

CATHEDRAL VOICE

A NEWSLETTER FROM WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL • APRIL 2009

The Lord is Risen Indeed!

HOLY WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

The journey through the spiritual depths of Holy Week to the joyous splendor of Easter invites reflection on the significant events of Jesus' life, death, and glorious resurrection, and their meaning for our lives and our world. These sacred liturgies, comprising the heart of the Christian message, communicate God's deep love for the world. This holy space of light and love is open to all in this special season.

Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion

Holy Week opens with the story of Jesus' last days as he is acclaimed, arrested, tried, rejected, and finally crucified at Golgotha outside the gates of Jerusalem. The Passion of Jesus is enacted in the liturgy at 8:45 am and 11:15 am on Palm Sunday. The service begins in triumph and ends in silence, inviting reflection on the hope and love of the Lord's redemption.

A musical setting of the Passion is offered in an afternoon concert by the Cathedral Choir. At 4 pm, Director of Music Michael McCarthy conducts the Cathedral's traditional performance of Bach's *St. John Passion*. Performed with a Baroque-period orchestra, this ticketed musical event offers a dramatic and moving encounter with the central Christ story. Tickets are available through the Cathedral box office and at the door.

Maundy Thursday

The Last Supper is the center of worship on Maundy Thursday. In preparation for the commemoration of that holy meal, worshipers participate in the washing of feet as Jesus washed the feet of his followers in a gesture of service and love.

Good Friday

The most solemn day of the church year recalls the crucifixion and death of Jesus. The Liturgy for Good Friday unfolds during the three-hour service beginning at noon. Solemn prayers, hymns, meditations, devotions

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Holy Week Schedule

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:30 am - Holy Eucharist, *St. Joseph's Chapel*
 Noon - Holy Eucharist with Renewal of Ministry Vows, *nave*
 5:30 pm - Evening Prayer, *War Memorial Chapel*
 7:30 pm - Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing, *nave*
 10 pm-midnight - Vigil with the Reserved Sacrament, *St. Joseph's Chapel*

GOOD FRIDAY

7:30 am - Communion from Reserved Sacrament, *St. Joseph's Chapel*
 Noon-3 pm - Three Hours Devotion, *nave*; meditation and prayer during the first, second, and third hours with Communion from the Reserved Sacrament during the third hour
 5:30 and 7:30 pm - Contemplative Evening Prayer with Chant, *St. Joseph's Chapel*

HOLY SATURDAY

7:30 am and noon - Communion from Reserved Sacrament, *St. Joseph's Chapel*
 4 pm - Evening Prayer, *St. Joseph's Chapel*
 8 pm - The Great Vigil of Easter, *nave*

THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST: EASTER DAY

8 am - Festival Holy Eucharist of Easter Day, *nave*; sign language interpreted
 11 am - Festival Holy Eucharist of Easter Day, *nave*; free passes required; sign language interpreted
 4 pm - Easter Evensong, *great choir*
 5:15 pm - Easter Day Organ Recital, *nave*; Scott Dettra and Christopher Jacobson, *Cathedral organists*



WASHINGTON
 NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

Passes

A limited number of stand-by passes for the 11 am Easter service will be available approximately 30 minutes before the service from Episcopal Church House on the Cathedral grounds. Distribution of these passes is made on a space-available basis. Passes are not required for any other Holy Week or Easter service.

Do Not Be Afraid

Steve



A MESSAGE FROM CATHEDRAL VICAR STEPHEN HUBER

We can easily identify with the fear of Jesus' friends who encountered an angel and an empty tomb on Easter morning. They knew instinctively that something big was happening that would change things forever, starting with them. While Easter is the affirmation that Jesus is truly the incarnation of God, it is most poignantly an invitation to trust that the Holy Spirit will lead us to the fullness of life that we would not know without Jesus. It is an offer of freedom from the shackles of fear.

