



The Mustard Seed

MARCH 2010

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 396 Gilman Road, Yarmouth, Maine 04096
207-846-9244 www.stbartsyarmouth.org
Rector: The Reverend Nina R. Pooley

Letter From the Rector

Take Courage

We've had some unusually beautiful weather and the days are finally beginning to lengthen, and yet as I write a huge storm system is moving in. The skies are overcast, the wind is picking up and the rain is building, about to dump upon us. Spring, while once so tangibly on the way, has been pushed back a bit. There's more winter crowding at the door, wanting it's fair turn.

For many of us at St. Bart's this has been a difficult winter. We are struggling with loss, with illness, with change, with all that we can't control. We understand this Lenten wilderness in our very beings. No longer a construct of the season, this Lent is real and we are in the midst of all the wilderness brings. It's my hope that many of you have found our Lenten book, John O'Donohue's *Anam Cara*, to be helpful, to be inspiring, to be challenging. But mostly I hope that for those of us who find ourselves in the wilderness there are pathways for us in this Celtic wisdom. Ways to regain ourselves, to regain our bearings, to navigate our way out of this wilderness experience.

I welcome you to join us in our Lenten book gathering and conversation, if you haven't done so already. You can purchase the book at Royal River Books in Yarmouth, or online at Amazon.com.

<http://www.amazon.com/Anam-Cara-Book-Celtic-Wisdom/dp/006092943X>

If you'd like to join in the blog conversation, here's a link to my blog through which we're walking through the book, one chapter a week.

<http://www.wickednifty.com/revnina/> If you'd like to talk in person about what we've read and experienced feel free to join me after the services during Lent for informal conversation.

Where ever you find yourselves this Lent, be of good courage. You are in good company, the company of this parish family, the company of all the saints in light, the company of Godself. May angels minister to you in the midst of your wilderness.

Peace,

For Courage (From John O'Donohue's book, *To Bless the Space Between Us*)

When the light around you lessens
And your thoughts darken until
Your body feels fear turn
Cold as a stone inside,

When you find yourself bereft
Of any belief in yourself
And all you unknowingly
Leaned on has fallen,

When one voice commands
Your whole heart,
And it is raven dark,

Steady yourself and see
That it is your own thinking
That darkens your world,

Slate Skies

here it comes
the sky moving from deep darkness
to slate
the lightening,
almost imperceptible at first
slowly divulges silhouettes of trees
black against
growing contrast

it's not a warm dawn
not yet
but it's a dawn
none the less

edging toward light
persistent and true
bringing a new day
bearing hope
even in this flat slate gray

- Nina+



Schedule of Services & Events

Sunday, Feb. 28: Lent II

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 AM

Sunday, March 7: Lent III

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 AM w/ healing

Sunday, March 14: Lent IV

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 AM

Sunday, March 21 : Lent V

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 AM

Sunday, March 28 : Palm Sunday

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 AM

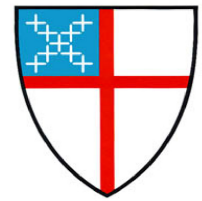
***Choral Evensong at 4:30 PM** with
a J2A supper reception to follow.

Search and you will find
A diamond-thought of light,
Know that you are not alone
And that this darkness has purpose;
Gradually it will school your eyes
To find the one gift your life requires
Hidden within this night-corner.

Invoke the learning
Of every suffering
You have suffered.

Close your eyes.
Gather all the kindling
About your heart
To create one spark.
That is all you need
To nourish the flame
That will cleanse the dark
Of its weight of festered fear.

A new confidence will come alive
To urge you toward higher ground
Where your imagination
Will learn to engage difficulty
As its most rewarding threshold!



Office Hours: Tues.– Fri.
9 Am - 3 Pm
Phone: 846-9244
www.stbartsyarmouth.org

Rector

The Rev. Nina Pooley
Email: nina@stbartsyarmouth.org

Administrative Assistant

Angela Clark
admin@stbartsyarmouth.org

Music Director

Jonathan D. Pelletier

2009 Vestry Officers

Senior Warden - Bob Clark
Junior Warden - Louise Barton
Clerk - Mary Becker
Treasurer - Dennis Fitzgibbons
Asst. Treasurer - Susie Soule

Vestry Members

Members at Large -
Joe Michaud, Rob Neal
Worship - Lu Tingley
Resources - Steve Morse
Community - Don Massey
Service- Rick Ramseyer

Pastoral Care Committee

Imelda Schaefer 781-4093
Eleanore Irish 846-5059

Nursery Care

Mackenzie Pooley
Jo Moore

Food Pantry

Maggie Nason 846-7936

Buildings & Grounds

Joe Michaud, Don Massey

Memorial Garden

Liza Chandler, Margaret Betts

SOLEMN CHORAL EVENSONG

on the 28th of March at 4:30 p.m.
The Sunday of the Passion

Following in the long Anglican Church tradition of singing the evening prayers, evensong is a gift of music centered on the psalms, responses, and the two canticles based on the words of Mary and the prophet Simeon. These portions of the service are sung by the choir and are unique to the Episcopal Church. All who attend an evensong join in the hymns and prayers, and especially in heart and spirit as the choir raises its song to the heavens.

