



The Eagle

The monthly newsletter of **ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE**

March 2016

Holy Week and Easter

by **Bradley Pace**

You may have noticed that Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent occurred *very* early this year—February 10 to be exact. That means that Easter Sunday is very early as well. This year, Easter Sunday is March 27. It's perfectly possible that we will have snow on the ground rather than dogwood blossoms in the trees.

Our Lenten journey culminates in Holy Week as we reenact the moment when Jesus commissions his disciples, as we take those final steps with Jesus to the cross during the Good Friday liturgy, and as we celebrate the Great Vigil of Easter and Easter Sunday. The fasts and feasts of Holy Week and of Easter form the foundation of our Christian life and worship.



The Last Supper by Jacobo Tintoretto (1592-1594).

On Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 6 p.m., we will remember Jesus' last moments with his disciples, their shared meal, and the meaning of that "Last Supper" for them and for us. Our service is centered on a shared meal, so please look for a sign-up sheet in St. John's Commons and bring a dish to share. Following our table fellowship, we will celebrate the Holy Eucharist—the Church's regular commemoration of God's ultimate act of self-giving love. The children and youth of the parish will assist in leading this service.

On Good Friday, March 25 at noon, we glory in the cross of Christ, the cross on which hung the world's salvation. The St. John's choir will help lead the service.

On Saturday, March 26 at 8 p.m., at the Easter Vigil, we will hear "the record of God's saving deeds in history" and experience God's new creation in the resurrection, the great Easter miracle. The Easter Vigil will begin in the Memorial Garden with the lighting of the Paschal Candle. The service will conclude with a festive reception in St. John's Commons.

Our celebration continues on Easter Sunday, March 27, as we welcome the happy morning of the empty tomb and the joy of Easter. **Easter Sunday services are celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.**

Come and remember Christ's command to remember him in the breaking of bread. Come and venerate the wondrous love poured out on the cross. Come and hear the record of God's saving deeds in history from the very beginning of creation. Come and join in the alleluias as we rejoice in the Resurrection.

For more information, contact the church office at 765.742.4079 or stjohns@stjohnslaf.org. May God continue to bless you in your Lenten journey, and may God bring you with joy to the resurrection of his Christ.

At Easter, God's saving deeds in history come to a dramatic climax in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In the resurrection of Jesus, the powers of hatred, of despair, of evil, the very powers of Hell itself, are defeated. God's reign is decisively established. But Maundy Thursday and Good Friday set the scene for the great Easter miracle. Without remembering those days, we are given a false Gospel—Good News without struggle, the empty tomb without the cross. We cannot come to the empty tomb without first hearing the new commandment of Maundy Thursday and the passion of Good Friday.

I invite and encourage you, sisters and brothers, to join with the Christian community at St. John's and throughout the world and attend the three services that make up the Triduum—Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter.



The Anastasis Icon. St. John's Chapel of the Resurrection.

United Thank Offering

by Gayle Ennis

United Thank Offering was established as United Offering at the General Convention in 1889. At the women's meeting, there were about 50 women in attendance, but the original ingathering totaled \$87. It was felt that if the people understood where the money was going, they would donate more freely. Before the next convention, a letter was sent out earmarking the ingathering for a specific project. In 1919 it became the United Thank Offering, and the ingathering at triennium totaled \$1,371,537. In the 1949 triennium, the UTO offering increased to almost \$2M. In 2013, UTO celebrated their centennial with funds available for granting of over \$3M for the first time.

As you are probably aware, St. John's UTO has been inactive for several years, since Mary Louise's health did not allow her to continue. I have been asked to be the UTO representative for St. John's. I am honored to be our representative and hopefully continue the excellent work done by Mary Louise. I will need all of your prayers and your cooperation in this endeavor. I will be providing more information in the weeks and months to come in *The Eagle* and in the bulletins.

Prayers for our Confirmands

by Bradley Pace

The youth confirmation group has been working very hard for nearly two years, studying and preparing for Confirmation this spring. Andrew Bigelow, Ruthie Drinkwater, Curtis Mason, Katie Mason, Jessie Murawski, Riley Parnell, Lydia Shook, and Hannah Vinacco are also beginning new ministries at St. John's including serving in worship, helping the altar guild, and working in the St. John's/LUM Food Pantry. St. John's also has nearly ten adults preparing for Confirmation as well. Please keep all of our confirmands in your prayers.



