

Our Saviour's Voice

from Pastor Susan Wilmot.....

Shopping Around

I am sure you have noticed that all major retail stores keep their own kind of calendar. Perhaps the phrase "Hallmark Holidays" strikes a chord? Just as you probably are, I am frequently dismayed by the move 'em along type of commercialism that accompanies the card section in stores. It's hard to describe it in a linear manner because it is more like the kind of treadmill or wheel you might see in hamster, gerbil or mouse cages. You can pick any month of the year and whole sections of the card aisles are cleared to make way for the next "holiday". Here's a snapshot and I encourage you to read the next paragraph as fast as you can to feel the rush and hurry, and get the sense of being herded along. I've just jumped on the wheel at random. Okay. Deep breathe. Go!

The moment that Christmas is over (December 26 for the stores!), the Christmas cards are replaced by a few New Year's greetings and a significant number of Valentine's day cards. By February 15th the St. Patrick's day cards spring up in the kind of eye-popping luminescent green of fake grass. There's a little hedging of bets going on in early March, because Easter is on its way and no one wants to miss out on the opportunity to sell more Easter cards. After March 17th the field is cleared for Passover and Easter cards take pride of place, even though Easter is not until April. Jostling for position amidst the Easter cards are the administrative professional day cards. As soon as we reach the last two weeks of April, there's nurse's day in early

May, and important reminders for Mother's day. Father's day in June seems to take a more subversive assault, and comes to us along with July 4th greetings. Let's not forget friendship day in August! Patriot day, grandparent's day and Rosh Hashanah sweep up the September listings. Then it's national boss's day in early October, but that is frequently overwhelmed by the creepy sensory overload on black and orange Halloween cards. As soon as the calendar clicks over to November 1st you will find veteran's day cards jockeying for position amidst the mass of Thanksgiving cornucopias. And that brings us full circle back to Christmas!

If you're feeling a little exhausted by now, you're not alone. However, as children of faith, we are also in an ideal position to step off the treadmill, and to break the cycle of anxious busy-ness proliferated by rampant consumerism. Here's an extract from a poem by Stephen Dobyns that captures some of the consequences of the wheel of busy-ness. The poem is called *Pursuit*:

*Each thing I do
I rush through
so I can do something else.
In such a way do the days pass ...
Through the windows of my speeding car,
I see all that I love falling away:
books unread, jokes untold, landscapes
unvisited.
And why?
What treasure do I expect in my future?*

Continued on page 2

Pastor's Message Continued.....

You and I have a joyous paradox to live out here. Our future treasure is also our present treasure. Living in the present is one of the hardest things about being followers of Christ and living in faith. The season of Lent is a wonderful opportunity to prepare for our celebration of Jesus' resurrection, through which all believers are assured a glorious future through faith in Christ. The season of Lent is also a wonderful opportunity to become more present to God's presence in each moment of our earthly lives, through the spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting, self-examination, repentance and studying the Word.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent... (BCP 265).

Susan⁺

Who Was St. Patrick?



St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, is one of Christianity's most widely known figures. But for all his celebrity, his life remains somewhat of a mystery. Many of the stories traditionally associated with St. Patrick, including the famous account of his banishing all the snakes from Ireland,

are false, the products of hundreds of years of exaggerated storytelling.

Taken Prisoner By Irish Raiders

It is known that St. Patrick was born in Britain to wealthy parents near the end of the fourth century. He is believed to have died on March 17, around 460 A.D. Although his father was a Christian deacon, it has been suggested that he probably took on the role because of tax incentives and there is no evidence that Patrick came from a particularly religious family. At the age of sixteen, Patrick was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders who were attacking his family's estate. They transported him to Ireland where he spent six years in captivity. (There is some dispute over where this captivity took place. Although many believe he was taken to live in Mount Slemish in County Antrim, it is more likely that he was held in County Mayo near Killala.) During this time, he worked as a shepherd, outdoors and away from people. Lonely and afraid, he turned to his religion for solace, becoming a devout Christian. (It is also believed that Patrick first began to dream of converting the Irish people to Christianity during his captivity.)

Guided By Visions

After more than six years as a prisoner, Patrick escaped. According to his writing, a voice-which he believed to be God's-spoke to him in a dream, telling him it was time to leave Ireland.

