

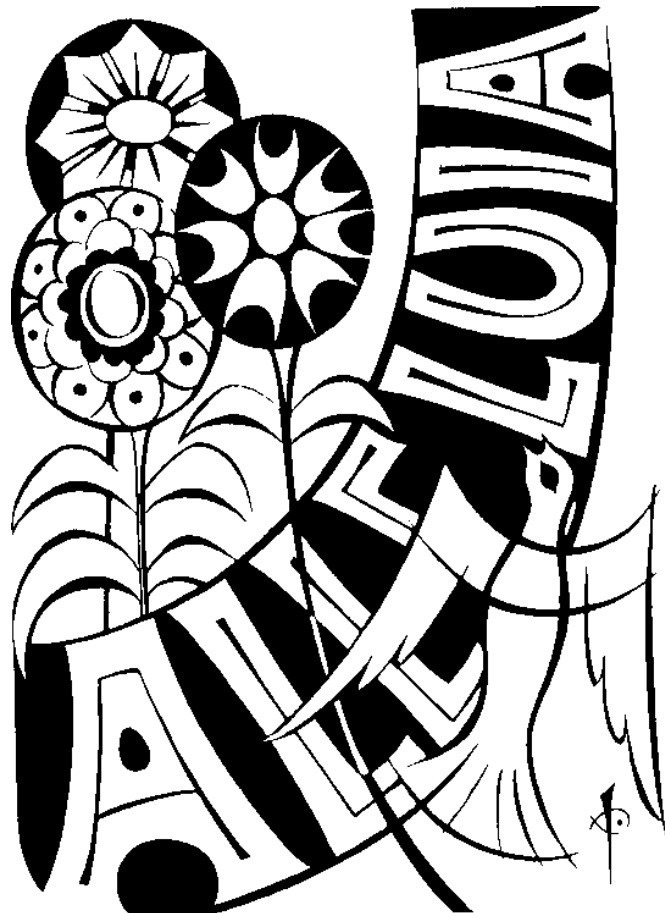


600 Ferry Street
Lafayette, IN 47901-1142
765-742-4079

Edward J. Tourangeau, Rector

www.stjohns-laf.org

[e-mail:stjohns@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:stjohns@stjohns-laf.org)



A View from the Big Pew

Dear Friends,

On Ash Wednesday many of us gathered together in worship to hear again the annual invitation of the church to the observance of a holy Lent, by placing ourselves under the disciplines of self-examination and repentance; prayer, fasting and self-denial and reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

The booklet, *Essentials*, which many of us have used during this Lenten season, tells us that the ashes of Ash Wednesday symbolize not only sorrow for our sin and disobedience but also our willingness to repent.

So we began this holy season not with groveling and shame and a reminder of our worthlessness, but with an affirmation of the goodness resident in us and a reminder of ways that have proved helpful through the ages in our desire to draw nearer to God.

I pray that these disciplines have been useful to you, or that others you may have chosen to follow have had their benefit. I pray that the study of the Millennium Development Goals has proved informative and helpful in offering ways to make a difference for God's compassion in the face of the world's need.

I know that in the past 40 days some of you have been preoccupied with personal or family illness or distress, and even on a few occasions the death of a loved one. I pray that in this holy season your personal circumstances have not left you feeling bereft of God's presence with you in your struggle and grieving.

I write now to encourage your participation in the liturgies of Holy Week. That Great Week in which we commemorate the events of the last days of Jesus' life on earth. These days are the culmination of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. They repay our participation, for they can bring the power of his passion into the struggle and grieving of our lives. Recalling the time his friends abandoned him can help us when we feel alone. Remembering that he prayed to have his suffering pass him by can comfort us in our weakness when we do the same. Gathering with others in vigil and preparation for the announcement that "He is not here, he is risen," can help us to remember that the new life we celebrate is God's gift in Christ to all persons. Join in our parish celebration of Resurrection.



