

THE ANNUNCIATION



VOLUME XXVIII No. 1
January 2011

Saint Mary's Church

30 Macon Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina 28801
828-254-5836



FROM THE RECTOR

Father Brent Norris

During my life I have received quite a few gifts. But I don't think that the gift I received this past Advent has an equal. The **Advent ecumenical services** with our brothers and sisters from St. Eugene, St. Paul's, and St. Mark's were a blessing. The experience of Christ's people joined together in fellowship and in worship was moving and spiritually nourishing. I have heard the same sentiment from those from St. Mary's who made these services part of their Advent observance.

I can get pretty discouraged about the state of Christ's Church which most of time seems to me simply intent on preserving its own denominational structures, aesthetic traditions and playing a spiritual game of "little Jack Horner." Coming together with other Christians, stretching spiritual boundaries, being willing to accept that I have something to learn about Christian life from someone in another tradition pushes back against that. I enter this new year with a renewed hope for the Church and her ministry. That is a precious gift to me.

I think the same is possible through our participation with the **Christian Discipleship Center**, which has been noted in the Annunciation previously. In case you missed that issue let me share again about this inter-church venture.

The Christian Discipleship Center is a consortium of six churches (**St. Mary's, St. Paul's United Methodist, St. Mark's Lutheran, St. Eugene Roman Catholic, Grace Episcopal and First Presbyterian**) which plan and share adult Christian formation courses. The courses meet during the week either during the day or in the evening for eight to twelve weeks per course. The courses are taught by highly qualified instructors and must meet criteria established by the CDC board. The courses must support the goal of deepening Christian knowledge and discipleship. This winter our two courses are a survey of the book of Revelation and a course on environmental sustainability. In Lent the offering will be a theological exploration of Brahm's *Requiem*. I encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities.

Peace and blessings

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brent". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

As we move through the winter season the likelihood of snow and/or ice becomes greater. If there is a question about whether or not services have been cancelled at St. Mary's, simply call the church office number (254-5836). The message on the answering machine will tell you what you need to know. The decision about cancelling the 8:00 am service will be made by 7:00 am. The decision about cancelling Sunday school and the 11:00 am service will be made by 9:00 am. Decisions about daily services will be made by 3:30 pm. The condition of roads can vary a great deal from one part of Asheville to another, not to mention our outlying towns. When in doubt opt for safety. Take out your BCP, read the service and scriptures appointed for the day, and make a spiritual communion in your heart.



**FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

Saturday, January 1, 2011

12:00 pm

Make a right beginning to the year by attend Mass on this Feast Day.

ISLAM, HINDUISM, BUDDHISM AND OTHERS

In January the Adult forum will begin a series which explores the basic beliefs and practices of the worlds growing religions. As American society becomes more and more diverse we find ourselves coming into more frequent contact with people of other faiths, most of which are growing in adherents while Christianity shrinks. In that we share our world with these faiths we need to know what they believe. Sometimes it is surprising how similar our beliefs are. Did you know that the Virgin Mary is mentioned more in the Koran than in the Bible? Adult Forum beings at 9:45 am in Mercer Hall.

REPORT FROM ADVENT CONSPIRACY: ALTERNATIVE MARKET

Good job on the Alternative Market that was held at St. Mary's during Advent and thank you to Meredith Stanley for organizing this event. A total of \$1,690.00 was donated and sent to the following agencies:

Buen Pastor School in the Dominican Republic	\$150.00
Episcopal Relief and Development	\$230.00
Heifer International	\$940.00
MANNA Food Bank	\$239.00
Pisgah Legal Services	\$ 60.00

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Thursday, January 6

Mass with hymns will be at 6:30 pm followed by covered dish dinner.

This is an Education for Ministry alumni gathering and we will have a theological reflection as part of the evening.



Meeting

Tuesday, January 11 6:30 pm

at the home of Genelda Woggon (118 Macon Avenue)

All women of the parish are invited.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



The flowers were given to the Glory of God in thanksgiving
for the Incarnation of Our Lord this Christmastide by:

Judy & Lynn Sluder

Ginny Bullock in thanksgiving for *Ryan, Ami, Aspen & Linken Bullock*.

Dee Humphreys in thanksgiving for Blessings received.

