



# *the* TOWER

March 2010

*March 1<sup>st</sup>*  
*7:00pm WINGS*

*March 7<sup>th</sup>*  
*Celebrate Father Jim's 25<sup>th</sup>*  
*4:00pm Holy Eucharist*  
*5:00pm Reception*

*March 12<sup>th</sup>*  
*6:30pm Easter Feast*  
*at St. Andrews*  
*Easter Artwork Deadline*

*March 15<sup>th</sup>*  
*ECW Luncheon*  
*Tower Deadline*

*March 20<sup>th</sup>*  
*8:00am Vestry Retreat*

*March 21<sup>st</sup>*  
*Rite-13/J2A Bowling Night*

*March 22<sup>nd</sup>*  
*2 & 6pm WINGS Eggs*

*March 24<sup>th</sup>*  
*Mail Tower*

*March 27<sup>th</sup>*  
*9:00am Parish Clean Up*

*March 28<sup>th</sup>*  
*Palm Sunday*  
*8:00 am Holy Eucharist*  
*10:00 am Holy Eucharist*

## **Interim Rector's Message**

A couple of years ago I read an interesting article in *The Living Church* titled, "Become an Inviting Church." The author, Linda L. Grenz, is publisher and chief operating officer of Leader Resources. Her main premise is that our motto, "*The Episcopal Church Welcomes You*," is not adequate in today's society. It indicates that we simply need to be here at the church for people if they happen to show up.

Grenz proposed a different motto for the church today: "*The Episcopal Church is an Inviting Church*." She said, "It is not enough to 'be there' for people or even to welcome them. We need to invite them to church and into a relationship with Christ." She cited some interesting statistics, saying there are people we can invite. "The number of people who have 'no religious affiliation' increased from 7 % in 1998 to more than 20% in 2008 and the number jumped to 40% for those under age 35. Add those who don't belong to a local church and it means that about half the people in your town are people you can invite to church. More than 80% of these people say they would come to church if someone invited them."

The article goes on to talk about integrating invitees into the life of the parish and its ministry. But again, the primary focus is on inviting folks to come and experience God as we experience him in our worship and fellowship and ministry.

What is really interesting is that Grenz said, "The focus is not really on newcomers, but on ourselves and how we interact with each other." By that she means we have to reorient some of what we do on Sunday morning. For example, Sunday morning is not a time when "church business" should be conducted. Sunday morning adult formation programs can be a two-edged sword. I remember being at a church in Louisiana and ten minutes into the coffee hour I was the only person standing in the parish hall. Everyone had run off to their Sunday morning formation programs. No one thought to ask if I would like to attend any of them.

Grenz made many other good points in her article but the main point is that we should make sure that we are not only a "friendly, welcoming church" but also an "inviting church."

Jim +

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Please visit our website,  
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## RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE 2010

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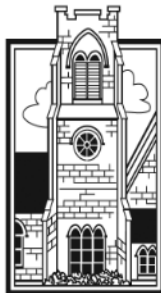
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## ST. JOHN'S TOWER



Please consider writing for The Tower. Personal reflections, articles, poetry, essays and commentary are always welcome!

**Next Tower Deadline:  
March 15**

The April Tower will be mailed March 24. Please send articles, announcements and "Letters to the Tower" to St. John's, drop them off in the "Communications" mailbox outside the parish office, or email: [joan\\_stjbar@att.net](mailto:joan_stjbar@att.net)

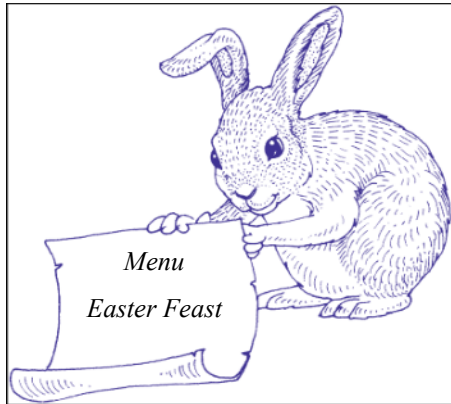
# PARISH EVENTS & NEWS

## A Special Fund Raising Event

The Outreach Committee of St. John's Barrington is delighted to invite you to an Easter Feast like no other. Two of our parishioners, Anne Sage, who is a trained Cordon Bleu chef, and her husband, Jesse Sgro, a wine expert, will be sharing their passion for extraordinary food and wine.

Anne and her sous chef will be presenting a cooking demonstration of Easter dishes and we will have an opportunity to share this fare while Jesse will be teaching us about the perfect pairing of wine for each dish. With the help of Anne's professional cooking tips (and recipes) and Jesse's perfectly paired wine, you too can make an Easter Feast this year that is anything but ordinary. It can be extraordinary!

