



THE LION'S TALE

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE REV. DR. PETER VAN HORNE, INTERIM RECTOR
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MARCH 2011

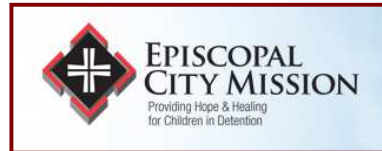


SHROVE SUNDAY? WELL, PANCAKES ANYWAY ON MARCH 6

Because the Primary
Municipal Election is
March 8th and we are a

polling place, we are moving our traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake supper from Tuesday to the preceding Sunday. The parish life committee will be serving up pancakes and all the trimmings from the end of the 7:30 service until 10:00 and after the 10:00 a.m. service until 12:30. Suggested donation: \$4 per adult, \$2 per child, max. \$10 per family. At some point in the morning we will have the traditional palm burning and perhaps some Mardi Gras festivities.

**ASH WEDNESDAY
MARCH 9TH
HOLY EUCHARIST &
IMPOSITION OF ASHES
NOON AND 7:30 P.M.**



In 1894, deeply concerned about the lack of pastoral care at various St. Louis City

institutions, Charles Holmes, a lay person at Christ Church Cathedral, organized volunteers from the cathedral to minister at City Hospital, the City Jail, the City Workhouse, and the Asylum. Thus was born the Episcopal City Mission. With the establishment of juvenile facilities in the city, the ministry grew to include pastoral care for children. In 1954 the decision was made to divide ministry to these institutions among various denominations. The Episcopal Church asked to continue the ministry to children in detention. Our ministry to youth was firmly established in the Juvenile Detention Centers and recognized by the Family Court System. ECM became the agency authorized by the Court System to provide for the ongoing spiritual needs of detained children in St. Louis City and County.

Today ECM remains strong in this commitment to providing chaplaincy to youth in detention. Our chaplains offer support, healing and hope at the St. Louis City and County Detention Centers and the Lakeside Residential Center. Through the programs they offer and their caring, listening presence, these chaplains are in a very real sense the compassionate face of a loving God in the lives of the children.

This Sunday Ms. Barbi Click, the Executive Director of E.C.M. will speak at both services about their work, and offering envelopes will be available so that you may offer your financial support. IF you wish to write a check for a gift, you may make the check payable to St. Mark's and put **E.C.M.** on the memo line.



What to do before you go!

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 9, a day when it is customary to put ashes on our foreheads as a sign of our mortality and penitence.

Let's think about our mortality. The simple fact is, we will not last for ever in this life. We look forward to the life to come, made possible through the Resurrection of Jesus. For now though, let's think about our mortality, and what to do before we go from this life to the next.

I have found that the season of Lent is a good time to do a couple of things. The first is to let you know about what is commonly known as "the 445 rubric." Rubrics are those instructions in the Prayer Book printed in italics. Rubrics can be instructions about the service or, in this case, a strongly-worded suggestion to members of the church. This comes from the Prayer Book's service for the *Thanksgiving for the Birth or Adoption of a Child*, and it states,

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.

Simply put, if you do not have a will, now is the time to make one, and to remember to make charitable bequests, whether to St. Mark's Church or some other charity. Of course, now is a good time also to be certain that you have in place a Living Will, a Durable Power of Attorney, and have specified who will make decisions concerning your medical care if you suddenly cannot make those decisions yourself. If you do not have any of these legal instruments in place, now is the time. I will spare you the terrible stories of those I have known through the years who did not take care of these matters, and it came to mean great emotional and financial pain for their families in times of sudden illness and incapacitation and, sometimes, death.

In addition to the above planning, I also want to encourage you to use the season of Lent as a time to start planning your own funerals. This is another of those tasks that we call, "**What to do before you go.**"

We have put on our website at www.saintmarks-stl.org helpful information on funeral planning. There are also hard copies available at the church. It has in it the directions concerning funerals in the Episcopal Church, suggestions concerning information to write down about whom to contact at the time of death, how to go about making burial arrangements, the personal information that will be needed concerning life insurance policies, death benefits, etc. This is a place to write down all the information.

