



# SAINT MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

508-362-3977

Barnstable Village

www.stmarys-church.org

*“However many the exceptions of past and even of present, the church’s direction is this: once a year we approach the waters to baptize. One night of all the nights in the cycle of the seasons the waters are moved and the words of baptism are spoken. It was clearly so in our early times when being a Christian meant choosing an unusual way of life, one entered only after a long time of testing. And slowly, because the times are not so different now, it again becomes clear that this is how we are to act.”*

*From The Three Days, by Patrick Regan, OSB and Joan Halmo*



## DEAR FRIENDS,

The words above describe the culmination of our Lenten journey in our celebration of the Paschal Feast in the Easter Vigil. For two thousand years, Christians in a myriad of settings and circumstances have made the glorious proclamation of our Lord Christ’s resurrection the occasion to renew their own baptismal vows. If we die with Christ, as the Apostle Paul wrote, we will also rise with him.

It is an unusual way of life we embrace when we choose to follow Jesus: where we are called to resist evil, and proclaim the Good News, and to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves, and to strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every

human being. When we are marked as Christ’s own, it sets us apart, to be signs of contradiction, as it were, against a world in which strife and hatred, shame and injustice often rule the day. We are looking forward to celebrating the Resurrection in our Easter Vigil and Paschal Lamb Roast on Saturday, April 6th, and our Festival Eucharists at 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. on Easter Day, and hope to see you on one or more of our special liturgies we have planned throughout Holy Week!

Right on the heels of Easter, on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, our ECW will hold our much anticipated Daffodil Tea. I will be away on retreat and visiting my folks in California from April 19<sup>th</sup> to May 4<sup>th</sup>. Looking ahead, we are planning this year’s Silver Tea on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. If you are 80 or older, this is an event not to be missed!

May the Risen Christ fill your hearts with hope and joy, and may this Easter Season be full of blessing for you and yours.

Faithfully,  
*Steve+*

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## NOTE FROM KRIS



The poet T. S. Eliot wrote “April is the cruellest month,” and certainly living in New England it can seem so. Spring teases us even as winter lingers. When I first moved to New England, the raw coldness of April was a great shock to me.

Having always lived in the south, April meant for me warm sun, spring flowers, and fresh green lawns. The celebration of Easter was also strongly associated with April and spring because the date of Easter almost always fell during the height of spring. The new life of spring provided a fitting context for the celebration of the resurrection and the traditional symbols of Easter were all around.

My first year in Vermont it was a great surprise to awaken on Easter morning to find the ground blanketed with a fresh snowfall. All the symbolism of the new life that signifies Easter broke down for me—there were no fresh flowers, no green lawns, no signs of new life. Instead we trooped off to church in our snow clothes. We listened to the wind howl outside as we sang “Jesus Christ is Risen Today,” and we admired our hot house lilies which somehow seemed so much less “Easter-like” to me given the weather outside.

Over the next few years, I came to realize that snow on Easter was not an exception to the rule, and I learned to look for new signs of spring. Soft, wet “sugar snow,” maple trees tapped as the sap begins to run, the first red winged black bird, and even mud became for me the signs of new life I had been missing. The new fire of the Easter vigil became even more poignant for me when the frigid air emphasized the life-giving nature of the fire’s warmth. I began to see the joy of the resurrection in new places.

And so it is with life. Sometimes the signs we

long for, the associations we cling to go missing. Unexpectedly and without reason, the places where we’ve always found God can seem frighteningly barren and empty. But the promise of Easter is that there is new life, new hope if we only have eyes to see it, if only we can look for God in new and perhaps unexpected places. If we can free ourselves from old habits, old hang-ups, our lives with God, our lives in Christ can become even richer.

As we move out of Lent into Eastertide, my prayer for each of us is that we might be open to seeing signs of the resurrection in new places as well as in the familiar. And as we do so, may we experience the love God holds for us anew.

