

# HOLY CROSS CHRONICLE

## Holy Cross Church

LENT 2015

[www.holycrossrocks.org](http://www.holycrossrocks.org)

My very dear brothers and sisters,

I think each and every one of us who has endured and survived this winter can be called a **gladiator**. This goes for all of our beloved pets who were stuck inside with us as well.

The winter was exceptional this year, but that gives us even more reason to appreciate the longer and warmer days spring has to offer. It will be a welcomed sight to see an array of spring colors rather than solid white snow. Beautiful...but enough is enough!

Just as the snow and cold kept us indoors and made us stir crazy, so often we have entombed ourselves with our own problems and worries, never taking the time or making the effort to see beyond our needs. But God calls us to open our hearts and hear the sounds of the world around us. Some sounds are pleas for comfort, healing, and safety. So many of us do the best we can to help those around us. God loves us for that.

But be aware of the happy and blessed sounds that surround us as well. As it get warmer open your windows and take in the laughter of children playing, the happiness and excitement of prom season, spring break, St. Patrick's Day, and so much more.

Just as we celebrate this new season coming upon us, it is time to rejoice over the greatest and holiest season of the Church calendar, The Easter Season. Feel the exhilaration of Easter Sunday and never be complacent about what we are commemorating. Nothing is as spectacular or as incredible as Easter.

Leading up to Easter there are two Holy Week celebrations. We will attend our Seder Meal on Holy Thursday, and Good Friday we will walk to Calvary as when we pray the Stations of the Cross.

Easter Sunday morning we will ring our bells of jubilation and celebrate the fact that Jesus Christ rose from the dead. His resurrection affirms and leaves no doubt that God so loved the world He sent His Divine Son to personally proclaim that divine message. And we should never fear death because when we are called home Heaven and Eternal life are only a whisper away. That is the promise of Easter.

So mark your calendar for all the Easter Services:

April 2<sup>nd</sup> Holy Thursday Seder Meal = 6:30

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday Stations of the Cross = 7:00

April 5<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday = 9:30

Easter Egg Hunt – Following the Easter Service

April 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting = 9:30 service

Have a blessed and holy Easter and may the love of God, which passes all understanding, be always with you.

Rev. Martie D.V. Johnson +



# Plastic...give it up for Lent!

An invitation from your Environment Advocacy Group  
*Why give up wine or chocolate when you can give up plastic?*

Like diamonds, plastics are forever. Every piece of plastic we have ever used is still here today. It is not biodegradable. Millions of tons of plastic enter the ocean yearly. The sun and waves break it up into smaller pieces, creating vast concentrations of flotsam in the ocean. Up to 80% of rubbish in the oceans comes straight from beaches and storm water. Most of it is plastic. It sickens and kills fish, birds, whales and turtles, up to one million animals a year.



Plastic has insinuated itself into our lives and is ubiquitous. It's a huge effort to give it up completely, but we can begin to take baby steps towards eliminating it from our lives. **Developing an awareness and desire to do better is the first step, a prayer in itself.**

## BABY STEPS TO CONSIDER

- Buy food in glass, not plastic, jars.
- Use cloth shopping bags.
- Buy detergent in boxes, not plastic.
- Bring your own container for take-out and leftovers from restaurants.
- Use reusable coffee mug and tableware, stainless steel utensils, glass or stainless steel straws.
- Avoid K-cups for coffee, tea, and cocoa.
- Use rubber gloves.
- Buy eggs in cardboard cartons.
- Use a glass blender.
- Use bar soap instead of liquid.
- Give up chewing gum (contains lots of plastic!)
- Use glass bowls for pet food.
- Use wooden hairbrush with natural bristles.
- Upcycle. Think of new uses for old items.
- Reuse packaging materials from packages sent to you.
- Buy cheese in a wheel wrapped in wax.
- Wear clothing from natural materials. Polyester is made from plastic.
- Use stainless steel ice cube trays.
- Go digital and avoid CD and DVD plastic.
- Skip bottled water. Carry reusable glass bottle or BPA-free metal bottle.
- Volunteer at beach, stream, or river clean-up.
- Add your own ideas! Be creative! Send your ideas to our Environment Advocacy Group members: [environment@cathedralcongregation.org](mailto:environment@cathedralcongregation.org)

## Senior Warden's Notes

***Song of Solomon 2:11-12*** For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

This year's Stewardship Program was delayed slightly but, was successful with the pledges we received from the Congregation. Thank you for your support. We also had a new fundraiser this past fall with the "Yellow Envelopes" and we raised enough to fund the Holy Cross Guild's Outreach Program. Many thanks for all the financial, time and talent ministries you support.

The Advisory Board Nominating Committee is currently searching for new members to fill the positions of those leaving after their 3 year term. If you are asked to consider joining us on the Board, please take time and prayerfully consider this important position. The Advisory Board meets once a month to organize Church business and report on finances, clergy activity and concerns/programs within our Parish. It is a friendly atmosphere and generally the meetings are 90 minutes or less.

Our Annual Congregation meeting will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup> during our regular 9:30am Worship Service and will be followed by a pot luck luncheon. Please mark your calendars for this important meeting.

Plans are again being formulated to serve a meal at the Emergency One Homeless Shelter later this year. And, before we know it, we will be planning for the Strawberry Festival on the first Saturday in June.

If you haven't looked at our website recently, please check it out.

