



# Saint John's Spirit

St. John's Episcopal Church + Rev. Jan Oller, Priest-in-Charge  
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May 2014 -

May is a month with many wonderful things happening- here at St. John's, at Wabash and the Crawfordsville and Montgomery County schools, with families (don't forget Mother's Day!) and, of course, "THE" Race. Wherever you are this month, I pray that St. John's will be part of your week. We have so much going on and so much yet to come. Let us build on the great community, energy and emotion that was so evident at Easter. It was wonderful to have some many family members and guests with us! Thank you to all who participated in services

throughout April and most especially during Holy Week and Easter.



May marks the 18-month point in my presence with you. That means it is time for another Mutual Ministry Review. The Vestry will meet with Canon Bruce Gray on May 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss where we are and where we are headed. Among the challenges are whether the parish can become and remain financially

sustainable (we have sufficient income without Diocesan assistance) to retain a full-time priest. We have come a long way in a short time and we still have a bit to go. Your faithfulness in making sure your pledges and offerings are timely received will show the Diocese it is possible.

During May we will have three meetings to discuss our "BHAGs" – see the article later in this newsletter. These meetings are a chance for us to vision our future. They are, in part, a continuation of last fall's program on End of Life Planning, in that we will offer information about planned giving. That is not the only topic, however. Please sign up and let your voice and vision be made know. God is leading us if we will follow. *Peace and grace, Rev. Jan*

**How Softly Falls the Rain** After several bouts of mean, battering rain during the past month, today's rain falls soft and sweet. As I write this Friday morning, it is also the birthday of Ted Koozer, one of our former Poet Laureates. To honor his birthday, the April 25th Writer's Almanac featured one of his poems. Here it is:

*A Rainy Morning by Ted Koozer*

A young woman in a wheelchair,  
Wearing a black nylon poncho spattered with rain,  
Is pushing herself through the morning.

You have seen how pianists  
Sometimes bend forward to strike the keys,  
Then lift their hands, draw back to rest,  
Then lean again to strike just as the chord fades.  
Such is the way this woman  
Strikes at the wheels, then lifts her long white fingers,  
Letting them float, then bends again to strike  
Just as the chair slows, as if into a silence.  
So expertly she plays the chords  
Of this difficult music she has mastered,  
Her wet face beautiful in its concentration,  
While the wind turns the pages of rain.

Sometimes gratitude and admiration come from just paying attention, and, along with the poet, we've had such bountiful opportunities to do that during our Easter season. At St. John's, we had no fewer than six services to choose among for Holy Week. Such a gift it was to know (even if we couldn't be physically present), Taize, Tenebrae, Healing, Maundy Thursday, and two Good Friday services were being said and sung, so we could mindfully follow Christ through his trials.

Then came the Big Joy of Easter Sunday with Reverends Jan and Bill both on the altar. Our choir and organ were alight with "He is Risen." With Dan at the helm, the choir broke into those sparkling, crisp *a cappella* songs, and I trust mine was not the only spirit that went soaring up into the rafters. (A fellow parishioner leaned over at one point in the service and whispered to me, "Our Jerilyn is a jewel." Indeed, a rare and priceless one.) That day too we learned that our Outreach Committee has been awarded a \$1500 grant to help alleviate hunger in our community. I daresay this is all part of Easter's expansiveness. Then, of course, we feasted together on lots of deviled eggs, hot cross buns, and the rest of it.

Easter tide spilled on into Easter Week when, a couple of days later, about 20 St. Johners journeyed to St. Andrews in Greencastle to join Sam Vaught for his Confirmation. A cantor sang, Bishop Cate blessed, and the organ's voice swelled the sanctuary. As we sang and looked upon all the new confirmands, our eyes also feasted on the colorful pots of tulips blooming on the altar. "Thanks be to God."

