



THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

St. John's Church, Salisbury, Connecticut 06068

The Rev. John F. Carter, Rector

May 2011

Gaile Binzen, Editor
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Rector's Corner

Easter

MARY MAGADLENE: MOURNING BROKEN

After Jesus was crucified on the day of the Passover, Joseph of Arimathea took his body away. Nicodemus assisted Joseph, bringing with him a mixture of myrrh and aloes. They wrapped Jesus in linen cloths. There was a garden in the place of crucifixion. A new tomb had been cut. (Mt. 27:59 ff) They laid Jesus there and rolled a great stone to seal the tomb; and they departed.

But Mary Magdalene sat there opposite the sepulcher.

Parting with the beloved can be excruciatingly final. There is comfort in staying close by and privacy to shed tears without restraint. There is a bridge to cross. A new, tender and unexplored territory awaits. So Mary Magdalene is there. She does not need to know why she is there. She is just there.

The throb of grief can shatter rest and sleep, but not without promise. Two days later, well before morning had broken, Mary Magdalene awoke. She got up in the dark of night to make her way to the tomb. A waning Passover moon shadowed her steps. She went alone, desiring again just to be close to Jesus, drawn to an unseen presence. When she saw that the stone sealing the tomb had been removed, she acted quickly. Alarmed and fearing that somebody had taken the body, she ran back to get Simon Peter and the other disciple whom Jesus loved. She told them that the body was gone, and poignantly added, "We do not know where they have laid him." Then the disciples race to the tomb.



The-disciple-Jesus-loved is faster and arrives first at the tomb, but does not go in. Then Peter arrives and goes right into the tomb. It is true to character for Peter to plunge into things. Then the other disciple goes in also. Unlike Mary who waits, they are in a hurry. It is not clear what they deduce from what they see. In a bland conclusion to this scene in the drama, the two of them simply return to their homes.

What are they thinking; what are they feeling? By reporting Peter as the first one to actually enter the tomb, the gospel writer is attempting to establish the primacy of Peter, a hierarchic preeminence that the Western church would solidify over the coming centuries.

But this is not simple. After the two disciples return to their homes, Mary again is alone outside the tomb weeping. She has lost Jesus twice now. She fears she will never see what remains of her beloved again. Take a moment and

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Drawings Courtesy Paul Bacon

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imagine being Mary outside the tomb í bereft, confused, knowing little and apparently fearing the worst. Not only is Jesusøbody gone, but as a final indignity, someone seems to have stripped it of the linen cloths in which it had been carefully wrapped and laid.

As she weeps, she bends over and looks into the cave. She sees two angels in white who ask her ironically, ðWoman, why are you weeping?ö The question delights us because we know the answer and we think we know the end of the story. Mary does not question the reality of the angels who communicate between this world and the other. The fact that she is unfazed and responds with trust says a lot about Mary. She repeats her lament about the disappearance of the body. Then Jesus appears. And, like the angels, he also asks her, ðWoman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?ö Mistaking him for the gardener (remember the tomb is in a garden), she wants to know if he has taken the body. If he would tell her where he has laid it she will take the body away. Maryø persistence and devotion is striking and touching. The body is the only thing she thinks she has left and she must find it. This longing to get close to Jesusøbody is not rational, neither is it irrational. It is deeper.

Seeing or touching the body of a deceased loved one can be fundamentally reassuring to the survivor.

Mary does not recognize Jesus until he calls her by name. What is it about the remembered voice of a loved one that connects? After he says, ðMaryö, simply ðMaryö, she knows instantly. She turns to him. What a turn that is. ðRabbouniö, she responds with recognition. Rabbouni is an affectionate term for ðteacherö. The use of an affectionate ending suggests something about the closeness of Mary Magdalene and Jesus.

Maryø seeing and understanding come in progressive phases. Naturally she wants to hold Jesus, but he says, ðDo not hold onto me because I have not yet ascended to the Father.ö Mary, like Jesus, is in transformation.

Mary Magdalene is sometimes referred to as the ðapostle of the apostlesö, or in the Middle Ages, *Apostola Apostolorum*. There is something very special about her. But why this title?

Because she stayed by the tomb when the other disciples went into hiding. She alone got up in the night and went unaccompanied to the tomb. She alone ran back to get Peter and the other disciple. She alone stayed outside the empty tomb and was the only one greeted by angels and then by Jesus himself. And finally, because she is the first one he commissions to go to the other disciples to tell them all she has seen.

