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Christ Church Cathedral

From the Dean

Planning for Your Resurrection

Easter tide – the season of the Great Fifty Days of Easter – is a gift to us as Christian believers. Especially for those of us coming out of a seemingly never-ending winter. Spring is almost here! The days are growing longer. Our annual hibernation is ending. (Can you tell that I'm ready for spring?)

In the gospel of John, upon his visit to the home of a close friend who had already been dead for four days, Jesus came face to face with unbridled grief and anger. Martha and Mary, the passionate sisters of Lazarus, got right up in the Lord's face and blamed him for their brother's death. "If you had been here, my brother would not have died."

I imagine that many of us have experienced or witnessed the emotions of the women in the story. Losing a loved one is the hardest part of being alive. The shock of the moment, the emptiness that can overcome us, the briefest instant when we can openly wonder if God has in fact welcomed our loved one home – to a place where pain and tears are no more.

As a clergy person who sits with family members in the hours and days after they lose a spouse, a parent, a sibling or a child, I can say that these are difficult, raw, and yet sacred times. Memories come flooding back. Tears pour out. Blame, and second-guessing, and "what-ifs" can fill the air. Families who had been distant can come together and begin to heal. On top of all of this, decisions have to be made quickly.

There are a lot of things that people can do to ease this time of grief. Friends can offer to make a meal, cut the lawn, clean the house or watch the children or grandchildren. We can send cards, pay our respects, and offer prayers.

I believe the Church can do one more thing to help people through times of grief. We can remind all of us to prepare for our resurrection. Put it another way; we can lift a heavy burden from the shoulders of grieving family members if, while we are still in the fullness of life, we can take an hour or two to write down instructions about how we would like to be remembered. What kind of burial would we want? What hymns might we want sung? What scripture should be read? How much should our loved ones spend for a coffin? (There is

nothing worse than having to choose a coffin with the hint of shame if the "Cadillac model" is not picked.) Do you want to be cremated?

All of these details may sound morbid and depressing to some, but I write with certainty that being prepared can be a tremendous gift to your loved ones.

The Planned Giving Committee of the Cathedral will offer a forum on **Sunday, April 20, at 11:30 a.m.** to help us with this preparation. Come. We will have forms available for you to use in your planning. Remember that we know how the story ends and begins again. Lazarus lives again. And so will we. "Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11).

Blessings,
Mark B. Pendleton+

Making a Difference

With your help, the Cathedral is making a difference in the lives of many in Hartford. Last year 23, 873 meals were served to 1,482 homeless and low-income adults from our soup kitchen. The MANNA program is coordinated by Hands on Hartford, formerly Center City Churches.

Midday Organ Recitals Resume

The last month of the 2007-2008 Midday Organ Recital series begins on **Tuesday, April 1, at 12:35 p.m.** in the Cathedral. Director of Music Kevin Jones will perform each of these 25-minute concerts. The lunchtime recitals have garnered a good following in their first year – average attendance hovers around 18-20 people each week. The programs for this month are as follows:

April 1

Widor's Easter masterpiece *Symphonie-Romane*

April 8

Hugo Distler's *Orgelsonate* & Petr Eben's *Moto ostinato*

April 15

Music of Jean Langlais

April 22

Naji Hakim's *The Embrace of Fire*

April 29

Vierne's colossal *Symphonie III*
Please join us!

Lunch...Plus!



Lunch...Plus will feature the Handler-Levesque Guitar Duo on **Thursday, April 3, at 12:05 p.m.** with Judy Handler, guitar, and Mark Levesque, guitar and mandolin.

Enjoy an energetic and entertaining program of international music for guitar and mandolin. Husband and wife duo Handler and Levesque blend Brazilian, Latin American, swing, gypsy, classical and folk music influences to create their unique arrangements. Audiences respond enthusiastically to their extraordinary sound and the uplifting spirit of their music.

Handler and Levesque have performed over 1,000 concerts together throughout the Northeast and Midwest. They are on the roster of Cantaloupe Music Productions in Manhattan, New England Foundation for the Arts and the Connecticut Commission on Culture. Their two CDs, *Acoustic Blend* and *Two Guitars Live!* have received international acclaim.

"It's a perfect musical marriage. A rich, zesty guitar gumbo, Handler and Levesque crackle with tasty elements of classical, swing, Gypsy and Brazilian, and a dizzying array of world-music flavorings." Owen McNally, music critic, *Hartford Courant* feature story.

Also, save the date! **On Thursday, May 1**, the 13th season of Lunch...Plus comes to an end with an exciting program of Spanish language songs in honor of *Cinco de Mayo*. The Cathedral's own Cynthia Mellon and Kevin Jones will perform.

Chorister Parent Meeting

Any parent or guardian of an active chorister is invited to attend a planning/brainstorming meeting on **Sunday, April 6, at 11:30 a.m.** in the Choir Room. The purpose of the meeting is to gather feedback and ideas on the chorister program for next year's planning, and also to

announce the annual Choir Camp, which will be held at Camp Washington, August 17-21. Parents of prospective choristers are also welcomed and invited to attend.

