

The Congregation of  
Saint Saviour at the  
Cathedral Church  
of Saint John  
the Divine

## SAINT FRANCIS DAY 2007

Volunteers are needed for the St. Francis Day service and fair on October 7th. If you would like to help during the blessings of the animals please contact Kia Grant at 212-316-7441. Space is extremely limited for this event due to the restoration work in the Cathedral.

For passes please contact Adriana Sween in the Congregation Office at 212-316-7483 or email her at  
office@saintsaviour.org

# Crossings

The Cathedral Congregation's Newsletter

October 2007

## *THE 2008 Stewardship Campaign*

Welcome back if you are returning from a time away from the Cathedral. Welcome home if you are new. The crisp fall air is invigorating. Our Jewish friends have just celebrated their Rosh Ha Shana, their New Year. It is a new Academic year. And....the start of our Stewardship Campaign for 2008.

Stewardship is an act of Christian faith as important as prayer. It is both a personal and a communal experience in which each of us is called to make a contribution of time, talent and treasure out of gratitude to God for His boundless generosity to us. There are so many things for which we can be grateful. We live a life of such abundance. We are surrounded by beauty, by friends, by nature (even in the Big City). Each of us, no matter what is happening in our lives, can think of so many things that God has given us—above all His Love.

We are so fortunate to be part of this wonderful church—a welcoming church with gifted, grace-filled clergy, soul-warming liturgy, and a community that is a cross section of the human race. It is now time

for all of us to consider how we can as individuals support our church home in the year to come.

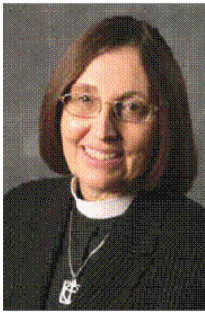
This year Stewardship Commitment Sunday will take place on October 21 when we focus on the giving of our treasure to support our spiritual home. We ask you to begin thinking now about what kind of commitment you would like to make for 2008. Members of the Vestry and the stewardship committee will be present at all services that day to receive your commitment cards. As has become “tradition” Commitment cards will be brought to the altar and blessed as part of the liturgy.

So, please start thinking and praying about your giving as we go through this harvest season.

Faithfully yours,

Marsha Ra for the Stewardship Committee—[Marsha.Ra@rcn.com](mailto:Marsha.Ra@rcn.com)

William Cassarini  
Vaughn Folkert  
Phyllis Murray  
Carole Wilkins  
Wayne Yankus



## Letter from the Vicar

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

What joy it is to be here. I have just completed four weeks as your Vicar and I feel a sense of wonder as this call unfolds. I am grateful to the Dean and Sub-Dean for the clarity of their vision, and to all of you for the warm welcome you have given to me. Thank you.

Homecoming Sunday was a beautiful gathering of members old and new with a lovely luncheon and two quite extraordinary cakes! My husband Bob, daughter Nadia and I were touched by your gracious hospitality and greatly enjoyed the opportunity to meet you.

Over the past four weeks I have had thoughtful conversations with many that give me a better sense of

who you are and why you are here. A number of you have recounted exactly when you showed up on the Cathedral steps and what has kept you coming. You understand the way this building continues to call people to a more profound relationship with God. Your faithful service as acolytes, ushers, altar guild members, healers, Stephen Ministers, vestry members, counters, officers, tour guides, choir members, etc. is foundational to everything that happens here. You are the heart of the Cathedral.

Last week on the 6th anniversary of 9/11 I attended a conference entitled "Reconciliation at the Round Table: God's Call in the 21st Century" in the new Desmond Tutu Education Center at General Theological Seminary. The discussion about moving beyond forgiveness to the hard work of reconciliation became

particularly poignant from the mouths of Bishops Desmond Tutu and Gene Robinson, both having experienced vicious hatred and yet choosing to stay centered in the love of Christ. When a woman asked Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori rather plaintively what one person could do to help the world, Jefferts Schori reminded us that our religion is based on what one person did.

