

Life Under the Cross: Healed by His Wounds

By The Very Rev. Dr.
Jacob W. Owensby



He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.
(1 Peter 2:24)

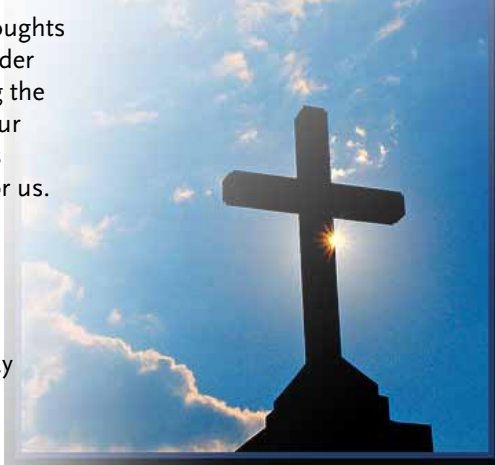
The first few days following recovery from a serious illness are often filled with a grateful awareness of just how good it is to be well. It's as if every fiber of our being is shouting, "I'm healed." At such moments we are keenly aware that we've been oppressed by something dreadful. The memory of its appalling weight on our body and soul is still fresh and contrasts vividly with our new vigor and joy.

In time, we are likely to take health and well-being for granted. Our normal rounds and busy schedules and family routines and personal pursuits demand our attention and we gradually take less notice of the physical, spiritual, and emotional wellness that make all of this normal activity possible. We forget that we have been healed.

Christian disciples draw their greatest joy and their most powerful energy from an enduring awareness that we are healed. The Cross of Jesus Christ has healed us. On analogy with our recovery from physical illness, the spiritual healing of the Cross can fade from our view. Lent is the season of the Church Year during which we undertake spiritual disciplines to help us recover the flush of joy and gratitude that comes from actively acknowledging that the Cross has healed us.

I want to share with you some thoughts about the joy and power of life under the Cross. But before considering the profound effects of the Cross in our daily living, let's remind ourselves briefly what the Cross has done for us.

Jesus Christ died on the Cross for our sins. God's justice is absolute. That is to say, God cannot simply turn a blind eye to moral transgressions. Some today suggest that God can forgive our sins simply by not counting them against us: letting that one go, as



(continued on page 2)



Children and Youth:

Nursery: Sunday 9:00 – Noon and for all scheduled Christian Formation events.

Children's Chapel (3-5 yrs): During 9:45 Eucharist. *Ministry Center Room 102*

Prime Time for Kids (1st – 3rd grs): Children process during Gospel Hymn.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Preschoolers and K3 – K5): Christian Formation Hour. *Ministry Center Room 102*

Communion Celebration Class: Christian Formation Hour
Room 308

Children's Workshop (1st – 5th grs): Christian Formation Hour. *Rooms 308 & 312*

Cornerstones for 'Tweens (6th – 8th grs): Christian Formation Hour. *Rooms 310*

Bible Bytes (9th – 12th grs): Christian Formation Hour. *Ministry Center Youth Lounge*

Episcopal Youth for Christ: Sunday
Middle School 3:30 p.m.
High School 5:30 p.m.
Ministry Center Youth Lounge

Adult:

The 8:50 Lectionary Bible Class
Ministry Center Room 103

The Forum & Lion's Pride – The Apostles' Creed: Christian Formation Hour.
Ministry Center Garden Room

The Forum – Emmaus: the Way of Faith
Ministry Center 101

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 12:15 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Holy Eucharist

Holy Unction offered at 8:00 & 9:45 a.m.
9:45 a.m. broadcast KEEL (AM710)

MARCH 7, 2010

The Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

MARCH 14, 2010

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

MARCH 21, 2010

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Baptism
Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

MARCH 28, 2010

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

Luke 19:28-40
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 23:1-49

(Life Under the Cross, continued from cover)

it were. But this is not the case. Sin is not merely someone's failure to follow a rule that otherwise leaves everything as it was before. On the contrary, the moral law governs the balance and coherence of the entire universe. Breaking the law fractures reality in a way that effects the whole creation. Sin breaks the Creation in a way that only God can restore. Above all, sin drives us far from God.

