



*Lord, make us instruments of your peace.*

## CLERGY CORNER

It never ceases to amaze me! It happened once again this past Sunday (January 10, 2010). January 10<sup>th</sup> was the Sunday when we celebrated The Baptism of Our Lord. What never ceases to amaze me is the fact that when I don't think a sermon is very good, or I think my sermon sort of mediocre...that is the sermon I get the most positive comments about after the service. It happened once again this past Sunday. I am convinced that it has to do with the Holy Spirit. When I think or believe that a sermon is good, it probably has to do with pride in my own skill or ability. When I think a sermon is sort of OK or mediocre...that's when I get comments from members of the congregation. I truly do believe that can't be me: it must be the Holy Spirit who works through those sermons.

Every year on the first Sunday following Epiphany on January 6<sup>th</sup> the church celebrates the baptism of Jesus. In the church calendar we will now start reading scripture lessons from the Gospels about the public ministry of Jesus for those three years between his baptism and his crucifixion and resurrection. We have just begun in our liturgical year the walk with Jesus through his baptism and into his public ministry which we will hear about during the season of Epiphany. In my sermon on January 10<sup>th</sup> I tried to emphasize the point that the Epiphany season celebrates the coming of the *magi*, the wise men. What is represented by the wise men approaching Jesus is humanity's response to God coming to us. God comes to us at Christmas. We come to God during Epiphany. The *magi* symbolize to us the coming of the gentiles and all of humanity to the presence of God now made manifest in Jesus and now present to us. God comes to us at Christmas. We come to God in response to God's coming to us during Epiphany.

Christmas is a time when we celebrate the incarnation. Allow me a bit of description about the etymology of the word, **incarnation**. *In* (Latin) = en. *Carne* (Latin) = flesh. (Continued on next page)



Whether we realize it or not, we know the Latin root of the term *carne* in our English word incarnation. In our English language the Latin, *carne*, shows up in words like: carnivore (flesh or meat eater), carnal (of the flesh), carnival, *carne + vale*, (two Latin words which together mean "Flesh, farewell.") In other words, the carnival (which takes place the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday) and which is so exuberantly celebrated Trinidad and Tobago as well as Brazil has its roots in the throwing off of all fleshly desires in order to prepare for the coming of Lent when things of the flesh and desires are put aside in a time of fasting, sacrifice, almsgiving and preparation for Easter.

The incarnation refers to the en-fleshment of God. God becomes flesh. God becomes human in Jesus. That is was we celebrate at Christmas. We celebrate the fact that God loved us so much that God sent God's son to become human and one of us in the very same flesh that we share. In this way the creator has joined with the creation and lifts the creation up into the creator for all time. We are joined to God forever through the incarnation of Jesus in human flesh.

As I write this article explaining the incarnation and the celebration we just had with Jesus coming to us in the flesh at Christmas, I suddenly realize that this is the article for the February newsletter and that Lent will be upon us almost as soon as you read this. Christmas is a time when we celebrate the fact that God chose to come to us. Epiphany is a season in which we acknowledge that it is up to us to respond to God's invitation to move the journey of our lives in a direction toward God. Lent is a time when we are challenged to refocus our lives once more on the gift of grace freely given with no merit or action on our part.

I hope you had a blessed Christmas, a challenging Epiphany and I also pray that you will have a holy Lent.

Mother Kate+



## OF CANDLES AND CANDLEMAS

I love candles. Admittedly, I am a high churchman, so I do enjoy all the “smells and bells” of liturgy: candles, incense, processions, sanctus bells, etc. So it’s probably no surprise that I like the Feast of Candlemas.

Candlemas, properly called the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple or the Purification of St. Mary the Virgin, takes place on February 2. It was beloved by English Christians and even after the Reformation was numbered among the “principal feasts” of the Church of England.

The feast focuses on the scene where Mary and Joseph bring the Christ Child to the Temple and encounter the prophets Anna and Simeon, who declares that this child is “a light to enlighten the nations.” As part of that celebration of light, candles for the whole year were blessed at this service, hence the name “Candlemas.”



While I was in England, I was a member of St. Bene’t’s parish, and I remember with joy the night that we started our procession with newly blessed candles from the chapel of Corpus Christi College to our parish church. It was a wonderful celebration of the Light which has come into our lives, the Light which dispels the shadows of gloom, doubt, shame, and fear from our lives.

Although we have a proper liturgy for Candlemas in the Episcopal Church’s *Book of Occasional Services*, we don’t normally celebrate it here at St. Francis: in the suburbs family schedules are already packed with events and families are simply too busy for extra mid-week services. *(Continued on next page)*



Last year, I popped down to All Saints (where Fr. Steve Giovangelo was rector) to celebrate the feast with them. It was beautiful.

But even if we don’t gather together at the church on Feb. 2 for a service, I hope we all remember—in our own ways—that the Light of Christ has come into our lives through Baptism. That Light dwells in us and shines upon us, and as John’s gospel says, “The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.”

