



February 2010

From the Interim Rector

A Holy Lent

Dear Friends,

Yesterday at the quarterly staff retreat, we filled in the last details for the special programs and worship services for Lent and Easter. From Transfiguration Sunday, February 14th, to Easter, April 4th, there are numerous ways and means for you to exercise your spiritual muscles.

The Ash Wednesday exhortation calls us to have “a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.” Of course, these are spiritual practices we should be doing all the time; but being human, we need—I need—a special time set apart to work on our spiritual discipline. Whether you give up something, take on something, or do both during this period, it is not a time to beat yourself up, wallow in self-recrimination, or go on a diet that makes you miserable. The positive benefits of your Lenten discipline should be known from the beginning and give you joy every day even if they do not come to you every day.

The most wonderful thing about Lent is Easter. Our spiritual path can take us through some barren wilderness, but at the end of the path the Resurrection is a bright light drawing us forward into new life. The Easter Vigil is intended to be the spiritual climax of the liturgical year for all Christians.

You may recall my saying a couple of months ago that Christmas is the more accessible of the two major feast days of the Christian year because it is a story about the birth of a child—a story even a child can understand. This is in sharp contrast to the roller coaster ride that is Palm/Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. Taken seriously, this sequence is not for the spiritually timid, so fasten your seat belts.

Elsewhere in the *Banner* you will find descriptions of the various offerings of Lent and Easter; please make use of them for your holy Lent.

Blessings,

— Philip

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From St. George's Musicians

QUILT: Art to Mend the World

February 17—April 4

On display in St. George's Parish Hall

Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday

Quilt: Art to Mend the World is a work by artist Kate Ransohoff. It is being created in direct ongoing response to global cultural misunderstanding and conflict. It sews together a worldview of art where fine art, craft, traditional arts, modern art, and all other arts are considered equally essential to the survival of peoples, cultures, and our planet.

Quilt expresses spiritual, historical, community, and individual meaning, as quilts have always done. However, it is not a conventional quilt. The entire work is made of recycled brown paper, cloth, paint, and odd objects. All of *Quilt* has been sewn either with metallic or silk thread, because in China silk was known as the fabric closest to heaven.

Quilt gives witness to words not safe to speak; to truths hidden in silence; to the power of beauty to awaken, mend, and heal.

Karen Rowe, associate musician at St. George's, works in collaboration with the artist to get *Quilt* out in the world and help it do its work. It was first displayed in the DC area in March of 2006 at the Chapel of the University of Maryland in College Park and has been in a number of venues in the Baltimore-Washington corridor since then. This Lent, St. Georgian's and their surrounding community will have a great opportunity to encounter *Quilt*.

Karen will lead an Adult Forum on **Sunday, March 7**, to help St. Georgians better understand, appreciate, and contemplate this work of art. *Quilt* will be available for viewing during regular office hours and on Sundays. While *Quilt* is not for sale, it is made to be seen, touched, contemplated, talked about, and worked with in retreats, workshops, and conferences. You are encouraged to experience this work of art and visit it often. Make it part of your Lenten devotion, as you will find it a multilayered work that with each encounter reveals yet even more. A work of art such as *Quilt* helps connect us to the larger world, express our identity, grow in and encounter God.

More information on *Quilt* can be found at www.krquilt.com, or by speaking with Karen Rowe or Ben Keseley.

— Ben Keseley

— Karen Rowe



Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

5:30-7:30 PM

St. George's Parish Hall

**Cost: \$5/Adults, \$3/Children (2-12),
or \$15/Family**



Pancakes! Pancakes! Pancakes! Once again St. George's is the place to come for those delicious pancakes. Where else can you feed your family and enjoy wonderful friends and neighbors? Only at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. The Fellowship Committee will be sponsoring the event once more. Come prepared for Mardi Gras. The dinner will include fluffy, delicious pancakes with sausages or turkey bacon (healthy food); along with fresh-cut fruit, applesauce, and a scrambled egg dish. Bring your appetite and join your St. George's family for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship.

Don't miss out on the event of the year!

Wednesday Organ Recitals

12:35PM-12:55PM

February 17 & 24

March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

Midday, Midweek R & R

A Time for Reflection and Renewal

Ben Keseley, St. George's Music Director, will offer a series of organ recitals immediately following our Wednesday Noon Eucharist during the season of Lent. The 20-minute mini-recitals will begin immediately following the Noon Eucharist, around 12:35PM. Each themed recital will feature works from the organ repertoire and include works by composers such as Bach, Brahms, Vierne, Howells, Messiaen, and many others.

For more information and commentary on each recital go to
www.saintgeorgeschurch.org.

