

# The Fisherman's Net

## "Catch the Spirit"

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Highway 83  
North Lake, WI 53064

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2009

Rev'd Canon James Kaestner, Vicar

Andy Marks, Sr. Warden

Website: [StPetesNorthLake.org](http://StPetesNorthLake.org)

Steve Marks, Jr. Warden

Phone: (262) 966-7288

Newsletter Editor: Mary Buerosse (262) 691-3549 E-Mail: [Mbread@att.net](mailto:Mbread@att.net)

### Pastor's Pen Fr. Jim Kaestner, Vicar

Windows are black at night. Windows are opaque at night. The saints in stained glass windows are invisible at night. Night is dark. Night is black. Night is invisible.

On the night the body of Jesus was laid in the grave it was dark. His body, wrapped in a cloth not unlike the cloth he was wrapped in at birth, was taken to a black and dark cave. The light of the world he claimed to be was extinguished. Some have said the whole world stopped for a time.

In the morning light, it all came to light. The light of the world emerged not with fanfare but as a Gardener. It was the Gardener who said "Why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?"

In the light, all we ever seek is made clear, "Weeping may spend the night but joy comes in the morning" writes the Psalmist (Psalm 30:6)

An old story shrouded between myth, reality and pious belief tells us of a woman by the name of Veronica who, according to the story, wiped the face of Jesus as he carried the cross to Golgotha. The cloth she wiped his face with resulted in the face of Jesus imprinted on the cloth. The cloth and resulting icon is titled "Made without Hands". There are some artistic portrayals of the cloth that give the viewer the illusion that Jesus is opening his eyes as you look at the face.

This story of the veil (icon) allows us to look back and see meaning in everything Jesus said and did. It allows us to see a dark event in the light of wonder.

Easter seems to be the time we see him most clearly. In the Easter Season we see most clearly. In the Easter Season we see more clearly that we Christians are the "light of the world." "A city built on a hill that cannot be hid. What I tell you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you whispered, proclaim from the housetops."

Use the upcoming Holy Week and Easter Season to illuminate your life and see all the old things as new.

April 1	Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
April 2	Good Friday	7:00 PM
April 4	EASTER SUNDAY	9:30 AM

# OBITUARIES

# Jerusalem 33 AD

## CALVARY

Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth, died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the Ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham, was a member of the house of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, His devoted Mother.

Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by His mother Mary, His faithful Apostles, numerous disciples, and many other followers.

Jesus was self-educated and spent most of his adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that he healed many patients. Up until the time of His death, Jesus was teaching and sharing the Good News, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor.

Jesus was most noted for telling parables about His Father’s Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death.

The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate, a boulder was rolled in front of the tomb. Roman soldiers were put on guard.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that everyone try to live as Jesus did. Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

## Let’s Celebrate!

### *Happy Birthday*

March 3 Stephanie Naze  
March 8 Debbie Stone-Marks  
March 14 Peg Leitgabel  
March 28 Anna Hayes

### *Happy Anniversary*

March 3 John & Sheila  
Campbell

## Calendar & Times

March 7, Sunday	9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 3 Lent	Mary Buerosse
March 14, Sunday	2:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS!	
	9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 4 Lent	Pete Buerosse
March 21, Sunday	9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 5 Lent	Darcy Chester
March 28, Sunday	9:30 AM Holy Eucharist <u>PALM SUNDAY</u>	Judy Kaestner

## Lessons for March

	<u>1 Lesson</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Gospel</u>	
Mar. 7	Exodus 3:1-15	63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9	
Mar. 14	Joshua 5:9-12	32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32	
Mar. 21	Isaiah 43:16-21	126	Philippians 3:4-14	John 12:1-8	
Mar. 28	Isaiah 50:4-9	31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:14—23:56	

## Remember in Your Prayers

*“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he hears us: And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him” (1John 5:14-15)*

