



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

MARCH 2015

REV. ROBERT SOLON, JR., SUPPLY PRIEST

St. James' Episcopal Church is pleased to welcome the Rev. Robert (Bob) Solon, Jr. as guest presider and preacher for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Fr. Bob currently serves as Director of Finance for Christ Church Bloomfield-Glen Ridge and is an active substitute priest in northern New Jersey and New York. He is pursuing a doctoral degree in liturgics, the study and practice of the formal worship of the Church, with a special emphasis on the Church's daily prayer and its use of the Bible in public worship. Says Fr. Bob, "I'm delighted the Wardens and Vestry have invited me to worship with the community of St. James' in this most holy time of our year, and I'm looking forward to exploring our theme, 'Renew a Right Spirit Within Me' throughout Lent."



Rev. Bob will be with us throughout Easter Day services. Feel free to introduce yourself to him and wish him a warm welcome!

spiritual basis for this was to view Lent as a time for a return to a more natural communion with God and his creation. On Ash Wednesday we were invited to consider the temporary nature of our existence. The Lenten practice of my youth was to give-up something like chocolate. Later on I remember being encouraged to take-on something like additional daily prayer and reflection. In Lent we are encouraged to be circumspect with regard to our consumption of food, etc. Fasting and feeling a bit of want for something can make us mindful. Being mindful of our use of resources or our carbon footprint fits well into our concept of stewardship. Our existence may be temporary, but the impact of our life choices may last well beyond our time.

Fasting is an opportunity to help us be mindful of God and how our actions can help to accomplish his will. A carbon fast gives us an opportunity to "give up" something that makes us more mindful of our impact on the environment. It can make us mindful of how we consume resources.

With this in mind, my family is "giving-up" plastic bags for Lent. When we go shopping, we will carry in our own cloth bags. We will use neither the plastic nor the paper bags at the grocery store and when we shop at a mall, we will take a couple of shopping bags with us.

Will this change the world? Maybe not. But consider if we all did this. Petrochemicals would not be expended. Bags would not end up in landfills and would not need to be collected for recycling. Maybe, remembering to take a bag we already have, will make us more mindful to conserve gasoline by walking when possible, or by combining errands into one trip, rather separating them.

Consider giving-up and taking-on a mindful carbon fast this Lent as a stewardship practice. And please let me know how you make out with this idea.

Paul Bartkus



This Month In Stewardship

It's Lent. February is ending. And it is COLD in Hackettstown! Enough. Where is spring? Where is global warming? It is here.

In this month's "Vital Practices for Vestries", LeeAnne Beres wrote an article about undertaking a Lenten Carbon Fast. The goal was to reduce our personal carbon footprints as a Lenten practice. The

LENTEN NEWS

Holy Week Services at St. James':

April 2 Maunday Thursday

6:00 PM Agape Feast

7:30 PM Service

April 3 Good Friday

7:30 PM Service

April 4 The Great Vigil of Easter

7:30 PM Service

April 5 Easter Sunday

8 and 10 AM Services



“Embracing Forgiveness—What It Is and What It Isn’t,” is a five-week Lenten Series St. Michael’s is offering on five consecutive Fridays during Lent: February 27, March 6, 13, 20, and 27. It’s based on a DVD and Discussion series by

noted author, Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. The evening begins at 6:00 PM with Stations of the Cross in Church, a Light Supper of soup and salad, and ends with the DVD Discussion on this challenging topic. Led by Fr. Keith A. Gentry, this relaxed and intriguing series will prove to be a help to all of us in learning ways to embrace forgiveness.

In case your schedule permits you to come to only part of the evening, the time of Light Supper is approximately 6:30 PM, and the DVD/Discussion will begin at approximately 7:00 PM.

Please reply to this email to register or call the Parish Office at 973-694-1026. Let us know what part(s) of the evening you plan to attend. A love offering will be taken to cover the cost of food. Hope to see you on the 27th!