Blessings for Eastertide and beyond,

*Krist*

### SAINT MARY’S SECOND ANNUAL PARISH RETREAT

REGISTER NOW for Saint Mary’s Second Annual Parish Retreat, September 14-16 at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center. If you have not received a registration form, please call the church office to get one. This year we will have conference center rooms available. These are available on a first come-first served basis and they will go fast. We also have comfortable cabin accommodations. Watch for registration materials coming soon!

The weekend will be full of fun activities, meaningful worship, good food and great company, all in a beautiful lakeside setting. Please consider joining us for this special time together.

## TELLING OUR STORIES: LOUISE L. NELSON

By Patrick Ramage

*“Age cannot wither nor custom stale her infinite variety.”*

—Shakespeare

When I first laid eyes on Louise Nelson, she was in her bathing suit, wading into the summer waters of Barnstable Harbor. Several years later, we stand in her living room window gazing at the winter view. It is a clear, cold day. Ice floes are moving on the harbor and snow-covered Sandy Neck stretches out in the distance. “It’s constantly changing,” she explains to me and my son Henry. “We have marsh animals here; rabbits, foxes and deer.”

Her own tiny animal, a pet dog she calls “Big Boy,” sits at her feet as the three of us settle into the sofa and chair to begin our two hour visit.

“I’m a New England gal,” Louise tells us. She was born in Hudson, Massachusetts in 1915, the middle child of three. “What’s your first memory?” I ask her. “Oh I don’t know, the beach I guess. We swam all the time. I’ve summered on the Cape since I was a year old. We would stay in Falmouth all summer. I met Gordon the summer I was 15 or 16. His family stayed in a summer house directly behind mine.” “So he literally was the love of your life?” I ask her. “Yes,” she says, beaming, “I never dated anyone else.”

Louise’s father was in the lumber business in Hudson, where her mother’s father had a wool mill. “My mother was very ‘churchy’. My father wasn’t very active but we’d go with my mother all the time.”

Louise prepped at Waltham School for Girls as a five-day student, commuting home to Hudson each weekend. She graduated from Colby-Sawyer High School in New Hampshire and was President of her class at Wheaton College.

Louise and Gordon, who is resting in the next room, were married 70 years ago at Saint Luke’s in Hudson. I ask her what she remembers about her wedding day, September 4<sup>th</sup> 1937. “It was a simple wedding, not elaborate, she explains. “It was the day after my birthday. And it was HOT, the hottest September 4<sup>th</sup> on record!” I picture Louise in her heavy moiré dress of wadded silk with Gordon in his woolen morning suit. “I remember riding home in the car after.”

Later in life, Louise’s father married Gordon’s mother. “It came about very easily,” Louise explains with a smile. “Our other parents had died. We would all be at the beach. Gordon and I would say we were going to the movies. And soon they got to be going to the movies themselves! Gordon and I like to say we’re half brother and sister!”

The semi-siblings moved to Brockton once they were married and to the Cape in 1946 They started attending Saint Mary’s in ‘47 or ‘48. I’ve been through all the ministers, every one of them, starting with Father Nicholson,” Louise tells me. “You’ve probably seen a lot of changes over those 60 years,” I say. “Good heavens yes!” she says. I ask her to elaborate. “Well, things used to be more precise and formal, not so folksy.”

Louise has served as a vestry member, junior warden and senior warden at Saint Mary’s, but her first love has always been the Altar Guild, on which she served as directress for 38 years. “St. Mary’s is the altar guild to me,” she says.

“And what is Altar Guild?” I ask her.

“Well it’s the group involved in taking care of the sanctuary, seeing that the linens are cleaned and the candles trimmed, that everything is in order and prepared for. We would do the laundry collect or order the flowers, and so on.”

“And why did you do it?” I ask.

*please turn the page to continue*

## TELLING OUR STORIES: (CONT.)

"Because my mother did it," she says. "I've been doing the altar guild since I was born. When I was a child and my mother was preparing the altar at Saint Luke's, she would take us along and we would mark the places in the scripture for the readers the following Sunday."

