



**The mission of St. John's Episcopal Church
is to be a loving and diverse community
celebrating the Good News of Jesus Christ
by word, example, and service to others**

April 2009

Volume 4, Issue 1

*Lent, Holy Week,
and Easter Season*

St. John's Episcopal Church

Eagle Notes

Dates to Remember

- April 1 & 8 — 6 p.m., Lenten Supper/Program
- April 2 — 10:30 a.m. Speeders
- April 4 — 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Work Day
- April 5 — Palm Sunday, Taizé
- April 6 — Easter Flowers Deadline; 5:30 p.m., Holy Grounds
- April 7 — CP Stitch-In
- April 9 — Maundy Thursday — 6 p.m., Agape Supper; 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday service + washing of the feet & stripping of the altar; 9 p.m. Night Watch begins
- April 10 - Good Friday— 12 noon & 7 p.m. services; Night Watch ends
- April 11 - Holy Saturday — 7 p.m. service
- **April 12 - Easter Sunday** — 8 am— Easter Vigil; 9 –10 a.m. - Breakfast; 9:30 a.m. Egg Hunt; 10:30— Easter Service
- April 13 — Office closed
- April 15 — Tax Day, DAR
- April 18 — Historic College Park Kitchens & Gardens Tour
- April 21 — Vestry Meeting
- April 26 — African Team Ministries Crafts for sale

Looking Ahead

- May 3—African Team Ministries
- May 4—Holy Grounds
- May 7—Speeders
- May 10—Mother's Day

From the Rector

Hello all!

What an interesting few weeks we have had here in our beloved community: sunshine and warm weather, snow the next week, sunshine and warm weather again, then cold and rain, now blessedly followed again by sunshine and warm weather.

Life is all about such changes. We face change on a daily basis, in every sphere of our lives. Sometimes, all the change leaves us feeling disoriented, or unmoored and adrift, and so we look for ways to bring stability into our lives, both as individuals and as communities.

Choosing to gather together every week for worship on Sunday mornings will bring stability into our lives. Making the commitment to show up, be counted, and to share our lives together does produce reorientation and stability, providing an anchor for us in our world of change. And the kind of stability that our commitment to each other provides in our lives itself must also manifest growth and life.

One such way that we can participate in this is to make our participation and membership in our community of faith more public, something seen and affirmed by all of us together.

To that end, I invite any and all, from those who have never officially been recognized as members of the St. John parish family to those who wish to reaffirm their membership, to come and stand before the congregation on Easter Sunday morning at the 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and be officially welcomed and affirmed in our life of faith as a parish family.

Please contact me at the office, either at rector@stjohnscollegepark.com or by calling 404-761-8402, to let me know if you would like to be officially received as a member of the parish, or to reaffirm your commitment to your life of faith with this your parish family.

I look forward to seeing lots of happy, shining faces on Easter Sunday morning!

Faithfully yours,

Fr. Troy+

Parish Life

Eye Run/Walk



Chart the Course for our Community!

On April 18, a 5K/10K walk/run race will be held in Henry County at Luxottica Retail, 100 Greenwood Industrial Parkway, McDonough, GA 30253. The proceeds from the race will go to support **OneSight**, a family of charitable programs providing

free vision care and eyewear to underprivileged individuals in North America

*I didn't know
I had freckles!*

and developing countries around the world. Since the program's inception in 1988, OneSight has helped over six million people see their world more clearly.

What does that mean to our local communities? In January of this year, the mobile vision van "**Seemore**" came to Henry County. We saw 160 students over the course of two days; of those students, 140 needed glasses.

The glasses were made and delivered that day to these children. To

hear a child say "I didn't know I had freckles", or "Wow my mom is really pretty", and know it will change their life is simply amazing.

Registration forms for the race can be found in the back of the church narthex. For more information visit

www.onesight.org/northamerica/na and click on the link to the Eye Run. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Jane Walters** Sunday at church, JWalter1@luxotticaRetail.com, 770-305-7323 (w) or 404-384-8371 (c).

