



The Journal

Reflections

By Fr. Fred Tinsley

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Reflections... How has your prayer life been this Lent? How did you fare with your disciplines of self-denial? How about the reading and study of Holy Scripture—did you faithfully engage the biblical witness these forty days? The meaning of Lent falls short if you find yourself trying to keep score of your success. That's about as self-centered as it gets and the season of Lent has nothing to do with self-absorption. Rather, this holy season has asked us, by doing these things, to focus on our journey to Jerusalem with Jesus .

If for some reason, your Lenten experience has been less than edifying spiritually, do not despair. Not unlike with God, there is *plenteous redemption*.

April



Having grown up in a tradition that regarded Easter as a one Sunday event and usually marking the occasion with a grand choral cantata a week or two before, I am particularly fond of the our tradition's recognition that while the celebration of Easter Day is paramount, to do so without all that precedes essentially eviscerates the power of the Resurrection.

In that regard, you can still make the remaining days of Lent meaningful by resolving now to not let yourself arrive at Easter Day without your full participation in the Proper Liturgies of Holy Week beginning with our observance of **Palm Sunday**. Please plan to gather on Sunday, March 28th, by the church steps for the **Liturgy of the Palms**. Then join us for the triumphal procession into the church as we take our first step into the final week of Jesus' life.

The *Triduum of Holy Week*—the three days before Easter Day—reveal the culmination of the dramatic tension of Jesus' life and ministry with the observance of **Maundy Thursday** on April 1st during which we bring to mind through our worship that, in Christ's service to us, he challenges us to remember that we, too, as his followers, are called not to privilege but to service in his name.

Service Times

Sunday Morning
8:00 and 10:30 AM
Sunday Afternoon
5:00 PM
Tuesday Morning
11:00 AM
Canterbury House
Wednesday Afternoon
Chapel 5:15 PM

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**ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AND SCHOOL**

**1620 Murray Street
Alexandria, LA 71301**

(318) 445-9845 wk. (318) 473-8236 fax
e-mail: stjamesepisco@bellsouth.net
web: www.saintjamesonline.org.

The Rt. Rev. D. Bruce MacPherson
Bishop

The Reverend Fred H. Tinsley, Jr.
Rector

The Reverend Michael Bertrand
Assistant to the Rector

Ms. Holly Dixon
Sr. Warden

Mr. James Weinzettle
Jr. Warden

Ms. Nell Deville
Treasurer

Ms. Mary Vermaelen
Parish Administrator

Amber Edwards
Administrative Assistant

Ms. Anna Theus
Day School Director

Mr. Richard Gwartney
Music Director

Ms. Marie Durham
Organist

Ms. Tina Smith
Episcobellians Director

Mr. Joe Roberts

Mr. Reddy Dorn
Sextons

Ms. Sarah Frazier

Ms. Amanda Frazier
Nursery Attendants

April Birthdays

1st	Martha Daniel Tucker McLure	16th	Michael Jurgensen Katherine Lind
2nd	John H. Downs	17th	Rita Klock
4th	Kendall From III	18th	Richard Gates Mallory Marsh
5th	Foster Walker Babson Fresh	21st	Clay Ray Denise Van Bibber Robert Maynard
7th	George Flournoy	23rd	Julia Ann Twilley
9th	Sally Carstens Jim Deegan Laura Ford	25th	Jennifer Higginbotham Emily Warren
10th	Stafford Mikell	29th	Milford Crumplar Fred Alexius
11th	Cora Clancey	30th	Kathy Kingsley Jackson Hurt
12th	Ann Henderson		
14th	Scott Yeager, Jr.		

Sunday Lesson Calendar - April 2010

4/4/2010 Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
John 20:1-18

4/11/2010 Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

4/18/2010 Acts 9:1-6
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

4/25/2010 Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30



Your Parish Life

EfM

Parish Life is having a blast! St. James Supper Club will be dining at Diamond Grill on March 26th at 6:30 P.M. We will start with a green salad followed by a choice of pork, chicken, or fresh drum fish served with their signature potatoes and green beans and conclude with cheese-cake and coffee. The price per person is \$37.41 and includes the meal, tax and gratuity. A cash bar will be available for cocktails and pre-registration and payment are encouraged. Everyone is welcome to attend and we hope you will come and join the fun!

