



For All the Saints

April 2015

Dear Friends,

Easter is a lunar holiday, which is why the date changes each year. Since early on, the date has been set as “the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox and not earlier than March 22nd or later than April 25th.” (Or consult the table in the *Prayer Book* and see that in 2089, Easter will be April 3rd.) For us, Easter suggests spring flowers and straw hats, but it is late fall for Christians south of the Equator, so their Easter might reflect the shades of autumn.

To experience the stories in the Bible, including our most significant celebrations, they need to be accessible. The classic definition of a sacrament is, “an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, and the means by which the grace is conveyed.” We cannot know how the grace comes upon us, but we can know Holy Communion as consecrated (blessed) bread and wine. They are the “outward and visible signs” of the “inward and spiritual grace” that we are promised when we consume those very concrete items. And again, they make it happen.

Jesus seldom preached theology. He talked about things his listeners knew about -- wheat fields and vineyards, catching fish and mindlessly loading up farm silos. And when he wanted a way to be present for faithful people, even long after he was no longer walking the earth, he chose the basics, bread and wine -- usually always accessible, in some form. On Maundy Thursday, we celebrate his gift of Holy Communion that he established that night at the Last Supper.

On Easter, as we celebrate Resurrection, we bring back “Gloria” and “Alleluia,” which were neither sung nor said in Lent. The language of Easter soars into the heavens: “Jesus Christ is Risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!” It is all ethereal and mystical and wonderful. And to connect with it, we need the earthbound, every-day items that we can see and touch – flowers, Easter eggs, bunnies – every good thing that suggests wonder and love.

“Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise; sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.”

A blessed Easter to all

Jane+

– *All Saints' News* –

INTERNATIONAL FOOD TASTING FESTIVAL, APRIL 19

Taste your way around the world at our International Food Tasting Event on Sunday, April 19. This will take place during Coffee Hour as a fundraiser for the church. We expect Lea Hall to offer a wide array of delicious treats from many different places, and going around sampling them should be a lot of fun.

If you would like to make or bring a dish that speaks to your heritage or a part of the world you've visited and enjoyed, please sign up or speak to Jenine Williams for more information.

A minimum donation of \$5 is requested to get into Lea Hall – but since this is a fundraiser, we hope people will be generous and give more.

WAYNE DIETTERICK, ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

We will welcome Wayne Dietterick to All Saints' on April 19. An organist and pianist with a lot of experience serving a variety of churches, he has directed adult, youth, children's, community and *a cappella* choirs. He is also a composer, arranger and teacher. Now, Wayne looks forward to delving more deeply into Anglican/Episcopal traditions. He joins us in the middle of the Easter Season – and just in time for the International Food Festival!

LENTEN SOUP AND STUDY ENDS MARCH 31

“Embracing a Life of Meaning” has been an excellent program featuring author Kathleen Norris. Her DVD presentations and the discussion group with her have provided provocative starting points for our own discussions. Thanks to all who have taken part. Thanks also to our soup makers: Marcene Anderson, Anne Goetz, Lois Schembs (Irish Soda Bread too!), Peggy Tristram and Joe Urbancik, and to Susie Roeser, purveyor of bread. The meeting on Tuesday, March 31 at 7 pm will be about “Us – what it means to remain in God's image, countering our selfishness to embrace the world.”

SUNDAY MORNING CONVERSATION

The current topic is the Old Testament Book of Proverbs – in the Guild Room, 8:45-9:30 am.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Palm Sunday, March 29 – 8 & 10 am

We commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Palm branches are blessed and distributed to represent the palms that joyous followers threw in front of Jesus as he approached. We read the "Passion" Gospel (the story of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion), this year from *Mark*. The 10 o'clock Service begins in Lea Hall for the palm blessing and a procession into church accompanied by one of the most ancient hymns, "All Glory, Laud and Honor."

Wednesday in Holy Week – 9 am

Holy Eucharist is celebrated

Maundy Thursday, April 2 – 8 pm

We commemorate the Last Supper when Jesus established Holy Eucharist (Holy Communion) as the way for faithful people ever after to make him present. We remember the New Commandment he gave, to love one another, after which he washed the disciples' feet. We remember the desolation afterward, when Jesus was arrested. Members of the Altar Guild strip the altar to create a "sacred emptiness," and an Altar of Repose is set as a tomb for Jesus. Bread and wine consecrated at this service for Good Friday will rest on this altar overnight. There will be music from the All Saints' Choir and a homily from the rector.

