



Servus Servorum Dei

THE CHANT

The Church of Saint Gregory the Great

For the love of it, I do not spare myself from preaching it." St. Gregory the Great

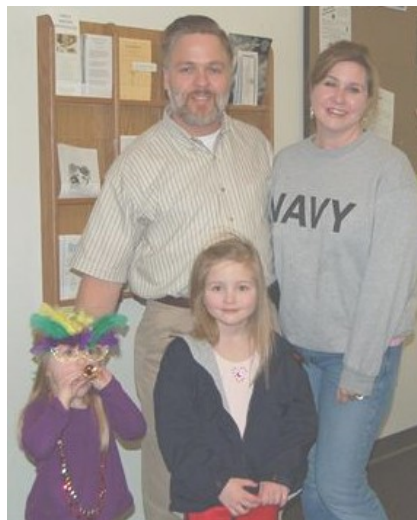
March, 2010

Pancake Supper and Mardi Gras Kick Off Our Lenten Season

Shrove Tuesday was the last day to party before the beginning of the Church's penitential season of Lent. Approximately 70 Parishioners gathered for a hearty feast of pancakes, sausage and bacon with all the trimmings. The Men's Group took charge of the kitchen and prepared the great feast. Parish life, headed by Karyn Vela provided the atmosphere, everything from Bourbon Street background music to decorations, beads and masks. Children were entertained with various craft stations where they could make Mardi Gras masks and other special favors. The evening's activities ended in a parade of many masked munchkins with enthusiasm that rivaled all of the excitement of the Big Easy.



Armand Auger shows us "Real men cook!"



The Scott's—Brent, Heather, Chloe and Ella ready to go home—full of pancakes and with Mardi Gras glamour.

Of course, the next day, Ash Wednesday, began the 40 days of Lent. See inside pages for more details on Lenten Activities and Holy Week Schedule.

Preschool Positions Available

St. Gregory's Preschool currently has both staff and board positions open. The staff positions are for Director and for teaching positions. The Preschool Board is accepting applications for Director, as well as teachers beginning in the summer, a part time teacher's assistant and substitute teachers. If you or anyone you know who loves children and has been gifted to work with them please contact Barbara Hanson, 817-375-0278, Jo Bennett, 817-473-6205, or pick up an application in the church office.

(Continued on page 2)

Our Schedule

Sundays:

- 7:20 am Morning Prayer
- 8:00 am Rite I Mass
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:45 am Rite II Mass
- 1:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Weekdays:

- 7:30 am Morning Prayer
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesdays

- 6:00 am Men's Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Mass
- 6:30 pm Lenten Dinner
- 7:00 pm Meditation on Old Testament Lesson

Fridays

- 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

March Meetings

- 3/2 DOK 7:00 pm
- 3/9 Finance 7:00 pm
- 3/14 Preschool Board 7:00 pm
- 3/16 St. Clara's 7:00 pm
- 3/22 Vestry 7:00 pm



Examples of Ukrainian eggs



Learn to craft Ukrainian Eggs

Learn to make beautiful Ukrainian eggs in a class offered by Cheri Davis at St. Gregory's. The class will be in two sessions, March 6th and March 13 from 9:00 am to noon each day.

The craft of Ukrainian egg painting is a 2000 year old art form which transforms an egg into an incredibly detailed work of art. The artist will begin with a raw white egg which is a symbol of life and rebirth. They typically use heated bees wax to draw intricate designs onto the shell. After the designs are etched onto the egg, it is then bathed in a series of dyes. The design progresses with additions after each dye color. Once the design is completed, the wax is removed, polyurethane protection is added and the raw egg is blown from the shell. This process can take several hours and can be a very delicate, detailed job, but the end results are spectacular. (From The Art of Ukrainian Egg Painting – Canadian Home Trends)

Costs for materials is \$17.00. You can register for the class by calling Cheri Davis at 817/473-0307. Bring a friend along with you and create dazzling eggs that can be used for decoration at Easter or any special occasion. .



