



St. Andrew's Tidings

A Message from Margaret

Richard Rhor has offered the following: While the Eucharist has always been a consoling mystery with an ecstatic, mystical language surrounding it (such as “Happy are those who are called to the wedding feast of the lamb,” Revelation 19:7-9), it has also been clothed in the language of suffering, blood, and death. It makes clear the connection that the mystics always confirm: there is an inherent link between love and suffering. I think the tradition is correct in saying that somehow this mystery of the Eucharist is both festive meal and the inevitability of suffering for what we love. So this wedding table is not decorated with a cake but with a cross.

The Eucharist embraces both the great love *and* the great suffering that are the only things strong enough to take away our pretentiousness and our illusions. They are our avenues to the Real. Contact with reality is what redeems you, and Jesus is the Really Real. In the Eucharist, the Real is brought to a focus and to a moment. I believe we are transformed when we eat the Real, and every part of the Real: the good and the bad, the dark and the light, the suffering and the ecstasy both.

We say therefore, that the Eucharist is the ongoing celebration of the cross *and* the resurrection. Not the cross OR the resurrection, but precisely BOTH, and even the connection between the two. I am not sure which is harder. With Jesus, we find the power to hold the pain of life until it transforms us.

The Eucharist is all about changing: changing bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus, which then changes us into the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is too much to think or understand with the mind alone; we can only eat it until its very nutrition changes us. I have often said when celebrating the Mass that *it is much easier to convince bread and wine that it is Christ than it is to convince most*

people! The bread and wine believe immediately. We hedge our bets and slowly wait to be convinced.

I believe that it is the same way with forgiveness. We are not always convinced that we are forgiven by God. However, this is the promise that we are given at our baptism. We are forgiven and God does not hold on to things that we have done. This week, and for the next four weeks we will be talking about forgiveness in Sunday School. Come at 9 a.m. for coffee and refreshments and we will see a short video and then have discussion.

Blessings and love,

Margaret +

Sunday School for October: Forgiveness

Several weeks ago you heard me say: “Forgiveness is something God had to invent for the drama to continue. There could have been no meaningful future for the world had this particular reality been called into being.” This sermon on the topic of forgiveness created a lot of conversation, and because of this, I will be doing a 5 week class on forgiveness beginning October 5. It will consist of a short DVD presentation to get the conversation started.

Bay Lights is Coming Soon!: November 1st. Plan now to attend!! Buy your raffle ticket from the Jimmersons for a chance at \$5,000! Don't forget your Wine for Beckwith!

Chairs

The Chairs are \$240 each. If you would like to purchase a chair in honor of or in memory of someone, please see Anne Staley following the service.

Office Volunteers

We are in need of office volunteers. If you can spare a few hours, morning or afternoon, please speak to Kathy Lopez. You can also call her at 785-9604



THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4 &

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

Bring your pets to be blessed Saturday October 4th at 10 a.m. The blessing will take place in the Pet Garden. If you are unable to attend on Saturday, you are invited to bring your pets to church on Sunday for a blessing. All pets must be on leashes, in cages, bowls, etc.

SUPPER AT GRACE

It's that time again! Thursday, October 16th, St. Andrew's will host Supper at Grace at Grace Episcopal Church on the beach. We provide a nutritious supper for about 100 men, women and children. Needed are volunteers to support this ministry by helping to set up, cook, serve and clean up. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. This is an opportunity to serve the needy and get acquainted with other St. Andrew's members. No experience needed- just a willing heart. For more information contact Teri Floore (763-2439).



Come Jam With Us!

Part of the Supper at Grace Ministry is preparing 50 sack lunches for guests to take out. We are going to prepare the lunches on Thursday morning, October 16th at 10:00 in Byrne Hall. Sack lunches contain a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, chips, cookies and a drink. All of the fixings are provided-all we need a some willing hands to come "jam" with us for about an hour to prepare and pack the lunches. If you would like to join this ministry to help feed the needy, please contact Teri Floore (763-2439) or Diane Tate (769-0941).





Columbarium & Memorial Garden

It is comforting to know that many of you will be interred in the new Columbarium. However, please know there will be continuing spaces in the Memorial garden out in the courtyard. This is a sanctified and dedicated space. It was blessed when it was built and will always be a viable choice. When it was built it was consecrated with the following prayer: “O God, whose blessed Son was laid in a sepulcher in the garden: Bless + we pray, this space, and grant that they who are to be buried here may dwell with Christ in paradise, and may come to your heavenly kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*” In the same way the Columbarium will be blessed to make it sacred space. Anyone wishing to purchase a space, the cost is \$500 per niche. After construction is finished, the cost will be \$1,000.

Chapel

Once the construction is finished and we are in the new space, the redesigned chapel, even though it is smaller will be used for many things such as quiet days, week day Morning Prayer etc. It will also, because of the Columbarium, be a chapel of repose. Many things that we did before in the chapel will so easily be done in the new worship space, because of the flexibility to make the space small or large. We will be doing a lot of things in the new worship space that we used to do in the chapel for that reason. The labyrinth will be available on certain days for meditation as well. Yes, things won't be like they always were, but this will be even better, as there will be more avenues for worship.

Don't Forget your Pennies from Heaven For Living Stones



Please keep the following in your prayers : Warren, Ruth Ann, Iva, , Pete, Steve, Maria, Ethel, Jane, Kelly, Joni, Tim, Carol, Linda, Lui, Rhonda, Steven, Kathy, Jeremy, Rosemary. Dorothy, Kiley, Maggie, Patricia, Anne, MaryLou, George, Walt, Debbie, Susan, Nurse Nancy, Dr. Kent. Mary Jane, Sammy, Rick, Jane, Joy, Ryan, Virginia, Diane, Glenda, Laura, Pam, Pat, Ashley, Reese, Hazen, Mary, Robin, Pam, Anna, Diane, Sara, Debbie

We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad: Jeff, James, Andrew, Kenneth, Evan, Ryan, Joe, Nate, Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan, Jeremiah