

Christ Church Cambridge
The Episcopal Church in
Harvard Square
Zero Garden Street
Cambridge, MA
02138-3631

phone (617) 876-0200
fax (617) 876-0201
www.cccambridge.org

Staff

The Rev. Joseph O. Robinson
Rector

The Rev. Jonathan T. Eden
Assistant Rector

Stuart Forster
Director of Music & Organist

Catherine Belcher
Parish Administrator

Alexizendria Link
Parish Communications

Dona O'Donnell
Financial Administrator

Trevor Pollack
Music Assistant

Jerry Kucera, Hernan Moya,
Ron Wilburn, Ian Cooper
Sextons

The Rev. Dr. Robert Tobin
Episcopal Chaplain at Harvard

Officers & Vestry

Karen Mathiasen *Senior Warden*
Sally Kelly *Junior Warden*
Christopher Wolf *Treasurer*
Tanya Cosway *Asst. Treasurer*
Mino Sullivan *Clerk*

Jerry Abraham
Charlie Allen
Jonathan Austin
Andus Baker
Elizabeth Childs
Mary Beth Clack
Peggy Johnson
Karl Loos
Susan Root

Members

Wendy Squires
Mimi Truslow
Diocesan Delegates

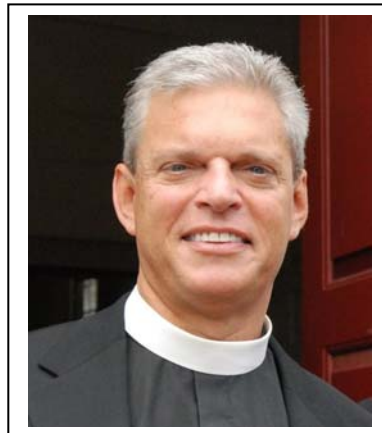
Louise Ambler
Church Archivist



March 2010 Leaflet

Volume LXXVII, No. 3

Letter from the Rector



Today we meet in church for an odd piece of ceremonial. The priests say some prayers over the ashes from the freshly burned Palms, then each of us is marked with a sign of the cross on our forehead to remind us that “we are dust and to dust we shall return.” We receive this sign of our mortality and we say prayers asking God’s forgiveness for the things we have done (wrongly) and left undone (wrongly) over the last year. After this somewhat ornamented experience of confession, we share the Peace of Christ and together we make our communion, reminding ourselves that whoever we are and whatever we have done, we belong to God and God accepts us at this table. So, I think this is a good thing and a bad thing. I think this is a good thing because it is meet and right to stop and take a look at our accounts from time to time, to see how we are doing in the main, on the long-haul of our lives. This is an important part of understanding the boundaries of living together in community and the discipline of following Christ. But there is something in me that chafes at the whole experience. Not the sort of chafe that is based on not believing that we need to confess. Oh! How I do believe we need to confess! It’s not even the sort of chafe that thinks it hypocritical that we sit in these pews and say the same thing every year and tend to live in pretty much the same way as before. No, the rub that I am feeling is the message that our culture seems to have gotten from the action of the church. The one that suggests that people aren’t really good enough for God and that we have to spend a lot of time apologizing to God about being human just to stay in relationship

with God. That's the part that makes me itch.

Now that I've identified it, I have to find a more creative way of living through Lent than that. And as many of you have heard, for me that is about creating an experience of Lent based on Joy rather than guilt. Having gotten my start in a more conservative, protestant body in the deep South, I don't know how much this friction affects the rest of you, but there is nothing like a convert to make the "Cradle-born" squirm.

The point of Lent is not that I am not good enough for God's love. Quite the contrary, the point of Lent is that I am quite good enough for God's love, and I can enjoy and appreciate that love when I come to recognize that it is offered to all people freely. I am not going to spend this Lent trying to be good enough for God. I am instead going to do my best to approach everyone I meet as an equal sharers, heirs and participant in God's love. That changes the picture rather dramatically. If the people I run into in the check-out line are worthy of God's love, then I should probably be a little more respectful of them. If the person in my family with whom I most disagree is worthy of God's love, then I might want to find a better way of working out our differences. If one my colleagues at work (or one of your employees) who seems troublesome, is worthy of God's love, then I might need to think my own knee-jerk reaction to that same person.