FHS, Jane Walters—*OneSight Captain*

On the Verge The Cross

-Martha V. McLeod, Verger

Why do Christians worship a murder weapon?

A high school acquaintance, raised an Orthodox Jew, asked me this question when a group we both attended visited a local Catholic church to observe someone else's worship practices. It was a totally outrageous question in 1970 and I had no quick or easy answer for her. Perhaps that's because there isn't one. In the last 39 years I've learned a little and can better understand the question, and hopefully find some clearer answers, if not good ones.

First, as Episcopalians and Christians, we do NOT worship the cross. We worship God and respect and revere the cross as a symbol of the price Jesus paid for the sins of the whole world, even for us, "a people yet unborn" when he died on one. We recognize the cross as the instrument of his criminal execution in Jerusalem under Roman occupation, in or about the year now called 33 A.D. Such executions were very common in the Roman world about the turn of the original millennium; history tells us that hundreds of crosses lined the road from Pompeii to Rome after the slave revolt led by Spartacus. Crucifixion seems to have been a favored method of execution at the time, and it caused a slow, agonizing death that sometimes took several days.

If Jesus had lived in a different era, would we feature stones, a stake, an axe, guillotine, swastika, noose, or even an electric chair in the symbols of our faith? Would these devices appear in our art, architecture, decoration, even our personal jewelry?

Would we follow a gallows in procession, or bow in respect as the chair goes by? Would we wear the axe decorated with fine gems set in gold or silver, or embroider the guillotine or swastika on our vestments and altar hangings, and design fine works of art around a wrapped-rope noose, or feature a stake surrounded with wood for burning criminals? Perhaps.

The cross is a symbol, a reminder that Jesus came into the world to set us free from our sins. To accomplish his ministry, he had to die, publicly and in such a manner as to leave little doubt that his human life had ended, so it could be restored at the Resurrection. The cross, that hideous, heavy, horrible murder weapon, was the means of assuring the Resurrection, and our salvation and redemption! And we don't worship it or use it in our decoration as a reminder of murder, but as a sign of His victory.

So when you see crosses in our processions, our decorations, our architecture, our Christian community – crosses of every description, everywhere you look at St. John's – don't see death and pain and hate. See Victory. And when you see the burning cross, the swastika, the noose, those other symbols misused as signs of hatred and death, see our Victory over them. Jesus showed us the way.

I'm proud to have that 2000-year-old murder weapon in our church. We don't worship the cross, but we do worship the God who sent Jesus to die on it for us.

What's Happening?

Thursday, April 2 10:30 a.m.

Speeders



Join us for Holy Eucharist, followed by lunch and a presentation. This month, we will hear from **Mack Secord from Angel Flight**, a wonderful group of volunteer pilots who provide free air transportation to those in need for medically related purposes. Speeders is held on first Thursdays. Join us!

Saturday, April 4

9 a.m.—12 p.m.

Parish Wide Workday

Many hands make light work — please come help spruce up the church for Easter! We will be planting flowers, polishing brass and woodwork, and cleaning up both the inside and outside of the church. Even an hour of your time makes a big difference. *Thank you!*

Can't be there? You can still participate by contributing to the Memorial Garden plants!

Please make a check out to St. John's clearly marked for MG plantings. The flowers and plants purchased for the Memorial Garden will all be planted in time for both Easter and the upcoming CP Kitchens and Gardens tour.

Sunday, April 5

7 p.m.

Taizé Service



Taizé services provide a time to experience the presence of God in a new way. Taizé services are especially relevant during Lent, and are an excellent opportunity for reflective worship.

Monday, April 6

5:30 p.m.

Holy Grounds



On the first Monday of every month, Fr. Troy will be at **Jeffrey's Coffee Shop** on Virginia Avenue (by McDonald's/Spondivitz) at 5:30 p.m. to chat about whatever is on your mind.

