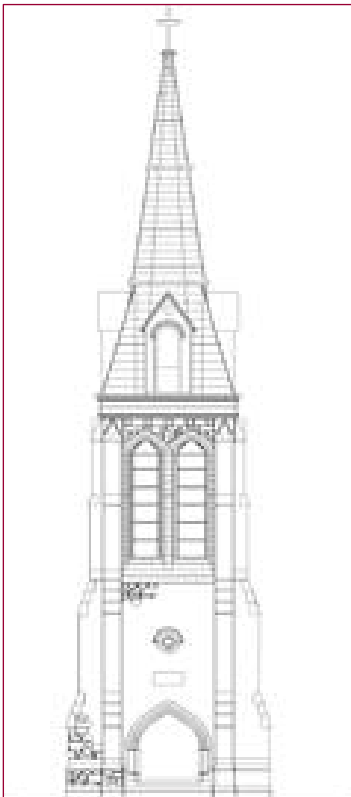


# The Courier

Christ Episcopal Church • 20 Carroll Street • Poughkeepsie, New York • 845-452-8220



## Worship

### Sundays

**8 AM Eucharist and Sermon**  
*A quiet, traditional service.*

**9 AM Junior Youth Group**  
*(Rite-13) Basement classrooms.*

**10 AM Eucharist with Music**  
*Choral and organ music provided by the Christ Church Choir, led by Laura Russell, and by organist John Sullivan. Nursery care available.*

**10 AM Sunday School**  
*Basement classrooms, ages 3-11.*

**1 PM Misa en Español**

### Thursdays

**10 AM Eucharist**  
*In the Rector's office*

Dear Friends,

On the first Sunday of Lent we reflected on how the wilderness of our lives can sometimes be a thin place. The wilderness is a place where we always encounter our greatest temptations, our greatest fears, and our greatest dangers. I believe that the wilderness is an archetypal, eternal, divine "thin place" – where we also always encounter God.

The entire season of Lent takes us on a journey. A journey with Jesus to Jerusalem, and the cross. As this journey begins and as it continues, we will likely find ourselves, again and again, in a 'thin place.' One of those places where the intersection between Creator and creation is thin.

As we experience this journey, we will be with Jesus when he is in the wilderness; when he laments over Jerusalem ; when he calls his people to repent. We'll encounter the Compassionate Father with his two ornery sons; and we'll be with Jesus as he engages Mary and Martha, one busy about her work, and the other busy about spending time with God.

As Lent comes to an end, we'll enter Jerusalem on the Sunday of the Passion with Jesus, filled with anticipation, hope, and joy. We'll leave church that day in fear, dread and a feeling of hopelessness. And Holy Week will begin. A time when Jesus, on the cross, will demonstrate for us once again, what it truly means to be vulnerable. To be in a wilderness.

A place where there is no visible means of support, other than that support that is found in grace of God. The wilderness is a place where anxiety runs high." [1]

What a journey this will be.

I hope that you will experience as much of it as you can. Journeys are best experienced together. We are all blessed when we can worship together as a community of faith. If you are unable to come to worship, please remember the parish in your prayers.

Grace and Peace,  
Blake

[1] Walter Bruggemann. *Reverberations of Faith. A Theological Handbook of Old Testament Themes.*

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**“For I was hungry and you gave me food....”** --Matthew 25:35

When you go to the grocery store make a regular habit of adding to your cart a few non-perishables and bring them to church on Sunday. Suggested foods include healthy cereal, powdered milk, soups, beans (canned, dried or refried), rice, pasta and sauces, couscous, canned tuna, chicken or turkey, corned beef hash, and especially canned vegetables and canned fruits. Food items may be placed in the wicker baskets at the front and back of the church. Each week the food is donated to the food pantry provided by the congregation of the Virgin of Guadalupe – some of whose members also donate food, while some are among the hungry in need of this food. It is all distributed each week. **Let’s fill the food baskets every Sunday!**

*--Sally Vasse, Community Ministry Team*

### **Kairos Prison Ministry – An invitation into the prison, via letter – deadline Sunday, March 18**

Jim Thornley will be on retreat with prisoners at the Fishkill Correctional Facility on March 22. Letters which he brings to the prisoners (our Brothers in Christ, or the Men of Kairos 15) are read aloud and posted on the wall during the retreat. Words of encouragement and assurance that the men are included in our prayers are all that are needed. Letters need to be placed in unsealed envelopes and may be given to Jim or Martha Thornley, or to Michele Haynes, Parish Administrator, on or before March 18. Many thanks. For questions, Jim may be reached at 297-7691.

