



The Digital Dragon

Pentecostal Season 2010

St. George's Episcopal Church

950 Spruce Street

Riverside, CA 92507

951-686-9936

www.saintgeorges.net

No. 5

Upcoming Events

Link: www.my.calendars.net/stgeorge

Worship

Sunday Services

9:00 AM - Sunday School

10:00 AM - Choral Holy Eucharist

5:00 PM - Evening Prayer with Eucharist

Wednesday Service

11:00 AM - Bible Study

Noon - Holy Eucharist & Healing Service

Choir Practice - Thursday 7:00 PM

Parish Work Day - Saturdays 8:00 (2nd Saturday)

Daughters of the King Meeting -

Thursdays 5:00 PM (3rd Thursday)

Prayer Requests

Thanksgiving for Maile who is expecting a child; prayers for Aaron and Bailey as they share the journey;

Thanksgiving for the marriage of Megan & Dan (Ardee's daughter) on May 15;

Gail, recovery from knee surgery;

Jerry, facing knee and foot surgery;

Latest News

- ❖ The Consecration of two Suffragan Bishops at the Long Beach Arena on May 15 was amazing. Please see the Diocesan Website ladiocese.org for pictures and more information.
- ❖ Cooking Opportunities! Eager hands will be needed on Friday evening, May 21 at 5PM to prepare food for Lobsterfest. Evenings in our kitchen are always fun and the work goes quickly when there are lots of people chopping, telling stories, stirring, laughing, mixing, sharing and tasting. All ages are welcome. Please call Ardee (951 369-3253) to confirm.
- ❖ We will also need people May 22, to help with last minute prep and serving.
- ❖ The following Saturday, May 29 at 9AM. Guest cook Vi DePass will demonstrate the making of several types of dolmas (stuffed grape leaves). She learned methods and several delicious recipes while living in Iran in the 1970s. Rose will also teach us to make the meatless "meatballs" that were a big hit at one of the Lenten soup suppers. For a small donation (suggested \$5) toward ingredients, participants can take home the fruits of their labors. Please call Ardee (951 369-3253) to confirm participation.
- ❖ Join us for Pentecost this Sunday May 23. There will be only one service that day.
- ❖ Mark your calendars for a St. George's Road trip June 19 to see Godspell.

A Person's Story

A Spiritual Journey

-- by Ann Rendon

My story begins with a cocktail party in Venezuela where my parents met an Irish Bishop. They wanted children and were unable to adopt in the states because of their mixed religious background. The Bishop said, "come to Ireland and I will help you adopt children."

Sherman Institute

Art Supply Needs

Oils

Watercolors

Brushes

Canvas

Beads

Feeding America

Fruits and Green Vegetables
(canned, fresh)

Root vegetables (potatoes, turnips)

Baby food

Canned milk

Protein (canned tuna, ham, beans)

Poet's Corner

I Thought Of You With Love Today

*I thought of you with love today,
but that is nothing new,
I thought about you yesterday
and the day before that too.*

*I think of you in silence,
I often speak your name,
All I have are memories
and your picture in a frame.*

*Your memory is my keepsake,
with which I'll never part.
God has you in his keeping,
I have you in my heart.*

-- contributed by Marie Williams



Spiritual Disciplines - Benedictine Spirituality

Part III

The Psalter has been called the Benedictine prayer book. While it is true that there are many quotes from the Psalms in Benedict's Rule, there are also specific rules specifying when and how the psalms are to be recited. Benedict arranged the worship so that every psalm was said at least once in a week. He wrote:

We especially impress this, that, if this distribution of the psalms should perchance displease anyone, he arrange them if he thinketh better, by all means seeing to it that the whole Psalter of one hundred and fifty psalms be said every week, and that it always start again from the beginning at Matins on Sunday; because those monks show too lax a service in their devotion who in the course of a week chant less than the whole Psalter with its customary canticles; since we read, that our forefathers promptly fulfilled in one day what we lukewarm monks should, please God, perform at least in a week. (The Rule of St. Benedict, Rule 18)

There were set times for the community to come together in prayer each day. "Seven times a day I praise you..." we are told in Psalm 119. Benedict looked at this as a requirement for how often the community should come together in prayer.

These times of prayer started with Matins and ended with Compline. Every three hours the community would come together to pray. The only exceptions to this were for those who were ill and those away. This practice became a part of their daily life and work. Theirs was a life infused with the worship of God as well as the work they performed around the monastery for the community.

Worship was ordered around the reading of scripture and the recitation of the psalms and prayers. Over time a member of the community would be able to recite the prayers and psalms from memory. As they lived in community and attended worship their whole being would be filled with this spiritual practice.

While community prayer was expected, so too was individual prayer. An area in the monastery was reserved for private prayer. The oratory was a place a monk could go and be alone to pray to God. Each member of the community also was expected to have a spiritual director and a confessor.

Our busy lives do not allow us the luxury of prayer seven times a day. Indeed, it is often difficult to pray once a day to God, however, the benefits of prayer are many. Thomas Cranmer, the compiler of our Book of Common Prayer, knew this and has given us a gift to help with our daily prayer. The BCP contains the Daily Office. It is a set of four services that can be used daily. The Daily Office also has a daily lectionary that maps the reading of most of the Bible over two years.

While it is not always feasible to say the entire Offices of Morning, Noon, Evening or Compline, there is a substitute. On page 136 of the Book of

Dear Church Mouse,
 Why are there two different rites for service?
 When and why do we change back and forth?



Thanks, your friend.

