



CROSSTOWN

April 2009

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg

In Challenging Times, All Are Welcome Here

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, Dean

As you read this, our time with John Dominic Crossan, our 2009 theologian-in-residence, has come and gone. His lectures were challenging to the mind and warming in the spirit. St. Peter's is blessed to have been able to offer this program to the larger community. There were folks from Tarpon Springs, Sarasota, and beyond present with us. You need to know how proud I felt of all of you who served them. One of the goals that you all articulated when you were seeking a dean was to live into your role as a cathedral for this diocese. You are doing that, and I'm blessed to

be among you.

Each time we gather I am reminded how much so many of you do to make this cathedral a place where others feel welcomed. We remain in the midst of challenging times and difficult decisions. The joy and love of God you show to others as they come to participate in worship, education, and service overcome any shadow of gloom of our present economic crisis and its impact on our life as a community. I am grateful for you and all that you do!

Finally, a word about Holy Week and Easter. The staff has been hard at work

preparing and planning for this most holy time of year. (Details are on Page 3.) The contemplative and inspiring services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will lead you to a richer experience on Easter morning. The Great Vigil of Easter, at 8 p.m. Holy Saturday, is a dramatic service that begins in darkness and breaks forth into the brilliant light of the Resurrection. It is rich with storytelling of our history as the people of God and includes the baptisms of new Christians. On Easter morning we will have two spirit-filled services, at 8 and 10:15 a.m. Bishop Smith will be here at 10:15. Both services will have a full complement of music with the choir. If you are concerned about crowds at 10:15, traditionally a heavily-attended service, please consider coming at 8. If you intend to come to 10:15, you might want to get here early.

Come experience and celebrate our Risen Life in Christ!

Another View of Our New Building

This is an image of the glass-enclosed narthex that will be built on the west side of the Cathedral, leading into our new parish hall and office building. We'll have the welcome cart here on Sunday mornings, and this will be a pleasant place for informal gatherings.

Construction on our new building is moving ahead. Stairs have been installed on the Fourth Street side. Paved areas soon will be created in the garden, so we'll be able to start using that space for outdoor activities.

Color samples for the brick, stucco, and window surrounds and the bronze-look door hardware and framing are on display at St. Peter's Central.



Harvard Jolly

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Crosswinds

The church office will be **closed** on Good Friday, April 10, and Easter Monday, April 13.

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Churches often find themselves in a **cash-flow pinch** during the summer, when people are out of town and don't pay their pledges regularly. St. Peter's is no exception. We offer two suggestions: (1) Consider paying your pledge for June, July, and August in advance. (2) If you'll be away, have your pledge automatically deducted from your checking account or charged to your credit card. We can set you up to do this only for the summer months. When you get back to town you can resume paying as you usually do. Please call Martha Goodwill in the church office (727-822-4173) if you would like to have your pledge automatically paid.

* * *

Next up: **Nonperishable food items** for the food pantry at St. Bartholomew's. That's what our outreach ministry invites you to bring to church on Sunday, April 5. Each month Outreach selects a particular need for a specific charity or ministry group in the community and invites your support. Canned goods, condiments (ketchup, mustard, salsa, pickles, relish), seasonings, meats and fish, juices, and beverages are all welcome. Use your coupons! Take advantage of "buy one, get one" at the supermarket!

* * *

Our annual **community prayer breakfast** is from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 4, hosted by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. We will gather at Trinity Lutheran Church, 401 Fifth St. N, for a joint Episcopal-Lutheran service of Holy Eucharist. Then enjoy the brotherhood's legendary hearty breakfast and a talk by our bishop, the Right Rev. Dabney T. Smith. Admission is \$5 at the door. All

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Celebrating Our Anniversary Years

This is a year full of anniversaries for St. Peter's. It's the 120th anniversary of our founding; the 110th anniversary of the consecration of the sanctuary; and our 40th anniversary as the Cathedral of the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

To celebrate these multiple milestones, we've planned a number of events throughout the year.

* **Anniversary Gatherings** — Next fall's annual harvest dinner, presented by the Episcopal Church Women, will have an anniversary theme. Mark your calendar now for Saturday, October 3, at the St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Court. This will be a festive time for old friends and former staff to gather with us to recall our history and look ahead to our future. Plus good food, our popular silent auction, and fun.

* **Concert** — Our new director of music ministries, Dwight Thomas, will present a musical performance later this year (date and time to be announced) that celebrates our anniversaries.

* **Youth event** — Our children and teens are planning a service project and a fun event. Please see Martha Goodwill if you'd like to be involved here.

