



THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

MARCH 2015

Refreshment Sunday: Foretaste of Promise

Dear Friends,

The Fourth Sunday in Lent (this year, March 15), traditionally known as Refreshment Sunday, is sometimes also called Mid-Lent Sunday. In Great Britain, it is also called Mothering Sunday because it had a school calendar tie-in to boarding students coming home for a break. The idea of a “break” in the usual Lenten discipline is key to the theme of the Sunday, no matter which title is used.

In the past, for those who abstain from certain foods during Lent, the fourth Sunday was an “oasis” experience—a way to mark that the season was reaching its culmination. These days, whether or not abstinence and fasting are aspects of your spiritual discipline in Lent, Refreshment Sunday is a time to have a foretaste—literally and figuratively—of the Resurrection life. The literal foretaste is that for those who abstain from treats and sweets during Lent, the Refreshment Sunday table offers some subtle flavors that hint at the tastes present for the celebration of Easter.

Two of these treats include simnel cake and the traditional rolled and twisted, salted pretzel. Simnel cake is a simple creation that includes dried fruit (citron usually, or dates). To those who had been abstaining from sweets in Lent, the literal taste of fruity sweetness gives the body a prefigurement of the sweetness of life in Christ. The pretzel goes in the salty direction, also a wake-up call to the senses. The monks of old developed this treat as a way, in Lent, to keep the spirits up of all pilgrims who would stop at the monastery for the benefit of the monks' hospitality. No doubt the monks themselves enjoyed these “little arms of prayer” too. That's the pretzel's middle name, if you will. They had that name because the look of the rolled pretzel is of arms crossed over the chest in prayer.

So, these *good eats* were, and still are, handy bite-size teaching tools—an incarnate taste of what's good for body and soul. Our boys and girls will get elbow deep in flour and other baking ingredients on Saturday, March 14 at 10am in Saint Luke's kitchen. And all other parish bakers are asked to make contributions for the March 15 Refreshment Sunday Bake Sale to benefit our Lenten Offering for Episcopal Ministries of Long Island. Bakers are asked to make quick breads, muffins, rolls, buns—things folks could buy and plan to eat for the next day's breakfast, for example; rather than jumping too soon to the full sweet flavor and gooeyness of what would be Easter treats, still a few weeks off.

Yours in Christ,

“What Episcopalians Believe” Saint Luke's Annual Lenten Series Continues

The mid-weekly gatherings continue on Wednesday March 4, Thursday March 12, and Wednesdays March 18 and 25. We begin in the church with a 7:00pm Holy Eucharist followed by a 7:30pm soup and salad supper, and 8:10pm presentation and discussion. Both the mid-weekly program and the Sunday Sermon Series are based on the book *What Episcopalians Believe* by Samuel Wells.

Spring Forward – Daylight Savings Time

Winter temperatures aside, here's a reminder to set your clocks one hour ahead this coming Saturday night, March 7, before you retire for the night.

Memorial Eucharist for Bishop Walker

The Right Reverend Orris G. Walker, Jr., former Bishop of Long Island, died on February 28 in Detroit, Michigan during a hospitalization. His funeral liturgy will take place in Detroit. A Memorial Service here in our diocese will take place on Saturday, March 21 at 11:00am at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City.



Saint Luke's Lenten Project Benefits EPISCOPAL MINISTRIES OF LONG ISLAND, a Collaboration of Episcopal Charities and Episcopal Community Services

The two entities have now been combined in order to serve Long Islanders in a more effective manner.

The goals of EMLI: To create sustainable programs and services which directly address the many issues and challenges our neighborhoods and communities face each day.

How will this be accomplished? EMLI will combine the current community service functions of the diocese, strengthening communities through parish-based ministries by providing start-up funds, technical support, training, and peer support.