David Moltke-Hansen in thanksgiving for St. Mary's Congregation.

John Nash in thanksgiving for St. Mary's.

Sue & John Hunter in thanksgiving for *John, Hope, Sarah* and Good Friends and Family.

Gennaro Viola in thanksgiving for improved health.

Michelle Rippon in thanksgiving for *Betty Farr*.

Bob Wysong in loving memory of *Star Wysong*.

Nancy Costello & Bill Spellman in loving memory of *Paddy Burke*.

Carol Malsby in loving memory of *Robert F. Malsby, Jr. DVM*

Mary Gennett in loving memory of *Andrew Gennett & Andrew Gennett, III*.

Annette & Bob Henry and *Joan Henry* in loving memory of *Tom & Doris Miles* and *Ralph, Virginia & Bettyane Henry*.

Michelle Rippon in loving memory of *Clive & Marion Rippon* and *Lloyd Farr*.

Gennaro Viola in loving memory of his beloved departed.

Sue & John Hunter in loving memory of *Ann Smith, Pearl Mullins, Lou Taylor, Betty Taylor Hunter* and *Irene Hunter*.



From the Parish Library by Brian Stanley

This Month's Featured Sections:

Religious Fiction (FICT)
Religious Poetry and Drama (POET)

Recommended titles:

Son of Laughter, by Frederick Buechner. A contemporary retelling of the story of Jacob.

Call number: FICT Buec

274 pages

The Stones of the Abbey, by Fernand Pouillon. Recreates the building of the twelfth-century abbey of Le Thoronet from the viewpoint of the master builder, describing how he overcomes political troubles, spiritual self-doubt, injury, and disease to raise his monument to God, his Order, and himself.

Call number: FICT Pou

218 pages

The Man Born to be King: The Life of Christ in Twelve Dramatic Episodes, by Dorothy L. Sayers. Originally written for radio broadcast, Sayers's drama adapts the rich yet fragmentary materials of the Gospels into a vivid retelling of the life of Christ.

Call number: POET Saye

339 pages

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP CENTER

Participating Churches

**First Presbyterian
St. Eugene Catholic
St. Mary's Episcopal**

**Grace Episcopal
St. Mark's Lutheran
St. Paul's Methodist**

Name of Course: A Sustainable Earth

Name of Instructor: Dot Sulock, teacher of mathematics, humanities, and international studies at UNCA for 34 years.

Location of Course: Asheville Catholic School library,
12 Culvern St., Asheville

Dates: Eight weeks from Sunday, January 9 to February 27, 2011
Time: 4:00-6:00 PM.

Enrollment: 12 Minimum and 15 Maximum

Description of course: In this class we will learn about the importance of conservation and renewable energy in working towards achieving a sustainable human civilization on our planet. We will assume that God is helping us in our efforts to be good stewards of Earth and will seek the will of God in our thinking. Some of the subjects we will study are: types of solar energy, wind power, geothermal energy, energy from algae, energy from tides and waves, and the challenge for each of us personally. Sustainability is an achievement of love and an accessory of peace.

Fee: No Fee

To Register:
Call St. Eugene's at (828) 254-5193

Name of Course: A Study of the Revelation of St. John

Name of Instructor: Reverend Gene Keil, retired pastor, United Church of Christ. Gene has taught this course a number of different times in various settings. He found it helpful to his own understanding of worship and the sacraments.

Location of Course: St. Mark's Lutheran Church library,
10 N. Liberty, Asheville

Dates: Six weeks from Thursday, January 13 - February 17, 2011
Time: 7:00-8:30 PM

Enrollment: 8 Minimum and 20 Maximum

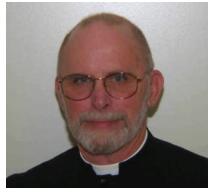
Description of course: This six week course will not only look at a way of understanding this strange, final book of the Bible, but will also explore the ways that it is important to us as contemporary Christians. We will read the book of Revelation and discuss its meaning, its impact on our culture and our worship. Participants will only need a copy of the New Testament Bible in any translation. (Participants are asked to read chapters 1-3 & 22:21 prior to the first session of the class; we will be moving quickly through the book during our class sessions.)