Good Friday, April 3 – 9 am & 8 pm

The solemnity of this day when Jesus was crucified includes the "Passion" Story from *John*, the Solemn Collects, Communion of the pre-Sanctified (consecrated on Maundy Thursday) and a meditation from the rector. Both services follow the Good Friday Liturgy from the *Book of Common Prayer*. The All Saints' Choir sings in the evening.

Easter Sunday, April 5 – 8 & 10 am

An Easter Eucharist is celebrated at 8 am. The Festival Eucharist at 10 am will include music from the All Saints' Choir and the Youth Choir, and a sermon from the rector.

EASTER BRUNCH

The celebration continues in Lea Hall with good food and fellowship after the 10 o'clock Service. Plan to stay, and if you can bring something for the Brunch, sign up – but come anyway.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Rain or shine, several hundred Easter Eggs filled with goodies will be hidden around the building (outside if the weather permits). Fun for the young people during the Brunch!

--YOUTH NEWS--

Sunday School

Regular classes continue on the second, third and fourth Sundays of the month. Parents have been joining in for that fourth (and sometimes fifth) week. For more information and for guidance, speak with **Kelly Robertson**

First Sunday in April – April 5th -- is Easter!

We hope young people will join their families in church – and that many will be singing in the Youth Choir. **Sohyun Ahn** has been rehearsing with the youngsters each Sunday after church.

Youth Group

Chris Harris has kept the Youth Group busy with discussions and planning. A good number came to last weekend's discussion on civility that followed the Family Supper, and there's more to come.

Family House Eucharist

Thanks to **Emily, Sophia and Morgan DiSarno** for hosting this wonderful event at their home. Twenty young people and their parents shared Holy Eucharist and then a delicious dinner for which we thank **Jim and Lauren DiSarno**.

Easter Baskets

Sunday School youngsters filled 21 Easter Baskets and they will go to Heart for Humanity.

Nathaniel Harris – Relay for Life, April 12

Coffee Hour on this Sunday after Easter will be a fundraiser to sponsor Nathaniel's participation in Relay for Life, a program at Scotch Plains Fanwood High School to raise money for cancer research and relief.

Scott Rahner to preach, April 26

It has been the tradition to invite high school seniors to preach. Scott, who has grown up in this parish, will do so at the end of the month.

--Parishioner Profile—

LETTER FROM BOSTON

By Rose Cubbon

I came to Boston ungraciously. I've worked in pharmaceutical research and lived in New Jersey since 1987, and I was quite happy with my life there. When Hoffman-LaRoche closed the Nutley site in 2012, I thought 25 years working in big pharma might be enough. Then a former Merck colleague contacted me about an opening at Novartis in Cambridge -- I went on what I called an informational interview -- the offer came -- and, well, I thought I could try Boston for a year or so, just for the experience of living in another city.

I spent the first month or so streaming WNYC on my computer, and working the differences between New York and Boston into every conversation longer than 90 seconds. Gradually, along with finding a local NPR station (usually WBUR, Boston University), I started adding a few items to the Boston side of my ledger.

First and maybe most importantly, I have so many former colleagues in Boston and Cambridge. Biotech and pharma have clustered around Kendall Square in Cambridge, and that is right where I am—100 Technology Square. One of my Merck supervisors (2001-2005) is, unbelievably, on the same floor as I am. Another (2006-2009) is three blocks away. Of my project group from 2007-2009, five of six of us are here. Many other Roche people also made the migration north, and out-of-towners drop by for conferences. I don't think there is any other city where I would be able to make so many connections with friends from my past—so that has been a wonderful surprise.

Secondly, everything in Boston is so convenient, especially on a bicycle (chartreuse, 1980's vintage, snagged from my daughter Elizabeth). I can get to the symphony or the museum or even work in 15 minutes. I learned through the Fanwood Venture Crew how to bundle up in the cold, and I've been riding my bike right through the winter (well, until you-know-what happened in Boston).

Then, I'm in the city -- Beacon Hill, to be exact-- in a one-bedroom apartment, so although I miss my Fanwood garden, there's much less upkeep here than in a four-bedroom house.

And, I'm in New England -- close to Elizabeth in Providence, not too far from Kathleen in Amherst, and in reach of Rob in Queens. (Dear Charlotte, the 16-year-old puppy, is still house-sitting in Fanwood.) I've been to Vermont for skiing and to New Hampshire for hiking, and there is a lot of culture per square foot in Boson proper.

OF course, I miss my house and garden, and weekends at home are furiously busy, trying to fit all my former life into two days. The garden continues to grow, the paint to chip, and the bricks to heave whether I am there or not. And of course I miss my friends—my church and choir, my scout groups, my neighbors.

It's been great to get to know this city -- big in some ways (culture and history), small in others (one of the major downtown streets (Newbury) has two intersections with four-way stop signs rather than traffic lights).

