

T

O

W

E

R



“This is the Night”

Experiencing Easter Vigil

by Stephan Casurella, DMA, Director of Music

My favorite service of the church year is the Great Vigil of Easter. That is partly because I am aware of its ancient roots in the fourth century or earlier, and I feel connected to a multitude of Christians who have experienced its mystery. But mostly it is because the liturgy draws me into the great drama of salvation through pageantry that engages all my senses.

Many of my fondest Easter Vigil memories were formed in the packed nave of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City. We began outside, of course, kindling a new fire and from it lighting the Paschal Candle, the light of Christ. Since the Episcopal cathedral was only a parking lot away from the Roman Catholic cathedral, both congregations began the liturgy together, and the bishops included a prayer for the day when we could all feast around one table.

Continued on page 2

“This is the Night” *from page 1*

Once inside the darkened nave, each of us holding our own tapers lighted from the Paschal Candle, the deacon chanted the *Exsultet*, that ancient text that piles image upon image of resurrection and transformation. If I could, I would quote the whole thing for you—or better yet, attach a sound file so you could hear it. The *Exsultet* mounts in intensity as the deacon recites the wondrous deeds of God:

“This is the night, when you brought our fathers ... out of bondage in Egypt ... This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin ... This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell ... How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight ... How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined ...”

How blessed, indeed!

Then, with the scent of hidden lilies already hanging in the air, we sat down to hear retold the history of God’s saving work, beginning with the creation narrative and continuing through the promises of the prophets. And when the Liturgy of the Word was over, we celebrated the ongoing work of God through Baptism and Confirmation, responding to each new birth with a resounding “Amen” even as we renewed our own baptismal covenants.

At last, the long-awaited moment arrived. The bishop cried aloud, “*Alleluia, Christ is risen,*” to which we responded with gusto. The nave was suddenly flooded with light, organ and brass burst forth in a flourish that invited us to sing the *Gloria* for the first time since before Lent. The processional cross, adorned with lilies, led the choir around the nave as the altar was draped with fabrics, as service candles were lit and as all the liturgical hangings removed on Maundy Thursday were brought

back. And so began the first Eucharist of Easter, as festive as anyone could wish for!

As marvelous as these memories are, however, they do not come close to what I experienced when our son Ryan attended his first Easter Vigil. Somehow I was able to see the whole liturgy afresh through a child’s eyes. During the *Exsultet*, Ryan stared around transfixed by all the burning candles, trying hard not to drip wax from his own. He jumped with surprise at the asperges, when the priest playfully sprinkled the people with water from the font using a palm branch! He breathed in deeply the wafts of incense and flowers. But none of this prepared me for what happened next. For when the bishop proclaimed Christ alive and the lights came up and the music began, Ryan expressed as perfectly as I have ever seen, a pure resurrection joy. Spontaneously, at the age of four, he began to hug my wife Rae and me, saying again and again with deep emotion, “*He is risen! Jesus is risen!*”

I hope you will join me this year as once again we live into God’s saving work through the Great Vigil of Easter. And may we all grasp more profoundly than ever, with the exuberance of a child, the wonder of new life in Christ that is at the heart of our faith.

Cover photo: Constanphotos.com

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 1

Liturgy for Maundy Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

Friday, April 2

Liturgy for Good Friday, noon

Way of the Cross with Pergolesi’s *Stabat Mater*, 7:00 p.m.*

*CHILDREN’S SERVICE TO RUN CONCURRENTLY

Easter Eve

Saturday, April 3

The Great Vigil of Easter, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Day

Sunday, April 4

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

The 10:00 a.m. service will be a Festival Holy Eucharist with Bishop Thomas Breidenthal, the Cincinnati Symphony Brass Quintet & the Christ Church Cathedral Choir

EASTER OFFERING

This year the Easter offering at Christ Church Cathedral will go toward a special project for the Foyer de Sion (House of Zion) orphanage in the Croix de Bouquets region of Haiti. Working in partnership with Sun Ovens International, the cathedral will sponsor a solar-powered Villager Sun Oven micro enterprise. The enterprise will benefit the orphanage in two ways. It will provide cooked food for the children and the staff, and it will generate income from the sale of food items.

Interfaith Hospitality

The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati opens the doors of its day center for tours on Wednesday, April 7, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. If you are a IHN cathedral volunteer, or are thinking of becoming one, and want to learn about this important cathedral ministry, contact Toni Grate at tgrate@fuse.net to make a reservation.

