



THE DOVE

The Rector's Column *by The Rev. Dr. Jason Parkin, Rector*

Tomb, thou shalt hold him no longer;
Death is strong, but Life is stronger.
Stronger than the dark, the light;
Stronger than the wrong, the right.
Faith and hope triumphant say
Christ is ris'n on Easter Day.

Bishop Phillips Brooks (1835 – 1893)

As far as the disciples knew, Jesus had died for good on that awful Friday afternoon. As far as they knew, he was gone: no fooling, no nonsense gone. As far as they knew, the forces of evil and envy and fear and cruelty had taken Jesus and had executed him and then shut him in a tomb. It all seemed so final, so definite.

But God would not allow it. God would not allow those forces to have the final say. And in a burst of light like the first sunrise over Creation, when God pushed back the darkness and said, "Let there be light," God summoned Jesus out of the grave, out of the arms of chaos, out of the earth, and thus began a new Creation.

We cannot prove the Resurrection took place. No one can. But, if you are like me, you have seen evidence of the Resurrection in many ways and in many people. I have seen it in the lives of people who have found peace in a world that so often rejects peace, who have found meaning in the midst of circumstances and situations that tried to destroy all meaning. We did not witness the Resurrection; but we have all witnessed the Resurrected Christ in those who have overcome fear and sorrow, addiction and anguish because of their experience of the mercy and grace and love of God. I suspect we all know people who no longer fear the past nor the future nor death itself because they have discovered in the Resurrection that death is not the final word, that there is joy and hope and love and life possible for all in Christ Jesus.

It is our vocation, as people made new by the wonder and mystery of the Resurrection, to carry the Risen Christ into the world. It is our calling to live lives that reflect and manifest the truth that in Christ God has made all things new. It is our privilege to show forth the Risen One in our homes, our workplaces, our relationships, our families, this community and the larger world. May the One who rose rise within us.

Bishop Jeffrey Lee to visit on May 10

As many are aware, approximately every other year, one of the Bishops of the Diocese of Chicago makes a visitation to Church of the Holy Comforter to preach, preside at the Eucharist, celebrate Confirmation, and enjoy time with our congregation. Normally this visitation takes place on the Feast of Pentecost, our parish "birthday," but this year Pentecost falls during Memorial Day weekend, so I have requested that the visit take place on Sunday, May 10, which also happens to be Mother's Day.

This year, we will be blessed to welcome the Rt. Rev. Jeffrey D. Lee, the Diocesan—or senior—Bishop of the Diocese. Bp. Lee has not been to Holy Comforter in several years for a formal visitation, so it will be a special delight to welcome him back. On the 10th, he will preside and preach at the 9:00 Eucharist (and assist with any baptisms we might have that day), attend the coffee hour after that liturgy, and then confirm the 32 7th-9th graders who are currently enrolled in the Confirmation class, Confirm Not Conform, that Bill Haljun and I are leading on Sunday afternoons. Bp. Lee is a marvelous preacher and a very engaging, welcoming liturgical presence; and, to make things even better, is arguably the best-singing Bishop in the entire Episcopal Church (and a pretty mean organist, to boot)! I know that all present will be taken with his style, character, and personality.

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On a personal note: many are aware that Bp. Jeff is one of my oldest and dearest friends, as we were seminary classmates and sacristans (the students who run the chapel and all worship services) at Nashotah House in Wisconsin over 30 years ago, and our families have been close for decades. In other words, I am personally elated that he will be joining us on May 10 for his first visit since I returned to Holy Comforter, and pray that the congregation will turn out in great force to welcome our Diocesan Bishop back to the parish.

More information on his visit will be included in the May issue of *The Dove*, but, for now, please make every effort to be present in May to enjoy the ministry, leadership, and gifts of Bp. Lee. I know I am a little biased, but please believe me when I say that we are truly blessed to have him as our Diocesan Bishop!

Holy Baptism

In a slight break from our normal pattern of celebrating Baptism on the Feasts of the Baptism of our Lord, the Great Vigil of Easter, Pentecost, and All Saints' Sunday, we will this spring offer the Sacrament of Initiation on Mother's Day (in addition to Pentecost). The Book of Common Prayer makes provision to celebrate Baptism when the Bishop is present even if the visitation does not occur on one of the primary dates for Baptism.

