



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



January 2013

Rector's Rambling

December is the busiest time of the year for a priest. But I must admit (as my good wife occasionally points out) that much of the busyness is of my own making. I agree to do things that are good in and of themselves, and I suppose it is an honour to be asked to do them, and someone should do them; but they don't directly support my mission and vocation to be a good priest at St. John's, a good husband and father, and a great grandpa. This December experience, which is much the same every year, prompts me to consider a new rubric for developing my new year's resolutions for the coming year.

Somewhere along the line, probably in the Army, I attended a management seminar which taught that I should establish a brief, quantifiable mission statement for my life, and that everything I do ought to be justifiable in terms of that mission statement. For instance, I am a parish priest. Therefore conduct of the worship service on Sunday is very important, because that is what my status as a priest demands that I do. In like manner, sermon preparation, personal prayer, and adequate rest are essential to the successful performance of my professional duties, and therefore are given a high and justifiable priority. On the other hand, a three week trip to Argentina to shoot game birds might be lots of fun, and might be very relaxing in some ways, but there is no possible way that I could say it supports my mission priority as a parish priest. It would have a much lower priority in my life, and would be done on vacation time, not work time. And it would be improper for the church to fund such a trip. All because it is not directly related to my mission as a priest.

Bishop Breidenthal has over the past three years or so led our diocese in the development of a set of mission priorities. Our budget and diocesan staff are now organized around these priorities, and all expenditures of time and money are expected to be justified in terms of their relationship to the priorities. And so as I approach the new year, I find myself thinking that I should dig back into my old notes from the Army, and inspired by the example of our bishop, try

to tighten up my own erratic calendar of commitments in the year to come. My mission statement has already been stated above. I will strive to be a good parish priest, a good husband and father, and a great grandpa. That is the easy part. Now comes the hard part. As I fulfill current obligations, will I have the strength to say "no" to future opportunities to do good things if they do not directly support my priorities—my mission? What it means to be a good parish priest is clearly outlined in the ordinal in the Book of Common Prayer and in the Pastoral Epistles of Saint Paul. What it means to be a good husband is clearly outlined in the vows and charges of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. What it means to be a great grandpa (and perhaps a good dad) is measured more subjectively by balancing the laughter of Margaret and Helen with the raised eyebrows I get from their mother! Other things, even good things, which do not fit into one of these three priorities are luxuries that I may or may not be able to afford. I may say yes to a few, but if I say yes to too many, I will fail to accomplish my mission and purpose, because my focus will be scattered and my resources spread too thin.

I dare say the conundrum I ponder faces us all most of the time. In the coming year, I hope that we will all be able to establish a list of priorities, a mission for our lives. I pray that we will have the wisdom to focus not on all of the good things that need to be done, but on those things which God has called us to include in our mission. It may be that on occasion there is some justification for saying "yes" to something that does not directly support our mission. But if we do that too much, we will never accomplish the work God gives us to do. In this coming year, I hope God will give you the strength to say "no," and the wisdom to know when to say "yes." And I believe with all my heart that if we include him in the process of determining what is the real purpose and mission of our lives, he will give us all of the strength and wisdom we need. Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. AMEN.

Bill+

The following is a brief testimony from Nick England sharing the blessings he has found through the ministry to which God has called him. Please call Fr. Bill (215-3900) if you have a testimony you would like to share with your parish family.

