

# THE WORD FROM TWO SAINTS

The Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene

April 2005

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**ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN... CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!**

## ***CELEBRATING THE GREAT 50 DAYS OF RESURRECTION***

**Holy Eucharist Every Sunday at 8am & 10am**

(Music & Children's Education at 10am)

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### **APRIL 3 – THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night, or you will be late for Church!  
In today's Gospel reading (John 20:19-31) we encounter "Doubting Thomas" and his encounter with the Risen Christ.

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### **APRIL 8 – ORGAN RECITAL**

This evening at 7pm, we welcome students from the Eastman School of Music who will play a concert on our 1925 E.M. Skinner organ. Come hear the organ and learn more about the Eastman Rochester Organ Initiative. A free will offering will go to support organ studies of Eastman students.

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### **APRIL 10 – THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / HOLY BAPTISM**

Today we will celebrate Holy Baptism. Speak to the Rector if your family has a candidate.  
In today's Gospel reading, two traveling disciples encounter the Risen Christ and recognize him only in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13-35).  
Today we will also "break bread" with each other at our annual **SPAGHETTI DINNER!**

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### **APRIL 17 – THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER & HEALING SUNDAY**

Today is often called "Good Shepherd Sunday." We hear many pastoral images that range from the familiar words of Psalm 23 to the proclamation of Jesus that he is the gate for the sheep (John 10:1-10). Today is also our monthly time for the laying on of hands with prayer for healing.

Today is also our parish's Sunday to volunteer for *A Meal & More* at Christ Church, East Ave.

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### **APRIL 23 – EVENSING FOR THE EASTER SEASON**

Our *SAINTS & SEASONS SERIES* continues our observance of the Great Fifty Days with a very festive service of light, readings, hymns and music to celebrate the Resurrection.  
The Evensong will be at 5pm on Saturday, April 23. Don't miss it!

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### **APRIL 24 – THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Today as we continue our Easter celebrations, in our Gospel reading Jesus explains that he is "the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:1-14).

At 9am today, the Men's Association will serve our monthly *Parish Breakfast*.

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David G. Smith, Lay Associate & Minister of Music

**A WORD FROM THE RECTOR**

**THE REV. MICHAEL W. HOPKINS**

**THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE**

Dear Friends,

We have before us eight Sundays of unmitigated rejoicing: fifty days, a week of weeks plus one for good measure. The challenge is to keep the joy of Easter Day for fifty days. In our weary and wearying world this is definitely a challenge, particularly since we are not asked to forget those among us who are poor, oppressed, sick or distressed. We are not asked to suspend reality. But we are asked to proclaim and participate in reality's redemption.

It is that redemption of reality that is the only proof we can give to the world for the resurrection. Christ can only be seen as risen if we are agents of his continued rising in acts of justice and peace, in standing against all that would demean and depress, in protests of joy against all that would rob our brothers and sisters—and ourselves—of the joy that is rightfully theirs as children of God.

The joy we are challenged to keep is not a simplistic sunny attitude. It is not a personal feeling that all is well in the world, or even that all will be well in heaven. It is a protest that things are not as they should be in this world and God wills it to be otherwise. God wills our joy. Let us as a community of faith proclaim that joy to the world.

Christ is risen!



**EASTER SEASON BAPTISMS**

Holy Baptism will be celebrated on the Third Sunday of Easter (April 10) and on the Day of Pentecost (May 15). Please speak to the rector as soon as possible if you have a candidate for Baptism.

**RIGHT ON SCHOOL PLEDGE**

Each year, each of you is asked to pledge your on-going support for Right On School. Each year, due to your generous support, Right On School has been able to continue as one of our outreach ministries supporting the children of Rochester. They have been able to not only enhance their academic skills, but also to enjoy many fun-filled cultural activities during the six-week session.

During 2005, we are once again asking for your support. Enclosed with this newsletter is the annual pledge card. Please complete it and return it to the church. As in the past, your support may mean the difference between continuing our much-needed program and cutbacks, which might impact the effectiveness of our ministry. Please be generous.

Soon, you will notice a sign in the parish hall where you will have the opportunity to volunteer to assist in activities during the six-week session. Many of you have already taken part in activities and, hopefully, have found it to be quite rewarding. People will be needed to assist during breakfast and/or lunch, which will only take a couple of hours. You are also needed to assist at our weekly outings at the park. Maybe you would like to come and speak to the children or share some expertise that you feel they might be interested in.

Please take the opportunity to come out and see what our ministry is all about first-hand. We will be in session from July 5<sup>th</sup> through August 11<sup>th</sup>. Your time as well as your treasure will be greatly appreciated.

Appreciation Night will take place on August 10<sup>th</sup>. The children put on a beautiful show. Be sure that you mark your calendars for this event. The location will be announced at a later date.

**CASA COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE**

April 13 at Noon, Two Saints will host the annual "A Light of Hope Community Service" sponsored by the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Rochester/Monroe County. The Service will feature several speakers and special music by children's choirs. The public is welcome.