Over two millennia Mary Magdalene has been inaccurately portrayed as a reformed prostitute, a repentant sinner. There is no sound scriptural basis for this unless you cook up a lot of different fragments from the four gospels and add to that recipe a large portion of projection. The church hierarchy developed this bad rap for the first five centuries after Jesusø death. It was sealed by Pope Gregory the Great in a sermon in 594. Episcopal Priest and theologian, Cynthia Bourgeault writes, ðThat in a nutshell is the -howøof it: the slippery slope along which we moved from Mary Magdalene -apostle of apostlesø to Mary Magdalene, penitent prostitute (whore).ö

continued p. 4

Reaching Out

Thoughts and prayers come by email
from people I haven't talked with in a
while.

“How are they?

Yours and theirs,” they ask.

We are one family; here and there.

We pray.

We reach.

Today I am low.

The day is dark and drizzly.

I wonder;

What is my mood compared to Japan

or even Libya, Haiti and others

nearby

known and unknown.

The landscape changes each day.

I search for gratitude and appreciation

and turn my face towards it.

Reaching and see-sawing

for the light.

Tonight I'll watch the moon rising

nearing full.

Bright darkness.

Many thoughts and prayers

wrapped in the glow of the moon.

Reaching out

to the earth

and her peoples.

Deborah Carter 03/16/2011

Life in the Parish

*Happy
Birthday!*

MAY

- 2 Danny Lake
Gloria Janelli Mitten
3 Leslie Allyn
David Bayersdorfer
16 Sue Spring
19 Tom Evans
23 Trish Stimpson
27 Ibba Williams
24 Leonie Brewer
Robert "Tap" Tapscott

JUNE

- 3 Walter deMelle
12 George Howard
16 Gregory Werntz
Mieke Armstrong
William Mitten
Annie Harris Milliken
19 Hector Umaña, Jr.
23 Francis Thorne
24 Susan Demelle



*For those of you who have
Children or Grandchildren
graduating this spring please let
us know so we can celebrate their
achievements with the parish.*

DID YOU KNOW ...

- ◆ That church attendance grew by 13 % last year?
- ◆ That parish membership grew by 7 % last year?
- ◆ That Church School attendance grew by 133% last fall?
- ◆ That, compared to his time last year, we have received generous pledges totaling \$161,931 an increase of \$14,343 or 9.45% over last year. This is the highest amount ever pledged in St. John's history.
- ◆ Congratulations St. Johnians! With another \$18,069 in pledges we could attain our 2011 pledge goal of \$180,000.00.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Christ Be My Leader

Christ be my leader by night as by day,
Safe through the darkness, for he is the Way.
Gladly I follow, my future his care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Timothy Dudley-Smith

DEATHS

Elizabeth Starr "Libby" McClintock, passed away March 2, 2011. A celebration of her life was held at St. John's on March 19.

Leonie E. "Elliot" Miller, passed away March 21, 2011, aged 95. A graveside committal was held at Salisbury Cemetery on March 26.

Donald R. Hart, Jr., passed away April 17, 2011.

A memorial service and celebration of her life was held for Ann Chauncey Cobb Thorne on April 30.

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Attempting to reverse centuries of distortion, in 1969 the Vatican officially rejected the composite version of Mary. Misrepresentation of Mary as the penitent prostitute, however, continues unabated in popular belief and culture; as in, for example, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar* and Mel Gibson's *The Passion of Christ*.

But this is not the Mary we encounter on this Alleluia day. This Mary comes to us strong-in-love and acts courageously and decisively. She relinquishes the one she adores and follows his command to go tell the disciples all she has seen and heard.

Marcus Borg and Dominic Crossan write, "Without Easter we wouldn't know about Jesus. If history had ended with the crucifixion he most likely would have been forgotten --- another Jew crucified by the Roman Empire in a bloody century that witnessed 1000s of such executions. *í* Easter is central."*ö*

Easter was God's *öyesö* to love over death and the vindication of Jesus' life and mission over the imperial powers that put him to death. Something extraordinary happened that day without which we would not be continuing faithfully to explore the nature of Jesus. In fact, we would not be here in this sanctuary today.

Nor would we be singing the praises of Mary Magdalene. We would have missed something vital, whole and immensely hopeful. What begins as a great loss for Mary is astonishingly resurrected. We too, through our losses, discover something more, something new, something joyful.

öi thank You God for most this amazing day:
for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky;
and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(*i* who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings:
and of the gay great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any--lifted from the no
of all nothing--human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened) e e cummings

Bin Laden & Beyond
Meditation by Rabbi Arthur Waskow
(Passed forward to you by the Rector)

"How might we address the death of a mass murderer?"

