

The Messenger

October 2008



Dear Friends,

Walking into our sanctuary is an experience of being drawn into the holiness of God. When I enter that space during the quiet morning hours in the middle of the week, the cares and preoccupations of the day evaporate, and I am reminded of what really matters. Worries recede, and I am filled with gratitude for God's many blessings in my life. My thoughts come to rest on what I treasure.

When Christians talk about stewardship, we are calling to mind the blessings that God has bestowed upon us and reflecting upon how we show gratitude for God's many gifts. We step back from the demands of the day and the clutter of our lives to focus on what we treasure.

Time and again I have been caught us short with the recognition that I am expending undue resources of time and money on things that really are not important. There are many things that make demands upon me, but which I come eventually to recognize are really of little value. Often they are drawing attention away for those things that I truly treasure.

As we come to that time in the church calendar when undertake the annual pledge campaign here at the Church, I would encourage all of us to do an assessment our lives:

- Do we recognize that abundance in our lives or are we too preoccupied to notice?
- How do we show gratitude for our blessings?
- Do we use our resources of time and money to support things that we truly value?
- Are we willing to let go of some things and live more simply so that we can more generously support those things that are really important?

Over the past several years our members have been faithful stewards and have responded generously to the needs of the Church. Your generosity has brought stability to our parish family and significant improvements to our facility and our life together.

We are a congregation in which people of all ages support and encourage one another. I draw strength and joy week after week from the wisdom of those who are older and the freshness of spirit of those who are young. For me, this parish is truly a treasure.

Please give careful and prayerful consideration to your financial support of the Church of the Incarnation for the coming year. We have been richly blessed. Let us come together with a generous spirit so that together we might sustain the vitality and grow the ministry of our parish.

Yours in Christ,
Vicki



Q & A WITH BISHOP SINGH

Below is an excerpt from a letter sent by Bishop Singh in September. The letter can be found in its entirety on the Diocesan Website at: www.rochesterepiscopaldiocese.org/about

Dear saints,

I am constantly amazed at the privilege of being called to be your Bishop. Since this is a period of transition for you and me, I am trying to be intentional in getting communication to you as often as possible. Here is a Q & A format that addresses a few issues before us; I thank my staff for helping me pull this communication together.

Q: *Now that you have been in the Diocese for a while, what have you experienced in these first days and months?*

A: As you can imagine, making this transition for me and for my family is both humbling and rewarding. I am grateful for the call to be the Ordinary of the Episcopal Church in Rochester, New York. My family is settling in: Roja has done a magnificent job in transforming our new Fairport home into a warm and lovely place to raise our family. Ned (16) has begun school and, although sorry to leave many friends behind, is finding new ones, daily. Eklan (7) is in second grade and excited to be in a new school. Our personal adjustments are happening as is my settling into the new role as your Bishop. Having served as a parish priest for many years, I am excited by the opportunity to focus our energy and excitement on the possibilities of encountering God's new future in our parishes. I am grateful for our team of people both at Diocesan House and in leadership throughout the Diocese that are my partners as we move into 2009 and beyond. I am counting on all of you to help transform us into a joyful diocese growing in vigor and vitality.



All Saints' Day is a special time in the church year for remembering our loved ones who have died. These persons may be family members or special persons who have brought us closer to Christ. During our 8 & 10 a. m. services on *November 2nd*, we will pray by name for members of our parish who died in the past year, and for those whose funerals or memorial services were held at Incarnation. The service bulletin will also list other loved ones whose names have been submitted by parishioners. Please *contact the church office by Friday, October 24th* if there is a name of someone you would like to be remembered that day.

INCARNATION'S NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee was appointed at the September 16th Vestry meeting. It is comprised of the Rector, the Wardens (Scott Seabridge and John Marshall) and four Vestry members whose terms expire in January 2009 (Judy Masten, Greg Skizim, Chuck Jones and Marlene Williams). The Committee Chair is *Marlene Williams*. The following positions are up for election this year:

Warden	2 yr term
Vestry	3 yr term [3 openings]
Vestry	1 yr term
Convention Delegate	3 yr term
Alternate Delegate	3 yr term
Alternate Delegate	1 yr term

Please give thought to people whom you would like the committee to consider. Be aware that *these are not nominations, but people whom you would like the committee to consider*. Suggestions may be given to any member of the Nominating Committee for their consideration.

Qualifications for Vestry are as follows:

- Baptized member of the congregation for a minimum of one year;
- Over 18 years of age;
- Regularly participates in worship and parish activities;
- Pledging member of the parish;
- Commitment to the vision and the ministry of the parish;
- Works well with people;
- Listens to concerns of entire parish and works through Vestry process to achieve goals set by the Vestry.



STEWARDSHIP



Save the Date!

*The Stewardship Committee & the Wardens
of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation
are pleased to invite the Church Family to attend*

The 3rd Annual In-House Cottage Meeting

Sunday, October 26th, 2008
One service at 10 a.m.

"Focus on What is Important, What you Value"

**Special Music - Steel Drums during the
Service**
Potluck Celebration Brunch following



STEWARDSHIP AS GOING GREEN

Have you ever thought of stewardship as going green? Stewardship fundamentally means how we make use of what God has given us. It is a recognition that resources are limited and are meant to be shared for the good of all.