St. George's Urban Abbey: Community Rejuvenation & Lenten Retreat

The transition leadership council, consisting of Angela Churchill, George DeFilippi, and Laurie Lewis, facilitated an all-day community meeting on January 16. Nineteen members and one other participant, who joined the Abbey when the others rededicated to it, prayerfully considered the Abbey's future. Attendees were energized around our Benedictine-inspired Rule of Life. It states: With the intention of drawing closer to God, I will, with God's help, Pray daily, guided by the Book of Common Prayer or another Christian format, and worship regularly in community; Study scripture and pursue a specifically selected spiritual formation activity annually; Serve others, share the tasks of the Urban Abbey Community, and be mindful of God in my daily work; and Show fellowship with a welcoming heart, seeking Christ in everyone I meet, offering comfort and celebration. We confirmed our desire to seek to follow this Rule to maintain and build the Abbey, and to further our individual spiritual journeys as well as to offer nourishing opportunities to others in our greater St. George's community and beyond.

To that end, the Urban Abbey is sponsoring a Lenten Retreat on *Quilt: Art to Mend the World*. Karen Rowe, a St. Georgian musician who is also a retreat leader, spiritual director and artist, will lead the program on Sat., Feb. 20, from 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM *Quilt* fosters conversation, dialogue and reflection to create a more peaceful and accepting world, a world that honors the multitude of differences between people and cultures. It is art that bears witness to words not safe to speak; to truths hidden in silence; to the power of beauty to awaken, mend, and heal. *Quilt* will be installed in the parish hall just prior to Lent. For more information about *Quilt*, go to: <www.krquilt.com>. We will begin gathering at 9:00 AM. for a light breakfast, with the retreat to start promptly at 9:30 AM. The cost is \$10.00, to cover retreat materials and the refreshments. All are warmly welcome to participate! To register and help us plan for supplies, please contact Laurie Lewis at 703-528-2589 or lauriannelewis@gmail.com.



Another community meeting is planned for Sat., March 20, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, to include a luncheon. The focus will be community decisions on leadership, listening groups, and future events. All members are strongly encouraged to participate. Persons who are interested in the Abbey are most welcome; there will also be an opportunity to join the Abbey for those who wish to do so. Please direct any questions to me; Angela, angelachurchill@mac.com or 703-351-0316; or George, gdefilippi@gmail.com or 703-256-2209. We look forward to welcoming you, at the retreat and at the community meeting.

—Laurie Lewis

Newly Elected Vestry Members

Kathy Covert

I am a chemist and was a university professor before I came to Arlington in 2000 to work at the National Science Foundation. I enjoy living, working and worshipping in North Arlington – one of my resolutions for 2010 is to spend more time walking and less time in my car!

Saint George's has given me many gifts – a path back to God, a community, joy in singing, and the simple satisfaction of giving food to those who are hungry. I admit to being surprised when I was asked to stand for vestry this year, but as I thought and prayed about it, my answer changed from "I don't have the time and energy to do this" to "Yes, I can do this." Saint George's is moving through a period of change, and I want to contribute my time and talents to shaping this community as a member of the vestry.

Lee Fay, M.D.

When I returned to Arlington, I began searching for a church home. In 1996 I started attending St. George's, and was drawn in by the welcoming spirit I found here. As a result, in 1999 I was confirmed at St. George's. During my time at St. George's I have lived through several family crises, and have been sustained by the loving support of the clergy and all of my friends here at St. George's. I think of St. George's as a "Light in the darkness."

Since my confirmation I have served on the Search Committee that selected Suzannah Rohman, on the Discernment Committee, and participated in the lively discussions at the Murky Book Club. If selected I would be honored to serve on the St. George's vestry.

Adrian Cook

When I came to the USA from England three years ago, and before my wife Valerie joined me, I briefly lived in the apartments opposite St George's. One Sunday, I looked up the service times and came over. On that initial visit three things struck me—impressions that have been continually reinforced since that day. First, the music; as the opening hymn rolled down the church I was hooked—and by the next week I had joined the choir. Next, the preaching; here I found a more challenging, sometimes more difficult exposition of faith than we'd enjoyed in our previous country parish. I believe that coming to St. George's has deepened my understanding and taken me further along the path. Finally, I felt welcomed—and this welcome and support has been invaluable to all my family in the transition to living in a new country. We have made many friends here. The Discernment group spoke of "nourishment" and since my very first visit my family and I have been nourished by our membership at St. George's. We love it!

Davis Jones

I'm a "cradle Episcopalian" originally from Columbia, Tennessee, and joined St. George's in 1991 shortly after moving to Arlington. Since then, I've served on the vestry (about 1999 - 2002), taught Sunday School, served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, worked at the winter shelter, helped with the food pantry, served on several committees, and am the "Charter Organization Representative" for Sea Scout Ship 1942. I graduated from the University of the South (Sewanee) then joined the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic where I met my wife, Charo, learned Spanish, and became an honorary dominicano. Our 15 year-old daughter Julia was baptized and confirmed at St. George's.