* **Candidates' debates** — St. Peter's will host at least one debate among the candidates for mayor of St. Petersburg later this year. This underscores our commitment to being involved in the life of our community and establishing ourselves as the venue for public debate on issues of concern. Those are fitting roles for a Cathedral that shares a block with City Hall and sits opposite the public square. The Council of Neighborhood Associations and the League of Women Voters are the sponsors; dates to be announced.

* **Historical talk** — Will Michaels, president of St. Petersburg Preservation Inc., will give a talk this spring on the history of St. Peter's and its role in the development of the city. Watch for the date and details!

* We're creating a **2010 calendar**, with images of the stained glass windows in the Cathedral. These will be for sale in the last quarter of the year. (What a great Christmas gift for your friends!)

Other events may be added as the year goes on. And notice the anniversary logos on the back page of *Crosstown*!



Movie Nights in April

Our free movie series continues at 7 p.m. Fridays at St. Peter's Central. Here's the April lineup; see the web site (spcathedral.net) or the bulletin board for details.

April 3: *Frozen River* (Canada, 2008, 97 minutes). Desperate women resort to crime along the Hudson River.

April 10: Good Friday, no movie.

April 17: *Amelie* (France, 2001, 122 minutes). Painfully shy waitress at Parisian cafe helps others find happiness. Can she do the same

for herself? This lively comedy was nominated for five Academy Awards including Best Original Screenplay.

April 24: *Tell No One* (France, 2006, 25 minutes). Husband is a suspect in wife's long-unsolved murder. But an e-mail and video clip suggest she's still alive.

Holy Week and Easter at the Cathedral

Palm Sunday, April 5

Services at 8 and 10:15 a.m. At 10:15 the congregation will gather outside and process into the Cathedral. Readers will take the roles of participants in the Passion Gospel.

6 p.m.: CAYA service; participatory reading of the Palm Sunday/Holy Week story.

Maundy Thursday, April 9

5 p.m.: Agape Dinner (pitas, hummus, vegetables, fresh and dried fruit). Free. Please reserve your place by calling the office, (727) 822-4173 .

7 p.m.: Holy Eucharist and foot-washing. Dean Morris preaches.

8:30 p.m.: All-night vigil begins in St. Mary's Chapel.



Good Friday, April 10

7:45 a.m.: Way of the Cross. We will walk through downtown St. Petersburg, stopping for Scripture readings and prayer. Gather at the Cathedral.

12 noon: *Meditation on the Passion of Christ*, readings followed by prayers, anthems and hymns. Cathedral.

12:30 p.m.: Liturgy for Good Friday, Cathedral.

6 p.m.: "Come Sing a Song of Lament With Us": Spirituals and other songs of lament, as well as readings and prayers. Piano, Jeanie Locicero; cello, Peter Barlow; violin, Mary Corbett; clarinet and saxophone, Laura and Emile DeCosmos, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. Led by Canon Conner and the Rev. Robin Whitlock, St. Augustine's. Led by Canon Conner and the Rev. Robin Whitlock of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church.

Holy Saturday, April 11

No 5 p.m. service this day.

8 p.m.: Great Vigil of Easter with baptisms. Canon Conner, preacher; Bishop Smith, celebrant.. Reception follows.

Easter Sunday, April 12

8 a.m.: Holy Eucharist with music and choir. Canon Conner, preacher

10:15 a.m.: Holy Eucharist with music and choir. Bishop Smith will be at this service. Flowering of the Cross (bring fresh flowers). Children invited to gather in the narthex just before the service starts for the procession. Easter egg hunt for children follows at 11:45 a.m. Suggestion: Come early; this is traditionally a heavily attended service.

6 p.m.: CAYA service



Crosswinds, from page 2

are welcome: men, women, youth, adults, Episcopalians and others.

* * *

Are you a morning person? The **Gospel Reflections Group** invites you to join us at 7 a.m. Tuesdays. We read the Gospel for the coming Sunday and talk about how to live it out in our own lives. No homework required, and there are no wrong answers here! We're on our way rejoicing at 8 a.m. A supportive group of friends waits to welcome you, learn from you and include you in our prayers for each other. We meet in Room 105 at St. Peter's Central. Please speak to Don Jenkins or David Hill if you'd like to know more.

* * *

Martha Goodwill, lifelong parishioner and former treasurer, is filling in as our financial manager for the next few months. See Martha if you have questions about your pledge, want to change to automatic deduction, or need other financial information.