I ask her to tell me more.

"I enjoy people, and I enjoy the church. Always have. But I like to do things in the background, not out in public. I like to get it all ready with people out of the way. At some churches there is a lot of bustling around up front before the service. I don't care for that."

"We would go and get plants at Conant's Farm in West Barnstable. A man named Mr. Bruce had a sheep farm behind it with thousands of lilies. Lilacs, peonies, roses, I knew where they all were. Dorinda Beam, the wife of Forest Beam — don't you know him? Everyone in the village went to Dr. Beam! — Well, his wife Dorinda was head of the garden and worked till her little fingers were numb I think.

"Not too many years ago I was cutting flowers in the garden for the altar and Mr. Carlaw, a man from the church, yelled out at me asking 'What are you doing picking those dafodills?' 'It's OK,' I yelled back, 'Dorinda told me I could!' Of course Dorinda had been dead for some time."

Halfway through our conversation, as I begin a twelfth page of notes, I realize I can't scribble quickly enough to keep up with our banter. Having prided myself since childhood on lightning-fast conversational skills and a rapier-swift wit, I suddenly realize I am out of my league. Louise Nelson, at 92, is much faster and funnier than me.

I ask about changes to Saint Mary's sanctuary and altar. "In the early days there was a tower at the front door. The altar hangings were hung up in the tower and you would go up little wooden stairs to get to them. "Purple, red, white for Holy Days, green for the Trinity and the tapestry pattern," she explains. "The room on the left side of the altar opposite the sacristy where the hangings rack is now was the organ room before we got the new organ and it was moved.

Louise tells me of a beautiful stained glass window behind the current organ. Sensing my ignorance, she patiently explains: "It's a very small, lovely window given by the Barrows family. The large stained glass window of Mary at the back of the sanctuary was given in memory of Father Nicholson. His aunts did that." Over the course of the next few minutes Louise also tells me about the purificators, fair linens and post veils, the old Baptistery chapel to the left of the altar, (replete with a pulley to lift the cover from the baptismal font), and the Lady's chapel to the right.

I ask about changes in other aspects of church life during her six decades at Saint Mary's. "Hockey and other sports have taken a lot of young people away from church," she observes. "They shouldn't play on Sundays." I ask if there is anything else she would change? "Oh my goodness, I like it the way it is!"

I ask Louise about things non-churchy. "I've never worked a day in my life," she deadpans. "First because I had to take care of my father until he remarried," then because of her volunteering — both at Saint Mary's and at Cape Cod Hospital where she served with Hospital Aid for 27 years. "But I'm terrible, I don't read. And I hate exercise."

"So what's your secret for living a long healthy life?" I ask. "Vegetables," she says instantly. "We ate a lot of vegetables as children. My mother was practically a vegetarian and one meal a week was just vegetables."

Two sons, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren later, after extensive international travel with Gordon, including two trips around the world, Louise Nelson seems content taking in the ever-changing views of Barnstable Harbor as she cares for her husband and looks forward to summer, their favorite season.

As Henry and I prepare to depart, I have one final churchy question: "Which was more challenging for you and the Altar Guild," I ask, "Christmas or Easter?"

"They weren't a *challenge*," she says, looking up at me with a gleam in her eye. "*They were fun!*"



## MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S

My two sisters and I are negotiating the turbulent waters of clearing out and selling my mother's home. My parents lived for 50 years in that 19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse on three acres in the midst of fields and woods whose tractor paths are as familiar to me as the creaky boards in the living room floor. As I followed the typical itinerant pattern of most young professionals, I could always return to the homestead. Though my childhood was far from idyllic, I count myself lucky to have been able to have time to return, face painful memories, and make my peace with them. We have struggled for a way to keep the property in the family—as a vacation home or as refuge from global warming when the Cape goes under water, but the house needs live-in caretakers; a new family to love the three huge pine trees in the front yard, the rustic basement full of canning jars, to hopefully tend my mother's flower gardens. So we make the last few trips back “home” to pack up remaining mementos, to visit the graves of the dogs and cats who populated our young lives, to collect pine cones and field stones and say good-bye to long-loved neighbors in the valley. Everyone knows this process is inevitable in any family, yet it doesn't seem to make the occurrence any easier. I feel a deep sense of grief at losing my connection with this house, and more so with the surrounding land. I know the deer paths that wend their way through the deep woods past the remains of an old hunting cabin and a sugar bush boiler, the places where the creek deepens into pools ideal for minnows, the waterfall hidden a mile from any human habitation, the remote meadows where wild strawberries and blackberries grow, the elderberries the only marker of a barn long since lost to fire, the “sacred circle” of huge hemlock trees on a remote ridge above the creek. This place was my refuge from childhood fears and adult worries. It is hard to imagine my life without this solace available.

There's a level on which Easter is hard to accept; too abrupt to take in fully. After the long period of Lenten quietness and introspection, the agony of Holy Week, suddenly all is flowers and light and “alleluias.” It is a shock even though we follow this cycle every year—we know that Easter is coming. Think of the reaction of the disciples. Regardless of what Jesus had told them, that morning they were only aware that he had been killed; they had not stood by him and he was gone. When Mary came to tell them Jesus was no longer in the tomb, how could they have taken this as good news? Even if they could glimpse the meaning of the Resurrection, their friend and teacher would no longer be walking with them in their daily life as a fellow mortal, and they needed to grieve for that loss.

Jesus appeared several times to his followers, helping them accept this new arrangement, preparing them to go on. If you can fully enter the joy of the Resurrection on Easter Day, I rejoice for you. If you have a sense of needing more time, know that it is there in the marvelous cycle of the liturgical calendar. There are 40 days of Lent, but 50 for Easter! Some years I don't feel like I get it until pretty near to Pentecost. Some years there didn't seem to be an Easter in my life, even though I went through the motions at work. If we have been successful in exorcising a troublesome spiritual or physical habit during Lent, there is still a wound where we clung to that practice—it was a part of us in spite of our knowledge that it was not healthy. To be able to blithely go on would require super-human resources. So take your time this year as we enter the last flurry of church activity before the flurry of a Cape summer. We carry Christ's promises within us even though we walk with him by faith rather than on the dusty roads of Palestine.

*Joan Kirchner*

CROSS CURRENTS

Volume xxi Number 4

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>1</p> <p>Palm Sunday 8a HE, Rite I 10a Procession of Palms/Reading of Passion 11:15a Community Choir 5p Rite 13</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9a Miracle Kitchen 9a ECW Board Meeting 5p Fatherhood Program</p>	<p>3</p> <p>(Holy Week) 7p Tenebrae</p>	<p>7p Adult Choir</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Easter Sunday 9a Festal Choral Eucharist 11a Festal Choral Eucharist</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5p Fatherhood Program 6p Women's Overnight of Hospitality</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7a Men's Breakfast Group 8a Men from the Correctional Facilities to work around St. Mary's</p>	<p>1p Fatherhood Net Meetings 3p Finance &amp; Bud</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8a HE, Rite I 10a HE, Rite II 11:15a Community Choir 5:30p J2A</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9a Miracle Kitchen 5p Fatherhood Program</p>	<p>17</p> <p>No events</p>	<p>7p Adult Choir 7p Vestry Meeting</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8a HE, Rite I 10a HE, Rite II 11:15a Outreach Task Force Meeting 11:15a Safe Youth Program 11:15a Community Choir 5:30p Rite 13</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5p Fatherhood Program 7p ECW Evening Group</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7a Men's Breakfast Group 10:30a Prayer Group</p>	<p>6p Men's Hospital 7p Adult Choir</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8a HE, Rite I 10a HE, Rite I 11:15a Community Choir 11:15a Environmental Stewardship Meeting 11:15a "Beasts" (Animal Ministry) Forum 5:30p J2A</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9a Rummage Sale Setup 5p Fatherhood Program</p>		