This event will be held Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's School, Barrington, RI. Tickets are \$30 per person and should be purchased in advance. Due to space limitations we are only able to accommodate 50 people so tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Please send your check to Lyn Cleary, for St. John's Church, 6 Ferncliff Rd., Barrington, RI 02806. Please mark your check with the words "Easter Feast" in the memo line. When your check is received your tickets will be mailed to you or given to you at church.



## Next WINGS Meeting

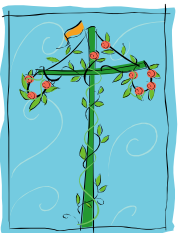
Our next WINGS meeting will be on Monday March 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm. This will be a book study – the newest Mitch Albom book – *Have a Little Faith*. (He also wrote *Tuesdays With Morrie* and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*.) The list cost of this book is \$23.99, but Amazon.com has it for \$12.95. If anyone would like me to order you a copy, just let me know!

A need to be filled for our group: is there anyone who could function as a WINGS photographer at our meetings? We have had some absolutely wonderful photographic opportunities – and often no one has had a camera! Frankly, as I look around at all of the beautiful smiling faces at our meetings – I would LOVE to have some photos to document our journey together. (Not to dream TOO big – but what about a scrapbook...any takers?)

Susan +

## Save the Date for an "All Parish Clean-Up"

We are going to hold our annual "All Parish Clean-up" on Saturday, March 27, the day before Palm Sunday. We plan on working outside the church to clean and prepare for Holy Week and Easter. If working outside in the flower beds or grounds is your thing, bring your weeding tools, a shovel, rake and wheel barrow if you have one. We will rake leaves and debris off the flower beds and weed them. Also bring some push brooms for cleaning up the sand in the parking lot. We will begin at 9 a.m. This is not only an opportunity for us to save some money but a great opportunity for some fun and fellowship.



## Transitions

Died:

Mary Couchon on January 27; Richard Holmes on January 31; Lewis Woodward on February 7 and William Allen on February 10.

## With Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to Guy Pace and family on the death of his mother, Connie Pace and the death of his brother Michael Pace.

## PARISH LENTEN NEWS

### Lenten Study

This year's Lenten study will be a six-week video series titled "Jesus – The New Way." It is produced by Vision Video and offers a compelling journey into the life, words and world of Jesus and what they mean for our world today. There will be two sessions per week, one on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. and one on Wednesday morning following the mid-week Eucharist. You can attend either session. Each video is approximately 30 minutes long and will be followed by a period of discussion. The remaining schedule is as follows:

March 2 & 3: "Announcing the Kingdom"

March 9 & 10: "Longing for a King"

March 16 & 17: "Why Did Jesus Die?"

March 23 & 24: "Who Was Jesus?"

March 30 & 31: "The New Claim"

*Please note that there will be services at 9:30 am and 7:30 pm Monday - Wednesday during Holy Week so the Lenten study on March 30 will begin at 7:30 pm following Eucharist.*

### Service Time Change for Easter Sunday

There has been a long standing tradition at St. John's dating back to before there were regularly three services on Sunday morning. On Easter Sunday, three services were held at 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. This year, we will reinstate that old tradition on Easter Sunday in order to accommodate the number of people who will be here. If we stayed with two services we would be turning people away from 10 o'clock. So mark the time change on your calendar.

**Lenten Devotion Book** - *Where In The World Is God?, 40 Days Of Devotions For Today's World* is available in the rack in Field Hall. Please feel free to take one and embark on a journey of faith during the weekdays in Lent.

There is also a book for children, *Magnify The Lord*, that will be available through church school as well as a calendar for Rite 13/J2A groups.

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### Would You Take Part in a Maundy Thursday Vigil?

**"So, could you not watch with me one hour?"** (Matthew 26:40) Jesus asked this question of Peter, James and John in the Garden of Gethsemane on Thursday evening after he had eaten his last supper with all the disciples. He took his chosen three with him to the garden where he was to pray to God. He said, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." After praying and promising to obey God's will for him, Jesus found the three asleep. He admonished them and went away to pray again. Again he returned to them and found them sleeping. And again a third time they could not remain awake as he prayed.

If we can sign up enough people to do this, we would like to have a vigil in church on Maundy Thursday beginning at the end of the service until 6:00 a.m. Friday morning. We are asking people to volunteer for one or two hour time slots to simply sit in the church in silence, reading and meditating on Jesus' passion and impending death. There will be a sign-up sheet on the board in Field Hall. If we do not get at least two volunteers for each time slot by Tuesday in Holy Week (March 30) we will not hold the vigil.