Stoumangan +

I hope you will join with our community of faith in these coming days:

Palm Sunday, April 1st:

Blessing and distribution of Palms, and Reading of the Passion according to Luke at both services. The Palm Liturgy will begin on Sixth Street, with our neighbor congregations.

Maundy Thursday, April 5th:

Fellowship Meal and Foot washing, beginning at 6:00 pm. Please sign up or call the office to let us know you're planning to attend so we may prepare adequately.

"Watch" at the Altar of Repose, providing a way to answer Jesus' question to his disciples, "Will you not watch with me one hour?" From (approximately) 9:00 pm Thursday night until noon on Friday. Some reading material will be available.

Good Friday, April 6th:

We will share the Good Friday Liturgy with folks from the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, 610 Meridian Street, WL, beginning at 12:20 pm: the service should end by 1:00 pm. **Liturgy of Remembering**(for children) – this experiential worship service is at St. John's beginning at 4 pm. We use the church and its furniture to help us remember about the life of Jesus, and we share a snack at the end. Allow an hour.

Easter, April 7th:

We celebrate the Great Vigil of Easter beginning at 8:00 pm. Folks from Good Shepherd will join us, and the service will include the Renewal of Baptismal Vows. Bring a bell to ring as we sing the Gloria again, and something to share during the reception afterward.

Easter Day services will be at the customary times. We will need volunteers to take the Easter floral decorations to the homebound following the service.

Regular Weekday Worship:

Evening Prayer will be read on Monday the 2nd and Wednesday the 4th, and **the Holy Eucharist** will be celebrated on Tuesday the 3rd, all at the customary time.

Easter Monday, April 9th:

The parish office will be closed.

Calling All Gardeners

It's time again to assemble everyone interested in working in St. John's gardens this summer. Garden Club members work about three Saturdays a summer (depending on how many volunteer) to keep the gardens beautiful. We begin the season with a work day in late April (date yet to be determined) when we give a spring clean-up to the beds and mulch them. The weekly tasks are to weed, pick up refuse, and sweep the walks. We work in the garden area outside of the chapel and on the east side of the rectory. Two members work every Saturday so the gardens are in beautiful condition and everything is kept neat and orderly.

If you enjoy gardening and would like to join us, just call me at 474-6313 or e-mail me at powellbl@purdue.edu.

St. John's Represented in March on Pentagon

By Robert Kurtz



Three youth and two adults from the St. John's family boarded a bus at the St. Thomas Aquinas Center on the evening of Friday, March 16, headed to the nation's capital to march for peace. Sophie Hulen, 11, Cyrus Hulen, 8 ³/₄, and Stuart Kurtz, 12, accompanied by Jenny Hulen and Robert Kurtz, gathered with 28 other marchers for an enthusiastic send-off by well-wishers from the community, including prayers and blessings from Father Jim Barnett, O.P., of St. Tom's and our own Rev. Hilary Cooke.

The marchers drove through the night, arriving Saturday morning at the staging area near the Vietnam War Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial. There they were greeted by tens of thousands of fellow demonstrators preparing to march on the Pentagon for a rally demanding an end to the war. This

march occurred on the fourth anniversary of the invasion of Iraq by US and allied forces, and forty years after another march on the Pentagon in protest of the war in Vietnam.

Music played over a massive bank of speakers as demonstrators gathered, and announcers periodically reported the locations from which marchers had arrived. "Kentucky is in the house! Louisiana is in the house! Florida... Alabama... Australia... Turkey..." The start of the march was delayed to accommodate buses needing extra travel time to struggle through a snowstorm in New England. Stuart, Sophie, and Cyrus pushed their way to the front of the crowd, where they enjoyed a clear view of the podium, and of several hundred counter-demonstrators across the street. Police on foot and on horseback maintained a buffer zone between the two groups to prevent violent confrontations. Stuart reported that the counter-demonstration was something he had not expected, and something he is unlikely to forget. Sophie agreed: "All the dirty words, yelling, anger, and tension were a surprise. They were flicking us off and cussing at us. Some of my friends had horse manure thrown at them, but luckily it missed." "One guy had a sign that said, 'Peace sucks.' I felt bad that they don't feel peace is the best way to settle things," said Stuart. Both acknowledged that cussing and gesturing occurred on both sides of the line, and that it was probably a good thing the police were there to keep the two groups apart.

