



The Epistle

A Newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Worshipping God ~ Serving Our Community

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Reverend Kathleen Cullen, Priest in Charge
priest@standrewsmanchester.com

April ~ 2015

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday (March 29)

- 9:00 am

Maundy Thursday (April 2)

- 6:00 pm

Good Friday (April 3)

- 6:00 pm (Please note the change to one service at 6pm)

Easter Sunday (April 5)

- Holy Eucharist with Choir 9:00 am

We find ourselves in Holy Week. It is the most sacred and holiest of times in the Church year. This week we will walk with Jesus through the ancient Triduum, the sacred days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. We will be reminded of God's great command to love one another as Our Lord washes the feet of the disciples; we will know again the depth of God's love as we behold him crucified in order that we are reconciled to God in Christ's death on the cross; we will hear again the salvation story and hear of all our Great God has done and continues to do; we will see the darkness shattered by glorious light as we shout with joy the long absent *Alleluias!* On Easter morning and we will thrill with Mary Magdalen as she comes face to face with the Risen Lord.

I would encourage you to experience as many of the Holy Week services as you can. The reading of the Passion, the drama, the emotions, the splendor of color and pageantry all combine to tell the journey and message of Our Lord. It places before us the sights and sounds of what we have been given – forgiveness and eternal life.

May you be blessed with Easter joy and the understanding that all things are being made new!

Blessings,
Rev. Kathleen+

Parish News:

It is with great sadness we inform you of the passing of Colleen McDanel, daughter of Pat & Jack Koller. Colleen's services were held in Iowa from which her husband, Paul was originally.

The Bishop's Visit: Many thanks to all who cleaned, ironed, organized on Saturday March 7 in preparation for the Bishop's visit; to Sue who coordinated the food for the coffee hour and Joan for providing two lovely floral centerpieces. So many people helped make the day a success...folks did extra cleaning on Saturday, and on Sunday many brought food, set up, and also cleaned afterwards.....it was gratifying to see our congregation come together and help one another.

And again for Sunday when the Bishop visited us, we thank Sue who coordinated the food, Sandy who was right there arranging and to all who cooked, bought, baked and brought the ton of food for the coffee hour. As usual, folks pitched in to set up, take down, prepare, clean and in general share good times and the work as well. Many thanks for the participation of each person. Check our Facebook page for more photos including the lovely centerpieces.



Bishop +Rob blessing Bev & Dick Brown on 60 years of marriage during the service on March 8th.



The Bishop's message was enlightening and thought provoking – sharing his thoughts and feelings on how the church in general is today, compared to hundreds of years ago and how we might make adjustments to meet the needs of the people. He also spoke of sharing and the need for parishes to join forces to help each other and be there when and where needed.

His humble, unassuming manner puts everyone at ease and creates a sense of his being available to all. Try to take a moment and peek at his blog 'Tending the Vine' for more insight.

Landscaping Team:

We will hold a spring landscape clean-up on April 25th with a May 2nd rain date. The team plans to start at 9am and for those who wish to volunteer, bring rakes, gloves or anything that will help. As always, we accept brown recycling bags for donation if people would like to help. Thank you, Joan

The Food Pantry

For APRIL, the pantry requests that we bring **Canned Fruit** for the food collection. Jack normally makes a trip to the NH Food Bank on the Monday before Food Pantry and would appreciate any help you can give with that. If you are available around 10 o'clock, please speak with him and if you own a truck or van, that would be a great benefit.

Monday, March 16, Jack and Dick drove over to the Food Bank and picked up 887 lbs of food, which Jack was able to buy for \$10.80! WOW! That is the Catholic Charities & their donors at work. Thanks to all the folks who helped unload the food into our food pantry - Jack, Phil, Jeff, Joan, Elena, Mary, Sirena, Justin, our friends from West High School AND our 'little' supervisor baby Gage.

Thank you to all those who volunteer and for donations provided to us by St. Andrew's parishioners and by St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Londonderry.

Recently one of the two parish hall furnaces had some 'old age' issues. After our HVAC vendor surveyed the problem, it became apparent that one furnace was in need of replacement, and the outside vents had to be changed to meet the newest city codes. With much discussion, the Vestry voted to replace and upgrade as our vendor recommended.

Jack spent numerous hours including an entire day when it was installed, no more noise, worries or fumes backing up.

Thank you, Jack (II)...you are just like Jack (I) being 'on the ready' help us keep going. We are grateful to have you on board with us.



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Agile Church" Author Dwight Zscheile

When: Friday May 8, 2015 from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM EDT

Where: NH Audubon's McLane Center - 84 Silk Farm Road- Concord, NH 03301

Spend an evening with best-selling author Dwight J. Zscheile (People of the Way and, most recently, The Agile Church). Mr. Zscheile will be presenting a seminar at the 2015 Lay Leadership Institute but registration space is limited. In order to share his wisdom with a larger audience, Dwight has graciously accepted our invitation to be the Keynote Speaker at our first Pre-Lay Leadership Institute Dinner on Friday evening, May 8.

