



St. Margaret's Episcopal Church *"The Messenger Newsletter"*

"Our purpose is to be a faithful and inviting community focused on the worship of God, growing in our relationship with Jesus Christ, and sharing His life in all that we do."

Volume III Issue III

March 2009

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Meaningful Sacrifice in the Season of Lent

Jesus said "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

-Matthew 6:2-4

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The season of Lent is now upon us. It is that season in which we begin to turn inward and look at those things that might be hindering us from a fuller and more perfect relationship with God. In addition, since Lent and Holy Week is a time that we remember and reflect on the wonderful mystery of the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for us, it is also a time for us to sacrifice something. What does that look like to good, pious Anglicans?

Many times you hear of people giving up things for Lent. In fact, I would say that is what most Christians in liturgical churches do. For some, it may be giving up sweets. For others, it may be giving up television. There are a few things to remember whenever deciding what your Lenten sacrifice is going to be.

Do not give (up) that which costs you nothing. Some people out there will give up things that they rarely do anyway. This really isn't a sacrifice at all. A family of four was going around the table talking about what they were going to give up for Lent. One of the young children told his parents he was giving up a toy. When the parents looked around, it became obvious to them that their child did not even own that toy anymore. Instead, give up something that will be very apparent to you in your daily life. That is the true nature of sacrifice, and doing without.

Make sure your sacrifice has a spiritual element to it. Sometimes, people can give up some really silly things that have no bearing on them spiritually at all. An example of this might be someone who gives up going to movies on the weekend, just to sit at home and watch television. The way to add a spiritual element to this scenario would be to spend that time doing a weekly devotional, or a Bible Study. One could pray the Rosary, or do some other contemplative prayer exercise. In any case, the sacrifice should allow one to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.



“Academy of St. Margaret”
Every Wednesday Evening...
Fellowship and Bible Study for All Ages!
Dinner served at 5:30 p.m. / Bible Study at 6:00 p.m.

Rector's Article continued from front page...

You may sacrifice time instead of just things. Some Christians do not give up sweets for Lent, or TV, or other things. Instead, they sacrifice their time. You might like to spend time mentoring a young adult, or ministering to a friend in need. You might pick out several unchurched people that you know and start actively building a relationship with them under the Cursillo model: “Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ.” You might want to take time to go serve meals at a homeless shelter or a food bank. There are lots of opportunities to give back to God by serving the poor. The above scripture verse commands this of us. Notice that Jesus says “whenever you give alms” to the poor, not *if* you give alms to the poor.

In keeping with this command to give alms to the poor, I'd like to tell you about a new ministry initiative taking place at St. Margaret's. We have become partners with 14 other churches in a ministry called Southeast Ministries. Southeast Ministries is an organization that primarily provides food assistance to needy families in the Baton Rouge area. In addition to food, they also provide various other services, such as rental assistance and utilities assistance. Two other Episcopal Churches, St. Luke's and Holy Spirit, also participate in this ministry with us. Our responsibilities in this ministry are two fold: First, we pledge \$2 per member per month to this ministry. Second, we provide volunteer services. Anyone can volunteer from either 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., or from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you are able to arrange your schedule to be available for one of these time slots, I encourage you to volunteer.

You may sacrifice treasures. The above passage from Matthew also tells us that we must give alms to the poor. This is something that we should do all throughout the church year, not just in the season of Lent. During this season, you might think about giving extra money to the poor. You can do that by writing a check to St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, and writing “Southeast Ministries” on the memo line.

In the words of the Invitation to a Holy Lent, found on page 264 of the Book of Common Prayer, I pray that God will continue to bless you during this season of “self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial.” May God bless you all as you grow deeper in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Fr. Townsend+

Men's Group

The Men's Group at St. Margaret's meets the First Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. starting with a meal. Our program differs from month to month between bible study and tapes. We continue our ministry and let God provide.