In October we are given the opportunity to respond to God's generosity in our lives with a pledge for the coming year. This is always a little challenging. It is stepping out on faith. We cannot know what the future will bring for each of us. But what we do know is that if we stay focused on the reconciling love of Christ, God will use us.

May the love of Christ be in your hearts and minds throughout the year.

The Rev. Victoria Sirota  
Cathedral Pastor and Vicar  
vsirota@stjohndivine.org

## Our Associate Organist needs a kidney!

Our exceptional Associate Organist, Bill Randolph, has been waiting for a kidney transplant for 7 years. He has been on dialysis since 2000, which as many of you may know is an extremely difficult existence, yet he has continued to play at our services and for the Church of the Intercession in Harlem as well as be Adjunct Organist at Columbia University. Bill is loved by many, and the Mission and Outreach Commit-

tee would like to help him find a life saving kidney.

*All Christians are encouraged to become organ donors "as part of their ministry to others in the name of Christ, who gave his life that we may have life in its fullness."*

Episcopal Church 1982

If you are inclined to be a donor, please realize that this would be a very important decision for both you and Bill. So talk it over with family and friends, if you want, and if you are sure, then contact Bill to begin the process with Bill and his transplant center of seeing whether you are a suitable donor.

In recent years, the operation for  
(Bill Randolph Appeal contd next page)



## Letter from the Warden

By Bob Carey

### What is it about Homecoming??

For some reason that I cannot fully account for, I seem to end up behind the bar at social gatherings. Behind the bar, mind you, not in front, on the fun side. I have made a casual study of different openers, corks and the paraphernalia of serving and have generally concluded that the age of cork is over (a small ecological aside) because of the fact that everyone now seems to be in the wine business and there are only so many cork trees in the world-and they are exhausted.

But being behind the table opening bottles and helping people to

enjoy themselves gives one a great view of the room; it is a particularly nice vantage point from which to see how a community gathers itself and interacts. The first thing to be said about food and people and gatherings is that the combination is absolutely central to the way we are-we need both, constantly as a matter of getting on with our lives. We like to think of ourselves as more or less self-sufficient competent adults, able to get on with the business of living without too much fuss or feathers. And, in general, that is pretty much true.

What tends to get bracketed out of that self-portrait is all the ties, the strings, the connections, that go into our being autonomous. Verizon, bless their commercial hearts, has captured that perfectly in their ads. The indi-

vidual alone with her cell phone and then, slightly to the side, everyone else who makes the silly thing work. Homecomings are like meeting the network-all those connections, those ties, that are absolutely essential for me to be able to get on with being this terrific autonomous individual that I am-and that I know you are. And, of course, the topper this time around was being able to welcome our new Vicar and her husband. The day was delightful; the energy and sense of our being under way made the room glow. Welcome back, everyone.

Bob Carey, Warden  
wardens@saintsaviour.org

The Congregation congratulates Rev. Patty Welch, who was installed as Canon for Education by Bishop Sisk at the Cathedral on Saturday September 29th. Yeah!

*(Bill Randolph Appeal contd)*

donating a kidney has improved enormously. I received my kidney transplant in 2004 from my friend John. His donation was through minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery. His recovery was so quick John was able to leave the hospital before I got out of post-op. He says he is none the worse from the experience. I am alive. I am truly blessed that he gave me such a gift and I hope someone will be such a friend to Bill.



There are more than 73,000 people waiting for kidneys in the U.S. and unfortunately a serious

shortage of donors.

Bill joined us in 1990 as the Night Watch organist, in 1996 Dorothy and Dean Morton appointed Bill as Associate Organist. His playing is marvelous and we are all blessed to hear his work. Please consider becoming a saviour to Bill.

If you would like to help Bill, please contact him at [randolphper@aol.com](mailto:randolphper@aol.com)

Brian Nelson

## FALL RETREAT Holy Cross, November 16-18

Special Note; the fall retreat is now oversubscribed. Anyone interested who has not submitted a form may still do so. They will be waitlisted until the monastery can provide more space or someone who has registered drops out (a common occurrence).