Blessings to you,

Pat Vine

Parish Administrator & Spiritual Director

Parish Office

St. Michael’s Episcopal Church

1219 Ratzer Rd Wayne NJ 07470

THE CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

50 RT. 24, CHESTER

INVITES YOU TO A

LENTEN RETREAT

“THE PRODIGAL SON/DAUGHTER”

9 AM – 1 PM SAT. MARCH 21

LED BY SISTER ELEANOR FRANCIS

INCLUDING A SOUP LUNCH

St. James’ offers

Lenten Meditation Booklets.

They are available in the
Narthex-pick up your copy!

**CHECK OUT “THE VOICE,” THE DIOCESAN
NEWSLETTER FOR ALL THAT IS GOING ON
IN THE DIOCESE OF NEWARK DURING THIS
LENTEN SEASON:**

<http://www.dioceseofnewark.org/>

Notes on the Diocese of Newark's 141st Annual Convention

Jewels Quelly

“What is God up to?” was the question presented as the theme of this year’s diocesan convention held on Friday January 30 and Saturday January 31 at the Hilton Parsippany.

Diocesan committees and outreach groups demonstrated, through their reports and video montages, that God is up to a lot; working in us and with us and through us as we go about our lives as Christians. Offering the sermon at opening Holy Eucharist was the Reverend Alan Roxburgh of The Missional Network. He urged us to stop trying to “fix the church,” stop trying to make our church what others think it should be from the inside out. He suggested stepping outside of what we know and explore what inviting others into the biblical community looks like. His invitation to “be with” rather than “do for” our community spoke of a new approach to the age-old situation of helping the church live and thrive in an evolving world.

“Going Local” is a movement/process within our diocese in which we join with other ordinary people in our very own communities to “learn new habits, practices, attitudes and values that help us discern, name, and test out what God is up to.” St. James’ seems to have its finger on the pulse of Going Local with our outreach ministries, such as North Porch and the Backpack Program, but there is plenty of opportunity still available for sharing in Hackettstown and our surrounding communities.

As witnessed at Convention, there is no shortage of opportunity for growth and inspiration. The issue that spoke loudest to me, even called me by name was the report presented by The Dignity at Work Task Force. A resolution was passed at last year’s convention calling upon the Bishop to establish a task force “to address bullying, harassment and abuse of clergy by lay persons and the development of healthy norms of clergy/lay behavior within our congregations.” That task force was established and worked for ten months to develop the framework to help congregations make their houses of worship safer places for clergy- framework that here to for has not been in place on the national, diocesan, nor parochial level. The report can be found here: http://www.dioceseofnewark.org/sites/default/files/resources/2015_CONV_141_DAW_Report.pdf

As our own parish continues to transition, grow, and heal, implementing our own adaptation of a policy regarding healthy norms of behavior within our parish will be instrumental. Exploring accountability in ourselves and in our parish and discussing issues that have previously been swept aside will allow grace and forgiveness for both the things that we have done and the things we have left undone.

Vestry Hi-Lites

- ✦ The last Vestry meeting on February 19th was dedicated to interviewing a Priest-in-Charge. Watch for more details in the near future.



[St. James' Episcopal Church Hackettstown](#)

Easter Food Collection

Food collection bags for Easter family food baskets will be distributed on Sunday, March 8 and should be returned no later than March 29th.

If you would like to buy an “Easter Ham Card” for inclusion in the Easter family food basket, please talk to Paul Bartkus who will purchase a Shop Rite Gift Card with your donation.

30 HOUR FAMINE

Once again, St. James' Youth Group will host the 30 Hour Famine on March 27th to 28th. What does this entail you might ask?

The participants will raise money and raise awareness about world hunger by participating in this retreat, of sorts, and by fasting for 30 hours. This event has been part of World Vision for 25 years. St. James' has participated for about the last 10 years.

Participants must be 12 years old and agree to fast from after lunch on Friday until Saturday at 5:30pm. Juice and water will be provided for hydration. Being together here at St. James' with others with the same mission makes for an experience like no other. Things to expect: games and activities, as well as a service project and also time for prayer/meditation. Oh yes, and an overnight stay here at St. James'.