Harvard University preacher Peter Gomes observes that most of us are held captive by fear. He writes, "Everybody is fearful, terrified of some public or private demon, some terrible unnamed fear that gnaws away even in the midst of our joy, some cloud that hangs over our head or in the

When the women went to the tomb on Easter morning, an angel appeared to them and said, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen...he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him."

recesses of our spirit. It is fear...that keeps us from being whole." Particularly in such uncertain times, Gomes's description of our human predicament resonates. But we also know fear's debilitating effect and how it roadblocks fully engaging the gift of life.

Trust is the foundation of faith and it frees us from fear. The first thing the women at the tomb did was trust the testimony of the angel. Trust allowed them to turn their fear into joy and then into courageous witness. It's helpful to remember the characteristics that marked the first post-resurrection community. Faith not only opened the eyes and hearts of those first Christians to the presence of Christ, it allowed them to walk with him into unimagined, uncharted territory, even when the journey didn't make sense. Faith, grounded in trust, cancelled out their fear. They trusted God would not abandon them and

would continue to lead them to new life, transformed, healed, and blessed. It was the difference between those who came to know the risen Lord and those whose journey ended with Good Friday.

The Acts of the Apostles, the book that follows the four gospels in the Bible and chronicles the first community of believers, is an amazing story about trust and overcoming fear. Jesus' disciples quickly learned that it was not they who were in charge; it was the Holy Spirit leading them toward God's purposes and giving them courage often along challenging pathways. So much of our fear comes from believing that we must be in control of every outcome.

Easter is always an offer of freedom and new life in the present tense. The resurrected Jesus will meet us where we are in our fears and anxieties, just as he did the frightened disciples. "He is going before you to Galilee." In other words, he is going before us right where we live. And, even in these challenging, uncertain times, if we will open ourselves to him, he will lead us from fear into a world of life and light marked by love. The Risen One will lead us to the wholeness of life for which we were created. ✿

Cathedral Voice is published monthly by the Communications and Marketing Department of Washington National Cathedral. Send subscription and address information to subscriptions@cathedral.org.

Washington National Cathedral is a church for national purposes called to embody God's love and to welcome people of all faiths and none. A unique blend of the spiritual and the civic, this Episcopal cathedral is a voice for generous-spirited Christianity and a catalyst for reconciliation and interfaith dialogue to promote respect and understanding. We invite all people to share in our commitment to create a more hopeful and just world.



Worship with Us

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before the cross, and administration of Holy Communion from reserved Sacrament form a powerful service focused on the images of the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Communion occurs in the third hour; worshipers may come and go as their schedules allow.

Contemplative Evening Prayer with Chant, at 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm, takes place in the intimacy of the Chapel of St. Joseph of Arimathea. According to the Gospel account, St. Joseph offered his own tomb as the resting place for the body of Jesus. In the quiet darkness of the tomb-like chapel, the Good Friday evening prayer includes Taizé chant, meditation, and candle-lighting.

Holy Saturday and the Great Vigil of Easter

Holy Saturday is a day of waiting and reflection as Jesus lies in the tomb. The Great Three Days draw to a close as the Great Vigil of Easter begins. The holiest night of the year grants opportunity to live anew the drama of salvation and redemption. The service exemplifies the great interplay between light and shadow: it begins in darkness with the lighting of new fire, which symbolizes the passage from death into life through Jesus Christ. Worshipers bring bells to ring at the moment marking the Resurrection.

Easter Day: The Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Easter Day celebrates the marvelous Feast of the Resurrection. We join with the disciples proclaiming, “The Lord is risen indeed!” This service is radiant with rich musical offerings, abundant flowers, spiritual inspiration, and exuberance in the commemoration of the Christian promise. ❀

(top) Ladies' hats were all the rage at the 1946 Easter service.

(right) Diana Butler Bass and Dean Lloyd at the March 8, 2009, Sunday Forum

THE SUNDAY FORUM

Due to Palm Sunday and Easter services, there are no Sunday Forum discussions offered on April 5 and April 12.

Making America a Less Violent Place

On April 19, Dean Sam Lloyd and Paul Helmke discuss violence in America, on the tenth anniversary of the Columbine shootings.

Paul Helmke is president of the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, a three-term mayor of Fort Wayne, Ind., and former president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Helmke worked with Brady Center founders Jim and Sarah Brady to build support for the landmark Brady gun law and the federal Assault Weapons Ban, and continues to work on other gun violence prevention campaigns.