Your partnership is needed. In the coming months, groups in each of the archdeaconries will convene to listen to suggestions regarding the needs and opportunities of your communities. In the meantime, the former Episcopal Charities Annual Appeal will now be known as *The Annual Appeal for Episcopal Ministries of Long Island*. Until the name is officially changed, all donation checks to EMLI should continue to be made out to Episcopal Charities.

Self-Denial Offerings

A reminder that Lenten Mite Boxes are available in the narthex. They will be gathered on Palm Sunday, March 29, at both liturgies.

SAINT LUKE'S KIDS' "PRAY & BAKE" LENTEN BAKING PROJECT Saturday, March 14, 10am-12 noon



The Boys and Girls of Saint Luke's Will Help with Our Lenten Offering for Episcopal Ministries of Long Island

All children and interested family members are invited to meet with Father Tom to learn about the connection between praying and baking *pretzels!* We'll be baking other items too for the **March 15 Bake Sale.**

* Father Tom would also like two adult or teen volunteers to help. *

To register or volunteer, please contact the church office at 718-268-6021 or stlukesoffice@verizon.net by **Wednesday, March 11.**

CALLING ALL BAKERS! "REFRESHMENT SUNDAY" BAKE SALE SUNDAY, MARCH 15

after the 8:30 and 10:30 Liturgies

This year's emphasis is on basic, wholesome quick breads, muffins, rolls, and other such items, rather than the usual cakes and cookies.

In addition to baking, if you would be available to help set up and sell after either service, please call or email the church office and let Lisa know.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT EMLI



***Yet More Bakers and Sellers Needed for
Gingerbread Players' Spring Musical,
"Through the Looking-Glass"
March 14, 15, 20, 21 & 22***

If you'd like to lend a hand baking or selling at any (or all?) performances of "Through the Looking-Glass," please contact Louise Foisy at 718-575-1767 or by email at lmf325@aol.com. Gingerbread mix is provided free of charge at coffee hour over the next few weeks, but if you'd rather do it from scratch or bake something else - brownies, cupcakes, etc. - that's fine, too.

***Saint Luke's Facebook Page
A Very Important Announcement***

**Our official Facebook page is
St. Luke's Forest Hills**

There has been considerable confusion because there is also a "group" account called St. Luke's Church of Forest Hills. To avoid further confusion, the group account will be deleted as of March 20. Many parishioners have not been aware that they are not on the official Facebook page for Saint Luke's.

Please be sure that you are a "friend" of St. Luke's Forest Hills by March 20. By the way, "liking" us on our official Facebook Page will help us go over a threshold number for better visibility!

Father Tom at Church-in-the-Gardens

Tom will be the preacher at CIG's Lenten Service and Lunch on Wednesday, March 25. All are invited.

Gifts to Saint Luke's Church

The parish has received a \$1,000 gift from former parishioner Melanie Chakmakjian, daughter of Barbara and Ed, in thanksgiving for two people who made a difference in her life when she was a youth in our parish: Mollie Smith, her church school teacher, and Shirley Vickers, who helped bring the Chakmakjian family to Saint Luke's and with whom Melanie became friendly through the Gingerbread Players. We extend a sincere thank-you not only to Melanie for her generous and thoughtful gift, which will be deposited in our savings/endowment, but to Mollie and Shirley for

their care and love of fellow parishioners through the years.

It also should be noted that a parishioner nearly doubled his family's annual pledge by having sought out and received a corporate matching gift in excess of \$1,400. We thank this Saint Luke's family which prefers to remain anonymous but whose dedication increases our operating funds for the year by their gift's amount.

And yet another anonymous donor has given the parish a \$500 gift in thanksgiving for Louise Foisy's directorial debut this past fall with the Gingerbread Players. The donor has asked that the gift be considered by the Vestry for a parish hall improvement that will benefit both parish and the Gingerbread Players.

Not all gifts are monetary. Lois Cohen and her husband Paolo quietly worshipped with us for the last few years but are taking up residence in Connecticut now in order to assist their daughter's family. We will miss them but wish them well.

