



ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD  
Chevy Chase-Bethesda

# SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

Volume 29 Number 31

April 20, 2014

[www.stjohnsnorwood.org](http://www.stjohnsnorwood.org)

## Resurrection from a Pulpit in Jerusalem

*by Sari Ateek+*

One week ago this past Sunday, the St. John's pilgrimage group had a chance to worship at St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem with the Arabic-speaking congregation. There is no question that the 40+ members of our group easily dwarfed the handful of Palestinian Christian congregants who seemed delighted to have their worship space filled once again with energy.

It was not always the case that the local Episcopal community there was so small. I have vivid memories of a vibrant church packed weekly with young families. I remember coffee hour after church turning into lively discussions over the sermon. I remember a children's program and youth group filled with hope for the next generation of Palestinian Christians. However, due to both the political situation and a rough patch of weak church leadership, this once largest of Episcopal congregations in the Diocese of Jerusalem has been reduced to all but ashes.

It was in this context that the Bishop of Washington, the Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde, a member of our pilgrimage group, and only the second female clergy person to preach from the pulpit in the history of St. George's, stood before the congregation and delivered a powerful and hopeful message on resurrection. "[Resurrection] comes at a price," she said, "The price of resurrection is the acceptance of death."

"... The ways that death comes to us are unique to our life and circumstance, but the journey of death and resurrection is universal. The resurrection road is one we all walk."

"... [At first] we resist death with every fiber of our being... Then comes what may be the greatest act of faith for any human being: to surrender, releasing our grasp on what can no longer be."

"... yet without realizing it, we are also waiting in the emptiness that comes after surrender. Like Martha and Mary who waited for Jesus to arrive, we wait for what only God can do, to bring life from the ashes of loss."

"... [then] comes another choice, perhaps the second greatest act of faith for humankind: choosing life after death, choosing to be unbound and let go, allowing God to transform what has died in us into another kind of life."

"... But when we say yes to the life given to us on the other side of whatever death we have known, and we give that life space to grow, then we know in our bones what resurrection feels like."

In addition to our Good Friday offering for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, this Easter, I ask your prayers for the Diocese of Jerusalem, and for the congregation of St. George's. Pray for the Christians in the birth land of our faith, and for the challenges they face daily. I invite you to join me in praying for resurrection.

To read Bishop Mariann's entire sermon, "The Resurrection Road," delivered on Sunday, April 6, 2014, please go to:

<http://stjohnsnorwood.org/st-georges-jerusalem/>

## Youth Group Flower Sale to benefit CAMP JOY

The teens at St. John's are fundraising for their annual Camp Joy work week this July. Proceeds raised will go toward the cost of building materials that the kids will buy for the Camp Joy activity this coming July. Our goal is to raise above \$1500.

The youth will take orders and payments for plants from tables in the West Avenue lobby on April 20 and 27. The the plants will be delivered on Saturday, May 10 – in time for Mother's Day.

It would be great if we could meet this goal by buying flowers for our mothers!

*Kevin Kehus*

## Music Notes

With the cry of “Alleluia, Christ is risen,” the solemnity of Lent vanishes and Easter begins, bringing with it special music for the season.

Our first celebration of Jesus' resurrection will take place on Easter Sunday at 8 AM when organist Karen Berry will play traditional Easter hymns and short solo pieces on the Chapel's Reuter organ. The celebration will continue at 9:00 when the Alleluia Choir, Children's Choir, and Primary Choir will be joined by Navy band trumpeters and our own clarinetist, Ken Caputo, for special musical offerings. 11:15 AM worship, led by the St. John's Choir, will include a handbell prelude by the Norwood Ringers, and music for trumpets and organ. Our 5 PM congregation will be led by the piano as usual, but will share in the Easter spirit by singing some of our favorite seasonal hymns.

*Anne Timpane*

## Passages

*"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." 1 Cor. 12:26*

*We give thanks for ...*

the 3/26 birth of Kathleen Olivia to  
parents Jessica & Lucas Snyder

the safe return of our Jerusalem pilgrims

the arrival of Cecilia Smith's new  
granddaughter, baby girl Palmer Grace

*Please contact the Office if you have a birth, baptism, wedding,  
death, or other passage to share with the Parish.*

## NPF Grant Applications (4/1-27)

The Norwood Parish Fund (NPF) is St. John's endowment fund. The NPF Board will accept applications for grants from April 1-27, 2014. Grants are available to organizations or individuals for the purposes of:

- St. John's capital needs
- Outreach ministries
- Seed money for new ministries and special one-time projects

Information on NPF is now on the St. John's web site—including the application form. You'll find us under Get Involved. We welcome virtual visitors to learn about the Fund, see our good works, or apply for grants during open season.

Questions? Please contact Carolyn Schugar (301-946-5607 or frank.schugar[AT]comcast.net), or ask any board member: Jay Everhart, Harry Storm, Ellen Miles, Greg Murdock, or the Junior Warden or the Rector. Applications are available in the Church Office or electronically at <http://stjohnsnorwood.org/norwood-parish-fund/>. Please return forms to the NPF mailbox in the Church Office or by email to Carolyn Schugar.