The Torah describes Moses and Miriam leading the ancient People Israel in a celebratory song after the tyrannical Pharaoh and his army have been overwhelmed by the waters of the Red Sea. Later, the Rabbis gave a new overtone to the story: "The angels," they said, "began to dance and sing as well, but God rebuked them: 'These also are the work of My hands. We must not rejoice at their deaths!'"

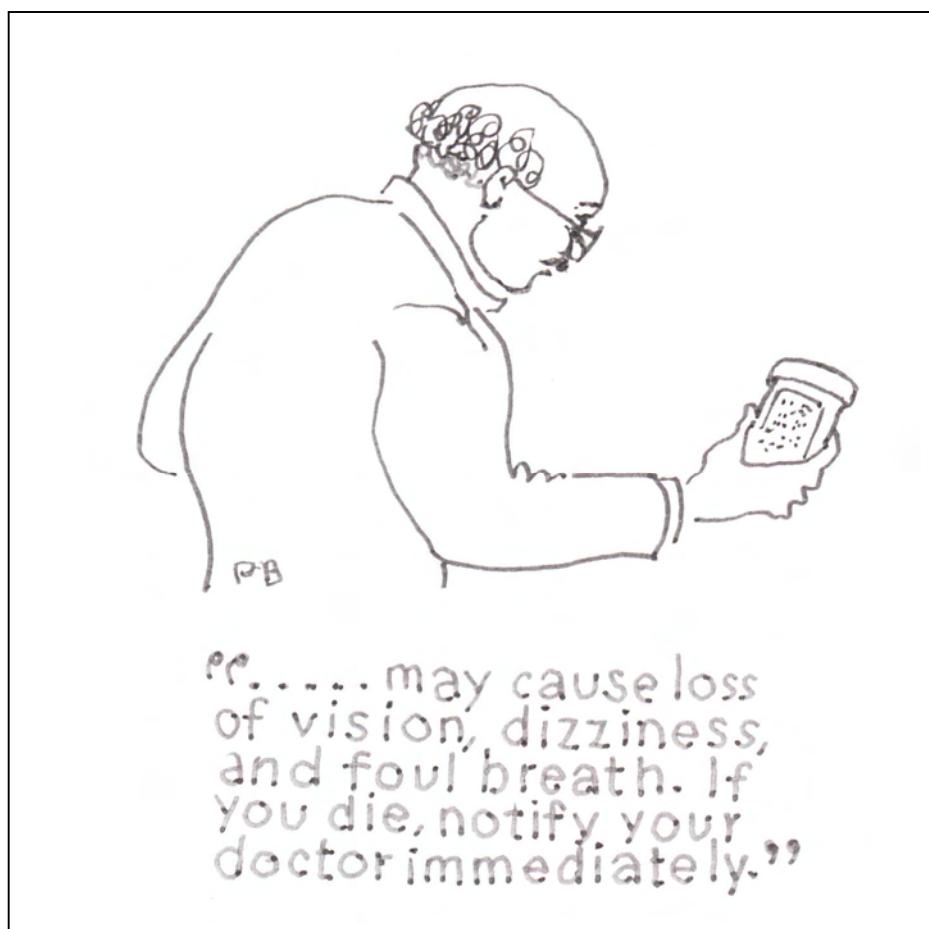
Notice the complexity of the teaching: Human beings go unrebuked when they celebrate the downfall and death of a tyrant; but the Rabbis are addressing our higher selves, trying to move us into a higher place. Similarly, we are taught that at the Passover Seder, when we recite the plagues that fell upon the Egyptians, we must drip out the wine from our cups as we mention each plague, lest we drink that wine to celebrate these disasters that befell our oppressors."

The above meditation written by Rabbi Waskow a day after Osama Bin Laden's death, resonates deeply with the heart of the Christian faith, especially with the Sermon on the Mount (See *Matthew 5:1-48*): and with much of Jesus' life and ministry.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy'. But I say to you love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Waskow's remarks underscore the often-overlooked-but-profound connection between the teachings of ancient Judaism and Jesus himself. Waskow concludes his piece with,

"Can we now say, 'Enough, enough!' -- refuse to drink the intoxicating triumphalist wine of celebration, and turn our attention and commitment to end wars that take on a deadly 'life' of their own? "

With blessings of shalom, salaam, peace --
Rabbi Arthur Waskow, director
The Shalom Center <http://www.theshalomcenter.org>



Heads Up from the Rector;

NEW TO OUR PARISH LIBRARY!