On Thursday, April 22, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., IHNGC will hold its annual meeting and volunteer recognition at Isaac Wise Temple in Amberley Village. For more information and to make plans to attend, contact Elizabeth Brown at pbrown6644@aol.com.

The next IHN host week at the cathedral is May 2-8.



Stephan Casurella and choristers with the plaque presented to them by the ACDA. Nicholas Bideler was not available for the photo.

American Choral Directors Recognize Choir

The American Choral Directors Association honored the choir of Christ Church Cathedral by inviting it to sing choral evensong for its Central Division Conference, held in Cincinnati February 24-27. The service took place on February 25. Canon Joanna Leiserson presided.

“Thank you so very much for your generosity, preparation and expertise in hosting the choral evensong on Thursday evening,” writes Andy Call of the ACDA. “It was, by far, the highlight of my experience at the conference. The state chairs have echoed that sentiment, as have many other of my colleagues. The choir was outstanding, the cathedral staff was overwhelmingly gracious and your work was absolutely superb. I cannot imagine how this could have been a bigger success from an execution standpoint.”

The ACDA presented a plaque of recognition to the cathedral choir in appreciation for its participation as special presenters at the conference.



WORSHIP

Choral Evensong

April 11, 5:00 p.m.

Note: This service is on the second Sunday of the month, not the first as normally scheduled, due to Easter.

CONCERTS

Music Live at Lunch

Tuesdays, 12:10 p.m.

April 6: Conundrum with flute, clarinet, piano & voice

April 13: Richard Van Dyke, piano; Eliza Thomason, viola

April 20: Annual concert of music by Cincinnati composer Rick Sowash

April 27: Harold Byers, violin; Sandra Rivers, piano

Organ Recitals on Third Sundays

April 18, 5:00 p.m.

W. Michael Brittenback, organist & choirmaster, St. George's Episcopal Church, Dayton, Ohio

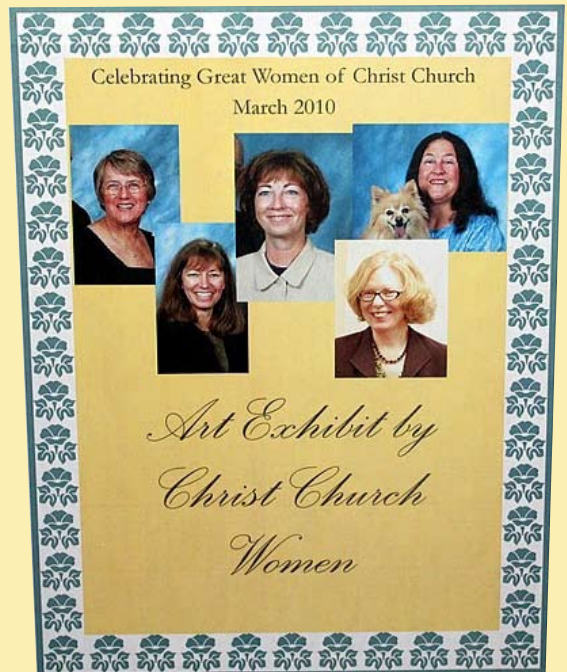


scene at the cathedral

Celebrating Great Women at Christ Church Cathedral

Women's Art Exhibit Opening Reception, Friday, February 26

Photos by Mark Sackett



cathedral faith

Having fun, growing in faith at choir camp

As spring blossoms, the thoughts of many children jump ahead to summer. The annual long break from school means more time for play. But summer can also be a time to learn. The choir camp at Christ Church Cathedral combines both, with opportunities to learn harmonizing with opportunities for fun.

The cathedral's choir camp will be held Monday through Friday, June 21-25, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. During the week, children will sing, play instruments, create art, play games, enjoy good meals and explore Christian faith. The cathedral's professional choir members and music staff will lead the camp.

Open to any child with the interest, prior music lessons are not a prerequisite for registration. Nor is membership in a church. On Friday evening, the families of children will be invited to attend a worship service, at which the children will sing. A dinner will follow.

The camp is designed for any child who has completed grade one through eight. The cost is \$30. Scholarships are available.

Registration forms are available at christchurchcincinnati.org/music/choircamp. You may also request a form by U.S. mail. The deadline

for registration is June 15. For more information, contact Stephan Casurella at 513.842.2065 or scasurella@cccath.org.