Are you looking for ways to be a better steward? Perhaps we can share with one another ideas for going green.

Here are a couple of ideas for starters. You will find more in a little book given to the parish library by David and Sherry McCarthy entitled [Live Generously: 50 Small Acts that Make a Big Difference.](#)

1. Give something away and de-clutter your life.
2. Become a blood donor.
3. Try to shop for foods that are local, organic, animal traded and Fairly traded.
4. Switch to energy saving light bulbs.
5. Recycle your old cell phone.
6. Make contact with a friend you have not heard from for a while.

SAVE THE DATE:



- Oct 26 Stewardship Sunday**
One service at 10AM
Potluck Brunch following the service
- Nov 2-3 Diocesan Convention
- Nov 2 All Saints' Sunday
Daylight Saving Time ends
- Nov. 8 Chili Cook-Off – 5-7 p.m.
- Nov 23 Parish Ingathering & Capital Campaign Celebration**
One service at 10AM
Celebration Brunch following the service



AN INVITATION FROM ST. PAUL'S ECW

St. Paul's ECW Group (Episcopal Church Women) would like to invite you to attend their 2008-09 presentations, which are held on the first Thursday of every month. An optional luncheon is offered at Noon in the parish hall at a cost of \$5 per person. The monthly speaker follows from 1-2 pm. Please call St. Paul's church office at 271-2240 to reserve a lunch space. Please note that many men attend as well!

Oct. 2 Seasonal Floral Decorating, Door-to-Door by Michael Miller from Kittelberger's Florist. Kittelberger's provides the flowers for many local church altars. Michael is a very informative and entertaining speaker.

Nov. 6 Hidden Treasures: A Selection of Historic Houses and Gardens in the Rochester Region by Cynthia Hawk of The Landmark Society.

PARISH & COMMUNITY NOTES

- ✓ We welcome the newly baptized into our church family:



Chase Douglas Marsden

Warm congratulations to his parents, Jennifer & Doug Marsden, and grandparents, Rose & Bob.

Gabriel Ethan Alexander Lewis

Warm congratulations to his parents, Brad & Alexa Lewis, and grandfather, Rick Machemer.

- ✓ Thank you to **Pat Cragg** for her recent donation of tools to our church. They are already being put to good use!

NEW EVENING WOMEN'S GROUP

A new evening women's group is being formed. This group will provide fellowship and much more. We will be having an organizing meeting on *Thursday, October 23* from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm in the Parish Lounge next to Vicki's office. All women are invited. For more information call Betty Donahue (288-7736) or Marlene Williams (267-7098).



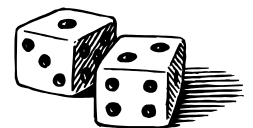
YOUTH GROUP

Our Youth Group kick-off meeting took place between the services on September 21st. Vicki helped the group to engage in a discussion about prayer. We discussed different approaches to daily prayer and what feels right to each of us. It is reassuring to know that we can comfortably talk with God about whatever is on our minds, whether it be our hopes or concerns or simply a request for guidance.

Our Harvest Party and October meeting is scheduled for *October 26th* at 7pm at the Evans' home.

The Youth Group also looks forward to being involved in the Eastern Service worker's Thanksgiving food basket campaign, Angel Tree set-up and gift sorting as well as the Children's Christmas party in the upcoming months.

GAME NIGHT



This month's Game Night is being hosted by John & Julie Marshall on *October 18* at 7:00 p.m. All adults are welcome. Bring your own beverages and a snack and/or game to share for a fun night out. Mark your calendars now; upcoming dates are as follows:

November 15
January 17
February 21
March 21

If you would be interested in hosting a game night, at either the church or your home, contact Tracey Povia at 872-7431 or tap55@rochester.rr.com.



HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN



Halloween has its origin in pagan celebrations that took place in the autumn - that time of year when it appears that everything is dying. Christian culture has incorporated it into the holy day that commemorates those who have died. After darkness falls on the night of October 31, we walk along sidewalks, our feet crunching the fallen leaves, hoping that with the light that shines in each house there will be a gift of something sweet.

During this time of year the nights are long; the cold chills our bones; the fields are barren; all seems to be lifeless. But in the darkness and the cold we look for the glimmer that will lead us to God. We cannot see the light without the darkness.

Halloween is a festival that invites children and adults alike to look into dark places. It encourages us to let the musings of the imagination be light to guide us through the darkness of fear and sorrow. The demons of the souls are given shape and form so that they can be engaged in a safe and playful manner.

Children sometimes feel fearful without knowing what they are afraid of. Halloween gives them a time for "playing" with those things that in the normal course of things they cannot acknowledge. Perhaps that is why many of us never outgrow our fascination with this special day.

CHILI COOK-OFF TIME!



Fall is in the air, and Penfield's version of "Iron Chef" is on the calendar! The Annual Chili Cook-Off is being held on *Saturday, November 8th* from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Chefs from the church will compete, votes will be tallied, and trophies awarded to the top three!

