

THE SUN



March 2011

From the Rector

March, the month of transitions, the month that contains the first day of Spring. For so many of us, there will be a collective cry of, "Thank God", an affirmation that this long winter cannot possibly last forever.

And with March this year comes Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, the six-week season that leads up to Easter, our great celebration of new life in God's care. A season of quiet reflection and preparation, Lent is a time to look inward and see what God is doing under all the snow and ice that is in us personally. We take this time to be with our Lord in the wilderness so that our coming out into the light of Easter will be that much more joyful. (It is a Lenten tradition not to make the hearty cry, "Alleluia" for the entire time, so that we may bring it back with joy at Easter.)

The Lenten questions, What has died that needs to be reborn? What is dying that needs to be resurrected? Where is God offering new life in our lives, our homes, our church, our communities, our world? –these questions will be pursued in our *Brown Bag Lenten Series* on Wednesdays during March and April. You are invited to be part of the action, part of the conversation as we explore together the great promise God has made for us – new life. We'll be glad to see you along the way.

-Rev. Barbara

P.S. We are very happy to report that St. Paul's has received a Holyoke Cultural Council/Mass Cultural Council grant for \$500 for the Fiesta de San Pablo, our Neighborhood Fiesta on Sunday, June 26.

Thanks

+ To Ruth Reith's family for their generosity in naming St. Paul's as a recipient of donations in her honor and to those who have contributed, and to Ruth herself, whose funeral plans included musical choices, readings, prayers to be included, whom to notify, a wish for communion, time of day if possible - a tremendous help to her family and St. Paul's as we planned her service.

+ To Carl LeGrand, Steve Romeo, Ed Farrell and Tim Champagne along with a host of other helping men who put on a delicious parish breakfast on Feb. 6.

+ To all who contributed 81 food items on "Souper Bowl Sunday", February 6. Margaret's Pantry in Holyoke was very grateful for your generosity.

+ To Judy Williams who has been working on weekdays for weeks to catalog our choral library and make it accessible. Her help has been invaluable.

+ To the Youth Group for coming together on Feb. 13 and making 5 casseroles for Kate's Kitchen, and to their parents and Deb Sexton for donating many of the ingredients.

Campaign for St. Paul's Future

Our Campaign for St. Paul's Future continues with two gatherings early this month, both designed to show you the needs St. Paul's has for its buildings and to seek your participation in this exciting venture. A wine & cheese gathering on Wednesday, March 2 at 7 p.m. in the library, and a coffee and Danish gathering after church on Sunday, March 6 in the library, will acquaint you with the scope of what we hope to do for St. Paul's as we move forward. How can you be involved? Please come on March 2 or 6 and find out!

A New Season Begins



On Ash Wednesday, March 9, the six-week season of Lent begins, the time which takes us up to Easter on April 24. On Ash Wednesday we are invited to gather at church for the Eucharist and to receive ashes on our foreheads. (Where do the ashes come from? Burned Palm Sunday palms.) There will be two services at St. Paul's – 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in the church. The evening service will be followed by a chowder and tomato soup supper in the auditorium hosted by Barbara & Carl LeGrand. All are welcome!

During Lent and beginning on Wednesday, March 16, we will be holding weekday celebrations of the Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the library. These quiet, simple services are a great way to begin the day in this season of reflection and penitence.

St. Paul's Church "*Brown Bag*" Lenten Series
Wednesdays during Lent, beginning March 16
From 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium—
We'll provide a Brown Bag Supper and
End with Compline.

Bring a friend...and get a front row seat at the Sunday Service!

Week 1 (16 March): Formation/Lenten Kick-off – what's it all about? How can we immerse ourselves in the true spirit of Lent? What is Jesus calling you to do in and through St. Paul's, and what can you do to help St. Paul's Church fulfill its mission? *Brown Bag* supper provided.

Week 2 (23 March): Pastoral – We will put together Lenten *brown bags* with prayers/prayer beads (items of comfort), that we will deliver to our shut-in brothers and sisters throughout the rest of the week. DOVE=Discover Our Valuable Elders...a new program and a different way to keep in contact with our elders and learn their life stories. *Brown Bag* supper provided.