As marchers continued to gather at the staging area, a parade of speakers came to the microphone: relatives of service members killed in Iraq; veterans of the current and previous wars; active duty service members working on behalf of themselves and others seeking conscientious objector status; a lawyer working to bring articles of impeachment against the president and members of his administration; representatives from an array of peace activist groups calling for increased resistance to the war, calling particularly upon students and youth to channel their energy for nonviolent resistance to the war. Between speakers, the organizers led the crowd in anti-war chants and played an eclectic mix of reggae, hip-hop, rock, and folk music over the sound system.

When the march began, organizers invited veterans and relatives of service members currently serving in Iraq or killed in action to come to the front and take the lead. The demonstrators filed along the three-mile route across the Potomac River to the Pentagon, singing, chanting, and dancing, flanked and heckled for part of the way by counter-protesters calling them cowards and traitors, and in at least one case, throwing manure at them. However, the detractors fell away at the bridge across the Potomac, and the marchers continued unmolested to the north parking lot of the Penta-

gon, where, under the teams on the ground, and snipers on the roof, commenced. Demon- together for warmth and tures hovered around northwest breeze pro- tor in the low teens. “My the end of the march,” not complaining. Asked participated, his reply “Yes! I really think what is bad and I want to be a want to participate in the war.” Cyrus drew considerable attention from local paparazzi, who seemed eager to capture his winning smile through the spaces in his pentagon-shaped peace sign.



watchful eyes of SWAT helicopters in the air, the post-march rally strators huddled to- shelter as tempera- freezing and a stiff duced a wind chill fac- feet hurt really bad by said Cyrus, but he was if he was glad he had was an enthusiastic [the president] is doing part of saying I don't this. Maybe he'll stop

Enthusiasm reigned as the marchers boarded the bus for the return trip, exchanging stories and viewing pictures and video footage. A reporter from the *Lafayette Journal and Courier* interviewed several riders by phone, including Sophie. As the bus began to make its way back home, the driver made a detour that took the group around Capital Hill and the Mall, and past the White House and the Washington Monument. The 33 riders on the chartered bus represented a mix of religious backgrounds, including Catholics, Episcopalians, Baptists, Mennonites, Quakers, Jews, and Athe- ists. Fourteen of the riders were under 25, six were under 13, and two were under 10. The group was unexpectedly blessed with extra bonding time due to mechanical difficulties that stranded them in Hagerstown, Maryland. The bus company arranged for motel accommodations while the group waited for another bus to come from Indianapolis and take them home. The weary travelers arrived in West Lafayette Sunday evening, about 48 hours after they had departed.

It has been noted that Ginger Rodgers did everything Fred Astaire did, only backwards and in high heels. The six marchers under the age of 13 did everything the grown-ups did. They walked the same route, they endured the same bitter cold and biting wind, they sat on the same bus for the same interminable hours; and they did it all with shorter legs and shorter attention spans. They did it with grace and enthusiasm, with poise and good humor, and all of them agreed without hesitation that they would do it again. Well, maybe after having some time to rest and catch up on sleep. This reporter's hat is off to them.

Reminder!! Reminder!!

The deadline for the Eagle is still the third Monday of every month except for June. Any changes will be announced well in advance.

Please be prompt!

Office Assistant: A Ministry for You?

