

CHART, May 2010
Christ Church
1355 Northern Boulevard
Manhasset, NY 11030

Letter from the Rector

May 1, 2010

Dear Friends,

The month of May will be a very busy one at Christ Church. In our liturgical year we are mid-way through the fifty days of Easter. There are two important days remaining in the season of Easter: the Feast of the Ascension and the Day of Pentecost. The Ascension is forty days after Easter. It always falls on a Thursday and, therefore, is generally neglected. It is the day on which the church commemorates the end of Jesus post-resurrection appearances. In the Gospel of Luke it is noted in the following manner: "Jesus said to his disciples, 'Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high.' Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God." (Luke 24:50-53)

The other three Gospels (Matthew, Mark and John) have no 'ascension' story *per se*, but Matthew and John do have commissioning events as part of the story of Jesus and his disciples after the resurrection.

The Day of Pentecost is the day on which the church commemorates the giving of the Holy Spirit and through the giving of the Holy Spirit, the beginning of the church. Although in John's Gospel Jesus promises throughout the so-called farewell discourses that God would send his Spirit to Jesus' disciples (John 14-17), it is in the first post-Resurrection that Jesus actually gives his disciples the Holy Spirit. John sets out the story as follows: "On the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me so I send you.' And when he had said this he breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any they are forgiven, if you retain the sins of any they are retained.'"

However, the famous story of the giving of the Holy Spirit is not from the Gospels, it is from the Acts of the Apostles. (Acts is actually the second half of the Gospel of Luke and picks up the story of Jesus from his ascension to the earliest history of the church.) In Acts, the Holy Spirit comes down on the disciples on the fiftieth day after the resurrection of Jesus, on a Jewish feast day when Jews from all over the Roman Empire were accustomed to come to Jerusalem. The church has followed the Greek name for that day—that is Pentecost (fifty days). For the Jews it was properly known as the Feast of Weeks, a time when the first fruits of the corn crop were presented at the temple and also when the giving of the law to Moses was commemorated (Deuteronomy 16:9). This is the story Luke told: "When the day of Pentecost had come, they [the disciples] were all together in one place. And suddenly the sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they began to speak in other tongues as the spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2:1-4.)

From that day, the disciples, who had been confused and ineffective, became a strong force for the Gospel and went throughout the Roman Empire proclaiming Jesus as Lord.

Pentecost remains a reminder for us that we, like Jesus' original followers, are called by the Holy Spirit to proclaim Jesus in our lives even today.

To commemorate the Ascension we will have two services on Thursday, May 13; Morning Prayer at 7:00 AM and a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10:00 AM. On Pentecost Sunday, we will have our regular celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM. At 10:00 AM the Eucharist will have the reading of the Gospel in a variety of languages and a post-service celebration outside (weather permitting) with our special Pentecost cake. In the afternoon (at 4:00 PM) there will be a service of

Evensong in the church. Although much of the music will be from 20th century composers, the liturgy will be taken from the first English language prayer book—that of 1549.

Finally---and on a very different plane---on Sunday May 30, Christ Church will host the American Legion for Memorial Day. I hope we might also have the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts join in that service. With the United States in two wars to combat terrorism and with Americans serving in the armed forces facing great dangers, it is most appropriate for us to join with our neighbors to give thanks for those who currently serve and those who served in the past to defend the freedoms we enjoy in this country.

There are details of these and many other activities at Christ Church during the month of May. I heartily commend them to you.

This comes with my best wishes.

Sincerely,

The Very Rev'd David B. Lowry

Parish of Notes:

Prayer Book Switch

In the month of May we will change the liturgy used at the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Eucharists. At 8:00 AM we will use Rite II (contemporary language) and at 10:00 AM we will use Rite I (traditional language). The Episcopal Church has a long history of prayer and liturgy in English. The first English Book of Common Prayer was issued in 1549. The pre-Shakespearian language of that Prayer Book remains with us to this day—in the form of Rite I of the American Book of Common Prayer, 1979. In 1979 the Book of Common Prayer introduced contemporary language as well. The services in contemporary language have become the norm at most Episcopal churches. However, it is good to acquaint (re-acquaint) ourselves with the tradition language that has been such an important part of our worship tradition.

Sunday, May 9—Mother's Day—There will be special presentations by the Sunday School for mother at the 10:00 AM service.

Tuesday, May 18—Men's Cookout—The last of the men's dinners will be a cook-out at the rectory.