America: Our Next Chapter

On April 26, Dean Sam Lloyd and Senator Chuck Hagel discuss the challenges facing America.

Chuck Hagel is a distinguished professor at Georgetown University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He serves on many advisory boards and is chairman of the Atlantic Council. Hagel represented the state of Nebraska for two terms in the United States Senate, where he was a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and Intelligence Committees. He is the author of *America: Our Next Chapter*.

Garden Tours & Woods Walks

Garden tours, lead by All Hallows Guild docents, resume in April. Offered at 10:30 am on Wednesday, the tours meet at the Herb Cottage.

The first Woods Walk of the season, “The History and Folklore of Flowers,” is on Thursday, April 23, at 10 am. The walk focuses on identifying wildflowers and their natural history, religious symbolism, and folklore. Meet at the George Washington equestrian statue on Pilgrim Road. ❀



D. Marks

The Practice of Recreation

On Saturday, April 25, at 10:15 am, Kurt Aschermann, president of Charity Partners Foundation and former senior vice president of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, delves into a Benedictine approach to recreation—a vital practice of balance that grounds our spiritual lives, our relationships, and livelihoods. In this interactive session, Aschermann, an associate of the Benedictine Order of Holy Cross, explores how simple systems for exercise, enjoying art and music, and reading can help us re-create toward lives of balance and reconciliation.

Listening, Hearing, and Living Series: The Practice of Recreation with Kurt Aschermann. Register at (202) 537-6217 or companions@cathedral.org. Tickets \$35 and \$20.



Gargoyles & Grotesques

Spring rains hearken not only the return of warmer weather, but also the return of gargoyle tours. Docents introduce the whimsical carvings that decorate and protect the walls from rain through a slide show and outdoor “hunt.” Binoculars are very useful for spotting higher-placed carvings.

Gargoyle Tours, offered at 2 pm on the fourth Sunday, April through October, and at 6:30 pm on the fourth Thursday, May–July. Recommended for ages 10+.



Cathedral Art

Agnus Dei

The Cathedral’s artifact collections are multifaceted, including rare books, tapestries, and paintings. Among the most extensive and unique is the Lucy Mackrille liturgical textile collection, a result of Mackrille’s lifelong service to the Diocese of Washington and this Cathedral. In 1893 Mackrille was appointed Bishop Satterlee’s secretary at his pro-Cathedral, Saint Mark’s Capitol Hill. Bishop Satterlee sent Mackrille to study church needlework in Baltimore and England so she could furnish the altars in his diocese. Mackrille returned from her year abroad with the great admiration of her teachers, the Sisters of the Church Extension, for her highly developed skills, and they invited her to use their ancient designs in the U.S. as she pleased. She founded and led the Cathedral Altar Guild (1908–1948).

Mackrille’s work has been exhibited numerous times at the Cathedral, and selections currently are on display in the *Dreamers and Believers* exhibit in the Rare Book Library Exhibit Room. Two burses emblazoned with the *Agnus Dei* (Latin for “Lamb of God”) are appropriate for this Easter season due to their resurrection iconography.

A burse is a flat, square book that is used to transport the corporal—a flat cloth that the chalice and host are placed upon—to the altar during Eucharist. The *Agnus Dei* is derived from a first-century image of Jesus as

the Good Shepherd carrying a lamb over his shoulders. In the Mackrille burses, the Lamb of God—representing a resurrected Christ—stands on fertile spring ground. The image evokes the Gospel of John: “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29). His head is adorned with a radiant tri-armed halo and he bears a cross, representing his passion, and a triumphal banner that celebrates his victory over death.

Both pieces probably date to the 1920s or 1930s and are made of heavy cream damask. The hand-stitched appliques have exquisite French-knot detailing on the Lamb and are surrounded by gold silk stitching that forms a quatrefoil, a Christian symbol of the cross and a common element in the Cathedral’s architecture. The larger burse is adorned with genuine pearls and semi-precious stones. The smaller burse was restored in late 2007 in preparation for exhibition.

