

The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

April 9 & 10, 2016

Holy Week Connections

Sometimes we see what's in front of us, and sometimes we see something just a little bit deeper. For Pat Carpenter, Good Friday was one of those times when her eyes fixed on an object she sees most every week and the view revealed something more.

Maybe it was the new lighting in the Sanctuary. Or perhaps it was seeing the St. Andrew's cross — normally flanked by the Holy Family and Risen Christ banners — alone after Maundy Thursday's Stripping of the Altar. Or it could have been her vantage point from the congregation, rather than from her usual seat in the Choir.

Regardless of the reason, what Pat saw in the shadows cast by the cross transported her thoughts to the Damascus Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem, site of the most remarkable, miraculous, and glorious event in history. Yes, it was the place of Christ's suffering and death on the cross that we were commemorating that day.

But what happened there three days later overturned not only his death, but death itself.

The tomb stood empty! And Jesus flung open the gate to eternal life for all who believe in him.

Can you see the outline of the turret of the Damascus Gate in the shadows of the cross?

While not the way Jesus would have entered the city from the Garden of Gethsemane at the foot of the Mount of Olives on the night he was betrayed (that would have been the Golden — or Beautiful — Gate, through which he also passed on Palm Sunday), the Damascus Gate is the largest and most decorative of Jerusalem's gates, and was important as one of the main entrances to the Holy City. Its name comes from the fact that early travelers on their way to the city of Damascus in Syria would pass through it.

With the rise and fall of the city of Jerusalem over the years, none of

Please turn to inside



The Damascus Gate



The Golden Gate from the Mount of Olives, and in close-up. And yes, the Jerusalem sky is really that blue!



The Daily Lectionary

Week of the Third Sunday of Easter • April 10-16

Sunday, April 10 — A.M.: Psalm 148, 149, 150; P.M.: Psalm 114, 115; Exodus 18:1-12; 1 John 2:7-17; Mark 16:9-20

Monday, April 11 — A.M.: Psalm 25; P.M.: Psalm 9, 15; Exodus 18:13-27; 1 Peter 5:1-14; Matthew (1:1-17),3:1-6

Tuesday, April 12 — A.M.: Psalm 26, 28; P.M.: Psalm 36, 39; Exodus 19:1-16; Colossians 1:1-14; Matthew 3:7-12

Wednesday, April 13 — A.M.: Psalm 38; P.M.: Psalm 119:25-48; Exodus 19:16-25; Colossians 1:15-23; Matthew 3:13-17

Thursday, April 14 — A.M.: Psalm 37:1-18; P.M.: Psalm 37:19-42; Exodus 20:1-21; Colossians 1:24-2:7; Matthew 4:1-11

Friday, April 15 — A.M.: Psalm 105:1-22; P.M.: Psalm 105:23-45; Exodus 24:1-18; Colossians 2:8-23; Matthew 4:12-17

Saturday, April 16 — A.M.: Psalm 30, 32; P.M.: Psalm 42, 43; Exodus 25:1-22; Colossians 3:1-17; Matthew 4:18-25

Next Sunday, April 17 — A.M.: Psalm 63:1-8(9-11), 98; P.M.: Psalm 103; Exodus 28:1-4,30-38; 1 John 2:18-29; Mark 6:30-44

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Next Sunday's Lectionary • April 17; Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23 (BCP 612)

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Gospel: John I 0:22-30

Prayers for the Church

Following the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, please pray for Archbishop Richard Clarke and for the other archbishop, bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and laity of The Church of Ireland. The Church includes 12 dioceses in both the Republic of Ireland and in Northern Ireland. It is the second largest church in Ireland, after the Roman Catholic Church.

Tracing its origins to St. Patrick and his companions in the fifth century, the Irish Church has been marked by strong missionary efforts. In 1537, the English king was declared head of the Church, but most Irish Christians maintained loyalty to Rome. The Irish Church Act of 1869 provided that the statutory union between the Churches of England and Ireland be dissolved and that the Church of Ireland should cease to be established by law (and therefore that the English monarch was no longer head of the Church).

The Bible was first translated into the Irish language by Church of Ireland bishops in the 17th century.

Although for a long time the Irish Anglicans and Irish Roman Catholics worked in opposition to each other, in recent decades there has been far more collegiality and working together for the Kingdom. Last month, Irish Anglican and Roman Catholics, along with their respective archbishops, held a joint St. Patrick's Day service at one of the Anglican cathedrals in Dublin.