Sunday, May 23—Pentecost—In addition to the Festival Eucharist for Pentecost at 10:00 AM, there will be Evensong at 4:00 PM followed by a reception in the yard of the Blue House. Please note that there will be said services of the Holy Eucharist at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

MUSIC IN MAY – Choral Evensong, May 23

Many thanks to all who made the special music for Easter Sunday possible! The choir worked very hard to put together the Haydn "Lord Nelson" Mass and met the challenge with great skill. However, the choral season is not over yet! Please mark your calendars for a Choral Evensong for Pentecost on Sunday afternoon, May 23, at 4:00 P.M. Evensong is a practice firmly rooted in the Anglican tradition that transforms the liturgy of evening prayer (a rough combination of Vespers and Compline from the Roman Catholic tradition) into a musical offering in the late afternoon or early evening. The Christ Church Choir will lead the service, singing from the *Evening Service for*

Voices in Unison (1924) by Herbert Howells; with responses by Philip Radcliffe and anthems by Henry Balfour Gardiner, Henry Walford Davies and Tom Whittemore. This will hopefully be the first of many such services in the coming year, and will be a wonderful way to say "goodbye" to the choir until September!

Sunday, May 30—Special Memorial Day Eucharist—The American Legion will be our special guests for the 10:00 AM Eucharist. There will be thanksgivings for those who died serving our country and prayers for those who serve today in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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Happy Birthday!!

We are pleased to congratulate these friends and parishioners who have birthdays during this month...

Gloria Ryan, Lorinda de Roulet, Yoshi Mapes, Emily Bunyon, Arlene Blocker, Michelle Soloff, William Stackler, Marianne Horne, Hannah Phillips, James Sherwood, David Paterson, Jennie Whalen, Richard Scheib, Marianne Templeton, Blanche Kambourian, Amy Angus.

Happy Anniversary!!!

Our congratulations to all those friends and parishioners celebrating their wedding anniversaries for this month...

Douglas and Carole Schmidt-Spadaro, Paul and Clare Peters, Peter and Rosemary Anandel.

SUNDAY READINGS AND ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS FOR MAY

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 2, 2010

Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of Lee Wright
by Peggy and Ward Wright

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 9, 2010

Mother's Day

Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of Guy Osborne
by the Osborne family

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 16, 2010

Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of Earl and Peggy Diener
by True, Joy & Star Hampton

THE DAY OF PENTECOST – MAY 23, 2010

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:25-35, 37; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17, 25-27

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of Betsy Bruckner Reicherter
by Marion Bruckner

TRINITY SUNDAY – MAY 30, 2010

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

There is an opening for altar flowers as a memorial or a thank offering for this Sunday, May 30. Please call Ms. Diana Tadler at 516-627 -0128 or the Parish office if you would like to make a donation.

Calendar for the Month of May, 2010

Saturday, May 1

Sunday, May 2/5 Easter Planting Sunday	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist And Sunday School Holy Eucharist	Church Church Chapel
Monday, May 3	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Tuesday, May 4	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, May 5	9:00 AM 9:25 AM 10:00 AM 10:45 AM	Morning Prayer Bible Study Holy Eucharist Sunshine Ministry	Chapel Office Chapel Parish House
Thursday, May 6	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Friday, May 7	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, May 8			
Sunday, May 9/6 Easter <i>Mother's Day</i>	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist and Sunday School Holy Eucharist	Church Church Chapel
Monday, May 10	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Tuesday, May 11	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, May 12	9:00 AM 9:25 AM 10:00 AM 10:45 AM	Morning Prayer Bible Study Holy Eucharist Sunshine Ministry	Chapel Office Chapel Parish House
Thursday, May 13 <i>Ascension Day</i>	7:00 AM 10:00 AM	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist	Chapel Chapel
Friday, May 14	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, May 15			
Sunday, May 16/7 Easter <i>Celebration of The Ascension of our Lord</i>	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist and Sunday School Holy Eucharist	Church Church Chapel
Monday, May 17	7:00 AM 7:45 PM	Morning Prayer Vestry Meeting	Chapel Parish House

Tuesday, May 18	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, May 19	9:00 AM 9:25 AM 10:00 AM 10:45 AM	Morning Prayer Bible Study Holy Eucharist Sunshine Ministry	Chapel Office Chapel Parish House
Thursday, May 20	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Friday, May 21	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	
Saturday, May 22			
Sunday, May 23/Pentecost <i>Whit Sunday</i>	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist Evensong Holy Eucharist	Church Church Church Chapel
Monday, May 24	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Tuesday, May 25	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, May 26	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Thursday May 27	9:00 AM 9:25 AM 10:00 AM 10:45 AM	Morning Prayer Bible Study Holy Eucharist Sunshine Ministry	Chapel Office Chapel Parish House
Friday, May 28	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, May 29			
Sunday, May 30/Trinity Sunday <i>Memorial Day Weekend</i>	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist Holy Eucharist	Church Church Chapel
Monday, May 31	<i>Memorial Day Holiday Office Closed</i>		

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