Parish Life will also host a Champagne Brunch on Easter Day beginning at 9:00 A.M. We are looking for volunteers to help with the brunch, so please let us know if we may call on you.

Ladies' Night Out is scheduled for April 16th. Stay tuned for further details.

If you have any questions or comments about Parish Life, please contact me, Lexie Ray Cain at 308-3376 or Lray26@crayins.com

SPRING YOGA SESSION ENROLLMENT

A new session of yoga starts April 7th and goes through June 30th. The fee is only \$19.50 for the entire session; however, if you are unable to commit for the entire session, drop-ins are welcome for \$5 per visit. The class meets in the Day School Gym on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 P.M. following Faith & Fellowship Dinner. You may contact Graham McFerran at batemang@gmail.com or (225)-937-8195 for more information.



Education For Ministry (EFM) is a four-year course of study in theological bible study and reflection for lay persons created and sponsored by the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. The seminar group is the nucleus of the EFM program. A group consists of six to twelve participants and trained mentors meeting weekly over the course of a nine-month academic year. These meetings are usually three hours in length and meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM September through May in the Walker building. A participant commits to one 9-month year at a time. An EFM group may have participants from all four years of study which creates a dynamic atmosphere for learning and sharing.

The EFM program is centered around three areas of focus: **study, prayer and reflection**. By using these, EFM groups move toward a new understanding of the fullness of God's kingdom.

Study - Participants are given weekly assignments to study with the help of resource guides. They are responsible for setting their own learning goals. In the seminars, members have an opportunity to share their insights and discoveries as well as to discuss questions which the study materials raises for them.

Reflection - Theological Reflection is the hallmark of EFM. The goal is to learn to think theologically. By examining their own beliefs and their relationship to our culture and the tradition of our Christian faith, participants can learn what it means to be effective ministers in the world. In coming to terms with the notion that everything we do has potential for manifesting the love of Christ, we discover that our ministry is at hand wherever we turn.

Worship - The seminar is supported by a life of prayer and regular worship. EFM groups are encouraged to develop a pattern of creative worship appropriate to their situations.

If you would like information about EFM from a group member's perspective, talk to Roy Rosenthal, Holly Dixon, Paige Lawless-Dixon, Lisa Aycock, Paula Lieberman or Theresa Louviere.

Enrollment is done directly through the mentors. The fee for a 9 month academic cycle is \$340.00 and is paid to the University of the South. If you would like more information about EFM, please call Jana Skinner at (318)-447-2500.

Eastertide? By Fr. Michael E. Bertrand

Easter is much more than a one day celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It's also the beginning of a season that lasts for fifty days, starting with Easter and ending with Pentecost.

The point is that the Resurrection is much more than a one day occurrence that we commemorate in between more important events in our busy lives. It's significance is so large that it takes fifty days for us to even begin to digest it. It's ramifications are so far reaching that we continue to refer back to it, even after the season has concluded. And its implications are so deep that even the most educated of theologians will readily admit they don't understand the how's and whys behind it. Eastertide helps us to maintain this centralized focus on the Resurrection.

With that said, it's important to remember that Eastertide is not anti-Lent. Thus, the fifty days of Eastertide are not intended to cancel out Lent or otherwise imply that Lent was unnecessary or bad. Rather, Eastertide forms a complete, continuous unit with Lent. After all, without Christ's suffering and death there would be no Resurrection. Likewise, if there had been no Resurrection there would be no point in keeping Lent. Both Lent and Eastertide are necessary. One is not more important than the other.

Eastertide is important. The Resurrection is critical. I encourage you, then, to keep the season of Eastertide; that we all might grow in our celebration of the Resurrection, and that we might all more fully understand the significance of what God has accomplished through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

March 28

Palm Sunday– Liturgy of the Palms
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Chapel
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Starting on Church Steps
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist– Chapel

March 31

5:15 p.m. - Holy Eucharist and Healing -Chapel

April 1

Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service
8:30 p.m. Vigil at the Altar of Repose-following
Maundy Thursday service-Chapel

April 2

Good Friday
12:05 p.m. Organ Meditations
12:15 p.m. Good Friday service
3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

April 3

Holy Saturday
10:00 a.m. Holy Saturday Service

April 4

Day of Resurrection
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Champagne Brunch
9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 a.m. Easter Day Worship



H O L Y · W E E K

Don't forget to bookmark the website and check for updates. www.stjamesonline.com. Click on Parish Life. If you don't check it out, you might be missing out!