Two works of engrossing and challenging biblical scholarship by Marcus Borg, a leader in the "emerging church". Must reads!:

Reading the Bible Again for the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously but Not Literally.

and

Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time: The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith.

Also

Two recordings by Pema Chodron, regarded by many as one of the world's foremost teachers of meditation and Tibetan Buddhism:

How to Meditate: A practical Guide to Making Friends with Your Mind (5 CDs)
and

Unconditional Confidence: Instructions for meeting any experience with trust and courage (2 CDs)

NOTES FROM THE GOD SQUAD

Enlightenment For Beginners

by Karen LeSage

Jesus seemed ðlit from within.ö His friends, fans and followers wanted to know why he was so peaceful, purposeful, and guided. He believed everyone could achieve this, and made it his life's work to teach others how. He taught a way of life, with many facets.

I wondered, how does one (i.e., a certain church school teacher in America in the year 2011) teach an overview of Jesus's principles in 50 minutes to children ages 5-15? How about 5 steps? (We Americans love steps!!) This is the distillation I came up with:

1. Stillness
2. Atonement (ðWhat the heck is that?ö)
3. Forgiveness
4. Service
5. Celebration. (ðreally? celebration? cool!ö)

In my experience, these principles are interwoven and, like cycles in the natural world, occur in organic order, one leading to the next: In the **Stillness** of prayer and meditation, we become more aware of where we have gone wrong. This leads to **Atonement**, the recognition of our mistakes and an attempt to change our behavior. Once we try to change our behavior (and discover it is much easier said than done) it becomes easier to **Forgive** others for their errors. This cultivates compassion, and a desire to be of **Service**- to help, teach, and share our special gifts. Which feels great! And so, we **Celebrate**. We laugh, we dance, we sing. Together.

Of course, we will spend all of our lessons (and hopefully, all of our lives) working to understand and practice these principles. For now we will make a start. We will post our five steps in our meeting room, reminding us of the God Squad's mission here on Planet Earth.

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*Karen LeSage is the Church School Teacher at St. John's.
St. John's Church School invites children of all ages to participate on an on-going or drop-in basis. All are welcome! We combine a scripture-based curriculum with projects in a variety of creative media that illustrate how sacred principles apply to our everyday lives.
The sessions are held on Sundays at 9:50.am.*

American Music Center Honors Francis Thorne with Founders Award

The AMERICAN MUSIC CENTER (AMC), based in New York City, has awarded its 2010 Founders Award to Francis B. Thorne, Jr. The award ceremony took place March 25th, 2011, at Geer Village, Canaan, CT where Francis has been a resident since 2006. Family, friends, administrative staff of Geer, Michael Geller, Executive Director of the American Composers Orchestra (ACO) and representatives from ACO, AMC and BMI (Broadcast Music, Inc.) were in attendance. Steven Stucky, Chairman of the Board of AMC, presented the award to Francis.

The AMC Founders Award (established in 1999), AMC's highest honor, celebrates lifetime achievement in the field of contemporary American music. Francis embraced his passion for music composition after a varied career as a naval officer, banker and stock broker. It was in the mid-1950's that Francis decided to return to music and began performing as a jazz pianist at the Hickory House in Manhattan (for a two year engagement) after Duke Ellington heard him play. Of note is that Francis was born in to a musical family. His father, an investment banker by profession, was a ragtime pianist and always played the piano by ear. The maternal grandfather of Francis was a critic of Wagner's operas.

Francis moved his wife, Ann, and three daughters, Bo, Wendy and Candy, to Florence, Italy in 1958 to study music composition privately with David Diamond under whose expertise he developed the craftsmanship and confidence to pursue a professional composing career. Francis' first orchestral success, "Elegy for Orchestra", premiered by Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1964, when Francis was 42. Francis' compositions have been performed nationwide with major orchestras. His eclectic tastes led to his ground-breaking 1968 composition "Sonar Plexus" for electric guitar and orchestra. His catalogue includes over 120 works in every genre, ranging from intimate songs, choral pieces, piano pieces, seven symphonies, three piano concertos, four string quartets and an opera. Many of Francis' classical compositions are characterized by a distinct jazz flavor.

Francis has been the recipient of numerous commissions and awards from such organizations as The Academy of Arts and Letters (in to which he was inducted

in 1988), the Rockefeller Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Francis has advocated for contemporary American music through his career-long participation on multiple boards of new music and composer service organizations, including the American Composers Orchestra, which he co-founded with Dennis Russell Davies and Paul Lustig Dunkel in 1977. The ACO, now in its 33rd season, focuses on performing new compositions by American composers. Francis has served as Executive Director of the Walter W. Naumburg Foundation and the Thorne Music Fund from 1965 - 1974, organizations which commission new works by young composers. He has also served on the Boards of The MacDowell Colony, The Manhattan School of Music, Composers Recording, Inc., American Music Center, the Group for Contemporary Music and The American Composers Alliance. He has also served on the music panel of the New York State Council on the Arts. Francis has been awarded a BMI Certificate of Excellence for



Service to American Music.