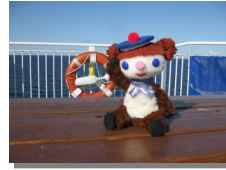
Please contact Kathy or Dave Lacouture if you or your child/teen is interested or with any questions: 908-850-9214 or lockwood88@comcast.net. Fundraising packets are available and other information can be found on the World Vision website. Start time is 6:30 on Friday night 3/27 in the Parish Hall!

ANNUAL MEETING

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH AFTER
THE SERVICE**

ONE SERVICE AT 9:00 AM

**FAMILY BREAKFAST WILL BE
SERVED DURING THE MEETING.**



YARN TWISTERS

The Yarn Twisters container in the closet in the Great Hall is already beginning to fill up with knitted and crocheted items

thanks to our supportive knitters/crocheters. I am confident that by the fall we will have a sizable package to deliver to SCI. I have it on good authority that knitting needles and crochet hooks have gone along on a cruise and down to Florida during the month of February! Even if you do not knit or crochet, but would like to contribute, there is a "ditty bag" pattern that is very easy – it just requires a few rows of stitching and a drawstring. These ditty bags hold the scarves, hats and toiletries and are handed out at Christmas to the seafarers.

If we feel the cold now and are able to take shelter, try to imagine what it must be like to work on the deck of a ship with no shelter and the wind blowing – the seafarers really need to keep warm. There is plenty of yarn in the closet in the Great Hall and patterns can be downloaded from the SCI website at: www.seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact me and I will be more than happy to download a pattern for you. I hope that once this frigid air leaves us and the possibility of slipping on ice is past, that we can once again meet in the Mitcham House.

Linda Miller



St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Special Events Committee is recruiting marchers for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 15th. Gather time is 3:00 PM at the church. Work up an appetite while marching and enjoy the Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner that follows!

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

The St. James' FRC will be holding a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on March 15th from 4 - 7 PM. Enjoy corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, Irish Soda bread and desserts!

Bell Choir “Notes”

The Bell Choir really came through on Sunday, February 1. After rehearsals were cancelled twice in January, due to illness and weather, the choir was able to ring as planned even with the reduced number of rehearsals. Not only that, but we had never played the piece with all the ringers there. Even at warm-up on February 1, we were missing one ringer. When we finally played the piece during the service, it was the first time we actually heard it with all the bells being rung. Sometimes it can be startling to hear a bell or two where there was none at rehearsal. But the choir did a stupendous job! I hope the congregation enjoyed the piece as much as we enjoyed playing it.

The Bell Choir will have time off until after Easter at which time we will start preparing music for May and June.

Once again I extend an invitation to anyone who is interested to come and join us. You can email me at lolshan@ccm.edu. We are a welcoming group!

May your Lenten season be one of true repentance, as described by Betsy in a recent sermon, and your Easter celebration filled with joy!

The Hackettstown Library Now Accepting Book Donations



The Hackettstown Library is now accepting book donations! New and gently used books, DVDs and music CDs will gladly be accepted at the library front desk. The

library will sell the donated items at the annual book sale in the spring. Donations can be dropped off any time during library hours, but we ask that donations not be left on the library steps or in the book drop. All proceeds from the donations and book sale will be used to support library programs.

The Hackettstown Public Library is located at 110 Church Street and is open Monday through Friday 9am to 8pm, Saturday 9am to noon. For further information, please contact the library at (908) 852-4936 or visit www.hackettstownlibrary.org



Fundraising Report

The St. James' FRC's next meeting is March 11th at 6:00 in the Mitcham House.

Our next event is the St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 15th from 4 - 7 PM.

We are planning a rummage sale in April that coincides with the town wide sale. Please let any member of the FRC know if you have anything to donate. No books or electronics please. We will also need help sorting and setting up for the sale, so please consider giving a few hours of your time to help us with this event.

Watch for details as we are planning a IHOP dinner in May.

