



# The Fisherman's Net

## "Catch the Spirit"

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

Andy Marks, Sr. Warden  
Steve Marks, Jr. Warden

Website: [StPetesNorthLake.org](http://StPetesNorthLake.org)  
Phone: (262) 966-7312

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

## MAY 2011

**Pastor's Pen** *Fr. David Couper*

### **Why I Believe in the Resurrection!**

I have often remarked that the problem I have with Lent is that soon after Ash Wednesday I start dreaming about Easter! Yes, I admit it -- I'm an Easter guy! Even as a young boy I thought Christmas was more secular than sacred. But Easter was another thing. Easter was the realm of the sacred.

The great liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday prepare us for this holiest of holy days! Even though those chocolate-covered Easter bunnies start appearing at the grocery store, they can't take away the power of Easter for me. While many people today might deny Jesus' resurrection from the dead, I do not. I believe it actually happened and I believe this because of the following reasons:

1. **THE BIBLE.** From biblical accounts I know that something powerful happened to that rag-tag bunch of people who followed Jesus. They, too, were changed. They were resurrected right along with Jesus. They were changed from being a bunch of doubters, deniers, and quitters to men and women willing to die rather than recant their belief in Jesus' Resurrection. We have more accurate accounts of the New Testament today than from any other piece of written literature -- sacred or secular. There are less than ten original copies of Caesar's *Gallic War* (written around 50 b.c.). And the earliest copy of this work was made nearly 900 years later. In turn, we have over 5,000 copies of the New Testament in Greek, 10,000 in Latin, and over 9,000 in other languages. The New Testament was written between the years 40 and 100 a.d. and by the year 130 partial copies had been made and by the year 350 there were full manuscripts. [Written accounts of Jesus' death and resurrection have also been made *outside* of the Bible by Josephus and Tacitus, non-Christian writers of his day]. I know what they experienced, what they wrote, and I believe it.

2. **THE WOMEN.** The authors of the Gospels would never have used women as the chief witnesses to the resurrection, but God did. In those days, women could not be used as legal witnesses. If someone wanted to tell a believable story, they never would have made the women central to it!

3. **LONGEVITY.** Our faith is 20 centuries old, and it is still strong as ever. While those who claimed to follow Jesus have made terrible mistakes from time to time, faith in Jesus has greatly benefited the world and contributed to its well-being. Overall, Christians have been committed to loving and forgiving their enemies, feeding the poor, comforting the lost, healing the sick, and combating

oppression. Because of Christian ethics and practice the world is simply a better place.

4. **PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION.** Perhaps the most important piece of evidence to me is what I have seen; the improvement in the lives of those who truly follow Jesus' teachings: Simply stated, Jesus changes lives for the better! When Jesus' followers find their lives resurrected, they, in turn, go out and help others find the same personal transformation and resurrection they experienced.

The Resurrection of Jesus means that we who claim to be his followers must work to reflect his presence in us out to others. Through Jesus' resurrection, God showed the world that love does and will conquer all. And no matter what, God's love for us, regardless of our belief in God, can never be extinguished. This means there is always an opportunity for everyone to make a new beginning in their lives; that is, a spiritual springtime awaits for each one of us!

Brothers and sisters, let this Eastertide be a time of resurrection, new life, and a new beginning for us and for the community of St. Peter's. Happy Easter! Yes, Jesus is risen – He is risen, indeed (and he will rise in us now and on the last day)!

## Bread of Life (Hot meal program)

St. Peter's will be helping St. Anskar's with the **Bread of Life** program on Thursday, May 26. The Bread of Life program is run by a consortium of nine Hartland area churches. There is no religious commitment or affiliation requirement for the guests or cost. Two churches always work together to provide the meal, and about 12-15 volunteers are needed. Responsibilities include setting up tables, buying, preparing and serving the food, and clean up. We will need 3 people to help set up tables/chairs on Wednesday, May 25. We will need 4 people to arrive by 4:00 pm on Thursday to greet guests, pour drinks and serve dinner. We will need 4 people to help clean-up. (It doesn't have to be the same people.) We will have a sign-up sheet for the different tasks posted in the narthex. Menu for dinner will be sloppy Joes (possibly made on Wednesday), coleslaw and a dessert. Dinner is served from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Contact Mary Buerosse for more information, 262-691-3549 or [Mbread@att.net](mailto:Mbread@att.net).

