# The Outrider

**MARCH 2005** 

# The View from Above the Close "Shield the Joyons"

My favorite prayer from the Book of Common Prayer is from the office of Compline. (Why do we call the daily prayers "offices"? More on that later....)

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

That pretty much runs the gamut of needs. And it is the "shield the joyous" that catches me and sends shivers up my spine and makes goose bumps on my arms. Shield the joyous—what a thought, what a longing, what a prayer.

I find myself pretty critical of the church these days. I consider the church mostly irrelevant to the lives of normal folks. I don't think the church is nearly radical or dangerous enough to make a difference in this world. We pretty much "polish the polish" as an institution—not stirring things up or muddying the waters in any way. But I could get reenergized about the church if we only lived into and leaned into that prayer from Compline.

What if we took it on ourselves, as the Body of Christ, to simply keep watch with those who work or watch or weep? What if we truly, as a community, tended the sick and gave rest to the weary? What if we, as a congregation, truly soothed the suffering and pitied the afflicted? And what if (here's the big one) we as a church could truly shield the joyous from the pains of this world?

That would be a remarkable ministry.... However, as I look back at the prayer I love so much I realize all that is what we ask God to do.... So, what's left for us to do?

Maybe we—as community, as congregation, as church—aren't supposed to "do" anything, except when we do it in Christ's name. Maybe we—as community, as congregation, as church—are called simply to "be". "Be" in communion and in common and in community, gathered together in worship and in openness to the Power and Action of God.

What if *community* is all about "being"? What then? Isn't that, after all, what my favorite prayer is about?

Shalom,

#### LENT SUNDAYS - March 6 & 13 "THE GOSPEL OF ST. THOMAS"



The 9:00 a.m. Adult Forums are a good way to examine your faith and learn together with others. The discussion is always lively. Join us in the Library to read one of the "Gnostic" gospels together to see how Thomas enriches our faith.

## HOLY WEEK







### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 20—Palm Sunday 8 and 10:15 a.m. Palms, the Passion and Holy Eucharist

Monday, March 21 - Holy Monday

12 noon-Noonday Prayers 7:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, March 22—Boly Tuesday

12 noon—Noonday Prayers 7:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, March 23—Boly Wednesday

12 noon and 7:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist and Healing

Thursday, March 24—Moundy Thursday

12 noon—Noonday Prayers 6:30 p.m.—Soup and Salad Pot Luck 7:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Thursday, March 24-9 p.m.—\_Friday, March 29-11:30 a.m.

The Vigil at the Altar of Repose

Friday, March 25—Good Friday

12 noon-3 p.m.—The Good Friday Liturgy 7:30 p.m.—The Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 26—Easter Eve

7:30 p.m.—The Great Vigil and first mass of Easter

Sunday, March 27—The Least of the Resurrection

8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with Choir 10:15 a.m.—Festive Holy Eucharist with Choir and Instruments

#### Celebrations by Lorene Castle, Senior Warden People who love St. John's

Dorothy Leavenworth was a wonderful friend. I first met Dorothy when I started attending the Wednesday noon Eucharist and Healing service. Dorothy was always at this service when I arrived because she was part of the Women of St. John's. The Women of St. John's used to meet from 11:00 - 12:00 before the noon Eucharist.

I also spent time with Dorothy when we carpooled to Holy Cross retreats with Alice Mancinone. I soon learned that Dorothy and Alice did Holy Cross their way.

I went to Holy Cross wanting to experience the Benedictine rituals. Alice and Dorothy had been there and done that and had long since decided which services they would attend and which they would skip. They allowed time for shopping, touring the countryside, eating ice cream, and shopping in the gift shop. They always found their way back to Holy Cross for meals. They explained that some of the services at Holy Cross just did not make sense to them. They did not especially like the classes. The early morning service at 6:00 a.m. was not in their grand plan. I already mentioned they never missed a meal. They also never missed the Eucharist.