If you are interested in Holy Baptism on either Mother's Day (May 10) or Pentecost (May 24), please contact Fr. Jason at your earliest convenience:

Thanks be to God

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Hymn 405, The 1982 Hymnal

Every parish I have served over the past 30 years has had a preschool, a nursery program, or a daily parents' cooperative play group. Each of these organizations has greatly enriched the life of its respective home parish, and has filled the halls with the noise and sound and clamor and laughter and, occasionally, tears of little ones. None of the other programs I have experienced, however, has had such a profound and lasting impact as that of our own All Things Bright

847/251-6120, ext. 155 or jlparkin@holycmforter.org

Bishop's Associates Annual Lunch; April 23

The Bishop's Associates is an organization within the Diocese of Chicago that supports our Bishop in a variety of ways. Among other things, the Associates seek to build bridges of communication and understanding throughout the Diocese. They also assist the Bishop by sponsoring activities, providing financial support and nurturing new programs as we collectively bear witness to the transforming power of the risen Christ. Associates aid the Bishop in his ministry through their prayers and their programs, and by developing financial resources for special ministries and projects.

Every year, the Bishop's Associates holds its Annual Lunch to celebrate their common ministry and to fete honorees who have provided unique contributions to the life of the Diocese. Our own Pat Drew is the President of the Associates, and will be hosting the lunch, which this year will take place at the Union League Club, 35 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, on Thursday, April 23. Please consider joining the celebration, supporting Pat in her ministry, and learning more about some of the marvelous work being done in the Diocese of Chicago and beyond! For more information, check the web page for the Bishop's Associates at:

<http://www.episcopalchicago.org/our-diocese/the-bishop/bishop-s-associates/>

and Beautiful.

It is surely no secret by now that we are about to celebrate the 20th anniversary of ATB&B with our grand Bright and Beautiful Bash on April 17th. You have seen the flyers; you have received the invitation; you have heard announcements in church; and there are other articles about the school and the Bash elsewhere in this issue of *The Dove*. I simply want to add my voice to the chorus of people giving thanks for the presence of ATB&B in our common life.

One of the most unique aspects of ATB&B—in addition to the peerless roster of teachers, the

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dedication of the parents, the support of the entire parish staff, and Mrs. Mary, our Director *nonpareil*—is the fact that the school is explicitly a ministry of Church of the Holy Comforter. As opposed to most of the preschools in the North Shore, ATB&B was founded as a place of nurture, growth, stimulation, and formation for young children in an unabashedly Christian setting. We don't beat the kids over the head with matters of faith; but in the course of any given day, week, or season, they learn about our faith, encounter marvelous stories about Jesus and the disciples and some of the great figures of the Jewish tradition, hear about the Church seasons and customs, and have worship experiences in the Chapel, led by Pastor Heath. Yes, they also learn about letters and numbers and how to cooperate with one another and develop fine and large motor skills and spend much time playing and singing and discovering how to navigate their environment. But they do so within a structure of love, compassion, faith, and joy, all of which derives from our common faith and foundation. That simple truth sets ATB&B apart from virtually all other similar programs. And for that fact, I give thanks.

I give thanks that the founders of the preschool—all members of the parish—took the leap of faith to found what has become one of the most wonderful aspects of our parish's life and mission. I rejoice that parents were willing to send their kids to a brand new school 20 years ago, and that increasing numbers of families have done so ever since. I celebrate the chaos and joy and clamor and clatter and racket that echoes through our halls every day, and miss it desperately during the few weeks in the summer when the camps

Adult Forum in April and Easter People *by Fr. Chris Hardman*

For many in the parish, the annual Easter People presentations provide two of the spiritual highlights of the entire year. This year will be no exception.

On Sunday, April 26th, Tom Wiedrich will present his reflection on his faith journey; and on Sunday, May 3rd, Elizabeth Andrews will offer her thoughts and insights on her spiritual journey. You won't want to miss these two presentations!