Children will be given the option of eating either chili or pizza. Don't miss this feast, for the low cost of \$5 per adult, \$2 per child (age 12 or under) with a maximum of \$15 per family. Tickets will be sold at the door. Please see the signup sheets on the easel in the foyer if you are able to help.

ENGAGEMENT NEWS

Jennifer Lynn Miraglia has become engaged to Matthew David Melnyk. They will be married at Incarnation in the fall of 2009. Jennifer resides in Boston MA where she is a Senior Physical Therapist at Massachusetts General Hospital. Matt resides in Washington D.C. where he is employed as an engineer. Both are former graduates of Penfield High School, and have dated since sophomore year. What's even more interesting is the fact that Matt's family bought Miraglia's home on Whalen Road when they moved to Hallmont Circle, which means Jennifer's fiancé was raised in the house she was born to.

Shelley Hooker has become engaged to Doug Burnside. They reside in Richmond, Virginia, where they will be married on October 18th.

Jessica Mitchell has become engaged to Ken Schlimegen. They will be married at Incarnation on April 25, 2009. Jessica and her fiancé reside in Buffalo, NY where they are both employed by HSBC bank. They continue to be active in community theatre, where they first met.



Congratulations on the births of:

Malayna Michelle Masceri

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

6 lbs. 5 oz. 18" long

He joins proud parents Laura & Tony Masceri, big brother Mason, big sister Maya, and grandparents Bob & Sharon Lemmey

Cassidy Levi Masten

Monday, September 21, 2008

5 lbs. and 10 oz. 19" long

She joins proud grandparents Tom & Judy Masten

Quinn Annaliese Rosini

Wednesday, October 1, 2008

8 lbs. 22" long

She joins proud parents Chris & Brooke Rosini, uncle Ken Rosini, and grandparents Phil & Shirley Rosini





PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY AT INCARNATION

Although The Church of the Incarnation has had a very successful program for visiting and caring for people that are homebound; the Pastoral Care Group has been slowly evolving into a single effort to offer caring and Spiritual support to Parishioners who have been unable to participate in activities at The Church of the Incarnation, usually due to physical problems such as illness. Support activities include Home Communion, meals, cards, visits, transportation etc.

The current committee consists of

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|--------------------|----------------|
| Cork Dinan | Bob Dobbin |
| Andy Johnson | Judy Masten |
| Linda Nicodemus | Shirley Rosini |
| Pam Simmons | Tod Timmel |
| Rev Vicki Prescott | |

Our meetings are scheduled quarterly at which we pray and report on current activities as well as plan for the needs of our Parishioners. Some of our members have received special training through a diocesan program and others have been trained by Vicki.

Our Lay Eucharistic Ministers currently visit nine Parishioners on a regular basis. Vicki has added a prayer and a "sending out" ritual to our weekly service.

Many other Pastoral Care activities are handled quietly by our members.

All the Pastoral Care Ministers have shared that these are deeply rewarding experiences. Development of new personal relationships, and assuring members of The Church of The Incarnation that they can *a/ways* be linked to the church long after they can no longer attend formal services, represent a few such outcomes.

Anyone interested in joining in this ministry or who might need help should consult Vicki, Janet Seabridge or any of our members for more information or assistance.

Sincerely,
Tod Timmel
Pastoral Care Team Member

WHO'S IN THE PEWS*The Owens Family*

Ray and Miriam Owens are very active members of Incarnation. Ray is a Patent Attorney at Kodak and is currently a member of our Vestry. Miriam is a retired Rector of St. John's, Honeoye Falls and Church of the Ascension, Rochester. She currently preaches once a month, to our delight, at Incarnation.

They raised their children, Neal, David and Sarah, at Incarnation when Jim Metzger and Phil Schaefer were the rectors. Ray was the first and only "Choir Father" under Carol Doran. He helped the children with their robes. They both taught Sunday School with Ray teaching 6th grade and Miriam teaching 1st grade.

They have traveled to many countries with six Elderhostel groups. They studied at St. George's College for a month in Israel. They also studied in Rome with the Anglican Church. Ray served on the Sheen Housing Foundation Board for many years, while Miriam served on the Cameron Ministries Board. Their interests include travel, study, reading, art and history. They belong to a couples book club. Ray loves to play golf and Miriam loves art, both painting and being a docent at the Rochester Art Museum.

Their son Neal now lives in Phoenix, AZ, and has one son, Sean, 18. He is a machine programmer for a tool and die company. David, an attorney, lives in Irondequoit and has one daughter, Dana, who is very familiar to us. Sarah lives in Charleston, SC, and is an Assistant Professor of Spanish Literature at the College of Charleston.

*Prayer of St. Francis
Lord, make us instruments of
your peace. Where there is
hatred, let us sow love; where
there is injury, pardon; where
there is discord, union; where
there is doubt, faith; where there
is despair, hope; where there is
darkness, light; where there is
sadness, joy. Grant that we
may not so much seek to be
consoled as to console, to be
understood as to understand; to
be loved as to love. For it is in
giving that we receive; it is in*



St. Francis, pray for us

*St. Francis
Dau*