### **Growth & Communications Group Re-organizing**

The Growth & Communications group is re-organizing in the wake of an interesting visit to Christ Church-Warwick, an Episcopal Church which has grown substantially over the last 5 years. Mike George, Michael Wood, Marge Bliss, Fr. Blake Rider, Terry Sparks and I spent a Saturday morning with the rector, Fr. Scott Barker, who recounted their joys and trials while more and more came to the church. It is clear that throughout the process of attracting, and especially incorporating, new members into the life of the church, that thinking through the meaning our commitment to doing the work of God and being the Body of Christ to us as individuals and as a church is a crucial part of building and maintaining a loving and inclusive church. This Lenten season is clearly a listening and discerning time for us.

A new task force is being formed to study congregational development here at Christ Church. Stay tuned—

*--Carlie Graves*

### **Finance Notes**

Those of you who take note of such things may recall that the last year’s vestry approved a 2006 budget which included a deficit of about \$50,000. Fortunately, this sizable deficit did not come to pass, for a variety of reasons, the main one being that Fr. Blake Rider was called as our rector. Fr. Blake, being recently ordained, is not compensated as highly as a priest ordained many years ago, in accordance with diocesan practice. Our 2006 deficit is approximately \$17,000. The Finance Committee is currently working on funding solutions for this. The vestry passed a balanced budget for 2007.

*--Carlie Graves, Treasurer*

### **Leadership Retreat**

Vestry and committee chairs spent Saturday, Feb. 10 in retreat to discuss and examine current and future directions of the parish. The retreat was facilitated by Madeline Schroth, her third visit with us, and work continued on goals and structure which we began last year. Topics of discussion included communication between vestry and committees, decision making, and more technical areas such as changes to our bylaws to bring them into line with our current practice.

We also revisited possible goals which were discussed last year – including growth, improved communication and stewardship, welcoming youth and children, what it might mean to be a ‘green’ church, and others. These goals will be developed in consultation with the congregation. We are in the early stages of a new mission statement as well, with work continuing on that. This will also require lots of congregational input – look for spring adult forums on the future at CC. For questions or more info contact Mike George (pmgeorge@worldnet.att.net) or Michael Wood (mhwood@gmail.com), wardens, or Fr. Blake at 452-8220.

**Parish visits by Fr. Blake continue! If you would like one, please contact the Parish Office at 452-8220. Thanks!**

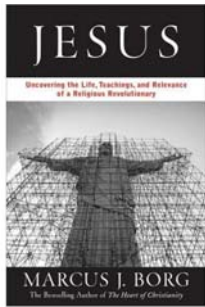
## Rite 13 Celebrations March 25, April 29, May 20!

The Rite 13 ceremony is a part of the Journey to Adulthood youth program, begun last year at Christ Church. This liturgy is held as part of the Sunday service near the time when a member of the group turns 13. It marks an early step on the path toward becoming an adult. The Rite 13 observance is neither as weighty as a confirmation nor as wet as a baptism, but it's an important and moving ceremony nonetheless.

The Rite 13 celebration is also designed to include the entire congregation. Our young people belong to their families, of course, but they also belong to all of us in the church. It's important for us to recognize the influence we have on them—and the influence they have on us. Accordingly, as in a baptism or a confirmation, we all have a role to play in the liturgy.

In the next few months, several members of the group will be having their Rite 13 ceremonies. These celebrations are scheduled for March 25, April 29, and May 20, always during the 10:00 service. The first of these will celebrate Paul Lawson; the second, Kadeisha Weise; and the third, Tonia Scott-Overfield and Alice Friedle. We hope to see you there!