Last year's class hard at work creating their masterpieces



Volunteer positions, like the ones available on the Preschool board can be good additions to your resume. They show a variety of interests, self initiative and the ability to work in teams with a wide variety of people. Especially if you are making a career transition to a new type of job, consider volunteering—good for you, the group, and your resume.

Preschool Positions *(Continued from page 1)*

Additionally the Board of St. Gregory's Preschool is looking for 2-3 volunteers to serve on the Board. These positions are open to any adult member of St. Gregory's.

The duties of a Board member are to attend meetings on the second Sunday of each month immediately following the 10:45 service, and to work and pray and give support to the advancement of St. Gregory's Pre-school.

The pre-school serves 50 to 65 children from the ages of 18 months to 5 years old on week days following the schedule of the Mansfield Independent School District . Classes include basic academic subjects, music, art and worship. For parents who need extra time on occasions, aftercare is offered for an additional hour in the afternoons.

Policies and procedures are written by the Board and approved by the Vestry. The Board sponsors and puts on fund raising events once or twice a year to help fund scholarships and upgrade classrooms and curriculum.

Anyone with a calling to help educate the very young people in Mansfield in their walk with Christ is encouraged to join the current Board members in this important ministry. If you would like to volunteer or have additional questions, please call Barbara Hanson at 817-375-0278 or cell 210-834-4012 and/or Amanda Thomas at 817-343-5508. Alternatively, you can call the office at 817-473-6205 and Connie will relay your message.



Lent: Time of Quiet, Time of Prayer at St. Gregory's

The season of Lent can be a gift only if we accept it and use it purposefully. St. Gregory's offers many opportunities for its parishioners to focus on the meaning of Lent in preparation for the glory and promise of Easter morning.

Sunday services: There is new service music before and after the Gospel that will prepare our hearts and minds to fully receive the gift of the Good News. During Lent we will use a different Eucharistic prayer and an alternate form of the Prayers of the People. This change of routine will allow us to focus on the beautiful words of our Anglican liturgy and perhaps get out of our usual routine where we might repeat familiar words without realizing their impact and meaning.

Wednesday evenings. Set Wednesday evenings aside for midweek Spiritual refreshment. Mass will begin at 6:00 pm followed by a fellowship dinner at 6:30 pm. Each week's dinner will be prepared and served by one of St. Gregory's guilds. What a gift to have a break from meal preparation in the middle of the week. Following dinner, Father Rogers will lead us in meditations on the previous Sunday's Old Testament lesson.

Friday evening: The devotion known as Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday evening at 6:00 pm. This ancient tradition is an adaptation to the local usage of a custom widely observed by pilgrims to Jerusalem: The offering of prayer at a series of places in that city traditionally associated with our Lord's passion and death.

For information on services of Holy week, see the article on page 5.

Choir to Present Lenten Concert

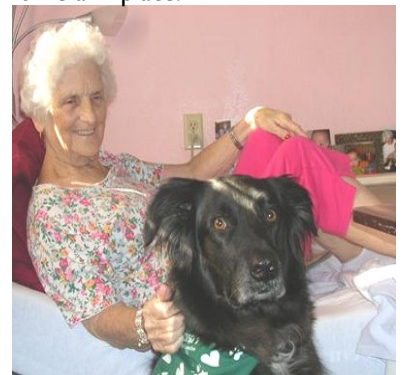
On Sunday, Mar. 28th, 2010 (Palm Sunday) at 5:00 p.m., a musical program, entitled, "Lenten Lamentations" will be presented. The program will feature choral and instrumental music as well as hymns reflecting the Lenten Season. Musical selections will span 1,500 years to present day. The concert will feature the musical talents of parishioners with a reception following the afternoon program. A free will offering will be taken for the music program to benefit future Fine Arts programs. Members are encouraged to bring a friend, or two! Remember to support the musical endeavors of the choir and parish of St. Gregory's!