<http://www.rocksholycross.ang-md.org/>

Joyce Hampshire has agreed to be the "Webmaster" and post news and events to the site. She recently worked with Jason Hoffman at the Diocese to get this new format completed. Thanks! Jim Hampshire has agreed to be the Junior Warden. If you have any property concerns and are willing to volunteer to assist him caring for the Building and Grounds, feel free to contact him through email at; [jhampshire15@hotmail.com](mailto:jhampshire15@hotmail.com) or, on the phone at 443-504-9269. Thank you Jim for filling this position.

God bless,  
Chip

### **quotable\*quotes** submitted by Pat Harkins

I saw an angel in the stone and carved to set it free..... Michelangelo

There is more to life than increasing it's speed..... Mahatma Gandhi

The trouble is, if you don't risk anything, you risk even more..... Erica Jong

It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves ..... Sir Edmund Hillary

UNITED THANK OFFERING

The Episcopal Church Center  
815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017  
· 1-800-334-7626 | utochange.org



UTO boxes are available at Church.  
We will announce the date of the ingathering of the boxes at Holy Cross Church.  
Your contribution to UTO will be taken to the Diocesan Convention on May 8-9.

**St. George's Food Pantry** is in search of a new freezer. If you have the means to help monetarily or have a freezer to donate please let us know. They are also looking for a volunteer (s) to pick up fruit from the **Edible Arrangements** in Box Hill and deliver it to the Food Pantry on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 9-11am. Call Tim White, Food Pantry Coordinator, 410 459-8996 if you'd like to help with this pick up.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH, THE ROCKS

**EASTER FLOWER CONTRIBUTION**

*From*



\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

*Please accept my contribution of \$* \_\_\_\_\_

*Toward the cost of decorating Holy Cross Church at Easter*

*The citation in the bulletin should read: (please select one)*

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mail this form with a check to Holy Cross Church, P.O. Box 103, Street MD 21154 or place in the collection plate on Sunday.*



We were so excited to get back to church on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. Since the new year we have been reading the story of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat". We will now learn a bit about the Cross as we prepare for Easter. Reverend Martie will be including the Sunday School students in our preparation for Easter as well. After we will learn about Noah and the rainbow of promise. I have enjoyed working with the Sunday School once again, I do however miss Church.

*Respectfully,  
Cathy Steuart*

**From Cassie King:** The Church retreat for the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland was a wonderful experience. There were youth from all over Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. There were around 150 kids between age 14 and 20. Over the weekend we all learned about Grace and what it is exactly. There isn't just one definition for Grace. We got to play games and do a lot of activities all together. We also sang a lot of songs and had morning and nightly prayers together.

**About the retreat experience from Cassie's Mom (Cathy):** This was the first time Cassie attended an overnight retreat with the Church. We meet one of the leadership at the Cathedral where Cassie got a shuttle bus and met a couple other youth. Cassie was able to call home to say goodnight. That was pretty much the extent of the electronics. It was great to hear her stories of fun, learning, and reflection. She is now looking forward to an upcoming event. Sunday evening at dinner she gave thanks to God for "getting to know you better". How great is that.

### ***Parish Family Profile – Ben & Katie Scarborough***

Katie and Ben Scarborough joined Holy Cross Church in September 2014. They reside on Burkins Road in Street, Maryland, with their children Walter and Emma. Katie and Ben both attended Washington College and were married in 2007.

Katie grew up in Randallstown, Maryland, and worked as a science teacher prior to the birth of the children. She is currently a stay at home mom and is an avid reader. Ben, a lifelong resident of the area, has worked as a history teacher at North Harford High School since 2001. He enjoys hiking and making music with friends.

Walter is five years old and attends Kindergarten at North Harford Elementary. Two years ago he was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, so please do not be offended if he does not eat sweets at church. Emma is four years old, enjoys dancing and music, and is part of the Lil' Hawks preschool. Both Walter and Emma love attending Sunday school with Ms. Cathy and Ms. Sarah.

The Scarboroughs are so happy to be welcomed so quickly and warmly at Holy Cross. They feel blessed to be part of the Holy Cross family!

## **Holy Cross Episcopal Church 2015 Youth Memorial Scholarship Application**

Each year Holy Cross Episcopal Church awards a scholarship to a deserving youth in memory of the young people of our church who have been lost to an untimely death. It is available to deserving teenagers who attend Holy Cross, as well as those who reside in the region that Holy Cross serves. The 2015 scholarship will provide full tuition for one week at the Bishop Clagget Center or \$500 in cash. The awards will be based on merit and community service activities of a deserving teenager. Applications are due by May 15 with awards to be made by June 15. Applications must be returned to Holy Cross Episcopal Church or can be mailed to Mary Raab at 3033 Rocks Road Jarrettsville, MD 21084. Any questions about the scholarship can be directed to Mary Raab at 410-937-0884 or [maryveraabi@verizon.net](mailto:maryveraabi@verizon.net).

**Name:**

**Age:**

**Address:**

**Phone Number:**

### **Cash or Clagget Scholarship (Circle One)**

- 1. Please tell us about your community service activities.**
- 2. Please tell us why this scholarship is important to you.**
- 3. Please attach a letter of reference from a non-family member.**
- 4. Please sign your application and have a parent sign the application.**

The 2015 Wilson Memorial Scholarship will go to someone from Highland church.