Christ's peace, Joe+



Letter from the Assistant Rector



Being Prodigal

In March, as we continue our Lenten journey through Palm Sunday, the last Sunday of the month, the lectionary is full of *prodigality*, of stories of overabundance and wastefulness. On March 14th, we will hear the parable that has come to be known as the story of the prodigal son. The story of a son, who takes half his father's fortune, wastes it and then returns to ask his forgiveness. And of a Father who welcomes him back with compassion and with overly generous and overly open arms. It doesn't end there though, on March 21st, we will hear about Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, who foretells Jesus death by anointing his feet with a pound of costly perfume of nard. A gift judged particularly wasteful by Judas, who preferred that the perfume be sold. One could also argue that the fig tree that we will hear about on March 7th, a tree that had not produced for several years, received a prodigal gift of one more year of special care and attention from the gardener. Or even that the response of the people in Luke's Gospel to that man riding a colt outside of Jerusalem, shouting "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" and laying down their cloaks was too much, too over-the-top, too wasteful.

So, how then do these stories of lavish abundance and reckless extravagance square with Lent and all the practices, observances and disciplines we associate with it? Perhaps the place to begin is in understanding that we worship a prodigal God. This is a God who loves us first and loves us unconditionally, a God who gives us the lavish gift of his presence here with us and the extravagant gift of the freedom from sin and death, a God whose gifts are more than we could ever possibly hope for, or deserve. If we can begin there, I think that Lent can take one of two directions. The first is in seeking a deeper experience of this God, maybe through prayer, service or fellowship. Or in the other direction, perhaps you have experienced the prodigal God in your life this

year, God has broken in, in some new way, added some new blessing to you, or clarified your vision. Then perhaps your Lent might be a response to God's gifts, a response that is appropriately prodigal, perhaps a gift of time or talent or treasure.

As always, there is a lot going on at Christ Church, here are some of the things that might be a part of your Lenten practice (Feel free to contact me for more information):

Sun, February 28, 12:00 – 3:00pm Emmaus, the 20's and 30's ministry, invites all youth (Jr. High and High School) to lunch and ice-skating

Monday, March 1, 7:00 – 9:00pm "Brewing on Belief," deanery wide 20's and 30's event at The Field Pub in Central Square, hosted by CCC and the Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard

God's Peace, Jon +



Easter Memorials

Donations toward the cost of CCC Easter memorial flowers may be made in memory or honor of your family members and friends. Names will be listed on an insert in the orders of worship for the Saturday and Sunday Easter services, April 3 and 4.

Forms to fill out for these donations will be available in the pews on Sundays later in Lent, and they will also be found at our website (cccbridge.org) and printed out. These may be placed in the alms basin or mailed to the Parish Office at Zero Garden Street, Cambridge 02138.

The DEADLINE for requesting memorial flowers for Easter is Friday, March 26, in the Parish Office.

Abundant Blessings, Dona O'Donnell



www.cccbridge.org

Visit the Christ Church Cambridge website for details regarding upcoming events and information.



April Leaflet Deadline

Please submit articles, rotas, committee reports and upcoming events to the office no later than **March 18, 2010**. Make submissions to zena@cccbridge.org or the Parish Administrator at parishadmin@cccbridge.org

Warden's Corner

At the 233rd Annual Meeting of the Parish on Sunday, January 31, our Rector, The Reverend Joseph O. Robinson, gave the Annual Address to the Parish, followed by reports from the Treasurers and the Wardens. Several people were elected or re-elected to Vestry positions: Senior Warden, Karen Mathiasen; Junior Warden, Sally Kelly; Treasurer, Christopher Wolf; Assistant Treasurer, Tanya Cosway; Clerk, Mino Sullivan; Vestry Members, Andus Baker, Elizabeth Childs, Mary Beth Clack, and Karl Loos; and Diocesan Delegates Wendy Squires and Mimi Truslow. They join returning Vestry members Jerry Abraham, Charlie Allen, Jonathan Austin, Peggy Johnson, and Susan Root. Three of our Vestry members had terms that expired: Amey Callahan, Tim Groves, and Nancy Sinsabaugh. We thank them all for their wonderful work. And thank you to all who agreed to run for office. Whether or not your candidacy was successful this year, it is a tribute to your love and concern for Christ Church that you were willing to step forward, and we are all very grateful to you.

We hope that you enjoyed our Annual Meeting this year and felt that it moved along at a good pace, and especially that it got started quickly. We owe tremendous thanks to Catherine Belcher, our Parish Administrator, to Dona O'Donnell, our Financial Administrator, and to Zena Link, our Communications person, all of whom had a big hand in organizing the Annual Meeting, including the three information stations with their picture boards, financial statements, Annual Reports, and election materials. There was a lot of effort involved in pulling everything together. Many thanks to Catherine, Dona, and Zena who worked very hard to make it look easy.