- \*Pray for Jerry Hayes and his family. Jerry’s father, Jack, died last month.
- \*Pray for the people of Chile after an earthquake of 8.8 magnitude killed over 700 people, for the people of Okinawa Island who had an earthquake of 7.0 magnitude, and those in Western Europe after storms and torrential rains killed 52. Pray for disaster relief around the world.
- \*Continue to pray for the people of Haiti and for the caregivers and doctors.
- \*Pray for the homeless and those without jobs during these cold days of winter.
- \*Pray for our leaders, both national and local, that they make good decisions for our economy.
- \*Pray for peace in the world, especially in Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran. Pray for our soldiers.
- \*Pray for the Millennium Goals, especially to eradicate hunger and poverty.
- \*Pray for St. Peter’s and its family, for the present and the future, that we may grow in Christ and be his light to the world.

## A Fond Farewell to Fr. Jim

Fr. Jim Kaestner will celebrate his last Sunday at St. Peter’s as its Vicar Easter Sunday, April 4. There will be a reception/breakfast for him that day. Please join us to thank him for his loving service for the past year. We will miss him.

## Do You Have a Ministry?

We all have a ministry. “The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ’s work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.” - The Book of Common Prayer, p. 855

## The Spirit at Work!

- \*We are accepting donations for Easter Lilies. You may place your designated donation in the offering plate or give directly to Mary Buerosse. Thank you.
- \*It’s hard to believe that Daylight Savings begins on March 14th. Don’t forget to set your clocks ahead (“spring forward”).
- \*It’s not too early to start collecting items for St. Peter’s 3rd Annual Rummage Sale set for Saturday, May 22 from 9 AM to 2 PM. Spring cleaning should be right around the corner! Watch for more information on work days/nights in the May newsletter.
- \*\*Don’t forget to put your food items in the basket in the Narthex for the North Lake Food Pantry, housed next door at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.

## “Go, Go, Go Joseph” - Sheila Campbell

Thirty parishioners, family and friends will be enjoying our trip to the **Fireside Theater** in Fort Atkinson on Saturday, April 24. Arrival time is 10:30 am (we must all arrive and enter together as a group, as there are no paper tickets); we dine at 11:15 am; and the show is at 1:30 pm. We are meeting at the Naga-Waukee Ice Rink parking lot (NW corner of the Hwy 83 and I-94 interchange) at 9:25 am, and driving up from there, with any car-pooling pre-arranged. This will help assure that we all arrive together. Please provide Sheila with a cell phone # so we can keep in touch if need be. Sheila will also be providing driving directions to the theater. If you haven't paid for your tickets yet, please do so now. Submit your payments directly to Sheila (Adults: \$63.95/ Children 14 and under: \$42.95 - checks made payable to "St. Peter's" with Fireside trip listed in the memo area). Feel free to call Sheila (262-691-4857) should you have any questions.

## **Beware of Terrorists in Church**

Latest news reports are that five terrorist cell groups have been operating in many of our churches.. They have been identified as: Bin Sleepin, Bin Arguin, Bin Fightin, Bin Complainin, and Bin Missin. Their leader, Lucifer Bin Workin, trained these groups to destroy the Body of Christ The plan is to come into the church disguised as Christians and to work within the church to discourage, disrupt, and destroy.

However, there have been reports of a sixth group. A tiny cell known by the name Bin Prayin is actually the only effective counter terrorism force in the church. Unlike other terrorist cells, the Bin Prayin team does not blend in with whoever and whatever comes along. Bin Prayin does whatever is needed to uplift and encourage the Body of Christ. We have noticed that the Bin Prayin cell group has different characteristics than the others. They have Bin Watchin, Bin Waitin, Bin Fastin, and Bin Longin for their Master, Jesus Christ to return. **NO CHURCH IS EXEMPT!** (However, you can spot them if you bin lookin and bin goin.)