My friends in Christ,

I've decided that there really isn't any reason for me to have a day planner. Here is an example. Every morning during the course of my daily devotions, I usually ask God to help me to be a blessing in someone's life that day, just as he continues to bless my own. Last month, I found myself going to do jail ministry as I always have done for many years. Upon arriving, a deputy informed me that a young 17 year old inmate confined in solitary, would like to speak with me prior to my session with the general population. Thirty minutes into our conversation, he handed me a poem that he had written to God. It wasn't eloquent or very well structured. But it finished with a simple line that told his entire story. It quite simply said, "my soul is sore." WOW! I sat there and read that over a couple of times letting it sink in. This young boy's prime concern was centered on the question of whether or not he was saved. After asking him the basic questions of salvation that we find in our own baptismal covenant, I assured him that he was. We continued our conversation and we both agreed that the healing salve found only through and with Jesus Christ would massage the soreness from his soul. Thank you Lord. I will be seeing him again quite often and I am sure that his newfound faith will continue to be a comfort and blessing to him. Our Lord will always reach out to us when we call upon Him. We don't have to make an appointment or mark our planners. And there are no waiting lines. The message is simple. If you want a blessing, become one yourself. Thank you Lord for bringing this young man and I together. I praise your Holy name.

Nick England +

Domestic Violence. Is that inevitably how the cookie crumbles?

Approaching my 13th Christmas here, I am concerned that I may have inadvertently created a cross-cultural dependency. Of course as missionaries we do not want to produce any dependencies. Never-the-less ...

Beginning in 2000, we made Christmas sugar cookies with different colors of powdered sugar icing and sprinkles. We gave these to a few new friends and people who had helped us, and also to the girls' classmates and teachers. Since then, things have snowballed, so to speak.

Each year, those who had received cookies begged for more! Christmas cookies are really not a tradition here. Bakeries don't make them. The few people who have tried our recipe say that theirs don't turn out right. After a few years, we had more friends, the girls' school wanted extras to sell, we gave them to everyone at the Clinic, and supplied the Clinic's numerous Christmas parties (AIDS children, health promoters, AIDS support groups, etc.). We baked more than a thousand cookies some years.

As the girls graduated from school here and left for university in the USA, our cookie demand fell. However, I will bake many hundred this year – the “*galletas de Anita*” Christmas tradition is now well established within one circle here.

Tradition and culture are often given as the explanation for some behaviors: “Of course young people drink in their pre-teens and drive without a license – it's the culture here!” or “Traditionally the man controls the house and the wife, and if he beats her – that's too bad, but that's just how it is.”

We start 2013 committed to a program against gender-based violence in an area where sociologists say the culture accepts violence as a reasonable mode of communication. We have a good team, evidence-based plans, and the promise of Philippians 4:13.

And we have our cookie experience that reminds us that good ideas have a way of catching on. Culture is in constant flux – continuously created by countless interactions and discussions. We have to be smart and sensitive, but tossing what we can cook-up into the gender-based violence mix will help.

Keep praying, Anita Dohn

Birthdays

- 5 Sebastian Burton
Paige Miller
- 7 Camille Martens
Neil Wright
- 9 Fr. Bill Pursley
- 10 Judie Miller
- 11 Dick Babcock
- 16 Caitlin Hurdley
- 17 Alan Palo
- 20 Josiah Xzavior Wilson
- 21 Jack Warnett
- 22 Cecilia Davidson
- 23 Bill Young
- 25 Sam Hurley
Zachary White

Wedding Anniversaries

- 9 Alan and Ruth Palo (71)

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 1 Muriel Breining (25)
Don Eager (47)
- 4 Chris Hurdley (95)
Bob Wright (53)
- 8 Charlotte Tipton (34)
- 24 Camille Martens (54)
- 30 Carol Uhl (47)

Annual Meeting Reports

Wardens and committee chairs need to have their reports to the church office by Thursday, January 17th and submitted electronically, if possible.

Our condolences to Jack and Elaine Warnett on the passing of Elaine's mother, Melba Winland, at the age of 99. As God has received her into the arms of his mercy, may He grant her continual growth in His grace and peace.

Vestry Highlights

- * Year-end financials look promising.
- * New security system is installed and operating. Seven people have security codes.
- * There is currently one apartment for rent.
- * The Annual meeting will be January 27th.

Attention, Altar Guild Members

All members are asked to help remove decorations from the church on January 6, 2013 after the 10:30 service.