At our Annual Meeting, we bid goodbye to The Reverend Karen Montagno, who, as many of us know, has just accepted a call as Interim Rector at St. Cyprian's in Roxbury. We expect that Karen will be back at Christ Church from time to time for various activities, but we will not have her with us on Sunday mornings, where she has been a Christ Church presence for so many years.

As our new Vestry plans for our first meeting together, on February 23, we have some initial goals in mind. Through our various committees and special events, we will be seeking to engage more parishioners as Companions on the Way. We will look forward to reading the yellow cards that many of you filled out at Annual Meeting indicating what ministries you might like to pursue at Christ Church. Some new ideas have already been suggested. Perhaps we could improve our parish buildings with one or more tidy up, fix up, and painting parties this spring. Building on the work of our Pastoral Care Committee, we might be more proactive in providing food and companionship for those of the Parish who are ill. Maybe we could offer some education programs on planned giving and programs on caring, for both ourselves and others.

By the way, if you were not at Annual Meeting to fill out a yellow card, what the Rector asked us to do was to think about the difference each of us would like to make at Christ Church in the coming year—what we would like to do, how we would like to help, how we can make God's work a more defined reality in the year to come. Joe suggested we look at the Annual Reports and see if there are groups in there with whom we would like to serve, or perhaps we would like to begin a new ministry that Christ Church is not presently involved in. If you didn't fill out a real yellow card, you are urged to fill out a virtual yellow card and email it to parishadmin@cccbridge.org; please put "Ministries" in the subject line. And of course you can do all this with pen and ink on the paper color of your choice. The important thing is that you let the Parish know of your interests. It's a major step in becoming a Companion on the Way.

The Vestry is continuing to manage our finances with greater transparency and coherence. We have already made great strides in doing this with our operating budget. We are now increasingly turning our attention to property matters, especially the long-term income and expenses of our buildings. We are also looking hard at capital budgets, covering both property matters and various long-term intangible programs.

Finally, we have an extraordinary event taking place next year: the 250th anniversary of Christ Church. Under the able leadership of co-convenors Jeff Brown and Jill Herold, plans for the anniversary have been underway for some time. The anniversary will be celebrated with events going on over several months during 2011. It promises to be a great occasion in the life of this wonderful old church.

But first we have 2010 with all its possibilities and challenges, some known, some not. We look forward to your being a part of it as a Companion on the Way.

Peace Karen and Sally



Music At Christ Church In March



Evensong for the Lenten Season: Sunday, March 7 at 4:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong in Lent will feature music of some of English church music's most influential composers. The introit *O Lord, in thy wrath* will begin the service in the beautiful anthem by the late Tudor composer Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625). The Preces and Responses will come from the same period in the form of William Smith's setting, commonly known as "Smith of Durham" (1603–1645). Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958) has juxtaposed the hymn *O God, our help in ages past* over a setting of Psalm 90 in his anthem *Lord, thou hast been our refuge* for semi-chorus and full choir. Weaved throughout all of this will be music of Herbert Howells (1892–1983): his first psalm-prelude (Psalm 34:6) and third rhapsody (composed during a World War I air raid) will frame the service from the organ, and his canticles composed for King's College, Cambridge (*Collegium Regale*) will be sung by the Evensong Choir. With seasonal hymns, psalm, readings and prayers, this

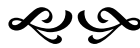
50-minute service will be a beautiful way to start your week. The reception in the Library afterwards is always a good time for welcoming new members to Christ Church and for enjoying excellent food together. Please join us.

A newly-composed setting of the Passion for Good Friday

The Passion narrative is used throughout the Christian Church on Palm Sunday (rotating the accounts written by Matthew, Mark and Luke in Years A, B and C respectively) and Good Friday (the account from John every year). The practice of chanting this text began around the fourth century in Jerusalem. Originally sung by a deacon alone, the practice evolved into a three-singer tradition about a thousand years later, whereby the narrator's part was intoned by a baritone, the part of Jesus was sung by a bass, and the remaining parts were sung by a tenor. In the Renaissance period, composers began to set the "crowd" parts to be sung by SATB choirs. This, in turn, opened the way in the Baroque period for the large-scale musical works, sometimes adding non-Scriptural texts such as in the two extant versions by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750). The practice of including different people for each part of a spoken version of the reading, as we do at Christ Church on Palm Sunday, was undoubtedly inspired by the Renaissance musical practice.