Please keep the Tricky Tray in mind. We need participation from the Parish to make this happen. If you can donate time, talent or treasure to make this happen, please let us know!

Our Scrip Pro Gift Card Program continues throughout the year with orders being due the 2nd Sunday of each month. The next order date is March 8th. Gift cards for just about any major retail, food or gas chain are available at face value. The Fundraising Committee receives a discount of anywhere between 2% and 17% on most cards. We are able to raise several hundred dollars a year with this program!

Thanks for your continued support!

Barbara White, Ellen Infante,
Ann Dutton, Cheryl Perkins & Barbara Olesen



Maintenance Morning

Saturday, March 28th

9 AM—12 PM

Come help us get our church area ready for spring....coffee and bagels served!

For Weekly Announcements and what's happening at St. James' visit our webpage:
stjameshackettstown.org
Check out the new calendar!
Sign up for email news!

Church of the Messiah's 2nd Annual Meet Your Local Artisans Show

Church of the Messiah will offer an opportunity to meet local artisans on Saturday, March 14th, 6-9 pm. Several artists have agreed to present and sell their creations. The show will feature a woodworker, jeweler, artist/printmaker, photographer, potter, basket weaver, and quilt maker. This will be an intimate setting and will offer an opportunity to meet the artisans and learn more about their crafts. There is no admission charge but donations will be gladly accepted. Complimentary coffee, tea, and snacks will be available.

All proceeds help to support the church's ministry and community outreach programs.

The Church of the Messiah is located at 50 State Route 24 (Co Rt. 513) in Chester, 1-1/2 miles west of the intersection of Rt. 206 and Main Street/Rt. 24 Chester. There is on-site parking and the hall is handicapped accessible.

For further information, please contact:

Chris Martin or Linda Ochs;

Fundraiser Committee Chairs

Phone: 973-975-7192

Email: rchristinemartin@hotmail.com

Church office: 908-879-7208

Website: www.messiahchester.org

Journal Deadline

APR 2015 EDITION:

March 29th



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS
FORWARD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH. SPRING
IS ALMOST HERE!

February 8, 2015

To: All Members of St. James' Parish, Hackettstown

From: David Lacouture, Senior Warden

Pursuant to the by-laws of St. James' Parish, you are hereby notified of the Annual Meeting and election of officers to take place Sunday, March 8 at 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall.

The meeting follows one service of The Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM.

This notice is to inform you of those nominated for office by the Nominating Committee. Other nominations may be made, by petition in writing, signed by five qualified voters of the parish. A qualified voter is one who is (1) baptized, (2) at least 16 years of age, (3) in regular attendance at the services of this parish for the past six months and (4) a regular financial contributor to this parish for the past six months. Forms for nomination are available in the church office. **They are due in the church office no later than March 1, 2015.**

Nomination for Junior Warden:

Barbara Olesen

Nomination for Vestry (4 vacancies)

Peter Quelly

Chris Krauss

Nancy Miller

_____ (vacant)

Nominations for Delegate to Diocesan Convention (1 vacancy):

Cheryl Perkins

Nominations for Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention (2 vacancies):

Peg Faust

_____ (vacant)

David Lacouture

Senior Warden

ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

MARCH

St. James' Staff & Vestry

Supply Priest:	Rev. Robert Solon, Jr
Rector Emeritus:	The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Parish Administrator:	Julie Mills
Substitute Organist	Patricia Brady-Danzig (Feb 8 - Apr 5)
Bell Choir Director:	Louise Olshan
Sexton:	Pauline Volkert

Vestry

Senior Warden:	David Lacouture
Junior Warden:	Barbara Olesen

Paul Bartkus	Peter Quelly	Bill Critchley
Peter Gartelmann	Ellen Infante	Claudia Scala
	Chika Okoye	Janice Cipriani

Vestry Clerk:	Claudia Scala
Treasurer:	Janice Cipriani
Bookkeeper:	Ellen Infante
Assistant Bookkeeper	Claudia Scala

Barbara Olesen, Editor

All Journal submissions
should be sent to:

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