The Reverend Canon Alan G. Dennis, Sub-Dean of the Cathedral will lead this year's pre-Advent retreat at Holy Cross Monastery. The retreat will begin Friday evening, November 16 and run through Sunday afternoon, November 18. Alan will be basing his reflections on Henri' Nouwen's book, *With Burning Hearts: A Meditation on the Eucharistic Life*.

Guests may check in anytime after 3:00 p.m. on Friday. Dinner is at

6:00 and the first retreat session will start at approximately 8:00 p.m. The retreat ends after lunch on Sunday at approximately 1:00 p.m. A detailed schedule including all monastic offices will be distributed to all who register.

Cancellation fees: If you must cancel, the monastery charges us a cancellation fee. For cancellations before November 9 the fee is \$70 unless another member of the congregation fills your space. After November 9 the fee is \$150 unless another member fills the space.

For more info, please call 212-316-7483 or email

[office@saintsaviour.org](mailto:office@saintsaviour.org)

## Memorial Service in honor of the life of Madeleine L'Engle

A memorial service in Thanksgiving for the life and work of Madeleine L'Engle will be held at 4pm in the Great Choir of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine on Wednesday, November 28th.

Author Madeleine L'Engle, whose novel "A Wrinkle in Time" has been enjoyed by generations of schoolchildren and adults since the 1960s, died on Thursday, September 6th.. She was 88. L'Engle died at a nursing home in Litchfield of natural causes, according to Jennifer Doerr, publicity manager for publisher Farrar, Straus and Giroux. The Newbery Medal winner wrote more than 60 books, including fantasies, poetry and memoirs, often highlighting spiritual themes and her Christian faith.

Madeleine L'Engle involved herself with the Cathedral of St. John the Divine where she assumed the position of church librarian while enjoying a challenging tutelage under her spiritual advisor, Canon Edward Nason West, our Cathedral's former subdean. Subsequently, West was honored in several novels as a character called "Canon Tallis."

The Cathedral community is indebted to Madeleine for the many of us who she helped in our spiritual journey and those she encouraged to attend the Cathedral in the first place.

## The Wild Angels Poets and Writers Group fall season begins: **Rebuilding Through Structure, Foundation and Form** with Rosie Schaap

The theme for the Wild Angel's new year centers around the anticipation of the Cathedrals opening up again in the spring. We look at this time as a one of rebirth. How can forms of writing be torn down and built back up again? Let us reclaim our writing; through the investigation of the different forms that have influenced us. Can we take the familiar and view it with a new eye? Join us this fall as we anticipate the coming of spring.

Thursdays, 6:45 PM - 8:45 PM.  
October 4, 11, 18, 25, and  
November 1, 8, 15, 29 2007  
We will meet in room 118 in  
Cathedral House.

Rosie Schaap: She is an editor and writer at Guideposts, an inspirational magazine with more than two million subscribers.

Register: [wildangelsgroup@saintsaviour.org](mailto:wildangelsgroup@saintsaviour.org)

## The Green Retreats: A Quest for a Sustainable Spirit, Community, and World

As people of faith, how are we called to respond to care for Creation? This fall we invite you to join us in a series of discussions focusing on this question. In each session, we will explore the Biblical basis for environmental stewardship as well as responses by theologians and faith-based communities to the needs of the natural world.

Our own seminarian, Emily Scott, and Josh Hill, a student at Yale Theological Seminary working on his Masters of Arts in Religion with a concentration on eco-ethics, will lead the Bible Study. The event begins after the 11 a.m. service on October 21<sup>st</sup> in the Cathedral House Dining Room and meets for four consecutive Sundays, ending on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Food and refreshments will be served.

