



**April 2009
GoodNewsLetter**

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

April 5

Palm Sunday

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
- *9:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
- *11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
- 10:10 AM Confirmands meet with
Bishop Konieczny
- 5:00 PM Taizé

April 9

Maunder Thursday

- *6:00 PM Agape Meal
- *7:00 PM Foot Washing in East Garden
- *7:30 PM Holy Eucharist & Stripping of the
Altar

April 10

Good Friday

- 7:30 AM Mass of the Pre-Sanctified
- 12:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy
- 6:00 PM Children's service
- 7:30 PM Good Friday Liturgy

April 11

Holy Saturday

The Great Vigil of Easter

- *7:30 PM Striking of the New Fire
Confirmation
Reception
Reaffirmation
First Eucharist of Easter

April 12

Easter Sunday

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
- *9:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
Children's Flowering of the Cross
Celebrant: The Right Reverend Dr.
Edward J. Konieczny
Preacher: The Very Reverend
George H. Back
- *11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I (With Incense)
Children's Flowering of the Cross
Celebrant: The Very Reverend
George H. Back
Preacher: The Right Reverend Dr.
Edward J. Konieczny

Festive music at both 9 and 11 o'clock services

Trumpets and Timpani

Reception in Dean Willey Hall following the
9 o'clock service sponsored by St. Nicholas'
Guild.

Dedication of Chapel Altar & Cross following 11
o'clock service

(* Indicates CHILDCARE)

Music



Evensong with the Oklahoma City University Men's Choir

April 19 at 5:00 PM

Missa "Cum Jubilo" by Maurice Duruflé, with Jason Grife, Conductor and Dr. Timothy Olsen, Organ

Brightmusic – Schubertiad

April 21 at 7:30 PM

A new work by Jerry Neil Smith, *Phantasy Quartet* by Benjamin Britten, and *Octet* by Franz Schubert

Youth

High School Saturday

St. Anselm of Canterbury, Norman

Saturday, April 18, at 11:00 AM

High School Juniors and Seniors are invited to explore the Canterbury community in Norman on Saturday, April 18. Check-in between 10 and 11:00 AM; tour the campus; enjoy small group activities; ask about college life; worship; and enjoy a *Fellowship Barbecue*. Information and registration brochures are in the reception area or the youth room. The registration deadline is April 6. Please check out their web-site: <http://www.ou.edu/student/canterbury/> or send them an email at oucanterbury@yahoo.com.

Formation

Adult Literacy

Sunday, April 19, at 10:10 AM

Dean Willey Hall

Linda Maisch, Executive Director at Oklahoma City Metro Literacy Coalition, presents a forum on Adult Literacy.

Fellowship

ECW Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 4, 10:00 AM

Betsy Morgan's House

The Episcopal Church Women Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 4 from 10:00 to 12:00 at Betsy Morgan's house. All women of the parish are invited to come spend time with Mother Margot Nesbitt, elect new officers, elect delegates and share breakfast treats. Please join us for fellowship and mimosas and bring your favorite breakfast item to share.

Outreach

Do a Mission in Mission!

Forum on April 5 at 10:10 AM in the Parlor

At the April 5 10:10 Forum in the Parlor, you may learn about the Mission trip to Mission, Texas. We will be with the Episcopal Church in Mission painting, building, delivering food, forming new friendships, etc. Mission trips are a wonderful, spiritual experience that will stay with you and will enrich your life. Come learn more about this exciting trip and let's do a "Mission to Mission".

Blessed Days

- April 5 Given by His Family In Thanksgiving for the Nineteenth Birthday of Andrew Cook
- April 6 Given by Carolyn Clifford In Loving Remembrance of Glennes T. Clifford
- April 8 Given by Chuck & Ann Bonsteel
In Celebration of their Twentieth Wedding Anniversary
- April 9 Given by William & Meredith Cunningham In Celebration of the Birthday of Meredith Cunningham
- April 10 Given by Paula & Carl Stover In Thanksgiving for the Wells Family
- April 18 Given by Carolyn Clifford In Thanksgiving for the Birthdays of Glennes May Ware

Memorials & Contributions

Memorial

- In memory: **Ruby Bailey**
Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Douglas D. Henley
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Schofield
Ms. Nira Smith
- In memory: **William Judson Holloway, III**
Donors: Mrs. John M. Rowntree

