



St. Patrick's Shamrock

A Newsletter of
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
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A MESSAGE FROM JIM BEEBE

“THE GOOD PART”

I like Mark. It's short. To the point. Even abrupt. He tells it like it is. Just listen to his very first line: “*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God*” COLON. It's like reading Ernest Hemingway. It's raw. Mark doesn't go out of his way to explain things. He's not like most preachers who take a text, put it under a microscope, examine it from all angles – scientifically, logically, theologically – and then pontificate at length about what it *means*. No, Mark lets the story do the talking. And I like that!

Take the last chapter, for instance. It gives you a choice. Do you want the story to just *end*? Or would you like to have somebody explain it to you? Technically, the first choice is called “*the short ending to Mark*” in Biblical scholarship circles. Obviously, the second is called “*the longer ending.*” But there's a rule of thumb when examining ancient texts: short is likely to be authentic. So let's just go with the short ending today. It's the one where Sunday morning comes and the disciples find an empty tomb. It doesn't talk about resurrection. It's a mystery.

But the fact is, the whole story about Jesus makes no sense at all unless you know the *whole* story. Writer Brad Hall tells the story of a group of convicts who decide one Christmas to build a nativity scene in their small prison chapel. As with all prisons, resources are limited. But they manage to gather sufficient materials to build a stable and manger and collect a few animals and figurines to put the scene together. The only thing missing is the baby – Jesus. They're at an impasse. How – in *this* place – are they going to find a doll?

As they talk about it, one man exclaims, “*I've got it!*” He dashes off and returns, holding something in his hand. It's the only thing he can think of – a crucifix which had hung on his cell wall. Wrapping the crucifix in swaddling cloths, he places it in the straw-filled manger. The nativity scene is now complete. Christmas can begin.

The more I think about what the convict has done, the more sense it makes. It's true that the manger scene is the *beginning* of the Good News. But it doesn't tell the *whole* story. The joy of the birth of Jesus depends completely on the joy of the re-birth of Jesus.

It's rather like the ending to a good mystery novel. As we read, we can't *quite* catch the point. We can't *quite* see where the plot is going. We can't *quite* figure out “*whodunit.*” Then, on the last page...AHA! Why didn't I see it all along? Then we go back through the details of the story – right from the very beginning – and notice how brilliantly the details determine the ending.

Our lives are going to be like that, you know. Right now they don't *quite* make sense. We can't *quite* figure out why we're here. We can't *quite* understand where it is we're going. At times it all seems sort of senseless. Ordinary. Boring, even. But not *THEN!* *THEN* we'll see – for the first time. It is the hope that Jesus gives us in the resurrection. In the end, everything *will* be all right.

Once upon a time there was a family. They were gathered together one Easter Eve, watching one of the many miniseries on the life of Jesus. The six-year-old daughter was deeply moved as she watched Jesus' trial and death and she began to cry. She could barely watch as they took him down from the cross and laid him in the tomb. She cringed as the guard rolled the heavy stone across the opening of the tomb. And then, suddenly, the six-year-old broke into a huge smile, stepped off the couch, and announced to her family, “*Now here comes the GOOD part!*”



CAMP GALILEE 2006

As we move into spring (I hope) plans have been finalized for the summer program at Camp Galilee. The program will begin on June 25 and will continue through August 19. There will be a new summer program director this year, Jim Tousignant ("Too-sin-yo"), who has been a teacher in Las Vegas for 15 years and has had extensive camp experience will be in charge of the six youth camps, which run from June 25 to August 5. Your own Jim Beebe will be the chaplain and in charge of the program for "Get Away—Get Together", which replaces the traditional "Family Camp". The camp is scheduled for August 6 to 12. There will be more information on the program soon. "Camp We Care", for families of prison inmates, was successfully implemented last summer. It received national attention as a successful prison ministry program. Rev. Mike Annis, a retired Episcopal Priest who is an Associate at St. Timothy's in Henderson and at Church of the Epiphany in Las Vegas will be the chaplain. We contributed significantly to support this camp last year. If you are interested contact Dave Mussatti.