Following years of declining membership, the Church of Ireland has experienced substantial growth in the last two national censuses, with most of the growth in the Republic of Ireland.

Please pray especially for continuing and increased cooperation among the Irish denominations and for the church's work in evangelism.

Following the ACNA Cycle of Prayer, please pray for Fr. Lawrence Bausch, Dr. Michael Howell, and Forward-in-Faith, North America.

Following the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, please pray for Fr. Ron Feister, Deacon Jack Snyder, and for the people of Grace Anglican, Circleville.

Following the Parish Cycle of Prayer, please pray for Amanda LaHue; Bill and Judy Joseph; the Young Lambs Class; and Nursery Supervisors. Please also pray for those in government; may they remember that God has established their authority on this earth.

What does it mean to be an Anglican?

Come find out on Sundays!

The Adult Forum led by Fr. Ron Baird began a new study on "What does it mean to be an Anglican?" last Sunday. The class will cover the Church of England from its founding until it joined with Rome; the Church of England under Rome; the Church of England during the Reformation; post-Reformation Anglicanism; and Colonial Anglicanism.

The class will also focus on the Anglican Communion, and things that are particular to the Anglican Way, such as the Anglican view of Scripture, Sacraments, moral authority, and governance.

Grab a cup of coffee or tea and a breakfast snack, and join Fr. Ron in the Sanctuary from 10:15 to 11 a.m. on Sundays!

Prayer service this coming Wednesday

Trust God; talk to him. He will tell you what to do.

Your invited to join us at the prayer services on Wednesday, April 13 and April 27 in the Sanctuary from 12 Noon to 1 p.m.

"Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land, and practice faithfulness." (Psalm 37:3)

Encouragement for your prayer time with God

Prayer: I confess that Jesus Christ is the Lord of every area of my life, and I am thankful that his Spirit lives within me. Fill me, precious Holy Spirit, and saturate my entire being, for I give myself as an offering to you.

"This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus." (1 John 4:17) "... and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:11) — From the St. Andrew's Prayer Ministries Team

Marriage Enrichment Weekend planned locally for April 23-24

A Marriage Enrichment weekend is planned for our congregation April 23-24, right here in the northern Columbus area. The concepts presented in this event are designed to re-invigorate your marriage, whether you have been married for a short time or a long time.

Are you curious about whether this kind of thing could do your marriage some good? Larry and Patti Cooper would be happy to answer any questions you may have, so please reach out to them at 740-369-0832 for more information or to register for the weekend. You may also send them an e-mail at centralohiomarriageenrichment@gmail.com, or visit www.c-o-m-e.org.

There are spaces for only five couples at this event and some reservations have already been received so it is filling up pretty fast. Don't wait too long!

Holy Week Connections: The Damascus Gate

Continued from the front

the current gates are original to the first century. One of eight gates remade in the 10th century, the Damascus Gate in its current form was built in 1537 under the rule of Suleiman the Magnificent, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire. Underneath, archaeologists have excavated the remains of a gate dating to the time of the Roman rule of Hadrian in the second century.

The Golden Gate mentioned earlier has its own unique history. The only eastern gate of the Temple Mount, it's the oldest of Jerusalem's gates, and is believed to have been built around 627 AD. It sits atop ruins of earlier gates, whose stones date to the sixth century BC.

The structure consists of two gates that lead directly to the Temple Mount. The northern gate is called the Gate of Repentance, and the southern gate the Gate of Mercy, because in ancient times the Jewish people would pray in front of the gate, asking for God's mercy.

In Jewish tradition, the Golden Gate is the gate through which the Anointed One will enter Jerusalem and bring redemption to the Hebrew nation.

The Golden Gate was closed by Muslims in 810, re-opened by the Crusaders in 1102, and closed again after Saladin's army defeated the Crusaders in 1187. Rebuilt with the walls and other gates of Jerusalem in the mid-16th century, it was permanently walled up in 1541.

The closure is said to fulfill the prophecy in Ezekiel 44:1-3:

"Then he brought me back to the outer gate of the sanctuary, which faces east; and it was shut. The Lord said to me: This gate shall remain shut; it shall not be opened, and no one shall enter by it; for the Lord, the God of Israel, has entered by it; therefore it shall remain shut. Only the prince, because he is a prince, may sit in it to eat food before the Lord; he shall enter by way of the vestibule of the gate, and shall go out by the same way."

It is suggested that Suleiman sealed off the Golden Gate to prevent the Messiah's entrance to the Temple Mount.

The stone across the garden tomb could not hold Jesus. How then would these walled gates keep him out of his Holy City on the day of his triumphant coming again?