Additionally, The Education and Mission and Outreach Committees, along with the 20s/30s Connection will hold an all-day retreat on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 9:30 a.m. and ending at 4:00 p.m. During the retreat, experts in the field of environmental studies and advocacy will help us understand how we can transform our personal lives so that we can answer our call to help solve the issues of climate change and environment sustainability. A donation of \$12 is requested but not required for the retreat.

Please mark your calendars now for these exciting events! For more information, please email [education@saintsaviour.org](mailto:education@saintsaviour.org) or [20s30s@saintsaviour.org](mailto:20s30s@saintsaviour.org)

## Ministry of Hospitality

Are you new to the Cathedral and looking for a chance to get more involved?

Do you want to share your love of the Cathedral and your love of God?

Do you like to greet visitors from all over the world?

Do you want to help the Congregation grow?

Have you ever considered participating in our Cathedral's ministry of radical hospitality?

Would you consider giving up 2-3 hours of your time to serve as an usher/greeter on one Sunday per month?

As an usher/greeter you are a friendly face in what might otherwise be an intimidating space.

The "early greeters," Sundays 8-10 am, welcome people, invite worshipers to the service, direct visitors and answer their questions. The regular ushers, Sundays 10:30-12:30, welcome people, direct tourists, hand out bulletins to worshipers and help them find seats. During the service they monitor tourist traffic, help take up the offering, and direct worshipers to communion. You will be trained "on the job" and in occasional workshops.

By joining the ushers/greeters, you will become part of a dedicated group of people whose main function is to welcome people to the Cathedral.

If you are interested, please send me an e-mail at [ushers@stsaviour.org](mailto:ushers@stsaviour.org), or call me at 917-270-2848. We need you!

Ruth Mueller-Maerki,  
Usher Coordinator  
[ushers@stsaviour.org](mailto:ushers@stsaviour.org)

## CRAFTS FAIR

If you haven't yet decided what to do in November or early December, put your self down for volunteering for the Crafts Fair.

Besides being our annual fundraiser, it is also an opportunity to meet some of the finest Crafts people in the northeast. There are many jobs to do and all are fun!

They are! The committee is currently working on publicity and show organization. This includes setting up the schedule for the Café and the Greeters at the entrance. So if you'd like to help



Necklace by Laura Brothers

us, and we *really* want you to (!), please contact Vestry member Brian Nelson [brian@banelson.net](mailto:brian@banelson.net) 718-852-1881 or Volunteer Coordinator Rich Whaley [richwhaley@aol.com](mailto:richwhaley@aol.com) 646-725-2661. Thank you!

## Congregation of St. Saviour Financial results through the first 8 months January 1–August 31, 2007

As you can see, there has been a change in the pattern of giving, and to maintain our programs and our commitments to the Cathedral and the Diocese, we have had to run a deficit recently.

EXPENSES	YTD2006	YTD2007
Cathedral & Diocesan Payments	\$ 101,474	\$ 97,417
Congregation Programs	\$ 26,741	\$ 38,598
Administration	\$ 5,349	\$ 8,254
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$ 133,564	\$ 144,269
INCOME (less dep. for Crafts Fair)		
Pledge & Plate	\$ 130,673	\$ 112,479
Other Program	\$ 7,131	\$ 7,976
INCOME TOTAL	\$ 137,803	\$ 120,455
Surplus / deficit	\$ 4,239	(\$ 23,814)

### Bear Mountain Hiking Trip

The 20/30's group will be taking a group hike on Saturday, October 13th. We will be meeting in the parking lot near the security booth of the Cathedral at 9:00 am, and will return by late afternoon or early evening. The hike will be fairly easy to moderate, and will be followed by a late lunch in a nearby town. Newcomers, including families with children are welcome! For more information or to RSVP, either contact us [20s30s@saintsaviour.org](mailto:20s30s@saintsaviour.org) or speak to Matthew Pritchard or Rachel Wildman at the Congregation Table following any 11 a.m. service.

