

THE WEEKLY WORD

EPIPHANY PARISH OF SEATTLE . APRIL 28, 2014

Epiphany: A Gym for the Christian Lifestyle

Dear Epiphany,

Happy Easter! May the reality of the resurrection fill your soul with delight and your life with all joy through the power of believing!

Belief is a word we don't like to use too much in our brand of Christianity. It tends to smack of anti-intellectualism, and in truth, there is no shortage of Bible thumping, quote-me-the-verse kinds of Christians on the loose in America, but very few land at Epiphany. We have a parish full of people well-educated in the ways of critical analysis and analytical intentionality... if they are so inclined.

Early on, the thing that surprised me most about Christianity is the more I studied it, the more I thought about it and practiced it, the more it made sense. Christianity is eminently practical, and more than that, it works if your goal is an easier, more joy-filled life. The thing that blew me away is that you don't have to believe Christianity a wit. If you practice it and study it, you will get the joy without needing to bow to the belief.

I was praying using the *Hour by Hour* prayer book last Saturday morning. The scripture was 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. You all know it. "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." If you have been to a wedding you have heard it. What hit me was the hoped for outcome of love, which is patience and kindness, not envy, arrogance, rudeness, irritability, or resentfulness. And more than that, love positions us to bear all things, believe all things, hope all things, and endure all things. If you give this some deep thought, it is an amazing thing.

The Christian lifestyle is not predicated on belief, rather it is built on practice. What Paul is promising in this letter to the Corinthians is that if we take on the Christian lifestyle as promoted and propagated by Jesus, we will become a person whose foundation is love. Imagine what a world full of loving people would be like...

Now, it is also true, in the Kingdom of God that if we don't practice the Christian lifestyle, Jesus still loves us. If we don't do this, we will still get to be with God when we die. We can still take communion and come to church and be on the altar guild and teach Sunday school. But here is the thing we learn by studying Christianity: community is necessary. By simply trying to abide by our own lifestyle as we define it, based on what we like or don't like, or based on what we like about our neighbor or don't like about our neighbor, the individual idiosyncrasy of lifestyles ram up against each other and we have a messed-up culture.

I said something some people found surprising in a class I was teaching the other day. I said that all people who practice the Christian lifestyle will become loving people, whether that is their goal or not. If a person prays four times a day, worships on Sunday, honors the Sabbath, lives the rhythms of the liturgical year, plans for pilgrimage, tithes and fasts, that person will become a loving person. That person will be patient and kind. Epiphany is the gym where we gather to work on the spiritual disciplines. It is where we come, in part, to train to be the type of people who habitually, by accident and without even thinking about it, act with patience and kindness. And if we don't act that way, the people we hang out with help inspire us by their example. For instance, I was out to lunch with a friend the other day. He was kind to the waiter and so I was kind to the waiter. His joy that day invited me into my own joy. That is what we do together at Epiphany; we set each other up to be loving, patient, and kind.

Doyt+

LENT and HOLY WEEK 2015

Ash Wednesday—February 18, 2015

Palm Sunday—March 29, 2015

Holy Monday—March 30, 2015

Holy Tuesday—March 31, 2015

Holy Wednesday Taize—April 1, 2015

Triduum

Maundy Thursday—April 2, 2015

Good Friday—April 3, 2015

Holy Saturday, The Great Vigil—April 4, 2015

Easter Sunday—April 5, 2015



YWCA EASTER BASKETS

Thanks to the generosity of Epiphany parishioners, kids at the YWCA enjoyed Easter baskets! We supplied almost 10% of their needs this year.

-Epiphany's Social Action Committee

+TEC This Sunday, May 4

The Wonder of Light

The Transfiguration and Modern Physics

Presenter: Lex Lindsey
Time: 9:15–10:15 am
Location: Great Hall

Join us as we explore how modern physicists have thought about light, and discover that, far from being dry and factual, the physics of light is full of wonder and mystery, like the Transfiguration. We will discuss the relationship between science and religion as journeys of faith and knowledge, as well as some of the related philosophical and theological questions.

