For All the Saints

March 2013

Dear Friends,

There has been a full moon during this last week of February. When the next full moon appears in late March, it will be Easter, which is a lunar holiday. *The Book of Common Prayer* explains the timing this way. "Easter Day is always the Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox on March 21...If the full moon falls on a Sunday, Easter Day is the Sunday following. But Easter Day cannot be earlier than March 22 or later than April 25." With Easter on March 31 this year, it is almost as early as it could be.

Spring is just a few weeks away, and signs of the coming season are everywhere – interspersed with remaining patches of snow. Sunset is edging closer to 6 pm, and sunrise has finally moved well before 7 o'clock in the morning. Robins can be seen in the air and foraging in the grass. Trees and flowers are showing the first hint of blossoming.

In Chapter 12 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus speaks to the "multitudes" assembled out on a broad plain, and he says something all of us could take to heart. "When you see a cloud rising in the west," he says, "you say at once, 'A shower is coming' and so it happens...And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat' and it happens." Then he adds, "You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky," how about learning "to interpret the present time?"

This newsletter talks about *Easter* worship, *Easter* Brunch, *Easter* Eggs and *Easter* Flowers. The Gospel stories on these Lenten Sundays are about being prepared – not just for endings, which we always hear, but for the new beginnings promised by Easter. As we move through these next weeks, the hope of Easter will get stronger, come closer, loom larger.

May the remainder of Lent and Holy Week lead us to a joyful celebration of Easter and a spirit of thankfulness for God's gracious gift of Resurrection.

Jane+

All Saints' Episcopal Church, 559 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ, 07076 + www.allsaints-spnj.org

"TRUST IN GOD IN FEARFUL TIMES"--TUESDAY, MARCH 12 BARBARA CRAFTON, GUEST SPEAKER

"We tell our children that we will protect them," says Crafton. "We tell ourselves that too – but we watch the news and know that there are things in this world from which we cannot protect ourselves or anybody else. How does a reasonable adult deal with the Biblical assurance that we can trust God? It is no simple matter. Let's spend an evening together considering this, and let's emerge with hope."

We welcome back The Rev. Barbara Crafton, who last spoke here during Lent 2003, when her topic was forgiveness. On her upcoming visit, she will reflect on faith in the aftermath of such events as the shootings in Newtown, Connecticut.

We will have a Pot-Luck Supper at 6:30 pm (organized by Shirley Hamlette and our Hospitality Committee), and our speaker at about 7:45 pm. Childcare will be provided in the Nursery. Please sign up to come. If you can bring food, indicate what you will bring. If you have children for the childcare room, please indicate that as well. And if you have any books by our guest that you would like autographed, she is always happy to oblige.

SOUP & STUDY

Our discussion has begun of *People of the Way: Renewing Episcopal Identity*, by The Rev. Dwight Zscheile. We met on February 27, but there are two more meetings scheduled for this month. Our Diocese is encouraging all parishes to read this book for the way it describes the past, present and potential future of the Episcopal Church. What does it mean to be faithful Christians in a brand new world – a culture that is unlike the past? We will meet in the Guild Room on the remaining two Wednesday evenings: March 6 and March 20 – at 7:00 pm. There will be hot soup and lively discussion. Please join us.

MEN'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER, MARCH 16

Enjoy corned beef & cabbage with all the trimmings, beer and other libations – a traditional St. Patrick's Day feast for the men of All Saints'. Dinner is at 6:30 pm. If you can help, talk to Kevin Walsh (908) 337-1483. The cost will be determined. Meanwhile, have faith and sign up.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS MARCH 10

Saturday night, March 9, turn clocks ahead one hour!

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

PALM SUNDAY – March 24

8 am – Palm Blessing, Passion Reading from Luke (a portion)

10 am - Palm Blessing in Lea Hall, Procession to Church, Passion Reading from Luke

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK – March 27

9 am – Holy Eucharist

MAUNDY THURSDAY – March 28

8 pm – Institution of the Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar, Setting of the Altar of Repose Holy Communion, Homily, Music from the All Saints' Choir

GOOD FRIDAY – March 29

9 am and 8 pm – Good Friday Liturgy: The Solemn Collects, Homily, Communion of the Pre-Sanctified The All Saints' Choir will sing at the evening service.