Dorothy was a classy woman. She loved St. John's. Dorothy died recently. I have missed her in our midst during the peace at the Wednesday noon service and on Sunday morning. Dorothy always was dressed in a suit and always had a smile on her face. Dorothy never had a bad word to say about anyone. Dorothy Leavenworth loved St. John's. I know this because she told me.

There are many people who love St. John's that I have never met. Last year, we received \$102,000 from the Ellen Royce estate. I didn't know Ellen Royce but I am sure she loved St. John's. Because of her gift, we were able to allocate an additional \$10,000 to our Outreach Endowment and \$50,000 in the Budde Endowment. Her gift, like many before hers, is a gift that keeps on giving.

I love St. John's. I always talk about including St. John's in my will. However, my will is so old it does not include grandchildren. I intend to revise my will to leave a part of my estate to St. John's and of course, my grandchildren. I may even ask Mr. Crowley to help me make the changes. Naturally, I have no idea whether I will have pocket change or several dollars when I leave this earth. I do know that St. John's has provided a place when I could connect again to God, to experience his love in a very special congregation, and to have the opportunity to try to contribute some of my gifts to this very special parish.

I am very excited that the Finance Council, the Vestry and the Sisterhood are sponsoring a Parish breakfast on April 2 when I can learn more about how to carry about my wishes for my own estate. I hope you will join me in a men and women's breakfast at St. John's. Mr. Crowley will provide some <u>free no-hassle advice</u> about estate issues.

Please come even if you do not think you have any need for Mr. Crowley's words of wisdom. Tim is a delightful person. You will like him and learn a thing or two to share with a friend if you do not need the information yourself. You will also get breakfast and the Eucharist. There will be a bit of pressure though so come prepared - you must decide whether to have eggbeaters or the real thing.

Parish Breakfast

April 2, 2005

9:00-11:00 AM

# Please Come Join Us For An Anglican Prayer Bead (Rosary) Workshop

Saturday, March 19th, 2005 9 AM-Noon

Anglican Prayer Beads, or Rosary, is a form of contemplative prayer that has its roots both in the Roman Catholic Rosary, and the Orthodox Christian prayer rope. For countless years, people have used beads, pebbles or knotted pieces of string to keep track of prayers offered to God. Almost every religious tradition in the world today uses some form of prayer beads.

We will be learning about the traditions and history behind this relatively new tradition in the Anglican Communion, and how it can help each of us draw closer to God in prayer and meditation. Personal and community prayer is enriched by symbols, such as rosaries, malas or prayer beads, whose purpose is to focus and concentrate attention, assisting the one who prays to move more quickly into the Presence of God.

Materials and instruction will be provided so that all who attend can make their own set of prayer "beads". The set we will be making will be hand knotted twine, in the tradition of both the Orthodox Christians, and several religious orders, most notably the Franciscans. No experience is required, only a willingness to learn something new! Light refreshments will be provided, so come and learn about a new/old tradition that can help make this Lent a more reflective and prayerful time. You may either sign up in the foyer or call Elizabeth Lafferty at (203) 759-1225.

# PARISH COMMUNION BREAKFAST WITH GUEST SPEAKER: ATTORNEY TIM CROWLEY SATURDAY, APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> 9-11:00 A.M.

BREAKFAST

Please join the Vestry on April 2 from 9-11 am for a springtime Parish Communion Breakfast, where we will share fellowship, breakfast, Eucharist, and an informational discussion. We hope this is the first in a series of such events for St. John's. So we may plan the food and handouts, please sign up on the clipboard in the Lobby or call the office at 754-3116. For additional information, contact Karen Minkler at 756-4795 or any Vestry member.

Our guest speaker will be Tim Crowley, an attorney who is also an ordained minister. Tim will lead a discussion about estate planning, addressing: 1) how to plan for incapacity now in order to avoid unnecessary burdens on your family later; 2) how to save taxes at death so that you can leave the most to those you care about; 3) how to maximize tax benefits when making gifts to loved ones during life; 4) how to make a tax-wise gift to the church during life or at death; and 5) how to plan your estate to avoid hurt feelings and family in-fighting.