For those not familiar with the Easter People tradition: for the last 23 years, different members of Holy Comforter—representing a wide range of experiences, ages, and backgrounds—have discussed their lives of

are over and the regular school year has not yet begun. I relish the hugs my knees get every day, and the surprise visits when I am serenaded on my birthday or pelted with (fake) snowballs or accosted by trick-or-treaters. I laud and honor all of the teachers, and especially our three successive Directors: **Gretchen Quinn, Sue Murphy, and Mary Johnson.** And above all, I treasure the fact that hundreds of children over 20 years have had their lives touched, their educations strengthened, their faith nourished, the very beings loved and cherished in such a warm, supportive, joyful place.

All Things Bright and Beautiful is not a program by, of, and for young families alone: it is our ministry, an expression of our communal faith in, and relationship to, God in Christ Jesus. I look forward to seeing the school grow and flourish in the years to come.

Thanks be to God for All Thing Bright and Beautiful.

Fr. Jason



faith at the Adult Forum during the Easter season. Most years, we have been blessed by two such reflections, as will be the case this year. Easter People is perennially one of the most popular events in our parish life.

Since our Interfaith presentations on World Religions has ended, at least for the time being, we will continue our "Easter People" theme during April by looking at two areas of our communal life that reflect an "Easter People" attitude. Those areas are pastoral care and outreach.

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Pastoral Care is a behind the scenes ministry that takes many forms. It includes the priestly visits led by Fr. George Hull as well as an extensive list of lay ministries like Stephen Ministry, Shawl ministry, Ladle of Love ministry, Bridge Ministry, Bereavement Ministry, and our Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Members of these groups will present on Sunday, April 12th.

Outreach is a growing area in the life of our parish. As you know, over the years we have contributed a great deal money to a number of community groups. Our Sunday Adult Forum, however, will focus on the “hands on” part of our outreach, and how we might expand that aspect of our life together. Several members representing this kind of outreach will present on Sunday, April 19th.

Adult Forum in April

April 5	No forum (Easter Sunday)
April 12	Pastoral Care Presentations
April 19	“Hands on” Outreach
April 26	Tom Wiedrich Presentation of Easter People

These are all going to be lively and informative presentations. Please join us.

Wednesday Adult Classes with Fr. Chris Hardman

The Wednesday Adult Class that meets at 10:30 am in the library will start-up again on April 15th with “Reconnecting with Love,” the last chapter in John Philip Newell’s book, *The Rebirthing of God*. Then we

will look at “resurrection” in film, books, and real life. What does resurrection look like in our lives? What does the future hold? Please come and see.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! *by Pastor Heath Howe*

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! This celebratory phrase is an Easter tradition for many of us in the Episcopal Church. It is as much a part of Easter morning as Merry Christmas is on December 25th. We love to say it or even shout it. Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! It is important to remember that Easter is not one day but a season, one that lasts from Easter morning until Pentecost. The gift of Easter being a season, and not only a day, is that we have time to reflect upon, live into, and celebrate the new life God has raised us into now. Yes, Jesus was raised from the dead, and because of that we are too. We are raised out of negative thinking, fear, jealousy, doubt, or anything else that keeps us from living as a child of God, an Easter person.

To guide you through our Easter season, I invite you to practice the following ritual which is taken and adopted from *For Everything A Season: 75 Blessings for Daily Life*, by the Nilsen Family. It can be done at a shared meal with your family and friends, or it may be done on your own. Adapt this ritual to suit your own needs.

Preparation: Place a white or gold cloth on a table. Have each member gathered place a symbol of spring on the table. These symbols may be gathered ahead of time on a family walk or outing, or they may be assembled by one person who has them ready for others to present. You will also need a Bible, journal, blessing cup* or a begging bowl.*

Welcome: For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven. Welcome to this season for celebrating resurrected life!

Bible Reading: Choose an Easter story: Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12, or John 20:1-18

Ritual Action:

Option 1: Share or write in a journal about a time in your life when you felt particularly sad, bad, in times of despair. How did God help you through those times? Was it through belief in the certainty of resurrection and eternal life? Who were the people who helped you? How are you new now? What’s the Easter moment that came from this time? Pass the blessing cup, saying, “Thank you, God, for hope and

joy and for the promise of new life.”

Option 2: Psalm 30:5 says, “Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.”

Share or write in a journal about yourself or someone you know who has gone through a time of suffering but found new life. Then ask, “Are there places of despair in my own life now?” Spend some time deep breathing. Hold the begging bowl, asking God to fill me with hope that you are raising/have raised me to new life.