Perhaps if God were only a God of justice, he might leave us to languish in our own fractured condition. But Holy Scripture teaches us again and again that the God of perfect justice is the God of perfect mercy. God's mercy is not permissiveness. He cannot by his very nature sweep things under the carpet. Justice and mercy alike lead God to restore the broken Creation to wholeness. Our wholeness as human beings is impossible without being drawn close to God once again. And that is just what God does for us with the Cross of his Son Jesus Christ. We were broken by sin. Our relationship with God was broken by sin. And the Cross has made us whole again. We are healed by the wounds of Jesus Christ.

Our healing comes at a cost. Jesus suffered the agony of our sins so that we can be free from their oppressive weight and dreadful power. Disciples of Jesus Christ have the opportunity to begin each day with the realization, "I am healed!"

When we accept the atoning sacrifice of the Cross for our sins, we can live a life of remarkable freedom. We are free from harsh, tyrannical forces and free to embrace joyful, playful life. With a keen awareness of the Cross, we are remarkably free from fear. I need no longer look over my shoulder or crowd out today's surprises and challenges with the debt of making up for the past. Neither is the future a source of anxiety for me, because I know that in all things Christ will draw me closer to him. So many of us fear that we are not loved or exhaust ourselves earning a love that we feel unworthy to receive. We drain ourselves overworking, seeking to please others, and hiding our faults for fear of rejection. The Cross frees us from such fear, because it is God's enduring sign of unconditional love. Seeing us at our worst, he sent his Son to die for us so that he can make us our best.

The Cross also frees us to do uncanny things. We can love unlovely people and return kindness for indifference and even cruelty. Because Jesus has forgiven us, we can forgive others whether or not they happen to appreciate it. Because we have been sick and now are healed (and yes, the process of healing continues), we appreciate others on their spiritual sickbeds and rejoice in their healing.

This Lent, let's throw ourselves into our spiritual disciplines trusting that they will help us to know ourselves as healed. It is good to be well. And it is good to remember each day that by his wounds we are healed.

Daily Office

Please join us Monday through Friday for Morning Prayer at 8:45 a.m. in the Ministry Center Garden Room and Evening Prayer Monday through Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Wednesday's Evening Prayer is Evensong. This is a wonderful way to begin and end your day.

Please Help us Keep Updated!

Just a reminder to all our St. Mark's family members to make sure you update the church office if your e-mail address changes. Many of you remember to let us know of a change in your home address or phone number, but sometimes that all-important electronic address slips through the cracks. Help us to make sure we can get in touch with you!

Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

Monday through Friday during Lent

7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Tuesdays

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Unction

Fridays

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday through Friday

8:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ministry Center Garden Room

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Chapel



Happening #48 in the Diocese of Western Louisiana

By Sam Porter, Lay Rector, Happening #48

Happening is an Episcopal high school age weekend retreat held in almost every diocese in the United States. On January 22-24, Camp Hardtner hosted the event that is staffed and attended by high school students. Happening focuses on bringing students to a fuller personal knowledge of and relationship with Jesus Christ. The weekend concentrates on his love, God's love, and fellow Christian love for others.

At Happening #48, many friendships were made and strengthened, and there wasn't a soul who regretted going. Between the small group discussions, written talks from the staff, and special activities, Happening offered a chance for everyone to relax, unload, and have a good time. To attend Happening, you only need two things: an open mind and an open heart. Those who came with these had a great time from the get-go, and those who didn't quickly opened up during the weekend and had a blast. It was a first-time experience for all the candidates Meredith Owensby and Brady Howard and even the staff, McKenzie Pugh, Alix Powell and Chris Cottingham, for every Happening is unique and special in its own way. This year was my favorite Happening, even though it was my fourth. It was my last time to be a part of the event, and while this brought much sadness, it also brought to mind the memories, friendships, and the ways Happening has affected who I am. At the end of our weekend, many candidates left with a desire to staff the event next year, so open up your schedules for the end of January 2011; it's going to be another great Happening!