We are in the planning stages of a possible Men's Retreat at the Judson Baptist Retreat Center in Jackson, Louisiana. There is an opening for the last weekend in May. Please call me at 673-4814, the church at 766-8314 or let Fr. Townsend know if you are interested. Your response is needed to make a decision, so please respond to lock in the date. Thank you, Dave Foster

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2009

8:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite I, No Music

10:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite I, Music

Maundy Thursday, April 9, 2009

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Footwashing
and Stripping the Altar

Good Friday, April 10, 2009

12:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross

6:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy with Sermon

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, No Music

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, With Music

There will be no adult education on Palm Sunday or Easter

Stewardship Minute...

“But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. ...Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality...”

2 Corinthians 8:7, 13-14

“March 2009”

Birthday Blessings To...

3/7

Chris Truman

3/10

Jordan Weber

3/28

Charles Burrell

***“The Lord is my
light and my
salvation; whom
then shall I fear?”***

Psalm 27:1

BCP 617

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1st Sunday Lent	2 Men's Group 6:30 p.m.	13 AA Meets @ 6:30 p.m.	4 Dinner: 5:30p Bible Study: 6p Choir: 7:30p	5	6	7 “OUTDOOR HELPING HANDS”
8 2nd Sunday Lent	9	10 AA Meets @ 6:30 p.m.	11 Dinner: 5:30p Bible Study: 6p Choir: 7:30p	12	13	14 “INDOOR HELPING HANDS”
15 3rd Sun Lent “Coffee House Concert “ 7pm Parish Hall	16 Vestry meets @ 6:00 p.m.	17 AA Meets @ 6:30 p.m.	18 Dinner: 5:30p Bible Study: 6p Choir: 7:30p	19	20	21 Life Line Screening 8am—5 pm HopeKeepers Meet @ 10am
22 4th Sunday Lent “Welcome Canon Mark Stevenson”	23	24 AA Meets @ 6:30 p.m.	25 Dinner: 5:30p Bible Study: 6p Choir: 7:30p	26	27	28 Library Reserved 10am-Noon
29	30	31 AA Meets @ 6:30 p.m.				

St. Margaret's Service Schedule March 2009

	March 1 SCOUT SUNDAY	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
LEM	8:00 Dave Foster 10:00 F. Hamilton	8:00 D. Cassidy 10:00 Bill Leblanc	8:00 Peter Barrios 10:00 Jay Weber	8:00 Dave Foster 10:00 D. Westphal	8:00 D. Cassidy 10:00 F. Hamilton
LECTORS	8:00 Herb Dyer 10:00 S. Newton	8:00 D. Cassidy 10:00 Bob Obier	8:00 Wayne Barnett 10:00 Jay Weber	8:00 Peter Barrios 10:00 Montalbano	8:00 D. Cassidy 10:00 R. Leblanc
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	8:00 Herb Dyer 10:00 S. Newton	8:00 D. Cassidy 10:00 Bob Obier	8:00 Wayne Barnett 10:00 Jay Weber	8:00 Peter Barrios 10:00 Montalbano	8:00 D. Cassidy 10:00 R. Leblanc
ACOLYTES	Demi Newton Gracie Newton Olivia Bridges Will Johnson	Olivia Bridges Jordan Weber	Gracie Newton Demi Newton	Olivia Bridges Jordan Weber	Demi Newton William Johnson
USHERS	Chad Edwards Rae Edwards Matt Johnson James Christian	8:00 Foster 10:00 Bridges	8:00 Barnett 10:00 H. Hamilton	8:00 Foster 10:00 Bridges	8:00 Barnett 10:00 H. Hamilton
HOSTS	8:00 TBD 10:00 Coffee	8:00 TBD 10:00 Bridges	8:00 TBD 10:00 Kathy Curtis	8:00 TBD 10:00 Coffee	8:00 TBD 10:00 Kathy Curtis
ALTAR GUILD	Kathy Foster Doris Weber Ryan Weber Fay Barnett	Denise Westphal Hayley Westphal Marie Montalbano	Ruth Leblanc Grace Brown S. Henderson	Marguerite Gaines Irma Jackson Patty O'Malley	Kathy Foster Doris Weber Ryan Weber Fay Barnett
LAWN TEAM		Krogstad		Bridges Leblanc	
CLEAN-UP	Hewitt Smith		Weber		Hewitt Smith
FLOWERS	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN

From the Gallery: Installation Photos of Father B. Townsend Waddill, III



Chronic Pain / Illness Support Group



HopeKeepers is a support group for sufferers of chronic pain or illness, physical or mental. We focus on the positive, living joyfully with our illness. Join us on the **Third** Saturday of each month at 10am at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 12663 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810 across from Calandro's. All faiths are welcome. Our next meeting is 10am March 21st, 2009. For more information call 337-1633. Thanks, Janelle

<http://www.geocities.com/janriche/JansPage.html>

Offer a Helping Hand

Mark your calendars for the **"Helping Hands Days"** planned in March for St. Margaret's. **Saturday, March 14th at 9:00 am** will be our **"Indoor Spring Cleaning" Day**.

Saturday, March 7th at 9:00 am will be our **"Outdoor Work and Clean-up" Day**. This is a wonderful opportunity for service as a Lenten discipline. To help, call Shelia at the church office or sign-up at the Parish Life table in the Parish Hall.

The Proclamation deadline is Wednesday at Noon. All submissions must be in writing and may be brought or e-mailed to the church.

"Life Line Screening ... The Power of Prevention"



St. Margaret's will host an Annual preventive Health Tests on Saturday March 21, 2009 from 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Consider the facts...

- ♦ **4 out of 5 stroke victims had no apparent warning signs.**
- ♦ **80% of strokes can be prevented**

Pre-registration is required. Call: 1-800-679-5192.

The 172nd Convention of the Diocese of LA is March 27-28, 2009 in New Orleans Louisiana. Host: St. Martin's Episcopal School / 5309 Airline Dr. Metairie, LA 70003-2499.

"Coffee House Concert" Sunday March 15th to benefit the music program. The concert will take place in the Parish Hall and will feature the music of Adler & Hearn. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and tickets are \$10 per adult and \$5 per student. Wine, cheese, coffee and desserts will be served. Please contact Maria Curry or Shelia Gilds in the church office for tickets. 955-0608 / 766-8314

"Lord hear our Prayers"

"A Place To Call Home"

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
12663 Perkins Road
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810
(225) 766-8314 E-Mail: secretary@saintmargarets.com
Web Site: www.saintmargarets.com

*Prayers of the
People*

Art
Sheryl
Dee
Loretta
Ernie
Marguerite
Louie
Joe
Mac
Teresa
Henry
James
Darlene
Jessica Dean
Harner Family
Emma
John & Jackie
John+
Matthew



Sunday Service Schedule

8:00am....Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00am.....Christian Education
*10:00am...Holy Eucharist, Rite I
with Music*
Nursery Available

"Academy Of St. Margaret"

Wednesday Evening:s
Dinner at 5:30pm
Bible Study for all ages at 6:00 pm

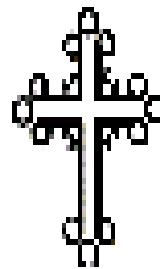
-CHURCH STAFF-

Shelia Gilds..... Secretary Ext. 203
Maria Curry.....Music Director Ext. 206
Kathy Foster.....Treasurer Ext. 204
Annie Pecue.....Nursery Director

Phone / Fax# 766-8314

Office Hours:

9:00am-3:00pm Mon—Fri



RECTOR

Fr. B. Townsend Waddill, III
766-8314 Ext. 200

The Rev. Cynthia Obier...Deacon

VESTRY

Dave Foster—Sr. Warden
Chip Blair—Jr. Warden
Patty O'Malley—Secretary

Peter Barrios
Ashley Bridges
Fee Hamilton
Jennifer Christian
Doris Weber
Tracey Hutchinson