## Let's Celebrate!

### Happy Birthday

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary or listed it incorrectly, please let us know so we

May 27 Susan Medd may celebrate with you! Submissions or corrections may be sent to the editor: [Mbread@att.net](mailto:Mbread@att.net)

## Calendar & Times

### Scheduled Reader   Altar Flowers

May 1, Sunday	8:00 am Vestry Meeting		
	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Debbie Marks	Easter Lilies
May 8, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Katie Luedke	Helen Ackley
May 11, Wednesday	9:00 am—4:30 pm Altar Guild Adventure IX		
May 15, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Susan Medd	Helen Ackley
May 19, Thursday	6:00 pm Work evening & Pre-Sale		
May 21, Saturday	9:00 am—2:00 pm <u>Rummage Sale</u>		
May 22, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Mary Buerosse	Kathy Marks
May 25, Wednesday	3:00 pm Set up for Bread for Life meal		
May 26, Thursday	4:00—7:00 pm Bread for Life @ St. Anskar's		
May 29, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Steve Marks	Kathy Marks

## Lessons for MAY

<u>1 Lesson</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
May 1	Acts 2:22-32	16	1 Peter 1:3-9   John 20:19-31
May 8	Acts 2:36-41	116:1-3, 10-17	1 Peter 1:17-23   Luke 24:13-35

May 15	Acts 2:42-47	23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
May 22	Acts 7:55-60	31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
May 29	Acts 17:22-31	66:7-18	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21

## 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 the people across the six states, from Oklahoma to Virginia who endured more than 200 tornadoes, killing 43 in North Carolina and causing devastating destruction.
- \*Pray for the people in the northern Wisconsin counties who were recently hit by tornadoes that destroyed homes and property. Thank God no one was injured!
- \*Pray for Fr. Jim Kaestner who recently had surgery.
- \*Continue to pray for the people in Japan, hit by a devastating earthquake and tsunami and now are suffering from the effects of the nuclear power plant explosions.
- \*Pray for peace and justice in the world, especially in the Middle East and Africa where people are demonstrating for democracy.
- \*Pray for our service men and women during your Memorial Day celebrations.
- \*Pray for the hungry, the jobless, the homeless and those who see no hope in their lives.
- \*Pray for our leaders, both national and local, to make good decisions.
- \*Pray for seasonal weather (warm and sunny!) for gardens to be planted. (No more snow!)
- \*Pray for the Millennium Goals, especially to eradicate hunger and poverty by 2015.
- \*Pray for St. Peter’s and its families, for the present and the future, that we may grow in Christ and be his light to the world.

## The Spirit at Work!

- \*Congratulations to Rev. Peter Floyd, who was installed as Vicar at St. Anskar’s on April 13th.
- \*The flower chart has openings for June 5 and 26 and July 10, 17, and 31. Please consider this ministry and sign up! Check out the Breakfast sign-up sheet as well.
- \*Mark your calendars now for St. Peter’s **ANNUAL PICNIC**, Sunday, August 14!

## Readers, Prayer Leaders, and Eucharistic Ministers-OH MY!

These ministries are available for you to join!

- As a “Reader” you will read the lessons from the Lectionary approximately six times a year. The Lessons are always listed in the newsletter every month. Talk to Mary Buerosse
- As a “Prayer Leader” you will read the Prayers of the People, adding intercessions printed in the prayer list and including your own and asking for others. You can pick a Sunday or a month of Sundays. Speak with Andy Marks or Fr. David.
- Do you want to be a “Eucharistic Minister”? Talk with Fr. David about this special ministry of serving at the altar.

## St. Peter’s 4th Annual Rummage Sale

St. Peter’s 4th Annual Rummage Sale is Saturday, **May 21** from 9 am to 2 pm. Hopefully you’ve saved some treasures during your spring cleaning! Please bring your rummage on or after Sunday, May 15th. We will rearrange tables and set up the clothes rack after church. It will help us if your rummage is sorted in general categories: Men’s clothing, Women’s clothing, children & infant’s clothing, purses, shoes, toys, books/tapes/DVD/movies, bedding/pillows, crafts, holiday, dishes/kitchen, sports and electronics. Please be sure your donated items are in good condition, i.e. not torn, soiled, broken and in working condition if that applies. We will have a work and Pre-sale evening Thursday, May 19 at 6:00 pm to complete the sorting.

Sandwiches will be served. Please look for the sign-up sheet for the work evening and the day of the Rummage Sale. Please feel free to come in during the week to sort and straighten rummage. If you have any questions, please direct them to Helen Ackley (262-691-9489) or Mary Buerosse (262-691-3549).