Youth Needed

Youth needed to lead Interactional Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 6pm service! If interested or have questions please contact **Debbie Slater** at debbie@stmarkscathedral.net. We will need people to serve in many different capacities!



Illustration: "Shadow of the Cross", © 2002 by E.M. Mulhare.



A rare look at the Cathedral in the snow! Thursday, February 18, 2010.

Ask A Verger

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Beginning February 21, 2010, the first Sunday of Lent, we began celebrating the Rite I liturgy of Holy Eucharist at the 8:00 AM service. In so doing, the richness of the Book of Common Prayer becomes even more evident to us as we worship. For those who may be unfamiliar with Rite I, the liturgy begins on page 323 of the BCP. I encourage you to give it a glance.

The most notable difference between Rite I and Rite II is that Rite I employs traditional, i.e., Elizabethan language, rather than the contemporary language to which we are so accustomed in Rite II. The collects of the day are also printed in traditional (Rite I) language beginning on p. 159 of the BCP as are the proper prefaces beginning on p. 344.

There are other differences:

- The collect for purity, p.323 is mandated in Rite I and is optional in Rite II, p.355.
- The Summary of the Law is an option in Rite I, p. 324 and is not included at all in Rite II.
- Rite I includes two biddings to confession p. 330. The first of the two dates to 1548. Rite I has only one bidding, p. 360.
- Rite I provides the option for the saying of one or more of the comfortable word sentences on p. 332. Rite II does not include the comfortable words.
- Rite I has two forms of The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer I and Prayer II, pp. 333-343. Rite II has four forms, A, B, C, and D, pp.361-376.
- The Agnus Dei and the prayer of humble access, p.337, are options for Rite I, but are not included in Rite II.
- There are three options for the words of administration in Rite I, p. 338 and only two in Rite II, p.365.
- A blessing by the bishop or priest (dean) is required in Rite I, but is optional in Rite II.

The order of service guides us through the first part of the liturgy – The Liturgy of the Word. We are directed to p. 333 of the BCP for The Great Thanksgiving.

The BCP also includes Rite I and Rite II liturgies for Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, and the Burial Office. In all other liturgies in the BCP, if so desired, the traditional language may be substituted for the contemporary.

I hope this is helpful to you as we, as a cathedral family, transition to a more complete appreciation of the worship opportunities available to us through The Book of Common Prayer.

Canon Jim Boyd



Organist Jenny Swanson in Concert

By Jenny Swanson

On Saturday, March 20th, 2010 I will play the final organ recital of the 2009-2010 Great Masterpiece Series. The concert will begin at 4:00 p.m. and will be followed by an excellent reception. The first half of the recital contains three contrasting works from Dietrich Buxtehude, Johann Sebastian Bach and Jehan Alain. Each piece is quite distinctive and will showcase the different colors of our organ. Following these three pieces, I will play the Symphonie Romane, Op. 73 by Charles-Marie Widor. Widor is best known for the Toccata from his Fifth Symphonie. Often played for weddings or as the postlude for Easter Day (here at St. Mark's), the Toccata is ecstatic, yet stately and tuneful. The Symphonie Romane is composed in a much different style from the famous Toccata.