Dear Friend,

There are two different rites in the prayer book so that we can include the traditional language of our prayer book from the Elizabethan times and the contemporary language of today. That is the primary reason.

Underlying is the theological and sacramental changes made when we moved from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer to the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. the '28 BCP was written with the idea that morning prayer was the principle service Sunday mornings. With the changes made during the Second Vatican

Common Prayer there is a setting for use by individuals and families. These settings provide a means for praying in community as well as opportunity for private prayer. The lectionary is on page 934 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Daily Office and the Lectionary for the Daily Office gives us a way to briefly taste the monastic life. And it helps shape a habit of daily prayer and study. For us in our busy days, it helps bring order and when used within a family, community for the family.

Peace,

Paul

A Person's Story, cont.

My parents, decided to do a grand tour of Europe, because once they had children they would be less free to travel. When they set out they intended to adopt four children, but my mom believed she was pregnant so they decided to adopt two and in a year they could return if they still wanted more. My sister, Mary Jo was 2 ½ and I was 23 months when we were adopted. In order to adopt us my parents agreed to raise us in the Catholic Church.

So we went to church every week in Venezuela and then in Turkey. When we were in second grade we started religious education classes to prepare us for our first communion. My parents celebrated our first communion with a party inviting other children who also had made their first communion. That evening my mom said she was an atheist and my dad said he was agnostic. They would be happy to take us to church anytime we wanted, but they would no longer attend church. So for many years, I attended church sporadically with neighbors.

When I entered the University of Connecticut, the Newman Center was down the hill from my dorm and I started attending Sunday Evening Services regularly. The fit with the Catholic Church was not always perfect. It bothered me that I mostly saw women in church, but women could not be ordained. I was unhappy with the church's stand on divorce and homosexuality. For a period of many years, I debated with myself on how much my personal beliefs and conscience differed with official church doctrine. Finally one day I suddenly realized I could no longer attend a Catholic Church.

My first response was to not attend any church. I felt that I could develop my faith in God and spirituality without any dogma from someone else. It

Pentecostal Thoughts

I Dreamed of Heaven

*I dreamed of heaven the other
 night,
 With pearly gates swung wide.
 An angel with a halo bright,
 beckoned me inside.
 And there, to my astonishment,
 Stood folks I'd judged and labeled.
 As quite unfit, of little worth,
 and spiritually disabled.
 Indignant words rose to my lips,
 but never were set free.
 For every face showed stunned
 surprise.
 Not one expected me!*

-- Anon.

Church Mouse - cont.	Prayer Requests, cont.
<p>Council between 1962-1965, a new understanding of the importance of the Holy Communion as the central ritual of worship each Sunday. That and an understanding that we should be praying in the vernacular of the day, made it necessary to publish a new prayer book.</p> <p>Rite I (or the traditional language rite) was kept mostly for pastoral purposes.</p> <p><i>Chryst</i>, The Church Mouse</p>	<p>Mary S. seeking relief from continued back pain; Betty, continued healing; George, strength and grace dealing with ALS; Jeano, comfort and support in caring for George; Chris, in hospital, prayers for the family; Sylvia, Elaine, healing; Diane, healing and reconciliation;</p> <p>those with job concerns, seeking employment, dealing with job stresses: Tony, Mark Askren, Mary, Janis, Rose, Bethany, Marie, Bridget;</p> <p>Others to hold in our prayers: Candy, liver cancer; Lorie, ALS; Joyce, brain aneurysm; Janet, brain cancer; Harold, back surgery; Jeff T, prostate cancer; Nancy, needing heart transplant; Barbara S., cancer Natalie, cancer; Bob S, in hospice, and wife Nan; Robin, healing</p> <p>Traveling: Judy traveling in England; Nowak family traveling to Washington; Ardee and Rose traveling to Santa Rosa;</p> <p>Consecration planning team; Fr. Paul, the Wardens and the Vestry;</p>
CROP Hunger Walk - Results	
<p>On Sunday March 14th, Teresa Blandin, Shelley Blandin and Ann Rendon joined walkers from over a dozen churches in the CROP Walk to help end world hunger. We walked along Victoria Avenue starting from Temple Beth El walking a total of four miles. The day was sunny with a gentle breeze. All along the walk plants were in bloom. At the end of the walk there was lemonade and home made cookies for all the walkers. Two people who raised funds, but were unable to walk that day were Lelah Erickson and Rita Chenowith. St. George's raised \$635 of the more than \$11,000 raised this year. Twenty five percent of the money raised goes towards local hunger programs. In the past Project Food, Second Harvest Food Bank, Set Free Ministries, Calvary Presbyterian Hot meals program and Arlington Temporary Assistance have received funds. This walk was a great opportunity to meet other people interested in making our community a better place to live. Next year maybe more members of the congregation can join the walk.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-- Ann Rendon</p>	<p>A Person's Story - cont.</p> <p>felt strange to not go to church on Sundays, but I did treat the day differently and read about prayer and spirituality. As time went by it dawned on me that I missed music and I missed interacting with people that shared some common beliefs with me. So I started looking around and realized within a couple of miles of my house there were three churches. I decided to try out each church and see how the service felt.</p> <p>I had heard that the Episcopal Church service was similar to the Catholic Mass so I decided to try out St. George's first. If you want to be anonymous in a Catholic church it is easy the parishes are large and there may be four or more services on the weekend. What a shock to walk into St. George's and realize that it was obvious to others that I was a new comer. How welcoming the people of St. George's were Ardee greeted me within minutes. I never did check out the other churches near me. I felt so welcomed and comfortable that St. George's has become my new church home.</p>