The schedule for this summer is outlined below. Each camp begins on Sunday in the mid-afternoon and closes in mid-morning the next Saturday. The fee for the camps is \$260.

Elementary I (Grades 2-4) June 25 to July 1
High School I (Grades 9-12) July 2 to 8
Elementary II (Grades 4-6) July 9 to 15
Middle School I (Grades 6-8) July 16 to 22
Middle School II (Grades 7-9) July 23 to 29
High School II (Grades 9-12) July 30 to August 5
"Get Away—Get Together" (Families) August 6 to 12
"Camp We Care" August 13 to 19

Registration on line can be done at www.GalileeTahoe.org. For more information contact Jim Beebe or Dave Mussatti.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MILDRED REDDALL

On Sunday, March 12 at 12:25p.m. Mildred Reddall took her last communion and immediately went to be with God. Her family and two of her friends were present as I gave her last rights. Mildred was 97 years old and was beloved by all who knew her. She will always be remembered at the "Energizer Bunny" and for attending her own wake twelve years ago on her 85th Birthday, because she said that she didn't want to miss a good party. A funeral was held on Saturday, March 18 with a large crowd in attendance. She was interred in the columbarium at the end of the service. Her spirit was with us as we celebrated the life of a very special person. A fund has been established at St. Patrick's for the future education of her two grandchildren, Graham and Genevieve.



Standing Committee News – Episcopal Diocese of Nevada

Jim Kelly, Priest

The Diocesan Standing Committee (SC) held a three day meeting in January at the new Presbyterian Conference Center at Zephyr Cove. With no space available at Galilee, it gave us the opportunity to experience first hand Galilee's formidable competition in this new conference center. SC is responsible for diocesan assets with a life of more than one year, so the primary focus was on defining who we are as a diocese, what is our purpose, and identifying organizational structure and roles that support the purpose. Consultant Roger Cutler did an excellent job of facilitating two solid days of wrestling with these issues. Bishop Katharine has given Diocesan Council the responsibility to develop a strategic plan for the diocese, so SC will meet with them to discuss our findings April 1st at St. Luke's. Following that meeting all of the 37 parishes in the diocese will be visited by a SC member to seek input from them prior to convention 2006. The meeting concluded with Sunday worship at St. John's followed by lunch at Camp Galilee.

On February 28th SC reviewed the results of the marketing and feasibility study for the Galilee Episcopal Camp & Conference Center. The consultant's report is posted on the diocesan website. This meeting was followed by a Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, Nevada's newest parish (they received their occupancy permit that day.) Epiphany is located in a shopping center and was assisted financially by SC. It was exciting to see the enthusiasm and so many children and young families—Dick Schori made blueberry pancakes in addition to photographing the event.

NORTHWEST MISSION DISTRICT MEETING

On : May 6, 2006, 9:30a.m.

WHERE: St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Reno

Contact Dave Mussatti for information. 831-1418

MORE ABOUT EFM (EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY)

EFM is not just a Bible study! It is a comprehensive study program that develops an informed and knowledgeable laity.

The seminar group is the nucleus of the EFM program. Class size is between 6 - 12 students. The group meets weekly for 2 - 2 ½ hours under the guidance of a trained mentor who works as an enabler rather than as a teacher. The EFM program year is September through May, but this may vary.

In late May an introduction session will be held where anyone can learn more about the program and look at EFM study materials. The date and time will be announced in the church bulletin in mid-May.

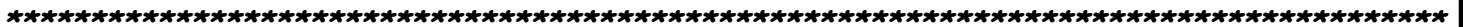
In concluding the eucharist we pray, "And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord." The EFM program will certainly help prepare you to fulfill this mission.

