



first Sunday

MARCH 2007

COMMUNITY OF THE CROSS

Liturgy Schedules

10:00 SUNDAY, Crosswood Centre, 5355 Co. Rd. 35, Auburn, IN 46706-9717

10:00 AM SUNDAY, Fort Wayne at Redwood Chapel, 2425 Redwood Avenue, Fort Wayne *thanks to Rose and Stan*

9:00 AM SUNDAY, Angola at the historic Wedding Chapel of the First Congregational Church, 314 W. Maumee St. in Angola

PLEASE NOTE: On the First Sunday of the Month we follow with a pitch-in brunch after worship with plenty of time for fellowship, both North and South as a result, we do not have liturgy in Angola or Fort Wayne on the First Sundays of the month

Holy Week Schedule

April 1, Passion Sunday 10:00 at Crosswood Centre

April 5, Holy Thursday 7:00, Seder Meal and Liturgy at Crosswood Centre

April 6, Good Friday - each parish will decide time so check with local pastor - Crosswood Centre will begin at 12:00 with prayers and meditation and Divine Liturgy will begin at 3:00.

April 7, Holy Saturday 7:00 Divine Liturgy at Crosswood Centre, with prayers and meditation beginning at 3:00.

April 8, Easter Sunday, 10:00 at Crosswood Centre.

Great Lent

Lent is here and Easter is on the way. Spring is also coming and it's no accident that Lent comes from an old Anglo-Saxon word for spring. We know Lent as the time before Easter, a time of fasting and penance. "Repent and follow the good news." While we fast and pray we are aware of being led toward freedom, freedom from domination by our wants and desires. Freedom to live in God. We were designed to live in communion with God. God is the Lover of Humankind, God seeks us out, pursues us over and over again and lent is a time of turning away from some of the things that keep us from seeing God and the Energies of God all around us every day. The earth proclaims the glory of God but we often miss it because of our pursuit of wants and desires.

This time of the year leads us to the feast of Passover. This is the ultimate feast of Freedom in the Old Testament. It is at the time of Passover that Jesus was crucified. It is no accident that His rising from the dead assures us of our freedom just as the Passover of the Jews led to their freedom.

This year we will have a modified Seder Meal on Holy Thursday. The Seder Meal is the ritual meal of Passover. During the meal the story of salvation is told with the emphasis upon the fact that we were once slaves in Egypt and we cried out to the Lord and we were led out of slavery into Freedom.

Be sure to join us on Holy Thursday evening for the Seder Meal. It is the first of the Triduum or Three Days of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Don't miss it, see the section below on the Seder Meal and come to Auburn for the Feast of Freedom. It is the preparation for understanding the Great Mystery of Easter, the Mystery of our Freedom.

John+

Monday School & Wednesday School

Our discussion study groups continue to be held in Fort Wayne at Redwood Chapel on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 and in the Angola area on Wednesdays at Karen Ringler's home at 3420 Orland Rd. from 6:30 - 8 pm. Both groups are reading the same book. The book under study at this time is *The Creed: What Christians Believe and Why it Matters* by Luke Timothy Johnson.

Remember in Your Prayers

Two of our community fell and broke something this past month. Pray for Isabelle Carsten who is mending and also for Vickie Brewer who fell and broke her leg last week. Fr. Barry from New York also reported that a part of his ceiling caved in from the weight of the snow. Also, Taylor Zeller fell & broke his leg on the way to school. Please keep them in your prayers.

Leadership Team

If you need to contact the Leadership Committee, here are their numbers:

Fr. Skip Carsten*, 260-927-6040 (numeric pager)

Fr. Vince Cuestas, 426-8885

Mother Kris'ta Cuestas, 426-8885

Mr. Ken Erlenbaugh, Core Team North, 833-1313

Mr. Stan Gephart, Core Team South

Ms. Carolyn Hurley, Core Team South, 484-8380

Email: celectics@verizon.net

Fr. John Newbauer, 615-0156

Email: jfn3253@comcast.net

Mother Joan North, 833-3412

Fr./Dcn Tom North, 833-3412

Fr. Cliff Polubinsky 493-4223

Br. Richard Lounsbury & Stella 260-336-2276

Mr. Scott Rutsey, Crosswood Treasurer

Fr. James Spink

Fr. Robert Zahrt, 471-6573

THE NEXT FEW MEETINGS OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM WILL BE MARCH 17, APRIL 14, AND MAY 12, 2007. PLEASE NOTE THAT NOT ALL MEETINGS ARE ON THE SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH.



The Seder Meal

As I mentioned on the front page we will celebrate Holy Thursday with a Seder Meal and Liturgy at Auburn. The meal celebrates Passover and during the meal the story of Passover is told through a dialogue with all those present. Everyone will have a part in the meal. There are four cups of wine (or pure grape juice) which are required to be drunk during the Seder. The first cup is the Kiddush or blessing cup and indicates the beginning of the holiday. The second cup is with the recounting of the Exodus story. The third cup is a blessing cup after the meal and the fourth cup is the cup of hallel (a series of Thanksgiving Psalms including Psalms 113-118) and is also known as the cup of freedom.

There are many symbols involved in the Seder meal and each is explained as we go along. It is an excellent way to learn about salvation history and the connection between our Divine Liturgy and the rituals that were and still are used by our Jewish brethren. While it is a ritual meal, it is not a quiet, somber time at all. It is meant to be a family celebration. For that reason all are invited to join us. There is even a role for the youngest person in the group. There will be singing and some playfulness which should keep us right in touch with our usual Liturgies.

