



RETRADITIONING

My computer spell-check underlines in red the word "retraditioning" when I type it. It doesn't even accept "traditioning". So be it. Retraditioning means adopting or reclaiming practices and understandings that have been part of the wider tradition, Christian or any tradition, but, for some reason, and that reason may not be known or even admitted if it is known, have been abandoned or diminished in importance.

One of those practices that is being reclaimed in our Anglican heritage is that of Holy Week. If one leafs through previous Books of Common Prayer, one discovers that Holy Week had its own proper readings but not much was made of any of the days in that week. One was invited to participate in Eucharistic services that week, if one so chose, but the week was not all that special.

The retraditioning came with the latest Prayer Book. There are now special services for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil and the faithful are especially invited to participate in these services. Retraditioning, however, takes time. Thirty-some years after the latest Prayer Book was authorized, participation in these services is still quite minimal.

Perhaps part of the problem is that for most of us these services are not thought of as being reclaimed so much as there are thought of as something new. On the other hand, there may be those who would opine that there must have been something lacking in these services that they fell out of favor. Perhaps so. Often one never knows why things were done the way they were done and we are left with what is.

What now is is our reclaiming of these ancient services of Holy Week. Actually, they have been reclaimed by the church. What is left is for the faithful to reclaim them on a personal basis. Traditions are meaningless unless they are personally kept and practiced. It is well and good to be reminded that the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil services were once considered "musts" in ones faith practice. In something else for individual Christians to claim that "must" personally.

One never knows how meaningful a traditional practice is unless one takes part in that practice. One can read

wonderful essays on the meaning of each of these services and still be left with no desire to participate in them. One has to experience for oneself the powerful sign of having one's foot washed or washing that of another to truly understand what took place at the Last Supper. One has to feel the sense of emptiness and perhaps even foreboding that is part of the Good Friday liturgy to understand what happened that day so long ago. One has to be enveloped by the signs and words and actions of the Easter Vigil to understand that it is the service of Easter.

Our Holy Week traditions have been reclaimed and are being offered to us. The church has done its part to help us enter more fully into our understanding of the meaning and importance of Easter, the day these three services lead up to. Now all we have to do is our part and reclaim them for ourselves. I pray we do.

WJP

Serving this Sunday, March 7, 2010.

Acolytes:	Isaac Harvey
Lay Reader: 8:00	Sylvia Affleck
10:00	Gladys Carlisle
Prayers:	Debbie Wunsche
Chalice Bearers:	Gladys Carlisle & Debbie Wunsche
Host Bearer:	Ellen Groves
Altar Guild:	Sylvia Affleck & Chris Botti
Nursery:	Stacy Latta & Monica Madaus
Ushers:	Fran Gargotta & Bev Sanker
Gift Card Sales:	Gladys Carlisle & Bob Affleck
Hospitality Hour:	Chris & Roger Botti
Celebrant:	Fr. Bill Pugliese

Activities the week beginning March 7.

Sunday	Worship	8:00 a.m.
	Choir rehearsal	8:30 a.m.
	Pancakes	9:00 a.m.
	Maniacs rehearsal	9:30 a.m.
	Worship	10:00 a.m.
	Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
	J2A & RITE 13	6:00 p.m.
Monday	Vestry Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Early Prayers and breakfast	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday	Worship	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Sticks & String	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	Sacristans	9:00 a.m.

Announcements

We are in the process of purchasing **Choir robes** for the Sr. Choir. Several donations have been pledged to help defray the costs. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so by placing it in the offering plate or send it to the office. Be sure to make a notation that it is for choir robes. We hope to have them by Easter. Thanks. Bill and Jno

We pray for our **parish families** especially Adele Hartman and for Joni Reis.

Get Ready for the Yard Sale! Winter may not be over yet, but it is time to think about our summer yard sale at St. Brendan's. This year's event is scheduled for August 6 and 7. We hope to do well again this year, and that means we need everyone's help. Please begin putting things aside to donate. We are looking once again for gently used or new furniture (indoor and outdoor), kitchenware, decorative items, books, CDs and DVDs, clothing for men, women and children, linens, tools, sports and garden equipment, electronics, jewelry, framed art, collectibles and treasures. We can not take items that are damaged, stained, torn, etc. A June date will be announced when we can begin accepting items at church. There will be an organizational **meeting on Tuesday, March 23 at 7pm** for anyone interested in getting started on the planning for the yard sale. Everyone is invited to be a part of this group. Please contact Saundy Waseleski at 412-741-8727 for information or with questions.

