



Children's, Youth & Family Ministries Newsletter

All Saints Parish, Brookline MA

Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Easter tide 2010

A prayer for our journey through Easter

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (*Book of Common Prayer*, page 225)

*We proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
(Book of Common Prayer, p. 363)*

From Becky



The Godly Play story entitled "The Mystery of Easter" is illustrated by a puzzle that, when assembled, makes a purple cross, but when flipped over, becomes a white cross. Children are told, "Jesus died on the cross, but somehow he is still with us. That is why Easter is not just sad. It is also wonderful. Easter turns everything inside out and upside down. The color of getting ready (purple) becomes the color of pure celebration (white). And look! You can't keep Easter in just one Sunday! It goes on for six weeks! All the way to Pentecost!"

When the jelly beans and chocolate eggs have all been consumed, it is easy to forget that Easter isn't just one day – it is a season in our church year. The 50 days of Eastertide are a time to remember our Baptismal vows and what it means to be "marked as Christ's own forever." Because of Jesus' resurrection, we disciples of Christ also live with the promise of a life with God that will go on forever, even after we die. And, as disciples of the Risen Lord, we are called to be Christ-like wherever we may be, carrying on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world.

What can we teach young children during Eastertide? First of all, that God's love is stronger than anything, even death. Because of God's love, we do not have to be afraid of death. Secondly, Easter is about surprising new possibilities coming from what we think may be hopeless. The new growth of spring after a long, cold winter helps illustrate this point. With God, the cycle of birth, life, death, and rebirth goes on and on and on. Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

50 DAYS FOR OUR DELIGHT: FOR CHRIST IS RISEN AS ALL THINGS
TELL. GOOD CHRISTIAN, SEE YE RISE AS WELL. 



Planning ahead to the end
of the program year

Last Church School class: May 16th

Sunday, April 11 (Easter 2)

- NO Schola rehearsal
- Church School classes for PreK – Grade 12, 10:15am

Sunday, April 18 (Easter 3)

- NO Schola rehearsal, 9:30am
- NO Church School classes (Public School vacation week)
- Nursery will be open

Sunday, April 25 (Easter 4)

- Family breakfast, 9:00am in the dining room
- Schola rehearsal, 9:30am
- Church School classes for PreK – Grade 12, 10:15am

Saturday, May 1

- Deanery Confirmation service, 10:00am at Church of Our Saviour, Brookline

Sunday, May 2 (Easter 5)

- Schola rehearsal, 9:30am
- Church School classes for PreK – Grade 5, 10:15am
- Middle School and High School kids are encouraged to participate in the Walk for Hunger

Sunday, May 9 (Easter 6)

- Schola rehearsal, 9:30am
- Church School classes for PreK – Grade 8, 10:15am
- We will honor the high school confirmands during the 10:30 service and also at a reception following the service

Sunday, May 16 (Easter 7): Bishop Cederholm visits All Saints

- Schola rehearsal, 9:30am
- Last Church School class, 10:15am: All ages together in the Undercroft to celebrate and evaluate!

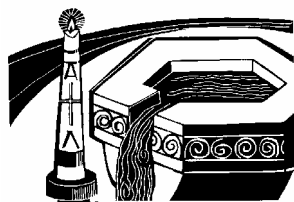
Sunday, May 23: The Day of Pentecost

- Schola rehearsal, 9:30am
- Baptisms during the Holy Eucharist service at 10:30am

Nursery

The Nursery will be open every Sunday in April and May at 9:00am, and remain open until the end of the 10:30 worship service. Parents, please sign your children in and let the childcare staff know of any special needs your children may have. Childcare will continue throughout the summer in the nursery each Sunday.

Welcome the newly baptized



At the Easter Vigil (April 3rd): Stephen Carey, Maggie Martin, Sam Martin, & Liam MacLean

On the 3rd Sunday of Easter (April 18th): Annabelle Wardly and her two cousins, Olivia Rovzar & Emma Nachmann; Cameron Bulat

Cherubs (PreK to Grade 1) during Eastertide

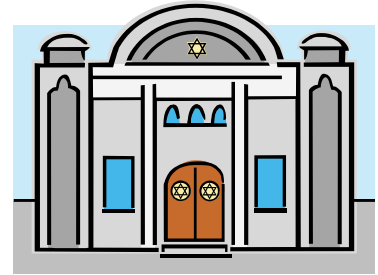
We hear stories that invite us to explore life in the Church as resurrection people.