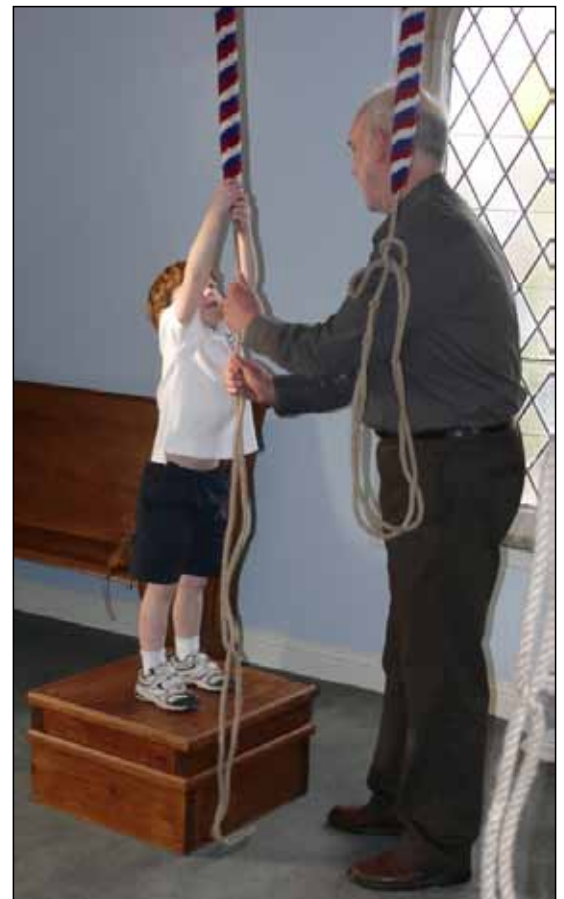


Written in 1899, the Symphonie Romane stands out from Widor's other nine symphonies in its grandeur, scope and use of plainchant. The work is based entirely upon the Gradual and Sequence plainchants for Easter day. In addition to the organ music, the St. Mark's Choristers will sing the Easter chants between each movement. Join me March 20th at 4:00 p.m. for a wonderful afternoon of inspirational music.

Music for Young Children rings in the New Year!

By Jenny Swanson

Music for Young Children (MYC) had their first meeting on January 19th up in the St. Mark's bell tower. Visiting bell instructor, Andrew Nelson did a fabulous job talking to the children about the bells and how they came from England to St. Mark's. Each child then had the opportunity to ring the smallest bell-what a thrill! Taught by Jenny Swanson, MYC is offered for children ages 3-Kindergarten and is designed to introduce children to music through singing, exploration and activities. Music for Young Children participants include: Colin Carter, Anderson Davis, Warren Graves, Emma Millard, Margaret Roemer, Tripp Roemer and Murphy Tamplin. A great time was had by all!





How to Join St. Mark's

Thinking about becoming a member, but not sure what the process is?

- All baptized Christians are joyfully invited to join St. Mark's Cathedral! (If you are not yet baptized, don't let that stop you: Contact Dean Owensby for a conversation about being baptized as an adult.)
- To join St. Mark's, simply call Bess Maxwell in our office, at (318)226-4025, and tell her you are interested in becoming a member.
- If you are transferring from another denomination and would like to be received or confirmed in the Episcopal church, please join us for Adult Confirmation class. You can read more about it on page (back of calendar page doesn't have a page number). Please contact Mother Hope at hope@stmarkscathedral so we'll be sure to have enough food.

Baptism

All candidates for Baptism or parents of candidates for infant Baptism are required to meet with the clergy for pre-Baptismal instruction.

Please contact Liz Montelepre in the church office at 221-3360 to sign up. A nursery is available upon request and a light meal will be served.

Dean Jacob Owensby has set aside certain dates as being appropriate for Baptisms to take place at the 9:45 a.m. Sunday service. These dates are:

(No baptisms during Lent)	August 15, 2010
April 3, 2010 (Easter Vigil)	September 19, 2010
April 18, 2010	October 10, 2010
May 23, 2010 (Pentecost)	November 7, 2010
June 20, 2010	December 12, 2010
July 18, 2010	

Personal Pantry

If you travel and pick up personal sized soaps and shampoo from hotels you visit, the Personal Pantry could use them! You can drop them off in the tub outside the Pantry, which is located directly across from the church office.