## **Thank You for the Gift of an Altar** from Fr. Jim Kaestner

As I was growing up in the Episcopal Church the altar of my parish church was the central focus of my life. I was not always faithful in attendance to my Sunday school but I was faithful when it came to the altar. It fed my sense of call to the priesthood more than any lessons I might have been taught in Sunday school. I now confess that the “Cross and Crown” pins awarded to the children of the 1940’s were quite simply the result of the rector’s generosity. I still have the pins and smile to myself when I look at them.

We did not have a “proper church altar” because a “proper altar” is really an altar with feet or legs set into the earth. These altars are not to be found in any church built since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century maybe even the 18<sup>th</sup>. The ideal of a “proper church” with a stone altar has been compromised. It is simply too difficult to build and as a result, altar stones have been set into the top of a wood altar. There was even a time in history when a priest would carry his own altar stone from parish to parish, insuring the tradition.

The stone altar originated in the Old Testament story of Elijah, I Kings 18:31-33. “Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord came saying, ‘Israel shall be your name’; with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord.”

The proper church altar was covered with a roof of wood or stone to protect it from the elements. In some churches you will now find a separate covering over the altar. It is called a “Baldachino”. You can see it in pictures of the altar of St. Peter in the Vatican. It has been or was suggested that it added to the priest being heard in a large congregation and in a large church but... We now have microphones and speakers that are just as functional, meaning sometimes they work and sometimes they don’t.

However everything we do and say springs from the altar. The building around it is there for only one reason: protect the altar from the elements. As a result a properly constructed altar and its shelter becomes our shelter. It protects us from the many assaults on our souls.

Elijah built the altar fro a sacrifice and to openly do battle with the priest of Baal working under the direction of Jezebel. Elijah’s sacrifice ended the period of Baal (Idol) worship and the rein of Jezebel when he openly challenged them to the sacrifice on the altar. It did lead Elijah to hear the Lord God in the silence of the cave to which he had fled from the threats of Jezebel. The altar now took on another attribute; it became the instrument that led to the “Word of God”. It was in the cave that he heard God speaking in silence rather than in earthquake and storm.

God is found in and around the altar. It is on the altar that we lay the deepest and most personal of our lives. It is on the altar that our hearts meet the sacred heart of Jesus. It is on the altar that we place both our laughter and our tears.

The altar may or may not be stone. It may or it may not have a special “portable altar stone”. It may or may not have its foundations in the earth but it is always there to reassure us of God’s many generous gifts to us.

As we contemplate the altar of stone we cannot forget the stone pillow of Jacob with the dream of

the angels of God ascending and descending from heaven. This reminds us that the stone altar has certain softness emanating from the sacrificial love.

All of you in St. Peter's Church have given me and my dear wife, as well as my family and friends, an altar from which we might reach out and touch God. This is not taken for granted. We thank you for the gift of an altar.

I leave you with a gift from my favorite 17<sup>th</sup> Century poet:

### THE ALTAR

A broken A L T A R, Lord, thy servant rears,  
Made of a heart, and cemented with tears:<sup>1</sup>  
Whose parts are as thy hand did frame;  
No workman's tool hath touch'd the same.

A H E A R T alone  
Is such a s tone,<sup>2</sup>  
As nothing but  
Thy pow'r doth cut.<sup>3</sup>  
Wherefore each part  
Of my hard heart  
Meets in this frame,  
To praise thy name.

That if I chance to hold my peace,  
These stones to praise thee may not cease.<sup>4</sup>  
Oh let thy blessed S A C R I F I C E be mine,  
And sanctify this A L T A R to be thine.

## Senior Warden's Reflection by Andy Marks

### *Peg is improving!*

On Sunday, February 28, Kathy called Peg's daughter to see how Peg was doing. The news was good. Kathy talked with Peg's son-in-law and found out that she has completed her treatment and that she is getting stronger everyday. The plan is for Peg to sell her property and move into Shorehaven. She is planning on coming back to St. Peters for mass, but will probably need a ride. I know that will be no problem. Keep it up Peg, we miss you!

