THE LION

Volume 11 April/May 2017 **Issue 5**

Curate's Corner

Fr. Randall Russell

St. John Chrysostom is known by many throughout the Church as one of the greatest preachers to have ever lived and if anyone has ever read one of his sermons it's pretty easy to understand why. The clarity and zeal of his preaching, which appealed most especially to the common people of his own day, earned him the Greek surname Chrysostom which means "golden-mouthed." St. John Chrysostom was ordained a deacon of the Church in the year 381 A.D., a priest of the Church in 386, and in 397 was made the Archbishop of Constantinople. He died on September 14 in the year 407. Even though Chrysostom lived over fifteen hundred years ago, many of his sermons are still read in several churches throughout the world today, most especially his now famous Easter Sunday sermon which you can read in its entirety below. The sermon itself actually references Matthew 20:1-16 a few times, so it might be a good idea to read those verses before reading the sermon. Thank you and enjoy!

The Famous Easter Sunday Sermon of St. John Chrysostom

If anyone is devout and a lover of God, let them enjoy this beautiful and radiant festival. If anyone is a grateful servant, let them, rejoicing, enter into the joy of his Lord.

If anyone has wearied themselves in fasting, let them now receive recompense.

If anyone has labored from the first hour, let them today receive the just reward.

If anyone has come at the third hour, with thanksgiving let them feast.

If anyone has arrived at the sixth hour, let them have no misgivings; for they shall suffer no loss.

If anyone has delayed until the ninth hour, let them draw near without hesitation.

If anyone has arrived even at the eleventh hour, let them not fear on account of tardiness.

For the Master is gracious and receives the last even as the first; He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, just as to him who has labored from the first.

He has mercy upon the last and cares for the first; to the one He gives, and to the other He is gracious. He both honors the work and praises the intention. Enter all of you, therefore, into the joy of our Lord, and, whether first or last, receive your reward.

O rich and poor, one with another, dance for joy!

O you ascetics and you negligent, celebrate the day!

You that have fasted and you that have disregarded the fast, rejoice today!

The table is rich-laden: feast royally, all of you!

The calf is fatted: let no one go forth hungry!

Let all partake of the feast of faith. Let all receive the riches of goodness.

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(Curate's Corner con'd)

Let no one lament their poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed.

Let no one mourn their transgressions, for pardon has dawned from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Saviour's death has set us free.

He that was taken by death has annihilated it!

He descended into Hades and took Hades captive!

He embittered it when it tasted His flesh!

And anticipating this, Isaiah exclaimed: "Hades was embittered when it encountered Thee in the lower regions".

It was embittered, for it was abolished!

It was embittered, for it was mocked!

It was embittered, for it was purged!

It was embittered, for it was despoiled!

It was embittered, for it was bound in chains!

Hades opened up its mouth to receive a corpse, yet met God.

It reached out for the earth, yet encountered Heaven.

It took what it saw, and yet was overcome by what it did not see.

O death, where is thy sting?

O Hades, where is thy victory?

Christ is risen, and death is overthrown!

Christ is risen, and the demons are cast down!

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!

Christ is risen, and life is liberated!

Christ is risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead!

For Christ, being raised from the dead, has become the first-fruits of them that have slept.

To Him be all Glory and Power and Dominion now and even unto ages of ages. Amen.

-St. John Chrysostom (349-407 A.D.)

Music Notes

Kathleen Knott, Music Director/Organist Good Shepherd Hymns

On May 7th we will read scripture and sing songs that celebrate Christ as the "Good Shepherd." Two of the most famous hymns from The 1982 Hymnal that focus on this metaphor are #645 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" and # 663 "The Lord My God My Shepherd Is."

Sir Henry William Baker (1821-1877) created the metrical paraphrase of Psalm 23 used in the #645 hymn. It first appeared in the 1886 appendix to the Hymns Ancient and Modern (1861) paired with the tune "Dominus Regit Me" by John Dykes. When compiling the 1906 English Hymnal, Vaughan Williams was unable to get permission to use the Dykes tune. In characteristic fashion, he turned to the folk tradition and used a tune collected by Charles Stanford in his edition of Irish music. The tune is named "St. Colomba" after the Irish saint. Vaughan Williams lengthened the second and forth lines and added the triplet figure in the sixth measure. The hymnody expert Carl Daw states that the, "3/4 Irish melody reinforces the experiential, affective and narrative elements of the text and accentuates the iambic stresses of the text."

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(Music Notes con'd)

The paraphrase of Psalm 23 in the # 663 hymn was written by F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984). The text is set to the "Crimond" tune created by Jesse Seymour Irvine (1836-1887). She wrote the tune while she was a teenager as part of an exercise for an organ class. She grew up as the daughter of a Church of Scotland parish minister who served during part of his ministry in the town of Crimond in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The "Crimond" tune has a pastoral quality that serves to illuminate the Psalm 23 paraphrased text.

ACW Linda Philpott

Congratulations to Ann Dozetos and Priscilla Reilly for chairing the ACW's third ReMARKable Treasures Sale and thank you to all who donated their time and treasures, especially some of our dear men. It was a very successful event, netting \$3300. Mark your calendars for next year's event, Saturday, February 3.

In February, Father Mike was our guest speaker, leading a workshop on the book <u>Lectio Divina</u> by Fr. M. Basil Pennington. In preparation for Lent, this book is a guide and aid for centering prayer.

In March, the ACW celebrated 10 years as a women's ministry and all the original members were honored with notes, cake and champagne. Anne Michael, long time Vero Beach resident shared a wonderful history of the Michael family and their contributions to Vero and the local Citrus industry.

The ACW will hold its second Diocesan Luncheon on Saturday, May 13, 2017 beginning at 11:00 am with a Holy Communion service followed by lunch and program. Several other parishes have been invited to attend and we wish all our members to attend as well.

Our speaker for the April meeting will be Connie Poppel from Habitat for Humanity, please join us.

Grief Share

Peggy Scott

I became a widow at the end of February, 2016. Approximately 6 weeks ago, I began a course entitled "Grief Share."

This is a professionally presented course using videos, one shown at each session, along with a companion workbook to study the many causes of and reactions to grief. A participant uses the workbook to write out their thoughts/feelings when a subject comes up that makes them reflect about their own grief. This is a Christ-centered course of 13 weeks and is facilitated by Deacon Josh Gritter at Trinity Episcopal Church.

I would like to recommend this course to anyone who is grieving a loss; spouse, child, relative or friend. The next planned session of Grief Share will be held in October, 2017, at Trinity Episcopal Church.

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Upcoming Holy Days

April/May/June Holy Days

April 10-12 (8:00 a.m. and noon) – Holy Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

April 13 (6:00 p.m.) – Maundy Thursday

April 14 (noon) – Good Friday and Stations of the Cross

April 15 (4:00 – 5:00 p.m.) – Sacramental Confessions

April 16 (8:00 and 10:00 a.m.) – Easter Sunday (10:00 a.m. service with incense)

April 17 (noon) – Easter Monday

April 18 (noon) – Easter Tuesday

April 25 (noon) – Feast of St Mark the Evangelist

May 01 (noon) – Feast of St Philip and St James, Apostles

May 25 (noon) – Feast of the Ascension

June 12 (noon) – Feast of St Barnabas

June 24 (10:00 a.m.) – Feast of St John the Baptist

June 29 (noon) – Feast of St Peter, Apostle

St. Mark's Anglican Church

Rev. Canon Michael L. Ward, SSA

Rector

Rev. Randall S. Russell

Curate

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