* * *

A **diocesan service of confirmation** will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 18, in the Cathedral. Bishop Smith will be present to confirm and receive candidates from churches all around the diocese. All are welcome to attend this festive service and welcome those who are making a mature profession of faith. Anyone wishing to be confirmed (teens and adults) or received will meet from 2 to 4 p.m. April 4. After confirmation Dean Morris will lead classes Sunday morning on the prayer book and the church.

* * *

A reminder that if you're ordering something from **amazon.com**, please start your shopping trip at our web site, www.spcathedral.net. Click on "Cathedral bookstore." We earn a percentage of the cost of every amazon.com purchase that starts at our site.

The Great Week in Jerusalem, Fourth Century-Style

Canon Gigi Conner

Egeria, a spunky pilgrim nun from a country on some Atlantic coast, visited the East between 381 and 384 C.E. A bishop who met her was impressed by the fact that she had come "right from the other end of the earth." Egeria, who wrote in her diary, "Journeys are not hard when they are the fulfillment of hopes," recorded her experiences of The Great Week in Jerusalem, a week we now call Holy Week. The Jerusalem liturgy of Egeria's time merits careful description because it was so novel, a fact obscured for the modern reader because so much of what she described has since become common usage. But she is the earliest witness to a type of liturgical procedure that spread from Jerusalem to affect almost all Christians in the world.

Here are excerpts from her diary:

On Sunday, the beginning of the Easter week or, as they call it here, "The Great Week," the people assemble in the Great Church known as the Martyrium because it is on Golgotha behind the Cross where the Lord was put to death. The bishop takes his seat and they have hymns and antiphons suitable to the place and the day and readings too. When three o'clock comes they go up with hymns and sit down at the Imbomon, the

place from where the Lord ascended into heaven. And there too they have hymns and antiphons suitable to the place and the day.

At five o'clock the passage is read from the Gospel about the children who met the Lord with palm branches saying, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." At this the bishop and all the people rise from their places and start off on foot down from the summit of the Mount of Olives. All the people go before him with psalms and antiphons, all the time repeating, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." The babies and the ones too young to walk are carried on their parents' shoulders. Everyone is carrying branches, either palm or olive, and they accompany the bishop in the very way the people did when once they went down with the Lord.

They go on foot, all down the Mount to the city, and all through the city to the Anastasis, but they have to go pretty gently on account of the older women and men among them who might get tired. So it is already late when they reach the Anastasis, but even though it is late they hold Lucernare (service of lights). When they get there, they have a prayer at the cross and the people are dismissed.

On Wednesday a presbyter reads the passage about Judas Iscariot going to the Jews and fixing what they must pay him to betray the Lord. The people groan and lament at this reading in a way that would make you weep to hear them.

(Maundy Thursday)

On Thursday they worship all day . . . then everyone hurries home for a meal so that as soon as they have finished it they can go to the church which contains the cave which the Lord visited with the apostles.

At about midnight they leave and go up to the Imbomon, the place from which the Lord ascended into heaven. When the cock begins to crow they leave, where all of them, including the smallest children, now go down with singing and conduct the bishop to Gethsemane. . . .

(Good Friday)

When everyone arrives at Gethsemane, they have an appropriate prayer, a hymn, and

then a reading from the Gospel about the Lord's arrest. By the time it has been read everyone is groaning and lamenting and weeping so loud that people even across the city can probably hear it. After more prayers they go home to sit down for a bit. Then they return to

Journeys are not hard when they are the fulfillment of hopes. . . .

see the Wood of the Cross.

The bishop's chair is placed on Golgotha, behind the cross (one that has been placed there), and he takes his seat. A table is placed before him with a cloth on it, the deacons stand round, there is brought to him a gold and silver box containing the Holy Wood of the Cross. As long as the Wood is on the table, the bishop holds it down, and the deacons keep watch over it. They guard it because people come forward, stooping to kiss it, and move on. But on one occasion someone bit off a piece of the Holy Wood and stole it away, so they stand guard and keep watch in case anyone dares to do the same again.

At midday, they go Before the Cross . . . into the very spacious and beautiful courtyard between the Cross and the Anastasis, and there is not even room to open a door, the place is so crammed with people. The bishop's chair is placed Before the Cross and the whole time between midday and three o'clock is taken up with readings about the things Jesus suffered: first the psalms on this subject, the Apostles (The Epistles or Acts) which concern it, then passages from the Gospels. Thus they



Today's Franciscan cloister was the seat of the Bishop of Jerusalem in Egeria's time.