Monday, April 6

Easter Flowers Dedication Deadline

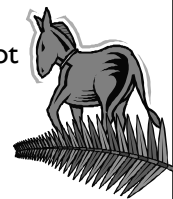


If you would like to contribute flowers for Easter Sunday, please make a check out to St. John's marked "Easter Flowers" and include a note with the commemoration you wish used. Forms can also be found in the back of the church. \$25 suggested minimum. Donations also go towards providing flowers throughout the year, which are later delivered to those who are in the hospital, sick, or homebound. We are thankful to you that we have them as a weekly reminder to celebrate the beauty of God's creation!

Holy Week

April 5 — Palm Sunday

• services 8 & 10:30 a.m. The 10:30 service begins in the Horseshoe Parking Lot (weather permitting). Our children will lead the procession outside, with dancing, instruments, and streamers. At the door to the church, this merriment will stop, as the tone of the service changes.



April 9 — Maundy Thurs

• 6 p.m., Fr. Troy introduces an "Agape" supper, full of Middle Eastern fare.
• 7 p.m.—Supper will be followed by the traditional Maundy Thursday service with foot washing and stripping of the altar.
• 9 p.m., **Night Watch** begins



"And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour?'" Mark 14: 37.

Volunteer to spend one or more hours praying, meditating, and keeping watch from the end of the Maundy Thursday service until noon on Good Friday. Sign up sheets posted in the church and Bott Hall.

April 10 — Good Friday

• 12 noon, Night watch ends
• 12 & 7 p.m., **Good Friday** services. **The Passion and Stations of the Cross** will take place at both services (will not replace usual service)



April 11—Holy Saturday

• Fr. Troy introduces a new Saturday service to our worship schedule during Holy Week — the traditional Holy Saturday service at 7 p.m..

April 12 — Easter Sunday

• 6 a.m., The Great Vigil of Easter Sunrise Service (*it's worth getting up for!*)
• 8:30 -10 a.m., Breakfast/Brunch (*please bring a dish!*)
• 9:30 a.m., Easter Egg Hunt (*Parents are asked to bring pre-stuffed plastic eggs before 9 a.m., please!*)
• 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion & flowering of the cross (*bring flowers!*)



April 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**



**April
Birthdays:**

- 4 **Bob Holloman**
- 7 **Emile Escalera**
- 7 **Blanch Shropshire**
- 10 **Al Dixon**
- 11 **Martha Mercure**
- 13 **Anna Ehrensperger**
- 14 **Jane Escalera**
- 15 **David McLeod**
- 25 **Kei Breedlove**
- 29 **Diana Blosser**
- Linda Vinal**

Please call the church office to add a birthday!

			1 6-8 pm— Adult Spiritual Formation/ Kids' Movie Nite	2 9:15 am- Morning Prayer 10:30 - Speeders Rite I, Lunch, Presentation 8 pm- AA(BH)	3 8 a.m.—WA Moms' Bible Study Group	4 9-12 Work Day
5 PALM SUNDAY 8 am- Rite I 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30- Rite II 7 p.m. Taizé FLM Sunday	6 Easter Flowers Dedication Deadline 8 pm- AA (BH) 5:30 p.m. Holy Grounds	7 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 10 am— College Park Stitch-In 6 pm— Yoga; Begin Again	8 6-8 pm— Adult Spiritual Formation/ Kids' Movie Nite	9 MAUNDY THURSDAY 9:15 am- Morning Prayer 10:30 - Rite I 6 p.m.—Agape Supper 7 p.m.— service 8 pm- AA 9 p.m.—Night Watch Begins	10 GOOD FRIDAY 8 a.m.—WA Moms' Bible Study Group 12 pm— Night watch ends 12 noon & 7 p.m.— Good Friday Services	11 9:30 am— Begin Again 7 p.m.— Holy Saturday service
12 EASTER SUNDAY 8 am— Easter Vigil 9-10 a.m. - Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Egg Hunt 10:30— Easter Service	13 <i>Office closed</i> 8 pm- AA (BH)	14 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 6 pm— Yoga; Begin Again	15 Tax Day 2 p.m.— DAR meeting	16 9:15 am- Morning Prayer 10:30 - Rite I <i>Morning Prayer</i> 8 pm- AA	17 8 a.m.—WA Moms' Bible Study Group	18 9:30 am— Begin Again College Park Kitchens & Gardens Tour
19 8 am- Rite I 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30- Rite II	20 8 pm- AA (BH)	21 9:15 am— M. Prayer 6 pm— Yoga; Begin Again 6:30 pm— Vestry	22 6-8 pm— Adult Spiritual Formation EARTH DAY	23 9:15 am- Morning Prayer 10:30 - Rite I 8 pm- AA	24 8 a.m.—WA Moms' Bible Study Group	25 9:30 am— Begin Again
26 8 am- Rite I 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30- Rite II African Crafts	27 8 pm- AA (BH)	28 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 6 pm— Yoga; Begin Again	29 6-8 pm— Adult Spiritual Formation	30		