### *About Us*

*The Congregation of Saint Saviour at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine offers events, classes and programs that benefit the spiritual growth and formation of the community at the Cathedral and neighborhood.*

*We are a family of Christians, drawn together by a common mission: "To build and nurture an active Christian community; to support the mission of the Cathedral; to offer opportunities for exploring and expressing spirituality, affirming the diversities that exist among us; above all, through worship, service, and example, to bear witness to Christ's healing and reconciling love to neighbors, pilgrims, and visitors.*

*Please visit our website for updated information and schedule of events [www.saintsaviour.org](http://www.saintsaviour.org) or email: [information@saintsaviour.org](mailto:information@saintsaviour.org)*

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS!

In memoriam:

We remember two members of our community who died last month;

- Madeleine L'Engle, died September 6
- Dr. Catherine Peters, died September 13

In celebration:

We give thanks to God for the following birthdays this month:

- Harry Johnson—October 2nd
- Jennifer Johnson (Chris Johnson's Goddaughter)- October 10
- Raquel Granda—October 12th

*Send us your announcements – birthdays, wedding announcements, births, new member announcements – something you want to see in Crossings. Send to Chris Johnson at; [communication@saintsaviour.org](mailto:communication@saintsaviour.org)*

### OPEN VESTRY MEETING October 15th—6:30pm

Have you ever thought about running for Vestry? Or would you like to see how we operate? The Congregation traditionally holds an "open vestry" meeting in October. This is your chance to observe a real Vestry meeting, see how things run, and assess whether this work is for you. The meeting takes place in Cathedral House Dining Room. For more information, contact;

The Rev. Dr. Victoria Sirota  
Cathedral Pastor Vicar  
[vsirota@stjohndivine.org](mailto:vsirota@stjohndivine.org)  
or Bob Carey or Chris Johnson  
Wardens;  
[wardens@stsaviour.diocesenyn.org](mailto:wardens@stsaviour.diocesenyn.org)

# Workshops and Tours

## by the Cathedral's Public Education Department

### Highlight Tours

Tues. – Sat. 11 am – 12 Noon & 1pm – 2pm\*; Sun. 1 pm– 2 pm

Explore the Cathedral's newly cleaned and magnificently restored East End, Crossing, Great Choir, and seven Chapels of Tongues. Learn about the art, architecture and history of this great sacred space from 1892 to the present. No prior reservation necessary.

\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Beginning in October, an additional Highlight Tour will be offered at 1pm on Tuesdays - Saturdays.

### Vertical Tours

Saturdays, 12 Noon – 1 pm & 2 pm – 3 pm

Climb 124 feet through spiral stone staircases to the top of the Cathedral. Get a look at the huge scale of the nave restoration and study the grand architecture while standing on a buttress. The tour culminates on the roof with a wonderful view of the Morningside Heights area of Manhattan. Space is limited to 10 people, and reservations are recommended. Bring a flashlight.

### Spotlight Tours

**Gateway to the New Jerusalem: Spotlight on the Iconography of the West Front**

Sunday, October 14, 2:00 pm

The west front is the architectural equivalent of an overture, an exposition of the themes developed within the main body of the Cathedral. The tour introduces the interplay of modern and medieval motifs in the sculpture of John Angel and Simon Verity. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide, Tom Fedorek.

### Brilliant Walls of Light: Spotlight on the Chapel Windows

Sunday, October 21, 2:00 pm

Each chapel contains a unique style of stained glass. Explore beautiful narrative and geometric windows by English and American firms and view the memorial to a stained-glass artist. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko.

### Crypt Crawl

Saturday, October 27

11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm & 3:00 pm

Shake your spirits loose this Halloween! Creep by candlelight into the Cathedral's crypt. Commemorate the origins of Halloween as the Celtic New Year celebration and trace its later transformation into All Hallows Eve. Space is limited and reservations are required. \$10 per person (note: no student or senior rate).

### Adult Workshops

The Public Education and Visitor Services Department offers the following programs for adults. For more information and reservations please call (212) 932-7347.

