

THE LION

Volume 4

April/May 2010

Issue 4

Message from the Rector

“...old things are past away; behold, all things are become new.”

I Corinthians 5:17 (revisited)

It has been a long, cold winter for Vero Beach, hasn't it? Long-time residents of our community have remarked that they can't remember a time when we have had such cold or, at least, cool weather day after day after day. But finally Spring is in the air, the oak trees are pushing forth bright green leaves, the flowers are beginning to bloom, and all the old dead foliage around us beginning to be replaced by new living leaves and flowers. Spring is in the air; and that means Easter!

Every Easter brings with it a sense of rebirth and renewal. Just as we were buried with our Lord in Baptism, so are we resurrected with him to newness of life. While Lent has pointed us in a new direction in life, and (hopefully, at least) has reoriented our lives towards a closer following of our Lord, Easter and the entire Easter season are our first steps in following in that direction. “...old things are past away,” St Paul says, “behold, all things are become new.”

But we certainly must not stop there. The lessons we learned during Lent must stay fresh in our minds, and we must continue to walk ever-closer with our Lord each and every day of our lives. And, of course, we do that by living our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us by virtue of our Baptism, and who not only unites us to Jesus Christ himself, but who also unites us to the entire Holy Trinity itself. We have a power beyond measure coursing through our spiritual veins, and it is the power by which we learn to live the Christ-like life.

It is by the Holy Spirit that we learn to live our lives the way Jesus lived his, and to love other people the way Jesus loved them, and do all the things that Jesus did when he walked this earth amongst us. As a matter of fact, on the night in which Judas sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver, our Lord promised that we would do greater things than even he did himself (cf. Jn 14:12); and, of course, it is by the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us that we do all these things.

But what we must remember is that in order to do them all effectively, we must *all* be doing them. Each and every one of us must be the eyes, hands, and feet of Jesus Christ to those around us. That is how our Lord now ministers to far more people than he could when he walked the face of this earth, and that is the “greater works than these” that Jesus was talking about. We have it in our power – now – to “incarnate” him into the world around us, bringing him to people who need him in all sorts of ways; and the more of us who are doing that, the more work of ministry that gets done. Jesus Christ still ministers in much the same way he did when he walked this earth amongst us; now he just does it through us.

Spring is in the air; “...old things are past away; behold, all things are become new.” I wish each and every

one of you a very blessed Easter, and may our Lord bless each and every one of us richly as we bring him into the world. Amen.

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Women's Bible Study

Linda Philpott

We have completed the first women's Bible study regarding the life of Joseph. All members of the class really enjoyed reading and digging into Scripture for themselves, learning a lot about what is written in the Bible, and what it teaches us about how to conduct our lives. On Wednesday, April 7, there will be a DVD presentation on Precept Ministries founder, Kay Arthur. We will begin at 10:00 a.m., watch the first video, have a short coffee break, watch the second video, then have lunch. A three week study on St Paul's Epistle to Titus will begin on April 14 at 10:00 a.m. Please contact Linda Philpott (794-3750) no later than March 31 if you wish to be a part of this study. In the Fall there will be studies on Abraham and the Book of Exodus. All ladies of the parish are welcome.

Music Notes

Kathleen Knott, Music Director

The St Mark's Choir has been very dedicated in their preparations for Passiontide and the Easter season. We are pleased that the children will be joining the adult choir for a Palm Sunday anthem, and we will once again be having our guest trumpeter on Easter Sunday morning. He is a student at Sebastian High School and is planning to major in music in college. We are looking forward to having him with us again.

On the Fourth Sunday in Lent, I played Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* (K. 618) for the offertory. This well-known piece by the classic composer was originally conceived as a choral Eucharistic hymn. The hymn's title means "Hail True Body" and the text is even more meaningful than the beautiful music. The poem for the text was derived from a fourteenth century German manuscript and refers to our belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The text also reminds us that the Eucharist is a foretaste of Heaven.

Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
whose pierced side
flowed with water and blood:
May it be for us a foretaste (of the Heavenly banquet)
in the trail of death.
Oh dear Jesus, Oh merciful Jesus, Oh Jesus, son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness

Isn't that what the old proverb says? On Saturday, March 20, about twenty hearty souls worked diligently to clean both the church and parish hall. The church needed cleaning, but the parish hall – especially the kitchen and kitchen area – more so. Many of us simply take it for granted that someone else is going to wipe the counter when we spill our coffee, pick up the crumbs when we drop or wipe them onto the floor, or clean the tables when we get up to leave. Please: in order to keep our uninvited guests to a minimum (ants!) and help one another, be sure to pick up your crumbs and wipe up spills. Let's all work together to keep both the church, and especially the parish hall, clean.

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ACW News

Linda Philpott, President

March 4 proved to be a blustery day in Vero Beach, but that did not dampen the spirits of twelve ladies and one gentleman who forged ahead on a walking tour of Old Vero, led by Indian River County Historian, Ruth Stanbridge. Ruth is a fountain of knowledge and has a deep love for the city of Vero Beach. Those who attended thoroughly enjoyed the day learning about old Vero and its founding. We would encourage everyone to take this tour in order to learn more about the community and Indian River County.

At our March meeting, new officers for the upcoming year were elected. They are Bobbie Winger, President; Linda Philpott, Vice President; Donna Burton, Recording Secretary; Era Hawkins, Corresponding Secretary; Ann Dozetos, Treasurer; Carol Strong, Assistant Treasurer; and Sheila Ward, Chaplain. As the new officers plan for the new year, we would welcome any suggestions, ideas, or speakers you might know of in our community. Also, if you have a hobby or interest you would like to share with us, please contact Bobbie Winger (231-0580) or Linda Philpott (794-3750).

Our guest speakers for the March meeting were Pam Proctor and Carol Breining of the Military Moms Prayer Group. Pam founded the organization in 2006 with a small group of women and they now have about 60 who pray together weekly for our young men and women who serve our country in the military all over the world. They also provide care packages at Christmas and St Valentine's Day. You can certainly help this ministry by just praying for our military in your personal prayers, or if you wish to help, you may contact them at info@militarymomsprayergroup.com.

Our April meeting will be held on Thursday, April 15 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Our guest speaker will be Freddie Woolfork, Director of the Gifford Youth Activity Center. Come prepared to be totally inspired by this gentleman who grew up in Gifford, loves his Lord, and serves his community in a myriad of ways. Please invite friends. A potluck lunch will follow.

On Friday, April 30, at 11:00 a.m. the ACW will tour the Vero Beach Art Museum, followed by lunch at Waldo's. If you would like to attend, please contact Donna Burton (dburton001@cfl.rr.com) as soon as possible.

The 2009-2010 board would like to say "thank you" to Father Mike and the parishioners of St Mark's for helping us have a successful year. Happy Easter to all.

St. Mark's Men

Attention Men! We are ready for another gathering of fun and fellowship at Waldo's in Vero Beach on Friday, April 16, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (happy hour prices). Our last get-together was very well received. If you missed it, please join us for this one. You won't be sorry. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex on Easter Sunday (April 4) so we will know how much space to reserve. If you have any questions, please contact John Burton at 321-327-3485. A good time will be had by all!

Upcoming Holy Days

April/May/Early June Holy Days

April 5 (12:00 p.m.) – Easter Monday

April 6 (12:00 p.m.) – Easter Tuesday

May 13 (12:00 p.m.) – Feast of the Ascension

May 24 (12:00 p.m.) – Monday in Whitsun Week

May 25 (12:00 p.m.) – Tuesday in Whitsun Week

June 11 (12:00 p.m.) – Feast of St Barnabas the Apostle

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St. Mark's Anglican Church **Rev. Michael L. Ward, SSA** **Rector**

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www.stmarksvero.org

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 6994
Vero Beach, FL 32961-6994

Schedule of Services

Sunday

8:00 a.m. – Holy Communion (said)

9:00 a.m. – Sunday School (all ages)

10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion (sung)

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer and Discipleship Forum

Holy Days
as announced

Important Phone Numbers:

Fr. Ward
Calvin Brown (Sr. W.)
Melvin Knott

(o) 772-234-8400 (h) 772-569-6506 (c) 772-538-1319
(o) 772-231-4343 (h) 772-794-7719 (c) 772-532-0475
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