***Memorials and Thanksgivings
for Easter Music and Flowers***

Your contributions, in memory and thanksgiving, are requested to make these expressions of joy possible. Please fill out the form below and submit it to the church office along with your contribution *no later than Sunday, March 29.*

Easter Music

(Circle one) In memory
In thanksgiving

Name(s) _____

Easter Flowers

(Circle one) In memory
In thanksgiving

Name(s) _____

Given by (your name):

The Gingerbread Players of St. Luke's Church Present:
A Musical Production of Lewis Carroll's

through the Looking Glass

Music by William Ryden
& Book by Louise Guinther



Saturday, 3/14 - 2:30PM

Saturday, 3/14 - 7:30PM

Sunday, 3/15 - 2:30PM

Friday, 3/20 - 7:30PM

Saturday, 3/21 - 2:30PM

Sunday, 3/22 - 2:30PM

Suggested Donation: \$12.
\$10 for groups of 6 or more.

Reservations & Information:
718.268.7772

www.gingerbreadplayers.org

St. Luke's Church
85 Greenway South, Forest Hills

LOOKING FORWARD..

Saint Luke's Annual

****IMAGINAUCTION****

is coming Saturday, May 16

Over the past twelve years, Saint Luke's Imaginauction has evolved into the social event of the Spring season. The committee is already hard at work to insure that this will be an even more enjoyable and successful fundraiser than ever before.

Under the leadership of our very own top chefs, Terri O'Rourke and Jean Tessier, we will be offering a choice of two delicious entrees and equally delicious desserts. Of course, there will be the exciting events we all look forward to - live and silent auctions, the main raffle, bag raffles, wine, music and dancing. This year, music will be provided by Mark Adams, who promises that the decibel level will be more ear-friendly than in previous years!

You're not going to want to miss this one, so mark **Saturday, May 16** on your calendars, and make your reservations as soon as possible. Not only is seating extremely limited, but if you make your reservations *before April 26*, you will pay only \$50 per person. After that date, the price goes up to \$55.

VERY IMPORTANT: *Think about what talents you could offer for auction, and let us know. Do you cook, bake, crochet, baby-sit, paint? Could you teach someone an art or skill? Parishioners sharing their talents with others for the benefit of Saint Luke's is what makes our Imaginauction so special. We're eager to hear from you!*

Sherri Papamihalis and Velma Adams
Imaginauction Co-chairs

Camp DeWolfe

The 2015 Summer Camp season is open for registration for youth ages 7 to 17. You can register your children online www.campdewolfe.org or fill out and return forms found at church. Partial scholarships from Episcopal Ministries of Long Island are available for those who submit before June 1.

SAVE THE DATES

Saint Luke's Summer Camp

As families make plans for their children's summer experiences, we wanted to post the following dates for two of our summer offerings. These are **Monday through Friday full-day, 9am - 5pm programs.**

"Make-A-Musical" Theater Camp

Mon. - Fri., 9am - 5pm

July 27-31, August 3-7

Ages 6 through 13

In collaboration with "Three-Legged Chair," your child's limitless creativity is unleashed in creating their very own Original Mini-Musical



Faith & Fun

Mon. - Fri., Aug. 17 - 21, 9am - 5pm

Ages 6 and up

Saint Luke's presents an exciting faith and discovery program - Bible stories, crafts, chorus and other activities.

For more information, contact the parish office at 718-268-6021 or stlukesoffice@verizon.net

Look for more details in flyers and mailings!

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Maggie DelRosario
- 4 Nitin Varghese
- 6 Owen Bachiochi
- 13 Manny Zacarias
- 17 Louise Foisy
- 17 Wolfgang Kripfgans
- 18 Karen VanWestering
- 18 Kristen Longman
- 19 Sherri Papamihalis
- 19 Jim and Giselle Bates (A)
- 24 Rowena Chodkowski
- 28 Luke Bachiochi
- 29 Pam Fuller
- 30 Susan Civita
- 31 Victoria Cartagena
- 31 Kathleen Bachiochi