



Saint John's Spirit

St. John's Episcopal Church • Crawfordsville, Indiana
The Rev. Todd Kleffman, Rector (765) 362-2331

March 2009

www.stjohnscville.org

Editor: Cindy Turner
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From the Rector

Lent, St. Patrick, Celts, Caterpillars, and Deepening Our Faith

March brings two things: Lent and Saint Patrick's Day. Both Lent and reflecting on the exemplary life of St. Patrick, who brought Christianity to Ireland, offer much to help deepen our faith. Does it seem a bit odd that I have linked them both with the lowly caterpillar, the formerly pagan Celts (pronounced Kelts) of Ireland?

The Celts practiced a form of spirituality deeply connected to nature. They saw their gods in wells, in trees, in stones, in all of life, especially in sacred places and natural events. The divine was not separate from nature but was mediated by it and through it. When Patrick, a Christian child was taken as a slave to Ireland, he was quite impressed by this form of spirituality. He realized that this form of spirituality was very compatible with Christianity. In fact, Patrick noted that from Genesis to Revelation, the Bible and Christianity were shot full of an earthy spirituality in which the comforting presence of God was mediated to people through what was common and very ordinary in the natural world. The highest form of this type of spirituality appeared in the Eucharist where common bread and wine mediated the Presence of Christ to the Church. Another focal point of this earthy or Celtic Spirituality was in the lives of very ordinary people, used by God for extraordinary purposes - Saints. Patrick was wise enough to even take the names of Celtic holy men and women (who may have been deities) and turn them into saints, Brigid may well be one example. Patrick also noted how daily activities such as household chores and work or travel were blessed by this form of spirituality, and thus, he and many Irish Christians after him authored beautiful prayers and hymns sanctifying daily activities.

This is where our friend the lowly caterpillar enters the story. The connection to Patrick and Celtic Spirituality is its very ordinariness, and to Lent, of course, is the fact that it spins a cocoon and appears to die but is resurrected, in a way, transformed into a beautiful butterfly.

Perhaps this Lent can be a time of "cocooning" for us. Perhaps we can spin a cocoon from some of the common opportunities offered this month at St. John's or in our daily lives to pray more often and seek God's presence in the most natural and ordinary parts of our lives. Perhaps we might find our faiths deepened and some part of our lives transformed.

Don't keep the faith; pass it on!

Father Todd ☩

Some Opportunities in March

- Wednesday 30 Minute Eucharist from 6pm-6:30pm
- Wednesday Night Live (Lent, from 2nd Wed. Lent through Wed. in Holy Week): A Fresh Look at Jesus - Reading Each Gospel
- March 15: The Feast of St. Patrick to be celebrated at both services.
- Sat. March 21: Friends of Sugar Creek Tree Planting - Check St. John's Website and Bulletin for more details.
- Sat. March 21: Under One Roof Diocesan Day "This Fragile Earth Our Island Home" - several workshops from 10:30 am - 3:30 pm at Christian Theological Seminary in Indy. Children's Activities available. Cost \$12.
- Sun. March 22: Sudan Outreach Day with The Rev. Drew Klatt speaking about his work with our companion Diocese of Bor in Sudan. He will preach at both services.
- Confirmation Seminar: 2 hours on Sundays following a fifteen minute break after the 10:30 service. You can come and renew your faith and your Baptismal vows. 10 prospective new members are currently enrolled in the seminar.

New Vestry Members

Please welcome the new vestry: Sam Hildebrand, Rector's Warden; Larry Bamgartner, People's Warden; Barb Easterling*, Clerk; Will Turner, Treasurer; Hannah Anderson*; Adrienne Ashbaugh; C.J. Charles*; Chris Johnson; Sara Lawrence; Mike Lohorn; Carole Meyer*; and Joe O'Rourke.

*New member in 2009

New Committee Chairs

Please welcome the new committee chairs: Jim Gary, Christian Ed; Judy Spencer, Communications; Sam Hildebrand, Property; Kent Meyer, Liturgy; Susan Albrecht, Parish Life; Jane Gallagher, Outreach; Kitty Haffner, Newcomers; Bob Cooley, Stewardship; Will Turner, Finance; Carole Escamilla, Pastoral Care; Barb Easterling and Carole Meyer, Library; and Susie Smith and Mary Angela Cooley, St. Martha's Guild.