The evening, is scheduled for the NH Audubon's lovely McLane Center, and includes a dinner buffet, beverages and dessert. Gluten-free and vegetarian options will be available. We'll have an opportunity to hear Dwight's thoughts on the challenges we face as a Church, focusing on ways to participate in God's mission through innovation and experimentation. Cost for this event is \$28.00 per person. Checks may be made out to the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire and sent to: Lynn Eaton, 63 Green Street, Concord, NH 03301. (leaton@nhepiscopal.org)

Seating for the event is limited to 100. Register early

Honors for the month of APRIL

Birthstone: Diamond Flower: Sweet Pea

BIRTHDAYS

05	Richard Allard	08	Joan Wilson
08	Ginny Chabot	11	Lenny Hooper
24	Sally Shea	26	Dick Brown

ANNIVERSARIES

06 Bill & Joan Wilson

Eucharist Minister and Reader Schedule

DATE	CRUCIFER	LEM	1 ST READER	2 ND READER
APRIL 2 HOLY THURSDAY	Phil Petts	Mariette Roux	Lisa Spring	Barbara Hickok
APRIL 3 GOOD FRIDAY	Phil Petts	Fran LaSalle	Jack Fowles	PASSION According to John: Jack, Barbara, Phil & Mariette
APRIL 5 EASTER	Kim Chabot	Mariette Roux	RP Hale	Jack Fowles
APRIL 12	Mark Critz	John Spring	Phil Petts	Lisa Spring
APRIL 19	Kim Chabot	George Lajoie	Monica Lajoie	Mark Critz
APRIL 26	Phil Petts	Mariette Roux	John Spring	Barbara Hickok

First Readers say the First Lesson and the Psalm.

Second Readers say the Second Lesson and the Prayers of the People and the Military List Prayer list

ST. ANDREW'S YARD SALE SATURDAY, MAY 2nd ST. ANDREW'S PARKING LOT Rain Date May 9th

Our church has not had a fund raiser in awhile, and it looks like we could use one this year!!!
You can help St. Andrew's erase our deficit budget...

- Gather your 'no longer used' items - clothes, household items, books, shoes, children's toys, etc. (clean, and in good shape please!)
 - Donate them to the Church. Profits from the sale will go to St. Andrew's Church.
- OR**
- Rent a table and sell on your own, for a \$15 donation to the church.
 - Spread the word to friends and family. The more the merrier!
 - Volunteer to help on May 2nd. We will need cashiers, help with tables, etc. Would love to have a food table (grilled hot dogs, chips and drinks?), but we need volunteers support to do it.

Questions or comments? See Mariette (mariettel@comcast.net).

HOLY SATURDAY, Everyone is welcome to join the Altar Guild to reassemble the altar and set up for Easter Sunday. Plan to be at the church for 10:15am or just after.
The ladies will be happy to have the extra hands. Thank you!

Please note the change in the Thrift Shop Saturday morning hours. The shop now opens at 9a.m. an hour later than it did....donations will still be accepted on that day. Thank you.

Vestry Meeting Highlights
February 22, 2015

Present: Rev. Kathleen Cullen, Fran LaSalle, Brian Sullivan, Phil Petts, Jack Fowles, Mariette Roux

Absent: Lynda Bennett

The meeting opened in prayer, led by Rev. Kathleen.

Rev. Kathleen read an email message from the Mission Resources Committee, thanking us for attending their meeting on February 11 in Hopkinton to present our request for Fair Share Adjustment. We should receive an answer to our request by mid March.

The January vestry minutes were approved on motion made by Brian and seconded by Fran. All were in agreement.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Junior Warden, Fran LaSalle, in absence of a Treasurer. The vestry questioned the plate income amount for February, and Fran offered to contact our bookkeeper for clarification. Mariette made motion to accept the treasurer's report with exception to verify the plate amount. Jack seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Resolution - Fran presented a resolution for vestry approval and signature. At least two members of the vestry must have authority to accept deposits, approve changes in asset positions, and sign checks and other instruments to withdraw from or deposit to the accounts of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Manchester. The resolution authorizes Fran LaSalle and Mariette Roux to act as signatories and removes George Lajoie as a signatory. Motion was made by Phil and seconded by Jack to approve the resolution. All were in agreement. Fran and Mariette will meet this week at Citizen's Bank to sign the necessary bank documents.

Parish Life/In-reach

- Currently, the vestry consists of six members. Rev. Kathleen would like to see a seventh vestry member to finish out at least one of the terms left open, and asked the vestry to consider possible candidates. In addition, we continue our search for someone to fill the Treasurer's position, at least for the remainder of the elected term.
- The Parochial Report is due March 1st. Fran and Rev. Kathleen have completed the report and it will be mailed to the diocese this week.
- The new web site is ready to launch this week, contingent upon the designers.
- Mariette will pick up office supplies going forward. Fran will supply an office key and the Staples card.
- Liaison for funerals and weddings should include Mariette, as scheduler and Lisa Spring (altar guild).

Worship and Prayer

- The Lenten Program Embracing Forgiveness will begin this Sunday (March 1st) following coffee hour.
- Bishop Rob's Visit – March 8th

We will meet on March 7th to clean the parish hall and kitchen in preparation for Bishop Rob's visit, and ask for volunteer participation. Fran will notify our housekeeping team to concentrate on the bathrooms this week.