Option 3, for families with young children: Notice all the symbols on the table. Have each member share: “I chose this item because.... This item reminds me of Easter because.... of God/Jesus because My favorite part of the Easter story we just heard is If I were in the story I would be

Pass the blessing cup and say, “Thank you, God, for Easter.”

Seasonal Practice: Jesus could not raise himself; He was raised from the dead by God. Neither can we raise ourselves out of our dead places. The Spirit of God works through others to help us. During this Easter season, commit yourself to thanking those people who have helped you during difficult times; seek out others who might need your help.

Prayer: Pray the Lord’s Prayer together, or sing Jesus Loves Me.

Final Blessing: May God raise us out of our dead places and into the joy of new life. Amen.

*The Blessing Cup is an ancient tradition, predating the practice of Christian communion by hundreds of years. Recently, it has been reclaimed by many religious groups as a way of celebrating God’s action in our lives and the importance of others to our wellbeing. Designate a special cup, fill it with water, juice, or wine, and set it on the table. During the ritual speak the words, take a sip, and pass it on to the next person.

*Begging bowl: Christians have reclaimed a practice from the Middle Ages, when monks would go out in the morning with an empty bowl, believing that God, working through other people, would put in their bowl all the food they needed for the day. Today, we link it to the Lord’s Prayer: “Give us this day our daily bread,” acknowledging our dependence on the Creator for everything and trusting that God, who loves us, will give us what you need that day.

Choose a small bowl as your special begging bowl, and set it aside for the ritual action.

Reach for the Stars: Holy Family Ministries Annual Benefit



Reach for the Stars
Holy Family Ministries Annual Benefit
Celebrating 30 years of Excellence in Education

Saturday, April 25th
Skokie Country Club
500 Washington Avenue, Glencoe

For more information, please contact
Cynthia Schmidt at (773) 273-6013 ext. 5

Join Holy Family Ministries as they celebrate 30 Years of providing opportunities for children and adults from Chicago’s underserved neighborhoods to excel academically, grow spiritually, expand life experiences and become effective leaders.

Our facility has capacity for 340 children in pre-K to 8; current enrollment is 265. In 2009, when nearby Bethel Lutheran School closed, Holy Family welcomed its students. In the fall of 2010, Holy Family welcomed students from St. Gregory Episcopal School, a K-8 boys school located a mile south of the Holy Family Ministries Center. The St. Gregory community of families and supporters joined Holy Family as full partners in mission.

We are so very excited about our growing family!

In Celebration of the ATB&B Ministry

by Mary Johnson, Children's Ministries and Director, All Things Bright & Beautiful

In the spring of 2000, Barbara Haljun suggested that I come talk to the folks at Holy Comforter about the director's position for the preschool, All Things Bright and Beautiful. I assured her I was not qualified, but she insisted I should talk to them anyway. I remember being in the visitors waiting room that is now Jill's office. Elizabeth Butler and Jane Coley were there and I think one other person. Bob Myers was on sabbatical and not present for the interview. I recall saying that while there was probably not much on paper that indicated I should be hired, I did say before the interview ended "If you ask me if I can do the job, my answer would be yes." Taking a huge leap of faith, Holy Comforter hired me as the third director of this amazing ministry of the parish.



A proud Barrett and Devlin Family celebrating with BO at the conclusion of his JK year.



So many families have come through these doors, and the children's lives as well as the lives of their parents have benefited from this loving, caring community. In times of great joy and in times of sorrow, the

families have found love and support from the ATB&B family. Several years ago one mother called to tell me that it was her children who were in this school who were comforting her when the grandmother died right before Christmas. As her son comforted her, he said "don't cry mommy, Great Granny is going to have the best Christmas ever – in heaven with God and all the Angels!" The mother assured me that those words of comfort could only be attributed to the Christian formation he received in All Things Bright and Beautiful. In the true spirit of the Easter story, the child did then ask his mom if "Great Granny was going to come back at Easter?" So even the little preschoolers love the fact that we are Easter People!

On April 17th, we will celebrate 20 years of All Things Bright and Beautiful. I cherish the memories of all the families I have had the privilege to get to know and love over these 15 years and look forward to all the new families I have yet to meet. I hope to see many of you on April 17th as we celebrate All Things Bright and Beautiful at our Bright & Beautiful Bash!