Cathedral School News

By Chris Carter, Headmaster

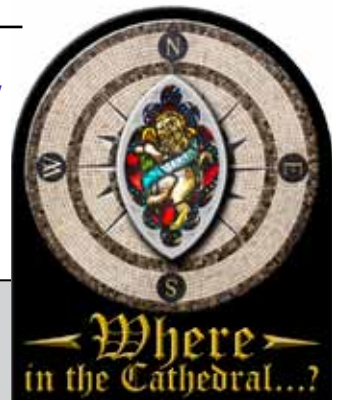
On Tuesday March 2nd, the SMCS Second Grade will present "Old MacDonald's Farmyard Follies," a delightful musical written by school drama teacher Randy Fair in which Old MacDonald interviews several nursery rhyme characters who want to help him on the farm. With a cast that includes Little Bo Peep, Little Boy Blue, and the Old Woman in the Shoe (with her 13 sons), this show is sure to delight. All parishioners are welcome to join us in the Parish Hall for the dress rehearsal at 9:30 on March 1 or the performance at 9:30 on the 2nd.

A number of students have represented or will soon represent St. Mark's in regional academic competitions. Jeffrey Williams represented St. Mark's in the regional spelling bee on Feb. 20. Philip Barbaree, Mark Dupaquier, Catherine Humphrey and Sadie Barlow represented St. Mark's fifth grade at the First Baptist Quiz Bowl on Feb. 6. Vikhana Rao, Audrey Free, Matthew Leopard, Edward Hussey, Sarah Wagner, and Katherine Jones all represented St. Mark's at the local Math Counts competition. On March 4th, 7th graders Katherine Jones, Mikey Barro, Allen Berry, Catherine Colvin, Peyton Johnson, and Brandt Lewis will represent St. Marks at the regional Social Studies Fair. 8th graders Justin Mitchell, Hayden Harrison, Lauralee Davis, Corey Smith, Ryan Crissman, and Emily Roemer, and 6th graders Catherine Roemer, Sydney Kethley, Mariana Russo, Rhodes Daigle all will represent our school in the regional science fair on March 6. Many of these students are parishioners, and all parishioners can be proud of how their Cathedral School has been represented.

Finally, if the Cathedral Maundy Thursday Service doesn't fit your schedule well on April 1, know that you are welcome at the School Eucharist at 1:30 p.m in the Cathedral.

So you think you know St. Mark's Cathedral?

See if you can tell us what this is (photo below) and where in the Cathedral it's located!



If you think you know, send an e-mail to communications@stmarkscathedral.net



Last month: Feet of the bronze angel that holds up the lectern. Winner was Bill Teague.

EYC News



In January the Cathedral Youth went on a road trip! We boarded a 57 passenger chartered bus on a Thursday night and headed towards North Carolina for the weekend. Friday morning we made a stop in Tennessee to tour Sewanee and by Friday evening we arrived at the Youth Quake Conference in NC. Youth Quake 2010 concluded with the Eucharist on Sunday morning. We again boarded our bus and headed to Wolf Ridge for an evening of skiing. For many it was the first time they had even experienced snow!

So, have you ever wonder what your pledge has really accomplished? Well, Youth Quake 2010 is part of the answer! Let me share a little of what the youth had to say about the trip in their own words...

"I had an experience with God that I have never had before! I loved it and skiing!"

"Now, I am changing my ways and know I know what it means to be a Christian."

"Youth Quake was amazing. I saw God more clearly than I have in a long time, and I rededicated my life to Him."

"He redeemed me and helped me choose my college decision even more."

"I've never bonded with a youth group as much as I did with St. Mark's and I've especially never felt more loved by others."

"YQ left me amazed. I can't explain it with words – you'll have to come and see for yourself."

"I have never seen so many people fired up for God & it really changed me for the better. It brought the youth group closer and I now know I can go to them for anything. If I could describe Youth Quake in four words I would say...It is super legit!"

"Youth Quake is a great experience and many kids should be able to witness it."

