. We will then be joined by the Youth Choir for the 10 AM service. The Youth Choir will sing a new anthem which will feature Bruce Burrell on flute, "This Is a Day for Singing". We hope you will all be there to enjoy the music of these talented parishioners of St. Mark's.

Event Postponed

Children Helping Children, An Interfaith Tsunami Relief Effort originally scheduled for March 6, has been postponed until a later date in the Fall. Various other commitments made it difficult for some of our very busy children to participate. Everyone still wants to sing, dance, play their instruments and offer their prayers. We will let you know when the event will be held in the fall.

Shrove Tuesday

Twas the night before Lent, and all through the house,
Lots of people were stirring....
Rick Eaton

With a lot of help and support, we had a great time at the pancake supper. The event provided us with an hour and a half of fellowship and resulted in \$102.00 of revenue for the church.

Thank you to: John Floyd for making the coffee, Paul Clark for helping me with the St. Mark's pancake recipe, Marcia Doiron for set-up and clean-up, Norma Clark for clean-up and laundering the table cloths, George Westcott, chief bacon cook, John Doiron, chief pancake man, Deanne Cormier for general help in the kitchen and set-up, Rosemary Eaton for pre-cooking 124 sausages and help all night, Nelson Holt for set-up help, and the children who served: Sidney Andreason, Natalie Andreason, Brandon Clark, Katherine Clark, and Chiara Lamourine.

Work is fun when lots of people pitch in. Thank you all!

Keeping Vigil or Watch — Maundy Thursday

The practice of keeping watch with our Lord can be traced to Christ's appeal to his disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane on the eve of the crucifixion: "Could you not watch one hour with me?" By our vigil with the Blessed Sacrament, we can answer Jesus with an emphatic "yes!", knowing that we are in the presence of the same Jesus, now veiled in the form of bread and wine, as were the disciples who witnessed His resurrection.

In order to fully appreciate this devotion, we must keep in mind the Anglican teaching on the Blessed Sacrament. As Episcopalians, we share with our Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox brothers and sisters, a firm belief in the real sacramental Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

When our priests celebrate the Eucharist, it is not merely a commemoration of the Last Supper, in the way a child's birthday calls to mind her birth. Instead, the Eucharist is a living witness, both to the sacrifice on Calvary and to the banquet prepared for us in heaven. Even though Christ in His glory is veiled from our eyes, he is present to us in a very real, very tangible way.

The Book of Common Prayer continues an earlier tradition of prohibiting the celebration of the Eucharist on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. It provides, however, for the bread and wine consecrated at the Maundy Thursday Eucharist, to be offered on Good Friday as the Mass of the Pre-sanctified.

This is what will happen on Maundy Thursday. Following communion, ablutions and the post communion prayer, the Sacrament to be reserved for Good Friday will be veiled and left for devotions. The congregation will remain in the church for the stripping of the altar. All movable hangings and ornaments will be removed. The congregation will then leave in silence.

A watch will be kept throughout the night before the Reserved Sacrament of bread and wine beginning at 11 PM "the dead of night" and ending at 6 AM "dawn." A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board for those wishing to participate in the watch.

You are invited to come gather in vigil before Our Lord on this holy night.

iGive.com

We continue to receive checks from iGive.com. These checks are a nice bonus for our revenue. Granted it is not a lot of money, but every little bit helps.

To those of you who have been shopping online through iGive.com, thank you! Keep it up!

To those who do not know much about it, please pick up an informational sheet at the back of church next time you are here. All you need to do is log on to iGive.com and designate St. Mark's Church in Burlington as the beneficiary. Then shop. A percentage of each of your purchases is donated to St. Mark's. There is no cost to you. There is no other catch either.

Thank you for considering this additional way of giving to St. Mark's.

The following is the text of a letter I sent to everyone on February 20 under separate cover. It is reprinted here for those who may have not received it.

At our annual meeting someone wondered if I were leaving because I am having another baby. Please be assured that this is not the reason for my departure.

Our special worship service to say goodbye to one another has been scheduled for Sunday, April 10 in the evening. I do hope you all can be there.

St. Mark's remains in my prayers as we make this transition.
Peace, Pastor Jackie

February 20, 2005

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am writing to inform you of my resignation as rector of St. Mark's Church. My tenure as rector will end on April 30, 2005 and my last Sunday with you will be the Third Sunday of Easter, April 10, 2005. A special worship service to allow us to say goodbye to one another will be scheduled during the month of April. Peter, John Carl and I will be moving out of the rectory and moving to New Hampshire. I am making the decision to leave St. Mark's at this time for the sake of my family. My family is vitally important, indeed sacred, to me and this is what is best for my family.

I have been your priest and pastor for five and one half years and as such have experienced some amazing moments with you. From the quiet tears of grief shed one on one in my office to the festival shouts of joy at our Easter worship, you have etched your presence into my life. I shall not forget you. I opened my heart to you and you changed my life.

I know that the lay leadership at St. Mark's will take full advantage of the expert assistance of the diocese during this time of transition. The resources that the diocese has to offer are enormous and they already have offered to help. They wish to help St. Mark's in whatever capacity the parish wants.