2007

day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	<p>Maundy Thursday 5</p> <p>7:30a HE and Breakfast Group</p> <p>5:30p Contemplative Prayer-HS, Orleans</p> <p>7p AA Meeting</p> <p>7p HE/Foot Washing/Stripping of Altar</p> <p>8p Nightwatch Vigil in Lady Chapel</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Good Friday</p> <p>12p Stations of the Cross</p> <p>7p Ecumenical Service/ Good Friday Liturgy</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6p Easter Vigil/Baptism</p> <p>8p Lamb Roast</p>
<p>working</p> <p>11</p> <p>get Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30a HE &amp; Breakfast Group</p> <p>9:30a Cape Cod Auxiliary – Guest Speaker Entomologist</p> <p>7p Building &amp; Grounds Meeting</p> <p>7p AA Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5p Holy Eucharist</p>
18	<p>19</p> <p>7:30a Holy Eucharist &amp; Breakfast Group</p> <p>7p AA Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:30a Altar Guild Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:30p Daffodil Tea – first seating</p> <p>2p second seating</p> <p>3:15p third seating</p> <p>5p Holy Eucharist</p>
<p>25</p> <p>ity Overnight</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:30a Holy Eucharist &amp; Breakfast Group</p> <p>7p AA Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>No events</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5p Holy Eucharist</p>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Animal Ministry Group,*

In last month's 'Crosscurrents' I outlined some activities we had planned in the area of service. This month I'll talk about other things we'd like to do, some of which involve the areas of liturgy and theology.

At some point later in the year we'd like to have another forum modeled on the one we will be having after church on April 29. The forum in April will discuss aspects of adopting shelter/rescue animals and the one later in the year will address pet health.

Also we would like to think about liturgy and animals. Some thoughts are - perhaps having a specific service every other or every third month where animals would be welcome. It's nice to be in community with as many of our loved ones as possible, don't you think? Another would be to include a brief prayer for animals, their well-being, protection and our own stewardship during our prayers. We'll be meeting with Steve and Kris to talk about this.

We've been dealing with the practicalities of animal and owner stewardship and support, but we'd be remiss if we didn't look into animal theology. There are a number of books addressing this very subject, with the Rev. Andrew Linzey of Oxford University being the most notable author. It is understood that many people are too busy to read an entire book, but we're hoping to have a discussion group based on particularly pertinent sections of some wonderful, thought-provoking books.

Some people have approached me and said that they'd like to be involved but that the whole thing makes them too sad. I don't dispute that - once you begin looking into the issue of animal welfare you find a lot of things that are heart-breaking. But, as I hope you can see, we are focusing on what we can do to improve matters and not being sidetracked by the negatives. One of the reasons we're detailing our activities is to get

people interested in our unique form of outreach, and another is to 'prime the pump'. Perhaps you'll see our ideas and they'll prod an idea from you. We'll be glad to hear it!

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In light of current events let's say a prayer for all those, animal and human, effected by the tainted pet food.

Loving God, bring rest to those who worry,  
blessings to those who are in pain  
and peace to those who sorrow.

Give us empathy, compassion and strength to  
help all your creatures.

In the name of your son, Jesus Christ. +

~Amy Crocker

### *Church Women United*

May Friendship Day will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2007 from 9:00- 2:00pm at the Federated Church, 320 Main St., Hyannis. The theme is "Friends Under God's Wing". Lunch will be served for \$10.00. More information will be available in the May Cross Currents.

The Young church women's retreat will be held at the Craigville Retreat Center in Centerville, April 4-6, 2007. For more information please contact Dot Pettibone at 508-362-5160.