Fee: No fee

To Register:
Call St. Mark's at (828) 253-0043

NOTICE

+++ The deadline to submit articles for the February 2011, newsletter will be January 20 +++



FROM YOUR DEACON

The Rev'd Deacon Gary Kovach

For those of you who “didn’t have a chance” to participate in the Wednesday evening Ecumenical Advent services, you missed seeing the Gospel at work. I firmly believe that this was one of the many highlights of the past year for St. Mary’s. It was such a treat to break bread *and* to worship with the congregations from St. Eugene Roman Catholic, St. Paul’s United Methodist, and St. Mark’s Lutheran churches. For me personally, I was blessed by making some new friends, and had a chance to renew “old” acquaintances too. We also heard some fantastic sermons. It was great! Thanks to those who worked to put the programs together. And, I hope that we can continue to expand our horizons throughout the coming months of the New Year. This has been the start of something good.

Thanks also to everyone who worked so diligently to, once again, bless us with such uplifting and joyful Christmas Eve services. (The children’s pageant was awesome!) Thanks be to God!

On a lighter note, (ha-ha) as we get ready to move into our new building this year, I think it imperative that we consider, and then re-consider, our pledges to St. Mary’s for the coming year. Churches are designated as “non-profits” in the secular world. Unfortunately, those entities that keep churches functioning are not! (gas, lights, phones, insurance, salaries). Love is the engine that does, indeed, make the world go ‘round. But, money is the fuel for that engine. We at St. Mary’s can only support what we can pay for. I beseech you to pray about why, and what, you give to the church, and then let your heart guide you.

And, speaking of “something good,” I pray that the coming year will bless each and everyone of us and that we may know and be filled with all the love and joy that God’s grace and God’s Son offer to us.

Your servant in Christ,
Deacon Gary

FOOD COLLECTION IN JANUARY: **Canned Vegetables**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Project: Our Voice, Inc.

Where: 44 Merrimon Ave., Suite 1
Asheville, NC 28801

When: This an ongoing opportunity

Opportunities: Our Voice is a rape crisis and sexual assault service provider for Buncombe County. Volunteers needed to provide support services to survivors. Training is provided.

Contact: Monica Antonazzo
Volunteer Coordinator (828) 252-0562
E-mail: monicaa@ourvoicenc.org

SERVING IN MINISTRY IN JANUARY

Ushers 11:00 am

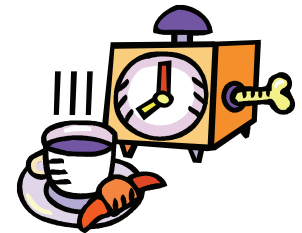
January	2 & 9	Meredith & Brian Stanley
	16 & 23	Judy & Lynn Sluder
	30	Carolyn & Jeff Untz

Lectors

	8:00 am	11:00 am
January 2	<i>Julien Mercier</i>	<i>Lessons & Carols</i>
January 6 - Epiphany		6:30 pm <i>Michelle Rippon</i>
January 9	<i>Vince Ross</i>	<i>Roger Watson</i>
January 16	<i>Cindy Norris</i>	<i>Leslie Johnson</i>
January 23	<i>Julien Mercier</i>	<i>Harold Cole</i>
January 30	<i>Vince Ross</i>	<i>Marie Turowski</i>

Coffee Hour *(following 11:00 am Mass)*

January	2	Hunter Family
	9	Genelda Woggon
	16	
	23	
	30	ECW Soup Sunday Lunch



FROM THE REGISTER ATTENDANCE REPORT

	8:00 am	11:00 am	Total
December 5	18	64	82
December 12		42	42
December 19	23	95	118
December 24 4:00 pm		68	68
December 24 7:00 pm		49	49
December 24 10:00 pm		89	89
December 26	Snow	Snow	Snow