And now, as I have said to you so many times before, remember that you are God's children, loved completely and unconditionally. I invite you to continue to go forth into the world confident in the transforming power of this love for your own life and for our world.

Peace,

The Reverend Jacqueline McGrady

New Leaders at St. Mark's

At our annual meeting on Sunday, February 20 we accomplished the business we normally do at this event as well as enjoying a wonderful potluck lunch. Thank you to all who contributed food and drink to the event. Also, thank you to Rick Eaton who donated a super bowl baseball cap for auction. This was a fun addition to the meeting and nice little fundraiser for the parish.

Congratulations to everyone who was elected to leadership positions.

Deanne Cormier and Jed Geyerhahn were elected to three year terms on the vestry and James Agostinelli was elected to a one year term as the youth member of the vestry.

Brenda Allan, Sally Cassidy, Pat Doleman, Rick Eaton, and Emily Howser were elected as our representatives to the deanery.

Ann Sullivan was elected as our representative to Episcopal City Mission and as a member of the Endowment Committee.

Rick and Rosemary Eaton were elected as our delegates to Diocesan Convention.

We are grateful to all of you who agreed to serve Christ here at St. Mark's. Thank you!

At the first vestry meeting of the new year which was held on Monday, February 21, the vestry appointed people to fill remaining leadership positions. Catherine Owens will serve as treasurer until July 2005 and Janet Lyna will serve as clerk for the 2005 year. Howard Bettinson will serve as co-warden with another person for the 2005 year. As soon as the name of the co-warden is confirmed you will be notified.

St. Mark's vestry is now comprised of the following people: James Agostinelli, Howard Bettinson, Russ Bilodeau, Sally Cassidy, Deanne Cormier, John Doiron, Jed Geyerhahn, Kathy Lamourine, Janet Lyna and Catherine Owens. As rector Pastor Jackie remains a member of the vestry until her departure in April.

Now is the time for St. Mark's to look to future and focus on the positive things the parish can do and be moving forward!

Upcoming Book Club Meetings

The book club continues to meet monthly. All are welcome to read the book and participate in the discussion. Upcoming books are

"Southern Cross" by Patricia Cornwell for Tuesday, March 8th at 7 PM

"When Jesus Came to Harvard" by Harvey Cox for Tuesday, April 12th at 7 PM

Please feel warmly invited to attend any meeting of the book club. It is a great time for fellowship and personal enrichment.

Kids' Stuff in March

March 6—Family Sunday—No Sunday School today. Please come to church as a family at 9:30 AM.

March 13 — There will be Sunday School for all grades at our normal time of 9 AM; children come to church at 10:10 AM

March 20 — Palm Sunday — All children and teachers meet in the parish hall at 9 AM. The children will have an opportunity to make palm crosses for Palm Sunday, learn about the meaning Palm Sunday and get ready for Easter next week. There will also be a snack. Children come to church around 10:15 AM.

March 27 — Easter Day — We will be celebrating the day Jesus rose from the dead—Easter! There is no Sunday School class this day. Come to church at 10 AM on Easter Day with your whole family and celebrate!

Please use the attached envelope for Easter flowers. These Spring Plants may be given in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a person or event. We ask that you include the names of those in whose honor you are giving plants so they may be listed in our Easter bulletin. Please return the envelope with your check to the church by March 20. Thank you.

Easter Flowers

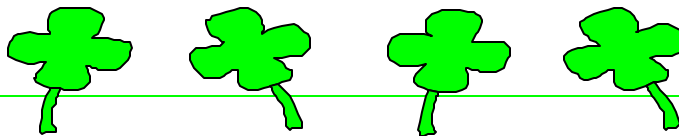
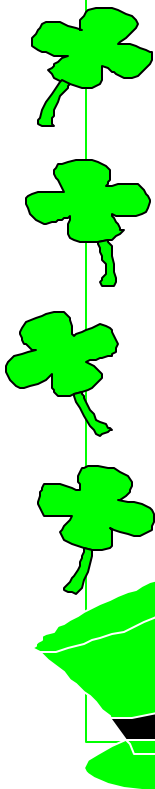
St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Saturday, March 19th, 6:30 PM

A traditional St. Patrick's Day Dinner
with corned beef and cabbage!
(as well as some alternatives
for those with more particular appetites)

Come join with friends from St. Mark's to celebrate the Irish in each of us. This is a great chance to get out on a winter's night, see some old friends and make some new friends, and not need to make dinner. It is also a fundraiser for the church. Dinner is very reasonably priced!

Karen and Russ are back and we all know how good their dinners are, so bring your appetite!

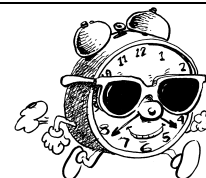


Can You Help?

Karen Hanson who so generously organized our Christmas party (again) this year needs some assistance. She took pictures of each of the children sitting on Santa's lap and stored them on her computer. When she was getting the pictures ready to print, her computer crashed. She is unable to access these pictures or any of the other pictures that were on her computer. She needs some help in data retrieval. If you think you might be able to help her, please call her at home (781) 272-8875 or on her cell phone (781) 983-1941. Thank you so much.

SPRING AHEAD!

Set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, April 2 so you will be on time for church on Sunday, April 3.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
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Telephone 781-272-1586

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March 2005

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