I must agree. This experience and the many other activities, events, retreats and studies we participate in are an integral part of our Cathedral Youth Ministry. Our desire is that as many young people as possible should be able to experience them! We can only do this with your support! Many thanks to Geoff Westmoreland and Robert Jump, who so graciously volunteered their time to help chaperone and support our youth on this trip and to Amy Lewis who shopped for all our road trip necessities (including massive amounts of Dramamine)!

— Debbie Slater, Lay Youth Minister



Youth Bible Studies

Both Middle and High School Youth Bible Studies will join Dean Jake from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Tuesday, March 2nd & 9th in the Garden Room for his Lenten series "Show Me Your Ways, O Lord." Therefore, we will not meet on Thursdays, March 4 or 11. We will not meet on Thursday, March 18 for Spring Break Recess. We will be back to regular schedule on Thursday, March 25 with Middle School Bible study from 3:30 to 5:30pm and High School Bible Study from 5:30 to 7pm, both in the Youth Lounge.

C.L.E.Y. Grades 9 –12

Hardtner Camp & Conference Center

April 16-18, 2010

C.L.E.Y. is a high school retreat weekend staged by the Diocesan Youth Commission and staffed by high school and college-age youths and adults. Each C.L.E.Y. has a design team from a different convocation which is responsible for the content and character of the weekend.

Each weekend is a blend of worship, instruction, music, and fun that teaches the tenets of the faith.

For more information contact Debbie Slater: debbie@stmarkscathedral.net

Graduating High School Seniors

Please email **Debbie Slater** at debbie@stmarkscathedral.net with the name, high school, and contact information of any St. Mark's graduating high school seniors! We wouldn't want to overlook any of you on St. Mark's Youth Sunday, April 25th, 2010 at 9:45am!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 1	13	Jason Thomas
Patsy Stroud	Gladys Mobley	Patrick Rhodes
Andrew Benko	Mary Baldrige	Clare Denhollem
Morgan Nelson	Sherry Anderson	Christie Schimpf
2	Dorothy Shemwell	Seth Reeks
John Hyatt	Camy Smith	23
Lee Grigsby	Claire Williams	James Kimsey
Taylor Weir	14	Chris Stoll
Michael Anthony Palmer	Chris Ward	Chuck Harris
3	Nan Stewart	John Baxter Atkins
Aaron Rusling	Lucy Langman	Robbie Duggar
Wade Culbertson	William Smith	Max Mayeaux
Christopher Marsalis	Alex Van Hook	24
Mae Horn	Ty Alley	Dewey Corley
4	Spencer Nelson	Ed Thomas
George Head	David Newtown	Mike Harter
John Hearne	Caroline Bartle	Jim Himes
Judy Werner	15	Ashley Alley
Phil Lattier	Don Walter	Lance Rulau
Robert Russell	Michelle Williams	Michael Hernandez
Cherie Sealy	Judy Kane	Jack Brown
Jane Byerly	Victoria Culbertson	25
5	Ella Horne	Barbara Reed
Ted Hardtner	Sam Johnson	Pete Treat
Matt Snyder	16	Cammie Goodall
Scott Grayson	Betty Arceneaux	Olivia Butterman
Olivia Zepeda	Destin Bass	26
6	Cameron Jones	Robert Grand
Budd Adams	Reiley Arnold	Alison Byrd
Amelia Clark	17	Lisa Nelson
7	Kit Cooper	Suzanne Owen
Susan Young	William Parsons	Frazier Horn
Trisha Q=Petersen	Stephen Koruna	27
Michael Webb	18	Susan Roberts
8	Douglas Rountree	Pat Caraway
George Drake	Jeanie Glabus	Suzy Nelson
Austin Rhodes	Sarah Rulau	Linda Vozzella
9	19	Rebecca D'Anna
Mark Florsheim, Jr.	Roxanne Williams	McCord Coleman
10	Bickham Dickson	Chase Henagan
Bob McVie	Katherine Kamphuis	Mary Megan Sealy
Kacy Smith	20	29
11	Stacie Henagan	Alexandra Vozzella
Beverly Powers	Lisa Herrington	30
Susan Strother	21	Ed Jackson
Ben Walker	Peggy Shemwell	John Veuleman
Cliff Froelich	Betty Lowry	Lindy Jackson
Caitlyn Martin	Mary Beth Stage	31
12	Grayson Clarke	Christina Stage
Harriet Evans	22	Erin Holley
Robinson Humphrey	Sherry Paschall	Christina Powell
	Patrick Bicknell	

BAPTISMS

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked at Christ's own forever. Amen.

