

March 2008

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In just two weeks All Saints will offer you a wonderful opportunity. And that is to be present to commemorate the end of Jesus' life, his death, and his resurrection. Nothing in the church is more powerful than the series of liturgies presented for you during Holy Week.

Why attend such sad services? Aren't they just a real "downer?" Wouldn't it be better to wait for the return of happiness and color and "Alleluia" of Easter and the weeks of Eastertide? Well, yes, we are all more comfortable with Easter. But the joy of it, and the understanding, is so much greater when we have lived through Good Friday.

The truth is, we all DO live through Good Friday in our daily lives. We have experienced times of deep sorrow, times of loneliness, of emptiness, of pain, perhaps days when we did not think we could go on. Living through Holy Week teaches us that Jesus knows all about our emotions during those hard times. God has experienced all the feelings we have ever had. And after them comes relief. Because Jesus rose out of his deepest suffering, we can too. The blessing of Holy Week is realizing that Jesus is with us, right there beside us, through all of it.

So come for the readings on Wednesday, as Jesus walks the Stations of the Cross and women of the Bible express their grief at seeing him in pain. Come on Thursday for his last supper, when he washed his disciples' feet and taught them how to serve one another. Watch as the Reserved Sacrament is taken to the chapel and members of the altar guild strip the altar. Come on Friday, when the church is so empty in the absence of Christ. Come Saturday evening and light the new fire of Easter, hear the stories of God's salvation, and renew your baptismal vows as we welcome our newest baptized members. And then – well, Easter Day will mean more to you. Come with joy and shout with me, "Alleluia, Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia"

Now, you don't have to just come and sit through the liturgies of Holy Week. There are many ways to participate in them. I will be looking for lots of readers, candlelighters, and folks who will volunteer to have their feet washed. Let me know if you'd like to be a part of these wonderful liturgies. And I'll see you in church!

Blessings to all,
Susan+

Walk with Jesus through Holy Week

March 16 - 23, 2008

The week that begins with Palm Sunday is the most solemn week of worship in the Christian year. Through the mystery of liturgy we relive the events of Our Lord's Passion, which begin with his triumphal entry into Jerusalem as King of the Jews and end in the garden tomb. Then, on Easter Day, he rises from death. And we shout again, "Alleluia."

Sunday, March 16 - Palm Sunday:

The Sunday of The Passion

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

On this Sunday we begin together in the Parish Hall, where we receive a blessed palm and then walk in procession to the church shouting the words with which Our Lord was welcomed into Jerusalem: "*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*" The gospel on this day is a dramatic reading of Our Lord's Passion, according to Matthew with the congregation participating. We begin with the triumph of Jesus' entry into the city, but end with the solemn reality of Jesus' betrayal, his trial, crucifixion, and burial.

Sunday, March 16 - Way of the Cross for Families

11:30 a.m. - After a nutritious lunch our children and their parents walk the way of the cross with Jesus. We go through the events of that time, sitting together in the Upper Room, praying at Gethsemane, carrying his cross like Simon of Cyrene, entering the darkness of the tomb with him. All children and adults are welcome.

Wednesday, March 19

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Healing Prayers

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

Stations of the Cross

7:30 p.m.

Women of the Passion, A Journey to the Cross, by Katie Sherrod.

For several years the women of All Saints have been reading this moving piece, which interprets the Stations of the Cross through the voices of women of the Bible. However, this worship opportunity is not only for women. All are welcome.

Thursday, March 20 - Maundy Thursday,

"On the night before he died for us Our Lord Jesus Christ took bread."

7:30 p.m.

On this night we celebrate Jesus' last supper with his disciples, when he instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and then got up from the table and knelt before them to wash their feet, that they might learn to serve one another. We bless extra bread for the Reserved Sacrament we will receive on Good Friday and carry Christ's Body to the chapel, where it is left with candle light and where anyone may enter and keep vigil. Then the altar is stripped and the liturgy ends in darkness and silence in anticipation of Jesus' betrayal and death.

Friday, March 21 - Good Friday

"We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world."

7:30 p.m.

On this day Our Lord is missing from our lives. We do not consecrate the bread and wine today and when we confess our sin there is no absolution.

Saturday, March 22 - Holy Saturday

"In the midst of life we are in death. From whom can we seek help?"

A quiet day in the absence of Christ

The Great Vigil of Easter with Baptisms

7:30 p.m.

The Easter Vigil is one of our most beautiful liturgies. We begin in darkness, lighting the new fire of Easter. The first part of the liturgy is by candlelight, a retelling of God's saving grace throughout biblical history. Then all the lights come on and bells ring and we sing "Alleluia!" Flowers are brought in and we begin our celebration of the Day of Resurrection. The water of baptism is blessed and those ready are baptized. Then we celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter with great joy .