### Medieval Manuscript Illumination Workshop

Sat., Oct. 20, 1 pm - 4 pm

Join Karen Gorst, professional scribe and illuminator, in a trip into the medieval world. Learn the fundamentals of manuscript illumination by using medieval materials and techniques to create an illuminated letter. From applying gold leaf to making paint and painting, all steps in this centuries-old process will be covered. Space is limited to twelve participants. Reservations and advance payment required. \$60 per person, materials included.

### Family Programs

The Public Education and Visitor Services Department offers the following programs for families. For more information and reservations please call (212) 932-7347.

### Medieval Birthday Parties

Saturdays & Sundays, by availability

Celebrate your child's birthday with a two-hour party in the Medieval Arts Workshop, where children sculpt gargoyles, weave, make brass rubbings, carve a block of limestone and much more! For children ages 5 & up.

### Kids' Cathedral

Tuesdays, October 9, 16, 23 & 30; 10:30 - 11:30 am

A series of programs designed for young ones and their caregivers to explore the shapes, colors and patterns found at the Cathedral. Using hands-on activities, arts and crafts and stories, children observe architecture, stained glass, and art and then create their own pieces to take home. For ages 2-4, with accompanying adult. Space is limited to 10 kids per session, and reservations are recommended. \$5 per class

### St. Francis Day Mask Making Workshop

Saturday, October 6, 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon

Children create festive masks to celebrate the Cathedral's Blessing of the Animals. Glue feathers, cut paper, paint, and let your imaginations fly as you create animal inspired crafts that celebrate the Earth and its creatures. For ages 4 and up. \$5 per child, with adult.

### Morning of the Gargoyles:

#### A Family Halloween Workshop

Saturday, October 27, 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon

The morning begins with a reading of Eve Bunting's Night of the Gargoyles, then down to the workshop to assemble gargling, grimacing clay gargoyles, skeleton creatures and paper gargoyle masks. Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$5 per child, with accompanying adult.

**The Public Education Department is currently seeking volunteers. For more information on volunteer opportunities please contact Christina Ferwerda at 212-932-7347.**

Barbara Anderson  
Education Specialist  
Public Education &  
Visitor Services Department  
banderson@stjohndivine.org

# Crossings

A newsletter published monthly by the Congregation of St. Saviour at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine  
1047 Amsterdam Avenue  
New York, NY 10025

~~~~~  
The Rev. Dr. Victoria Sirota, Cathedral Pastor  
and Vicar of the Congregation of St. Saviour  
212-316-7456

[vicar@saintsaviour.org](mailto:vicar@saintsaviour.org)

Adriana Sween  
Pastoral Events Coordinator  
Congregation Office  
212-316-7483  
212-932-7348 (Fax)

[office@saintsaviour.org](mailto:office@saintsaviour.org)

Donna Devlin  
Director of Christian Education  
[childrensabbey@saintsaviour.org](mailto:childrensabbey@saintsaviour.org)

~~~~~  
Robert Carey, Warden  
Christopher L. Johnson, Warden  
[wardens@saintsaviour.org](mailto:wardens@saintsaviour.org)  
Cecilia Andrini-Nwufoh, Treasurer  
[treasurer@saintsaviour.org](mailto:treasurer@saintsaviour.org)

Lisa Chin, Clerk  
[clerk@saintsaviour.org](mailto:clerk@saintsaviour.org)

### Vestry Members:

Cecilia Andrini-Nwufoh, Lisa Chin, Vaughn Folkert,  
Charles Jamison, Jr., Harry Johnson, Brian Nelson,  
Matthew Pritchard, Nathaniel Queen, Marsha Ra,  
Elizabeth Salzer, Carole Wilkins and Wayne Yankus

### Committee Chairs:

Stewardship: Co-Chairs;

Marsha Ra, [Marsha.Ra@rcn.com](mailto:Marsha.Ra@rcn.com)  
Phyllis Murray, [pjmrn@aol.com](mailto:pjmrn@aol.com)