Founded in 1939, the American Music Center is dedicated to building a national community of artists, organizations and audiences creating, performing and enjoying new American Music.

"We are extremely proud to honor Francis Thorne with our Founders Award", AMC President and CEO, Joanne Hubbard Cossa commented. "Not only have his compositions had a lasting impact on new American music, but his co-founding of the American Composers Orchestra some 35 years ago advanced the field enormously."

The Francis Thorne Papers (1956 - 2004) are held by the Lincoln Center branch of the New York Public Library in New York City.

My sisters, Bo and Candy, and I are very proud of all of our father's achievements and endeavors in the music world over the past several decades. He has demonstrated consistently the finest artistry, humility and grace. We are thrilled that his passion of a lifetime is being celebrated by this award.

Submitted by Wendy Thorne Forsyth

Project: **Prayer Cranes for Japan**

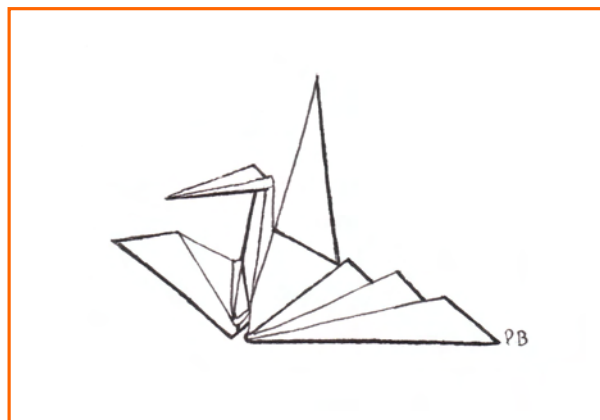
By Karen LeSage, Church School Teacher

Following the recent natural disasters in Asia, Father John invited the Church School to participate in a "Prayer Cranes for Japan" project. He and his wife Deborah felt especially connected to the issue, having spent time in Japan themselves, and having a Japanese daughter-in-law, Sachiko Carter, the wife of their son, Caleb.

Cranes are considered holy creatures in Japan. Folded paper cranes are frequently given as sacred gifts marking important events. Eleanor Coerr's 1977 children's book "Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes" tells a true story which is well-known in Japan. Sadako Sasaki, a child who lived through the atomic bombing in Hiroshima in 1945 developed leukemia as a result of the exposure. Young Sadako spent her remaining days creating origami cranes, acting on Japanese legend that folding a thousand paper cranes entitles the maker to a wish. Sadako died after making 644 cranes, but the tradition has remained strong and has become part of peace ceremonies there.

Our church school students embraced the mission: To create paper cranes as a gesture of loving support and compassion, and to send them to Japan to let them know we are praying for them. We held these intentions in our thoughts as we proceeded.

We received origami instructions from Deborah Carter and created cranes out of printed paper, magazine pages, and a map of Salisbury. Very young students made paper airplanes as their contribution. The children also included notes. One nine-year-old wrote: "Dear People of Japan, We made these cranes for you. Although there may not be 1000 of them I hope they help. We have also put some paper airplanes in the box for your kids. We are praying for you."



Members of the community were invited to participate by visiting the Upper Parish Hall during daytime hours and folding cranes at the station that was set up with supplies and instructions. A local Girl Scout Troop contributed dozens to the cause. The cranes were blessed at the May 1 church service. The box will be mailed out this week to the director of a shelter in the Miyagi prefecture for whom Sachiko provided contact information.

Let us continue to pray for all who have been affected by these events. We certainly have had a rich experience practicing being connected to others we have not met, and having gratitude for our blessings today.

Dear Friends in Sendai:

May, 2011

Our hearts are broken because of the profound losses you have recently experienced through the earthquakes and tsunami. We are stunned by your courage, composure and dignity in the face of such hardship. The origami cranes we are sending were made by the children, Girls Scouts and adults at St. John's Church in Salisbury, Connecticut. They "fly" to you with our prayers and love. May their "wings" lift you up with hopefulness for new possibilities and opportunities.