Sunday, March 23 - Easter Day

"Alleluia, Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia."

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

11:45 a.m. We'll have an Easter Egg Hunt for the children - outside, weather permitting.

Highlights of the Annual Parish Meeting

On Sunday, January 27 we all worshiped together at 9:30 a.m. and then enjoyed a sumptuous Monthly Breakfast in the Parish Hall. The Annual Meeting of All Saints Parish followed. Some highlights of the meeting were

- * the introduction of several new members
- * the election of Jeff Fowler, Mark Miller, and Sandy Kynerd to three-year terms on the Vestry. (Later the Vestry chose Ruthann Wasil as Senior Warden, Gil Fritzsche as Junior Warden, and Jan Harrivel as Clerk)
- * the announcement of a new bequest to All Saints from the estate of Norma A. Wood, whose brother, The Rev Gordon Riegler, served as Special Assistant priest at All Saints in the 1970s. Mrs. Wood directed a percentage of her estate to us, totaling \$74,000. That gift has now been received.

* The end-of-year figures for 2007 and the budget for 2008, presented by the Parish Treasurer. There was much celebration about the solid condition we find ourselves in, thanks to the generosity and constancy of our parishioners who pledge and give gifts for the mission and ministry of All Saints.

* the introduction of our new Outreach Committee and the announcement of several projects they are undertaking, including a Lenten project: the purchase of a cow to be sent

to a third world village through Episcopal Relief and Development. See the cow bulletin board in the parish hall and purchase your own cow, proceeds to the cow project.

* Outreach will be collecting empty juice pouches and yogurt cups to be recycled.

* We are becoming more and more “green” these days. Thanks to our dishwasher we can use real cups and dishes and not disposables. We are also recycling increasing amounts of paper in the bins in our parking lot.

* More of us are active in Bible study, committee work, worship, meals, pastoral care projects, and service to the community than ever before. Curiously, though, our average attendance on Sundays has fallen off.

Remember to come to church on Sunday and don't be shy about inviting a friend who may need what we have to offer at All Saints. All Saints All Welcome!

Soup Suppers

We have 2 Wednesday's left in Lent for you to join us for a Soup Supper and Discussion. Sign up on the board to bring soup or bread to share at 6:00 p.m., then stay for the discussion. On March 12th, we will have The Stations of the Cross after supper.

Treasurer's Report

What a good way to start the treasurer's report for 2008 – January, 2008 was “**in-the-black**” and ahead of budget! Good job everyone! Pledge offerings for the month were \$11,200, slightly ahead of the budgeted amount of \$10,500. Total receipts were \$19,500 and total expenses were \$16,500 compared to the budgeted \$16,800. All of which resulted in a bottom line \$3,000 of receipts in excess of disbursements as shown by the recap;

		<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Pledge, loose	\$ 11,200	\$ 10,500	\$ 10,100
Total Receipts	\$ 19,500	\$ 19,600	\$ 11,800
Total Disbursements	\$ 16,500	\$ 16,800	\$ 15,500
Excess / Deficit	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,800	\$ (3,700)

God Bless You All, Ray Heitland, Treasurer

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

- Good Shepherd Sunday school is happy to welcome Debbie Talbot-Miller joining them. We welcome her with open arms.
- Mother Russell is in need of food or gas cards for the Rector's Discretionary fund.
- Volunteers are also needed for one Saturday a month to deliver food to shut-ins from the All Faith's Food Pantry. For more info contact Mother Russell.

All Saints are going COW-CRAZY !!

As a Lenten project the Outreach Committee decided to purchase a Cow from Episcopal Relief and Development. We have collected \$323.00 of the \$550.00 needed to purchase the bovine. Please help us to reach this goal and get to put your cow out to pasture in the Parish hall.

The cost of a "moo cow" is just \$1

A cow that's "just out grazing" is just \$5

And an "udderly moo-velous" cow for \$10

For every dollar you spend your name will be entered in the drawing for naming rights of our Cow and a small goody-bag. Cows will be sold after the 8:30 Eucharist and before the 10:30 Eucharist in the hall. If you have any questions please contact Claire Blanca at claireblanca@cox.net or at 440-842-9346.

RELAY FOR LIFE

If there is enough interest from the parish we are contemplating doing an All Saints Team for the Parma Relay For Life. The event is July 18 & 19 at Cuyahoga Community College Western Campus. If you are interested please contact Amy Harrivel at 216-661-5772, so we can proceed with planning.