## **Rummage Sale to Benefit Kidney Foundation & Others**

The National Kidney Foundation, Inc (NKF), is the major voluntary health organization dedicated to preventing kidney disease, improving the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by kidney disease and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation. Chronic kidney disease includes conditions that damage your kidneys and decrease their ability to keep you healthy. If kidney disease gets worse, wastes can build to high levels in your blood and make you feel sick. You may develop complications like high blood pressure, anemia, weak bones, poor nutritional health and nerve damage. Chronic kidney disease may be caused by diabetes, high blood pressure and other disorders. Early detection and treatment can often keep chronic kidney disease from getting worse. When kidney disease progresses, it may eventually lead to kidney failure, which requires dialysis or a kidney transplant to maintain life. Many of us know persons who are on dialysis. A few of us know someone who has had a kidney transplant. And many of us have organ donation stickers on our driver's license. Look for an article on the bulletin board .

## **ParkWalk for Cancer**

The ProHealth Care Walk for Cancer is being held on Saturday morning, May 7<sup>th</sup> in three Waukesha County communities: Waukesha, Mukwonago and Oconomowoc. All monies raised stay right in the community to fight this devastating disease. Sheila Campbell will be walking in the Mukwonago walk. If walking isn't your thing, consider sponsoring Sheila. All donations to the "Waukesha Memorial Hospital Foundation – ParkWalk" are 100% tax deductible.

## **Woman and a Fork**

A young woman had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things 'in order,' she contacted her Pastor. She told him which songs she wanted sung at her service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. Everything was in order. As Pastor was preparing to leave, the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

"There's one more thing," she said excitedly. "What's that?" came the Pastor's reply. "This is very important," the young woman continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand." The Pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say. "That surprises you, doesn't it?" the young woman asked. "Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the Pastor. The young woman explained. "My grandmother once told me this story, and from that time on I have always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement. In all my years of attending socials and dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork.' It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance! So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder, 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them: 'Keep your fork ..the best is yet to come.'

The Pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral people walked by the young woman's casket, saw the cloak she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the Pastor heard the question, 'What's with the fork?', and he

smiled. During his message, the Pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. He told them how he could not stop thinking about the fork and how they probably wouldn't be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so *gently, that the best is yet to come.*

## Diocesan Altar Guild Adventure IX

The Diocesan Altar Guild will tour five churches in the Milwaukee area plus lunch at the Café Coquette on Wednesday, May 11. Bus tour leaves from and returns to Brookfield Square/Sears. Cost is \$50.00 = all inclusive. Numbers are limited & open to all people on a first come first served basis. Look for reservation information on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Tour churches: St. Francis de Sales Catholic Seminary, School Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Joseph Center Motherhouse, First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, and St. Hyacinth's Roman Catholic Church. Questions?- call Jane Henning 608-238-4089 or shennin2@facstaff.wisc.edu.

## Senior Warden's Reflection by Andy Marks

### *Like a True Friend*

It probably started sometime in March of 1950 and has been with me ever since. It has never let me down even in times when I treated it badly. In my tough times it worked harder for me so I could continue on. When I competed in high school and college sports it was up to the challenge. When I slept, it continued to nourish me and kept me safe, never pausing for a rest. Day and night for over 60 years it has been there for me.

For us humans, the miracle of life starts months before we are born. The embryonic heart begins to beat approximately 21 days after conception and like a fierce warrior fights on tirelessly for, in some cases, over a hundred years. During an average lifetime the heart beats over 2.8 billion times. This number is based on an average of 72 beats per minute during an average lifespan of 75 years.  $72 \text{ beats per minute} \times 60 = 4,320 \text{ beats per hour}$ .  $4,320 \text{ beats per hour} \times 24 = 103,680 \text{ beats per day}$ .  $103,680 \text{ beats per day} \times 365 = 37,843,200 \text{ beats per year}$ .  $37,843,200 \text{ beats per year} \times 75 = 2,838,240,000 \text{ beats in an average lifetime}$ . The heart's structure makes it an efficient, never-ceasing pump. From the moment of development through the moment of death, the heart pumps, and therefore has to be strong. Considering how much work it has to do, the heart is surprisingly small. The average adult heart is a little larger than the size of a clenched fist and weighs only about 11 ounces, but it is one of the most important organs in the entire

human body. Unlike skeletal muscles, the heart works on the "All-or-Nothing" law. That is, each time the heart contracts it does so with all its force. In skeletal muscles, the principle of "gradation" is present. Even at rest, the muscles of the heart work hard – twice as hard as the leg muscles of a person sprinting. Our body has about 6 quarts of blood which the heart circulates through the body three times every minute. In one day, the blood travels a total of 12,000 miles – that's four times the distance across the U.S. from coast to coast. During an average life time, the heart pumps about 1 million barrels of blood.