## Sunday, April 27: Combined Service schedule and Annual Parish Meeting

### Please Note Special Times:

Worship Services – 8 AM, 10 AM, and 5 PM

Annual Parish Meeting – 10:45 – 12 noon

Church School – 11 AM – 12 noon

## Women's Book Group

The next meeting of the Women's Book Group will be Monday, May 5. We hope to see some new faces at the upcoming meetings. While our book selections focus primarily on female fiction authors, other genres may be included as well.

The meeting dates and reading selections for the next four months are as follows:

5/5/2014 *Philomena* by Martin Sixsmith

6/2/2014 *The Postmistress* by Sarah Blake

7/7/2014 *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor

9/8/2014 *Catherine the Great* by Robert K. Massie

*NOTE: There will be no August meeting to give people a chance to read September's long selection.*

If you would like to receive emails with updated book selections, and more information about our upcoming meetings (including the name, address, and phone number next meeting's host), simply send your name and email address to [STJN.bookgroup@gmail.com](mailto:STJN.bookgroup@gmail.com).

Hope to see you in the future.

*Mary Chyun*

## The Vision Thing: Notes, Thoughts, and Updates from the St. John's Vision Team

As we welcomed our pilgrims back from the Holy Land this past weekend, Sari preached about how our spiritual journeys—both as individuals and members of St. John's—can be viewed through the lens of pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is an intentional journey with stops along the way to pray, reflect, and ask ourselves about the purpose of our lives and God's intentions for us. So, too, our journey together as a faith community involves deep, prayerful reflection on where we've been and where we need to go in the future. We pray that the work of the vision team, the discussions during our recent circles gatherings, and the lively debates during forums on our history, represent an important stop along our collective journey toward focused purpose.

As we hear the stories of the pilgrims and continue our vision process, which will stretch into the fall, it might behoove us to think of ourselves as pilgrims on one of the most important journeys of our lives.

"All Christians must come here first and foremost as pilgrims – and I note that you say your coming here to Jerusalem is a 'pilgrimage.' Pilgrims here do not bring decisions with them. They come here to seek prayerfully the decisions God wants them to make. And God will always surprise us. God has not finished with us or with our Church yet. God the Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth, and we who come here as pilgrims must be open to the Spirit's leading, open to God's surprising revelation to us."

- *from Bishop Dawani's welcoming statement to pilgrims at the Cathedral of St. George in Jerusalem*

## Building Community at the Crossroads of Faith and Life

Our members represent a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds, nationalities, family configurations, sexual orientations, abilities, and religious traditions. Indeed, chances are that there's someone like you at St. John's. We are single, married, partnered, divorced, widowed, remarried, gay and lesbian, with and without children, empty nesters, old and young, and differently-abled; you name it - we are here.

# SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

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## Calendar

### Sunday, April 20, 2014

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist with music - Chapel  
9:00 AM Children's Chapel - Hines Hall  
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave  
9:00-1:00 Parish Library Open  
10:00 AM Bible Study - Library  
Easter Egg Hunt (pre-K – 2nd grade)  
- Grounds, Tower Lawn  
11:15 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave  
12:15 PM Easter Brunch - Parish Hall  
4:45-6:30 Parish Library Open - Library  
5:00 PM Come As You Are Holy Eucharist  
- Nave

### Monday, April 21, 2014

**Church Office Closed**

- 6:30 PM EfM - Lounge

### Tuesday, April 22, 2014

**Church Office Closed**

- 4:00 PM Primary Choir - Choir Room  
4:00-6:00 Parish Library Open - Library  
5:00 PM Children's Choir - Choir Room  
7:00 PM Alleluia Choir - Choir Room  
7:30 PM Communications Committee - Lounge

### Wednesday, April 23, 2014

- 10:30 AM Bible Study - Lounge  
12:00 PM Holy Eucharist and Healing - Chapel  
1:00-4:00 Librarian Is In - Library  
6:30 PM EfM - Lounge

### Thursday, April 24, 2014

- 6:00 PM Norwood Ringers - Choir Room  
7:30 PM St. John's Choir - Choir Room

If you wish to be removed from the Saint John's mailing list, or no longer wish to receive the Saint John's at the Crossroads newsletter, please let the office know.

The next Crossroads will be dated **Sunday, 4/27**.

Note: The editor and church staff reserve the right to determine the content of Crossroads and edit for grammar or length requirements (article limit, 150 words).

Final article drafts must be submitted to the Parish Office by the \*Sunday\* prior to publication date (above). One may email articles to [newsletter@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:newsletter@stjohnsnorwood.org) (with "Crossroads" in the subject line). Sending text in the body of the e-mail is preferred.

### Saturday, April 26, 2014

- Baptism preparation  
- (time, location TBA)  
3:00 PM Wedding - Nave

### Outreach Sunday, April 27, 2014

- 8:00 AM Simple, Spoken Holy Eucharist - Chapel  
Shepherd's Table Food Preparation - Kitchen  
9:00-1:00 Parish Library Open  
10:00 AM Children's Chapel - Hines Hall  
Combined Service, Holy Eucharist  
- Nave  
11:00 AM Annual Parish Meeting - Nave  
Church School - Classrooms  
4:45-6:30 Parish Library Open - Library  
5:00 PM Come As You Are Holy Eucharist  
- Nave  
5:30 PM Youth Group - Youth Room