I suppose it goes without saying that we have been given this overflow of largesse entirely gratis; and, like the springtime rain, it is deeply restorative. Paying heed to such large stores of spiritual food stirs up our best selves, and we wish to give such wild hospitality back. May our joy and gratitude flower and overflow onward into summer. *-Helen Hudson, Gratitude Chair*



Join us to discuss what your "BHAG" is for St. John's and how you might help it become reality. We look now and also into the future. This is not another long-range plan that will sit on a shelf gathering dust. It is a continuation of the "End of Life Planning" program.

This is a chance to take a risk about what matters to you. What does St. John's mean to you when you get right down to it? What are you willing to give in order to encourage St. John's to continue into the future.

Join us – not more than an hour. Not more than 10 people at a time. Dates: Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>; Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. All at 7p.m. in the Library. –*Sam Hildebrand, Helen Hudson and Jan Oller.*

**Adult Formation** finishes the spring with this PBS Forgiveness. Join us Sunday mornings at 9:15a. Suren will facilitate this DVD series.



series on Jim



**Three opportunities** to help St. John's and to be part of our community.

First, **Thursday, June 12** we will be volunteering at the Christ Church Cathedral Strawberry Festival on the Circle in Indianapolis. St. John's receives \$25 for each volunteer, so please sign up and help us raise money for Outreach (and each volunteer gets a free strawberry shortcake with ice cream. Yummy! Sign-ups will be available in June. Susie Hildebrand is volunteer coordinator.

Second, **Friday-Sunday, June 13-15**, we will be selling water and soda in the children's area of the Crawfordsville Strawberry Festival. Monies raised will go to our Outreach efforts. If you would like to bring cases of soft drinks or water, please leave them in the youth room downstairs, or in the kitchen with a note that they are to be used for the booth, so that they can be put with the others. Sign up sheets will be available close to the festival. Ellen Ball is the volunteer coordinator.

Third, on **Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**, St. John's will join with First United Methodist for a community worship, held on the grounds of Lane Place (look for the bandstand). More information to follow on how we will help lead this community worship.



As a result of the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, along with previous donations, St. John's sent \$233 to Sole Hope, an organization making and providing shoes to children in Africa.

St. John's is a sponsor for YSB Dancing with the Stars fundraiser, which will be May 10th. Lisa Warren is one of the contestants in

the dance competition. She will take donations up until the day of the event.

The FISH pantry is always in need of food items. Put your donation in the red wagons in the hallway. Special needs at this time are the following:

Food items: Spaghetti sauce, jiffy corn muffin mix, assorted soup, instant potatoes.

Non-food items: Dish soap, laundry soap, shampoo and toilet paper.

**Reminder:** The Dr. Mary Ludwig Free Clinic will be marking its first year of service to the community on



**May 3rd** by hosting our "Golden Apple" celebration.

The program will be held in Detchon Hall on the campus of Wabash College beginning at 6:00 p.m. with a social hour followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$35 each and may be purchased from

John Roberts or you can call the clinic at 765.362.3244

Would you like to learn more about the Bible, Church History and theology? Consider joining EFM- it's not for those wishing to be ordained really! It's for everyone who seeks a deeper understanding of our faith and what we do on Sundays and throughout the world.



We meet on Sunday afternoons from 4-6p.m. from September to June (34 weeks). Please see Rev. Jan if you are interested.

**Sign Up! Our Coffee Hour** sign ups are looking pretty bleak. The sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board. Won't you help by signing up to provide flowers or to host coffee hour one Sunday? Talk to Mary Angela Cooley.



**Bring those ink and toner cartridges!**

Last

month we raised \$30 to help with the purchase of office and janitorial supplies as a result of your donations of used cartridges! Any size or type of used ink and toner cartridges, including 3-in-1s, are welcome. Place your used cartridges in the white bowl on the credenza. Thank you!