Connie Skidmore, EFM Mentor



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Monday, April 10th** at 7:00 p.m.: Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
- Tuesday, April 11th** at 7:00 p.m.: Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
- Wednesday, April 12th** at 7:00 p.m.: Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
- Thursday, April 13th** at 7:00 p.m.: Maundy Thursday Eucharist (Church)
- Friday, April 14th** at 7:00 p.m.: Good Friday Service (Church)
- Saturday, April 15th** at 5:30 p.m.: Folk Mass (Church)
- Saturday, April 15th** at 7:00 p.m.: Easter Vigil and Eucharist (Church)
- Sunday, April 16th** at 8:00 a.m.: Holy Eucharist Rite I (Easter)
- Sunday, April 16th** at 10:00 a.m.: Holy Eucharist Rite II (Easter)



ON THE FAST TRACK...

Adult spiritual formation...

...is alive and well at St. Patrick's Church.

Most of us make the hundreds of daily decisions we exercise on the basis of previous experience, logic, emotion, a lifetime of education and all kinds of other inputs. But as Christians, we have also inherited thousands of years of traditions and experience (many of which conflict, by the way). Wouldn't it be great if we made our decisions informed by this faith?

So here are some adult spiritual formation opportunities at St. Patrick's:

- * *The Saturday night adult forum begins at 6:40 p.m. in the Chapel (but you can come at 6:15 in the Library for a free meal first) and ends at 7:15 p.m.* The Saturday group will be talking about C.S. Lewis and his unique approach to Christianity. A folk mass will precede all of the above at 5:30 p.m. in the Church.
- * *The Sunday morning adult forum – "Bible 101" --begins at 9:10 a.m. in the Library.* Right now we're putting the Bible into historical context so that it doesn't seem so obscure. We'll be taking a look at each major section of books in both the Old and New Testaments to get "the big picture."
- * *Thursdays during Lent* will feature a meal, a presentation regarding the uniqueness of the Episcopal Church, and a brief and quiet candlelight Compline service in the Church. Festivities start at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Participants (middle school, youth, and adults) will be eligible for confirmation as Episcopalians at St. John's in the Wilderness on April 30th.
- * *Education for Ministry (EFM)* begins in the fall, with class composition determined by May. EFM is a four-year seminary-like experience sponsored by the University of the South (Sewanee is one of our Episcopal seminaries). Classes will be mentored by Connie Skidmore and the Rev. Jim Kelly and will cover such topics as Scripture, Church history, Christian theology and learning how to do "theological reflections." Tuition is required.

Stay tuned for summer seminars!



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, Mississippi Hurrigan relief update?



WOMEN OF ST. PATRICK'S NEWS

The Women of St. Patrick's held our second meeting of the year at 5:30 p.m. on February 16, 2006. Delicious appetizers and beverages were provided by the women in attendance, and Caroline Cutler did a great job as hostess! Mindy Young gave an excellent report on the meeting of the Social Services non-profit organizations she and Gloria Ramstead attended. Barbara Richard, Outreach Director of the Children's Cabinet, and Rosie Striffler, Volunteer Chairman, presented information about specific volunteer opportunities here in Incline Village. A spirited discussion and question and answer session followed. Thank you, Ruth Jervey, for taking minutes of the meeting!

Our following meeting, on March 20 was a delicious potluck luncheon in the church library. We had a brain-storming session giving people a chance to share their outreach experiences and voice opinions as to where they think the group's efforts might be focused. Some people told about their experiences with community outreach groups, such as the Homework Help clubs for elementary school students, Alcance for pre-schoolers and Girl Scouting. The need for volunteers to help in these programs was emphasized. A new idea that will be explored is that of connecting with a "Twin Village" in England. Watch for more information on this intriguing possibility!

At this same meeting a Mission Statement for the group was adopted as follows,

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE WOMEN OF ST. PATRICK'S:

The mission of the Women of St. Patrick's is twofold:

First, to offer opportunities for fellowship for the women of the church, so that a strong foundation is established to build friendships and provide support for one another, and

Second, to explore opportunities for outreach in our community, with the goal of identifying one or more projects for which the women will enthusiastically take responsibility.

To help keep everyone up-to-date on the Women of St. Patrick's activities, minutes of past meetings and Mindy's afore-mentioned report, are available in a green binder on the table in the front entryway. Watch for news of subsequent meetings of the Women of St. Patrick's in the Sunday Parish Notes, on the church web site or in the Shamrock newsletter.