EASTER DAY – March 31

8 am – Easter Eucharist 10 am -- Festival Eucharist

EASTER BRUNCH AND EASTER EGG HUNT

After the 10 o'clock Service, we continue the celebration with Brunch and Easter Eggs. **Shirley Hamlette** is organizing the Brunch. **Jenine and Jovi Williams** are mobilizing a team for the Easter Eggs. If you're planning to be here, please sign up to bring a food item (or call the church to add your name). Come anyway, even if you do not bring food.

The Easter Egg Hunt remains extremely popular. It will take place rain or shine, indoors and outdoors, young people of all ages.

EASTER FLOWERS

They make an excellent memorial or offering of thanksgiving. Envelopes are in the narthex – or email names to us. Please print carefully memorial names and those for whom you are giving thanks. Names appear in the Easter bulletin. Your monetary donation helps defray the cost of the flowers and plants that will grace our sanctuary. Please have names in by March 20^{th} .



First Sunday in March (March 3rd)

Our Sunday School will do an Outreach Project – filling Easter Baskets to donate to Heart for Humanity. There are 20 colorful baskets standing empty for now. Donations are welcome of school supplies, toiletries for kids, small toys, candy. We are grateful for the donations that have come in already. **Bob Okell** is working with the Sunday School on this.

FIRST COMMUNION

We celebrate with three of our young parishioners who made First Communion on Sunday February 17. Taking this important step were **Arianna Blake**, **Alexa Chuy**, **and Shannn Ryan**.

CANDY BAKING - DELICIOUS, ALTHOUGH NOT AS PLANNED

It was supposed to take place in the church kitchen – happy kids and parents, and lots of cooky dough to play with. But the snowstorm on the very night of the party changed those plans. Instead, lots of baking went on in parishioner homes. Valentine cookies were still sold in Coffee Hour, and the Sunday School took in \$73 which they contributed to the Church. Thank you!

PIZZA/MOVIE NIGHT WAS A TOTAL SUCCESS

Kids in pajamas sprawled out in Lea Hall enjoying pizza and watching a film. Adults in the kitchen chatted away and enjoyed other refreshments. And no weather problems! Thanks to **Jenine and Jovi Williams** for coordinating.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The five confirmands (with some parents) went to Grace's Kitchen to help prepare and serve food to their guests on the last Saturday of February. All Saints' sends volunteers to the soup-kitchen on the last Thursday of the month, so we were represented twice in February. Thanks to everyone for participating in this important outreach program.

MELISSA HARRIS – RELAY FOR LIFE

Melissa is a student at the Union County Vocational/Technical School, and she is taking part in their "Relay for Life," which raises funds for the American Cancer Society. The event is scheduled for March 22nd. Speak to Melissa about donating to the cause, or for information.

YOUTH CHOIR

Don't forget! Youth Choir rehearses on Sundays after the 10 o'clock Service, and it's time to get ready for Easter. Join Andrew Kilkenny in the Choir Room – newcomers welcome.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

-- Parishioner Profile --

A FEW WORDS ABOUT US

By Karunya Eujish

Two weeks ago when our rector, Jane, asked us to write a few words for the newsletter, we happily said yes. But later when I thought what to write, my mind threw up multiple options. Finally, we settled on sharing our journey called life, and how God has guided us to this date with a sugar-coat of traditional culture of our beloved country India.

India is a great nation, rich of culture, heritage, language and religion. My husband Eujish and I were born in the southernmost part of India which we call Chennai. Chennai is one of the major cities in India. I was brought up in that amazing place for 21 years until I completed my graduation. Till then, I never had a clue of who my husband would be.

Our country's culture is far different from what I see here in America. Our marriage is an Arranged marriage. In India most of the marriages happen in a similar pattern.

In an **Arranged marriage**, the bride and groom are selected by parents rather than by individuals. It may appear quite surprising for many here. Obedience played a vital role in our lives. We both submitted our hopes and trust on our parents, that whatever they would do would be good for us. God's greatest gift, "Parents," will select our lifetime partner.

Our parents got an opportunity to meet each other in the year 2010 through my church pastor. My Parents-in-law came to our home to visit me and my family, without my husband, as he was out of the country for work. Then we came to know about each other and our families. But we never got a chance to meet until a couple of days before the Wedding Day. Thanks to technology we did meet on Skype a month ahead of our wedding.

Finally the long awaited day of our Marriage came. That was **December 20, 2010.** Our marriage function was a great get-together for all our friends and relatives, and had around 2000 attendees. To the end of our celebration came the touching part. Both have to leave our parents, family and friends. Never have I been away from my parents even a single day.