Grady Edward Jackson, son of **Kris & Lindy Jackson**, on February 14, 2010.

Cooper Grayson Varnadore, son of **Rodney & Jennifer Varnadore**, on February 14, 2010.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Jason and Teresa LeBleu and son **Evan** of Shreveport join us by Letter of Transfer.

Haley Harrington of Shreveport joins us by Letter of Transfer.

BIRTHS

Sanders Fowler Hearne, III & Laura Catherine Hearne, son and daughter of **Kate and Sanders Hearne, Jr.**, born February 18, 2010 in North Carolina. Proud grandparents are **Sanders & Suzanne Hearne**.

DEATHS

Rest Eternal grant to them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Elizabeth Gayle Waits Price, mother of **Gay Verges**, on February 5, 2010.

Betty Van Hook, grandmother of **Alec & James Van Hook**, on February 14, 2010.

Marjorie Hargrove, aunt of **Kem Hargrove**, on February 21, 2010.

May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS MARCH 7, 2010

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Helen Lambert Langford, Irma Foster Langford & Patsy Lanford Crane.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Gene Rogers, Alan Rogers, Mr. & Mrs. H.E. Rogers & Mr. & Mrs. J.P. Baker.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS MARCH 14, 2010

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Paulina Couch & Bob Bowie Slack.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the Glory of God and in honor of the 26th wedding anniversary of Judy & Randall Austin.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS MARCH 21, 2010

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Richard Thomas Chapman, Sr., Helen Rettiger Herzog & Emil Henry Herzog, Claire Rettiger Irby & Ward Lay, III.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS MARCH 28, 2010

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara Lanier Allison, Raymond Stewart Allison & Elizabeth Wiggins Lloyd.

Christian Formation – During the Week

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p>Women's Bible Study: Monday – 11:00 a.m. <i>MC Room 101</i></p> <p>Education for Ministry: Monday – 5:30 p.m. <i>Choir Lounge</i></p> <p>Dean's Lenten Class: Tuesday, March 2 & 9 – 6:30 p.m. <i>Ministry Center Garden Room</i></p> <p>Wednesday Noonday Prayer & Luncheon: Wednesday – Noon <i>Cathedral @ Parish Hall</i></p> <p>Men's Bible Study: Thursday – Noon <i>MC Room 103</i></p>				<p>The Bible Workbench: Thursday – 5:30 p.m. <i>Choir Lounge</i></p> <p>Middle School Bible Study: <i>(See special March schedule on page 6.)</i></p> <p>High School Bible Study: <i>(See special March schedule on page 6.)</i></p> <p>Beth Moore Bible Study: Thursday 9:15 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. <i>Ministry Center Room 101</i></p>			

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The Rev. Canon Hope Benko
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The Rev. Canon Andrew Benko
(Canon for Communications & Evangelism)
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The Rev. Michael Millard (Curate)
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The Rev. Dr. Rowena White
(Volunteer Assisting Clergy)

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Christian Formation

Communion celebration

Our communion celebration classes are off to a great start, and we're looking forward to a wonderful celebration on April 11 during the 9:45 am service. Children in early elementary school will mark their new understanding of the sacraments with special recognition at the service. Please make every effort to be here to support our children as they deepen their faith in this special way. They are growing into new roles in their faith community, and they need the support of all the adults of the congregation as they do so. We will have a rehearsal for Communion Celebration participants and their parents at 10 am in the Cathedral on Saturday, April 10.