Christian Education

Sunday School "Who News"

For the month of March we will be learning about Lent and what that means for our lives.

Look for our caterpillars as they turn into cocoons on Palm Sunday and butterflies at Easter.

WANTED: A HELPER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL AGES 3 TO 5TH GRADE. PLEASE CONSIDER ENJOYING OUR PARISH CHILDREN WITH US. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO START IN APRIL AND CONTINUE NEXT YEAR. CONTACT KATHY GARY 361-1468

Hannah and Kathy

Adult Christian Education

The program continues with the following:

February 22 - Fr. Kleffman, History Continued
March 1 - Helen and Marc Hudson, "A Modest Proposal"
March 8 Joe O'Rourke, When Ireland Starved"
March 15 Todd Kleffman, St. Patrick Church Services,
Joe O'Rourke Sunday School
March 22 Drew Katte, "Africa"
March 29 Elizabeth Morton, 18th Century Art

Parish Life

Family Game Night

Mark your calendars now for the always-popular St. John's Family Game Night. It will take place on SATURDAY, MARCH 7, starting at 6:30 pm. Bring along your favorite game or games and a snack to share. Once everyone has arrived, we'll decide how to split up for kid games, whole-family games and/or games for grown-ups. The event is for anyone of any age, solo or with a whole crew. Please join us!

Outreach

Please continue to figure your amount of tithe to the Sudan project, which is the outreach project for Jan., Feb., and March. Your donation can be turned in at any time. Be sure to designate that the money is to go to Outreach-Sudan project. You can write that information either on the memo line, or make a dash after St. John's E. C. and add "Outreach Sudan". That way our counters will easily see your intentions and record it as such. As of the deadline of the newsletter, \$71.50 had been raised for the project. Our goal is \$1500. Get started counting those books, magazine and newspaper subscriptions, and help support this worthwhile outreach to the world. Check out the church website for additional copies of the outreach description and the tally boxes.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 22. Drew Klatt will be visiting St. John's on that morning. He will be speaking at both services and will also give a presentation on the Sudan ministry that we are supporting during Christian Education time. The Outreach Committee will be providing Sudanese treats during the time between services and at Coffee Hour following the 10:30 service. A check for our giving to the Sudan ministry will be presented during the morning activities.

The week of March 22-28 is world Tap Water week. Donate \$1 for the tap water you'd usually get for free and it will ensure a child can have access to clean, safe drinking water for 40 days. There are no participating restaurants in our area, but donations can be made to UNICEF by logging on to tapproject.org.

Newcomers/Hospitality

HOLD THE DATE -- The next Newcomers/Parish Life potluck will be Saturday, May 9th. It will be a progressive dinner/block party on West Main Street.

Deacon Formation Update

Mike Scime

As part of the Deacon Formation Program, postulants, candidates and recently ordained Deacons gather at Waycross each month for worship, fellowship and an educational workshop. The Formation Program is broken down into four 9-month terms and I am finishing up my first term. Sometimes the five participants attend the same workshop while at other times we separate into classes by year to learn about different subjects.

In January, we all attended a workshop on spiritual practices as they relate to personality types. This was similar to a recent workshop at St. John's but went into greater detail. It will come as no surprise that I'm an extravert but you may not realize that this and other personality types cause one to experience the Holy in different ways and that some are more receptive to certain prayer styles than others. During the workshop, we experimented with different types of prayer including centering prayer, liturgical dance, the use of icons, and even drawing.

In February, first-year postulants learned about Baptism and the Eucharist. One point that I found particularly drawn to was that Baptized Christians, fed by the Eucharist, can then respond to God's grace by living out the Eucharist in daily life. Since the Eucharist is a universal and on-going celebration, it unites us with all Christians (past and present) who celebrate this sacramental meal. Therefore, according to one of our readings, our thinking about what it means to be the Body of Christ and a Christian Community is framed and broadened by sharing this sacrament. My growing understanding of a Deacon's role is to help those, so empowered with this new understanding of Community, find ways to live out the Eucharist in ministry - a ministry to which all Baptized Christians are called.