Undertakings such as special musical programs requires dedication and commitment of the participating members, in particular the choir. Choir members give freely of their time and talents each week, attending rehearsals prior to and after each Sunday service. Additionally, the choir also takes time out of their busy schedules to meet one evening per month for about three hours to perfect and develop their craft. We are blessed at St. Gregory's to have a lovely choir assisting and leading the musical ministry each week. They are a blessing to hear as well as to work with. Please support your "local" Choir!

St. Francis Update

St. Francis Pet Ministries welcomes its newest member, Heather Scott and her therapy dog, Duke. This ministry of St. Gregory's visits nursing homes, with or without their pets, to brighten people's days.

Abby Wilson and Bernice Baldwin are the leaders of this group. They will be holding a informational meeting to encourage new members and to make plans for the future. Watch the bulletin and the Chant for the time and place.



Nursing home resident enjoys visit with new friend.

A
Note from
the
Choir
Master



Welcome to New Members

Julie Barganier, daughter Madeleine and son Ethan

Frances Rivera, daughter Glory and son Jorge

We are glad you are here!



Birthdays

- Marcie Baldwin 3/07
- Jacob Bankston 3/26
- Lukas DiBenedetto 3/09
- Rachel Dvoracek 3/27
- Renee Efimoff 3/09
- Melanie Gamble 3/17
- Elizabeth Gray 3/15
- Laurie Fabian 3/28
- Hailey Hart 3/13
- Richard Maki 3/11
- Jacob Mapes 3/28
- Crawford Milling 3/20
- Clydie Newbern 3/24
- Betty Reed 3/15
- Amanda Thomas 3/15
- Sandra Townend 3/29
- Ed Ulvestad 3/23
- Kyler Voorhies 3/05

News from Nashotah

Sam Keyes is our seminarian at Nashotah House. Father Rogers has asked him to keep us up-to-date on life at seminary. His most recent note follows.

When I returned to Nashotah in January I was able to take a one week course on the book of Job. It was a very intense, slow reading of the book, but well worth the effort. Now that the Easter term has started our schedule has returned to normal. I'm taking two classes in Ascetical Theology, which is equivalent to something like "Christian spirituality," focusing on the spiritual life of Christians in general and especially that of a priest. I'm also doing a course of Systematic Theology, a little advanced Greek reading, and a course on the history of English church music.

I just found out that I got admitted to the Theology Ph.D. program at Boston College, which was great news. Whether I go there will of course depend on the response of other programs where I've applied. Bishop Iker has been very supportive of my academic interest, and Lord willing I may be able to serve as a clergyman wherever I go. But of course nothing is set in stone. One of the hardest things about vocation—whether to the ministry or to further study—is to let go of one's expectations. My vocation to the priesthood is one of the most certain things in my life, but even so it is not my possession, something that I can control, and so I wait on God's timing. That is one of my hopes as we enter Lent. Keep the faith! Pray for me as I try to follow my vocation, and I will continue praying for you.

Congratulations

Father Jim Norwood is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Best wishes from your St. Gregory's family.

Search Committee Update

The Search Committee continues its work to prepare to call a new Rector for St. Gregory's. The work of the committee is divided into Phase I—research; and Phase II—interviewing and calling. Phase I, expected to take 2-6 months, is an inward look of our Parish. The purpose is to define who "We"—St. Gregory's is; and "Who" we should be calling to be our next Rector. The committee is using several methods to gather information that defines the Parish. First, there will be a survey for all parishioners to complete. It will ask questions that define the demographics and needs and desires of our parish. Additionally, the committee will interview groups of people to better understand their needs. Some of these groups will be the choir, office staff and employees, young families with school-age children, older families, members of the EYC and their parents and so forth. The information gathered from these "focus groups" along with the information from the general survey will paint a very detailed picture of St. Gregory's. This picture or "profile" can be used not only in the current search process but also in preparing material for newcomers or self-diagnosis on areas of growth.