To do so, Patrick walked nearly 200 miles from County Mayo, where it is believed he was held, to the Irish coast. After escaping to Britain, Patrick reported that he experienced a second revelation-an angel in a dream tells him to return to Ireland as a missionary. Soon after, Patrick began

religious training, a course of study that lasted more than fifteen years. After his ordination as a priest, he was sent to Ireland with a dual mission-to minister to Christians already living in Ireland and to begin to convert the Irish. (Interestingly, this mission contradicts the widely held notion that Patrick introduced Christianity to Ireland.)

Bonfires and Crosses



Familiar with the Irish language and culture, Patrick chose to incorporate traditional ritual into his lessons of Christianity instead of attempting to eradicate native Irish beliefs. For instance, he used bonfires to celebrate Easter since the Irish were used to honoring their gods with fire. He also superimposed a sun, a powerful Irish symbol, onto the Christian cross to create what is now called a Celtic cross, so that veneration of the symbol would seem more natural to the Irish. (Although there were a small number of Christians on the island when Patrick arrived, most Irish practiced a nature-based pagan religion. The Irish culture centered around a rich tradition of oral legend and myth. When this is considered, it is no surprise that the story of Patrick's life became exaggerated over the centuries-spinning exciting tales to remember history has always been a part of the Irish way of life.)

Reprinted from:

www.history.com/content/stpatricksday/who-was-st.-patrick

Lenten Bible Study



Beginning Sunday, March 1st through March 29th after the 10am service in the sanctuary we will be studying the book of the prophet Hosea. This is a challenging Scripture and well worth our study. There are no easy answers! Please come and share your thoughts on some of the most difficult passages in the Bible, as we walk together through our Lenten journey.
Susan+

Adult Christian Formation

The Book of Revelation is full of strange images and symbolism. Join us at 9 a.m. in Polycarp Hall as we study this book of Christian hope and delve into its hidden meanings and implications for our lives today.

Attention All Youth!

Confirmation Class continues on March 8th from 3:30-5 p.m. in Polycarp Hall. We'll be listening to some Christian rock, and sharing lots of neat stuff about our faith. Don't miss it!



Stations of the Cross

Informal Stations of the Cross are held each Friday through Lent at 5:30 here at the church. Please join us!



Men's Group!

The Men's group will be meeting Saturday, March 7th, 8:30 a.m. at Kringles.



Reconciliation of a Penitent

The Lenten season is a particularly appropriate time to consider the Rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent (see pages 446-452 in the Book of Common Prayer). Confession is an ancient practice of the Church and is not confined to any season of the year. However, given the intentionality of our Lenten disciplines in preparation for Easter, many choose to make a formal confession to their priest or pastor during this period. If you have any questions about this Rite, or would like to make arrangements to make your confession, please let me know. Susan⁺



From the Library

I recently read an article in *Arizona Life* about domestic violence. Anne Weatherholt, an Episcopal priest wrote the book, *Breaking the Silence*. Domestic violence has become a serious issue, not only in married relationships, but also those dating. Many of us have known someone who has suffered the terror of

domestic violence. This author believes this is one of the missions of the church, to step forward. This book, *Breaking the Silence* is in the church library. Check it out. We will be having a discussion group in the next few months about the book, *The Shack*. Recently I priced the book at Wal Mart, \$10.43. There were 10 books at that price. Purchase the book and then plan to attend the discussion group. See you in the library.

Joey - Church Librarian

Rummage Sale

It is not too early to start planning for the 2009 Rummage Sale. This year's rummage sale will be the second weekend in August. So start saving your goodies - women's pants, outfits, dresses, coats, men's pants and shirts, children's clothes and toys, all household items and furniture. We will not be accepting tops, purses or belts. Think fun, friendship and helping the community. Last year was a huge success as we were able to help four charities with the proceeds from the Rummage sale. Fred and I are living in Scottsdale, so we are closer. Questions? E-mail:

fgottschalk2@qwest.net *Gretchen Gottschalk*

Church of Our Saviour Cook Book

Please remember to share your recipes for the best over COS cook book! Recipes can be mailed or dropped off in the basket in Polycarp Hall. For more information, write or call Heather at 928-532-1508 or steinerhm@aol.com.

Easter Lilies!

Order your lilies using the signup sheet in Polycarp Hall. The Lilies are \$15.00 each. Please remember to designate who you are honoring or remembering with your gift of the Easter Lily.