Vacation Bible School: Christ Church Cathedral will offer its annual Vacation Bible School the week of July 12-16, as part of its Summer in the City program. This year's program will "take place" in Egypt, as Joseph journeys from prison to palace. Kindergarten through sixth grade students will enjoy the program. More information will be published in next month's issue of the *Tower*, and is also

available from Judy Beiring at jmbeiring@cinci.rr.com.



Last year's music camp



Mike Phillips

2010 LENTEN SERIES:
The Rev. Barbara Rossing, author of The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation, spoke at the cathedral's 2010 Lenten Series. She is shown here with C. K. Wang and Canon Joanna Lesierson.

Faith, Friends & Popcorn

Friday, 7:00 p.m.*

See a movie that explores a concept of faith. Talk about it. Eat popcorn. All free.

April 9: *The Seven Samurai* (1954, subtitled)
Starring Toshiro Mifune and Takashi Shimura



Confirmation Class

Sundays, April 11, 18 & 25, May 2 & 9

Bishop Thomas Breidenthal will confirm those seeking the sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, May 16, at 10:00 a.m.

For more information, contact Canon Joanna Leiserson at jleiserson@cccath.org.

cathedral community

PARISH *Life*

Lorna Harrell and **Shirley Wang** attended a pastoral care conference entitled *Medicine, Religion and Health: Where Science and Spirituality Meet* on March 12-13. Held in Blue Ash, the conference was sponsored by the Episcopal Retirement Homes' Parish Health Ministry, Christ Church Cathedral and other organizations. Lorna and Shirley are active members of the cathedral's Lay Associates for Ministry and Service (LAMS).

Danyale and **Milo Marshall** send warm gratitude to all those who participated in the Shrove Sunday pancake brunch, particularly the kitchen crew – **Chris and Nancy Christensen, Dennis and Lorna Harrell, Ned and Felicity Larrick, Kim Montgomery, Karen Taylor, Renie Taylor, Pat Thomas, J.J. Engelbert** and members of the cathedral youth group. In past years, the late **Myrtle Marshall** spearheaded this event. Her daughters are doing a wonderful job in taking her place.

Carolyn Hughes will have a portion of her collection of pop-up books on display at the main branch of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County downtown from April 5 through June 30. Over 100 books, with appeal for all ages, will be on display in the Cincinnati

consanphotos.com



Room on the third floor.

Constance Sanders is selling candid photographs from this year's Snow Ball at half price through the end of April. A portion of the proceeds will go to Christ Church Cathedral. Go to consanphotos.com to see the selection and to place your order.

The cathedral congregation will recognize the 90th birthday of **Alice Roberts** at the ten o'clock liturgy on Sunday, April 25. Alice's birthday is April 27.

We warmly welcome our official new members, **Susan Garcia** and **Michael and Joanne Hendrickson** and daughters **Lauren and Kristin**, to our cathedral congregation.



consanphotos.com



Milo Marshall

Youth Mission Trip

Lend your support to Christ Church Cathedral's annual youth mission trip. Buy homemade brownies and peanut butter chocolate eggs that the youth group will have on sale Easter Day. Then consider making a donation in exchange for help with your cleaning chores and yard work this spring.

All proceeds will support the youth mission trip to the Appalachian region of West Virginia, June 13-19. There are still openings for both youth members and adult volunteer chaperones, but space is limited. For more information on the fund raising and the trip, contact J.J. Engelbert at 513.842.2079 or jjengelbert@cccath.org.



A Tip from the Wellness Team
**HEALTHY HEARTS,
HEALTHY BRAINS**

Recent studies indicate that a significant link exists between maintaining a healthy heart and maintaining a healthy brain. It is no longer necessary to accept cognitive decline as inevitable. Stroke, the third leading cause of death, is also the second most common cause of cognitive impairment. It has been demonstrated that even borderline elevated cholesterol levels can increase the risk of dementia, and small areas of brain damage can be cumulative.

While controlling risk factors such as blood pressure, cholesterol levels and body mass help our heart, they also maintain a natural supply of oxygen to the brain. Be aware that those healthy behaviors of diet and exercise not only affect our physical health, but also have significant impact on mental function.

— Judy Chamberlain, RN, MSN, Cathedral Health Nurse

Source: WebMd.com and LifeLineScreening.com

cathedral action

More Great Cincinnati Families at Home

Christ Church Cathedral will open The Betts House exhibit *More Great Cincinnati Families at Home* on April 17. The exhibit, featuring photographs of the residences of the Emery, Longworth-Anderson, Maxwell-Schmidlapp-Graydon and Werk-Oskamp families, will run through May 24.