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

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Many thanks to Pat Carpenter for sharing what she saw in the shadows of the cross Good Friday! For more information about the gates of Jerusalem, go to templemount.org/jerusalem-gates/gates.html; bibleplaces.com/oldcitygates; jerusalemnomynd.com, and click on the photo of the Golden Gate on the left side of the page; or itsgila.com/tipsgates.htm

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Hey, kids! Pick up a copy of the Damascus Gate and Golden Gate coloring pages from the table at the back of the church today!

Bishop's consecration April 28

The Most Reverend Foley Beach, archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America, will consecrate the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lake's second bishop, the Rev. Dr. Ronald Jackson, at 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, at St. Bernard's Church, 44 University Ave., Akron. Everyone is welcome, and there is no charge to attend just the consecration service.

Since parking is not available in St. Bernard's parking lot, those a shuttle bus service will be provided from St. Thomas Hall, 555 South Cleveland-Mass Rd., Copley, to the church. The shuttle will be available starting at 2 p.m. Buses will arrive in 15 minute intervals and will begin their return after the service is over.

A Consecration Dinner Celebration will be held at St. Thomas following the consecration at 7 p.m. There are a limited number of dinner tickets available for purchase at \$50 per person. The price includes dinner, drinks, and dessert. You may log on to www.adgl.us to purchase tickets.

Parking lot paving project continues

Inclement weather this past week has delayed parts of the parking lot project, but the lot is accessible, and you may drive on it. Groups that are scheduled to meet over the next few days will be able to meet as planned.

We apologize for any inconvenience, and appreciate your patience as the parking lot project is completed!

Four parishioners to perform in Vaud-Villities

Four members of St. Andrew's will perform in Vaud-Villities Spring Show, "Colors of Vaud-Villities" April 21-24 Laurie and Steve Darke, and their son Liam, will return to the stage this spring, and Randy Smith will be making his first appearance.

Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$22 for students and seniors; and \$15 for youth 14 and under. Go to vvshows.org or call calling 614-262-7469 for ticket information.

Holy Week



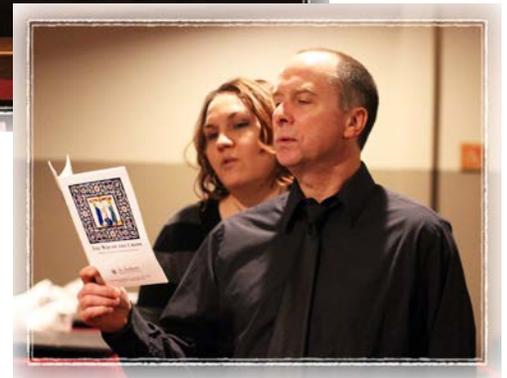
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us! Fr. Ron Baird and Fr. Wil Verhoff celebrate Holy Eucharist while acolyte Larry Cooper, left, and choir members George Spradling and Ann Schnapp, right, look on.



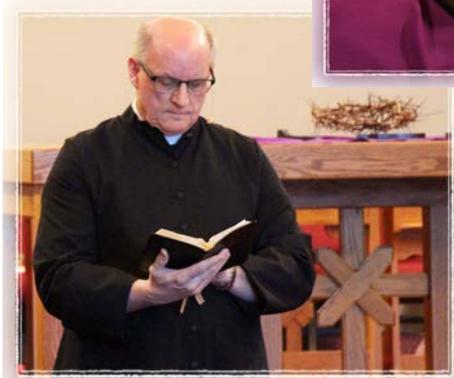
Stripping of the Altar. Fr. Ron Baird, left, and Fr. Wil Verhoff wash the Altar on Maundy Thursday in preparation of Christ's sacrifice on Good Friday.



Fr. Wil strips the altar on Maundy Thursday.



Stations of the Cross. Christine and Dan Brill walk the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.



Good Friday. Fr. Ed Steele, above, leads the prayers while Fr. Ron, at right, carries the cross to the altar.



Holy Saturday. Below, Deacon Becky Spanos chants the *Exsultet*, the ancient prayer at the lighting of the Pascal Candle, after the candle has been censed.



Following in the footsteps of Jesus. Above, from left, Ann Schnapp, Chris Bryant (partially hidden), Ed and Kathy Summers, Donn Ross, Jeff Wilson and LuAnn Ross walk the Stations of the Cross, which trace Jesus' footsteps from his arrest to the crucifixion.



Good Friday. At left, Kara Atkinson and daughter venerate the cross.