JANUARY PRAYER CYCLE

Daily Prayers for: Diocese, Anglican Communion, Religious Communities

1	St. Andrews, Bessemer City International Anglican Family Network Sisters of the Community of St. Mary, Sewanee	16	St. Thomas, Burnsville Diocese of Abuja (Nigeria) Sisters of the Order of St. Helena, Augusta, GA
2	St. Francis, Rutherfordton Diocese of Lahore (Pakistan) All Saints' Sisters of the Poor, Catonsville, MD	17	St. Luke's, Boone Diocese of Litoral Ecuador The Community of Taize
3	St. Peter-by-the-Lake, Denver Diocese of Lainya (Sudan) Sisters of the Community of the Holy Spirit, New York	18	St. Mary's, Blowing Rock Diocese of London (Canterbury, England) Brothers of St. Gregory's Abbey, Three Rivers, MI
4	Church of the Advocate, Asheville Diocese of Lake Malawi (Central Africa) Sisters of the Community of St. Francis, San Francisco	19	Calvary, Fletcher Diocese of Long Island Brothers of the Servants of Christ Priory, Phoenix, AZ
5	St. Luke's & Our Saviour, Lincoln Diocese of Lango (Uganda) Sisters of the Community of St. John the Baptist, NJ	20	St. Joseph's, Christ School Diocese of Los Angeles Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity, Ripon, WI
6	St. Gabriel's, Rutherfordton National Episcopal Church Sisters of the Community of St. Mary, Greenwich, NY	21	Good Shepherd & Holy Cross, Tryon Diocese of Louisiana Sisters of Charity, Little Britain, Ontario
7	Redeemer, Shelby Diocese of Langtang (Nigeria) Sisters of the Transfiguration, San Pedro, DR	22	St. James & La Capilla De Santa Maria, Hendersonville Diocese of Luapula (Central Africa) Sisters of St. John the Divine, Toronto
8	All Saints & St. Mark's, Gastonia Diocese of Lebombo (Southern Africa) Sisters of St. Mary, West Province, Mukwonago, WI	23	St. Philip's, Brevard That we may show the glory of God. Brothers of the Society of St. Francis, Mt. Sinai, NY
9	Deerfield & St. Giles, Asheville Diocese of Leicester (Canterbury, England) Sisters of the Church, Oakville, Ontario	24	Transfiguration, Bat Cave Diocese of Lucknow (North India) Brothers of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge, MA
10	Thompson Home, Charlotte Diocese of Lesotho (Southern Africa) Sisters of the Transfiguration, Cincinnati, OH	25	St. Paul's, Edneyville Diocese of Lui (Sudan) Sisters of the Society of St. Margaret, Port-au-Prince
11	Holy Communion, Glendale Springs Diocese of Lexington Brothers of the Holy Cross, West Park, NY	26	Transfiguration, Saluda Diocese of Lusaka (Central Africa) Priests of the Society of St. Paul, Palm Desert, CA
12	Christ, Sparta Diocese of Liberia (West Africa) Sisters/Brothers of Julian of Norwich, Waukesha, WI	27	Holy Family, Mills River Diocese of Luwero (Uganda) Sisters of Teachers of the Children of God, Tucson, AZ
13	Holy Cross, Valle Crucis Diocese of Lichfield (Canterbury, England) Sisters of St. Anne, Bethany Convent, Arlington, MA	28	St. John-in-the-Wilderness, Flat Rock Diocese of Lusaka (Central Africa) New Vocations
14	The Savior, Newland Diocese of Limerick & Killaloe (Dublin, Ireland) Sisters of St. Anne, Ascension Convent, Chicago, IL	29	Valle Crucis Conference Center Diocese of Luwero (Uganda) Associates of Religious Orders
15	Trinity, Spruce Pine Diocese of Lincoln (Canterbury, England) Sisters of the Society of St. Margaret, Boston	30	Kanuga Conference Center Diocese of Cape Town (Southern Africa) Religious Communities in the Anglican Communion
		31	Good Shepherd, Cashiers Diocese of Lweru (Tanzania) Oblates of Religious Orders