Tim received his Master of Divinity from Princeton Seminary and has served parishes in Connecticut, New York, and Missouri. He earned his Juris Doctorate from Syracuse University and practices law in the estate and charitable planning area.

-Katen Minklet



#### THE TALE OF THE TELEPHONE CALL AND THE CONCERT

On Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, we received a call in the office from the concert manager at the American Boychoir School in Princeton asking if we'd be willing to host the Boychoir for a concert on February 11<sup>th</sup> in return for dinner and one night's lodging for the boys. After a few moments' hesitation, we realized that this was a chance

too good to pass up. And so, two weeks and one day later, we were treated to a wonderful hour of music under the direction of Mr. Fernando Malvar-Ruiz. An enthusiastic audience of about 150 people responded warmly to the choir's exciting performance of a wide variety of choral music.

Thanks for the success of this last-minute venture goes to many people. First of all, to Sue Pronovost, St. John's secretary, who achieved amazing coverage of the upcoming concert in the Waterbury Republican (four stories!) and who arranged a delicious catered dinner for the choir. And, equally important, thanks go to the members and friends of St. John's who generously provided housing and breakfast for the boys: Don and Linda Pomeroy, Doris Hollenstein, Sonja Osborn, Tom and Delmar Nelson, Verdell Bush, Mike and Marian Carroll, Alice Mancinone, Terry and Alice Hallaran, Melinda Burbank and Jan and Roy Gilley. Hearty thanks to all of these folks who made it possible to go from call to concert in 15 days!



#### THE WONDERFUL STORY OF THE NEW VESTMENTS

If you were in church on January 30<sup>th</sup>, you would have seen the choristers processing proudly in their new vestments: black cassocks and white cottas. How the choristers came to have new vestments after only four months in existence is a wonderful story.

In November Jim received an email from a former St. John's parishioner named Wade Cooper saying he'd like to pay for the vestments for our newly-formed children's choir. He asked how much they would cost and soon sent the needed amount. He explained, in the letter that accompanied his check, why he was doing this. This is what he said:

Why am I doing this? It is a thank you to St. John's for setting me on the marvelous road of church music. I started singing at age 6 in the boy choir directed by Miles I.A. Martin, and continued to sing until I was 17 and in the adult choir. I studied organ with Mr. Martin, and then Edward Macrum and Jerome Meachem, the gentlemen who succeeded Mr. Martin. I was the Sunday School pianist and then organist for the 9 a.m. service. I gave my first recital in June 1953 at St. John's. The musical training I received under Mr. Martin has stood by me all these years and has become second nature to me. I have many happy memories at St. John's, and this is my small way of saying "thank you".

The question of vestments was a big one when we started the Chorister Academy, as we had no idea of how we would fund such a purchase. Thanks to Mr. Cooper, we didn't have to worry long. We are very grateful.

Maria Coffin Chorister Academy Director



# In Memory of Charles McManis

Ruilder of extraordinary organs and dear friend of St. John's Narish

# **Leaturing**

- Organ music that will demonstrate the versatility and magnificence of St. John's McManis organ,
- · Soloists and
- · The Augmented Choir of St. John's Parish

In performances of music for solo organ, organ and cello, and two movements from Maurice Durufle's Requiem for Choir and Organ

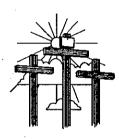
Organists Robert Havery and Maria Coffin Cellist Thirzah Bendokas St. John's Choir and Friends

Sunday, April 3, 2005 at 4:00 pm



## VIGIL AT THE ALTAR OF REPOSE

Please sign up on the hall table for the Vigil at the Altar of Repose to commence on Maundy Thursday at 9:00 p.m. through the night to 11:00 a.m. on Good Friday.