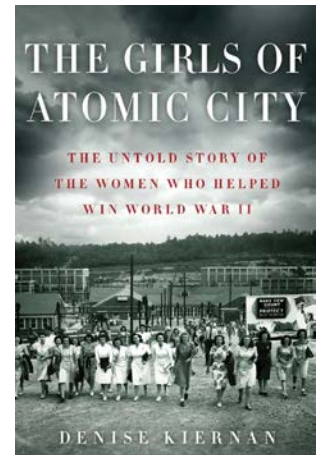
Book Group

by Karl Brandt

On April 23, 2015, Mary Doyle Keefe died at age 92. Ms. Keefe, then a 19-year-old Vermont telephone operator, was Norman Rockwell's model for his iconic "Rosie the Riveter" representative of American women's part in World War II. His painting appeared on the *Saturday Evening Post* cover on May 29, 1943.

On Wednesday, March 30, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in the St. John's Commons, we will discuss Denise Kiernan's *The Girls of Atomic City*. Kiernan tells the story of the top secret work done by the 75,000 residents, most of them women, living in the newly constructed city of Oak Ridge, hidden in the hills of Tennessee.

These "Rosies" did *not* drive rivets. They were told the bare minimum they needed to know to operate what was, in fact, the electromagnetic separation and gaseous diffusion equipment used to produce "Tubealloy" or "Product" (aka, enriched uranium) used to construct "The Gadget" or "It" (aka, the atomic bomb). But they didn't know that.



Kiernan's personal interviews with nine women who worked at Oak Ridge form the core of this social history. Written for a general audience (no heavy science), it is a book about people, their contribution to the war effort, and the challenges of their daily lives. Of course Kiernan infuses important history, *e.g.*, briefly recounting the shipment of "The Gadget" on the USS Indianapolis, and the flight of *Enola Gay*, the plane that dropped "It" on Hiroshima. Only after "The Gadget" had been dropped did the girls of atomic city learn what they had been secretly working on.

Whether or not you lived during WWII, you'll find this an engaging book. Come join our discussion.

The Rite of Reconciliation

by Bradley Pace

The Book of Common Prayer reminds us that “The ministry of reconciliation, which has been committed by Christ to his Church, is exercised through the care each Christian has for others, through the common prayer of Christians assembled for public worship, and through the priesthood of Christ and his ministers declaring absolution.” The Rite of the Reconciliation of a Penitent (known as confession in some traditions) is available for all who desire it and is not restricted to any particular time or season. However, because the season of Lent is a time specifically dedicated as a time of self-reflection and penitence, it is a specifically appropriate time to seek reconciliation with God, one another, and with ourselves. While the Anglican approach to the rite of reconciliation has always been “all may, some should, none must,” it can be a powerful reminder that, despite our failings, we are forgiven and loved by God.

If you would like to receive the sacrament of reconciliation, please contact the church at 765.742.4079 and ask to speak with a member of the clergy. You may contact Bradley directly at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org.

Baptism & Adult Confirmation

by Bradley Pace

For anyone considering baptism (or for parents considering having their children baptized), the next baptismal feast is the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 26 at 8 p.m.

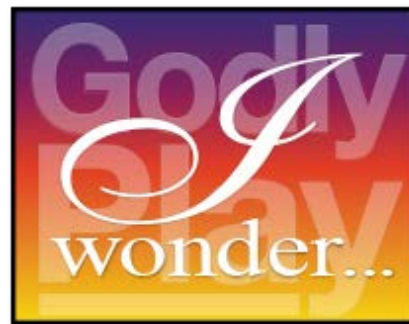
For those considering adult confirmation, a **Deanery Confirmation service will be held at St. John’s on Saturday, April 2 at 3 p.m.** The **All-Diocesan Confirmation service will be held on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 5 at Christ Church Cathedral in Indianapolis.** The time is TBD.

For more information, please contact Bradley at 765.742.4079 or bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org.

A Godly Play Update

by Katie Elder

I have the distinct privilege of being one of the primary storytellers in the younger Godly Play classroom. This class is available to children aged 3-7. Most of them have spent some time in the “big church” and the nursery, but this is their first time in Godly Play. The Godly Play classroom is set up especially for them. Everything is for them to use as they engage in the stories about the People of God, Jesus, the saints, and the liturgy. Once children graduate to 2nd grade, they move up to the older classroom.



All of the children enjoy setting the altar with the appropriate liturgical color, then standing before real candles and

snuffing them out all by themselves. Several of them make sure to do this every week. A few of our more seasoned first graders love to take out the stories with more complicated pieces, like “The Ark and The Tent” or “Jonah.” They work alone and in small groups, learning how to communicate, and practicing patience as they wait for their turns. We have a wonderful group of children who work hard to be kind, loving, respectful, and fair (even with their younger siblings).