The Personnel Committee has encouraged Teresa, as Parish Administrator, to develop a team of volunteer Office Assistants. These volunteers would free her to attend to tasks more related to her primary duties. I encourage this development, and now offer you Teresa's own description of what she envisions the ministry of Office Assistant to be. EJT

What I hope to accomplish by having a call-out is to line up a corps of volunteers who can serve when needed, performing tasks of a specific nature. Nancy Tobias and Sue Bracey have been doing a wonderful job as volunteer receptionists on a weekly basis, and that has been a great help. With a larger group I hope to be able to coordinate volunteers with responsibilities for specific tasks within their level of comfort. Some of the responsibilities would require computer skills (of varied degrees), others telephone skills, etc.

A few of the tasks include:

- ◆ Recording memorial gifts and mailing thank you letters
- ◆ Sending and receiving Letters of Transfer and posting to the appropriate parish register
- ◆ Mailing weekly readings to Lectors
- ◆ Mail, email or telephone reminder notices each week to those serving as oblationers and possibly expand this ministry to include others on the weekly rota.
- ◆ Track/follow-up to gather information on births, deaths, weddings, address changes, etc. for the Eagle and the parish roster in general
- ◆ Prepare mailings

Here are a few Office Assistant "requirements":

- ◆ Possess personal maturity, discretion and have the ability to keep confidences
- ◆ Be reliable, and able to meet deadlines
- ◆ Be willing to help with something that might be done only occasionally (some of the tasks may only require quarterly attention, others once a month, some weekly, some every other week.)

There is also a need for occasional substitute receptionists who could give a few hours to be in the office and answer the phones and greet people when they come in. These people would be expected to master a few telephone system functions, such as putting callers on hold (and not losing them!) transferring calls, etc. We will offer training and have written instructions for all volunteer assistant duties as would be helpful.

When I have a few names I would like to ask one person to serve as Office Volunteer Coordinator. I envision being able to call this person and tell them what is needed – they would then line up the appropriate volunteer(s) to come in and do the work. In this way I would make one call and know that a volunteer would be forthcoming, instead of perhaps having to make several calls myself.

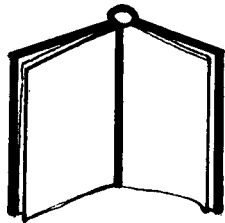
Thanks for considering this as a way you can help St. John's! Call 742-4079 or email me at <teresa@stjohns-laf.org> if this sounds interesting to you or you'd like to know more.

Music Notes

On March 4, the adult choir offered Choral Evensong and the gathered assembly learned of and supported the ministry of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wabash Valley. An offering of \$504.00 was received and forwarded on behalf of St. John's. Several in attendance also are considering direct involvement with Big Brothers Big Sisters, since there are more than one hundred children on a list in need of mentoring.

The final concert of this program year will be a **Two Organ Spectacular** on Friday May 4 @ 7:30pm. Michael Bennett and Marc Loudon will perform simultaneously on *two* organs, presenting classical, pop and orchestral transcriptions. Do not miss this unique performance – who needs an orchestra!

M.J.B. →



Poetry Night at St. John's Book Club

Poetry is literature for people on the go...go...go! It's quick, it's fun. It's insightful! We'll watch poetry performed, we'll listen to poems, and we'll read our favorites.

Restore your spirit by joining folks at St. John's Book club as they celebrate National Poetry Month in April on **Wednesday April 18th from 7-8 pm.**

Bring your favorite poemAND bring a NEW Poem that you like! Where can I find new poems? Why at your local library, whether it's at Purdue, in West Lafayette or at a Tippecanoe County Public Library location. Browse online at the following wonderful websites: www.poetry-online.org, www.poem.org/, www.poetryarchive.org/, www.loc.gov/poetry/180/, www.poems.com/, www.poets.org/poemADay.php.

Questions? Contact Amy Paget @paget_family@yahoo.com or at 742-4239

P.S. Coming up in May, we'll be reading Adam Gopnik's wonderful tale of life in Paris, — *Paris Moon*. Check it out at www.randomhouse.com/

Under One Roof

Under One Roof, the Diocese of Indianapolis' annual education event was held Saturday March 3 at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. St. John's parishioners Ed and Patty Tourangeau, Hilary Cooke, Andrea Radamacher, Heidi Kauffman and Amy Paget attended. A keynote session and 38 sessions were offered!