Pastoral Care: Rev. Victoria Sirota

[vsirota@stjohndivine.org](mailto:vsirota@stjohndivine.org)

Education: Shawn Dean, [education@saintsaviour.org](mailto:education@saintsaviour.org)

Mission & Outreach: Diane Reiners,  
[missionandoutreach@saintsaviour.org](mailto:missionandoutreach@saintsaviour.org)

Crafts Fair: Brian Nelson [brian@banelson.net](mailto:brian@banelson.net)

Events: Bill McCadden and Lisa Chin,  
[events@saintsaviour.org](mailto:events@saintsaviour.org)

Welcoming: Co-Chairs;

Joan Ogden and Peter Christensen  
[welcoming@saintsaviour.org](mailto:welcoming@saintsaviour.org)

Prayer Tree: Elizabeth Salzer, [PrayerTreeSJD@aol.com](mailto:PrayerTreeSJD@aol.com)

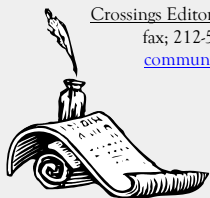
20-30s Connection: Matthew Pritchard  
[20s30s@saintsaviour.org](mailto:20s30s@saintsaviour.org)

Election Committee: The Rev. Mark Hummell,

Communications: Chris Johnson and Sandra Schubert  
[communication@saintsaviour.org](mailto:communication@saintsaviour.org)

Crossings Editor: Chris Johnson,  
fax: 212-580-6271

[communication@saintsaviour.org](mailto:communication@saintsaviour.org)



# A Cat's Tale.

There once was a woman in the Township of Howell. This woman had many cats and a dog and was known in her neighborhood as a sucker for all small animals. One dark and foggy night, a tiny kitten, driven by the terrors of howls and things that go bump, being unloved and having been dumped to fend for itself, sought refuge at the woman's doorstep.



Children's Abbey Fall Program by Donna Devlin the Director of Christian Education.

The woman, being a real cat person, hardened not her heart toward the small kitten, but took her in and fed her milk and meat, and removed large numbers of swollen ticks from her tiny body. The woman gave the kitten a box to sleep in. But lo, the kitten was still frightened and climbed up on the woman's bed. And so, the kitten was allowed to curl up and sleep on the woman's pillow, even wrapped around the woman's head. Just for that first night. The kitten, a pale calico was named Misty Pastel.

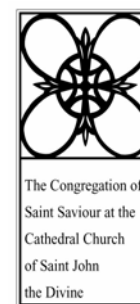
When others tried to pet the pretty little cat, she pulled away and hid. Except when she was on the woman's lap. There, she felt safe and secure and would let others touch her. There, she braved the onslaughts of the dog with a disdain worthy of an armored creature 6 times her size. There, she slept undisturbed through vicious thunderstorms, doorbells and a multitude of alarms which sent the dog to cower under the bed.

Misty Pastel was secure in the knowledge that the woman who saved her would never let anything or anybody harm her. Each day she trusted and loved more. Years have gone by. When the woman who saved her comes and sits, Misty wakes from sleep on the warm cable box, stretches, yawns, jumps down and then up – onto her lap. If the woman moves, Misty moves with her. She is never far from her savior. If she doesn't see the woman, she cries with a pitiful wail until she finds her. At night she snuggles as close as possible and frequently gets up and touches the woman's face with a soft paw or a little wet nose.

With a chirp of recognition and security she goes back to sleep.

Can we, saved from the terrors of sin and death, be less trusting than Misty Pastel?

Donna Devlin  
Director Christian Ed/Formation and  
Children's Abbey  
[childrensabbey@saintsaviour.org](mailto:childrensabbey@saintsaviour.org)



## COME JOIN US!

Our congregation is growing and our committees are reaching out in service. Come join our thriving community and find communion with like-

minded individuals on committees! Stewardship, Mission & Outreach, Crafts Fair, Events, Welcoming, 20's-30's Connection, and Communication - all would like your talent. Email contacts are on the left of this page. Thank you!