The houses represent over 100 years of domestic architecture in Cincinnati, with architectural styles ranging from austere Colonial Revival to highly ornamented Chateausque to simplified Arts & Crafts. Some residences are familiar, such as Belmont, now home to the Taft Museum; others, including the eclectic Casimir Werk House in Westwood, are less so. Several of the houses in the exhibit have been lost to demolition.

More Great Cincinnati Families at Home is curated by architectural historian Walter E. Langsam and historic preservation consultant Beth Sullebarger. The exhibition features images of the exteriors and some interiors using historic prints and photographs as well as recent photographs by Alice Weston.

Built in 1804, the Betts House, Ohio's oldest brick house, is located in the Betts-Longworth Historic District in Cincinnati's West End. The Betts House opened to the public in 1996 as a museum dedicated to interpreting Cincinnati's regional history through the built environment.

"Cobble Court": The Indian Hill residence of Joseph S. & Marjorie Maxwell Graydon, 1933-34; architect Grosvenor Atterbury.



Home photos by Natalie Baumgartner

Ushers Sought

If you are looking for a simple, but important way to serve Christ Church Cathedral, consider becoming an usher. Volunteers are needed for Sunday services and special events such as ordinations, weddings and funerals.

You can take your contribution a step further and recruit the members of a committee or guild to which you belong to join you. That is what the Altar Guild did when Kelli Bell, Sigred Coyle, Sarah Johnson, Barbara Lopez, Danyale Marshall and Milo Marshall served as ushers on February 28.

For more information, contact Milo Marshall at loladyfade@earthlink.net.



Plumb Line Needs

Complete Meals

During March, please donate complete meals (*i.e.* canned beef stew) to the Plumb Line ministry. Donated items may be placed in the basket outside the Plumb Line office. Thank you.

Community Issues Forum

Thursdays at noon (Note: The forums in April are off schedule to accommodate the Cincinnati Reds' games!)

April 15: May Primary Candidates and Ballot Issues

April 29: A Status Report on Civil Rights in Ohio; G. Michael Payton, executive director, The Ohio Civil Rights Commission

Purchase lunch for \$5.00 or bring your own.

To see videos of past forums, go to www.airinc.org.



Native American Ministry

Sunday, April 11, 11:30 a.m.

This will be a discussion forum to begin the reintroduction of a Native American ministry to the work of Christ Church Cathedral.

For more information, contact John Grate at jgrate@fuse.net.

cathedral action

New ministry: High school choral scholar program by Barbara Lyghtel Rohrer

Music has always been an important element of the outreach ministries of Christ Church Cathedral. People from all walks of city life know that at the cathedral they can find a musical experience that deepens their worship and heightens their appreciation. Now the cathedral is pleased to expand its music ministry by offering exciting, new professional opportunities to the high school chorister.

Beginning with the 2010-11 program year, four young choristers from high schools throughout the greater Cincinnati area will be invited to join the cathedral choir as apprentices. This new choral scholar program will provide intensive training in the art of fine choral singing so that the students may begin the process of learning to perform at a professional level. The students will learn a wide range of repertoire, such as works by Tallis, Brahms and Howells, as well as spirituals and music of other cultures. For their efforts, they will be compensated with a monthly stipend of \$125 throughout the academic year.

“We designed the program as a vehicle to involve young people in active ministry at the cathedral,” says Stephan Casurella, the cathedral director of music. “But it also is a means of augmenting the number of voices in the cathedral choir.”

Choral scholars will participate in all the duties of the cathedral choir. This will include the Thursday evening rehearsals, the Sunday morning Eucharist, monthly choral evensong, observances of holy days such as Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday and Holy Week, as well as other liturgies or concerts as assigned by the cathedral.

To apply for a choral scholar appointment, a student will need to submit an application form available on-line (www.christchurchcincinnati.org/music/choralscholars); an essay explaining why he or she is interested in the choral scholar program; and three letters of reference. One letter needs to be from a music teacher describing the student’s abilities as a musician. The other two letters need to be from other teachers, members of the clergy or community leaders describing the student’s personal qualities, such as maturity, responsibility and social skills.

The deadline for applications is May 15. Applications should be mailed to Christ Church Cathedral, Attn: Stephan Casurella, 318 East Fourth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202-4299. Final appointments will be made no later than July 15. Student scholars will begin their duties in September.

For more information, contact Stephan at 513.842.2065 or scasurella@cccath.org.



CONTACT US!