Boston weather is, at the least, exceptional. I don't have much to add on that topic.

And before you ask -- I don't have a cah in Boston, so I don't have to pahk in the yahd.

By Rose Cubbon



HOW WILL OUR GARDEN GROW?

As we all know, it's been a very snowy winter. Spring has arrived, though, and at long last, the ground is visible. That means tending to the gardens and lawns that surround our buildings. The large Garden Project poster is on the bulletin board (it has give us hope during the storms), so gardeners can check on their teams and/or set up new ones – and start figuring out what needs to be done when.

If you have questions or want to sign up to help, speak with Sherry Woodruff.

SCRIPTURE SHARING, TUESDAY, APRIL 14

Take part in this monthly gathering to discuss the Scripture readings for the following Sunday. On April 14, that will be The Third Sunday of Easter, April 19, and we are in Year B. The readings are Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4, First John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36b-48. This time, the gathering will be at Anne Goetz's at 7 pm. Call for directions and to say you're coming (908) 889-7592.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

A number of memorials and thanksgivings have come in, but we will accommodate additional names if they are in by Palm Sunday, March 29.

(Your donation helps defray the cost of the flowers.)

--The All Saints' Family --

Congratulations to **Marie Leppert**. She has been named Female Volunteer of the year in Scotch Plains, an honor which will be celebrated May 1st at Snuffy's. Her many volunteer projects include (among other things) the College Club of Fanwood and Scotch Plains, the Historical Society, Shady Rest Preservation and the Scotch Plains Fanwood High School Alumni Association. At All Saints', Marie serves as an Usher, a pie-baker for the fall sale, and she has helped with the Family Suppers that she and **John** have enjoyed.

Congratulations to **Esther Ogunyemi**. She will graduate from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School on May 17. She then has a brief program at Staten Island University, after which she will begin a Residency at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital. Her field is Anesthesiology. Esther is a former All Saints' Acolyte – not to mention Sunday School student and Youth Group member. We celebrate with **Joy and Alex Ogunyemi**.

It has been a joy having **Sohyun Ahn** back with us as Organist and Choirmaster for these few months. Both the All Saints' Choir and the Youth Choir have happily worked with her. In the last several years, many have had the privilege of seeing Sohyun in concert in New Jersey and New York. Her calendar is a busy one going into the future, and we wish her all the very best.

GIVE TO GRACE'S KITCHEN

Grace's Kitchen conducts one fundraising drive every year, and it is now. This soup kitchen is open the last five days of each month (excluding Sundays) to offer help when recipients of public funds might be experiencing special need. All Saints' has worked with Grace's Kitchen for a long time, sending volunteers on the last Thursday of the month. We will accept donations for them through April 12. Please write your check to All Saints' and put "Grace's Kitchen" on the memo line. Speak to Charlie Beakes for information on volunteering.

A WORKSHOP FOR WORSHIP LEADERS APRIL 26

John Burk, Chair, invites all of our Worship Leaders to come together after the 10 o'clock Service on Sunday, April 26. We will go over some basics of reading lessons and leading prayers, and also choreography. Everyone does a good job at this ministry, but there are always fine points to work on so this will be helpful. Please come.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY LAMP

We invite you to keep flowers on the altar as a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost is **\$40.00**. Keep the **Sanctuary Lamp** burning for a week to remember loved ones or offer thanksgiving. The lamp is **\$10.00**. **Make checks payable to the Altar Guild** and put in the **memo** line that the check is for flowers or the lamp. Sign up in the narthex, or call the office.

Available Dates

Altar Flowers: April 26

Sanctuary Lamp: April 5, 12, 19, 26

MISSIONARY OUTREACH

The second Sunday of each month is Sharing Sunday when we ask for donations to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

April – Baby/toddler items (disposable diapers, ointment, powders, wipes, thermometers, shampoo, nail clippers, etc.)

May – Laundry supplies (small containers of detergent, bleach, stain removers)

June – Health & beauty supplies (deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes & toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, cotton balls, etc.)

Please keep our Food Basket filled every Sunday with non-perishable items. This is also a way to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

The Rev. Jane Rockman, *Rector*
Sohyun Ahn, *Organist and Choirmaster*

The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus*
Irene Carlucci, *Secretary*
Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton*

Wardens

Jenine Williams Richard Johnson

Vestry

Todd Bouverot	John Brewer	Lauren DiSarno	Anne Goetz
Chris Harris	Joanna Hurley	Bob Okell	Robin Sampson
Michelle Smith-Crona	Stuart Solsky	Liz Trimpin	Kevin Walsh

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