Misericordia Candy Days



Friday & Saturday, April 24 & 25
9:00 - 3:00
Lakeside Foods, Winnetka

For many years, members of Holy Comforter have participated in the Candy Days designed to raise money for, and awareness of, Misericordia. This year, the Candy Days fall on April 24 and 25 (Friday and Saturday), and we have been asked to provide volunteers at Lakeside Foods in Winnetka. We need five people for shifts from 9-11am, 11am-1pm, and 1-3pm on both days. Please call the church office, 847/251-6120, if you can help, or contact Cindy Macfarland or Joan Dodson if you have questions. Please do not call Misericordia, as we arrange our Candy Days involvement in house. Thanks!

Better Together *by Charlotte Long, Youth Ministries*

One of the coolest things I've gotten to participate in this year is about to host its first event! Every two or so months, I attend a meeting with Youth Ministers from St. Gregory's in Deerfield, St. Augustine's in Wilmette, Christ Church in Winnetka, St. David's in Glenview, St. Matthew's in Evanston, St. Mark's in Evanston, Church of the Holy Spirit and Chad Senuta, head of Youth Ministry for the Chicago Diocese. We like to joke that Chad is like a Youth Minister for us Youth Ministers. He guides, prods, questions and affirms our actions. We've read and discussed books together, prayed together, asked each other for guidance and shared resources and strategies for creating the most dynamic and Spirit-driven ministries we possibly can! We call ourselves "**Better Together**" and it is just about the best thing since sliced bread and I'm incredibly thankful for it.

For a long time, we have been hoping to create an event that involves all of our teens in one place (or many places, as it turns out!). We didn't want it to be huge yet, since many of us work part-time and are just introducing our Youth Groups to their larger Episcopal families. But we all placed an importance in bringing a large amount of spiritually-questioning teens together for this reason...

When I was in High School, I thought I was pretty well spiritually-versed. I knew my questions were solid and thoughtful, I felt connected to God, I loved my church friends and our summer mission trip. But I resisted the weekend-long retreats hosted by the Diocese, called "Happenings." Let me tell you right now, I can see from this distance that my fear was totally and completely based on PRIDE. I think I was

maybe nervous because I knew if I went I wouldn't be top-dog right away; these kids all knew each other and maybe had secret handshakes already and knew songs I didn't know! I was also judgmental of what I shamefully called "happy-clappy" sessions. I did not hear my Youth Minister properly (dear Kevin Caruso, now a pastor of his own suburban parish) when he said, "It's like a family reunion. Everyone there already loves you no matter what. That's the point of these events."

And then I went. And he was right! Seeing teens my age who said out loud that they were excited to find out more about God, that they were excited about learning how to pray and that they knew where to turn when they were lost – this was radical to me! God was cool! People who loved God were also cool! WOAHH. So. Here we are trying to introduce our teens to that phenomenon and feeling of Love In Fellowship. Our first event is our North Shore Youth Ministry group's namesake:

"Better Together: A Progressive Dinner"

When: April 19th, 2015, from 4:30 to 7:30 pm

Who: 9th – 12th graders and chaperones

Where: Each Youth Group starts at its home church and will travel together to each stop on the dinner; St. Augustine's for snacks and games, Christ Church for Dinner and service project in conjunction with A Just Harvest, and finally... Holy Comforter, for a final worship service and dessert!

If you're interested in helping carpool, contact me at cblong@holycomforter.org.

Lucille Spring Clean Fling!

In anticipation of Spring Cleaning Fever, we have scheduled another Lucille Resale Shop donation truck to arrive at Holy Comforter on Saturday, May 16th between the hours of 9:00 and 11:00. All proceeds benefit Holy Family School, of which CHC, and especially our St. Helen's Guild, are big fans and great supporters. Stop by, have a doughnut and coffee with friends, and clean those closets!

Yes, please...

Clothing: men's, women's and children's
Housewares and home decor
Furniture
Books, toys and games
Accessories: jewelry, handbags, scarves

Thanks, but no...