And, a reminder that our congregation survey to learn which community outreach programs members of the congregation are presently involved continues! If you haven't already participated in this valuable survey, there is still time to. Please fill out one of the survey forms on the table by the church entry. Thank you to all who have shared with us your volunteer efforts.

The next meeting of the Women of St. Patrick's will be a potluck luncheon in the church library from 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m. on Monday, April 24. Pam Rasmussen, Incline Village Library Manager, will bring us news of some upcoming exciting library events, and we'll continue brainstorming ideas of interest to the women. Be sure to sign up on the sheet by the entrance to the church and join us for an enjoyable time of fellowship! We look forward to a great turnout at the April 24 gathering. Call Peggy Harrison at 831-9402 or Connie Skidmore at 831-6289 for further information.



**St. Patrick's - Incline's Emerging
"Center for Musical Excellence!"**

We are rapidly becoming THE place to hear outstanding music
(*"the language of heaven"*):

- * April 4th (Tuesday) and 5th (Wednesday) at 5:30 p.m. – *Sierra Nevada College Choir concerts.*
- May 13th (Saturday) at 7:30 p.m. – *Bella Voce* (a group of 25 women who perform concerts in Reno)
- * May 14th (Sunday) at 5:00p.m. - Donna Axton, piano ("Rumble and Zing Concert")
- * July 26th (Wednesday) at 7:00 p.m. – *T.O.C.C.A.T.A. Flute Recital*
- * July 29th (Saturday) at 7:30 p.m. – T.O.C.C.A.T.A. concert (choral group, string ensemble, brass and organ)
- * August 5th (Saturday) at 7:30 p.m. – T.O.C.C.A.T.A. concert
- August 19th (Saturday) at 7:30 p.m. – T.O.C.C.A.T.A. concert
- September 10th (Sunday) at 5:00p.m.—David H. Brock, organ featuring Darrell Moore, clarinet ("Rumble and Zing Concert")
- * October 8th (Sunday) at 5:00p.m.—Gail Archer, organ (Gail is from Barnard College, New York) (Rumble and Zing Concert)

In the first two months of 2006 we've already hosted Eric Suter (Organist/Choirmaster at the National Cathedral), Muriel Anderston (arguably the finest female acoustical fingerstyle guitarist in the world), and our own multi-talented David Brock. As we become known in the musical community as a genuinely hospitable Church, performers and audiences alike will be exposed to a style of Christianity that is authentic and open (the Episcopal Church at its best).

St. Patrick's Library Gets a Makeover!

Thanks to Dorothy Ramsdell, our Library has taken on a new look: two new large bookshelves lining the west wall and a whiteboard, enclosed in a wooden cabinet on the south wall. In January, local cabinet maker James Brocklesby was commissioned by the Vestry to create new bookshelves that match the bookshelves lining the east wall. He completed the project on March 21st. The addition of the enclosed whiteboard has made the Library into an ideal classroom and the additional bookshelves give the room symmetry.



MUSICAL MUSINGS...

"I will sing to the Lord for he has risen up in might."

- Antiphon to the Song of Moses for use at the Easter Vigil

As a part of our rich tradition in the Episcopal Church, during Holy Week we celebrate a number of different unique worship services, each with its own focus and special accent. The music selected to accompany these services likewise is individually selected to help amplify the meaningfulness of each specific observation. I hope these musical signposts will add meaning and depth to our worship experience together.

Holy week begins with the Sunday of the Passion, or Palm Sunday: We begin with Jesus's entrance into Jerusalem by singing "All Glory Laud and Honor" and process as a crowd from outside the church. We participate and witness the Passion Liturgy by reading the Gospel as a dramatic play. We will also commemorate musically with the singing of the chorale "Ah, Holy Jesus". Also at the service end, a voluntary written by Johannes Brahms commemorates Jesus's dying on the cross. His setting of "O Sacred Head Sore Wounded" has a unique musical rhythmic pattern: a continuous pulsing eighth note pattern symbolizing the "Heartbeat of Jesus". The pattern slows and then stops at the very end of the piece.