*Reminder! Our Policies, Vestry Minutes and other important information can be found on our website: [www.stjohnscville.org](http://www.stjohnscville.org) and on our bulletin boards.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>MAY</b>	<b>5/1</b> 7p-Choir	<b>5/2</b>	<b>5/3</b>
<b>5/4</b> 8 & 10:30a. HE 9:15 Christian Education 4p. EFM <i>Stroll for Strays</i>	<b>5/5</b> 11:30 a. League (Whitlock) 7p. BHAGs Mtg	<b>5/6</b> 10a. Bible Study	<b>5/7</b> 7:30a. Centering Prayer 12:15 Midday Service <i>Oller transferred day off (5/5)</i>	<b>5/8</b> 7p Choir <i>Oller vacation</i>	<b>5/9</b> <i>Oller vacation</i>	<b>5/10</b> <i>Dancing with the Stars; St. John's a sponsor</i>
<b>5/11</b> 8 & 10:30a. HE 9:15 Christian Education 4p. EFM <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>5/12</b> 12:30-Mtg B Culley (Whitlock)	<b>5/13</b> 10a. Bible Study	<b>5/14</b> 7:30a. Centering Prayer 12:15-Midday Service Noon-Oller Clergy Lunch 7p-BHAGs Mtg	<b>5/15</b> 7p. Choir <i>Oller transferred day off (5/12)</i>	<b>5/16</b>	<b>5/17</b> 9-12 Divorce Recovery Worship (Kussmauls)
<b>5/18</b> 8 & 10:30a. HE 9:15 Christian Education 4p. EFM <i>Wabash Graduation</i>	<b>5/19</b> <i>Oller day off</i>	<b>5/20</b> 10a. Bible Study 7p-BHAGs Mtg	<b>5/21</b> 7:30a. Centering Prayer 12:15-Midday Service 7p- Vestry	<b>5/22</b>	<b>5/23</b>	<b>5/24</b>
<b>5/25</b> 8 & 10:30a. HE 9:15 Christian Education	<b>5/26</b> <i>Memorial Day- Office Closed</i>	<b>5/27</b> 10a. Bible Study	<b>5/28</b> 7:30a. Centering Prayer 12:15-Midday Service	<b>5/29</b> <i>Oller transferred day off (5/26)</i>	<b>5/30</b>	<b>5/31</b>

### Worship Leader's Schedule for May 2014

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>LEM</b>	<b>Crucifer/Acolyte</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Offering Tally</b>	<b>Altar Flowers</b>	<b>Coffee Hour Host</b>	<b>LEVs</b>
<b>May 4 - 8a</b>	Ashbaugh	Ashbaugh	C Fields	Bennetts	CJ Charles & C Fields	S. Albrecht & R. Olander	Reidy		Cooley & Fain
<b>10:30</b>	B Culley	Culleys	J Culley; Cooksey						
<b>May 11 -8a.</b>	R Pickering	R Pickering	K Haffner	Ball/Twarek	Meyer & Tussey	E. Fain & J. Gary	Gary		
<b>10:30</b>	W Turner	K. Roberts & Baumgardner	Vaught/Lohorn						
<b>May 18 -8a</b>	Marc Kussmaul	Meribeth Kussmaul	P Swanson	Hesters	B. Culley & Reidy	A. White & J. Roberts			Booher & Hudson
<b>10:30</b>	H Hudson	M Hudson & Ashbaugh	S Hildebrand/ Baumgardner						
<b>May 25 -8a</b>	Suren	Suren	C Fields	Yount & Tussey	Evans & Gallagher	N. Bennett & T. Twarek/E Ball	Ball		
<b>10:30</b>	B Easterling	Booher & Meribeth Kussmaul	S. Charles/CJ Charles						

**Meals on Wheels:** May 1: Christ Short & Tom Twarek; May 8: Cindy & Jerry Smith; May 15: Carole Meyer & Marikay Stultz; May 22: Sam & Susie Hildebrand; May 29: Chris Short & Tom Twarek