Car seats
Mattress, box springs
Strollers, cribs or high chairs
Items damaged or missing pieces
Sleeper sofas
Pianos

Sanctuary *by Jill Klusendorf, Community Life*

Since October 28th of this past year, my usual daily routine has looked something like this:

Visit a parent in the hospital, sometimes both
Arrange home health care
Consult priests
Purchase home health care furnishings
Return “unliked” said furnishings
Consult doctors
Harass siblings into pitching in
Research Shamans
Harass hospital staff and/or Medicare
Attempt to get to work, or some work done

And, just like is says on the back of the shampoo bottle:

“LATHER, RINSE, REPEAT.”

I tell you this not to elicit sympathy, as I know this is a part of the greater circle of life, one that many of you have spun around a few times yourselves. That, in and of itself, gives me peace knowing that in some way, we are all in this together. The real reason I tell you about this is to let you know that Church of the Holy Comforter, and All Things Bright and Beautiful, every parishioner, and every tiny beautiful soul-student are my sanctuary.

I remember writing in my very first Dove article about the beauty of serendipity. What I didn't realize at the time was that with serendipity often comes sanctuary. Where else on the planet, in your most vulnerable moments of worry, uncertainty, sheer terror, and despair can you be asked by a three-year-old, “Mrs. Jill, did you miss me?” Or, upon seeing a two-year-old in the halls at a distance, receive a running opened-arms hug, practically mid-flight? Where else can you get the wisdom, blessings and understanding of your boss, who just so happens to be clergy? The support of your co-workers, clergy and laity alike? The shared experiences and shared tears of so many parishioners, who have become so much more to me than just “parishioners?”

I can tell you exactly where to find that sanctuary: it's called Church of the Holy Comforter, and, in case you need a reminder, it is located at 222 Kenilworth Avenue, Kenilworth, IL. You should pop in sometime. I'd bet you'd find that same sanctuary awaits you.

So, I close with heartfelt thanks to all that is CHC and ATB&B, and leave you with what is actually a greeting. May we have many more, together.

“Dear Friend, I felt it shelter to speak to you.”

Emily Dickinson



Holy Week at Holy Comforter

Maundy Thursday, April 2

6:00 p.m. Agape Meal

You may respond to Laurel O'Donnell at ldodonnell@holycomforter.org or 847-251-6120

Response sign-up is also available in the parlor.

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Washing of the Feet, Stripping of the Altar, Watch at the Altar of Repose

Good Friday, April 3

12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. The Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday, April 4

9:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word

8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter

Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Holy Eucharist

Easter Day, Sunday, April 5*

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:15 a.m.

Festive Holy Eucharist, with guest musicians

Easter Egg Hunt Following the 9:00 a.m. Eucharist!

*Please note that the first Eucharist on Easter Day begins at 7:30 a.m. rather than at 8:00 a.m.

Bright & Beautiful Bash

Bright & Beautiful BASH

Event & Raffle Tickets Still Available!
To purchase, call 847-251-6120 or visit
www.holycomforter.org

Auction Catalog & Program Book
will be available online on Tuesday, April 14th!

We have so many wonderful items for
you to bid on; please join in on the fun!



New Trier Food Pantry Food Drive: April is CHC Month!

Holy Comforter, as a member of the Winnetka Interfaith Council, is participating in the commitment to contribute regularly to the New Trier Food Pantry. Each member faith community is responsible for one month to provide items for the pantry. CHC's month is April. Items can be brought to the office when you come on Sunday or any other time during the week at your convenience.

New Trier Township Food Pantry provides food and basic necessities to people in need in this community. This Food Pantry serves as a bridge between those who have the ability to give and those who are in need. Through volunteer efforts the shelves are stocked with a variety of canned and packaged food, frozen foods, useful paper goods, and toiletry items for all ages. The Pantry is supported solely by donations from the public either through individual donations or organized food and fund drives. No donation is too small – all are appreciated. Thank you for your generosity!

Current priority items:

aluminum foil, plastic wrap, and baggies
baby wipes
canned fruit
cookies, crackers, granola bars, nuts, raisins
and other healthy snacks
cooking oil, salad dressing, condiments
shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes
tissue, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins
white and brown rice

Other recommended items:

baking good: muffins, cake mixes, brownies
cereal
coffee and tea (smaller sizes)
juices and juice boxes (smaller sizes)
laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, dish and soap
pancake mix and syrup
peanut butter, jelly, jam
personal care products (deodorant, feminine hygiene
products, shaving cream)
salt and pepper, spices and herbs, powdered milk

Lawrence Hall Youth Services 150th Anniversary Celebration



September 26, 2015

6:00 PM

Harold Washington Library Center

400 South State Street, Chicago

For more information, please contact
Caroline Greco, 773-769-3500 ext. 2251.