Please speak to Jim or Susan for more particulars.

## PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

### Episcopal Charities Parish Campaign

We will kick off our Episcopal Charities Parish Campaign on Sunday, March 14. Our co-chairs for this campaign are Priscilla Givan and Joyce Marabello. They will be set up in Field Hall on the last three Sundays in March to take your pledge for Episcopal Charities.

### Celebrate with Jim on March 7<sup>th</sup>

There will be a special service of Holy Eucharist on Sunday, March 7, at 4:00 p.m., in celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jim's ordination to the priesthood. The Rev. Gordon Stenning will be the guest preacher. The service will be followed by a reception in Field Hall.

### Pastoral Care

We are excited to start thinking of a reinvigorated effort to provide meals to people in our parish who are struggling with illness or other situations where they might need our help.

First – a little mini-cookbooklet. Do you have a recipe that is a favorite to take to someone who is under the weather? Sometimes we are willing to provide a meal and unable to come up with what to cook! Let's pool our experience for some easy recipes that are particularly suited to people who are recovering from illness and perhaps some that are especially good for families with children. We have a volunteer who is willing to pull them all together so we can hand them out to anyone who is interested.

Second – the WINGS group has talked about having several cooking workshops to make some items that can be frozen and then pulled out as needed to deliver to parishioners who need them. Items like chicken pot pie, lasagna and chicken soup have all been mentioned as suitable for a cooking and freezing marathon! Stay tuned for dates and times for these workshops. What we will need is some freezer space – does anyone have some space in a chest or upright freezer they would be willing to let us use?

Talk to Susan+ or Joanne Tainsh if you have freezer space or questions! Stay tuned for more details – and turn your recipes into the office labeled “Pastoral Care Committee”. Thank you!



### Are You Up for a Mission Trip?

We would like to organize a Mission Trip to take place during the school vacation week, April 18 to 24. We have a tentative arrangement to help out at the North Country Outreach Center in upstate New York. It is in the area where Father Jim and Barbara have their home. The local economy has shifted from the mining and logging jobs that once thrived there to a much more seasonable and less profitable tourist economy. This situation which was difficult to begin with has been exacerbated by the current economic climate in our country. Many residents find it difficult to feed their families and the NCOC is the primary agency that helps feed people in the area. They need some maintenance work done on the building (light carpentry, painting) and a complete reorganization of the food pantry.

We are trying to make this a “family oriented” trip because of the Safe Church Guidelines we must follow. With some parents along we don't have to have so many Safe Church trained chaperones. Also, it will help with sleeping arrangements if we have to split up and be hosted by local church members in the area. Youth in grades 6 and above are welcome.

We are also hoping to include some fun during the week. The trip is about a 5-hour ride from Barrington. We would drive up on Monday, relax for the night and then work at the Outreach Center on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday we are looking at arranging a white water rafting trip on the Upper Hudson River Gorge. This is the best time of the year for rafting as there is a great deal of snow melt that floods the river. The rafting company provides wet suits for the rafters. Father Jim and Barbara have taken youth from his former parish on this trip at this time of the year. Then we would drive back home on Friday.

If you would like to be part of this trip please let Father Jim know by March 20 as there are many arrangements that have to be made. Call Jim with questions at 245-4065 ext. 16.

## COMMUNITY & PARISH NEWS

### ECW Meeting

The next ECW meeting will be Monday, March 15th at 10:30 am. The speaker will be Ann Marie Sebula, Registered Dietician, Nutritionist and Diabetes Educator. Ms. Sebula was a guest speaker at a meeting last year and was very informative. So much that she has been invited back to speak this month. For luncheon reservations, call Helen Danforth at 245-8485.

### Tap In Check In

Thank you so much for your stepped up participation in donating items for Tap In! We will continue to list several things each month that we want to collect as a church family. Any and all donations will ALWAYS be welcome. **In March we will be collecting baked beans and canned beans.** Let's fill that basket over and over again – and show our community that St. John's cares!  
Susan +

## UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

### *MARCH*

7th— J2A/Rite-13 classes; 9:00am - 9:45

4:00 pm service - 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Father Jim's ordination to the Priesthood! We will celebrate this special event together with our parish family by worshipping together followed by refreshments.