In all of our lives, especially in difficult times like this, it is easy to find shadows in our lives. Shadows that darken the joy of Christian living. These can be shadows of fear or anxiety about what lies ahead for us, or shadows of guilt and shame over what has happened in our past, and even shadows of gloom and despair over how we feel about our lives here and now.

Whatever the shadows might be in your life, I hope that in this Epiphany season you will experience the Light of Christ and that the power of that Light will drive away whatever dark shadows try to encroach upon your path. It matters not how much strength we might have in ourselves, because the love of God in Jesus, the love which has made us children of God and heirs of God’s kingdom, is more powerful than any shadow could ever be.

May the “dawn from on high” break upon us and scatter the darkness in the world.

*Fr. Jesse +*

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:



#### Sick

Nathan, PJ, Caroline, Susanna, Levi, Gretchen, Glen, Helen, Elmer, Bryan, David, Bruce, David, Mandi, Laura, Cecilia, Sue, Amos, Susan and Donna.

#### Armed Forces

Nicholas Helsel, Daniel Nield, Ben Sheldon, Aaron Sheldon, RJ Kinzel and for all persons involved in armed conflict.

*If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain or would like to add a friend or loved one, please contact the church office.*



**HYMN-SINGING: A CLERIC'S VOICE FROM  
YESTERYEAR SPEAKS**

Brothers John and Charles Wesley, ordained Anglican clerics, were both leaders of the English Methodist movement in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. John is considered the founder of the modern Methodist church, and his brother Charles is remembered largely for the 6500 + hymns he wrote. Multiple religious denominations' hymnbooks include Charles' hymns. Several we know from our Hymnal 1982 are *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*, *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*, *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*, and *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*.

Even though Charles wrote the hymns, it was John who collected and edited both Charles' and others' hymns, combining them into hymnals. His compilation hymnal *Select Hymns with Tunes Annexed*, 1761, contained, as he wrote, "some of the best hymns we have printed", and provided a music section, entitled "Sacred Melody", which provided a tune for each hymn.

Additionally, John introduced into *Select Hymns* his famous **Directions for Singing** the hymns in worship. You may have heard the phrase "sing lustily": Wesley's **Directions** is the source!

It's worth noting that Wesley's **Directions** address not only how to sing, but also what one's intention for singing in worship should be. I finish now by inviting you to read and ponder Wesley's **Directions for Singing**, which appear in full right below:

I. Learn these tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.

II. Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.

III. Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a single degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up, *(Continued on next page)*



and you will find it a blessing.

IV. Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.



V. Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.

VI. Sing in time. Whatever time is sung be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend close to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can; and take care not to sing too slow. This drawing way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

VII. Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

*Lee Barlow*

*Organist/Choirmaster*

*Director of the Concert Series*



## Fieldnotes

### SEARCH COMMITTEE FEB UPDATE

Working . . . working . . . working . . . is what the St. Francis Search Committee is doing during these cold, winter days and evening. Come join us **Tuesday, February 16 – the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** – when the committee will unveil the draft of the Parish Profile that we will give to the Diocese for approval and then publish to potential candidates. The profile is based on the responses from the surveys and the focus groups. Plans are to have a table available during the supper where you can pick up your copy of the profile draft and survey results. The committee will give a short explanation of the survey and draft at 7 p.m. and a brief question and answer session will follow. Put this date on your calendar now and plan to attend the Pancake Supper for food, fellowship, fun and facts as our St. Francis family moves into this exciting next step in the search process.

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



2-Margaret Laurien-Wise 3-Kaitlyn Dinsmore,  
Grace Harsha, Laura Gronski 4-Ric Anderson,  
Hannah Barnes 5-Mike Fischer  
6-Julia Long 7-Sara Swan 8-Bob Royalty,  
Christy Gregory 9-Siriphin Vongphrachanh,  
Jack Krowiak 10-Vikki Gauker, Skylar Greaves  
12-Perry Holder, Jason Weeks  
13-Keith Barnes 14-Karen Smith, Matt Deinelin  
15-Kelsie Roberts 16-Ron Stachler 17-Anna Summer  
18-Jan Fezatte, Janda Dattilo, Kieran Dean, Tyler Konz  
19-Kristina Todd 24-Teddy Fatta 25-Bridget Brown,  
Linda Monaco, Kaitlin O'Leary, Alexander Moon  
26-Glen Guiney, Jordan McGraw, Josh McGraw  
27-Meredith Brown

## St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church



### UNITED THANK OFFERING

Our fall Ingathering contribution to UTO was \$778. Added to the spring Ingathering contribution of 597.22 we sent a total of \$1,375.22 to be given in grants for feeding programs, programs for disadvantaged youth, community development projects, needed building repair, and more. Remember that literally every penny you give goes to grants.

Thank you for helping others.

Begun by the women of the church in 1883, the United Thank Offering remains vital after so many years because it has always been based on the sound theological premise that it is good to give thanks to God. A good way to do that is by putting coins and bills in the UTO blue box daily with a prayer of thanks. Boxes are available on the table outside the kitchen door.



Thank you God for the abundance you have given us. May we give thanks always for all things and in all circumstances.