Week 3 (30 March): Outreach/Service – There are so many ways to get involved with others. What are the needs in our community? We will put together grocery *brown bags* to be delivered to Margaret's Pantry in Holyoke. *Brown Bag* supper provided.

Week 4 (06 April): Worship – Do you know about "Fresh Expressions"? Are there different ways or different times to worship that appeal to you? What **looks** different but **feels** the same? Do you pray at home, or need help doing that? Our youth are encouraged to come—we want to hear your ideas about prayer and worship. *Brown Bag* supper provided.

Week 5 (13 April): Fellowship/Series Wrap-up - Are you prepared for Easter? Is there something in these topics – pastoral care, outreach, worship – that has captivated you? Where is Jesus calling you, calling us to go from here? *Brown Bag* supper provided.

Sign-up sheets are at the back of the church and the entrance to the parish hall. Please sign up so we can reserve a place for you.

Little bits... * * *
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* Would you like to be in the choir for Easter? Please speak to our choir director, Monica Czausz, about serving with this wonderful group at this festive time. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. in the choir room. Easter is Sunday, April 24 when the choir sings at the 8 and 10:00 services.

* Holyoke Urban Plan Public Meetings continue from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Morgan School, March 2 and Kelly School, March 3. Vision Plans for South Holyoke and The Flats will be shared and Holyoke residents are invited to voice their opinions. Refreshments will be served.

* The planning meetings for our **Fall Festival** will be held **March 6**, from 9 – 10 a.m. in the church office and **March 27** from 9 – 10 a.m. and 11 – 11:30 a.m. in the library. If you would like to help or have some creative ideas you would like to share, please join us.

* South Hadley now has an up-and-running food pantry called Neighbors Helping Neighbors, housed at the Methodist Church at 30 Carew Street. It serves South Hadley residents only at this time, and soon hopes to serve Granby residents. The leadership of this new venture is very grateful for the outpouring of generosity from the community.

* March 6 is Girl Scout Sunday. Megan Everett will be offering her service to the church at the 10:00 service. Part of that service has been to make an Alleluia! flag, which we will use in the service and then have disappear until Easter.

* On Friday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m. soprano Haley Anderson, joined by members of the Longmeadow High School Lyrics choir and accompanied by her dad, John Anderson, will present an evening of vocal music (Bellini, Grieg, Stravinsky, Rachmaninov, Bernstein and more) here at St. Paul's. Admission is free, so bring your friends!

* Daylight Savings Time begins Saturday March 12 in the evening. Set clocks ahead one hour before going to bed.

* The South Hadley Chorale presents its concert of Haydn and Bach on Sunday, March 13 at the Abbey Memorial Chapel, Mount Holyoke. Tickets are available from Ed Farrell, Gary Sroka,

Vickie Wildman, Sallie Pitt and Mary Lysakowski, members of our choir who are also in the SHC.

* The vestry meets Tuesday, March 15 at 6 p.m. in the choir room.

* Kate's Kitchen casseroles are due at St. Paul's at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, a grand old day.

* March 19 at 10 a.m. at Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield, our former summer seminarian Liz Tunney will be ordained a deacon. Everyone is welcome!

* Sun Deadline is March 20.

* The Spirit of St. Paul's meets at Joan Daly's home, Tuesday, March 29.

* Healing prayers continue to be offered at both 8 and 10:00 services during communion time. You may also light a candle for your prayer intentions.

* If you have glass vases you no longer need, please bring them to church and we will see they get to A New Leaf, the full-service retail floral and plant shop across the street from the church. CHD, which stands for Center for Human Development, runs this shop offering vocational training to people with mental illnesses and developmental disabilities. New signs out front draw customers to CHD/A New Leaf and you are invited to come over and have a look.

* The recent tragic death of two members of the Church of the Atonement, Westfield, points to the need for working smoke detectors. How about yours? Why not check them right now?



The St. Paul's Youth Group welcomes all students in grades 9-12 to join us on **Sunday mornings** in the classroom under the undercroft during the 10:00 **church service**. We plan to meet on alternating Sundays starting on **Sunday, February 27th**. We will meet on **March 13th** and **27th** as well. A new schedule will be provided monthly. Please come and share your talents, thoughts and prayers with us. See Debbie Sexton, Youth Group Director, with any questions.