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Reserved for calendar page

April Transitions

Birthdays

1	Juliet Mastry Miller	10	Don DeWolf	19	Rebecca Hallas Betty Huck
3	John Samaha Andy Skinner- Denning Hilary Sosa	11	Tom Brew John Hamilton	20	Mary Corbett
4	Jonathan Bryant Dmytro Durbak	12	Rob Armstrong Max Bygrave John Legge Samantha Owen George Richards	21	Bob Bergman Stephen Graumlich Smith Williams
5	Mary Rieth Virginia Ryan	13	Greg Donham Martha Wilkinson	22	Anita Pernel-Arnold
6	Matthew Heinly Ria Norris Tristan Shuler	14	Gertrude Ross	24	Vivian Covey Sherry Dye Tyler Long Bill Sinclair
7	Gaye Burnsed David Lasky Ric Randall Jody Sepulveda Susan Stansbery	15	Chris Sorenson	25	Heather Ferguson Mary Lou Keeler
8	Marlyss Kuenzel	16	Rebecca Gecan Beverly Ann Reilly Eleanor Rowe	27	James Dahm Dallas Holtman
		17	Betty Beck Jack Regan	29	Judith Murante
		18	Bill Kebler	30	Ruth Dady

Anniversaries

3	Will and Vonnie Bennett John and Sandy Hoover	23	John and Marina Hamilton Randy and Tammy Ramsey
10	Jack and Lois Wilt	24	Bill and Jean Curtis Richard and Marie Dahm
17	Tim Baker and Judy Stark	30	Patrick and Marjorie Donnelly Doug and Marlene Hyland
20	Warren and Jillian Frers Blanton and Lela Garnett		

Deaths

Edward Kelly
Alberta Neathery
Eleanor Elizabeth West

New Member

Barbara Marion Lewis

An Arrival, a Departure, a Good Friday Service

Dwight Thomas, Director of Music Ministries

A heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who has made me feel so welcome and for your assistance and suggestions in making my first few days at the Cathedral so much easier. I've met so many nice people and it's been a true joy working and worshipping with you these first weeks of Lent.

I also offer a big thanks to our organ scholar, John Mason, for his work in shouldering the responsibility of keeping the music ministry running smoothly during this time of transition. I'm unfortunately having to say goodbye to John after working with him for only a brief period. He's been a tremendous help to me in the beginnings of my life here, and I wish him God's richest blessings in whatever he does. (John's last day was March 22; he left us to take a job performing on the Norwegian Cruise Line.)

As we journey through these final days of Lent and into Holy Week, I draw particular attention to an offering by the Cathedral Choir on Good Friday, April 10. A Meditation on the Passion of Christ will be presented at 12 noon in the Cathedral. This service is an adaptation of the service sung at St. John's College in Cambridge, England, using readings from the Old Testament prophecies followed by their fulfillment in the Gospels. These readings are followed by meditations or prayers, choral anthems, and hymns. The Liturgy for Good Friday from the Book of Common Prayer immediately follows this service. I hope you'll join us for this poignant service as we journey together toward Easter.

Earth Day

In observance of Earth Day, our CAYA service at 6 p.m. April 19 will celebrate this fragile earth, our island home.

CAYA's service of Holy Communion in the round is based on worship of the community at Iona Abbey in Scotland. Celtic prayers emphasize our oneness with God's perfect creation, the earth and all that is in it. The Diocesan Green Team will present a display of recycled/recyclable materials that congregations

can use instead of nonrecyclable plastic or foam.



The service is followed by an optional pot-luck supper; bring a dish to share. Earth Day is Wednesday, April 22.



Take a Virtual Tour of the Columbarium

A virtual tour of our columbarium will be offered from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 4. Go to www.peacememorialgarden.org to register. You'll receive a confirming e-mail explaining how to join this "webinar."

If you are interested in learning more about the columbarium or purchasing a niche, please see Sheree Graves, Andi Gorton, or Martha Goodwill, or call the columbarium office at (727) 388-5223. Brochures with printed information are available. There is a page of "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQs) at the web site.

We will offer niches in two locations. One is in the existing Memorial Garden (currently inaccessible because of construction, but carefully protected during the building project). The other is the City Peace Garden, on some of the land now occupied by the former Baptist Sanctuary.

The columbarium is financed solely by the sale of niches. No money is being borrowed on behalf of the Cathedral, nor is any money being drawn from Cathedral funds. Niches cost \$2,500 to \$3,000, which includes a \$2,000 tax-free gift to St. Peter's. We are counting on columbarium sales to balance our budget this year.



Deacon Earle to Enroll in Seminary

The Rev. Richard T. Earle III, our deacon, will soon enroll in theological seminary.