We Still Have Some Cookie Dough & Muffin Mix

We still have just few tubs of cookie dough and muffin mix left. Each tub makes a lot and is \$11.00 each. It is in the freezer ready to go home with you. Check out what is available or ask Joe Dmitruk. Pick some up today and make your tummy happy!

Yogurt Brigade

Bring your clean Stonyfield Farm yogurt containers to the collection box in the Parish Hall. We are collecting 6 oz. and 32 oz. containers

Honest Kids Drink Pouch Brigade

Bring your clean Capri Sun drink pouches to the collection bag in the Parish Hall. We can not accept drink boxes – just the pouches.

Our adopted Hanna Elementary School has joined with us to collect these items. Have you considered how you can incorporate one of these two terrific programs in your school or work place? For more information visit www.terracycle.net or contact Lisa Czerny at 440-887-7780.

**TIRED OF FISH? DON'T FEEL LIKE COOKING?
LAST WEEK TO JOIN US!**

For the Lenten season, All Saints will be hosting delicious
Pasta Dinners. We will be serving:

**Spaghetti and Marinara sauce with or without meatballs OR
Homemade Fettucini Alfredo OR
Olive Oil with Veggies,
Salad, Roll & Butter,
Hot or Cold Beverages and Dessert.**

\$7 for adults,

\$5 for children under 12,

\$6 for seniors,

FREE for children under 4.

We will be serving dinner on: Feb 8, Feb 15, Feb 22, Feb 29
and March 7th from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Take out is available.

Senior Freedom Cards will admit a Senior Citizen, who is a resident of the Parma City School District, to any home athletic, musical or dramatic event sponsored by the Parma City School District. If interested please see Bonnie in the office.

Helping Others

We will begin collecting items for the Domestic Violence Center in the Parish Hall. These items will be given to women and children dealing with abuse. We are looking for items such as; shampoo, conditioner, diapers, lotion, nail polish, beauty items, toothbrushes, toothpaste, feminine products, soaps, razors, and shaving cream. A lot of the women are living without the "extras", so let's help them out.

ALL YOU WHO PASS THIS WAY LOOK AND SEE...

Please remember to keep Palm Sunday, March 16th, open on your calendar as we once again hold **The Family Stations of the Cross**. We will serve healthy food and refreshments immediately following the 10:30 Eucharist in the south room and shortly after proceed into the choir room where we will start our walk with Jesus in the passion. It is a very moving and hands on experience for our children. We encourage parents to walk along with us. All are welcome.

Peace, Sandy Kynerd, Jan Fritzsche and Lisa Czerny

Love Coming Back to Us

12 members of All Saints who we rarely see got a Valetine surprise in the mail. Many thanks were sent back to us. Please remember to give our shut ins and those who live far away a call to let them know we still think of them and love them all. Thanks to Lisa Czerny and all who signed them.

Look for the letter from Hanna Elementary thanking us for the Christmas gifts we sent on the bulletin board. They were very appreciative of our efforts.

Remember to keep bringing in food donations that we pass on the Parma Christian Church Food Pantry, (located next to Wendy's). They help people in our backyards.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for March

1 st Shirley Morris	12 th Jordan Wasil
5 th Jim Hance	13 th Pierce Capone
5 th Nicholas Capone	16 th Cathy Bathgate
8 th Lane Pilcher	20 th Don Day
10 th Shelly Schwartz	23 rd George Baxter
11 th Rich Sarian	24 th Wendy Schmidt
11 th Marlene Wanyerka	31 st Nellie Jean Wendell
12 th Louis Cohen	31 st Ginny Pontremoli

Dates to Remember.....March

- 2 Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30am
- 5 Holy Eucharist 10am
Bible Study 10:30am
Lenten Soup Supper & Discussion 6pm
- 6 Choir Rehearsal 7pm
- 7 All Saints Pasta Dinner 4:30 – 7pm
- 8 Vestry Retreat 9:30am – 1:00pm
- 9 Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30am
- 12 Holy Eucharist 10am
Bible Study 10:30am
Lenten Soup Supper & Discussion 6pm
- 13 Choir Rehearsal 7pm
- 16 Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am
Children's Stations of the Cross & lunch 11:30am
- 19 Stations of the Cross / Women's Voices 7:30pm
- 20 Maundy Thursday Liturgy 7:30pm
- 21 Good Friday Liturgy 7:30pm
- 22 Easter Vigil and baptisms 7:30pm
- 23 Easter Sunday Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30am
Easter Egg Hunt 11:45am
- 25 Vestry Meeting 7pm