For the last two years, during Christ Church's Good Friday evening service, we have been using a passion setting composed by Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548–1611). In this "Saint John Passion," Victoria employed the three singers (plainsong) and choir (SATB crowd) technique using relatively straight-forward harmony and texture. After receiving feedback that the musical language of the crowd did not 'speak' to some people at Christ Church with the same level of drama demanded by the words, a search began for a more modern alternative. Most musical settings of the passion tend to be longer than is appropriate or practical for use in a one-hour liturgical setting, and so a new setting was composed this year by Stuart Forster. This new setting maintains the scale of Victoria's work, with traditional plainsong tones for the roles of narrator and the various individuals in the story; but it also incorporates the modified NRSV translation, as used at the CCC noon service, as well as a more contemporary harmonic and rhythmic language in the choral parts. The piece will be premièred at the 7:00 p.m. service at Christ Church on Good Friday, April 2, 2010. We look forward to sharing this new composition as part of this year's Holy Week offerings.

Stuart Forster, Music Director



Gentlemen's luncheon on March 18

Any man from the parish who is free at noontime for our Thursday luncheon is most welcome. Whenever you see an announcement, please call the office to let them know that you plan to come. The next luncheon is Thursday, March 18 at 12:00 p.m. We would welcome volunteers who would like to cook a main dish, bring a salad, bread or dessert, or help serve. Please call the Parish Office at 617-876-0200.



The monthly leaflet is now available via email!



Thank you to those of you who have signed up for this service. If you would like join in and help Christ Church save funds on postage and save trees at the same time, please call the Parish Office at 617-876-0200 or email the parish administrator at parishadmin@cccbridge.org and request that you be added to the Leaflet Email List. Please leave your email address when calling.



CHORAL EVENSONG

**The Episcopal Church
in Harvard Square**

**First Sunday of the month
at 4:00 p.m.**



CHRIST CHURCH

Zero Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
www.cccambridge.org
(617) 876-0200

Arrive by 3:50 p.m. to hear the prelude played
on the glorious Schoenstein Organ.

The Rite I Office of Evening Prayer lasts
approximately 55 minutes.

CHORAL EVENSONG this Sunday, March 7 at 4:00 p.m. The monthly series of sung Evening Prayer will be followed by a reception in which the community gathers for conversation and refreshment. Everyone is invited to join us on the first Sunday of each month.

The Reverend Joseph Robinson, *Rector*
The Reverend Jonathan Eden, *Assistant Rector*
The Reverend Dr. Robert Tobin, *Episcopal Chaplain to Harvard University*
Stuart Forster, *Director of Music and Organist*
The Christ Church Cambridge Evensong Choir

On The Rise

ON THE RISE is a safe haven for women who are homeless or are in crisis, and which we support with our goods and money. These are much appreciated and always needed.

Unopened travel-sized items for personal care, such as shampoo and deodorant are much in demand. New socks and undergarments in all sizes, especially bras, are always in demand. Warm sturdy outer garments are particularly needed at this time. For women who often have limited or no source of income, gift cards to supermarkets such as Shaw's, CVS or Charlie Cards can be a lifeline.

As a woman makes strides from living in unsafe or public housing and prepares to move into an apartment of her own; On The Rise looks to its supporters to run a Make-It-Home Drive. This undertaking gathers new or nearly-new household items on a woman's wish list (e.g. cooking utensils, towels, waste baskets). On The Rise will send you a bio about the woman you are helping, her individual needs list for her apartment and you can pick a mutually agreeable date to deliver the items to On The Rise. Staff will deliver the items to the woman's home on your behalf. This is a great service project for a group of friends to do together!

Other members of our parish also provide lunches to the women on a regular basis. OTR is always looking for volunteers who are able to provide meals. Volunteers are also needed to help sort donations; this work is done on Mondays and Thursdays, 3-6 PM except holidays. If you would like to help at the house or cook, contact Marisa Curran at Marisa.Curran@ontherise.org, or 617-497-7968 x 36. You can also contact Summer Akimoto at summerted@aol.com or 781-391-9891 for more information or pick-up of goods.

Gifts maybe left at the back of the church on Sunday, or brought to the office on weekdays, where there is a basket with plastic bags and ON THE RISE labels in the corner behind the receptionist's desk. Many thanks.

Summer Akimoto



Thrift Shop in March

Check out our sales on winter merchandise. Different items are on sale each week! Spring clothing will be on display by the middle of the month.

Do you have a few hours each month to volunteer in the Thrift Shop? Volunteers are needed to help with sales, pricing, sorting, displaying, and marketing. For more information, contact Barbara Worcester (617-864-8288) or Joyce Penniston (617-864-4669).