If you do not get information on the general survey or have views and opinions you would like to express to a committee member, please contact any vestry member to make your needs known. Next month in the Chant: what is involved in Phase II.



Holy Week at St. Gregory's 2010

Holy week, for traditional Christians, is the most sacred week of the whole year. It is a time when we link up with the timeless "footsteps" of Christ, as He entered Jerusalem in triumph on Palm Sunday, ate the Passover meal with His Apostles, washed their feet, prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, was arrested, tried, crucified, and rose from the dead. Traditions and customs are very important. And here is a chance to practice them...for Holy Week is the most traditional week of the year.

Palm Sunday



On this day we gather outside (or in the parish hall if the weather is not agreeable), distribute palms and walk in procession (just as the Bible describes). In the procession of palm branches and the lifting up of praise with "hosannas," we hail our King "who comes in the name of the Lord." (As is the tradition at St. Gregory's, our procession at 10:45 am will include "Snoopy" the donkey.)

But when we have come to the Church and approach the altar of God, a sobering shift occurs. A Collect is offered that reminds us that Jesus, God's "most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified" (BCP 272). The Liturgy of the Passion begins, and we recall the great cost of our redemption. How poignant can be our recognition of the need for repentance and of our reliance on grace

when the same lips that sang "hosanna," but moments before, cry out, in the reading of the Passion Gospel, "crucify!"

Triduum Sacrum (Three Sacred Days)

Maunder Thursday

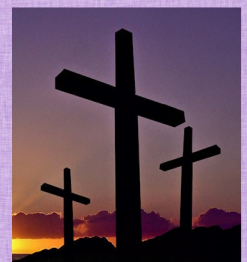
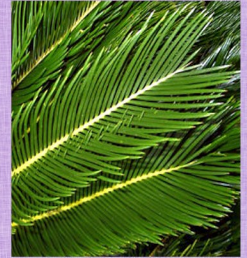
One great Liturgy, lasting for three consecutive days, begins when we gather to celebrate the Holy Eucharist on Maundy Thursday (7:00 pm). On this, the eve of Good Friday, the ceremony of the washing of feet symbolizes our readiness to obey the "new commandment" given by Jesus, "that you love one another; even as I have loved you" (John 13:34). It is from the Latin for "new commandment," *mandatum novum*, which the word "maundy" comes.

The celebration of the Holy Eucharist on this evening especially calls to remembrance the institution of the Sacrament of the Altar in the Upper Room on the night of our Lord's betrayal. Because the Eucharist is not celebrated on the day of the Passion, sufficient bread and wine is consecrated for reception of the Blessed Sacrament ("Communion of the Pre-sanctified") on Good Friday. When all have received, a dramatic procession of the Sacrament to the Altar of Repose (in the parish hall) follows. Then the sanctuary (the area of the Church enclosed by the altar rail) is stripped for His crucifixion, and the congregation departs the Church in silence.

Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray...

Mark 14:37-38

(Continued on page 7)





Shrove Tuesday Celebration!



Shrove Tuesday Festivities at St. Gregory's had all the elements of a great time—music, art, good food and talented chefs!





Holy Week (Continued from page 5)

Before his arrest and trial before Pilate, Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, an event traditionally known as “The Agony in the Garden.” Reminiscent of that time, and in prayerful response to our Lord’s plea to the disciples in his agony, a vigil is kept throughout the night at the Altar of Repose. The Watch continues until the gathering at noon on Good Friday when the Stations of the Cross will be prayed.

Good Friday

The second day of the Triduum is a traditional day of fasting and self-denial. During the three hours of Christ’s crucifixion (noon until 3 p.m.) worship in the Church will include the praying of The Stations of the Cross at noon using the form that is offered each Friday evening in Lent. The solemn observance of the rites for Good Friday will begin at 7 p.m. and will include the Communion of the Pre-sanctified. Again, like on the previous night, the service concludes simply, and the worshippers depart in silence.