CASA has worked in Monroe County since 1981, training and overseeing volunteers who, at the appointment of a Family Court judge, advocate for the best interests of children in the court system. CASA's goals are to have children permanently placed in a stable home environment as quickly as possible and reduce the trauma children might otherwise experience. Information about becoming a CASA volunteer will be available at the Service.

**DREAM TEAM BEGINS WORK**

The Ministry Development Team has been officially appointed by the Rector and Vestry and began work on March 19 with a Eucharist (where else?) in the Balcony. They have been charged to bring a new Vision Statement to the Vestry in time for it to be presented at the Annual Meeting in January 2006.

The members of the Dream Team are: Chris Cleveland (chair), Allan Cuseo, Donna Davis, Aaron Kane, Sylvia Kannapel, Ebo Ocran, Chuck Smith, and Carter Williams. The Rector and Wardens will also be participating. Dream Team members were chosen with input from the Annual Meeting in January.

Among the first tasks of the Team is to clarify the primary questions that we seek to answer. In May there will be another series of house meetings to allow for people in the parish to make an initial response to these questions.

**ORGAN RECITAL AT TWO SAINTS**

Our 1925 E.M. Skinner organ will be featured in a recital on Friday, April 8 at 7pm. Students from the Eastman School of Music will be here to perform this recital as part of the *Eastman Rochester Organ Initiative* (EROI). The four performers for the EROI concert include our own Parish Organist, Annie Kirk, as well as Corey Powell, Patrick Henning, and Andrew Pester.

The concert is free, but a free will offering will be taken to support EROI studies abroad.

**JOHN BRADLEY HAS A DIOCESAN POST**

John Clinton Bradley has been named by Bishop McKelvey as the Coordinator of Adult Christian Education for the Diocese of Rochester. In this (volunteer) capacity he will be available as a resource person for congregations seeking to strengthen their adult education programs and has been especially charged to encourage parishes in the diocese to participate in the *Via Media* and *Education for Ministry* programs. Congratulations, John!

**ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER**

It is time again for our annual spaghetti dinner on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall immediately after the 10am Eucharist. The cost is \$6 for adults. Children five and under are free. Bring your family and friends! Everyone will enjoy the Italian cuisine.

**STATISTICS FROM THE 2004 PAROCHIAL REPORT**

The annual parochial report has been filed with the diocese and national church. Here are Two Saints current numbers with a comparison to 2003.

Baptized Members:	230	('03: 226)
Communicants:	151	('03: 155)
Average Sunday Attendance:	102	('03: 95)
Offerings from Individuals (pledge & plate)	\$129,041	('03: \$124,238)
Percent of Operating Expenses Paid by Above	51%	('03: 53%)
Outreach/ Mission Exp.	\$123,788	('03: \$106,976)
Percent of Total Expenses	34%	('03: 29%)

**EASTERTIDE FORMATION FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN**

**Episcopal Church Evangelism 101 or If Hospitality is Job One, What Do I Do About It?**

During Eastertide, at 9am, beginning April 3, adults will be using a curriculum from our national Church called *Groundworks*. *Groundworks* will help us evaluate our hospitality/evangelism and equip us to make it Job One. Also, Sunday School will be meeting at 9am in the nursery for Children, the focus being on the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd (the first part of the season) and the empowering of the disciples at Pentecost (latter part). This will give all of us, young and old, an opportunity to increase our faith during the joyous fifty days. We will take a break for the monthly parish breakfast on April 24, and for a special Rogation Sunday celebration (more on that later) on May 1. The above classes will be held April 3, 10, 17, and May 8 & 15.

**CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION**

from Judith Byman

On Sunday, April 17, 2-5pm, the interfaith environmental group *Living in Harmony in God's World* will present this workshop at the Henrietta United Church of Christ (1400 Lehigh Station Road). The workshop is free and open to the public. Put this date on your calendar if you are concerned about the environment and environmental health issues. Various topics will be addressed, including: caring for God's creation, the Kyoto Protocol, energy alternatives, hybrid cars, recycling, food & agriculture, environmentally safer chemicals, socially responsible investing, and political actions. The afternoon will open and close with worship. For more information, call 334-0030.

*The Word from Two Saints* is a publication of:

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Remember that if you shop on-line at **AMAZON.COM** you can benefit Two Saints by going first to our website and entering the Amazon site through the link on our homepage. Your purchase is automatically tracked and at least 2% is donated to our parish.

You can also **RECYCLE YOUR EMPTY INKJET CARTRIDGES** at Two Saints to benefit our parish. We receive \$2 for every cartridge. A box is in the parish hall to deposit cartridges. All inkjet cartridges are OK (no laser/toner cartridges). So bring in your used Lexmark, Canon, HP, Compaq, Brother, Xerox, Sharp, Dell & Apple inkjet cartridges (sorry, no Epson).

## MAY NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

**Newsletter  
Deadline**

**Friday, April 15**  
Send articles to Parish Office  
Or to saints2@frontiernet.net

**Newsletter Volunteers  
Are Needed**

**Tuesday, April 26**  
**At 1pm**  
Call the Parish Office at 546-7730 to volunteer for  
an hour-and-a-half of fun, fellowship & work.