We appreciate your donations of household items and gently used clothing. We do not sell computers and related equipment, larger electronics, typewriters, cameras, audio-tapes, textbooks, food, previously opened toiletries and cosmetics, and furniture. In addition to clothing, some of our best selling items are CDs, DVDs, popular books, knick-knacks, and decorative items of all sorts. Thank you for thinking of the Thrift Shop when you do your spring cleaning!



Photos were taken of parishioners and friends at the Shrove Tuesday Celebration on February, 16.



Altar Guild

Two Opportunities for Service

The Altar Guild welcomes men, women, and older children. Training is offered to all who wish to help in this holy and rewarding work; newcomers are mentored until the trainee feels comfortable with the process.

Contact either Webb Brown (webb40@juno.com or tel. 617-923-0057) or Summer Akimoto (summerted@aol.com or tel. 781-391-9891).

In this connection, we would like to welcome and thank the newest member of our Junior Altar Guild, Anamarie Grieco. She is a fast learner, and very willing to help with any and all of the small tasks that go into the care and preparations of the Altar and its accouterments. Thank you, Anamarie. We hope more young people will want to join us.

Second, even if you cannot commit to regular duty at services, you are welcome to join us for the preparation for Eastertide, helping with work on Saturday, March 20, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or the day before Palm Sunday, preparing the palms for distribution, or BOTH!

Members are reminded to check the rosters in the Sacristy for the schedules for March and April, as well as an additional roster for services for Holy Week and Easter. Saturday workday will be March 20 at 9:30 a.m. until we are finished polishing and cleaning.

Susie White will lead us in decoration for the Church for Easter, beginning on Palm Sunday. In keeping with the times, we are opting for a simpler, scaled down display, but many hands will still be needed. Watch for emails about this.

For the Guild, Webb Brown and Summer Akimoto



Christmas Fair Allocation Grants

Proceeds from this year's Christmas Fair will be donated to endeavors that serve Cambridge residents. Such organizations need not be church based, but they should share our concerns for children and youth, the poor, the homeless, and other underserved groups. Grants will be small (generally under \$1500) and preference will be given to one-shot projects and start-up organizations. If you know of an organization that might benefit from such a grant, please contact missionfund@cccbridge.org.

Deborah Gevalt



Church announcements

Please note that there will be no verbal announcements at church services during Lent.

HOLY WEEK 2010



AT CHRIST CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN HARVARD SQUARE

ZERO GARDEN STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MA

617-876-0200

WWW.CCCAMBRIDGE.ORG

Palm Sunday, March 28 at 7:45 & 10:15 a.m. — Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist, Rite II
with sermon at both services and choirs at the 10:15 a.m. service. This service begins by commemorating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and includes the interactive reading of the Passion Gospel narrative, preparing us to walk with Jesus through the days of Holy Week. Church School begins at 9:00 a.m. Child care will be provided during the 10:15 a.m. service.

Monday in Holy Week, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. — The Way of the Cross and Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Meditations following Jesus' passion, with Holy Communion gathered together at the altar.

Tuesday in Holy Week, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. — The Way of the Cross and Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Meditations following Jesus' passion, with Holy Communion gathered together at the altar.

Wednesday in Holy Week, March 31 at 7:00 p.m. — Tenebrae
Led by members of the CCC adult choirs, this sung 50-minute service leads us into the final three days of Holy Week. Beautiful and meditative, this ancient liturgy will prepare your heart and soul for the days ahead. We begin in candle light and finish in darkness as we recall the attempt to extinguish the Light that is Christ.

Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m. — Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with Footwashing
Recalling the institution of Holy Eucharist, the washing of the disciples' feet, and Jesus' time in the Garden of Gethsemane, this liturgy includes the ancient liturgy of footwashing and concludes with the stripping of the altar; with sermon and choir.

Good Friday, April 2 at 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. — Way of the Cross
12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. — Good Friday Liturgy
This one-hour liturgy recalls the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and invites us to enter into his passion as we await his resurrection; with sermon at both services and choir at 7:00 p.m. Child care will be provided during the 7:00 p.m. service.

Holy Saturday, April 3 at 5:30 p.m. — Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Light Supper;
7:00 p.m. — The Great Vigil of Easter, with Baptisms and Holy Eucharist, Rite II
This ancient liturgy of the Church begins with the 'first fire,' recalls our salvation history, observes the original time for Baptisms into the faith, declares the Easter proclamation, and celebrates the first Eucharist of Easter. Join us for this festive liturgy; with choir and sermon. Child care will be provided.

Easter Day, April 4 at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. — Festival Eucharist, Rite II
Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Join us on the Sunday of the Resurrection for this wonderfully festive Eucharist with choirs and Easter sermon. Child care will be provided.