

# The Eagle's Voice

The Newsletter of St. John's Church, Cohoes, NY

Volume 14 Issue 2

March 2010

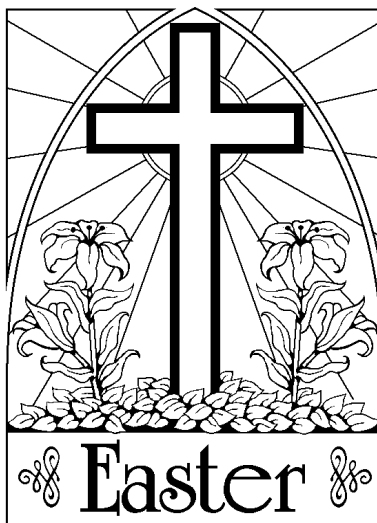
## *A Message from*

*Mother Gerry*

### **Dear Friends,**

Easter Sunday is almost here. Soon Christian churches around the country will be filled with people celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the basis of the Christian faith. I am overjoyed to see the pews at St. John's filled with people worshiping and praising God. How blessed we are, not just on Easter, but every Sunday as we gather to celebrate the beauty and holiness of the Paschal mystery in the Eucharist.

How do you define worship? I like N.T. Wright's definition: "worship [is] to accord worth, true value, to something, to recognize and respect it for the true worth it has" (For all God's Worth 6). Worship is the main work of the church and is only a dim reflection of what we'll be doing as citizens of heaven – not playing football or shopping, but worshiping our Lord and our King (7). And



we won't be bored!

I wish I had a nickel for each time I've heard people, mainly non-Christians, say heaven sounds so boring. Wright claims that these are people who don't know the living God. This kind of thinking is based on a false understanding of God and his holiness and beauty. We know that God is worthy of worship because his Son has revealed Him to us. When we worship with our whole heart and soul and mind, we catch a glimpse of the glory of God – and it is inspiring and awesome.

"Worship is nothing more nor less than love on its knees before the beloved" (9).

On Sundays God's family gathers in a holy place, to pray and receive the sacraments, to encourage one another, to build up the Body of Christ. The Body is broken when someone chooses not to come to church. Of course, some people cannot come for reasons of health, and I want you to know that we hold you in our hearts and prayers. Others, I hope and pray that you'll come and worship with us this Easter and every Sunday, and invite your family and friends to come too. You are loved, and when you are not here you are missed.

Come and "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (Psalm 96:9a). Come and seek the living God who "gave His only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption (BCP 343). He is the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world – yours and mine. Come and give thanks for Christ's victory over sin and death.

For his Sake,

*Mtr. Gerry*

## Sr. Wardens Letter

*by Ed Tremblay*

Enclosed in this newsletter is an envelope for your Easter Flower Memorials. This is an excellent chance for you to remember your family and friends by memorializing them with a flower offering. The Easter Flowers help us to celebrate the Risen Christ.

Please come and visit the Church and see all of the wonderful work that has been done on the Sanctuary. It has been forty years since the ceiling has been remolded. We have cleaned and painted the ceiling and added new lighting.

For the first time at the new church you can see the beautiful crucifix behind the altar.

*Ed Tremblay*

## Youth News

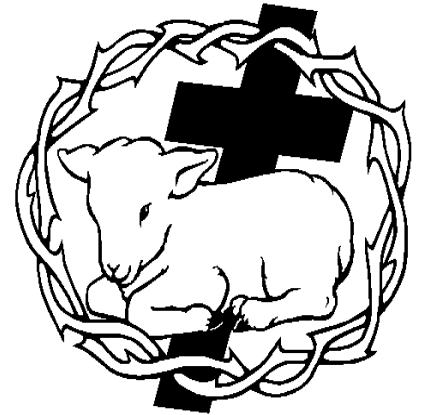
It's wonderful to see the growing number of children in our congregation! From age three to twelve, these young people bring smiles of joy to our Sunday mornings. These delightful kids are not just showing up on Sunday, but actively partici-

pating in the service as acolytes, choir members, and readers. They also regularly visit several home-bound parishioners as well as participate in community Christian activities, representing St. John's. We sure have some bright and gifted kids. And the three-year olds delight us with their energy and just being cute. We give thanks for the children and their parents who faithfully bring them to church each Sunday.

In addition to our Sunday morning worship, our youth group meets at St. John's every other Friday evening. They join in fellowship over supper, study the faith, sing, and play games. We currently have ten children who attend and several parents who have assumed leadership roles. Thank you, parents and kids.

The young people also helped with the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to raise money to go to Beaver Cross Camp this summer. Several of the kids are looking forward to going this year and we appreciate your support. Children are the future of St. John's so please keep them in your prayers.

*Byard Clemmons,*  
Youth Minister



## Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday, March 31

**Tenebrae, 7:00 PM**

Thursday: April 1

**Maundy/Holy Thursday**

7:00 PM

Friday: April 2

**Good Friday**

**Easter  
Sunday morning  
service  
9:30 AM**

Lighting of the New Fire

Renewal of Baptismal  
Vows