Special Forum

Brother Reginald Martin Crenshaw returns to the Cathedral – **on Saturday, April 26**. Bro. Reginald, Order of the Holy Cross, who served as our 2006 MLK Jr. Day preacher and guest speaker at the Dean's Forum, will offer the keynote address at *A Celebration of the Life and Teachings of Martin Luther King: Remembering His Teaching, Living His Dream*. We will begin at **9:00 a.m.** with a light breakfast, followed by the keynote address and two workshops, "Building a Multicultural Church" and "The Church's Role in Promoting Nonviolence." Free parking will be available at the MAT Garage. The event is FREE. Please contact Canon St. Louis at 527-7231 x111 or astlouis@cccathedral.org to register or for further details.

Cathedral Spring Art Exhibit and Silent Auction



Lilacs © Dolores Howard

Spring is here again and we have a wonderful group of talented artists

who will be presenting an interesting and diverse selection of fine art including paintings, calligraphy and a few quilts. The artists are Jerry Barry, Beverly Berger, Miyoko Burr, Lisa Bell, Donald Boudreaux, Jane Bradley, Jean Dalton, Dolores Howard, Ursula Korzenik, Joan St. Clair Roof, Denise Slaughter, Jean Slaughter and Wendy West.

Remember, this art show is not only for Christ Church Cathedral members but is also another way for us to reach out to our greater community. The artists are from the Hartford area as well as the following towns - East Hartford, West Hartford, Bloomfield, Glastonbury and Falmouth MA. Please consider inviting your friends, neighbors and art lovers to this event.

The profits from last year were given to the Darfur project initiated by the Youth Group. We were also able to purchase equipment for hanging the show. A percentage of sales will be contributed to one or several church ministries.

The art committee and the artists are grateful to the Cathedral for its continued support and loyalty. We thank all who have visited and have contributed to our ministry.

We look forward to seeing you.

May 1-11

Art Exhibition & Silent Auction

Thursday, May 1

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Opening reception (refreshments)

Saturdays – May 3 & May 10

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sundays - May 4 & May 11

11:30a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Weekdays – Mondays & Fridays 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Call the Cathedral Office at 527-7231 to make an appointment for other weekdays

Sunday, May 11 – 12:30 p.m.

Silent Auction & close of show.
Validated parking (\$4.00) at MAT garage.

Final Choral Evensong of the Season

The Cathedral Choir, assisted by organist Erik Eickhoff, will sing their final choral evensong of the season on **Sunday, May 4, at 5:00 p.m.** Canticles presented will be the “St. Paul’s” Service by Herbert Howells. Immediately following the Evensong, the Choir will sing British composer Ralph Vaughan Williams’ peace cantata *Dona nobis pacem*, which was written following WWI as a plea for world peace. The cantata for baritone and soprano solos, chorus and organ, is based around the war poetry of Wilfred Owen. With movements such as “Beat! Beat Drums” and “A Dirge for Two Veterans,” it explores the depths of that terrible war and war in general, but also ends on a hopeful note... “let them learn war no more.” A reception will follow.

Welcome our Deacon

We welcome the Reverend Geoffrey Ward, a transitional deacon ordained in the Diocese of Fond du Lac in Wisconsin, to our regular Cathedral clergy rotation. He is a resident of downtown Hartford and is employed full-time by MetLife. Upon approval by our bishops, Geoffrey will be joining the Cathedral staff as a non-stipendiary Cu-

rate. Please welcome him. God willing, Geoffrey may be ordained a priest in December.

April

- 01 – Organ Recital
- 03 – Lunch...*Plus!*
- 06 – Chorister Parent Meeting
- 08 – Organ Recital
 - Uyeki Committee Meeting
- 09 – Building Committee Meeting
- 14 – Cathedral Crafters
 - Finance Committee Meeting
- 15 – Organ Recital
 - Soup & Services
 - Chapter Meeting
- 22 – Organ Recital
- 26 – Dean’s Forum
- 28 – Cathedral Crafters
- 29 – Organ Recital

The Grapevine

Published by Christ Church Cathedral, the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut. Please submit articles for the May/June issue by Tuesday, April 1.

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Dean
The Rev. Canon J. Allison St. Louis,
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Eleven from Connecticut Traveled to Caribbean Coast of Colombia



A delegation of eleven traveled to Colombia on January 28 for an eight-day visit to our companion diocese. The group was co-led by Dean Mark Pendleton of Christ Church Cathedral and Fr. Matthew Calkins of St. Timothy's in Fairfield.

The trip was the first trip to the Caribbean coast by a group from Connecticut. Centered in the cities of Cartagena and Barranquilla, we visited local churches, met the faithful, and participated in a clean-up day for the church in Malambo, near Barranquilla.

During our stay in Barranquilla, Colombia's fourth largest city, we partook in the world-famous pre-Lenten carnival of Barranquilla. Shown above are Colombia Bishop Francisco Dugne (first on the left) and Cathedral member Ann Tranberg (seated first on the left).