April 11

The Good Shepherd & The World Communion

“...this is the table of the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd is in the bread and wine. The people of the world come to this table. Even the children come.”



April 25

The Synagogue & The Upper Room

In the upper room, Jesus and the Twelve shared their last supper together. Then he said, “When you share the bread like this,

I will be there.”



May 2

The Mystery of Pentecost

On Pentecost, everyone could see that the Twelve had come close to God – and God had come close to them – in a new way. The disciples had become apostles! They went out into all the world to tell their story.



May 9

Paul’s Discovery

Saul came so close to God and God came so close to him that he knew what God wanted him to do. His work was to try to say how his hate and turned into love and to begin churches where people could show how this was done.

Grades 2 – 5 during Eastertide: “In the beginning, God...”



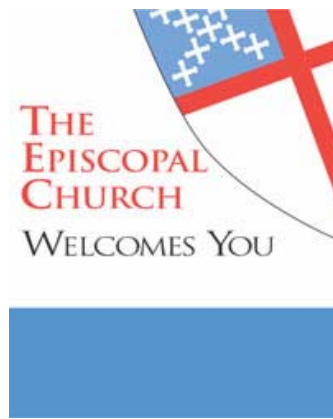
This unit of study teaches us how God is the creative source of all that is, and calls us to be careful stewards of all that God has created – and still is creating. The title for the unit comes from the first sentence in the Bible.

April 11th: Introduction to the study unit

April 25/May 2/May 9: Class will divide into 3 small groups and move through 3 learning stations

- Outdoor scavenger hunt: Can you find evidence of the 7 days of creation?
- Decorating plastic waste baskets to be used at home as recycling bins
- Decorating clay pots and planting flowers in them; creating a Mother’s Day card to go with it!

Rite-13 (Grades 6 – 8) during Eastertide

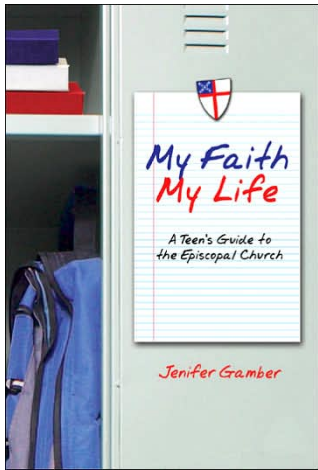


The kids in this class have been learning a little about Islam and Buddhism, looking for common ground between the teachings and practices of these faiths and our own.

Their study will culminate in a project – a draft of a “User’s Guide to All Saints Parish” for young people.

- April 11: Photojournalism activity – Taking pictures of what happens here on a Sunday morning
April 18: No class: Public School vacation week
April 25: Brainstorm ideas for the User’s Guide
May 2: No class: Participate in the Walk for Hunger
May 9: Lay out the User’s Guide, adding photos

High School during Eastertide



Last two Confirmation classes

- April 11th: Spirituality – Connecting with God in ways that feel meaningful
- April 25th: Ministry – What special gifts has God given me, and how can I use them in service to God’s Kingdom?

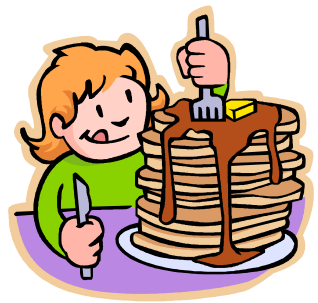
Deanery Confirmation on Saturday, May 1st, at 10:00am at Church of Our Saviour, Brookline

May 2nd: All high school kids are encouraged to join the Walk for Hunger

May 9th: We will recognize the newly confirmed, as well as those graduating from high school this June during the 10:30 worship, and at a special reception following the service.

Confirmed: Ellie Bridge, Grace Foxworthy, Anita Fu, Tom Schnoor, Elizabeth Speyer Besancon, Marie Wheeler, Aaron Yang

High School graduates: Taya Beattie, Amy Bridge, Anita Fu, Laura Potter, Jeff Speyer Besancon



Family Breakfast: Sunday, April 25th at 9:00am

Bring your kids for a simple meal and conversation with Becky Taylor and one another about our children’s and youth ministries. At 9:30am, kids in Schola will head off for rehearsal. Those not in Schola are welcome to watch a movie in the Block Room or go to the Nursery. Please come with feedback about the year as it wraps up – and ideas for the 2010-2011 year!