Lay Ministries Schedule

April 5	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	PALM SUNDAY
Reader	D. McLeod	Lisa Henderson	<i>Mark 11:1-11/Johns 12:12-16</i>
Eucharistic Minister	David Wagner	G. Fields/M. Spring	<i>Isaiah 50:4-20/Philippians 2:5-11</i>
Altar Guild Team 2	Denise McLeod, Gwen Fields, Marian Tillman Eucharistic Visitor: Jane Holloman		
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Carolyn & Ed Pierce	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Janet Standen/Don Standen
April 9	7 p.m.	All available acolytes	MAUNDY THURSDAY
Reader/Eucharistic Min.	Kei Breedlove/Robbin Iddins	Usher-In-Charge: D. Blosser	Contact church office for readings
April 10	12 p.m.	7 p.m.	GOOD FRIDAY
Reader	Jane Randolph	Fred Daniell	Contact church office for readings
	<i>All available</i>	<i>acolytes</i>	
Usher-In-Charge	Paul Brady (12 noon)	Usher-In-Charge	Kei Breedlove-7pm
April 12	6 a.m.	10:30 p.m.	EASTER SUNDAY
Reader	TBA (Easter Vigil)	Daphne Mair	Contact church office for readings
Eucharistic Minister	D. Wagner / E. Radaker	G. Fields / C. Cheely	
Altar Guild Team 3	Jackie Berlin, Sarah Clark, Beth Ehrensperger Eucharistic Visitors: Mark Robertson/Martha McLeod		
Greeters (6 a.m.)	Jackie Berlin / Will Manders	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Carl Cheely / Martha Cheely
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Polly & Robert Hopkins	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Robbin Iddins/Becky Rivas
April 19	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	5th Sunday after Lent
Reader	Jane Randolph	Shannon Housel	<i>Acts 4:32-35</i>
Eucharistic Minister	Jane Randolph	D. McLeod/D. McLeod	<i>1 John 1:1-2:2/John 20:19-31</i>
Altar Guild Team 4	Linda Vinal, Kei Breedlove, Joy Lopez Donn Blosser/Jason Brown		
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Tommy & Beth Ehrensperger	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Sue Johnson / Georgie White
April 26	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	2nd Sunday of Easter
Reader	Carl Cheely	Robert Gregory	<i>Acts 3:12-19</i>
Eucharistic Minister	Carl Cheely	R. Iddins / M. Robertson	<i>1 John 3:1-7</i>
Altar Guild Team 1	Martha McLeod, Ruth Crook, Will Manders Eucharistic Visitor: Linda Vinal/Robbin Iddins		
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Linda Vinal / Creston Portis	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Andy Korta / Shannon Korta
May 3	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	3rd Sunday of Easter
Reader	Jane Graham	Robert Hopkins	<i>Acts 4:5-12</i>
Eucharistic Minister	Jane Graham	M. Spring / G. Fields	<i>1 John 3:16-24</i>
Altar Guild Team 2	Denise McLeod, Gwen Fields, Marian Tillman Jane Holloman		
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Carl & Lisa Franzman	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Debbie Reeves/Ernie Radaker

Note to readers: use Revised Common Lectionary texts, year B. Please arrive early and allow time to check the bulletin against lectern. If you are unable to serve as scheduled, it is your responsibility to obtain a substitute and notify the church office and/or Verger ASAP. Thank you!