This week's **Sunday School's** Lesson is about Loaves and Fishes. The children will be given a handout to take home. The Storyteller is Jennifer Saitz and the Gatekeeper is Denise Duerksen

All of the children and everyone in the parish is encouraged to think about your blessings and put in coins in your **mite boxes**. We ran out of boxes and find that we can't get more in time. But if you or your child can use a jar or make one - maybe decorate the outside, your mite boxes will be welcome on Easter morning. Help support our efforts to help the children of Haiti and encourage our Sunday school children by collecting coins in your own mite box. During Lent we become contemplative and think about how we can live out our Baptismal covenant to care for others. One way is add coins to your mite box while you pray for the victims of the devastation in Haiti. Our coins will be counted and sent to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund and earmarked for the children of Haiti. A "mite" refers to the Bible story about The Widow's Offering from Mark 12:41-44. A mite is a small amount of money which Jesus said was worth more than the larger amounts given by more wealthy people because the widow gave all that she had.

Holy Eucharist Classes starting April 11, the Sunday after Easter, we will have Holy Communion classes for children who are in grades 2,3, 4, and 5. The younger children will continue their Sunday school class as usual and return to church to have Holy Communion with their families. The Holy Communion class will remain downstairs for their series of three classes after their Sunday school class. Sunday school class for them will be 10:05 to 10:30 and the Holy Eucharist class will be from 10:30 to 11:00. Father Bill will come to the Sunday school room to give us Holy Communion those three weeks. On the fourth Sunday, they will have a celebration in church and during our Social Hour. They will receive a small present, a certificate and some other items. During the service they will be next to the altar while Father Bill consecrates the elements and they will receive Holy Communion first that day. They can dress up for this occasion if that is their family's choice. Parents need to contact either Lynne Mercer or Joyce Donadee to let them know if they want their children to be included in this class.

Recital/Fundraiser at St. Brendan's March 21 at 3:00

Piano-Erica Lin & Flute-Andrei Pidkivka
Program

Impromptu OP.90 No. 3 G Major	Schubert
Piano Concerto in G major, second movement	Ravel
Syrinx	Debussy
Prelude to "The Afternoon of a Faun"	Debussy

Intermission

Sonata in A major for Flute and Piano Franck

\$15.00 for adults and \$7 for children
1/2 the profits will benefit St. Brendan's

Thank you to Ted Dannerth for organizing and transferring our building blue prints to CD format.

Make sure to mark your calendars that **Daylight Savings** time begins the weekend of March 13.

For **St. Brendan's children and visitors**, we have a table at the entrance to the sanctuary with quiet activities, should your children need them. We are working to keep them current with what is being taught in Sunday School. These are bags of crayons and paper where children can draw a picture of their Sunday school lesson for you or color the handouts they bring from Sunday School. At our coffee hour, we will have games and crafts to borrow and use should they want. They are located near the piano in the social hall. They families are ready to leave, parents please monitor your children to clean up and put items back. If you have games or crafts to donate (can be gently used) please donate to Lynne Mercer or Joyce Donadee. Please borrow or use what you need then help your children to return them at the end of the service.

Singing Psalms for Lent... Psalms were central to worship in the early church and they were always sung. Since the psalms were adapted from the Jewish tradition and were written long before Christ's birth, they do not contain specific references to Christ. So, Christians soon began to interpolate texts before, between, and after the psalm verses that specifically referred to Jesus. These additional refrains and their music were called *antiphons*.

Our service music during Lent is selected to be more contemplative in keeping with the spirit of the season. This year we are also going to sing antiphons as refrains while a cantor sings the verses of the psalm assigned for each Sunday. The tunes of the antiphons are based on famous hymns, so they should be familiar to most of you already. Hopefully, these antiphons will enhance your meditation and help to reinforce the message of the psalms for Lent.

In the Neighborhood Announcements

The Pittsburgh Concert Chorale presents the dramatic psalm work *King David* by Honegger **this** Sat., March 6th, 8pm at Ingomar Methodist Church and Sunday, March 7th, 4pm, at Fox Chapel Presbyterian. Narrator, Stephen Baum, 3 soloists, orchestra and organ will join the 85 voice choir in presenting the life of biblical David in celebration of this year's "Music Fit for a King" series. Tickets are available at the door of each venue. See Beth Snyder, Alan or Linda Schneider for tickets. Visit www.PCCsing.org for directions and further information

North Hills Community Outreach Food Pantry: You may bring in any non-perishable items that you'd like to donate. Especially needed is cereal, pasta, spaghetti sauce, and hamburger/tuna helper.

ST. BRENDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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