Fr. John Carter and Church School with Karen Lesage

Louise Lindenmyer Reports on her Medical Mission to Haiti

Louise has just returned from working for five weeks as a nurse practitioner in a Haitian Ministry of Health Clinic in Ains-a-Pitres, on the border of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The clinic's position so close to the border gives it the advantage of availability of pharmaceutical supplies from the Dominican Republic, and a slightly better chance of water and electricity supply.



There is a birth clinic there, and a pharmacy for checking syphilis, and cholera cases are brought there for re-hydration and medicine. But treatments are necessarily primitive, owing to lack of money;

women about to give birth bring their own nurses, family members who are only assisted by a trained nurse at the moment of birth. Before going into the cholera tents, family members have to wash their feet in buckets of Clorox and water, and patients are given drugs for just five days. There have been over 30,000 cases of cholera treated since the earthquake a year ago. People also come in with sickle cell anemia, and TB and AIDS, but HIV tests are only available across the border in the Dominion Republic. Doctors and nurses sleep in tents.

Sad though this all sounds, Louise told us that the Haitian people are in many ways cheerful and hopeful. They plant their own gardens and grow their own vegetables, which they eat with beans and rice and tiny fish, dried and cooked. Everyone is always clean, and so are their clothes, which are brightly colored, as are their houses. They love to dance, and parties with large bands and indigenous instruments can last for at least five hours or often until dawn. And the

Haitian coastline is stunning, with beautiful white beaches.

Louise worked extremely hard while she was in Ains a Pitre, because there are very few nurses and also very few clinics in Haiti. Some very handsome ones have been built by donors, but can't be utilized because of lack of funds to pay for staff, running water, electricity and medications. Louise treated cholera victims (cholera is a water-borne disease and was not known in Haiti before the earthquake,) patched up battered women, performed minor surgery, birthed babies, gave vaccinations, set broken bones, and used some of the money donated by St. John's to take a woman to the Dominican



Republic to have an eye removed for \$250.00; it had been treated in her village with an application of Clorox or a common remedy for an infection. As she said or still have another eye, but without the operation I would be dead.

Louise spent all the rest of the \$1,300.00 that we gave her on drugs and medical supplies for the clinic. The Rector asked her if she had a wish list for next year's visit and she mentioned one thing that is very important yet never available in Haiti: nebulizers for asthma sufferers. She would love to have a good supply of those to take with her. We're sure she will have a longer list by the time she takes off for that troubled island again, and that the generous members of St. John's will help her to fill it.

Gaile Binzen

SOCKS FOR HIKERS!

St. John's has long had a ministry of providing socks to hikers of the Appalachian Trail. The ministry will begin again this month and below is a sample offering.



PENTECOST 2011: SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!

Pentecost is always a special celebration. This year we will gather with the good folks of Trinity Lime Rock and The Salisbury Congregational Church for a combined feast day at the Congregational Church just down the street. June 12th is the Day of the Pentecost. Please make on your calendars. There will be an 8:00 service at St. John's prior to the combined service. Stay tuned for more details!

The Meaning of Mary Magdalene - Book Review by David G. Benner

A quick glance at the cover of Cynthia Bourgeault's latest book may lead one to pick it up looking for information about Mary Magdalene ó perhaps expecting the same sort of prurient focus on the question of whether she and Jesus were secret lovers that one finds in much of what has issued from the fascination with this woman since *The Da Vinci Code*. But this is far from the focus of Cynthia Bourgeault. Her aim is to explore the meaning and significance of Mary, not simply provide us details about the life of the woman who, she argues, is at the very heart of Christianity and who can uniquely help us understand that heart.

The book begins by laying the groundwork for a revisioning of her popular portrait as the penitent prostitute and setting out her credentials as the Apostle to the Apostles. This apostolic claim is based on the accounts in the canonical gospels of her private encounter with Jesus as the first witness to the post-resurrection Jesus and her commission by Jesus to go and tell the disciples what she had seen and what he had said to her. This picture is enhanced, although never contradicted, in the extra-canonical gospels she examines (particularly the gospels of Thomas, Mary Magdalene, and Philip). These indicate that Mary Magdalene had a special relationship with Jesus as soul mate, and that she was recognized and honoured by the disciples as the one who most fully understood and reproduced in her life the teachings of Jesus related to inner transformation. Bourgeault focuses on this relationship, arguing that the real legacy of the love between Jesus and Mary Magdalene is not that it allows us to meet her but that through her

we meet and better understand Jesus.