After going to the Godly Play Conference this summer, Hilary and I decided to build in work days this year. On these Sundays, we do not tell a new story, but just give the children the opportunity to work on any of the stories in the classroom. I was a little nervous about this idea. Before we had our first one, I thought that I should bring a new kind of art supply, or a practical life activity, or something else to occupy the children. But I decided that I would just point out the stories we had told so far this year and then let them work. Their eyes lit up as they scanned the stories and decided what to do. Some of the children knew immediately which story

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they would tell, and they set right to work. Others recognized a favorite story and wanted to hear me say the words of the story again. The floor was completely covered with the stories of the People of God. Children were scrambling across the room to bring a connection from another story. We have had several of these special days so far this year, and they have become a favorite for everyone. The children always have some response time after the story to work on their own, but the work days are special. In the midst of their busy lives, they seem to appreciate the opportunity to handle these sacred stories in their own way.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to spend time with these children. Thank you to the parents who make the effort to get them to the church each week. St. John's is truly blessed with a fabulous group of children.

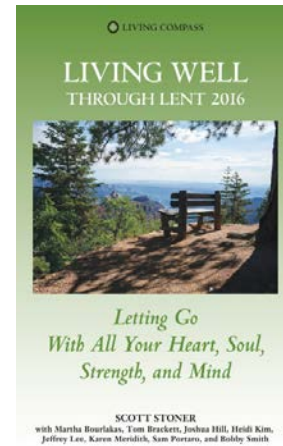
Music for March by Michael Bennett

On **March 6** (Mid-Lent) the St. John's Choir will offer a service of **Choral Evensong at 4 p.m.** This service features beautiful music by Thomas Tompkins, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and Herbert Howells. We will be joined by organist Nick Quardokus who is a senior organ major at Indiana University and Assistant Organist at Trinity Episcopal Church in Indianapolis. The service will benefit Therapeion Therapeutic Riding Center in Brookston. For more information visit: <http://www.therapeiontrc.com/>.

Just a few days after Evensong, the **Jefferson High School Varsity Singers** will perform the **lunchtime concert on March 9**. This group of 45 students in grades 10-12 is the top concert choir at Jefferson. They will perform a set of American music by composers Gary Fry and Morten Lauridsen, and African American spirituals by Undine Moore and Keith Hampton. I hope that you can come enjoy this group of hard working students.

Interrupted by Lent by Bradley Pace

an illustrated
Lent



Lent is a time of special devotion for Christians, a time of preparation for Holy Week and Easter. In the Ancient Church, this was a time when those about to be baptized prepared by fasting, prayer, and instruction. This is why some of us give up chocolate or alcohol or why we take on new disciplines such as exercise or prayer.

But Lent doesn't usually work for me. I usually don't have a problem keeping my Lenten discipline; that's not the issue. But Lent is often one of the busiest times of the Church year. It's the time when we're getting ready for crunch time (that is, getting all of the practical stuff ready for Holy Week and Easter), but we're also taking care of everything else—the Parochial Report, Lenten Formation, Confirmation Preparation, and all of the day-to-day stuff that comes at us in unending waves. It's true in the Church, but I'm sure it's true in your lives as well. The kids are super busy with school and sports. And there's every imaginable thing to do either for work, fun, and in between.

But Lent is really supposed to interrupt all of that. And that's where Lent doesn't work for me, or, rather, that's where I fail at Lent. I don't really take the time to be interrupted. I don't take the time to
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acknowledge what God is up to in the world or the exceptional love God has for me. I'm too busy to take even a few minutes to talk with God or, better yet, to listen to God. I'm usually too busy to talk with or listen to my kids or my wife. I'm even too busy to check in with myself, to listen to my own body and soul. It's not that I don't get interrupted. I just get interrupted by my phone, or by video games, or by lots of other unimportant stuff. But I don't let the important things—God, my family and friends, my own needs—slow me down.

I know we are already several weeks into Lent, but I encourage you to let Lent interrupt you this year. If you're like me and have an ever present cell phone, have your phone buzz at you from time to time to remind you "It's Lent, remember that God loves you." Sign up for an email devotional at www.Living Compass.org or elsewhere. Meet with a friend—a prayer partner—for coffee to talk about what God is doing in your lives. Take some time out with your children and talk about the Gospel, about grace, and about resurrection. Spend some time checking in with yourself.