March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 6.... Marion Brown (96th!)
- 7.... Andrea Gero
- 8.... Joan Daly
- 9.... John Rosseau
- 17... Mary Philpott
Gena Rotas
- 21... Lynn Schroder
- 26... Cameron Lussier
Dexter Gess
- 27... Steve Lafever
- 28... Megan Shafer
Zach Dupont
Alison Romeo
Nancy Geneczko
- 31... Jean Armitage
Lee Harder
Virginia Greenwood (96th!)

If we are missing your name and date for that "special day" or you need to make a correction, please notify the office @532-5060 or email: stpaulsholyoke@yahoo.com



Vestry Notes February Meeting

- ❖ Welcomed newly elected members Gary Sroka and Nicole Denette.
- ❖ Took up financial considerations, reviewing and understanding the reports presented by Gene Giuliano and Steve Hasbrouck.
- ❖ Approved the annual parochial report which we make to the diocese and the national

church. It revealed that our average Sunday attendance is down from 100 in 2009 to 98 in 2010. This is probably due to two factors – several of our elderly parishioners, who came to church faithfully every Sunday, are no longer able to be with us, and our one-service-in-the-summer saw an average attendance of only 52. Still, this downward trend in attendance is not something we would like to see continue, and it needs addressing.

- ❖ Agreed to have a retreat on Saturday, April 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- ❖ Signed up for the Wardens, Vestry and Leadership Day at AIC on March 5.

News about people



In February Katelyn Bechtel, the daughter of Tom Barker and granddaughter of Reg and Edna Barker, traveled to Rwanda, Africa, with a group of nurses and doctors from the US. They performed 15 heart operations as a humanitarian mission, mostly on young children. Katelyn is a cardiac recovery nurse at the Mass. General Hospital in Boston.

We recently had a visit from Susan Hill, a client of Jessica Labonte. Susan and her family were members of St. Paul's years ago and she was glad to be back at St. Paul's.

Our organist, Monica Czauz, traveled to Oklahoma City on January 29 for an organ competition that would result in a scholarship at Oklahoma City University and she won! Then she offered an hourlong concert at our cathedral in Springfield on Feb. 25, part of their Friday evening series. Next Monica will be traveling to Baltimore on the weekend of April 3 with the All Eastern Chorus for voice performances there. She's a busy person!

Mai Ironside, Eleanor Gray, Dorothy Chase and Frank Cushing have had health episodes and continue to convalesce. They are in our prayers.

Mildred Heath has moved to Indian Orchard to live with her daughter. She sends her love to St. Paul's, her favorite church in the whole world.

Louise McInerney, now a resident at the Mont Marie Health Care Center, has a new great-granddaughter, #11. Samantha Louise was born in San Jose, California in January.

Irene Anderson joins Louise McInerney in the nursing home section of Mont Marie here in Holyoke, as we keep her in our prayers.

Steve Hasbrouck, our bookkeeper, married his sweetheart, Celina Callejas, on Feb. 5. Blessings and best wishes to both of them for continued happiness.

Alex Durchanek was featured in the North Star Festival of Short Theatre, a series of one-act plays that were funny, serious and thoughtful.

Matt Giuliano's middle school play, "Dear Edwina Jr.", was postponed for bad weather. You may see him in action at the South Hadley High School, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 3, 4, 5 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 6 at 2 p.m.



St. Paul's Nursery School

*Second Annual Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser
sponsored by St. Paul's Nursery School*

Where: St. Paul's Church, Riley Auditorium

When: Friday, April 1st, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Tickets: AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

\$5.00 for adults and kids (ages 13 and up)

\$3.00 for kids (up to age 12)

\$15.00 max per family

We hope you will join us!



MAY 14, 2011

It's that time of year again. The spring rummage sale is back! Start saving your items to bring to the church during the week preceding the sale. We will be looking for good used clothing and footwear for everyone, small, clean electric appliances in good working condition, household items, bedding, towels and small decorations. We will also have a book and jewelry table and, of course, a table for the children with good used toys, puzzles, books and stuffed animals in very good condition. **No electronics or furniture, please.**

The sale will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, 2011. Help will be needed for set-up on Thursday after 7:30 p.m. and all day and evening on Friday. We will need volunteers for the day of the fair from 8:00 until around 3:00 or whenever we finish with clean-up. Sign-up sheets for this help will be put up in the church and hall shortly after Easter.

