

The Clarion

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April 2007

THE CHURCH OF SAINT CLEMENT

Episcopal + Alexandria, VA

The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee
Twelfth Bishop of Virginia

The Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones
Suffragan Bishop

The Rev. John D. Hortum
Rector

Vestry

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William DeVan

Mark Drake

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A Message from the Rector

One might think that Lent would be time that a priest would rather, in an odd way, enjoy. I assure you that for me this is not the case. In the past I used to think it was the spring fever thing that got to me – a membranous heaviness causing a lack of the expected seasonable spirit of devotion. But I can no longer blame it on my sinuses: I have been blessed with a reprieve from that particular torture. So, at this point in life, I have had to come to the realization that the spiritual lethargy I feel is in fact my own mini-darknightofthesoul. Nothing very dramatic really, just the need to be conscious about putting one foot in front of the other, the daily effort to live unreasonably faithfully and reasonably well.

Maybe this is what it's supposed to be – Lent I mean. We are thrown back on our own poverty of spirit when we face an enforced March of prayer. We realize that we just can't do it without real, tangible help. Help from God, and, the help from God that comes through the gift of a religious tradition that has some real expectations of me. It's like the Lord is getting my attention to remind me that I always need his help to make that daily walk. And that it is rather ridiculous that I sometimes forget that. And that with this re-awareness he lets me in on a joke, a joke on me, but a joke I can get and enjoy after all.

Thank you, Lord, for calling me to laugh at myself in my weakness. Thank you for using my neediness and reminding me how much we need you and each other. ❖



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- April 1st Palm Sunday: 8 & 10 am Eucharist
- April 4th Tenebrae @ 7:30 pm
- April 5th Maundy Thursday: 7:30 pm Holy Eucharist followed by all Night Prayer Vigil - Begins 9pm after the service. There is a sign-up sheet in Marshall-Rutter Hall.
- April 6th Good Friday: 6:30 am Holy Communion
12 noon - 3pm Good Friday Holy Hours with meditations, Stations of the Cross, Veneration of the Cross and the Great Litany
- April 7th Great Easter Vigil 7:30 pm: This service includes the lighting of the holy fire, the Exultet prayer of expectation, readings from the history of salvation, and the great Easter Proclamation and Eucharist. A festive reception is held after the service.
- April 8th Easter Sunday: 8 & 10 am Eucharist

St. Clement Will Host This Year's NOVAM's Imagine Dinner

St. Clement will be co-hosting a dinner for Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry Imagine Gala with Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Paul's Episcopal on April 28, 2007 at 6:30 PM in Marshall Rutter Hall. The contribution for this event is \$40.00 per person. All proceeds will benefit NOVAM and its programs.

What do you get for \$40.00 besides supporting an organization that provides AIDS education and support to thousands of men, women and children in Northern Virginia? You get a delicious dinner prepared by volunteers representing these four churches and afterwards drinks, dessert and dancing at the Torpedo Factory in Old Town Alexandria. You can volunteer to help with the dinner or just attend. But do come. Please contact Elsie Mosqueda at 703.549.0190 or by email at Lseaside900@comcast.net if you would like to help or would like to attend.

WINTER OVERFLOW SHELTER—2007

March 15, 2007 was the last night for St. Clement's Winter Overflow Shelter. We were able to provide shelter for an average of 11 men per night for those in our community who would not otherwise have had a warm place to sleep. We could not have done this without your help. A heartfelt thank you to all who supported this year's shelter. It has truly been a community effort to continue the shelter since we started in 1991.

Our overnight volunteers were provided by: Alexandria/Arlington Catholic Community (Gregory J. Vogt, Coordinator); Northern Virginia Catholic Community (Diane Carroll, Coordinator); Grace Episcopal Church (Kevin Sherlock, Coordinator); Westminster Presbyterian Church (Judy Hansen, Coordinator); Virginia Theological Seminary (Tim Grayson, Coordinator); Christ Church Episcopal (Anne Marie Shackleton and Steve Reed, Coordinators); Resurrection Episcopal (Jere Cummins, Coordinator); Trinity United Methodist (Todd Juneau, Coordinator).

St. Clement volunteers who gave generously of their time were Ellen Shreve, Mike and Linda Oliver, Vicki Hughes, Lee Lavinder, Harry Williams, Ruth Kidd, Melise Blakeslee, Jan Taylor, Michael Montante, Amy Westling, Betty Howe, Evan and John Hortum, Jan Taylor, Chuck Zeigler, Mia Jones, Kari Doyle, Ches and Jen Hastat, Hallie Hahn, Betsy Cromwell, Trudy McGee and Rudy Garcia. Thank you all for your giving of your time and for your generous financial support.

Birthdays in April

4/2

Sue McClemons

4/4

Don Borden,

Bill Carter

John Doyle and

Will Mirone

4/5

Asha Rodriguez

4/6

Ellen Rayner;

4/7-William Cleaver,

4/12

Eve Mastromichalis

Annie Frye

4/14

Melise Blakeslee

Andrei Hortum

4/16

Ava Blakeslee-Carter

4/22

Virginia Nearing

Roxanne King

4/23

John Hortum

4/27

Charles Howe

Robert White

A Note from the Treasurer

As we head towards Holy Week and Easter, there's good news from the Treasurer: both pledge and plate offerings are coming in as we expected when the Vestry passed our budget in January. Additional money has also been placed in our Management Reserve, bringing that total to nearly \$20,000.