Christ Church Cathedral
318 East Fourth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-4202
513.621.1817 telephone • 513.621.9013 fax
www.christchurchcincinnati.org

The Very Rev. James A. Diamond, Dean;
513.842.2050; [jadiamond@cccath.org](mailto:jadamond@cccath.org)

The Rev. Canon John Johanssen, Priest-in-charge;
513.842.2059; jjohanssen@cccath.org

Mrs. Kathy Noe, Executive Assistant to the Dean;
513.842.2051; knoe@cccath.org; 513.842.2090 fax
for the Dean

Cathedral Worship, Education & Pastoral Care

The Rev. Canon Nancy Turner Jones, Dean’s Canon;
513.842.2054; njones@cccath.org

The Rev. Canon Joanna C. Leiserson, Canon for Christian Formation; 513.842.2052; jleiserson@cccath.org

The Rev. Canon Myrick T. Cross, Canon Pastor;
513.842.2055; rcross@cccath.org

Dr. Stephan Casurella, Director of Music;
513.842.2065; scasurella@cccath.org

Mr. Nicholas Bideler, Associate Director of Music;
513.842.2066; nbideler@cccath.org

Mr. J. J. Engelbert, Youth & Young Adult Minister;
513.842.2079; jjengelbert@cccath.org

Ms. Stacy Park, Director of Young Children’s Religious Formation; 513.842.2080; spark@cccath.org

Cathedral Administration and Operations

Mr. Mark Priest, Cathedral Administrator; 513.842.2056;
mpriest@cccath.org

Mrs. Anna W. Lawson, Director of Finance;
513.842.2057; alawson@cccath.org

Mr. Mark Reed, Director of Operations; 513.842.2060;
mreed@cccath.org

Mr. Keith Goodwin, Receptionist; 513.842.2064;
kgoodwin@cccath.org

Mrs. Judy Hering, Bookkeeper; 513.842.2058;
jhering@cccath.org

Mrs. Crystal Jones, Receptionist/Staff Secretary;
513.842.2063; cjones@cccath.org

Mr. Handel Bhola, Cathedral Shop Manager;
513.842.2075 office; 513.621.4567 shop; toll free
866.621.7467 (SHOP); cathedralshop@cccath.org

Ms. Barbara Lyghtel Rohrer, Communications Manager
Consultant; Editor, *The Cathedral Tower*; 513.528.2290
telephone; 513.528.2293 fax; rohrer@fuse.net

The Cathedral Tower is published by Christ Church Cathedral © 2010 Christ Church Cathedral. All rights reserved. **Deadline for submission of information for the May issue is April 19.**



Christ Church Cathedral

318 EAST FOURTH STREET
CINCINNATI, OH 45202-4299

calendar

april

at the cathedral

www.christchurchcincinnati.org

WORSHIP

HOLY WEEK SERVICES (see page 2)

Holy Communion

Sundays, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays & Fridays, 12:10 p.m.

Choral Evensong

Sunday, April 11, 5:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer

Tuesdays, 4:40 p.m.

SEMINARS, DISCUSSIONS & FORUMS

Men's Bible study

Thursdays, 8:00 a.m.

Community Issues Forum

Thursday, April 15 & 29, 12:00 p.m.

Films on Fridays

Friday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.

Confirmation Class

Sundays, April 11, 18 & 25, 11:30 a.m.

CHILDREN

Weaving the Promises of The Good Shepherd

Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

Children's Good Friday Service

Friday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 4, 11:30 a.m.

YOUTH

Bible, Faith & Teen Issues

Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

Youth Group meetings

Sundays, April 11, 18 & 25, 11:30 a.m.

YOUNG ADULTS

CeYA Trip to Washington National Cathedral

Friday-Sunday, April 23-25

COMMUNITY & SERVICE

5000 Club community suppers

Tuesdays, 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral night at the Drop-Inn Center

Monday, April 12, 6:00 p.m.

MUSIC & THE ARTS

Music Live at Lunch

Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20 & 27, 12:10 p.m.

Cathedral Tour

Sunday, March 7, 11:30 a.m.

More Great Cincinnati Families at Home

Photo exhibit opens

Saturday, April 17

Organ recital

Sunday, April 18, 5:00 p.m.

For meeting & rehearsal schedule, members may go to the cathedral intranet site. For access information, contact Mark Priest at mpriest@cccath.

Pilgrimage: Christ Church Cathedral members and friends will depart for a two-week trip to the Holy Land on April 14. We will publish a full report with photographs in the June issue of the *Tower*.

— Editor