If you don't know where to start, there are lots of resources. Families with young children may enjoy the "**Lent Illustrated**" workbooks available in St. John's Commons. Some of you will find the **Living Compass devotional**, "**Living Well through Lent**" (also available in St. John's Commons) or the **2016 Lenten Devotional from Episcopal Relief and Development** (available online at www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/church-campaigns/lent) helpful. Maybe you'll have fun with **Lent Madness**—a fun tournament that teaches about the saints of the Church and allows us to choose our favorites. You can find the information on facebook, twitter, or at www.lentmadness.org/.

You can also build interruptions into your life in a more regular, on-going way. The Restoration Project encourages people to commit to pray **20 minutes a day**, worship **1 hour a week**, and serve **6 hours a month**. "20+1+6" or 2016. It's easy to remember. These practices become a rhythm for our life and help keep us grounded in our faith.

You may also find it useful to develop a **Rule of Life**, a tool from monastic spirituality that helps us explore and cultivate our relationships with God, others, and even ourselves. A Rule of Life works like a life-preserver or like "stakes and lattices." Members of the Society of St. John the Evangelist or the Cowley Brothers remind us that "Just as stakes and lattices nurture the growth of young plants, so too, spiritual disciplines can support the flourishing of our whole being."

The Cowley Brothers have created a wonderful resource, "**Growing a Rule of Life**," to help us develop a rhythm that keeps us properly grounded.



This resource has been the focus of our **Lenten Home Eucharists**. If you've missed the first couple, it's okay. You are welcome to join anytime. If you cannot make the gatherings, you can

find "Growing a Rule of Life" online at ssje.org/ssje/growrule/ along with other resources.

Whatever you do, use Lent as a time to remember that God loves you, to remember the important people in your life, and to also care for yourself. After all, our Lenten journey ends at the Resurrection—the event in history where God fulfills the promise of abundant life for his creation.

Steve Brewer on Caring Bridge by Bradley Pace

For those of you who would like to keep up with Steve and Lloyd Brewer, Lloyd has set up a Caring Bridge site for Steve. Go to

www.caringbridge.org/visit/stevebrewer
to read updates on his progress and treatment. And, of course, please keep them in your prayers.

Chili Recipe!

Amy Van Epps' chili was a huge hit at the Annual Meeting. Many people requested her recipe, so she shared it with us. It's also available online:

<http://www.bhg.com/recipe/beef/fruit-and-nut-chili/>

Bon Appétit!

BEEF FRUIT AND NUT CHILI

INGREDIENTS

1½ pounds	lean ground beef
2 cups	chopped onion (2 large)
3	cloves garlic, minced
2	14½ ounce can tomatoes, undrained, cut up
1	15 ounce can tomato sauce
1	15 ounce can red kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1	14 ounce can chicken broth
2¼ cups	chopped green, red, and/or yellow sweet pepper (3 medium)
2	cooking apples (such as Granny Smith or Jonathan), cored and chopped
2	4 ounce can diced green chili peppers, drained
3 tablespoons	chili powder
2 tablespoons	unsweetened cocoa powder
1 tablespoon	curry powder
1 teaspoon	ground cinnamon
¾ cup	slivered almonds
	shredded cheddar cheese (optional)
	sour cream (optional)
	raisins (optional)



DIRECTIONS

In a 6-quart Dutch oven, cook meat, onion, and garlic until meat is brown and onion is tender, stirring to break up meat as it cooks. Drain off fat.

Stir undrained tomatoes, tomato sauce, beans, and broth into meat mixture. Add sweet pepper, apples, chili peppers, chili powder, cocoa powder, curry powder, and cinnamon. Bring to boiling; reduce heat. Cover and simmer for 1 hour.

Top each serving with almonds. If desired, serve with cheese, sour cream, and/or raisins.

SLOW COOKER DIRECTIONS

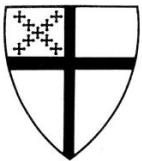
Prepare as directed through Step 1. In a 6-quart slow cooker, combine meat mixture, undrained tomatoes, tomato sauce, beans, and broth. Add sweet pepper, apples, chili peppers, chili powder, cocoa powder, curry powder, and cinnamon. Cover and cook on low-heat setting for 8 to 10 hours or on high-heat setting for 4 to 5 hours. Serve as directed.

Nutrition Facts

Per serving: 357 kcal cal., 16 g fat (4 g sat. fat), 54 mg chol., 782 mg sodium, 34 g carb., 10 g fiber, 26 g pro. Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions to the April issue of *The Eagle* will be Monday, March 21. Please e-mail submissions to eagle@stjohns-laf.org.



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