### *Hello Book Club Members*

Now that we have another hour of daylight it is time to get reading. Our last meeting was full of engaging conversation about the book *The Faith Club*. As a matter of fact, the members agreed to continue to discuss the book for the April meeting with the thought: Where did this reading lead you personally? The members were encouraged to peruse the extensive bibliography included at the back of *The Faith Club* book for additional readings. The schedule for the up-comings

months will be as follows:

**April 12th:** The Faith Club by Ranya Idilby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner This date is chosen secondary to Maundy Thursday being the 1st Thursday

**May 3rd:** Snow Flower and The Secret Fan by Lisa See

**June 14th:** An Interrupted Life by Etty; discussion led by Jeanette Hanlon

All meetings will take place in the St. James's Room and will begin at 7:00pm

We will NOT meet for the months of July and August.

~Susan Babcock

### *Vestry Retreat*

#### **Focus on Stewardship**

On March 3 the Clergy, members of the Vestry and the Stewardship Committee took part in a retreat on the subject of Stewardship. This meeting was led by the Rev. Mark Anschutz, recently retired rector of ST. Michael and All Angels in Dallas. WE are very fortunate to have Mark and his wife Peggy as new members of our parish.

The retreat, structured around the Eucharist, explored the concept of a theology of stewardship and the roots of stewardship in the Episcopal Church, the Old Testament and the teachings of Christ in the New Testament. There was much discussion of the meaning of stewardship and the role it plays in our lives as Christians. This retreat was an effort to gain momentum for our commitment to Stewardship and the potential for joyful giving within our congregation. Rev. Anschutz shared many lessons and stories about how this has evolved within many other parishes.

The group at the meeting agreed that this had provoked much thought and consideration about the role in Stewardship in our own relationships with God and how we might share these ideas with the congregation in the year ahead. We have committed to engage the entire parish in this journey.

### *Stained Glass Window Project*

Wonderful news – the ECW has purchased all three of the small windows in the St. Mary's Chapel. These are some of the most beautiful window designs in the entire project. The ECW is to be thanked by all of us.

This leaves us with ONE large window for someone to buy so we can complete our project. The Symbol for this window is the Holy Trinity and it is the fifth window counting down from the alter on the 6A side of the church. Our entire project is funded with the purchase price of all of the windows. Please seriously consider making a memorial donation to St. Mary's at this time with a purchase of this window. This will fund our project and keep it on schedule for completion in August of 2007.

For more information please contact me, Sharon Donegan: 508-362-6365 or don1227@gmail.com. Please note that I will be out of the country until March 26. The price of this window is \$6,900 and will include a memorial notation designed into the bottom of the actual stained glass window. If you cannot reach me, please contact Father Steve Smith if you have any interest.



# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## YOUTH FORMATION

Youth and Parents, prayerfully consider participating in all Holy Week Events (4/3, 4/5 and 4/6) especially the Easter Vigil (4/7). Refer to the church calendar for the Tuesday Tenebrae Service - darkness and light, The Maundy Thursday Service - footwashing and stripping of the altar and Good Friday Ecumenical Service - together with neighbor churches.

### *Important Dates to Remember:*

#### **J2A**

Sunday April 15 and Sunday April 29 regular meetings 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday April 22 at 11:15am

We will be showing and discussing the first two segments of the "Your Boundaries, Your Call!" program with our J2A youth. It is important that parents/guardians have attended the prior screening on March 19. If not, please be in touch with Connie Sullivan (sullivision@gis.net) or Barbara Hersey (annahersey05@comcast.net) or call 508-362-3977 x12 to be aware of the content of the program before your child views it.

Rite 13:

Sunday April 1 and Sunday April 22 regular meetings 5:30-7:30pm

Thank you so much to Karen and Jason Raineri for their presentation of "Brazil Revealed" and discussion afterwards, including guest speakers Lucy and Andy. Thank you also for the wonderful Brazilian food and treats that they shared with the Junior High Youth!!!

#### **Godly Play**

Children are invited! Prayerfully consider participating in all Holy Week Events Especially the Easter Vigil, inclusive for all ages.

Our Church School Program continues on with

the lessons: Crosses, Resurrection Eggs, Jesus and the 12, The Circle of the Holy Eucharist, and The Good Shepherd and world Communion, not necessarily in that order.