Adult confirmation preparation

Adult confirmation preparation will take place on Friday, Mar. 26 and Sat. Mar. 27. Friday evening will begin at 6 with dinner at the Owensby's home followed by instruction. We'll gather Saturday morning at the Cathedral from 9 to 12. The Rt. Rev. Bruce MacPherson will confirm and receive adults during his visitation on Sunday, May 16 at the 9:45 am service. Confirmation is available for those who were baptized as children and have not yet been confirmed. You may also be received if you were baptized as an adult or confirmed in another denomination and wish to make a public affirmation of your membership in the Episcopal Church. Spouses of candidates are invited to join us for any (just dinner!) or all of confirmation class if they would like. Please contact Mother Hope (hope@stmarkscathedral.net or 226-4026) to register.

Children's Workshop Special Events

February 28: Two baby lambs from a local petting zoo will visit our Children's Workshop as we continue learning about the Good Shepherd. We'll be outside in the family courtyard during Christian Formation hour, please help children dress warmly enough.

March 28: Psalm 23 Obstacle Course in the parish hall. Children will walk by still water and through dark valleys in this dramatic team play helping to reinforce the concepts in Psalm 23.

Wednesday Lenten Luncheons: Our Wednesday Lenten Luncheons continue through March 24. We begin noonday prayer at noon with guest preachers from around Shreveport.

March 3 The Rev. Pen Peery, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

March 10 The Rev. Mack McCarter, Founder and Director, Community Renewal

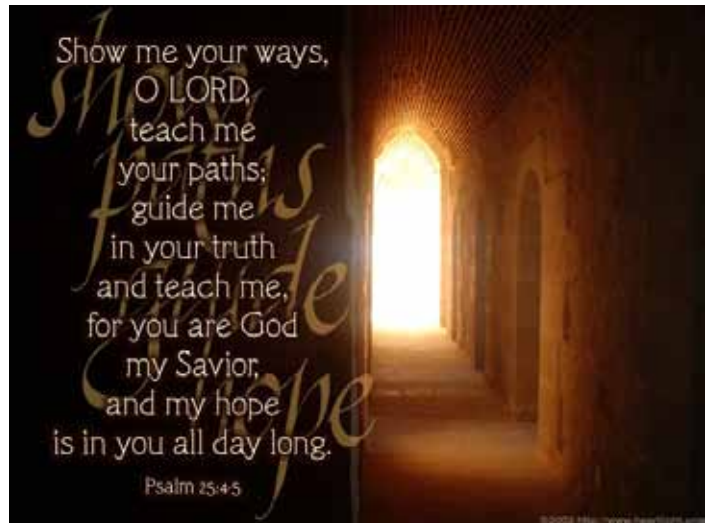
March 17 The Rev. Mary Richard, Rector, Holy Cross Episcopal Church

March 24 Dr. David Rowe, President Centenary College

The theme of this year's sermons will be "The Seven Last Words of Christ." Join us for spiritual and physical refreshment each Wednesday in Lent.

Dean's Lenten Series Returns

The Dean's Lenten series, "Show me your ways, O Lord." continues the first two Tuesdays in March. This series draws on Psalm 25 to help us grow in friendship with Christ, to seek his guidance in our daily lives, and to rely upon his strength and protection everyday. Join us at 6:30 p.m. March 2 & 9 in The Ministry Center Garden Room and bring your Bible!



March 14: No Christian Formation due to Spring Break Recess.

Easter Memorials

It is the custom at St. Mark's to invite our parish family to make a contribution to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. This is not only an appropriate way to honor those who have gone before us, but these gifts make it possible to decorate the Cathedral in a festive manner. If you wish to make a donation, please send your check along with the name or names you wish to commemorate to the attention of Kristen Williams no later than March 12.



Help us make Palm Crosses

The Altar Guild will gather at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 27 in the Parish Hall to make Palm Crosses. It's easy to learn how, and it's great fellowship! Please come and join us in this long-time tradition.