Be sure to plan on joining us. Everyone is asked to bring a dish for sharing at the meal in the same way we do at our other potlucks (Yes, it is a REAL meal). We will supply the meat and while the traditional meal is lamb, +Skip has made me promise to stay away from our beloved flock so there will be a variety of meats. Mark it down on your calendar and invite friends if you wish - Thursday, April 5, 7:00 PM.

John+ Newbauer

Spring is Coming

As you know, we have been collecting articles for the people at Vincent House and they have been in need of all kinds of warm items for the past few months. Now that we are into Spring, the need continues but with an emphasis on seasonal clothes. Vincent House serves families that are homeless for one reason or another. They have toddlers living in their facilities and they will always need diapers (larger sizes) as well as crib sheets and twin sized sheets. The adults that are living there can always use toiletries. Anything you can help with would be great.

Carolyn Hurley

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 3
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1. Holy Week Schedule.

Holy Thursday's celebration will begin with a Seder Supper at the Center at 7:00 pm. Details will be available closer to the event. Good Friday will be celebrated in the local parish. Holy Saturday's Divine Liturgy will begin at 7:00 pm at the Center, with the usual afternoon of meditation starting at 3:00 pm.

2. The Community of the Cross brochure.

John Newbauer has been collecting information from people through the last week or so. He presented the latest draft in the series at the meeting. A few changes were recommended, including the addition of a simple map. The final document will be ready for the printer soon. The number of brochures will probably be in the area of 500 or so.

3. Creating a budget.

At an earlier meeting, it was recommended that regular attendees receive a letter advising that the leadership wishes to create budgets for the year, and asking for an indication of what they can give to the support of the parish and/or community. It was noted that support can be either money or the gift of time and talent. The proposal was discussed animatedly, but finally agreed was that a letter will be sent (by John), followed by discussion in the local parish.

4. Progress on the Loft

The leadership team toured the Loft to witness progress in that space. It was decided to paint the vaulted ceiling a light color, in semigloss paint. The addition of a shower in the space was also discussed, with plumbing being set in but the shower not installed during this construction phase.

A lengthy discussion of an additional stairway followed. It was agreed to erect an enclosed exterior stairway at the west end of the chapel, and equip it with a chair lift on a rail. It was suggested that small windows be installed along the stairway with the stations of the cross shown on them.

It was agreed that a railing needs to be installed in the existing stairway once work is completed in the Loft.

5. Local parish bulletin.

The question of weekly bulletins for the local parish was raised. It was agreed that parish bulletins are a good thing and worth the effort. It is left to the local pastor to implement bulletins. John recommended a shared online databank from which various items can be drawn to create the bulletin.

6. Advertising.

It was agreed to place ads for services of the three locations in papers such as the Angola Harold Republican, the Auburn Evening Star, and in the Fort Wayne Newspapers.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Zahrt

March's Presiders	
Angola: March 11, Joan+ March 18, Bob+ March 25, +Skip	Fort Wayne March 11, Cliff+ March 18, +Skip March 25, Cliff+
Auburn: March 4, Bob+ March 11, +Vince March 18, John+ March 25, John+	HOLY WEEK: April 1, Bob+ April 5, John+ April 6, Cliff+ April 7, +Skip April 8, +Skip

A New Twist for Lent*

"It sounds surprising, but the pretzel has a deep spiritual meaning for Lent. In fact, it was the ancient Christian Lenten bread as far back as the fifth century," wrote Francis X. Weiser, a Jesuit priest, in *Religious Customs in the Family* (\$8), a book originally published in 1956 and republished in 1998 by Tan Books and Publishers of Rockford, Illinois.

"In the old Roman Empire, the faithful kept a very strict fast all through Lent: no milk, no butter, no cheese, no eggs, no cream and, of course, no meat. So they made small breads of water, flour, and salt," wrote Father Weiser. "To remind themselves that Lent was a time of prayer, they shaped these breads in the form of arms crossed in prayer (in those days they crossed their arms over the breast while praying). Therefore, they called the breads 'little arms' (bracellae)." From this Latin word came the German word "bretzel," which ultimately became our "pretzel." Father Weiser added that the earliest picture and description of a pretzel, from the fifth century, can be found in codex no. 3867 in the Vatican Library.

An alternate account of the pretzel's hallowed history, published by the Snack Food Association in Alexandria, Virginia, contends that it was developed by a 7th-century monk in Southern France or Northern Italy, who gave the treat to children as a reward for learning their prayers. According to the SFA, he called it a "pretiola," which later became bretzel and pretzel..

**This was borrowed from a website, <http://www.cptryon.org/prayer/season/fusco.html>*



READINGS FOR LITURGY

Second Sunday in Lent

March 4, 2007

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36

Third Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2007

Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8
I Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 18, 2007

Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32
II Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 25, 2007

Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8

Liturgy of the Palms

April 1, 2007

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Luke 19:28-40

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 22:14-23:56 or Luke 23:1-49

Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday)

April 5, 2007

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
I Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday

April 6, 2007

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

Holy Saturday

April 7, 2007

Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24
Various Readings for the Vigil Service
Romans 6:3-11 Luke 24:1-12

Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Day)

April 8, 2007

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 I Corinthians 15:19-26
or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12