This sale has always been a success due to the parish-wide participation and with all your help this year's sale will continue this great tradition.

If you have any questions you may call the church office at 532-5060 or Marilyn Nadeau at 534-1047.

What are you doing for Supper March 9th ?

Barbara & Carl LeGrand invite everyone for a chowder and tomato soup supper in the auditorium immediately following the 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday service. Bread, fresh-made salad and home-made desserts, as usual. Please join us. Please use the sign-up sheets located at the back of the church or the auditorium so we can set a place for you. Looking forward to seeing you there!



St. Paul's Committee and Group Photos

We noticed that the recent slide show was missing photos of many groups and committees at St. Paul's. Therefore, we would like to offer to take a photo of your group for our next slide show. Photos can be scheduled before or after the 8:00 or 10:00 Sunday Services during the months of April and May. To insure that we are ready for your group, sign up sheets will be in the back of the church during the month of March.

If you prefer to take your own group photo, please e-mail your photo to St. Paul's e-mail address: stpaulsholyoke@yahoo.com.

Thank you.

The Spirit of St. Paul's

St. Paul's has an electric scooter for loan to St. Paul's parishioners. If you know of anyone who is in need of one, please contact the office or speak with Dexter Gess (413) 536-4862.



From the Prayer Group

Along My Weary Way

When I find I am laden with cares of the day,
I turn to Sweet Jesus who lights up my way.
He knows of my feelings each heartache and bruise;
he gives strength and courage and aching limbs
soothe.
He gives me confidence that I sometimes lack,
he lightens the load I bear on my back.

~Catherine Janssen Irwin

Cast your burden upon the Lord
and he will sustain you.

Psalm 55: vs 22



Fall Festival

Another Fall Family Festival is on the calendar for November 12, 2011! There will be a planning meeting on March 6, 9 a.m.-10 a.m. in the church office and March 27, from 9 a.m.-10 a.m. and 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the library. If you would like to help or have some creative ideas, please come and share your thoughts. Your feedback from our last fair in 2009 would be most helpful to make this year's fair successful, too!

Kate's Kitchen Recipe of the Month

Due at the church by Thursday, March 17 @ 9:30 a.m.

Spaghetti Pie

1 lb. spaghetti – cooked and drained
5 tbsp. butter or margarine
1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
5 well-beaten eggs
2 cups cottage cheese or ricotta cheese
1 lb. ground beef – cooked and drained
1 cup chopped onions
1 large green pepper, chopped
1 28oz. can chopped tomatoes
2 tsp. oregano
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Stir butter into the hot spaghetti. Stir in the Parmesan cheese and eggs. Lay spaghetti mixture on the bottom of a buttered pan and spread cottage (or ricotta) cheese on top of the spaghetti.

Cook ground beef, onion, and green peppers till done. Stir in undrained tomatoes, oregano and garlic powder; heat through. Turn meat mixture onto spaghetti and cheese layer. Bake uncovered in 350 oven for 20 minutes.

Sprinkle mozzarella cheese on top. (Kate's Kitchen will complete baking.) When wrapping casserole for transport, use a wax paper barrier to prevent the tomato from coming into contact with the foil.



Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed

It's time to consider planning for another Vacation Bible School program.

In order to have a program this summer, we will need teachers, volunteers, a snack coordinator, and classroom assistants.

If you can help us this summer, please fill out the following form and return it to the church office, or to Joan Daly by **April 15**. Vacation Bible School is a wonderful program that is enjoyed by many. Please consider helping us. Our program lasts one week (Mon.– Fri.,) and usually runs from 9-11:30 A.M. Teaching materials and crafts are supplied.

If you have any questions, please call Joan @ 533-4118, or e-mail her at jdal2@verizon.net.

Thank you!

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_____ I can volunteer as a teacher.

_____ I can volunteer as a classroom assistant.

_____ I can volunteer to help with snack and special activities.

_____ I would like to coordinate the program.

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**This year's VBS will be held during the
week of July 18-22.**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

T-shirt size _____