#### EASTER FEASTING

Please sign up on the hall table to provide finger foods for festive feasting at either the Easter Eve or 8:00/10:15 a.m. Easter Services.



## BAPTISM TO TAKE PLACE ON APRIL 3RD

If you or your child desires the Sacrament of Baptism, please see either Jim or Malinda as soon as possible. The next date for Baptism will be Easter 2 - Sunday, April  $3^{rd}$  at the 10:15 a.m. service.



# DEANERY CONFIRMATION

Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> (time yet to be determined) is the date for the Deanery Confirmation. If you or a family member wishes to either be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, please contact Jim or Malinda immediately.

## SAVE THE DATE



SATURDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> QUIET DAY
LED BY THE REV. MICHAEL CARROLL
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
"SPIRITUALITY AND THE SHADOW"
More information to follow in next month's Outrider.

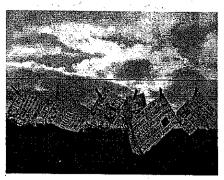


Thank you for all the outpourings of affection you have shown me and my daughter during these past few weeks when my husband, Fran, was battling for his life, and then succumbed to his many illnesses on February 6. I cannot really express in words how much Jim's almost daily presence at Fran's bedside meant to him and me. The Eucharist and prayers we shared helped immeasurably throughout my vigil. Malinda brought comfort in her special way and her prayers sustained me.

And the Memorial Service on Friday, February 11, which so many of you attended, was a beautiful tribute to a man who regarded St. John's Church as a place where he always felt at home and where his cremains now are truly at home in the Columbarium. I speak for my extended family and friends in expressing our deep appreciation to Jim for his warm, personal eulogy; for Malinda for her readings and participation, to Bob Havery and Alyce Betz for their beautiful music, to Harriet and Sue and the staff for their attention to all the details, and to Jay Anthony for handling the arrangements.

St. John's Church - its beauty and its people and its prayers - have truly made this difficult time for me a source of strength and peace. And I thank you.

Kay V. Betgin



# The Mattawa Song Cycle extraordinary music by CAROLYN BROWN SENIER



# gala choral concert

Geoffrey Hudson, conductor
Gretchen Saathoff, piano

The Lake Mattawa Singers • The Lake Mattawa Chamber Ensemble 4 pm APRIL 17, 2005

Saint John's Episcopal Church • 16 Church Street • Waterbury, CT on the Green

featuring performances of her original choral music, including "OH, PRAISE YE THE LORD" • "SONG OF ABRAHAM" • "YOU KNOW ME" "PAGEANT SONG" • "RESPICE STELLAM" • "ASSUMPTA EST MARIA" "De Profundis" • "SUMMER DAYS" • "WHEN I KNEW"

"IN PRAISE OF NAMES"

The Mattawa Song Cycle book and compact disc will be available after the concert.

each supported by generous grants from the
International Music and Art Foundation • The American Music Center • Western Massachusetts Community Foundation
The composer and author will autograph copies of the book and CD.

The 464-page book includes a biographical profile of the composer written by Mary-Ann DeVita Palmieri. 200+ pages of Brown Senier's original music for SATB chorus with piano • 150+ photographs from the composer's collection

ISBN 1-884540-73-2 • \$29.95, book

ISBN 1-884540-74-0 • \$13.95, compact disc

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT JOHN BALE BOOK STORE, 158 GRAND STREET, WATERBURY THEY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.MATTAWASONGCYCLE.COM OR BY PHONE AT 800.215.8805

\$20.00 GENERAL ADMISSION / \$15.00 STUDENTS & SENIORS One-third of proceeds to benefit Saint John's Outreach Ministry

## CELEBRATION OF JUBILEE MINISTRY

# A PARTNERSHIP OF ST. JOHN'S PARISH AND GREATER WATERBURY INTERFAITH MINISTRIES

Jubilee Ministry was established by the Episcopal Church at its 1982 General Convention. This ministry outlines – and recognizes – those churches who provide outreach which is best defined in Matthew 25:35-40:

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Ponder the magnitude of this passage. Then ponder the work - no, the *ministry* - of outreach that takes place in this sacred space six days per week. Both the Parish Family of St. John's and the staff of GWIM have dared to vision a ministry where people are fed, clothed, counseled, cuddled, encouraged and empowered to start taking charge of their lives. It is this very ministry, that is so generously supported by the parishioners and Rector of this church - which I believe is unmatched in this Diocese - that is going to be recognized by the National Jubilee Ministry and Bishop James Curry at a festive dinner being held by Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries on Saturday, May 14, 2005 commencing at 5:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of St. John's.

All are welcome to attend this festive dinner: many area dignitaries and politicians, including Congresswoman Nancy Johnson will be in attendance to help us celebrate this ministry. Cost is \$35 per person and <u>all</u> proceeds will benefit the Soup Kitchen, Food Pantry and Resource Center.

Entertainment in the Sanctuary following dinner will be provided by The Taft School Jazz Band and St. John's Chorister Academy.

It will be a joyous evening to celebrate the life and ministry of the sacred space we share. If you have any questions about Jubilee Ministry, the dinner, or would like to make a reservation, please call Sue Pronovost in the Church Office from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at (203) 754-3116 or afternoons at GWIM at (203) 756-7831.

#### CHURCH SCHOOL



The Creative Church School meets Sunday morning from 9-10:00 a.m. on the third floor. New students are always welcome.

<u>March 6</u> – We will focus on 1 Samuel 16:1-13 – "Trusting What God Sees". God sends Samuel on a mission to anoint a new ruler, and Samuel must hear and trust God's word. Samuel fears for is life should Saul hear of this course of action and his fear threatens to interfere with God's plans. In our day, fear still holds us back from God's words of promise. Talk about times when you find it hard to trust God.

<u>March 13</u> - We will focus on John 11:1-45 - "Surprised by Life". The story of raising Lazarus brings its share of challenges and questions. But as Jesus brought Lazarus back to life, the spirit of God can bring hope and new life out of a seemingly hopeless situation. Each day this week, light a candle an say a prayer for someone who is facing grief, loss, or a painful situation.

March 20 - We will focus on Matthew 26:14-27:66 - "Voices Raised to God". Matthew uses several titles for Jesus. "Son of Man" is Jesus' most common reference. "King" or "Messiah" take precedence in the trial before Pilate, for "king" could not represent a political threat to Roman authority. "Son of God" enters the High Priests' questioning of Jesus. Jesus' answer - which does not deny this - sparks the capital charge of blasphemy. At the end of this narrative, "Son of God" is the confession by the Roman guards and centurions. This week try to attend some part of the Holy Week services at church.

<u>March 27</u> - Easter Sunday - No Church School. Easter egg gathering will take place in the Close following the 10:15 service. <u>Many, many</u> plastic eggs filled with candy are needed. Please bring them to church by Good Friday.



#### READING CLUB

The next meeting of the Open Book Reading Club will be Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. We'll be discussing <u>The Talented Mr. Ripley</u> by Patricia Highsmith.

Many, many thanks to St. John's Meal Ministry. What a blessing to have delicious food brought to me after I fell on Christmas Eve and broke my wrist. Thanks to Marian Carroll, Lorraine Barker, Donna Gervickas, Karen Minkler, Sonja Osborn, Cynthia Skipp, Patti Hart, and Sandy Allard. Special thanks to Sandy for driving me, several times, to the doctor's on her day off. Cards and phone calls helped to keep up my spirits. So many thoughtful friends, I am truly grateful.