Jane Savage

### NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive this Newsletter via mail, please let Laura at the office know as soon as possible!



As always, there are hard copies in the Narthex!



**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

The parish's annual meeting will take place on February 7<sup>th</sup>, immediately after the 10am Eucharist. Please join us for the presentation of the 2010 budget, the election of delegates to diocesan convention, and the vestry's report on the state of the parish.



**CANNED FOOD DRIVE**

Starting next month, on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have a canned food drive at every Children and Youth Sunday service. Please bring a can of food with you to church (or even a can for each member of your family) and drop it by on your way into church.

**October Middle School Youth Group Fundraiser.**

Yes, this is very late in coming but, I wanted to get a thank you out to everyone who supported the group's pumpkins sale last October. The flower and foliage filled pumpkins, put together by the youth, following much preparation by some very special parents the night before, sold very well. We asked \$10 for each and all 30 plus pumpkins sold. The congregation that Sunday was not huge, so their generosity in buying was big! The money raised will go to a charity chosen by the youth group. There will be a picture of the group with their proudly finished pumpkins in the narthex.



Christine Brown.



**INTRODUCING FR. STEVE GIOVANGELO**



The Rev. Steven M. Giovangelo, a retired priest in the Diocese, is attending (and occasionally helping out at) St. Francis at least for the interim period. Fr. Steve recently retired as rector of All Saints Church in Indianapolis, following 32 years in parish ministry throughout several dioceses.

He was born and raised a mile west of downtown

Chicago where his family had owned a popular Italian restaurant. He attended both De Paul University in Chicago and The University of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, New Mexico, for his undergraduate degree. Although raised in the Roman Catholic Church and involved in the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans), he has been an Episcopalian since his college years in the 1960's.

He is a graduate of Seabury-Western Theological Seminary and was ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago in 1977. For nine years he served in two Chicago area parishes, first as an assistant and then as rector.

In the mid-80s, he then relocated to Los Angeles, where his family now lives, and served several churches in that Diocese. While there, he created a diocesan-wide training workshop for chalice-bearers and lectors. Fr. Steve and Mthr. Kate have known each other for many years from their parish work in



## Fieldnotes

the Diocese of LA.

In 1996, he accepted an invitation from the Bishop of Newark, to work toward revitalizing an inner city parish in Union City, New Jersey, just across the Hudson River from Manhattan. The parish had ten members when he arrived, and with the Bishop's personal support and that of the Diocese of Newark, the parish prospered despite tremendous odds.

By the time of his departure for Indianapolis, St. John's had grown to an attendance of 75 to 80 on a regular Sunday. "That was probably the biggest challenge I ever had and yet in that tough urban environment, it was a terrific, creative and in hindsight, fun experience," Fr. Steve said.

In 2002 he came back to the Midwest to accept the call to become rector of All Saints, Indianapolis. While in the Diocese, he has served as a member of the ecclesiastical trial court, which—thankfully—rarely has a reason to convene. He also served as Fr. Jesse's clergy mentor following his ordination to the priesthood, and he has known Lee Barlow from the years that Lee was involved with the music program at All Saints.

Fr. Steve currently lives in Irvington on the city's east side. He volunteers at Second Helpings, an Indianapolis outreach organization that creates meals for those in need using food donations from local restaurants and grocery stores. Although not an organist himself, he has also been an avid supporter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and has even served as an AGO chaplain in the past. He can be reached at [smg47@indy.rr.com](mailto:smg47@indy.rr.com) or at 708-0078.

## St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church



## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 7TH:

10 am: Special Children and Youth Service No Sunday School or Godly Play this day due to the Children's Service. [CANNED FOOD DRIVE: the canned food drive is now scheduled for every First Sunday of the Month along with the Children and Youth Service. Please bring a can of food – or even a can of food for each member of your family.]

*11:15 AM: PARISH ANNUAL MEETING – presentation of budget, election of delegates to Diocesan Convention, and your Vestry's report on the state of the parish..*

MONDAY FEBRUARY 8TH: 7pm: Search Committee

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 14TH: 11:15am: MSYG Meeting

MONDAY FEBRUARY 15TH: office closed 7pm: Vestry Meeting

### **FEBRUARY 16TH SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER:**

**6 pm: Pancake Supper**

*SEARCH COMMITTEE: Special presentation at this pancake supper of the parish profile as we search for a new rector!*

### **WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 17TH: Ash Wednesday**

**7am: Ash Wednesday Service (Said)**

**9am: March Newsletter Deadline**

**12 noon: Ash Wednesday Service (Said)**

**7pm: Ash Wednesday Service (With Music)**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20TH: 10am: Kids Against Hunger

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21ST: 11:15am: HSYG Meeting

MONDAY FEBRUARY 22ND: 7pm: Search Committee

### WEDNESDAYS

5:15pm: Treble Choir (2nd-4th Grade)

6:15pm: Treble Choir (5th-8th Grade)

7:15pm: Adult/Teen Choir

### THURSDAYS:

\*10am: Bible Study

7pm: Handbell Choir

*\*Please see Jesse for details\**