Teachers and Parents, and Grandparents - please refer to your Church School Schedule for the actual lessons and teachers assigned each week, sent out in mid-March. Teachers, please call Barbara at least a week ahead if you need a new schedule, or if you'll be away. Thanks so much, without you we wouldn't have a Church School Program. God Bless!

#### **Upcoming dates:**

A special event Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, more information to come! And Church School Celebration June 10.

#### **Vacation Bible School - "VBS"**

Vacation Bible School meetings started in late March and we're looking at a week in August. First Lutheran in West Barnstable will be our host parish again this year with an evening program, 5 to 8 pm, which works out wonderfully as they serve all the children dinner - and it's all Free!! More information to follow.



## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

### United Thank Offering

#### **ENCLOSED IS YOUR BLUE ENVELOPE FOR YOUR THANK OFFERING GIFT**

The United Thank Offering Ingathering will Be Saturday, April 21 at the 5PM service, and Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the 8AM and 10:00AM services. This offering is a program of the Episcopal Church which was founded by, and has been administered by women since 1889. Each year invitations to apply up to two grants are sent to each Episcopal Diocese Of Episcopal USA, and to overseas Anglican Provinces. Grants support the identified mission of the Diocese/Province, and address compelling needs and/or expand mission and ministry.

Both checks payable to St. Mary's ECW or cash are acceptable. If you are unable to attend an ingathering service, please mail your offering to St. Mary's Church, PO Box 395, Barnstable Ma 02630 (attention E C W)

### DAFFODIL TEA

If you haven't already made your Tea reservations, you'd best hurry!! The first sitting at noon is already sold out, but there are two more sittings. REMEMBER, your canceled check IS YOUR RESERVATION. The reservation cut-off date is April 11<sup>th</sup>, and then the folks on a waiting list will be contacted. Don't miss out on one of THE EVENTS of the year at St. Mary's. Also remember our art show and sale featuring many talented artists from St. Mary's. If there are any more talented people out there who wish to be included in this event, please contact Penney Hensley at 508-775-2262.

### SCHOOL KIT PROGRAM

Please remember putting something into our School Kit basket in the Sunroom. Our goal is 24 kits this year. Here's a reminder: blunt scissors, tape bound ruled notebooks, 12" rulers, pencil sharpeners, yellow pencils with erasers, large erasers, construction paper, and crayons. Surely, you can bring in one item from the several mentioned. This program truly helps so many needy school children!

### EXCITING NEWS!

#### **The ECW is Expanding!**

An evening session of St. Mary's ECW will be initiated at a gathering led by Barbara Hersey and Liz Rabideau on Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Since many of you are unable to take part in our Wednesday day programs, this will allow you a new and wonderful opportunity to be able to play a more active role in the E C W. This is terrific! Please watch for further info and announcements.

### THANK YOU—THANK YOU

We are delighted to announce that Helen Hinckley has agreed to be our 2007 Holly Fair Chairperson. Her experience, along with a wealth of new and fresh ideas will be greatly anticipated. Thinking ahead, we are now looking for a co-Chair, who will then take on the chairmanship for 2008. Please step forward if you feel this is a project that intrigues you.

### SPRING CLEANING

Start putting things away as you Spring clean for our next rummage sale in May. It's a win-win situation. You get organized, and our "coffers" grow enabling us to continue to give financial support to St. Mary's and to the community.

www.stmarys-church.org

Mission Statement

Saint Mary's is a community of faith striving to live intentionally as the Body of Christ in the world. We express our faith through worship, spiritual formation, care for others, and responsible stewardship of all our resources.

- We base our worship on the richness and diversity of Anglican liturgy and music.
- We provide opportunities and resources to guide the spiritual development of our multigenerational congregation.
- We reach out to help fulfill the material needs of those in our local community and beyond.
- We invite everyone to participate in the life of our community through sharing their time, talents, and tangible resources.



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