For most of us we seldom think about this life-giving organ. Sometimes we might feel it racing a bit or noticed when it's skipped a beat or two, but for the most part, we just take it for granted. On a recent OYTL retreat, I found myself, once again, away from home and out of my comfort zone. Being my third retreat, I knew what to expect, but I still found it difficult to get a good night's rest. Sleeping in close quarters with a group of men, many of whom have a tendency to snore, is difficult for me. Usually I don't fall asleep until most of my roommates have drifted off. By that time the snoring has begun. Usually it starts with a single snorer. The snoring at this point is hardly noticeable and is intermittent. Soon another joins in. Within minutes it seems there is a full-blown chorus singing with great enthusiasm. My first night at the retreat, I passed on the free ear plugs that were handed out. The next day, and from then on, I made sure I had an abundance of ear plugs just in case. With my ears

packed solidly to drown out the noise, a new sound emerged, a rhythmic lub-Dub, lub-Dub, lub-Dub. Yes, I suddenly found myself listening to the sound of my own heart. I had jammed the ear plugs so tightly in my ears; the sound of my heart beat became amplified. The steady cadence of my own heart beat quieted my anxiety and drew me into a state of reflection. I thought of how long I've lived and what drew me to this place at this moment. I thanked God for all the blessings of my life and realized that I exist for a reason. As I slowly drifted off to sleep, I prayed that God would guide me through the next part of my journey.

## **What We Sing: # 377 “All people that on earth do dwell”**

This hymn, paraphrased on Psalm 100 ('Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands'), has the distinction of being the earliest hymn written in the English language which is still in general use today. It is one of the first metrical versions of the Psalms which were made in the early days of the Reformation and which are particularly associated with the Scots. Most of the metrical psalms were written by followers of John Calvin. Calvin believed that these were the only form of hymns which should be sung in churches. William Kethe (?-1594), a Scotsman, left Britain during the reign of the Catholic Queen Mary from 1553 to 1558. He first went to Frankfurt and then to the Calvinist stronghold of Geneva, where he helped to translate the Bible into English and to compile a book of metrical psalms. "All people that on earth do dwell" was first published in Geneva in 1561 in the *Fourscore and Seven Psalms of David*. Kethe's version of Psalm 100 also appeared in the first Scottish Psalter, published in 1564. He moved back to

Britain to become the rector of Childe Okeford in Dorset, where he remained until his death. Our hymnal's third line of the first verse, 'Him serve with mirth', follows a change that was first made in the Scottish Psalter to bring the hymn more in line with the second verse of Psalm 100, which runs: 'Serve the Lord with gladness'. The original verse is 'Him serve with fear'. For a long time the third line of the second verse was thought to begin, 'We are his flock'. This was because when the hymn was first published in England the word 'folk' was spelt in its old English form 'folck'. It was thought to be a misprint for 'flock', and not long afterwards the line was changed. This mistake persisted for nearly three centuries; when efforts were finally made to rectify it and restore 'folk' (which is much closer to the original third verse of the psalm: 'We are his people and the sheep of his pasture'), there was a considerable outcry. Most modern hymnals now have the correct folk (ours as well).

## **“Seriously, Life Is a Laughing Matter”**

\*\*This Prayer is attributed to a 17th century nun and is found in a book by Tom Mullen

O Lord, keep me from getting talkative. And particularly from the fatal habit that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from the craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; Give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips when inclined to tell of my aches and pains. They are increasing with the years and my love of rehearsing them grows sweeter as the years go by. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a Saint. Some of them are hard to live with, but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil. Help me to extract all possible fun out of life. There are so many funny things around us, and I do not want to miss any of them. Make me thoughtful but not too moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou, my Lord, knoweth that I want a few friends left at the end.

## **Saint Theresa's Prayer**

May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have

received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be confident knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

## **A Few Laughs**

\*“Now Harry, tell me the truth. Do you say your prayers before dinner?” asked the pastor.

“No, sir”, Harry replied. “I don’t have to. My mother is a good cook.”

\*Attitude makes all the difference. When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid afternoon, she worried about her seven-year-old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Glimpsing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining enthusiastically, “All the way home, God’s been taking my picture!”

## **Daily Prayer**

So far today, I’ve done all right. I haven’t gossiped. I haven’t lost my temper. I haven’t been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish or self-indulgent. I’m really glad about that! But in a few minutes, Lord, I’m going to get out of bed, and from then on I’ll probably need a lot more HELP! Amen.

## **Everyday Survival Kit**

- Toothpick — to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others.
- Rubber band — to remind you to be flexible, things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out.
- Band Aid — to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else’s.
- Pencil — to remind you to list your blessings everyday.
- Eraser — to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and its okay.
- Chewing gum — to remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything.
- Mint — to remind you that you are worth a mint to your family and friends.
- Candy Kiss — to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday.
- Tea bag — to remind you to relax daily and go over that list of your blessings.