The author's approach in this book is once again from the perspective of Wisdom Christianity with its emphasis on those perennial spiritual practices of transformation and inner awakening. Much of her focus is on love and the way in which a faithful walking of this path has the potential to be profoundly transformational. This, she suggests, is the deepest message of the life and teachings of Jesus and it is this that she feels lies at the heart of the relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene. Her unpacking of the spiritual theology of love as transformational practice is, in my mind, itself worth the price of the book. As is her discussion of the way in which Mary Magdalene offers us a way to engage what she calls "the feminine dimensions" of Christianity without some of the complications that come from placing this entire task on the Blessed Virgin. But overall, the value of this book is, as the title correctly anticipates, the meaning of Mary Magdalene. Through the witness of the deeply beloved disciple of Jesus, Mary invites us to commit ourselves more deeply to the path of love ó not as sentimentality, attachment or self-fulfillment, but as a letting go of the egoic self that results in a transformation of eros into agape and flows into a life that is characterized by servanthood.

This is an important book. Read it with your heart, not just your head, because the path it describes is the way of the heart. This, she reminds us, was the way of Jesus and should be the center of any spirituality that seeks authentic transformation.

Dr. David G. Benner is a clinical psychologist and spiritual guide who has written 25 books on psychology and spirituality and who lectures around the world on these topics. He is a member of the Christ Church Cathedral parish in Victoria and can be found on-line at www.drdauidgbenner.ca. (This review was originally published in *The Diocesan Post*, February 2011 edition, page 4: www.bc.anglican.ca/pages/news/documents/Februarypost2.pdf)

This book has been ordered for our parish library. Cynthia Bourgeault will be leading a workshop on this topic at Wisdom House in early June. Some members of St. John's are planning to attend. See the Wisdom House website (www.wisdomhouse.org) or call them (860-567-3166) for more information. Also, the Spiritual Book Group will be discussing this book on Thursday May 19th at 6:30 pm in the Cobble Living Room at Noble Horizons.

The Purple Cloak

We drove down Main Street
 Of Hopewell, NJ
 A very old, small town,
 Friendly Victorians near
 Red budding trees-
 Then starkly alone
 An old white church;
 In front, on bare ground,
 Stands a rough grey cross
 Draped with a purple cloak,
 Rich crocus purple,
 Fluttering in the wind.

 I do not know what it means,
 Only that I cannot forget.
 A young man left his cloak
 Before meeting his death,
 For the sake of Love.

Oh, Grief brings us low,
 We mourn his tomb,
 Then the odd surprise;
 The boulder is moved
 His bodyø vanished.
 A pale light flickers
 In the cold damp mist.
 Suddenly a young man
 Appears and beckons.
 Not knowing, we follow
 Astonished, shocked
 Afraid and lonely,
 To find the true miracle
 On the steep rocky trail:
 Hidden in our darkest fear;
 His Treasure; Courage
 To wear the Purple Cloak.

*Katrina Cameron, April 20,201 before
 Easter*

For the first Lenten Series Film Program, Lisa Richards made a soup that was so delicious that people asked for the recipe to be put in the next Parish Newsletter. Here it is:-

Copy Cat - Olive Garden Pasta e Fagioli

Makes: 9 qts | **Difficulty Level:** 3 | **Ready In:** 30-60 minutes

Ingredients:

3 teaspoons Oil
2 pounds Ground beef
12 ounces Onion, chopped
14 ounces Carrots, slivered
14 ounces Celery, diced
48 ounces Tomatoes canned, diced
2 cups cooked Red Kidney beans
2 cups cooked White kidney beans
88 ounces Beef stock
3 teaspoons Oregano
2 1/2 teaspoons Pepper
5 teaspoons fresh Parsley, chopped
1 1/2 teaspoons Tabasco sauce
48 ounces Spaghetti sauce
8 ounces dry pasta - Shell macaroni, ditali, or other pasta

Directions:

Sauté beef in oil in large 10-qt. pot until it starts to brown. Add onions, carrots, celery and tomatoes and simmer for about 10 minutes.

Drain and rinse beans and add to the pot. Also add beef stock, oregano, pepper, Tabasco, spaghetti sauce, and noodles. Add chopped parsley.

Simmer until celery and carrots are tender, about 45 minutes.

Nutrition: per cup - 219 calories, 9g fat, 24g carbohydrates, 10g protein.

Cook's Notes: Just cut the recipe in half for smaller family needs!