The leaders of our Formation Program have told us that these workshops are open to anyone who would like to attend. If the above sounds interesting, I would gladly share additional information about the workshops with you.

St. John's Star Gazers

Several adults were interested in attending the Star Gazing Program held for the teenagers. Rather than having too many adults attending a function designed for teenagers, the Lawrences have asked Vern Easterling to hold another star gazing session for adults. This session will be held Friday, March 6, at 5:30 pm. All of those interested in seeing the stars under the expert guidance of Vern, are asked to join the Lawrences at 1861 West Blue Beech Lane. Bring a dish to pass, your own table service and drinks.

To enjoy this unique experience, please use the sign up sheet on the credenza outside of Whitlock Hall.

Thanks!

Dear Family of St. John's,

We wish to "Thank You" for your recent gift of the "Remembrance Quilt." This Parish has always meant so very much to us with its loving and caring attitude for all. We feel blessed to be a part of this family. This quilt will remind us of that always.

Peace and Love to You All,
Carole & Kent

Family Camp

Our 35th annual Family Camp Weekend is scheduled for Sept. 11, 12 and 13, 2009. We have to contract for a minimum number of rooms at the Waycross Conference Center and/or the Main House/Sleeping Wing by Feb. 28 in order to lock in rates. We don't have to reserve cabins since there are 10 available and the most we have used in recent years is 3 so they would always be available for "late registrations" if we run out of rooms in the other accommodations.

If you think you and your family may attend, please contact Sam Hildebrand and indicate the number of adults and children [include the children's ages, please] and the building[s] you would prefer to reserve. This will not constitute a firm commitment nor a financial obligation. It will give the planning committee [the Lohorns and the Hildebrands] enough data to make the reservation to assure adequate rooms and at the same time not commit us to rooms that may not be used resulting in a cancellation charge to St. John's. There will be more information this Summer about Family Camp and you will still have an opportunity to register at that time.

If you want more information before responding, please call Sam or Susie at 362-8656 or Mike or Peggy Lohorn at 326-0810.

Rates for adults this year are:

\$115/ night for a single room at the Conference Center
\$85/ night (double occupancy rate) - Conf. Center
\$69/ night at the Main House/Sleeping Wing
\$40/ night at the cabins

St. John's children are paid for by the Family Fund. Guests of your children are welcome, but the host family is responsible for their expenses which are:

\$35/ night for 13-17 years
\$25/ night for 8-12 years
\$15/ night for 3-7 years

Adult guests are also welcome and will pay the same rates listed above.

Getting to Know...

Ellen Ball and Tom Twarek

Ellen and Tom begin with the usual story, meeting at college, moving to Crawfordsville for employment. Not what Ellen was looking for, she gave it a year maybe, two years tops. Oh, well. 3 wonderful kids, Drew, Abby, and Cam, and 30 years later, oh, well, here we are.

From serious Catholic and industrial strength Lutheran backgrounds, Ellen and T attended Holy Cross Lutheran for about 10 years, and have attended St John's since 1990. The years do fly by.

At this point, T is retired from accounting at Raybestos, Ellen is the education manager at St Clare Medical Center. Drew is married to Aimee and living near Detroit with our granddog, Abby is student teaching, headed for China (support welcome) and Cam is a college sophomore on the tennis team. The empty nest was very difficult for about 2 hours.

Ellen has enlisted T's help with her Sewing Machines for Mexico project. They both enjoy travel. A lot.

With no family nearby, Ellen and T appreciate the family at St John's, and especially all the love and support that have been given to their children.

In Other News

Purging the Prayer List

This is just a reminder that we will purge the current list of intercessions on the First Sunday of Lent. If you want any name to remain on the Prayer list, or wish to add someone, please fill out a prayer form (above the credenza in the Narthex) and put it in the Prayer Box or call the Church Secretary between February 22 and March 1.

Keys to St. John's

Any member of St. John's who does not already have a key associated with their vestry or committee assignment, may have their own key. This will allow 24/7 access to the nave, Whitlock Hall or the Library. A key may be obtained by contacting Gina Tollini, our Secretary, and paying \$5.00 to cover the cost of the key.