Fellowship Breakfast

The next Fellowship Breakfast will be Sunday, January 6th after the 8 am service. Join your parish family for good food and fellowship.

Parish Health Luncheon

The next Parish Health Luncheon will be January 16th after the noon Eucharist.

From the Organist

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers these last several months as I have been dealing with significant illness. I've very much missed the organ and the worship at St John's. My return on 2 Advent (12/9) to the bench was a milestone for me in my recovery (despite being a tad out of practice). As my health continues to improve, I look forward to many more years as your organist. Again, I thank everyone for your prayers for continued healing.
Peace,
Thurlow Weed

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 27th in the undercroft. There will be **ONE SERVICE** of Holy Communion at 9 AM. Please plan to attend.

January 2013 Serving Schedule

January 6 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Alma Priddy	Ivan Smith & Robin Rhodes	Isaiah 60:1-6
Acolytes		Katie & Alex Shook	Psalms: 72: 1-7, 10-14
Lectors		Mark Conrad & Jeanie Conrad	Ephesians 3:1-12
Ushers	Tim Hall & Peggy Merton	Ray Holaway & Nick England	Matthew 2:1-12
Altar Guild	Bobbie Beebe	Sarah Perlow, Ann Canby & Deanna Roshong	Set-up: Heather Perkins
January 13 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton	Jim Hall & Nick England	Isaiah 43:1-7
Acolytes		Morgan Spires	Psalms: 29
Lectors		Sarah Perlow & Diana Turpin	Acts 8:14-17
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	Chris & Hannah Hurdley	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Judie Miller, Mid Hall & Frankie Mathias	Set-up: Anna Adkins & Judie Miller
January 20 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Nick England	Chuck Canter & Doug Carr	Isaiah 62: 1-5
Acolytes		Milt Taylor & Asher Carr	Psalms: 36:5-10
Lectors		Joy Malinski & Frankie Mathias	1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Ushers	Tim Hall & Peggy Merton	Nickie Leckrone & Diane Downard	John 2:1-11
Altar Guild	Carol Ralph	Barb Parker, Julie Meenach & Kathy Canter	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
January 27 th	Annual Meeting Sunday	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	One service only at 9:00 	Frankie Mathias & Robin Rhodes	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Acolytes		Hannah Hurdley & William Eyman	Psalms: 19
Lectors		Charlie Voss & Richard Bailey	1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a
Ushers		Jenn & Morgan Spires	Luke 4:14-21
Altar Guild		Chris Hurdley, Reda Kittle & Sally Stallsmith	Set-up: Mid Hall



A Special Invitation

To say “Thank You” to all our parish family for all the love and kindness shown to the Gray family during Dick’s illness and passing, Polly and children would like to invite everyone to an Open House on New Year’s Eve.

***3032 Mudhouse Road
6PM—?***





St. John's Episcopal Church
Broad and Wheeling
Lancaster, Ohio

Back to the Table

Cooking Classes

**Taught by Susie Cork
at St. John's Episcopal Church**

Celebrate community & fellowship as we learn to cook together.

Meet new people or get to know your spouse and family all over again.

Classes are held at 6:15pm to about 8:30pm in the kitchen of St. John's. All classes are hands-on style and require participation in the cooking and clean up. We pair wine with the menu and it's available for a reasonable fee with the meal. Every participant receives a set of typed recipes and will have dinner during the class. Class size is limited to 14 participants.

All proceeds benefits St. John's Church.

The Classes -2013

February 7: Adult Class* - Two to Tango**

The Cuisine of South America

Arepas de Queso (grilled corn flour cakes with cheese), Steak Skewers with Cilantro Chimichurri,
Tres Leches Cake \$35/person.

April 4: Kids Class*- Pizza Party

Homemade pizza dough, Grilled Vegetable Pizza, Pepperoni Calzones with Marinara,
\$35/person. Children under 10 years of age receive a \$10 discount.

