

THE SPIRE

Volume 64 Number 8 March 2018
St. Paul's On the Hill Episcopal Church
49 Ganung Drive, Ossining, New York 10562



What Is Easter About?

*For our sake, He made him to be sin who knew no sin,
so that in him we might become the [right relationship] of God.
2 Corinthians 5:21*

According to the Interpreter's Commentary, this statement points to the fact that God in Christ "took on himself the sins of the world." And thereby, "though himself not a sinner," became "so involved in it" that he then was able to "deal effectively with our predicament" [of sin].

Wow! So, Jesus was made sinful so that he might fight the problem of human "sin decay?" I don't know...

What if we were to say instead that the Christ, the second person of the Trinity, the Eternal one, became limited by the constraints of time (mortality) so that we mortals might learn ourselves to be more effective agents of God? What if the complete one (God), became human so that humanity might learn to aspire to eternity?

Remember that Jesus, a very human being, died and then rose from the dead. He had been mortal and then he was not! Three days after his burial, Jesus, the Christ, met his disciples, spoke with them, ate with them, was touched by them, and made peace with them. And these followers of his then became agents of "right relationship" with God.

Sometimes, it is hard to remember that we humans are not responsible for everything—that we are not in control. Sometimes, it is hard to remember that there is more to reality than we can see or hear or touch. But in this season of Easter we are reminded that we are related to God, we are made in the image of the Eternal One, and also that God has lived among us a fully human life.

I guess what I am saying is that Easter is a lesson which teaches us to look forward so we may aspire to an eternal and sinless life with God.

May you have a blessed Easter filled with divine aspiration.

*Faithfully,
Mo. Cooper +*

Wardens' report: Happy Easter!

Lent was a bit harsh on our property. The first Nor-easter was more “nor” than “Easter.” In other words, we had many trees fall down rather than resurrect. The precious tree in the courtyard will be missed as well as a few in Joseph’s Garden, however soon you will see tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, and more along the sacristy side of the walkway to remind us that water is part of baptism and new life.

We are grateful that the fallen tree removal was completed before Easter so we were able to present our Sunday best to a happy total of 84 people April 1st. It was no joke having no hazards for the youngest children at the annual Easter Egg hunt. Thank you to all the egg stuffers and all the bakers for our welcoming presentation to all who came.

The vestry is in the preliminary stage of long range planning for the next 3-5 years. We need to look critically and creatively at where and how St Paul’s will serve the existing congregation and community at large. Please speak to one of the wardens, Jo Ann McGrath or Beth Pollack if you are interested in helping with the process. The very capable vestry expects to get guidance from a consultant who has supported other congregations in the Diocese with this process. Stay tuned.

---Beth Pollack



The Lantern Gift Shop

On March 17th, we held our annual "Bunnies & Stuff" Easter Sale and Bake Sale. Due to the need to build in a snow date, we had to schedule this sale on St. Patrick's Day. We had a better turn out for this event than our January Clearance and Valentine Sale, for which we were most grateful. Though the weather was still cold, we had sunshine which was most welcome! We had \$1189.63 in sales. The Bake Sale in the Parish Hall made \$489.25. These figures were not as good as last year, but we were pleased with the day.

Coming up next is our annual "**Spring Fling**", **May 5th**, a celebration of Mom and Spring! New items are still arriving and cards for Mom, Graduation, Confirmation and First Communion are now out. Also that day, our popular Spring Tea Luncheon will take place in the Parish Hall from 11:30-2:30. Menu will include scones, jam, and "Heavenshire Cream" as well as an assortment of tea sandwiches and sweets. All this for \$10! This is a wonderful event and alot of work too. Melanie will be looking for volunteers to make the various menu items. Check in with her soon. Be sure to join us and bring friends.

Remember, the shop is open every Saturday, 10-1 and also by request on Sunday after the service. Just speak to one of us at coffee hour and we will open it for you.

LEARNING

A piccolo played, then a drum.

Feet began to come — a part
of the music. Here came a horse,
clippety clop, away.

My mother said, “Don’t run —
the army is after someone
other than us. If you stay
you’ll learn our enemy.”

Then he came, the speaker. He stood
in the square. He told us who
to hate. I watched my mother’s face,
its quiet. “That’s him,” she said.

from *Every War Has Two Losers*, William Stafford on Peace and War, 2003



Mo Cooper at the March in New York City



Our Two wardens working together at St. Paul's-Jo and Beth



Art Hightower and Andrew Loeschner working with drummers at the Ossining Children's Center - School Age Drummers

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/03 Katrina DiLoreto
Michael Pasieka
Ellie Houghtaling
4/07 Graham Gulian
Robert Pauline
Roger Rowe
4/09 Sheryl Muth
4/11 April Lynn Dias
4/13 Ann Visconti
4/15 Jonathan Blair
4/16 Liam Houghtaling
4/17 Frank Schnecker
4/18 Marta Bowen
4/19 Kara Pauline
4/20 Lisa Rosenbloom
4/22 Domenic Valentine Trian0
4/23 Charlie Gulian
4/24 Scott Hunt
4/25 Maureen Washburn
4/26 Elma Dixon
4/29 Bill Plank

APRIL BAPTISMS

4/01 Joanne Holsten
4/17 Kathryn Howard
Helena Blair Klein (The Blair's grand daughter)
4/18 Gregory E. Howard
4/20 Ann Skidgell Farrell
4/21 Lisa-Marie Liberti
4/23 Kathryn Brocchi
4/26 Sean Docker

APRIL DEATHS

4/01 John Deems
4/05 Robert Shedden
4/09 A. Richard Kamp
4/14 Jack Docker
4/16 Rose Beresford