Our Mailing Address Has Changed!

Please note that our mailing address has changed to 5147 Show Low Lake Road, Lakeside, AZ 85929. We are no longer receiving mail at the post office box.



Emergency Contacts

In an effort to serve you, our church members better, we are compiling a list of 'emergency contacts' should an event ever arise that we need to reach someone for you in an emergency. Please call us at 537-7830 with your information or email Mary Rose at the office (cos5147office@frontiernet.net) with Emergency Contact in the subject line. Thank You! ☺

Don't forget Good Search and Good Shop?

Raise money for The Church of Our Saviour every time you search at www.goodsearch.com. You can increase your giving by using Good Search and Good Shop. Happy Surfing!

Please send your submissions for the March newsletter to Ron LaMar by March 25th rlamar@cableone.net

Holy Eucharist

By Wednesday I am tired, worn out and sometimes in need of a 'break'. I am so thankful that our church offers Wednesday services. I believe it is the best service of the week – where God's spirit is very special – meeting the needs of each individual there. Why not join us at Wednesday services at 5:30 p.m. during this season of Lent? I am certain you will be glad you did. We will be looking for you!

Mary Rose ☺

For Forty Days...Lenten thoughts on Stewardship

by Bishop Robert Ihloff

For forty days, Jesus took stock of his life—who he was and what he wanted to accomplish. We call this forty-day period Lent. Christians are called in Lent to a special period of taking stock, setting priorities, of rethinking what it means to be a steward of God's gifts. May this holy season be a time for you to contemplate anew the many blessings of God and to respond to God by a generous giving of your very selves.... While generous giving does not protect us from the difficulties and vagaries of life, it does assure us of a deeper life [in Christ]. As surely as Lent ends with Easter, so a life of giving ends with a greater sense of satisfaction and greater joy.



Palm Crosses

Everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch and join in the making of Palm Crosses on Wednesday April 1st. Please bring a sack lunch, ruler and a pair of scissors.

March Outreach Calendar from
www.betterworldcalendar.com

March 8 is International Women's Day

Women and girls have endured discrimination in most societies for thousands of years. In the past, women were treated as property of their husbands or fathers – they couldn't own land, they couldn't vote or go to school, and were subject to beatings and abuse and could do nothing about it. Over the last hundred years, much progress has been made to gain equal rights for women around the world, but many still live without the rights to which all people are entitled. The United Nations Charter was a major milestone for women's rights because it was the first international agreement to affirm the equality between men and women. Since then, the UN has been an important advocate for the rights of women. The UN adopted an international bill of rights for women in 1979 and sponsored four global women's conferences. The Millennium Development Goals, which all nations agreed to at the UN in 2000, sets tangible goals for nations to achieve by 2015, several of which deal directly with empowering women.

March 21 is End Racism Day

Throughout history, many of the horrible

things that people have done to each other have occurred because one group of people felt superior to another. They learned to see differences in others -- such as race, color, gender, age, disability, religious belief or sexual orientation -- as a reason for thinking that people with that characteristic were not worthy of the same rights as they were. This prejudice justified their decision to discriminate against the other group – the other group was humiliated, excluded, restricted or marginalized because of these perceived differences. When the United Nations was formed to help countries work together to create a more peaceful, just and sustainable world, a cornerstone of its Charter declared that all people are entitled to the same human rights and freedom, regardless of their color, sex, language or religion. Our global community has come a long way in helping to eliminate discrimination, but we still have far to go.



March 22 is World Water Day

Water is one of the most basic of all needs - we cannot live for more than a few days without it. And yet, most people take water for granted. We waste water needlessly and don't realize that clean water is a very limited resource. More than 1 billion people around the world have no access to safe, clean drinking water, and over 2.5 billion do not have adequate sanitation service. Over 2 million people

die each year because of unsafe water - and most of them are children! World Water Day, is an important opportunity to educate ourselves and our communities about this most vital of all resources, explore ways to conserve it and protect the waters of our rivers, lakes, oceans and streams. It's also a chance to address the issue of helping those without access to clean drinking water.



Preview!

Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Services

Mark your calendars and please plan to attend as many of these services as you can, especially during Holy Week. As the culmination to our Lenten walk, the services of Holy Week offer a remarkable opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and our commitment to serve one another with a humble Christ-like heart. Our celebration of Easter with great joy and gratitude is significantly enhanced with an even greater appreciation of the gift of salvation, by taking the time to experience Jesus' final days in Jerusalem. As Paul says in his letter to the church at Ephesus (Ephesians 5:2), "Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,... an offering and sacrifice to God." Holy week is truly the pilgrims' walk of love.

April 5th – Sunday of the Passion - 8am Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist Rite 1; 10am Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist Rite II. Each service will include a

reading of the Passion narrative from the Gospel of Mark.

April 7th (Tuesday of Holy Week) – 6pm, Tenebrae. This lay-led service of light and darkness vividly captures the meaning of Christ as the Light of the world, and the darkness of our sin-sick world.

April 8th (Wednesday of Holy Week) – 6pm, The Way of the Cross. Come and experience the humiliation of our Lord's walk through the streets of Jerusalem, His crucifixion outside the city walls at the place called The Skull, and his burial in the tomb.

April 9th (Thursday of Holy Week) – 6pm, Maundy Thursday liturgy, Holy Eucharist Rite II, with foot washing and stripping of the altar. On the night Jesus is betrayed, He washes the feet of His disciples, and asks "Do you know what I have done to you?" We follow Jesus' example by humbly washing the feet of another, and in turn, receiving that same gift of loving service. This service will be followed by an agape meal hosted by Vicki Earle.

April 10th (Good Friday) – Noon and 6pm Good Friday liturgy including the Passion narrative according to John.

April 11th (Holy Saturday) -- 8pm, The Great Vigil of Easter. In celebration of the most holy night in which our Lord passed over from death to Life. The service begins outside with the kindling of a new fire, and the lighting of the Paschal candle. We hear the story of salvation, renew our Baptismal vows, and celebrate God's victory over sin and death in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord in the first Holy Eucharist of Easter.

Parish Leadership

Vestry

Vicki Earle
 Howard Waltz
 Jerry Nansen
 John Nelson
 Heather Steiner
 Chuck Hannan
 Jean Zagar
 Stephen Irwin
 Lynda Klingler
 Vestry Clerk – Vicki Howell
 Senior Warden – Jerry Howell
 Junior Warden – Cliff Spencer

Altar Guild	Marcia Iampaglia
Budget & Finance	Pastor Susan
Bulletin	Mary Rose Paterson
Columbarium	Nikki Nansen
Hospitality Hour	Electra Brooks
Librarian	Joey Nelson
Newsletter	Ron & Marty LaMar
Organist	Juanita Simpson
Service Coordinator	Lynda Klingler
Treasurer	Allen Iampaglia
Webmaster	Joe Stone

Ministry Team Leaders

Christian Formation and Community	
Outreach	Pastor Susan
Office	Mary Rose Paterson
Pastoral Care	Chuck Hannan
Welcoming	Heather Steiner
Worship	Marcia Iampaglia

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2 Ann Stone
 8 Dottie Golden
 8 Lynda Klingler
 10 Deborah Velasquez
 18 Neal Vanselow
 18 Mary Rose Paterson
 24 Hans Bruns
 26 Jack Zeluff
 31 Betty O'Brien

Happy Birthday!!!

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

3 Evelyn & Ray Dixon
 20 Pat & Jack Trout
 25 Karen & Hans Bruns
 29 Marcia & Allen Iampaglia



Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Charlene Frey who died February 24, 2009. "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Psalm 23: 6



*Create in
me a clean
heart, O
God, and
put a new
and right
spirit
within me.*

Psalm 51:10

Church of Our Saviour
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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Book of Timothy



Coffee Hour!

Now Serving Fair Trade Coffee!!

Many thanks to our anonymous donor who has gifted us with Tanzanian Coffee through Lent!



In our desire to help others through Outreach, we are now switching to Free Trade Coffee for the Church of Our Saviour. We are even able to purchase Tanzanian Coffee – just think coffee from the locale of one of our Sister Dioceses! What a wonderful way to help the people in that area – by drinking the beverage Lutheran's and Episcopalians love most – **COFFEE!** We encourage everyone to get involved by sponsoring this Outreach Mission by putting your normal donation in the basket in Polycarp or by purchasing a bag or even a case of coffee. Please contact Mary Rose in the office for details.