St. James Episcopal Day School

Happy April from the Day School! This spring has been a busy happy time for the day school. We've been dreaming about our fresh new playgrounds and know that our play will be WONDERFUL when all of the construction is finished. Thanks to all of our parents and our board who participated at our parent workday on March 21st.

Registration has begun for our summer camp, "**Bookmarks - A journey through the Alphabet from A to Z**" ! We've planned a fun filled summer with BOOKS, LETTERS, and of course, **popsicles!**

26TH ANNUAL LOBSTER BOIL

The St. James Episcopal Day School is saving a spot for you for the upcoming Lobster Boil. Saturday, May 1, 2010 everyone will be gathering in the school gym beginning at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$45.00 each and are available to be purchased from the St. James Day School office, from board members and also the church office. Year after year, the Lobster Boil has been a fun, lively and delicious night out for parents, parishioners and friends of St. James. Your continued support of the annual Lobster Boil dinner is greatly appreciated. Hope to see you May 1st in the day school gym.

SAVE A CRAWFISH, EAT A LOBSTER



UNITED THANK

OFFERING

The United Thank Offering encourages daily prayers, offerings, and awareness of the abundance of God's blessing. Our Spring ingathering will be Sunday, May 16, 2010. Please remember to use your "blue boxes" daily.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Children's Christian Education group will be organizing an Easter egg hunt on Easter morning. The hunt will begin at 9 a.m. location has yet to be determined.

We are asking for donations of **plastic Easter eggs, filled with pre-wrapped candy.** Please bring any donations to the office by Thursday, April 1st. If there are any questions you may contact Fr. Mike.

Thank You.

Altar Guild Information

The Altar Guild member's luncheon will be held Saturday April 10th at the home of Sara Marshall in LeCompte. Arrival time is 11:30 A.M. Please make every effort to attend, as this is our only meeting for the year. We look forward to seeing you there.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2010

	<u>Mo. Actual</u>	<u>Mo. Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>
Receipts	\$40,791.42	\$ 56,209.58	\$119,959.12	\$ 674,515.00
Expenses	\$55,882.51	\$ 56,209.58	\$116,002.95	\$ 674,515.00
Net Income	\$-15,091.09	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,956.17	\$ 0.00

Complete financial records are posted on the Vestry Board in the church office.

St. James Episcopal Church and School
1620 Murray Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301
Phone: 318-445-9845
E-mail: stjamesepisco@bellsouth.net

26th Annual Lobster Boil
Saturday, May 1, 2010
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Alexandria, LA
Permit No. 318

Address Service Requested

Good Friday, April 2nd, draws us into the consequence of Jesus' betrayal, his unspeakable suffering at the hands who would have him crucified, and his ignominious and tortured death. It's one thing to ask *Were you there when they crucified my Lord...* It's quite another to acknowledge that *I crucified thee!*

Then there is the remarkable service of worship we refer to as the Proper Liturgy for **Holy Saturday** on April 3rd. The stark, dim emptiness of a barren sanctuary and an ambry absent any hint of the Reserved Sacrament only exacerbates the heartache and loneliness of our grief. In that poignant, yet brief service, the liturgy compels us to admit that the anointed one of God is no longer with us.

It seems to me virtually impossible to appreciate the full impact of the glory of God as God reveals it in the **Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ** this coming Easter Day, April 4th, without first having been among the crowd shouting *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord*, without having experienced the humbling love of God in the washing of feet, without recognizing our own culpability in the death of Jesus as we scream *Crucify him, crucify him*, and at last, without feeling the crushing weight of our longing for one who has died and was buried. Embracing the fullness of Holy Week will either redeem an otherwise unremarkable Lent for some or add a punctuation mark to a spiritually uplifting experience of the forty days past. In either case, our involvement in the full range of Holy Week will absolutely catapult us all in to a celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus that will be nothing short of life transforming. Come and see. Until then, God's peace and blessing, FHT+