October 3: Family Night-Autumn Pasta**

Rosemary Tagliatelle with Creamy Wild Mushroom Madeira Sauce, Sweet Potato Ravioli with Amaretti
Brown Butter, Mixed Greens with spiced pecans, local apples, ruby port vinaigrette
\$35/person Children under 10 years of age receive a \$10 discount.

December 5: Adult Class*- Midnight in Paris**

Beef with Wild Mushroom Bordelaise, Soubise (braised rice and onions),
Blackberry Clafouti with Crème Fraiche \$40/person

Details

*The Kids Classes are for kids 8-17 years of age.

**Family Classes are for any age group or combination of family members,
provided the children under 17 are accompanied by an adult.

***Adult classes are for 18 years and older

The Instructor

Classes are designed and taught by Susie Cork, who is also the General Manager of Shaw's Restaurant & Inn. A Lancaster native and member of St. John's, Susie is a graduate of The Culinary School at Kendall College in Chicago and honed her skills at Chicago's top restaurants for 17 years. She has taught cooking classes at A La Carte Gourmet Kitchen in Chicago, The Chopping Block Cooking School in Chicago and currently at Shaw's every Saturday.

Payment & Cancellation Policy

All classes require a prepaid reservation by cash or check made payable to St. John's. Reservations can be made at St. John's Church Services or by calling St. John's Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm. 740-653-3052.

Paid reservations are non-refundable. You are welcome to send someone to take your place in the class.

Reservation Deadline: Payment must be received the Sunday before the day of the class.



January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8:00P AA Meeting	2 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:00P EFM	3 3:30P Pickering House	4	5
6 8:00 HC 9:00 Fellowship Breakfast 10:30 HC Altar Guild - Remove Decorations	7 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	8 8:00P AA Meeting	9 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:00P EFM	10 3:30P Pickering House	11	12
13 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 HC 2:00P Lanfair Service	14 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	15 8:00P AA Meeting	16 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:00P EFM	17 1:00P E & L Deadline 3:30P Pickering House 7:00P Vestry Meeting	18	19
20 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 HC	21 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	22 8:00P AA Meeting	23 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC Parish Health Luncheon 6:00P EFM	24 3:30P Pickering House	25	26
27 9:00 HC 10:00 Annual Meeting 2:00P Carriage Ct. Service	28 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	29 11:00A HC 8:00P AA Meeting	30 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:00P EFM	31 3:30P Pickering House		

**For emergency pastoral services in Father Bill's absence from
January 24th through January 26th, please contact
Father Bill McCleery at 614-668-0544 or
Deacon Don Eager at 740-653-3958**

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

134 North Broad Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH STAFF

PRESIDING BISHOP: The Most Rev'd Katharine Jefferts Schori
BISHOP OF DIOCESE OF SO. OHIO: The Rt. Rev'd Thomas E. Breidenthal
RECTOR: The Rev'd Mr. G. William Pursley
CHOIRMASTER: Kathy Heim
ORGANIST: Thurlow Weed
ALTAR GUILD PRESIDENT: Deanna Roshong
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Schyler Crawford
TREASURER: Lowell Stallsmith
VERGER: Jim Hall
MISTRESS of ACOLYTES: Jennifer Spires
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jean Hammer

Parish Office (740) 653-3052
Rector (740) 654-5274 (home)
(740) 215-3900 (cell)

For daily & Sunday readings & Fr. Pursley's
sermons, visit St. John's website
www.stjohnlancaster.org

Members of Vestry

Tom Hammer (Senior Warden)	687-6134
Mark Perrine (Junior Warden)	654-2551
Carol Baily (14)	654-3242
Susie Cork (15)	974-8026
Wendy Garbrandt (15)	653-9639
Jean Hammer (13)	687-6134
Kathy Heim (14)	205-3397
Barbara Parker (13)	969-4829
Michael Parker (15)	969-4829
Milt Taylor, Jr. (13)	653-2415
Charlie Voss (14)	654-4225