New Epiphany Minyan

EASTERTIDE,

A Course of Study and Exploration

Text: *10 Best Books to Read for Easter*

One chapter chosen from seven of the ten books

Edited by New York Times Bestselling author, James Martin, SJ

Facilitator: Robin Mondares

Dates: Wednesdays, April 23 – June 4

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm

Location: Fireside Room, Parish Hall Lower Level

In this class we will have the joy of experiencing fine writers and great storytellers, through selected chapters from their writings. Writers include N.T. Wright, James Martin, S.J., C.S. Lewis, Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu, Ann Patchett, candida Moss, John Dominic Crosson, Father Jonathan Morris, and Thomas H. Groome.

“Each of these writers displays their passion about the same person: the man who first called the fisherman by the Sea of Galilee to leave everything and follow him...and who later inspired Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John to write their timeless works of faith.”

(from our course text)

Chapters selected from these books will be provided in class. To sign up, or if you have questions, please contact Robin Mondares at rmond@uw.edu or 206-355-7948

Annual Epiphany Women's Retreat Registration

Adventure in the Desert:

Exploring the Spirituality of the Desert Mothers

Facilitated by the Rev. Dorian McGlannan

St. Andrew's House - Hood Canal - May 16-18, 2014

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Any need for special accommodations or special dietary requirements?

Would you like to carpool? _____

Are you willing to drive for a carpool? _____

The cost per person is \$225 for two nights.

- *This includes food, linens and a comfy bed in a lovely lodge. Space is limited*
- *If you can afford to add a little more to your check or online registration, that would help offset the costs for those who cannot afford as much.*

Contact The Rev. Kate Wesch if you need financial assistance.

Please mail this form (or bring to the church office) and your check (made out to **Epiphany Parish, "Women's Retreat" in the subject line) no later than May 8th to:**

Epiphany Parish 1805 38th Avenue Seattle, WA 98122

Enclosed \$ _____ Check # _____

Or register online to pay by credit/debit card:

<http://www.epiphanyseattle.org/epiphany-annual-womens-retreat/>

Cancellation policy: No refunds may be given after May 9th

**Do you need a spiritual breather?
Do you want to connect with others in Epiphany?
Come for our weekend women's retreat!**



What is the Epiphany women's retreat like?

The annual women's retreat is purposely designed as a come-as-you spiritually-are occasion. For some, a contemplative experience is the predominant need. Quiet spaces are always available. For others, connecting with other women of the parish in an unhurried setting is primary. For some, the physical challenge of a good run or hike is important, or a massage at the nearby Alderbrook Resort before or after the retreat, or a walk in the labyrinth at nearby Harmony Hills... each and all of these things may be important to you. Having variety available to meet individual needs has been a longstanding tradition of this retreat.

General Information about the facility:

Carpooling is customary but not required. It takes about 1 1/2 hours to get to the retreat center depending on your route. St Andrews is 1/4 mile from Alderbrook Resort and easy to find. Rooms are shared, carpeted and comfortable with well-maintained modern bath facilities.

Linens are provided. Meals are excellent. Dietary restrictions are respected.

There are limited spaces for those who cannot manage stairs.

How we use the facility

St. Andrew's House is beautiful with a large sitting porch facing the Olympics Mountains. If the sunset is not spectacular, we move outside to enjoy the covered outdoor fireplace area. During free time there is hiking, yoga,

and access to beach walk. The chapel is always open for quiet contemplation and we ask for silence in the sleeping quarters so that anyone can find rest should they need. More conversational parties gather in the Great Room with its comfortable couches and indoor fireplace. The Saturday morning program is typically held in the timbered and grand Great Room. The dining room is congenial and has a lovely view.

For many women for whom much of life may be or have been taking care of others, the setting is ideal. It is well designed for mixed/ multiple needs of contemplation and sharing. One feels very cared for by the staff. Little details are provided, such as the hospitality room, which is always open with coffee and tea and a refrigerator available for any participant's use. There is a plentiful quantity of hymnals, bibles, prayer books and other materials at the house. There are reading lamps at each bed and beds are covered in handmade quilts. It all adds to a serene and comfortable experience.