Stephen Currie, Rosemarie Proctor  
Rite-13 leaders



**From the Editor's Bookshelf** – I have the ongoing pleasure of reading *Jesus: Uncovering the Life, Teachings, and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary*, a new book by Prof. Marcus Borg, a well-known scholar on the life of Jesus who has written widely on God, Jesus, and faith. Borg begins by examining the two major frameworks or paradigms through which we live our lives as Christians: belief-centered, and way-centered. A belief-centered paradigm emphasizes the importance of a set of beliefs derived from the Bible, Jesus, postbiblical teachings & doctrines, and Christian language. Way-centered Christian life focuses on “following Jesus on a path, a path of transformation.”

Interestingly, both of these paradigms are a reaction to the 16<sup>th</sup> c. Enlightenment when modern day science began to develop. Prior to about 1600, the word ‘belief’ referred to believing in a person, not a statement – “This is a difference between *believing that* and *believing in*... In premodern English, believing meant believing in and thus a relationship of trust, loyalty, and love. Most simply, to believe meant to love.” Borg spends the remainder of the book examining this historical-metaphorical framework of Christian faith, concluding with a vision of Christian life today. This book is available through the Poughkeepsie Public Library District and local booksellers.

--Carlie Graves

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### Easter Flowers

You may remember a loved one with Easter flowers. Suggested donation is \$25. Please give the name(s) of your beloved to Michele Haynes, Parish Administrator, no later than Thursday, March 29, and be sure to label your donation “Easter Flowers”. Michele can be reached by email at [christchurchpok@choiceonemail.com](mailto:christchurchpok@choiceonemail.com) or 452-8220.

### Youth Attend Vassar Temple Shabbat

On Friday, Feb. 23 certain members of the parish and youth attended a service at the Jewish Vassar Temple. It was a wonderful experience for all who attended and a good insight into the Jewish faith and ministry. It was surprisingly different from any of Father Blake's services and a good time was had by all. Those who attended were James Monteith, Jim Bliss, Marge Bliss, John McCleary, and of the youth, Andrew Morgan and Anthony Graves-McCleary. Many thanks go to Rabbi Paul Golomb.

--Anthony Graves-McCleary

### Bishop Weinhauer Dies January 26, 2007

The Rt. Rev. William Gillette Weinhauer, fourth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina died Friday, January 26 in Asheville, N.C., his home for the past 34 years. He was 82. Bishop Weinhauer served as rector of Christ Church from 1970 to 1973, before being elected Bishop Coadjutor in the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina, and diocesan bishop in 1975.

Bishop Weinhauer served with distinction and faithfully fulfilled all of the pastoral and administrative responsibilities expected of a Bishop of the church, while he continued his great love and excellence as a teacher, in sharing his deep spirituality and gift of spiritual direction, and his contagious joy in proclaiming the Love of Jesus Christ. More information on his life may be found at [www.diocesewnc.org](http://www.diocesewnc.org).

--excerpted from the website of Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina, [www.diocesewnc.org](http://www.diocesewnc.org)

## Christ Church Events Calendar Lent-Easter 2007

### Lenten Wednesday Evening Study & Supper February 28-March 28 6:00 pm

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church, 100 Cannon St., Poughkeepsie

Join us at 6:00 pm for a simple supper followed by a stand-up Eucharist and study program based on Walter Brueggemann's work. Held together with 1st Presbyterian Church and United Church of Christ (congregational). A new study for Progressive Christians: Countering Pharaoh. Features meditations by Walter Brueggemann presented on DVD, followed by small group discussion. Plenty of parking in the lot behind the church.

### Lenten Adult Forums

Sundays after church come and explore the provocative new book *The Convict Christ*, by Jens Soering, who is serving a life prison sentence in Virginia. Soering explores the events in the life and death of Jesus and challenges us to examine our image of Christ through a lens that allows us to see Jesus as tried and convicted criminal. The *Convict Christ* may be purchased at the Three Arts Bookstore at 3 Collegeview Ave. (near Vassar College) at a 20% discount.