In addition, the document has everything you will need to start planning your funeral – scripture readings from which to choose, a place to write down the hymns and music you want to use, etc. When it is finished, this is not a document you want to tuck away "in a safe place." Give copies to your family, next of kin, and leave a copy with the church office so it can be referred to when needed.

I will be happy to give advice on the liturgy you might choose, and I urge you to speak with a legal advisor on the other matters. Lent is a time when we are reminded of our mortal nature, and I urge you to act now.

Faithfully yours,
(The Rev. Dr.) Peter E. Van Horne

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR LENT



Lent Book Study 2011 Sunday Mornings after 10:00 a.m. Service March 13, 27, April 3, 10

"Two processions entered Jerusalem on a spring day in the year 30. It was the beginning of the week of Passover." From the East came a peasant procession with Jesus of Nazareth riding on a donkey and cheered by his followers. From the West came the Roman governor of Idumea, Pontius Pilate, who had come up from Caesarea Maritima. That the two processions occurred on the same day is not recorded in the Bible and, in fact, the two processions may not have happened on the same day. However the Roman governor did travel from Caesarea Maritima for festivals such as Passover. Most of all, for Mark, the procession of Jesus was clearly counter to the procession of Pilate. (Virgil Brown, book review.)

Episcopalian lay theologian Marcus Borg and Roman Catholic biblical scholar John Dominic Crossan have collaborated on several popular books, one of which is their 2007 work titled, *The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem*. They use the Gospel According to Mark, the earliest of the four gospels in the New Testament, to trace the last week of Jesus' life from Palm Sunday through the crucifixion and resurrection. This is a very fine book that helps the reader and the faithful, and those who might struggle with faith at times, to make sense of the story Saint Mark tells of Jesus' final week.

I will lead a study of the book on four Sundays during Lent -- March 13, 27, April 3 and April 10. The book is short and quite readable, which is to say, it was written for us ordinary people, not for biblical scholars.

Child care will be available, including care for babies.

The cost of the book is about \$10. We will have a sign-up sheet so you can give us your name and how many copies of the book you wish to purchase.

Faithfully yours, (The Rev. Dr.) Peter E. Van Horne



LENTEN SERVICE OF PRAYER SPONSORED BY CHURCH ALLIANCE OF ST. LOUIS HILLS THURSDAYS AT NOON

Please join us for these 25-30 minute services of prayer and reflection, followed by light Lenten refreshments.

**March 17th Gethsemane Lutheran Church,
3600 Hampton Ave.**

March 24th Here at St. Mark's

**March 31st at Hope United Church of
Christ, 6273 Eichelberger**

**You are also invited to a special
"Stations of the Cross"
on Friday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m.**
Led by Jornadas, a drama team from St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Parish, presented at St. Gabriel the Archangel, 6303 Nottingham.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME begins on Sunday, March 13th. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead.

RESOURCES FOR LENT

2011 Lenten Meditations - A booklet provided by Episcopal Relief & Development will be available during Lent at the back of church. "The forty days of Lent provide a time to slow down, reflect on our Christian faith and prepare ourselves for the celebration and season of Easter. The ERD 2011 Lenten Meditations booklet is intended to help guide you through this time of contemplation." (*ERD, 2011 Lenten Meditations*)

Join The Journey Through Lent Poster - A 2011 poster with 40 days and ways through the season of Lent. A journey of simple devotions and thoughtful meditations leading through the forty days from Ash Wednesday through Easter.

These are both available for pick up at the back of church.



WHAT'S COMING UP?

SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH

~Pancake Breakfast (see p. 1)

~Episcopal City Mission Sunday (see p. 1)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9TH Ash Wednesday

FRIDAY, MARCH 11 10:30 am Friday Study Group Resumes (see p. 5)

SUNDAY, MARCH 13 & 27TH 11:15 am Lent Book Study (see p. 3)

SATURDAY, MARCH 19 Loving Care Home St. Patrick's Party (see p. 5)

SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH 11:15 A.M. Vestry Meeting

THURSDAY, MARCH 24TH Noon - Ecumenical Lent Service (see p. 3)

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 1:00 P.M. St. Louis Fashion Doll Club

GIFTS FOR: LANDSCAPING & FLOWERS AND THE SPECIAL MUSIC/CONCERT FUND

I/we enclose our donation of \$ _____ for Landscaping & Flowers and/or The Special Music/Concert Fund for St. Mark's Church.

Please list my/our donation as given to the Glory of God and:

In Honor of: _____

Or

In Memory of: _____

Or

In Thanksgiving for: _____

By _____

(Please write your name as you wish it to appear in the bulletin.)

Contributions to the "Landscaping & Flowers Fund" will pay for Altar Flowers/Decorations for Easter and enhancements to our landscaping. Parishioners who choose to do so may make a donation to "The Special Music/Concert Fund."

Please designate my donation to:

Landscaping & Flowers

Special Music/Concert Fund

Please bring this form with your donation to church, or send it to the office by Sunday, April 17th.

NOTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 20, 2010 VESTRY MEETING

Financial Report by Sue Healey: Reports were reviewed and Sue explained them to new members. Sue asked about the Ruth Proehl Fund. Should what remains be invested and how? Short term or long term?

Clergy Concerns: 1. The Leadership Conference at St. Martin's-Ellisville. 2. A schedule for 2011 vestry refreshments was passed around. 3. The Sexual Misconduct Policy from the diocese was distributed and acceptance form signed. 4. Parish History Project: This is an exercise to be done as we look for a new rector. Peter described how this will be done and the vestry filled out a questionnaire which will be given out to the parish. 5. Kevin Tracy asked about our youth involvement with other parishes. Ellen Jeffery wants to know particularly about the youth meeting at Emmanuel-Webster Groves. Peter will check with the diocesan office. 6. Kevin also passed along the request to bless people at services (birthdays, etc).

Old Business: 1. Memorial Garden Clarification: Kevin Tracy is forming a committee to clarify the procedure. 2. Rita M. is getting information from the Diocese Episcopal Recovery Ministry concerning the alcohol policy as it relates to acquiring a certification of insurance before rental agreement is changed. 3. Reducing vestry membership from 12-9. This will take a By-Law change and will take about 3 yrs.

New Business: Allen suggested that committees need to be reestablished. A property might deal with an energy audit and the city owned sweet gum trees. Jeff Smith volunteered to meet with Margaret and Rita to work on a description of various committees and consider combining individual committees. The financial portion of the Parochial Report in complete. The vestry needs to approve the entire report.

Fundraising: Margaret suggested working at Busch Stadium sporting events.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Macke

For the St. Mark's Calendar, please visit our website www.saintmarks-stl.org and click on the calendar tab.

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT LOVING CARE HOME!



Saturday, March 19th at 2:00 pm

St. Markans will take the gift of good cheer to those for whom friendly visitors may be few and far between. All are invited to attend. Please bring cookies and fruit and yourselves.



THE FRIDAY BOOK GROUP

The book group will resume meeting on March 11, at 10:30 in the Proehl Center. We will finish our discussion of *The Greatest Prayer* by John Dominic Crossan and talk about ideas for our next book.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING?

We have been fortunate to have many St. Markans serve on Sunday mornings as acolytes, ushers and greeters, Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, counters, nursery helpers and on the Altar Guild. If anyone is interested in being added to the new participant's schedule, which begins the first week of April, please speak to the Rev. Peter Van Horne, or you may call or email the office.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

April 17th Palm Sunday
7:30 & 10:00 a.m.

April 21ST Maundy Thursday 7:30 p.m.

April 22ND Good Friday noon & 7:30 p.m.

April 23RD Easter Vigil & First Eucharist
of Easter 8:00 p.m.

Bring a bell to ring in the Easter season.

EASTER DAY

April 24th Easter Sunday
7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

There will be a festive reception following the 10:00 a.m. service and the traditional Easter Egg hunt for the very young