This recipe is from CDKitchen <http://www.cdkitchen.com>

CALENDAR

SERVICE SCHEDULE EVERY SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. – Eucharist I

9:50 a.m. – Church School

10:00 a.m. - Eucharist II

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Every Monday | 2:30 p.m. | Al-Anon |
| Every Monday | 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. | ESL Class |
| Every Tuesday | 7:00 p.m. | Drumming Circle |
| Every Other Wednesday | 7 – 9 p.m. | Girl Scouts |
| Every Thursday | 1:00 p.m. | ESL Class |
| Every Thursday | 5:30 p.m. | Puentes Class |
| Every Friday | 1:00 p.m. | ESL Class |
| Every Friday | 4:00 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| Every Friday | 6:00 p.m. | Al-Anon |
| Every Saturday. | 4:00 p.m | A.A. |

MAY

| | | | |
|----|-----------|------------|---|
| 20 | Friday | | Gage Dole Memorial Service, Groton School, Groton, CT |
| 25 | Wednesday | 11:00 a.m. | Service at Noble Horizon |
| 28 | Saturday | | Marriage Blessing: Jacob Carter and Teresa Nowak, Northampton, MA |
| 30 | Monday | | Office Closed, Memorial Day |

JUNE

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--------------------------|---|
| 5 | Sunday | 8:30-9:30 p.m. 3 p.m. | Breakfast Club – All Invited Blessing of the Animals |
| 8 | Wednesday | 6:00 -7:30 p.m. | Last Girl Scouts Meeting |
| 12 | Sunday | 10:00 a.m. | PENTECOST SERVICE — MULTI CHURCH GATHERING. More information to come. |
| 15 | Wednesday | 12 noon | Northwest Music Association Meeting |
| 19 | Sunday | | FATHER'S DAY |
| 30 | Wednesday | 12 noon | Northwest Music Association Meeting |

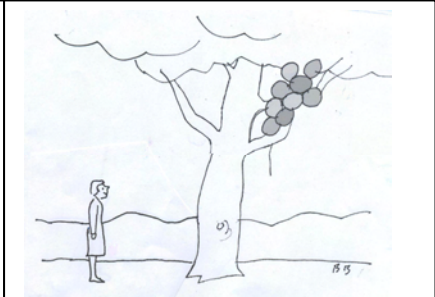
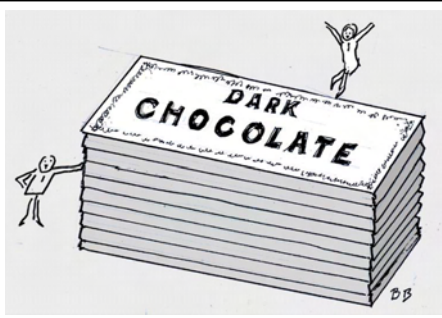
CHURCH SCHOOL EVERY SUNDAY

9:50 a.m. – Newcomers Welcome!





Bert & Pigs



Balloons in the Tree



Psst...

**Bill Binzen
(1918 – 2010)**
was a good friend to St. John's. One of the many ways in which he shared his gifts with us was to enliven our parish newsletter with his wonderful drawings. We offer here a sample of his work, in gratitude and thanksgiving.

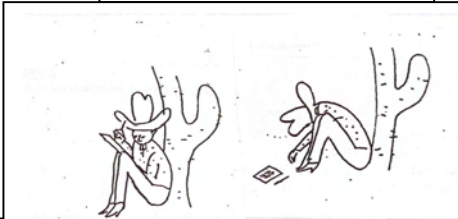


Hiker in New Socks



Honk if you love Jesus
Text if you want to Meet Him

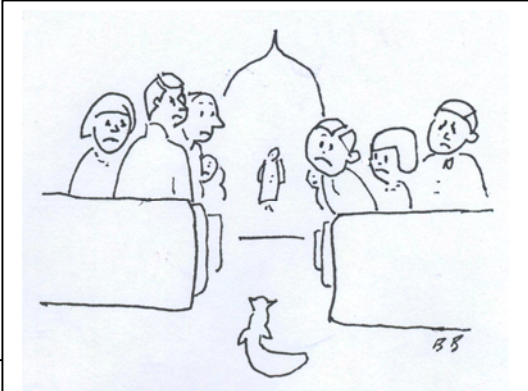
--Rev. John F. Carter
--Karen Byers



Sabbatical Time



Soldier at Christmas



Squirrel in Church



Over Laundry

St. John's Episcopal Church
12 Main Street
Salisbury, Connecticut 06068

Phone: 860-435-9290



The Mission of St. John's Church

- To reveal through worship the presence of God
- To grow spiritually in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ
- To reach out to others through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Dear Readers:



Please know that this Newsletter is also available by email. Let us know if you are interested sjsalisbury@sbcglobal.net. It is also available on the St. John's website www.stjohnssalisbury.org