**March 16 – 6:00 pm Potluck supper for youth, families, & youth leaders**

**March 18 – Deadline for Kairos letters (see article).** Call Jim Thornley with questions at 297-7691.

### Sunday, March 25 Rite 13 Ceremony for Paul Lawson and...

#### Yale Seminarian Lindsay Lunnum to Preach

This year the parish will participate in an initiative of the National Church, Theological Education Sunday. In order to encourage collaboration and engagement between parishes and seminaries, we invite a student in seminary to deliver a sermon. On Sunday March 25, we will host Lindsay Lunnum, a Middler (second-year) student at Berkeley Divinity School at Yale. Also, Paul Lawson's Rite 13 ceremony is to be held on this date - your presence is requested especially for this--

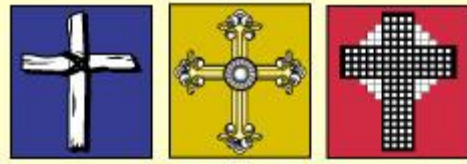
### Concerts 🎵

#### April 1, 7pm, Palm Sunday evening, RUTTER'S REQUIEM

Christ Church choir to be joined by an orchestra, St. John's Lutheran choir, and other area singers and musicians for Rutter's eloquent and moving Requiem, and other pieces, to mark the beginning of Holy Week.

#### April 22, 7pm. PAUL WINTER'S EARTH MASS Christ Church Choir and others





## Looking Toward Holy Week

### Parish Clean-up Day - Saturday March 31 -9:00am thru lunch

Plan to stop by for an hour, or two, or three. Enjoy a bit of breakfast and/or lunch - while we polish brass, dust, clean the pews, and maybe get in a little outside work, weather permitting.

### Passion Sunday - April 1 Services at 8:00 & 10:00am

Traditional Liturgy of the Palms at both services, with festive procession at the ten o'clock service.

### Maundy Thursday - April 5 - Supper at 6:00 followed by the liturgy

This service will bring together our congregation and the congregation of La Virgen de Guadalupe. We will worship together in a bi-lingual service, inclusive of the Maundy Thursday foot-washing and Stripping of the Altar.

### Good Friday - April 6 -Good Friday Liturgy at Noon -Bi-lingual Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm

We will observe the Good Friday liturgy, with hymns and the choir, at noon. That evening, we will worship with the congregation of La Virgen de Guadalupe in a bi-lingual observance of the Stations of the Cross.

### Easter Eve - April 7 -7:30 pm on Saturday evening

We will hear the re-telling of our salvation history in story and song followed by the first Eucharist of Easter.

### Easter Day - April 8 -Festival services at 8:00 and 10:00am

#### Christ Episcopal Church

20 Carroll St.  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
845-452-8220

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

Rector: Fr. Blake Rider †  
Music Director: Laura Russell  
Organist: John Sullivan  
Parish Administrator: Michele Haynes  
Property Steward: Notoe Hodge

Rector's Warden: Michael Wood  
People's Warden: Michael George

#### Sundays

Worship @ 8:00 and 10:00 am.  
Nursery open during 10 am service (unstaffed.)

Junior Youth Sunday School @ 9:00 am  
Pre-K and Grade School Sunday School @10:00 am  
Senior High Sunday School @ 12:00 pm  
Adult Forum @ 11:30 am

Misa en Español @ 1:00 pm

#### Thursdays

Eucharist @ 10:00 am (rector's study)  
**Rector's drop-in hrs 4-6 pm**

#### For Visiting

Church Entrance: Academy & Barclay Streets  
Office Entrance: Carroll Street  
Parking: Lots on Carroll or Barclay Street

#### Please send articles to

Carlie Graves ([cagraves@vassar.edu](mailto:cagraves@vassar.edu))

#### Courier

#### Editorial Board

Marge Bliss; Amanda Burdine; Carlie Graves, Editor; Jeanne Marie Perry; Wm. Blake Rider, Rector; Terry Sparks; Sally Vasse