Although these precious needlework pieces now are retired from liturgical use, their exquisite materials, design, and execution are perfect examples of the Cathedral’s commitment to excellence in all of its arts, and they continue to inspire awe and contemplation to many who visit the Rare Book Library. ✿



Cathedral Events

Candlelight illuminates the nave and faces of worshippers during the Great Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday.

through April 11

Exhibit: "Lament: The Stations and Other Images of the Cross" by Margaret Adams Parker, Pilgrim Observation Gallery, seventh floor

Palm Sunday, April 5

8:45 am and 11:15 am - Holy Eucharist

10:10 am - No Sunday Forum

4 pm - Concert: *St. John Passion*, with Cathedral Choir and Baroque Orchestra; tickets \$20-80

Maundy Thursday, April 9

7:30 pm - Holy Eucharist with Footwashing

Good Friday, April 10

noon-3 pm - Liturgy for Good Friday with Holy Communion in the third hour

5:30 and 7:30 pm - Contemplative Evening Prayer with Chant

Holy Saturday, April 11

8 pm - The Great Vigil of Easter

Easter, Sunday, April 12

8 am - Festival Holy Eucharist, Bishop of Washington John Bishop Chane, preacher

10:10 am - No Sunday Forum

11 am - Festival Holy Eucharist, Cathedral Dean Samuel T. Lloyd III, preacher; *seating passes required, only stand-by seating available*

4 pm - Easter Evensong

5:15 pm - Easter Day Organ Recital, Scott Dettra and Christopher Jacobson, organists

Learn More

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday is the celebration of the day Jesus and the disciples celebrated the Last Supper. The word *Maundy* is derived from the first word of the Latin phrase, *Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos*. This is the statement by which Jesus explained the significance of his washing their feet "A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you" (John 13:34).

APRIL 2009

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Wednesday, April 15

2:30 pm - Special Tour: "Abraham Lincoln: Whose Lonely Soul God Kindled"; tickets \$5

Saturday, April 18

4 pm - Kirkin' O' the Tartan

Sunday, April 19

10:10 am - Sunday Forum: Paul Helmke, "Making America a Less Violent Place"

11:15 am - Holy Eucharist

Thursday, April 23

10 am - Olmsted Woods Walk: "History and Folklore of Flowers," meet at the George Washington equestrian statue on Pilgrim Road

Friday, April 24

10:30 am - Annual ANZAC service

Saturday, April 25

10:15 am - Listening, Hearing, and Living Series: Kurt Aschermann, "The Practice of Recreation," tickets \$35, \$20

Sunday, April 26

10:10 am - Sunday Forum: Chuck Hagel, "America: Our Next Chapter"

11:15 am - Holy Eucharist

2 pm - Gargoyle Tour; tickets \$10

4 pm - Cathedral Choral Society British Choir Festival: Canterbury Cathedral Choir, the Choir of St. Thomas Church, New York, and Washington National Cathedral Choir; tickets \$20-\$80

Tuesday, April 28

6-9 pm - Cathedral Crossroads: Evelyn Torton Beck, "Opening to the New: Dancing Our Way Forward"

For a listing of regularly offered services, tours, and programs, or for additional information, visit www.nationalcathedral.org.



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JOIN US

Friday, May 1
10 am-6 pm

Saturday, May 2
10 am-5 pm

Rain or shine.

*photo: The antique carousel
is an annual family treat.*



FLOWER MART HONORS THE UNITED KINGDOM

Flower Mart is Washington, D.C.'s premier springtime garden celebration. Held on the grounds of the Cathedral since 1939, this outdoor family festival is sponsored by All Hallows Guild. This year's festival features plant sales, floral and horticultural displays, boutique booths, tasty foods, music, and entertainment, plus fun activities for children, including rides on the antique carousel. Proceeds benefit the Cathedral's gardens, grounds, and woodlands.

This year, Flower Mart honors the United Kingdom. Lady Sheinwald, wife of the British ambassador, has graciously agreed to serve as honorary chair. Watch the Cathedral's Web site for more details on specific programs for this year.

Flower Mart