But Marriage is an Ultimate relationship which God has given us. So Life has to go on.

As per South Indian tradition, the bride after her marriage moves to the husband's family and continues to live along with their family. The bride takes up her in-laws' family tradition and holds up their respect in the community. So she would be a representative of her new family.

Hence she takes up her husband's first name as her last name. My name was Karunya Mariathomas Starletmercy, and it became Karunya Eujish.

After our marriage, in a couple of weeks, we moved to the US for the company where Eujish works . I loved the new location and country. Initially we settled in Connecticut. God has led our life wonderfully and peacefully those times. We made new friends and had good fun.

Our day to day life had all the ups and downs of life, but with God's help we were able to make it this far and with God's Grace He will let us continue till the End as well.

This year I am happy we joined a New Family with our All Saints' Church. I am so glad with the people here and I am grateful for all your Love, Happiness and Hospitality you all give us. I am happy for all that has happened till now and how God is guiding me through all our ups and downs.

May God Bless You All As well. Thank you...

By Karunya Eujish

UPDATING THE PARISH DIRECTORY

It really is time, so this project will happen in the near future. We would like to include email addresses, so here are two requests. First, if you DON'T want your email address in the parish directory, please call the office to tell us. Second, if we think you *are* getting emails from us – because we have an email address for you -- but you're not getting them, please let us know that too – and give us the right email address. (You might read this note by picking up a newsletter from the table here in the narthex!)

EPISCOPAL BASICS, SUNDAY MARCH 17

This is an Inquirer's Class for adults interested in Confirmation or Reception, or who wish to learn more about the Episcopal Church. The topic for this month is – A Little Church History & The Prayer Book. We will meet in the Guild Room at 11:30 am.

Coming in future months – an Instructed Eucharist Saturday, April 6th (with our Confirmation Class). In May, a look at how the church is governed, after the special Diocesan Convention to elect a Bishop. For more information, please speak to the rector.

Congratulations to **Deborah Albert** who recently graduated from C. W. Post College (Long Island University) with a degree in Early Childhood Education. She has a new job at a day-care facility in Long Island.

When **Dolores Andrus** was in town recently, she visited the church and reported on her life in Henderson, North Carolina where she has lived for about fifteen months. She is happily involved with the Art League of Henderson County, for whom she serves as Program Chair, which means putting together gallery exhibitions and demonstrations. She is a parishioner at St. James Episcopal Church in Hendersonville. Good wishes from her to All Saints' friends.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION REPORT – MARCH 3

Convention is March 1-2 in Wildwood, and the All Saints' delegation will report back on Sunday during Coffee Hour.

Lay Delegates John Burk, Charlie Beakes and Mary O'Connor join the rector for Holy Eucharist Friday morning which includes Bishop Councell's address, and the business session for the rest of the day. Workshops occupy Saturday morning followed by more business session, as needed. This is the regular annual Convention. A special election is scheduled for May 4th where the next Bishop will be elected.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

March 6 – Lenten Study: Soup & Book March 12 – Barbara Crafton, Guest Speaker March 13 – Vestry March 16 – Men's St. Patrick's Day Dinner March 17 – Episcopal Basics March 20 – Lenten Study: Soup & Book March 20 – Lenten Study: Soup & Book March 24 – Palm Sunday March 28 – Maundy Thursday March 29 – Good Friday March 31 – Easter

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY LAMP

We invite you to keep fresh flowers (greens in Lent) on the altar with a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost of Flowers is \$40. Keep the Sanctuary Lamp burning for a week as a meaningful way to remember loved ones or offer thanksgiving. The Lamp is \$10.

MISSIONARY OUTREACH

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

March – Flashlights and batteries
April – Baby/Toddler items (disposable diapers, ointments, nail clippers)
May – Laundry supplies (small detergent boxes, bleach, stain removers)

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

Andrew Kilkenny, Organist and Choirmaster The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus* Irene Carlucci, *Secretary* Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton*

Wardens Jenine Williams Richard Johnson

Vestry

Charlie Beakes Todd Bouverot Lauren DiSarno Chris Harris Clark Landale Patricia Ludewig Glen Robertson Michelle Smith-Crona Sally Robinson Liz Trimpin Kevin Walsh Susan Winkler Phone: 908-322-8047 • Fax: 908-322-8006 e-mail: allsaints-spnj@verizon.net • facebook.com/allsaintsspnj

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