Starting May 31, he will spend two weeks annually at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass. He'll do the same for two weeks each January. In between, he'll pursue his theological studies through distance learning, i.e., study on his own and regular computer and webcam links with professors and classes at EDS. The five-year program leads to a master's degree in divinity.

Richard Earle was ordained a deacon in January 2002. He had begun to feel a sense of call some time ago, prayed on it, and discussed furthering his theological education with Bishop Dabney Smith.

Distance learning such as this is the likely future of seminary education. Three years in residence at seminary, the traditional pattern, can leave a graduate with debts in excess of \$120,000. Distance-learning education is far less expensive and allows students to remain at home, maintain their employment, and be involved in their churches.

"I'm very, very happy" about this midlife turn of events, said Deacon Earle, 67, who is a lawyer with the St. Petersburg firm of Fisher & Sauls. He first considered enrolling at Sewanee, where he earned his undergraduate degree. Sewanee offers no distance-learning program at its school of theology, but pointed him in the direction of EDS. Canon Conner holds a divinity degree from EDS.



Egeria

continued from Page 4

read the prophecies about what the Lord would suffer.

It is impressive to see the way all the people are moved by these readings, and how they mourn. You could hardly believe how every single one of them weeps during the three hours, old and young alike, because of the manner in which the Lord suffered for us.

When three o'clock comes, they have the reading from St. John's Gospel about Jesus giving up the ghost, and when that is read, there is a prayer, and the dismissal. They go directly into the Great Church, the Martyrium, to pray. After that dismissal they go to the Anastasis where, once inside, they read the Gospel passage about Joseph (of Arimathea) asking Pilate for the Lord's body and placing it in a new tomb. . . .

On this day it is the custom to watch there, and all who can keep the vigil. Some cannot stay all night but the vigil is kept by the clergy, or at any rate by the ones young enough to have the energy.

(Holy Saturday)

The following day on the Saturday, at three they prepare for the paschal vigil in the Great Church. As soon as the "infants" have been baptized and clothed and left the font, they are led with the bishop straight to the Anastasis. The bishop says a prayer for them, then he returns them to the church, where all the people are keeping the vigil in the usual way. When the offering [Egeria's normal word for the second part of the Eucharist — a reading from the "Book of Moses" was thought to be the first part] has been made, they have the dismissal and go at once with singing to the Anastasis, where the resurrection Gospel is read, and once more the bishop makes the offering.

Journeys are not hard when they are the fulfillment of hopes. This Holy Week you are encouraged to join other pilgrims who will leave the present in order to go back in memory, feeling and prayer to the past...who will travel the path that leads from celebration to passion to lament to death to new life — the fulfillment of hopes — in the present.

St. Peter's: A Guide

With God's help, we will welcome all people.

Weekend Worship

Saturday

5 p.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

Sunday

8 a.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

8:45 a.m.: Early-bird bistro and fellowship

9 a.m.: Christian education for all ages
Nursery care available starting at 9 a.m.

10:15 a.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
*Worship music led by choirs
Blended worship style for all ages*

11:20 a.m.: Sidewalk bistro outside the Cathedral

6 p.m.: CAYA (Come As You Are)
*Holy Communion in the round, followed by a shared supper.
Celtic prayers and music from around the world.*



Visiting/getting in touch

Office/Parish Center: 201 Fourth St. N. (33701). Church entrance:
On Second Ave. N just west of Fourth St.

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 1581, St. Petersburg, FL 33731-1581

Telephone:

(727) 822-4173

Fax:

(727) 823-2205

E-mail:

stpetersplace@spcathedral.com

Web Site:

www.spcathedral.net

Our clergy and senior staff:

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, Bishop

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, Dean —
sbm@spcathedral.com

The Rev. Canon Georgene Conner, Canon Evangelist —
canongigi@spcathedral.com

The Rev. Lynde E. "Ted" May IV, assisting priest

The Rev. Clyde Nabe, assisting priest

The Rev. Richard T. Earle III, Deacon — rearle@fishersauls.com

Samuel V. Tallman, Parish Intern

Dwight Thomas, Director of Music Ministries —
music@spcathedral.com

Pamela J. League, Administrator — pam@spcathedral.com

Monday-Friday

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. ☞ Evening Prayer, Monday and Friday, 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Service of Healing, 10 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Holy Communion, 12:05 p.m.

At any time after hours you have a pastoral emergency, please call our clergy on their cell phones: Dean Morris, (727) 743-1614, or Canon Conner, (727) 742-8509.

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Building
consecrated
1899



St. Peter's
serving God since 1889



Cathedral
since
1969