The program

The program is a careful balance of discussion, study, worship, quiet and free time. Each participant is encouraged to participate at whatever level most personally comfortable.

Limited space, register soon

There is limited space for the retreat so register soon to make sure you have a place. Registration form is included in the Weekly Word, paper copies will be available in the back of the church and you may register on line here:

<http://www.epiphanyseattle.org/epiphany-annual-womens-retreat/>

If you have any questions, please contact Ann Lockhart at 206-328-0459 or the Rev. Kate Wesch at 206-324-2573.



Dorian McGlannan is known to many in our Epiphany family from her time here (1989-1997) when she was the founder of this, our very own Women's Retreat. A parish priest for more than 26 years, she has recently retired from St. John's in Plymouth, MI, and moved back to the Northwest. As a wife, a mother of four, a breast cancer survivor, a singer, and an outdoors lover, Dorian combines her deep understanding of contemporary women's lives with her appreciation for and knowledge of the wisdom and humor of the Desert Mothers.

A Project in Haiti

Discerning a New Epiphany International Ministry Partnership

We've been praying and meeting about another international service partnership following the conclusion of our highly successful partnership with Agros. There was relatively strong interest in two areas- a service project in support of the Palestinian people and a project in a nearby developing country that more people can visit in our hemisphere. Both seemed exciting, and rather than forcing a choice between the two, both ideas are moving forward.

The group meeting to discern a relationship and partnership with a community in our hemisphere has recommended that we move forward with a project in Haiti.

Haiti is one of the most economically challenged countries in the world, with 80% of its population living in poverty and over 50% of the people under age 20. We will start by learning and studying together about how we can best build a relationship. We'll be asking folks from Episcopal Relief and Development and from the Haiti Micah Project, the two potential partners we are considering, to come talk with us about their work in Haiti. We're planning an informal study group to learn about Haiti, its history and culture and the role the Episcopal Church. We're hoping to get to know Haitian members of our community here in Seattle and begin fundraisers for our "project" in Haiti with events such as hosting Haitian dinners, Haitian art sales, or Haitian musical/poetry performances.

Eventually, hopefully starting in 2015, we'll send a group of 12-15 (adults and teenagers) to Haiti once a year to work on the project that we are supporting and to get to know the people of the community.

Interested in joining the study and discussion group about this or helping plan some of the events we are dreaming about? Please email Diana Bender at diana.bender@outlook.com or call 206-459-9140.

-Diana Bender

Next 100 Years: Building Committee Update

Carpet in the Great Hall

As many of you have experienced, the Great Hall is a very “lively” room (a nice, technical way of saying “noisy”). This noise carries through to all spaces in the lower Parish Hall, which can make using the lower spaces difficult when the Great Hall is also in use.

The Building Committee, with our architect and acoustic consultant, reached the conclusion that we have to consider carpeting the Great Hall. We realize that this will be controversial, so we’re doing an experiment and soliciting your feedback. Starting the week of April 28, we will temporarily install carpet and padding in the Great Hall for a few weeks. The carpet itself is NOT what would be ultimately chosen - just something that is equivalent acoustically.

We welcome any and all feedback at jim@grinwithoutacat.com, but we especially want to know what you think of the difference in noise levels on both floors.

The Next 100 Years Building Committee

Ed Emerson, Laura Blackmore, Bob Barnes, and Jim Marlow

Author Reading: *Learning to Walk in the Dark* by Barbara Brown Taylor

Wednesday, May 7, 7:30 pm
St. Mark’s Cathedral Nave

Are you in the dark about where your life is going? Do you sometimes feel as if your best efforts to grow your soul are just shots in the dark? Whatever your answers to those questions, here is a better one: How did darkness become a synonym for everything wicked, sinister, or wrong? An Episcopal priest, Barbara Brown Taylor, is the author of twelve books, including the New York Times best-seller *An Altar in the World*. Read more about the book and the author at barbarabrowntaylor.com