On the expense side, we're keeping within budget, except for expenses associated with our physical plant, which suffers from the usual wear and tear and the need to repair or replace old or failing fixtures.

Thanks to the continued generosity and faithfulness of the St. Clement community, we continue to be in good financial shape to be able to handle our routine, day-to-day needs.

Vespers Concert: Richard Demy

I loved performing for your church. To borrow the phrase from the North Carolina state motto "to be and not to seem" I think that your church shows a difference in its actions when it comes to helping others. It really shows a lot about your church to open up the sanctuary to people who needed shelter that night, and I feel honored to be involved with such loving people. If you ever would like another concert, with a chance for better weather, please give me a call, and I would be delighted to perform again for your church.

Yours in Christ,

-Richard Demy

Wines for the Easter Holiday

By Cliff Beasley

As the unofficial local wine enthusiast, (wineaux), for the Church of Saint Clement, I thought it might be appropriate to discuss wines to match with the traditional Easter Sunday meal.

It is traditional to serve lamb on Easter, as Jesus Christ was the sacrificial Lamb of God who sacrificed Himself upon the cross to absolve us of our sins.

If you do a rack of lamb, the traditional wine to have with it is a good Bordeaux. An excellent Merlot from California such as a St. Clement, Merlot from Napa, or a good one from elsewhere would also go very well with a nice lamb dish. Fortunately last fall at our annual wine and jazz benefit we did a number of "saintly wines" that would go very well with our Easter lamb. From Bordeaux, we tasted a Chateau Jaque Blanc, Saint Emillion, (this wine is mostly Merlot), and the more expensive and difficult to find, Chateau Lafon-Rochet, Saint Estephe, Medoc, 1989. Among the best Merlots, we had was the St. Francis, Behuler Reserve, Merlot, from Sonoma, 2001. St. Francis regular Merlot is less expensive, but still very good. Chateau Saint Michelle from Washington State's Columbia Valley makes a reasonably priced excellent Reserve Merlot and a good regular one. A good value Merlot that we tasted in November was the Santa Rita Reserve Merlot from Chile.

As I mentioned in my previous article, it is important to drink wines that you and your guests enjoy. To this end, I would again recommend putting your taste buds in the able hands of a dependable, knowledgeable wine merchant. We are very fortunate at Saint Clement to have four top notch ones locally who have in addition supported our Wine and Jazz Benefits. I can highly recommend them all, and they frequently offer in store tastings, often Saturdays in the 1-5 PM range.

Local, Virginia Wine Merchants:

- Geoff Romine, Proprietor, Fern Street Gourmet, 1708 Fern Street, Alexandria
- Suzanne McGrath, President, the Curious Grape, 4056 S. 28th Street, (Shirlington)
- Vanessa Moore, Managing Partner, UnWined, 3690-J King Street, (Bradlee)
- Rick's Wine & Gourmet, 3117 Duke Street, Alexandria

Confirmation Class News

Bishop Lee is scheduled to be here at The Church of Saint Clement on July 15 for Confirmations. If that date is impossible, you can make arrangements for Confirmation at ShrineMont for May 5. Classes resume April 1 with Episcopal Worship:

April 15 Sacramental Rites
April 29 Prayer and Spirituality
May 6 Worldwide Anglican Communion

Classes begin at 11:20 in the Library downstairs. They are over by noon. Bring your books. Make-up classes can be arranged for 9 a.m. on Sundays. Please call in advance.

Be prepared for a mid-term exam the next time we meet, based on material you have read and discussed already.

Some are finished with their Community Service already. You can do more than the minimum 20 hours, but write down the days and times. Planners and calendars will be available at the next class.

<p>CLARION SUBMISSIONS: Submissions for the Clarion should be made to Lee Lavinder either by email (lavinder_lee@yahoo.com) or by dropping it off in the church office.</p>
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APRIL 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Palm Sunday 8 & 10 am Eucharist	2	3 7pm Holy Eucharist Seder Supper	4 12:05 Healing Eucharist 7:30 pm Tenebrae	5 Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm Holy Eucharist	6 Good Friday 6:30 am Holy Communion 12 noon-3 pm Good Friday Holy Hours	7 Holy Saturday 7:30 pm Great Easter Vigil
8 Easter Sunday 8 & 10 am Service 6-8 pm Music Group	9	10 7pm Holy Eucharist 7:30 pm Vestry	11 12:05 Healing Eucharist	12	13	14 ALIVE Gala @ GW Masonic National Memorial
15 8 & 10 am Eucharist 6-8 pm Music Group	16	17 7pm Holy Eucharist	18 12:05 Healing Eucharist	19 7:30 pm: Life Through a Lens, movie <i>TBD</i>	20	21
22 8 & 10 am Eucharist 11:30 New member orientation 6-8 pm Music Group	23	24 7pm Holy Eucharist	25 12:05 Healing Eucharist	26	27	28 IMAGINE Dinner
29 8 & 10 am Eucharist 11:30 Ministry Fair 6-8 pm Music Group	30					Every Sat: 8:30 am books and the Bible 9-12 am: Altar Guild 10 am: AA meeting