#### MARCH

3/1	Karen Minkler		
3/1	Francis Daddona		
3/1	Sara Wheeler		
3/1	Bonnie Weiler		
3/1	Cathy Lanoie		
3/2	Raven Walker		
3/2	Clancy Healy		
3/3	Nina Golden		
3/4	Elizabeth Lafferty		
3/5	Donald Pomeroy		
3/5	Aaron Syman		
3/6	Henry Friez		
3/6	Breonna Curry		
3/7	Nicole Beaudoin		
3/7	Phyllis Catuccio		
3/7	Antonio Marques, J		
3/8	Gabrielle Mancinone		
3/9	Christine Jewell		
3/9	Amy Spencer		
3/10	Judy Sims		
3/10	Audrey Sperring		
3/11	Verdell Bush		
3/11	Scott Moore		
3/12	Ron Cebik		
3/14	Bob Toffey		
3/14	Karen Rodgers		
3/15	Alan Mancinone		
3/15	George Marlak		
3/16	Ricardo Hernandez		
3/19	Jasmine Bush		
	Scott Daniels		
3/19	Zack Thomas		
3/19	Marilyn Mitchell		
3/20	Brandon Decarolis		
3/21	Stella Quadrato		
3/22	Gary Payne, Sr.		
3/22	Amaya Jeffrey		
3/23	Michael Santa Mari		

3/23

3/24

3/24

3/24

Mary Beth Thompson

Michael Forrester

Pat Bojarski

Gary Payne

John Rodriguez 3/24 3/25 Evelyn Hadder 3/25 Jase Sevas 3/28 Marquis Gordon 3/29 Bertha Anne Lenart 3/29 Ariana Skipp 3/30 Jose Castro 3/30 Roisin Healy 3/31 Lisa Mancinone



#### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

3/03	Charles & Martha Kellogg
3/11	Bruce & Denise Zastuary
3/17	Hank & Harriet Fotter
3/29	George & Martha Coulson

#### MARCH PARISH PRAYER CYCLE

March 6: Alan & Christine Greggis, Lisa Grenier & Family, Teresa Groshans, Beverly Guevin, Leslie Guevan & Edwin Monteiro, David & Janet Gurniak, Frank & Debra Hadder, Wendy & Bill Hager, Eric & Franca Hahn, and The Haines Family. March 13: Nina Hallock, Eileen Hamilton, Thomas & Gale Hamilton, The Hankey Family, Kim Hansen & Ernie Field, Richard & Sally Harris, Grea & Chris Harrison, Holly Hart & Dorothy Raleigh, Bob & Bonnie Havery, and Dorothy Hegherington. March 20: Ruth Hickcox, Gary & Traci Hill, Cynthia Hill-Hall, Pamela & William Hinman, Craig & Kristie Holderbach, Doris Hollenstein, Marcia Holroyd, Hanne Howard, Barbara Howe, and Sean Huard & Alycia Martel. March 27: Paul & Joan Hüggins, The Hunt Family, Truda Hutchinson-Gordon & Family, Amelia Iorio, Glorimar Irizarry & Family, Winifred Isherwood, Hamsa Jayarai, Marcel & Alison Jeannin, Darren & Jasmine Jeffrey, and

Norman & Sandra Jellinghaus.



# FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, WE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO GIVE THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIVES OF THE FOLLOWING:

March 13: Mae Loper Mraz and Arthur Mraz, Sara Seystahl, Dorothy Seystahl, Robert Seystahl, Charlotte Moran, and Genevieve Hamilton



Communion Bread and Wine Offering

If you would like to have Communion Bread and Wine offered in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for someone or something, please fill out this form and drop in the collection plate or mail into the Church Office (Donation is \$10):

plate or mail into the Church Office (Donation is \$10):		
Name:		
Address:		
In Memory Of:		
In Thanksgiving For:		
Sunday you wish Bread & Wine celebrated for:		



Please fill out the form below if you would like to order Easter Lilies in memory of someone or in thanksgiving for a person or special occasion. Lilies are \$35.00 per plant; please make checks payable to St. John's and either drop in the collection plate or mail to the church. All forms must be received no later than Palm Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, for placement in the Easter bulletin.

Name	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Address:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
In Memory of:	
In Thanksgiving for:	