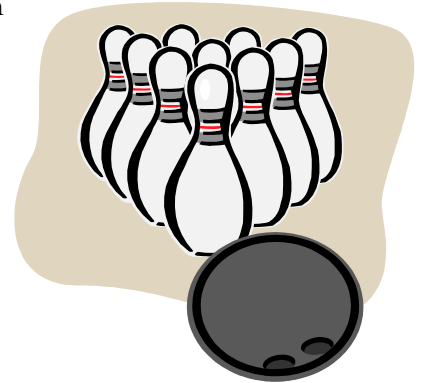
14th— J2A/Rite-13: 9:00 am - 9:45

21st— J2A/Rite-13: 9:00am - 9:45

J2A AND Rite-13 groups - **bowling extravaganza!**

(Emails will be going out with details of times, cost and food)

28th — J2A /Rite-13: 9:00 am - 9:45



### 30 Hour Famine Report

We are so proud of our young people and leaders for their participation in the 30 hour famine that was held recently at St. Martin's Church. The following folks from St. John's took part:

Donna Casanova  
Jonathan Cavanaugh  
Caroline Daniels  
Douglas Daniels  
Monica Daniels  
Rick Daniels  
Michael DuPont  
Jonathan Lunt  
Julia Piper  
Abby Ray  
Tristan Tavares  
Casey Turgeon

In addition to learning about hunger and experiencing 30 hours without food, the group from St. John's also raised over \$2,100 in pledges!! A BIG thank you to all of our parishioners who gave quite generously. We are so blessed as a parish and it was wonderful to give back in thanksgiving for all we that have.

### Questions? Comments? Concerns? Let us know!

Call: Chelsea Silva (401.829.8415), or email her at [silvac10@bpsmail.org](mailto:silvac10@bpsmail.org)

Reverend Susan Carpenter (401.245.0581), or email her at [susan\\_stjbar@att.net](mailto:susan_stjbar@att.net)

**Looking for more frequent updates?** Just search for the *St. John's Youth Group* page on Facebook and join. It's constantly updated with the most recent events and news. If it's not your home page by now, you're missing out!

## PARISH NEWS

### Photo requests

The parish would like all members to submit a digital family photo that will be used in a photo album for the new rector. As Jim stated in his Tower message, this will be extremely useful for the new rector's ministry at St. John's. If you need a photo taken, contact the office. Please send digital photos to [stjbar@att.net](mailto:stjbar@att.net).



### Easter Artwork

Calling all artists! We are looking for artwork for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday bulletin covers. Entries should be dropped off at the parish office by March 12 on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper.

### Thank You For All You Do!

Thanks to those who helped cook and serve at the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper and at the soup and bread supper on Ash Wednesday. Both were well attended and the evenings were a great way to begin the Lenten season.

## OUTREACH CORNER

On Sunday afternoon, February 7<sup>th</sup>, we had a wonderful time making sandwiches for Crossroads, RI. There were about 20 participants, ranging in ages from 6 to 80. For the majority of us, this was our first time participating in such an activity. It was a wonderful multi generational event with lots of laughter and good cheer.

On one table we were spreading mustard and mayo, putting slices of cheese and meat on the bread or making peanut butter sandwiches while on another table parishioners were busy bagging chips and putting drinks and napkins in the decorated brown bags (done by our Sunday school group).

Another group was busy baking cookies in the kitchen and once cooled off others decorated them with a Valentine day theme and bagged them, getting them ready to be added to the sandwich bags.

We made a total of 150 sandwiches and delivered them to Crossroads RI that Sunday afternoon. They were very happy to receive the bags and they were gone in just a few minutes.

It was sad to see the number of people waiting to receive a small brown bag which most likely was their only meal for that day. They did not know what was in the bag nor did they ask, nevertheless, they were very grateful to receive it.

It was heartwarming to know that we fed 150 out of thousands of people who go hungry everyday. This was one Super Bowl Sunday I will never forget.

Thank you all for making this event a success either by donating your time, the goods that we needed or both.

We hope you will consider joining our Outreach Ministry here at St. John's and be part of that spirit and energy.

Peace  
Shara Gharib  
Outreach Team chairperson

## Easter Dates to Remember

March 12 - Deadline to submit Easter bulletin artwork

March 27 - All Parish Clean-up

March 28 - Palm Sunday

Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

April 1- Maundy Thursday

Holy Eucharist 7:00 p.m.

April 2 - Good Friday

Ecumenical Service 12:00 noon, 7:00 Stations of the Cross

April 3 - Holy Saturday Holy Eucharist

Great Vigil of Easter 7:00 p.m.

April 4 - Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.



\* During Holy Week, there will be additional Holy Eucharist services at 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

*The mission of St. John's Church is to be a community of Christians committed to the care, nourishment and spiritual growth of all.*



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### March 2010

The Rev. James Bocchino, Interim Rector  
The Rev. Susan Carpenter, Associate Rector

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Parish Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday: 8a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Worship Services:  
Sunday: 8:00, and 10:00  
Wednesday: 9:30 a.m., Saturday: 5:30 p.m.