Holy Saturday

The rite appointed for Holy Saturday will be offered at 10 a.m. It is a simple service of the Word and prayer. The third day of the Triduum begins with our attention drawn to the tomb wherein the body of our crucified Lord was laid.

Did you know?

The images in church that mark the Stations of the Cross are original works of art. They were painted and given in memory of founding members Jean and Odus Atkins by their daughter Cindy Medanich.

Thank You’s

❖ Thanks to Cheri Davis, Terry Black, Barbara Miller and Brent Scott for the Draping of the church for Lent.

❖ Thank you to Parish Life especially to Karyn Vela and to volunteers Robin Green, Lynn Ramirez, Diana Auger, Barbara Miller, Milissa Holt, Melanie Gamble, Heinz Liedke, Chris Noyes, Rebekah Vela and Terry Black for the fun evening of Mardi Gras on Shrove Tuesday.

❖ Thank you to Rick Black for organizing the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper and to volunteers, Bill Parrott, John Schmidt, Armand Auger, Clyde Reed, Sam Thomas, Dave West, Brent Scott, and Bill Griffin.

❖ Thank you to Ed Howard for leading us in the new sequence tract for Lent.

Kid’s Corner

Color this picture of Jesus riding to Jerusalem



Our Clergy and Staff

"Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him." -John 13:16



Interim Priest Fr. Zeke Rogers

rector@stgregorysmansfield.org

Parish Secretary Mrs. Connie Barker

stgregorys@charterinternet.com

Choir Master Dr. Mark Merrill

markjmerrill@me.com

Our Vestry

Tim Cannon , Jim Clark, Karyn Vela, Dave West ,Toni Pouttu, Sam Thomas , Bill Parrott, Cheri Davis, Rick Black, Bill Griffin

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church

1091 Country Club Drive, Mansfield, TX 76063

817-473-6205

March Server Schedule

| | Sunday, March 7 | Sunday, March 14 | Sunday March 21 | Palm Sunday, March 28, 2010 |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Lesson | Exodus 31: 1-15 | Joshua 5:9-12 | Isaiah 43:16-21 | Isaiah 45:21-25 |
| Psalm | 103:1-11 | 34:1-8 | 126 | 22:1-21 |
| Epistle | 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 | 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 | Philippians 3:8-14 | Philippians 2:5-11 |
| 8:00: AM | | | | |
| Greeters | Linda Wirt | Abby Wilson | Linda Wirt | Abby Wilson |
| LEM | John Schmidt | Bill Parrott | John Schmidt | Tim Cannon |
| Lector | Colin Hiley | Bill Parrott | John Schmidt | Tim Cannon |
| Crucifer | | | | |
| Ushers | Rick & Terry Black | Joycelyn & Curtis Brownlow | Rick & Terry Black | Joycelyn & Curtis Brownlow |
| 10:45: AM | | | | |
| Greeters | Heinz & Nancy Liedke | Diane Auger | John & Tammy Newbern | |
| LEM1 | Melissa Meredith | Adeline Rogers | Sarah Baird | Heinz Liedke |
| LEM 2 | John Newbern | Toni Pouttu | Carol McKenna | Melissa Meredith |
| Lector | Nancy Lee | Milissa Holt | Robert Lee | Nancy Liedke |
| Crucifer | Nathan Kelly | Paige Cannon | Nick Canon | Rebekah Vela |
| 1st Server | | | | |
| 2nd Server | | | | |
| Ushers | Rick & Karyn Vela | Heinz & Nancy Liedke | Cindy Baird & Robert Lee | Bill & Candace Griffin |
| Thurifer | | | | |
| Altar Team | Team D | Team E | Team A | Team B |