

Parish Notes



Church of the Holy Cross + Episcopal +

Newsletter

April 2010

Rejoice and Be Glad The Lord is Risen!

Alleluia Christ is Risen!
The Lord is Risen, Indeed!
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THIS is why they call it Good Friday.
THIS is what it IS ALL about.

Without THIS, none of the rest of it makes any sense.

THIS is Easter.

Every Sunday is about THIS. That's why, even in Lent, Sunday is a feast because every Sunday celebrates Easter.

In the first several centuries of Christianity, Easter – the resurrection - was all that the faith was about.

Christmas wasn't celebrated like it is now. It was the resurrection rather than the incarnation that was the focus of the faith.

The resurrection. An ineffable event that is portrayed not by a description of what happened, but by what was not seen. The tomb was empty. Why do you seek the living among the dead.

He is risen.

And I don't mean he was brought back to life. Jesus was resurrected: the first fruit of new and unending life in God.

That is why we live by faith.

We live by what we cannot see

To testify that we trust in God.

And what do we hear on this first Sunday.

A message of promise from the Prophet Isaiah:

“For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice for ever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people ... Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.”

And in the Psalm we have a message of life:

The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!

the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
I shall not die, but live, *

and declare the works of the LORD.

So let us, this Easter season, rejoice and be glad, because we are all new creations in God.

Blessings to you All!

Father Raymond+

Soulful Sounds

Resonate April 11

Music For the Soul continues on Sunday April 11 at 2:30 with a wine and cheese reception, followed at 3:00 pm. by music by **Desert Winds**, a woodwind quintet of symphony musicians, performing a mixed program of music from several time periods, as well as some ragtime. The quintet will be made up of flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and horn.

We just had a marvelous worship band from Good Shepherd Lutheran church on Palm Sunday that was enthusiastically received by the audience! Come for a return to the classics on April 11.

Walk Abouts Provide Chance to Meet Nominees for Bishop

There will be five Walk About Events in the Diocese to provide opportunities for everyone to meet and question the nominees to be Bishop.

The closest Walk Abouts to Holy Cross will be:

5:30 p.m. Tuesday April 13 at the Cathedral of St. John, 3rd and Silver streets in Albuquerque.

6:30 p.m. Wednesday April 14 at St. Bede's Episcopal Church, St. Francis Drive and San Mateo Street in Santa Fe.

If you plan to attend, please arrive early, no later than half an hour before the scheduled time for the event to begin.

The nominees for Bishop, along with their resumes and answers to the essay questions posed in the application process, are posted on the Diocesan website:

www.dioceserg.org

Just click on the Bishop Search Logo at the lower right corner.

If you have opinions about the nominees, please share them with your delegates. They are: Jane Vickers, Lynn Bender, Vic Rizzo and Sydney Doughty. Alternates are Hardy Brothers and Bill Prude.

Prayer Vigil Planned For Bishop Election Saturday April 24

Father Raymond has asked that a prayer vigil be mounted for the day of the Election of our next Bishop. Sign up sheets are posted on the utility door in the hallway at church. During this momentous time for the Diocese, the church yearns for the prayerful discernment of the nominees for Bishop by the Electing Convention.

Please sign up for an hour, or just show up that morning to pray. If you cannot attend, please pray wherever you are, and be mindful of the election starting at 8 a.m. Saturday April 24.

Deacon Jan Hosea Steps in for Fr. Raney

The first two weeks of April, Father Raymond will be away for the Walk Abouts – taking the nominees to be our next Bishop on a tour of the Diocese.

On April 11 Deacon Jan Hosea will be leading the service and providing Communion from the Reserved Sacrament. She also will be teaching a class on clerical vestments, which you can read about below.

Please come and pray for the Walk Abouts and for the emergence of the best person to pastor our Diocese as the Ninth Bishop of the Diocese of the Rio Grande.

Learn about Vestments On Sunday April 11

Take a visual tour of the vestments of the church! Deacon Jan Hosea will share a PowerPoint presentation tracing the history of vestment both old and new. From the palium worn by Jesus to the stole of today this presentation shows the differences and the similarities of the ancient church as “worn” today. Come ask questions and see how and why certain vestments are worn by clergy!

We Give Thanks To Judy Tucker

Easter Day, the Feast of the Resurrection, will be Judy Tucker's last day as Minister of Music for Holy Cross. Judy has served us as the director of the choir since last Spring, and though she promised only to serve till the end of the year, she has lifted our hearts with music through to Easter.

The Choir will be led in the interim by Lynn Bender, and the members of the choir will share in the duties of stewarding the music ministry until another music director is found. We are seeking an organist to play hymns on Sunday in addition to the music ministry provided by our own Connor Morrison.