These newly elected members will serve a three-year term on the vestry. Congratulations for your commitment and dedication to St. George's!

Arlington Episcopal Lenten Series 2010

“Mind, Matter, and Mystery”

★ February 23— St. George’s
915 Oakland St., Arl., VA 22203
Ian Markham “The Physics of Prayer”

★ March 2—St. Michael’s
1132 N. Ivanhoe St., Arl., VA 22205
Bishop Jones “The Power of Love”

★ March 9—Trinity
2217 Columbia Pike, Arl., VA 22204
Lisa Kimbal “Soul Searching”

★ March 16—St. Peter’s
4250 N. Glebe Rd., Arl., VA 22207
Peggy Parker “The Mystery of Trinity”

★ March 23—St. Mary’s
2609 N. Glebe Rd., Arl., VA 22207
Walter Eversley “The Mind of the Spirit

★ March 30—St. John’s
415 S. Lexington St., Arl., VA 22204
Martin Smith “The Life to Come”

★ April 3, 7:30 PM—The Great Vigil of Easter at St. Andrew’s
4000 Lorcom Lane, Arl., VA 22207

Each Tuesday evening session begins with a simple supper at the host church at 6:30 PM., program for adults at 7:30 PM and ends with a short Compline service at 8:30 PM. Nursery care will be provided. For the final session we shall have a joint celebration of The Great Vigil of Easter. We invite absolutely everyone to attend as many sessions as able!

Parish Announcements

Staff Meeting on Tuesdays
12:30 PM (Rm 114)

Handbell Rehearsal on Thursdays
6:45 PM

St. Cecilia Choir Rehearsal every Thursday
7:45 -9:15 PM

Half Notes on Thursdays
6:30 PM (212)

Zumba Exercise Class
9:30 am, Saturdays

Ecumenical Service
5:00 PM, February 14

President's Day—parish office closed
February 15

Shrove Tuesday
5:30 PM, February 16

Ash Wednesday—February 17
Services at 7:00 am; 12:05 PM, & 7:30 PM

Urban Abbey Lenten Quiet Day
9:00 am, February 20 (PH)

Time Out for Women
7:30 am February 13 & 27

Parish Retreat at Shrine Mont

Mark Your Calendars! St. George's annual weekend Parish Retreat at Shrine Mont, in beautiful Orkney Springs, VA, will be held April 30 - May 2. Look for more information about sign-ups in the next couple of weeks. Also - we could use a hand (or two!) in coordinating the sign-ups and the events of the weekend. If you can help out in this way, please contact Carrie Thomas at carriethomas@verizon.net and the Fellowship Committee will provide you with all the necessary information.

Church Office

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E-mail: info@saintgeorgeschurch.org

Interim Rector

Philip WieheC 530-575-7420
(pwiehe@saintgeorgeschurch.org)

Music Director

Benjamin Keseley
(bkeseley@saintgeorgeschurch.org)

9:00 AM Musician

Karen Rowe
(krowe@saintgeorgeschurch.org)

Bookkeeper

Robert Stone

Sexton

Thanh Nguyen

Parish Administrator

Joy Warburton
(jwarburton@saintgeorgeschurch.org)

2010 vestry/officers

Outreach Paul Belanga
Worship Mary Martha Churchman
Evangelism/Junior Warden Bob Clarke
Connections Seton Droppers
Senior Warden (Vacant)
Fellowship Lisa Green
Children and Youth..... Rebecca Hill
Adult Ed Elena Keydel
Communications..... (Vacant)
Parish Care (Vacant)
Buildings and Grounds..... (Vacant)
Financial Management Nancy Yeager
Treasurer..... George DeFilippi (*ex officio*)

Council delegates

Delegate Laurie Lewis
Alternate Delegate Lyn Crawford

Committee chairs

Adult Ed (currently vacant)
Altar Guild..... Ann Gray
Buildings & Grounds..... Connie McAdam
Children and Youth..... Anne Michel
Communications..... Marge Miller
Connections Mike Nelson
Evangelism Bob Clarke
Fellowship Carrie Thomas/
Kate Holeman
Personnel Norma Kacen
Outreach Happy Olmstead
Worship Norma Kacen



ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 17

Observe the beginning of the Lent season with special celebrations on Ash Wednesday, February 17.

All services will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion

7:00 am — Imposition of ashes and Communion

12:05 PM — Imposition of ashes and Communion; organ recital (follows the noon service every Wednesday throughout Lent)

7:30 PM — Imposition of ashes and Communion