### *Lent - Moving forward .... Or not.*

Each Lenten season, I try to make an extra effort to nudge my spirituality a bit. I pray more and try not to miss mass. I usually give up something for the forty days and take part in Holy Week services. Once Easter Sunday has come and gone, I sometimes reflect on my spiritual gains. I like to believe that somehow I have gotten a little closer to God and have become a better Christian. In truth, most times I feel I've gained very little. I don't feel any different. It is then when I have to remind myself that gains are not always noticeable. As a teacher and a coach, I've spent more than half of my life encouraging students and athletes. I tell them to be patient and persistent and they will be successful. Perhaps that's the way spirituality works. If one is diligent and constant in spiritual pursuits, the reward will come. And maybe the fruit of the efforts won't be realized until it is needed the most. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil for you are with me...."

## What We Sing: # 474 "When I survey the wondrous cross"

On March 28 we will sing one of the most loved and sung verses by Isaac Watts (1674-1748). They also have a very important place in the history of English hymns. They introduced a new note of subjective

religious experience into a genre which had previously been studiously objective. This is the first known hymn to include the personal pronoun “I” and to express the experience of Christian faith rather than simply limiting itself to matters of doctrine. In John Julian’s *Dictionary of Hymnology*, first published in 1892, he described this hymn as “one of the four which stand at the head of all hymns in the English language”. The other hymns so regarded are “Awake, my soul, and with the sun”( #11), “Hark! The herald angels sing”(#87), and “Rock of Ages, cleft for me”(#685). “When I survey the wondrous cross” was voted fourth in the BBC “Songs of Praise” poll. Watts wrote it as a communion hymn and it first appeared in 1707 in his “Hymns and Spiritual Songs” where he added the text on which the hymn is based, Galatians 6:14: “God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world.” He made a change to the hymn in 1709 when he added the second line in verse one to “On which the Prince of Glory died.” The fourth verse was dropped from many 18th and 19th century hymnals, being considered too gory and it is generally still omitted today.

The fourth verse:           *His dying crimson, like a robe,  
Spreads o’er his body on the Tree  
Then am I dead to all the globe,  
And all the globe is dead to me.*

## Florida Court Sets Atheist Holy Day

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter and Passover Holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians and Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days. The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, “Case dismissed!” The lawyer immediately stood objecting to the ruling saying, “Your honor, How can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays.” The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, “But you do. Your client, counsel, is woefully ignorant.” The lawyer said, “Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists.” The judge said, “The calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, ‘The fool says in his heart, there is no God.’ thus, it is the opinion of this court, that if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned.” You gotta love a Judge that knows his scripture!

## Church BLOOPERS!

\*Don’t let worry kill you off—let the Church help.

\*Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

\*The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.

**Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common...There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.**

—Acts 4:32, 34

This description of the early church in Jerusalem seems foreign to us in a world where private ownership is the norm. Taking vows of poverty, members of religious orders share possessions. But other than these, communities or “communes” that live this way are considered countercultural and perhaps suspect. God does not call most of us to such a lifestyle.

But is there something we can learn from the way these early Christians lived? Recent economic instability has caused many communities to share resources in new ways. I’ve read of neighborhoods and

religious congregations that have organized bartering networks. For example, a person who is a handyman might offer services in exchange for someone else's computer consultation skills. Sharing and co-owning large tools, doing more carpooling, community gardening, and dinner co-ops are other examples of people sharing their gifts and resources with one another in new ways.

Many families and individuals in our society live in isolation, insulated from the lives of others, even their closest neighbors. These new trends of sharing and exchanging might have blossomed due to economic need, but they offer so much more than financial savings: they are an invitation to a greater experience of community and support. Perhaps this is a taste of the early life of the church in Jerusalem.

*Forty Days of Lent*, by Nancy Hopkins-Greene & Noel Julnes-Dehner, Forward Movement

\*One of the nice things about problems is that a good many of them do not exist." - Steve Allen

\*It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference. - Tom Brokaw

\*You've achieved success in your field when you don't know whether what you're doing is work or play.  
- Warren Beatty