



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

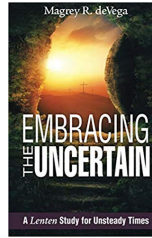
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How many people today believe Jesus' Resurrection actually happened? Are the Resurrection stories historical...are they reliable? Today and next Sunday the Adult Forum (9-9:45 in the chapel) will be discussing questions like those and others. We're ending our Lenten series by Margery deVega who has dealt with a number of "uncertainties." Let me quickly add, by "uncertainties" he does not mean these biblical stories and what they represent. deVega means - what it takes to embrace these stories in our "unsteady times." As usual, the discussions have certainly offered stirring conversation and, I hope, brought new insights in these uncertain days. kg



Can people change? Can human nature be changed? We often talk and act like it can't happen. "That's just the way he is." "She's made that way." Over the course of the Wednesdays in Lent, we have used James Moore's book, "Yes! Lord, I have sinned...but I have several excellent excuses" to share with one another the kinds of "excuses" we offer to get through life. This Wednesday...we haven't run out of excuses...but we have run out of time. It's our last meeting (sad!). You haven't attended any in the series? You can still change and join us for music, food, and discussion at noon here in church. **Lunch will be provided but you are welcome to bring something to share. Friends are welcome!**



I remember a parishioner challenging the tradition of calling the day of Jesus' crucifixion a good day. She told me that there was enough betrayal, denial, violence, bloodshed and death in the world. The idea of coming together in church to hear of all this as it was heaped on Jesus was too much for her. So, she didn't attend. But still we call this Friday Good, as Christians in the English-speaking world have done for centuries. Our Spanish speaking fellow Christians speak of this day as Viernes Santo - "holy Friday." The Germans speak of it as Kar Freitag - literally "the Friday of pure gold." Swedes know it as Lang Fredag - "long Friday," implying unhurried devotion throughout the day on the meaning of the Cross. From these and many other traditions come names for the day that refer to its supreme value and importance to all who believe the Gospel. Whatever you call it, it deserves special attention. Check the times of the Good Friday and all the Holy Week services. kg

Priest in Charge

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This week at St. Mary's April 7, 2019

TODAY 9 am Adult Forum

MON 11 am Eucharist at The Branches

5 pm Finance Committee Meeting

TUES 8 pm AA

WED 12 noon Lenten Program

5 pm Choir

6:15 pm SWEEP

FRI 10 am Alanon

SUN 9 am Adult Forum

PALM SUNDAY 8 am and 10 am



SWEEP will meet this coming Wednesday evening. Our meeting, in the parish hall, begins at 6:15 pm. It will be an important meeting

(though they're all important) because we will be making any last-minute refinements to Holy Week and will look ahead to what follows Easter. You-all are welcome. kg

Birthday Blessings to

Colin Milio today, Carole Diller

on April 8th, and Ashley Stout

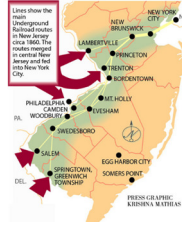
on April 13th.



ST. MARY'S SENIORS LUNCH PROGRAMS

The April 11th program on Senior Fitness has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

May's program will be an interesting presentation by Ted Bryan, Museum Educator with The Mid Atlantic Center for the Arts, Cape May and Retired History Teacher, on Thursday, May 9th at 11 AM. The topic will be The Underground Railroad in Cape May County. Bring a bag lunch, and a \$5 voluntary contribution to offset speaker fees. If you plan to attend, please sign up in the parish hall by Monday, April 29. We will need to have 10 people signed up to hold the program.



On June 12th, we will return to the Emlen Physick Estate for Bach's Lunch in the Carriage House Café & Tea Room. This delightful event includes a Wine Tasting,

lunch and a musical program by an ensemble from The Bay Atlantic Symphony. It will begin at 12 noon and end at 2 pm. Cost for the lunch and program is \$32 which includes a gratuity for the servers.


30 tickets have been reserved. A sign up sheet is on the parish hall bulletin board. Deadline for sign up is Monday, May 20th. Any unused tickets need to be released to the MAC organization for public sale after that date. Tickets for this event after that date may be available on a first come, first serve basis until the event is sold out.

WINDOW REPAIR UPDATE—The rector's office window has now been removed for repair by J & R Lamb Studios. When it is returned, they will vent the outside Plexiglas which will help to reduce the amount of heat buildup and eliminate the problem. The cost for the project is \$2,400. This is an unexpected expense that will come from our building and grounds fund, which is mostly for maintenance of the property, heat, air conditioning, hot water, etc. If you would like to make a donation to the building and grounds fund to help with this repair, it will be very much appreciated. *Thank you to all who have made a contribution to this project!*



EASTER BASKETS—The Branches will be preparing Easter baskets filled with candies, small toys and goodies for the children in our neighborhood to enjoy. If you would like to contribute to this happy Easter celebration, small toys, candies, and baskets would be very appreciated and may be left at St. Mary's. We will be distributing the baskets on Easter Saturday. If you would prefer to make a donation, envelopes are in the pew today. Thank you!



 ST. BARNABAS concert series continues on Sunday April 14 with "Music By, For, and About Women" with Judy Ann Curtis, soprano, and John Curtis, piano, featuring works by local composer Koren Cowgill. Light refreshments will follow the performance. A freewill offering will be appreciated. St. Barnabas is located at 13 West Bates Ave., Villas 609-886-5960.



HOLY WEEK begins next Sunday with ...

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14

Procession of the Palms, Liturgy and Eucharist
8 and 10 AM with choir

Tenebrae, April 17

Service of Darkness, 8 pm

Maundy Thursday, April 18

Liturgy and Eucharist, 7 pm

Good Friday, April 19

Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion with Eucharist, 12 noon

Holy Saturday, April 20

Liturgy, 9 AM

Easter Sunday, April 21

Festive Easter Eucharist, 8 and 10 AM with choir

Ecumenical Sunrise Service, April 21

96th St. Beach, Stone Harbor, 6:30 am