Our service of Maundy Thursday marks the celebration of the last supper, and of Christ's love of his Disciples. Our musical themes reflect these focal points. We sing the chant *Adoro te devote* ("Humbly I adore Thee") with handbells, and the hymn "Let us break bread together on our knees." as a congregation. We reflect on the mystery of the divine love of Christ, and the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

On Good Friday, a most solemn of observations, we acknowledge the crucifixion of Jesus, and reflect and pray on our sin and our broken world around us. Leo Sowerby's most moving and beautiful prelude on the American Spiritual "Were you there?" is a masterful musical meditation that leads us into the beginning of the service. All of the congregational music in the service is sung unaccompanied. We will all sing "Were you there?" and "O sacred head sore wounded" and "When I survey the wondrous cross" at the veneration of the cross. This is in stark contrast to most of our other worship experiences throughout the year. The choir will also offer up Aaron Paxson's beautiful setting of The Reproaches for Good Friday.

for our solemn collects.

Easter Vigil begins in darkness with the lighting of the Paschal Candle and with the chanting of the Exultet. During the Service of Light we will read lessons and sing hymns and canticles of God's saving grace and redemption -- all by candlelight. Especially appropriate for this unique service is the Song of Moses, which is also known in Latin as the *Cantemus Domino*. This canticle is paired with the reading of Israel's deliverance from Egypt and Pharaoh's chariots! Also at this service we will sing of the "Great Alleluia" immediately preceding the reading of the Gospel on the first service of Easter.

On Easter Sunday, we celebrate our Lord's resurrection, and our sharing in his eternal priesthood. We sing lots of "Alleluias!" -that word we have omitted since Epiphany. Our service music settings change for the season of Easter, so we will sing "This is the feast of victory for our God" for our song of praise immediately after the opening collect. Other special music will include the Prelude "Death and Resurrection" by Jean Langlais, a musical poem in three sections (=3 days) that begins mysteriously and ends in joyful celebration. Our choir along with guest bass player Jay Grouer will present an early musical work Laudamus te. We will also sing a different fraction anthem at Easter: "Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us". Our Easter Sunday service will conclude with the opening movement of the Concerto in A minor of Vivaldi. The organ transcription of this piece was written by J. S. Bach because he so admired Vivaldi's writing of this famous and joyful piece.

David Brock,
Director of Music



New Beginnings

New Beginnings is a unique weekend designed for Middle School Young People (7th -9th Grade) to expand their love for themselves, others, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

The weekend will be held at Zephyr Point Conference Center, Zephyr Cove, NV on April 21-23. For more information please contact Caroline Cutler at 775-832-8170 or e-mail Adam Dawkins, Diocesan Missioner for Youth at a.dawkins@nvdiocese.org. Scholarships are available.

Start planning for summer camp at Camp Galilee. Schedules are at St. Patrick's.

Caroline Cutler

CHILDREN'S GODLY PLAY CLASSES

Enthusiasm for Godly Play continues. Our group of children, who range from 2 years to 11 years of age, has grown and continues to grow since we started in Advent. We have children who do not attend St. Patrick's showing up weekly with their friends who are members of our church. The children seem to be enjoying our Bible stories and other lessons. We take a Montessori approach, with all the children sitting in a circle around the storyteller. The children's "wondering" greatly contributes to the enjoyment and appreciation of the stories. Next week we will start lesson IV of the "Faces of Easter" series, a group of seven stories which tell the life of Jesus from His birth until His resurrection. At the end of this series, we have a surprise which the children are planning for the adults in the congregation.

Our group is not only growing in numbers, it's growing in enthusiasm. These ACTIVE children engage in a variety of responses after hearing the stories. We have some wonderful "creations" made by the children as well as interactive play involving the stories. Last Saturday our adults enjoyed an extemporaneous performance given by the children.

Our classroom is lacking for nothing now with the addition of new shelving and a full array of art and craft supplies. Please stop by and peek in on your way to the parish hall. You'll enjoy seeing what is being done in what one child calls "The Freedom Place".