Since 1865, Lawrence Hall Youth Services has been delivering quality care to children and their families throughout the metropolitan Chicago area, many of whom have experienced significant traumas in their lives. The agency has not only sustained itself for the duration, but it has also redefined how youth are educated and treated.

Lawrence Hall continues to excel and has earned its place as a statewide leader in highly-effective, evidence-based, and innovative therapeutic treatment. The agency's unique continuum of care --which promotes overall well-being-- combined with an expert staff, has positioned Lawrence Hall to meet the changing and complex needs of children and families for the next 150 years.

Special Celebration: He's Got the Whole World In His Hands

He's got
the whole
world in
His hands



On Sunday, April 26, at the 9:00 Eucharist, we are going to hold a special celebration featuring music of the Gospel and African-American Spirituals traditions!

This unique feast will include, among other music, such delights as a marvelous song by Bill Gordon, the

director of the Youth and Children's choirs (and this will be the first time we will get to hear Bill sing a solo. You're in for a treat!), an interactive song between the Youth Choir and the congregation, and a familiar tune also involving the congregation alternating in song with Fr. Jason (hint: if you have seen the movie *Lilies of the Field* starring Sidney Poitier you will already know this song), and other similarly festive and upbeat music. The talents of some of our section leaders will be on display. And there will be a surprise or two included in the celebration that you won't want to miss....

"He's Got the Whole World In His Hands" will fall just about halfway through the Easter Season, and will be a lively, exuberant liturgy. Bring the kids, grab Grandma and Grandpa, invite the neighbors, and join in the joy!



“All life is there.”

In the Vineyard

Our deepest sympathies go forth to Hal Stewart on the death of his brother, Jef Stewart. Like Hal, Jef grew up at Holy Comforter, and had been affiliated with the parish for decades. Our hearts also go out to Jef's wife, Kathy, and to his son, Jay. At present, plans for a memorial service are pending, but please keep Hal, Kathy and Jay in your hearts and prayers. May Jef's soul rest in God's peace, and may light perpetual envelop and shine upon him.

It is with deep sorrow that we also make mention of the death of Owen "Casey" Moran, the father of Janet Beatty. Mr. Moran was 89 years old, and the celebration of life took place on Tuesday, March 10, at Northfield Community Church. Please keep in your hearts Janet and Eric, their children Henry, Gretchen, and Clara, as well as the entire extended Moran

family. May God bless Casey with peace, joy, and newness of life in God's loving embrace.

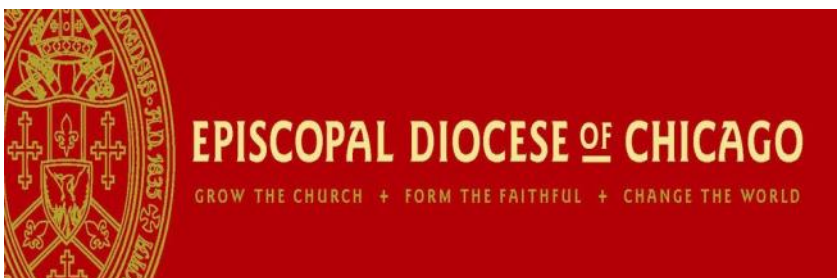
Many will remember the Rev. Rempfer L. Whitehouse, founder and headmaster of the St. Gregory Choir School with which Holy Comforter had a long-standing relationship, a connection that continues now that St. Gregory's is part of Holy Family School. Fr. Whitehouse died last April 6, and there will be a memorial service for him on the first anniversary of his death, Monday, April 6, 2015. The service will take place at Church of the Ascension, 1133 N. LaSalle Street in Chicago, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Parking is available in the church lot at the southern end of the block. The service will be a Solemn Evensong and Benediction, and will be followed by a reception.

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To read more about our parish or to register for a parish event, please visit www.holycomforter.org.