St. Mary's Church

JANUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
+ = Special Devotion						1 HOLY NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST 10:00 am Al-Anon 12:00 pm Mass
2 CHRISTMAS II 7:45 am MP 8:00 am Mass <u>White</u> 9:45 am Atrium 9:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am Christmas Lessons & Carols & High Mass	3 <i>Parish Office closed</i>	4 Elizabeth Seton <i>(Fr. Edwards)</i> 5:15 pm EP 5:30 pm Mass <u>White</u>	5 Feria <i>(Fr. Norris)</i> 7:30 am Mass <u>White</u> 12:00 pm Clergy Lunch 6:00 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Choir	6 EPIPHANY 3:30-5 pm After School Ecumenical Atrium 6:30 pm Mass with Hymns <i>Covered dish Supper in Mercer Hall with EFM Info</i>	7 Harriet Bedell <i>(Fr. Woggon)</i> 12:05 pm Mass <i>(Rite I)</i> <u>White</u>	8 10:00 am Al-Anon
9 EPIPHANY 1: Baptism of Our Lord 7:45 am MP 8:00 am Mass <u>White</u> 9:45 am Atrium 9:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am High Mass	10	11 William Laud <i>(Fr. Edwards)</i> 5:15 pm EP 5:30 pm Mass <u>White</u> 6:30 pm ECW/@ Woggon Home 1	12 Aelred <i>(Fr. Woggon)</i> 7:30 am Mass <u>White</u> 6:00 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Choir	13 3:30-5 pm After School Ecumenical Atrium 6:30 pm EFM	14 Hilary <i>(Fr. Woggon)</i> 12:05 pm Mass <i>(Rite I)</i> <u>White</u>	15 10:00 am Al-Anon 12:00 pm Confessions
16 EPIPHANY II 7:45 am MP 8:00 am Mass <u>Green</u> 9:45 am Atrium 9:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am High Mass	17 <i>Parish Office closed</i>	18 CONFES SION OF ST. PETER <i>(Fr. Edwards)</i> 5:15 pm EP 5:30 pm Mass <u>White</u>	19 Wulfstan <i>(Fr. Woggon)</i> 7:30 am Mass <u>White</u> 6:00 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Choir	20 3:30-5 pm After School Ecumenical Atrium 6:30 pm EFM	21 + Agnes <i>(Fr. Weissman)</i> 12:05 pm Mass <i>(Rite I)</i> <u>White</u>	22 10:00 am Al-Anon
23 EPIPHANY III 7:45 am MP 8:00 am Mass <u>Green</u> 9:45 am Atrium 9:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am High Mass	24 <i>Rector's Day off</i>	25 CONVER SION OF ST. PAUL <i>(Fr. Edwards)</i> 5:15 pm EP 5:30 pm Mass <u>White</u>	26 Timothy, Titus & Silas <i>(Fr. Norris)</i> 7:30 am Mass <u>White</u> 6:00 pm Rosary	27 3:30-5 pm After School Ecumenical Atrium 6:30 pm EFM	28 + Thomas Aquinas <i>(Fr. Weissman)</i> 12:05 pm Mass <i>(Rite I)</i> <u>White</u> Vestry/Clergy Retreat at Lake Logan	29 10:00 am Al-Anon
30 EPIPHANY IV 7:45 am MP 8:00 am Mass <u>Green</u> 9:45 am Atrium 9:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am High Mass	31 <i>Rector's Day off</i>					

St. Mary's Church

337 Charlotte Street, Asheville, North Carolina 28801

Office & Mailing Address: 30 Macon Avenue

Phone: 828-254-5836 Fax: 828-254-7553

E-mail: mail@stmarysasheville.org Website: stmarysasheville.org

Fr. Norris at the Rectory: 254-1285

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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev'd G. Porter Taylor _____ Bishop of Western North Carolina
The Rev'd Brent Norris _____ Rector
The Rev'd Gary Kovach _____ Deacon
The Rev'd William Austin _____ Priest Associate & Prison Missioner
The Rev'd E. G. Bierhaus _____ Priest Associate
The Rev'd O. C. Edwards _____ Priest Associate
The Rev'd Stephen Weissman _____ Priest Associate
The Rev'd Harry Woggon _____ Priest Associate

VESTRY AND OFFICERS

Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Harold Cole _____ Treasurer
Meredith Stanley _____ Clerk of the Vestry

Michael Ashmore _____ Class of '12
Bob Wysong

Tom Naomi _____ Class of '13
Roger Watson

Ryan Bullock _____ Class of '14
Patricia Crenshaw
Leslie Johnson

STAFF

Mary Alice Nard _____ Parish Administrator
Virginia McKnight _____ Organist/Music Director
Brian Stanley _____ Librarian
Harvey Johnson _____ Sexton
Kay Shockley _____ Nursery