St. George's Guild

- In memory: **Emily Shurley**
Donors: Mr. & Mrs. James A. Huff
The Rt. Rev. & Mrs. Robert M. Moody
Mr. Joe Sears
Tom, Rejeania & Amy Steiner

Columbarium

- In memory: **Emily Shurley**
Donors: Mr. Donald E. Weaver

A Vestry Review

by Gypsy Hogan

Vestry had a special treat in March – a visit with Bishop Ed and Canon José McLoughlin. The Bishop, who has done doctoral research in congregational development, shared thoughts on making a church more friendly to newcomers, while the good canon shared how much his family enjoyed the welcome they received from members of St. Paul's when they first arrived from Florida.

How to grow a church? Here's the short answer – “If people are growing spiritually, then your church will grow,” Bishop Ed said.

Another vestry highlight was the Dean's report that about one-third of the deficit budget has been cut *thanks* to \$25,000 in new pledges and about \$20,000 in “Blessed Days.”

There's still more than \$80,000 to cover, but for this month, it was a stellar report.

The new stained glass cross for the St. Nicholas so that it is above the heads of the Holy Family in the antique tapestry that hangs behind the altar. In addition, the glass was made with metallic elements so that it will change shadings with different angles of light. Artist Jean West designed the piece. Be sure and take a look.

Shrove Tuesday dinner was overflowing and attendance has continued to be strong for St. Paul's Wednesday night Lenten dinners and programs. Canon Joplin expressed appreciation for the outstanding turnout, as well as for the great volunteers who put together the programs and the dinners. Something new – various church groups were invited to volunteer for one of the dinner events. These included the Seniors Group, the Oakerhater Group, the Juniors and the Sunday

School Teachers. The idea turned out to be a great way to get some new faces involved, and for the groups to have fun in a different way.

Rachel Pringle is not only our vestry secretary – excellent at keeping the minutes – but also our first-hand reporter on the every-day workings of St. George's Guild. Unfortunately, her latest report was not easy to hear. “We just have so many more people. And the Regional Food Bank, where we buy most of the food we distribute, has been out of tuna the last couple of months.” For those in need of food, the Guild tries to give a couple boxes of mac'n'cheese with a couple cans of tuna. They're no longer getting any powdered milk, either. So, Rachel made a plea for all of us to please try to bring some cans of tuna for the food pantry.

Joann Speers said that for her husband's 60th birthday party, they asked that guests forego gifts, but, if they would like, to bring food for St. George's Guild. They were pleasantly surprised, she said, at how responsive and generous their friends were. Anyone else having a party soon?

Back Talk

Dear Friends,

Do you have enough time to sin? Many people get anxious and oppressed because there are so many sins and so little time. Of course religious people never feel this way. Or do we? The most rushed people are those who are trying to fit both religion and sin into a hectic life.

I noticed a sign above a coin operated massage chair at the Dallas Airport. It reads, "Relax in a hurry!" Over achievers can sit here and get their relaxing over in half the time. 'Speed-relaxing' will provide twice as much time to wait anxiously at the gate for the plane that leaves twice as late as usual.

Fast acting pain medications continually promise prompt removal from the aches and pains of the world. If needs and sorrows of the world threaten to move you, count on creative rationality to free you from any obligation to respond. The current economic crisis provides numerous righteous reasons to excuse us from being helpful.

Many look forward to Easter, but nothing slows down the coming of Easter like Holy Week. There is the long procession of Palm Sunday. Maundy Thursday includes dinner, foot washing, holy communion, stripping of the altar and a procession to the chapel. Good Friday seems to have a service every hour. Holy Saturday goes on and on, with fire, darkness and lots of people making new or refreshing old, commitments to God. When you get to Easter Sunday, it is crowded and you can't even get in and out fast.

Religion slows down life, as if life were meant to go on forever. People who are looking for 'forever', but are in the world's hurry, often find this a strenuous learning process. If your aim is to get from birth to death quickly, avoid these religious rites. If you slow down, and get too in touch with primal reality, you could find yourself entwined in the presence of your neighbors, and the living God, forever.

Faithfully,

Gene H. Back