What is Holy Week?

Palm Sunday commemorates Christ's "triumphal entry into Jerusalem," with shouting crowds laying palm branches in His path. On that Sunday, the city was filled with pilgrims who had come to town for Passover, roaming the streets ready to join in anything that looked fun.

Monday is the day when Jesus had his famous run-in with money-changers in the Temple.

On **Tuesday**, Jesus spent time teaching in the Temple. Toward evening, he stood on a hill outside the city, weeping over it, foretelling its destruction.

Wednesday, sometimes known as **Spy Wednesday**, is the day on which Judas made his deal with the priests, promising for thirty pieces of silver to bring them to the place where they could arrest Jesus.

Maundy Thursday, from Latin *Mandatum*. This evening, Jesus gave his disciples a new *mandate*: "Love one another." (John 13:34). Also the evening Jesus washed the disciples' feet. Most importantly, it was the evening of the Last Supper, the beginning of the Holy Communion, Christianity's central sacrament.

Good Friday was the day Jesus was taken before Pontius Pilate and Herod Antipas. He was taken to Golgotha, the place of the skull, and crucified.

Holy Saturday, or **Easter Even**, is the one full day the body of Christ lay in the tomb while his disciples observed the Sabbath.

Easter Sunday or **Resurrection Day** is the day an angel met Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" (perhaps Mary, the mother of James and John) at the tomb to tell them that Jesus was risen from the dead.

Earth Day and MGD #7

Ensure Environmental Sustainability

"After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), 'I thirst.'" -John 19:28

The Millennium Development Goals put the world's need for clean water and sanitation on center stage, right where it should be. In honor of Earth Day (April 22), make sure to do your part to help reach MGD #7,

The Goal of MDG #7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

- Integrate principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources.
- Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.
- Achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.

What Can One Do? Learn, Pray, and Give.

Learn: Did you know?

- 1.1 billion people do not have access to safe and sufficient drinking/water
- 2.4 billion people lack adequate sanitation
- 3.4 million deaths a year, mostly the poor and children, die from insufficient and unsafe drinking-water
- 1.6 million deaths are due to Indoor Air Pollution.

Source: WHO

Pray: Let us pray for an end to the waste and desecration of God's creation, for access to the fruits of creation to be shared equally among all people, and for communities and nations to find sustenance in the fruits of the earth and the water God has given us:

Almighty God, you created the world and gave it into our care so that, in obedience to you, we might serve all people: Inspire us to use the riches of creation with wisdom, and to ensure that their blessings are shared by all; that, trusting in your bounty, all people may be empowered to seek freedom from poverty, famine, and oppression. God of love, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

From "A Bidding Prayer for an End to Global Poverty and Instability" by the Office of Government Relations.

Give: You can donate to the Episcopal Relief and Development Jubilee MDG Inspiration Fund, or check out the **Gifts for Life** (alternative gifts you can purchase for yourself or a loved one) catalogue at www.er-d.org. For example, through the catalogue you can:

- Purchase a well or a share of a well for a community.
- Purchase clean water, basic hygiene, nutrition education for a family or an individual.

"I [share] a profound concern that climate change will most severely affect those living in poverty and the most vulnerable in our communities here in the United States and around the world. I want to be absolutely clear; inaction on our part is the most costly of all courses of action for those living in poverty."

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori in testimony to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on the link between global poverty and climate change.