Event is free. The Cathedral Shop will have books available for purchase. ***The Rev. Kate Wesch is organizing a group to attend. Please email Kate at [kwesch @epiphanyseattle.org](mailto:kwesch@epiphanyseattle.org) if you would like to join the group.***

Artist Diploma Recital

For Epiphany choir member, Tyler Morse

Tyler Morse, one of our two talented Epiphany Choir countertenors, will sing his final recital for his graduate degree from Cornish College of the Arts on **Saturday, May 3rd at 8 pm.**

Entitled *A Baroque Journey from the Mundane to the Mystical*, the concert will include top flight assisting artists *Jillon Stoppels Dupree*, harpsichord; baroque violinist *Ingrid Matthews*; and *Joshua Romatowski*, baroque flutist.

Tyler is a musician accomplished far beyond his 24 years; he was fortunate that his first degree was at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma as part of their outstanding vocal and choral department. He leaves Seattle at the end of the summer to spend nine months in China delving more deeply into his love of the martial arts which he has been teaching since his arrival in Seattle. The Epiphany musicians hope that he will return to Seattle to rejoin us, which is his plan after his time in China.

The concert will be held at PONCHO Concert Hall (Kerry Hall), 710 E. Roy St., in Seattle; it is free and open to the public. Epiphany will hear Tyler sing again on **Sunday, April 27**, the Sunday after Easter known as "Low Sunday"; that day promises to be "less low" for his contribution to the service!

-Tom Foster

Sunday Lectionary Corner

May 4, 2014 Third Sunday of Easter, Year A

Acts 2:14a,36-41
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35
Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

PARISH PRAYER LIST

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE BIRTHDAYS FALL BETWEEN APRIL 27th AND MAY 3rd:

Christina Forbes, Chris Ackerley, Ted Ackerley, Joel Wesch, William Kelly, Evan Millar, Greg Jones, Van Senseney, Nolan Baker, Luca Porcarelli, and Megan Hilton.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR CYCLE OF PRAYER:

Linda Maxson & Toby, Mackenzie, and Brett Miller; Bill Miner; Jessica Allen & Robert, and Madison Minnitti; Julie & George Moberly; and Anne Moldrem. We pray for the churches of Good Samaritan (Sammamish) and St. Clare (Snoqualmie).

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR CONTINUED HEALING AND STRENGTH FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE ILL OR GRIEVING:

Paul, Coralie Swanson, Connie Gaines, Barbara Ward, Barbara Himmelman, Naraine Baker, Ginger, Kay Schack, Piper Simmons, Yamy Xolocotzi, Bonnie, Roy Enriquez, Will Gluck, Ruth, Richard & Dolores Maxson, Silas, TJ Johnson & family, Bill, Susan, Debbie, Megan, Carl Putnam, George Fisher, Rosalie, Malina, Matt, Nancy, Isla Jude, Alice, Susan, Hank Schilling, Tristram Hyde & family, Emily Coyle, Noreen, Evie Gassaway, Jeanne Edwards, Sandra, Bill & Millie Grayson, Larry Mayer, the Neville family, Lauren Riker, Gerald Swymeler, George Harrington & family, Gary West, David Mattson, Steve & Liz Swift, Robert Hawking, Heather, Chance, & Zane Gehring, Gretchen & Brookes Hawkes, Holden Hughes, Rollie & Josie, Olivia, Ray Brownfield & family, Laura, Joel & Katie Artzt, Paige Cubbison, David, Eric, the Kinnard family, Eileen Riley, Carla Robinson, Stu McGee, Chris Wolf, Lauren, Cork, and Henk & Helen Simons, David, Joyce, Mark, Liz, Jim Emig, and Amille.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Phyllis Harris.

*Occasionally we review and revise the prayer list. If we have removed someone in error or you would like to have someone removed or added please contact the Parish Office. The same invitation applies for birthdays.
206-324-2573 or epiphanyparish@epiphanyseattle.org*