Nathan Dungan was the keynote speaker. He is the president and founder of Share-Save-Spend™, <http://www.sharesavespend.com/>, an organization that helps people of all ages develop and maintain healthy financial habits. He is an expert on family finances and the effects of mass marketing on young people. Nathan's book, [Prodigal Sons and Material Girls: How Not to Be Your Child's ATM](#) (John Wiley), was released in 2003. Dungan noted that the values driven and multigenerational makeup of the church makes it an ideal venue to have conversations about money. Young people need to understand that they can change the world through collective differences in their approaches to money. All parishes have a copy of his book. [FLASH, this just in from Heidi...St. John's will be purchasing this program and trying it out in the Fall of 2007].

Amy Paget and Heidi Kaufman attended an interesting session titled "Scripture Up Close and Personal." Reverend Ellen Morell had us practice 'filling in the white spaces' between the scripture text by speaking as the characters in Biblical stories. Bibliodrama dramatizes the Jewish spiritual practice of Midrash or textual exegesis. The process really opens additional meanings in the stories. If you are interested, you can learn more at <http://www.bibliodrama.com/>.

Amy also attended a session with Sister Ellen Jones-Carney on Lectio Divina. This directed reading is another name for the African Bible study style that we use in adult Bible study at St. John's. Sister Ellen Jones-Carney is the solitary religious who writes a column in *Tidings*. She told us that her job is to practice contemplative prayer and meditation and share her insights with the Diocese. Sister Ellen is semi-retired and supports herself as a part-time nurse. She told us that there are about 23 solitary religious or modern hermits in the United States.

—Amy Paget

EASTER EGG HUNT

Bring your baskets! The annual St. John's Easter egg hunt will be held on Easter Sunday, April 8th. All children from ages 0 to 10 years are invited to participate. The format will be the same as in the years past: it will be held immediately following the 10:15am service. All should gather outside the Bishop's Parlor for the official photograph to start the event. Then the littlest ones will search for their eggs in the Bishop's Parlor while the older participants will search both the commons and the Memorial Garden. It should be fun for all. We hope to see you there!!

Nolie Parnell and Kelley Bailey



UTO

What do you know about UTO – the United Thank Offering?

Their MISSION is to EXPAND the CIRCLE of THANK-FUL PEOPLE. To achieve this mission – daily prayers, offerings and the awareness of our abundance of God’s blessings are encouraged.

We are reminded that the first official UTO offering was held in 1889. The money was used to send a woman missionary to Japan and to build a church in Annville, Alaska. Many Episcopalians know about the “Blue Box” airplane given to the Bishop of Alaska in the 1950’s.

Did you know the United Thank Offerings has, in many instances, led the church to its work? UTO has been out in front in funding new work that was eventually embraced and funded as the work of the whole church. From its inception, UTO has striven to “expand thee mission and ministry of the church” and “to address compelling human need.” These needs around the world are most great. UTO provides a personal and meaningful way for each of us to help. Through your daily prayers and offerings of thankfulness for all the benefits and blessings in our respective lives, we ultimately reach others across the country and the world in Christ’s name. Do you have a “blue box” for yourself or your family?

Our St. John’s spring ingathering of UTO offerings will be May 6, 2007 at both services.

Yours in Christ,
Mary Louise Davis

As promised, another installment of Jack Albright’s unpublished opus -
Memoirs of a Geezer

On Love

In the American culture, the word love is over – used. So many people, young and old alike, say things like, “I just love your shirt” or “I just love chocolate.” Many of us are guilty of over-using this important word. Many years ago, when my father-in-law was alive and living in Pullman, Washington, we were washing dishes following a scrumptious Thanksgiving turkey dinner. I told Howard Hughes, my favorite father-in-law, “I just love turkey.” Without a pause, he responded, “You can’t love turkey – it can’t love you back.” It seems when Howard was attending Walla Walla High School, his English teacher was emphatic about the word “love.” You can love your parents, spouse, and children because they can love you back so love should be reserved for animate things. Since that day, it has been “I enjoy turkey, I like chocolate.”