Prayer List

Members

Jim & Carol Kadidlo	Donn Blosser	Eleanor Buchanan
Helen Scarbrough	Laura Vance	Martha Mercure
Caroline Patrick & Joy Lopez	Randy Ransom	Roosevelt Dunn
Louise Manza	Gale Mull	Julia Paris
Ralph Mair	Bena Sue Livsey	
	Joanne Lindsey	

Friends & Relatives

Captain Michael Peterson, serving in Iraq
 Drew Allen and Frank Ayala, serving us in Iraq
 Joy Lopez' sister, Marcia, and brother, Lawrence
 Julia Paris' nephew, Scott
 The Mulls' friends, Jeff & Robert
 Polly Hopkins' mother, Nancy, and friend, Carolyn McDowell
 Louise Cassell's son, Glenn, Jr.
 Keith Huffstetter's sister-in-law, Marion
 David Houser's friend, Belva
 Stephen Thompson's grandmother, Katherine Evans
 Phillip Sewell's friend, Amelia
 The Lindseys' friend, Ralph
 Beth Ehrensperger's father, Al, and aunt, Mary Jo
 Paul Brady's friends, Scott, Cindy, and Samantha
 Daphne Mair's daughter, Valerie
 David McLeod's brother, John
 Lee & Linda Vinal's friend, Darby, and cousin, Kenny
 Mark Robertson's & Randy Ransom's friend, Jerry
 Bena Sue's granddaughter, Caitlin
 Ethel Quimby's granddaughter, Kelly Fr. Patrick
 Marian Tillman's niece, Susan
 Carl Cheely's brother, Ron'
 Cheryl Williams' friend, Raymon
 Martha Spring's brother, Alfred
 Donn Blosser's friend, Dr. Hector Lopez

Those who have died

Lynn Bailey Tyler
 All those who have died in war, from preventable diseases, or from malnutrition this past month

The flowers on the altar last month were given to the glory of God and
 in thanksgiving for Caitlin Livsey, my granddaughter, with love from Bena Sue Livsey;
 in celebration of the marriage of Daniel Silliman and Beth Jarvis;
 in celebration of their 12th wedding anniversary,

Have something to share?

Send in good news or needs, thoughts, thanks, & prayers! Submissions for the next *Eagle Notes* are due by **April 16**. E-mail parishadmin@stjohnscollegepark.com or mail to 3480 Main Street, College Park, GA 30337.

We want to hear from you!

Altar

indicating flowers is a good way to honor special days for loved ones. If you help by sending a check and a notation as

Name:

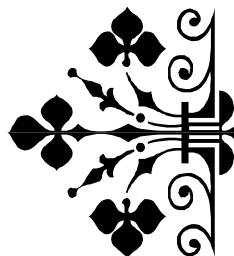
I would like to dedicate flowers for Sunday, (date)

The notation in the bulletin should read: The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in

Please return this form with \$40 check attached to the church office or mail to 3480 Main

The Flowers

We have flowers commemorating someone who would like to donate to whom you want



St. John's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Troy C. Beecham, *Rector*
Lee Barthelette, *Parish Administrator*
Paul Campbell, *Interim Organist*

Martha V. McLeod, *Verger*
Mark Robertson, *Verger*
John Brady, *Sexton*
Dennis Luck, *Sexton*

Schedule of Services

- **Holy Eucharist Rite I**
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & Thursday 10:30 a.m.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite II**
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
- **Morning Prayer (Parlor)**
Tuesday & Thursday 9:15 a.m.
- **Wednesday Evening Programs**
6 –8 p.m.—Bible Study (childcare available)
- **Taizé Service**
1st Sundays of the month at 7 p.m.

St. John's Vestry

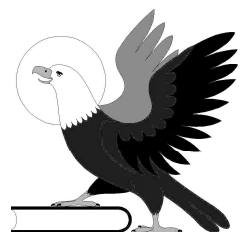
Debbie Reeves	<i>Senior Warden</i>
Sue Johnson	<i>Junior Warden</i>
Donn Blosser	Paul Brady
Kei Breedlove	Carl Cheely
David Houser	Robbin Iddins
Andy Korta	Janet Standen



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