Deborah Beebe and Judy Morrison



A TRIP TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Did you know that the Diocese of the Dominican Republic (DR) is a growing missionary diocese of the Episcopal Church? I learned this in January 2006 on a trip there with the ECW National Board.

Upon arrival we were met by the Reverend Bob Snow and his wife, Ellen, who have been missionaries there for 10 years. The Snows, Bishop Julio Holquin, the clergy and an active laity have dedicated themselves to building a vital church and serving the people of the DR. Our group was welcomed into churches and small missions by episcopalians who wanted to show us what they have accomplished in mission and ministry, and through U.S. Episcopal diocesan relationships.

We visited several parishes - Santa Cruz, Santa Fe, Santiago, San Marcos. Much has been achieved; schools, a medical clinic and a retirement home. However, many school buildings need funding for completion and more yearly scholarships of \$250 per student are essential for students waiting to attend the schools. Parents pay a percentage of student cost, but virtually all students need supplemental funding.

Our group toured the medical clinic, Clinica Esperanza y Caridad, in San Pedro de Marcoris, a poor, densely populated area. A husband-wife medical team and their staff see over 16,500 patients a year for curative medicine, physical medicine and rehabilitation. They do HIV testing and counseling, community health presentations and provide space in the clinic for visiting dental professionals. A laboratory is already established, but newer equipment is needed for better testing.

The last day Bishop Holquin, his staff and many of the Diocesan women hosted a sumptuous Dominican luncheon for the Board and gifts were exchanged. We applauded our Christian sisters and brothers who are working hard to bring God's Word and love to their people, and to foster education and better health conditions in the DR.

Connie Skidmore
Parliamentarian to the ECW Natl. Board

KNITTERS GUILD OF INCLINE VILLAGE NEWS



Knitting Group Do you love to knit, or want to learn? Come join the Knitters Guild, which meets every Wednesday from 1-3p.m. in the church library.

The Knitters Guild is off to a great start this year! More warm garments, layettes and afghans have been given to the Children's Cabinet Clinic in Incline Village, the Family Resource Center in Kings Beach, and Tahoe Forest Hospice. Several helmet liners have been mailed to the soldiers in Iraq. In addition, lots of warm hats have been given to the Incline Village Elementary School counselors to distribute to children who come to school on cold days without something to keep their heads warm.

Some members have been giving weekly knitting lessons, as part of the Parasol Collaboration's After-School program, to several enthusiastic Incline Village Middle School students. They've made great progress in learning this craft!

We welcome new members and can help you if you would like to learn to knit, or if you need refreshing of your skills, we can help you! The web site address for the group is www.geocities.com/inclineknitters/ . Please call Peggy Harrison at 831-9402 for further information.

Staff & Ministry Group Chairs

The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Bishop of Nevada

*The Rev. Dr. James R. Beebe
Rector*

*The Rev. Dr. David J. Mussatti
Priest Associate*

*The Rev. Jim Kelly
Priest Associate*

*David H. Brock
Director of Music and Organist*

*Emy Gurowitz**
Senior Warden*

*Rem Paul **
Junior Warden, Buildings and Grounds Chair*

*Jim McFarlin**
Treasurer*

*Jim Clark
Finance Committee Chair*

*Sharon Kirby, Steve Barney
Stewardship Co-Chairs*

*Lainie McFarlin, Susan Deatherage
Shamrock*

*Lora Kelly
Memorial Committee*

*Barbara Edwards**
Volunteer Coordinator, Clerk of the Vestry*

*Jackie Kilcoyne
Social Committee Chair*

*Karen Barney
Web Master*

*Laurie Meyer
Outreach Chair*

*Eric Strotz**
Folk Mass Group*

*Joanellen Slocumb**, Cherry Barney
Good Samaritans Coordinators*

*Judy Morrison
Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator*

*Nancy Joslin
Columbarium*

*Peggy Harrison
Knitters Guild*

*Jack Barney
Ushers/Greeters Coordinator*

*Mindy Young
Landscaping Chair*

*Lainie McFarlin, Nancy Joslin
Library Committee*

*Suzanne Gollery
Minute Secretary*

****Vestry Member**