Many lectures later about the word “love,” I think about Howard and how he changed my life and that of others.

“Today, the term ‘love’ has become one of the most frequently used and misused of words.” Pope Benedict XVI in a document titled “Deus Caritas Est” or God Is Love, January 25, 2006.

The February Annual Meeting invited parishioners to “give thanks” for the work of others. Many responded, and herewith is the result of that little exercise. We are thankful for:

- ◆ Michael Bennett's work on the Youth Choir program, the opportunity to worship through music, teaching our children to sing and worship, his hard work with all aspects of music, for being an inspiring and patient choir director, and planning new programs.
- ◆ Steve (Byrn) and Charlene (Watson) for a wonderful Youth Sunday School class.
- ◆ Ted Paget for attention to details that make worship smooth and accessible, for wonderful sound.
- ◆ Hilary (Cooke) for reminding us of the divine feminine, her work with youth.
- ◆ Tony Bailey for changing batteries (*in the programmable thermostats? ed*), monthly building checks.
- ◆ Teresa (Lohrman) for professionalism, kindness, courtesy and expertise and courage to run this place especially the Food Pantry.
- ◆ Fiona, Harmony, Hope, Keenan, Sarah, Ben, Harry, Frances, Victoria, Eric, Darby, Kylie, Thomas and Viviane for brightening my Sunday mornings.
- ◆ Jim Wallin for having my back every Sunday morning.
- ◆ Heidi Kauffman for her passionate enthusiasm, educational offerings, the professionalism she brings and the ways she encourages us to be open to new things.
- ◆ Susan Chandler and Laura Brickey for wonderful consistent childcare.
- ◆ Kelley Bailey for fantastic nursery coordinating.
- ◆ Nolie Parnell and Kelley Bailey for chairing the nursery program, giving us Mom's Morning Out and Date Night, cleaning the nursery and setting the schedules.
- ◆ Fr. Ed for strength, kindness, providing a sense of security, offering permission for all kinds of experience and background, hanging in there until we were able to find additional priestly support, loveable leadership.
- ◆ Linda Jeffries for all you do and are: Worship and Music Committees, Vestry member, friend, volunteering to serve as Vestry Clerk (again!).
- ◆ Amy and Ted Paget for your support and eagerness to support Education for All.
- ◆ Martin Stob for unlocking and fixing the coffee every Sunday morning.
- ◆ Nolie Parnell for all her contributions to St. John's.
- ◆ Andrea Rademacher for leadership and initiative within the Property Committee.
- ◆ Gwen Kerlin for locking up and doing building security every Sunday.
- ◆ Mary Campbell for doing the liturgical rota.
- ◆ Janet Huber for six-plus years of editing the Eagle.
- ◆ Jane Vanable for scheduling Food Pantry volunteers and welcoming new people.
- ◆ Jackie Paar for work with the Food Pantry.
- ◆ AllAltar Guild members for beautiful and quiet work.
- ◆ Sue Bracey for working coordinating our flowers.
- ◆ Greg Buzzard and Isaac Buzzard Cooke for sharing Hilary with us.
- ◆ John (Lindenlaub), Paul (Lawson) and Bob (Slagel) for the gift of light.
- ◆ The Property Committee for all they do to maintain the place.
- ◆ Lloyd Brewer for coordinating Foyer Groups.
- ◆ Maggie McClure for being a Jubilee Christmas Chairperson Extraordinaire.
- ◆ GOD for sunshine on a freezing day.
- ◆ All Vestry members and officers for their time and energy and commitment.
- ◆ St. John's family for love, prayers, meals and support during Fall/Winter health problems.
- ◆ Caryl Matthews for organizing a friendly social support system.

So... are there others?