Email Address Correction

The church email on the front cover of our directory is no longer correct. The correct address is: church@stjohnscville.org.

Talk at Wabash

Dr. Francisco Ayala will be the annual Cole Lecture Series Speaker at Wabash on Thursday, March 19th in the Ball Theater at 8pm. Dr. Ayala, a former Dominican priest, is an expert on the intersection of faith and science. He studied Theology at the Pontifical Faculty of San Esteban in Salamanca before coming to the US to study at Columbia University. Dr. Ayala currently works at the University of California, Irvine where he has served as the president of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science and has received numerous awards. This talk follows his most recent publication, Darwin's Gift to Science and Religion.

Support Our Troops

David Johnson is currently deployed in central Iraq for his second tour. This deployment has proven to be much quieter and safer than the last one. He is now attached to the Headquarters Company and will rarely leave the wire (go outside the base). He is the unit armorer maintaining the unit's arsenal ranging from normal infantry weapons to heavy machine guns and sniper rifles. His base area has many more amenities than previously but they are scouting a move to a more remote and less inviting area in the coming weeks.



Currently his mailing address is
CPL Johnson David
B Co TF 2-28 IN
FOB Kalsu
APO, AE 09312

If you are interested in writing him he would appreciate it greatly. He can accept care packages. He is with a bunch of guys where the daytime temperature in summer will exceed 115 by 9AM. Anything sent will either be used or traded with someone. Reading material, specifically fantasy genre are his interest. He also participates in a game called Warhammer 40,000 (in the vein of Dungeons and Dragons)

Calendar

March 6	Star Gazing at the Lawrences
March 7	Family Game Night 6:30pm
March 15	The Feast of St. Patrick to be celebrated at both services
March 21	Friends of Sugar Creek Tree Planting
March 21	Under One Roof Diocesan Day
March 22	Sudan Outreach Day with The Rev. Drew Klatte
April 5	Palm Sunday
April 12	Easter

Ongoing Events

EFM - Tuesday nights, 7pm
 Confirmation Seminar- Sundays, after the 10:30am service)
 Wednesday 30 Minute Eucharist from 6pm-6:30pm
 Wednesday Night Live - Wednesday nights, 6:30pm

Sunday Servers

Service	Lector	LEM	Crucifer/ Acolyte(s)	Coffee Hour	Greeters	Altar Guild	Offering Tally
3/1 8am	Mike Scime	Elaine Pickering	Joe & Ben Green				
3/1 10:30	Alex Lebedeff	John & Betty Culley	Paul Moehling/ Derek Long & Charles Cooksey		Marikay Stultz	Meegan Reidy & Betty Culley	John Roberts & John Culley
3/8 8am	Mark Kussmaul	Meribeth Kussmaul	Teresa Anderson				
3/8 10:30	Mary Angela Cooley	Steve Gillan & Jane Gallagher	Chris Redmaster/ Erin & Anna Redmaster		John & Betty Culley	Pru Phillips & Ann O'Dell	Vern Easterling & Cindy Smith
3/15 8am	Diane Ault	Larry Baumgartner	Theresa Anderson				
3/15 10:30	Kent Meyer	Kim Roberts & Marc Hudson	Mike Lohorn/ Peggy Lohorn & Derek Long	Bev O'Rourke	Claude & Linda Johnson	Jerilyn Yerkes & Terry Lawrence	Tom Twarek & Merry Worley
3/22 8am	Kitty Haffner	Vern Easterling	Hanna Anderson				
3/22 10:30	Jim Gary	Sally Lawrence	Steve Charles/ Libby Pinkerton & Alex Pearson	Larry & Nancy Bennett		Carole Meyer & Jane Gallagher	Nancy Bennett & Ellen Ball
3/29 8am	Judy Wynne	Mike Scime	Diane Ault				
3/29 10:30	Judy Wynne	Robert Cooley & Jane Gallagher	Sam Hildebrand/ John & Linda Hanebuth			Cyndy Fields & Bethany Fields	Barb Easterling & Jim Smith

The next Newsletter submissions are due by Wednesday evening, 6:00 p.m. March 25.

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