Responses: Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)
Canticles: Charles Wood (1866-1926) E minor
Anthems: Bob Chilcott (b.1955), David Hurd (b.1950)

Join us for the fourth Arts at St. Barts event this season.
Arts at St. Bart's events are a wonderful opportunity to invite
friends and neighbors to be with us.

All are welcome to remain for a delicious light supper reception.
This is provided by our J2A Youth and your generous
support of their ministry is greatly appreciated!



FROM THE BISHOP

THE RT. REV. STEPHEN T. LANE
BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MAINE



A Collect for the Church in a Changing World

God of unchanging power and eternal light, loving God, who is Mother and Father of us all; Grant to your people in the Episcopal Diocese of Maine grace and courage to be a new church for a new day. Give us vision and wisdom to discern your will in a changing world and persistence to go out to our neighbors and live your Good News in new and creative ways. Help us to trust the companionship of your Spirit on this journey even as we experience confusion and difficulty. Lead us, we pray, to that future, still unseen by us, where you are already waiting for our arrival and where, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign now and for ever. *Amen*

An invitation to the conversation about adaptive change in our diocese

Dear Clergy, Wardens, Convention Delegates and Alternates, and all members of the Diocese of Maine,

The Diocese of Maine is beginning the work of transforming our life as the people of God in this place.

To help us begin, I've appointed lay and clergy members from across the diocese to two groups: a Mission Priorities Study Group and Mission Strategy Study Group. Please see below for ways you can participate as we discern the future course of the Episcopal Church in Maine. We need to hear from everyone.

One way to share your voice is immediate. Please take 12 to 15 minutes to take an on-line survey to share your thoughts about the mission priorities in the Diocese of Maine. The survey will be open through midnight on February 28, but I urge you to not delay. (See "*Ways to be involved*" below, for link)

Change requires patience and persistence. It requires a willingness to live with ambiguity and risk. It requires trust that God will not abandon us, but will journey with us to our, as yet invisible, goal. Most of all it requires love: love for God, love for God's people and God's church, and love for one another.



I welcome you to this conversation and look forward to hearing what you have to say. May God bless us all in this new thing God is doing.

+Steve
The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane
Bishop of Maine

Ways to be involved...

- Pray! Please see the *Collect for the Church in a Changing World* to the left.
- Take the Diocesan Mission Survey (until March 1) at www.surveymonkey.com/s/mission or ask your priest for a print copy to submit by mail.
- Plan to attend an area meeting this spring. Details to follow.
- Join the Change-Talk listserv for discussion and news on the work of the Mission Study Groups. Email info@episcopalmaine.org to join.
- Listen to Bishop Steve's 2009 Convention Address at www.episcopalmaine.org (scroll down the home page and hit the "play" button) or read it [here](#).

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 BLOOD DRIVE 1-6 pm at St. B's  American Red Cross	2 Men's group- Royal Bean 7:30am Vestry Retreat 4-9 pm	3 Choir 6-9 pm	4 Pastoral Care 12 Noon AA 7:30 pm	5	6
7 Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 am w/ healing R13 & J2A 4-5:30	8	9 VESTRY 6:45 pm	10 Choir 6-9 pm	11 AA 7:30 pm	12	13
14 Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 am R13 & J2A 4-5:30	15	16 Men's group- Royal Bean 7:30am Ladies' Lunch- 12pm, DownEast Cancer Support 7pm	17 Choir 7-9 pm	18 AA 7:30 pm	19 Mustard Seed Article deadline	20
21 Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 am R13 & J2A 4-5:30	22 Alzheimer's Support 7:30 pm	23	24 Choir 6-9 pm	25 AA 7:30 pm	26 Rite 13 Sleepover 	27
28 Palm Sunday Holy Euch. 8 & 10 No R13 Evensong 4:30pm w/ J2A supper	29	30 Men's group- Royal Bean 7:30am	31 Choir 6-9 pm			

UPCOMING...

24th Annual Good Friday Walk for Habitat for Humanity, Friday, April 2nd

How can you be involved in this year's Good Friday Walk?

- Walk 20, 10, 5 or 3 miles on Good Friday (registration at Cumberland UCC and 1st Parish in Yarmouth)
- Ask as many sponsors as you can to support you with a pledge or payment brought to registration on day of the walk
- Volunteer to help out at way stations, registration spots, or to drive a TOE truck (call Nita Dehais at 829-3071)
- Provide baked goodies for the walkers
- Be a sponsor
- **New opportunity for walkers: visit Habitat's website to do Online FirstGiving sponsor gathering: <http://www.habitatportlandme.org/>**

As winter turns to spring and we enter the season of Lent, we look forward to walking and working together on Good Friday. Blessings from the Good Friday Walk Committee co chairs: Sally Bancroft and Nita Dehais.