An expanded coffee hour will be followed by a discussion forum with the Bishop. All are invited to participate in the discussion.

Rev. Kathleen will seek volunteers to coordinate the coffee hour.

The Bishop has offered to follow this visit with a meeting of the vestry at a future date.

Diocese

•Lay Leadership Institute for Vestries will be held on May 9th from 9:30 – 3:30pm.
Vestry members please save this date!

Capital, Buildings and Property

- Brian will purchase a white board to use as a means of communicating information. It will be installed in the parish hall.
- Sidewalk shoveling (Marque Gosselin) has been working out well.
- Marianne will purchase a mat for inside the side entrance.
- Parish Hall Furnace -
The blower motor for the parish hall furnace is failing, and will need repair. Jack Fowles received estimates for both repair and replacement, and as the furnaces (there are two that operate in tandem) are 14 years old, it may be more cost effective to replace the heating unit, and bring the venting up to code. Jack is in the process of getting a second quote from Trombley Heating. In addition, CO2 detectors should be purchased for both the parish hall and the church (currently there are none). This is a safety issue.
Brian made a motion to replace the parish hall furnace, blower and vents, and purchase CO2 detectors, at a cost not to exceed \$4,000 based on the best quote from Wilkins and Trombley.
Marianne seconded the motion and all were in agreement. Jack will follow up and schedule the installation.
- Shoveling will need to be kept up around furnace vents to keep them clear. Jack did this following the most recent storm and has offered to continue to monitor throughout the rest of this winter.

Fran reviewed the March/April calendar.

The next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for March 9 at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Roux, Clerk

Vestry Members (three year terms)

Fran LaSalle, Jr. Warden: 2017 - Marianne Roux, Clerk of the Vestry: 2016
Lynda Bennett: 2017 - Jack Fowles: 2018 - Phil Petts: 2016 - Brian Sullivan: 2017
Both Senior Warden & Treasurer positions remain unfilled

Delegates to the Southern Convocation (two year terms)

Monica Lajoie – Jackie Schorling – Sue Critz

CMC Parish Nurse Program at the Parish of Transfiguration
107 Alsace St, Manchester, NH ~ 603-663-8004 for questions or to Register

Chair Exercise Classes:

- Tuesday's at Bedford Presbyterian, 10AM
- Tuesday's at St. Elizabeth Seton 9-10AM
- Thursday's at Transfiguration, 9:30AM

Knitting Group: Tuesday's at Transfiguration, 1:00-3:00 PM

Massage: call 603-663-8004 to register

Chair Massage,
2/12 Transfiguration, 9:30-11:30 AM, fee
2/25 Transfiguration, 9:30-11:30 AM, fee

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Parish of Transfiguration, 2/4 @ 10:30AM
2nd Tuesday at St. Joseph Cathedral Rectory, 1-2 PM
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church - Goffstown
1st Monday @ St. Elizabeth Seaton, 6-7:30PM
1st Friday @ St. Pius X, 9 AM

Senior Group: St. Joseph Cathedral, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 10 AM

SHINE (Supportive Services for Older Adults)

St. Matthew's in Goffstown NH on Wednesday's 10:30-11:45AM

T'ai Chi for Health: Parish of Transfiguration, Tues. 6-7 PM

Contact 603- 289-0927 or nhtaichi@comcast.net to register

Walking Groups:

Tuesdays at Transfiguration, 9:30 AM
Wednesdays at Transfiguration, 9:30-10AM

Yoga: Sundays 3PM Bedford Presbyterian – Free will offering

From Conant Street:

February was the most difficult month I can remember for the thrift shop. The weather was dismal, the sales were terrible and donations were way down. March has started to rebound nicely. I would like to thank all of you that took time to donate items and help in the shop. We have had many new customers and we expect that trend to continue, the sidewalk is once again clear enough to put our sign on the corner.

As you all get ready for spring and summer, please keep us in mind for the outfit or yard decoration that doesn't make the cut this year. Thank you

Closing thoughts

I think the older we grow the more we are aware of how precious this life of ours is, and how much relationships mean to us. It has become very apparent in our own parish with friends moving and parishioners passing on to a better life with God.

Yet, we all tend to take each day and each other for granted. We forget that life as we know it can change in an instant. Many of us have been through situations where a family member or friend has been taken from us before what we felt was 'their time'. The problem is that we don't know what God's plan is for anyone. We all profess to love and trust Him, but still question what happens when it isn't what we want. As Christians it is difficult to let go and to understand that our plans are not important. 'Wants' are just that...our desires and they aren't always what the Lord has intended for family, our friends or for us. It is hard to accept that He knows what is best, more so than we do.

Yet how many of us truly give thought to the sacrifice God made by giving *his only son* for our sake. And His son's death on the cross is our promise of eternal life, forgiveness and unconditional love. As we are now enter Holy Week and the coming of Easter Day, let us all keep in mind that God loves each and everyone no matter what we believe or how we live our lives for Him.

Easter Blessings to all, Fran