

# ST. JAMES' EPISTLE

## APRIL 4, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

### **Alleluia! Christ is Risen!**

And now for something completely different. Bright Sunday.

Bright Sunday is a day of fun and frivolity - at least as far as Episcopalians can manage it.

Tradition has it that the Sunday after Easter is reserved for not only reveling in the resurrection but laughing at the devil because God played a pretty good practical joke on him. After all, if you kill someone, you expect them to stay dead. You certainly don't expect to see him running around cooking people breakfast.

So the joke's on Satan.

And we get to laugh along.

As Bright Sunday developed, it took on other names like Holy Humor Sunday. But whatever the name, it became a day of telling jokes and playing practical jokes in church. I thought it best if we start this experiment **slowly**... just by **telling** jokes (I read about one minister who walked into the sacristy and was doused with water - let's not do that one, okay?)

And I confess to being nervous about this. Never really having been a standup comedian, my cache of jokes is pretty small. Fortunately, there's FaceBook to the rescue, and I put out the plea for jokes. People near and far - from my home town, from past parishes and from St. James' responded with a wealth of humor. I even got a joke from a friend in England.

So come this Sunday and see if we will laugh or groan, whether we will soar or crash and burn.

Either way, the Lord is Risen indeed! And that's good enough reason for a smile at least.

In Christ's Love and Service,

Fr. Chuck

Question: What's the first thing you have to do if you want to be forgiven your sins?

Answer: Sin.

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### **The News of the Church**

**Fireside Chat** - Our final Fireside Chat of the season is TONIGHT, April 4. It focuses on the royal visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in June of 1939. Join us at 7:00 PM for another fascinating piece of our history.

**April 7 - Bridge Builders Meeting:** Join us on Sunday, April 7 at 11:30 AM, for a meeting for Bridge Builders - a camp for youth to do work where it's needed. It is sort of a localized version of Towel Camp. It's open to any youth from **grades 6 through 12**. Parents - we want you to attend, too!

**Temporary Editors Wanted:** I am looking for a TEMPORARY E-pistle editor to take over during my sabbatical this Summer. You need an ability to write, keep track of schedules, and convert your writing to PDF format so it can be sent out. Please see me if interested! Thanks - Fr. Chuck

I am also looking for a TEMPORARY digital bulletin editor for the sabbatical. It's pretty simple, but you need the same computer skills at the E-pistle editor. Also, you need a scanner. Again, please see me if interested! Thanks - Fr. Chuck

**VBS Time:** It's time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School. We have a program picked out already, and it looks exciting with a totally new format. If interested, please contact Valerie Gaulin, or Bev O'Halloran.

**Newcomers Reception:** If you've been coming to St. James' for a year or less - or if you've been away for awhile and recently returned - consider yourself invited to a reception on Friday, April 12 at 7:00 PM in the Wilks Room of the Parish House. Come get to know new friends, learn more about how the church can be part of your life and how you can be involved in ways that are right for you.

**FOUND:** Did you lose a Flash Drive on Easter Sunday? We found one in a pew Sunday. If you can identify it, it's yours.

**Want to Sing with Spirit of Unity?** Some parishioners have asked if they might occasionally practice with our artists in residence. Ray Watkins has asked any who want to rehearse with them to contact him:

[Raywatkins@mindspring.com](mailto:Raywatkins@mindspring.com).

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**Nursery School Tag Sale:** Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 - 2:00.

Come check out this year's bargains!

As always, we welcome your donations. We accept toys, adult / children's clothing, books, dvd's, small furniture, household goods and more. NO stuffed animals, shoes, cribs or car seats please. Donations can be left on the stage from this point on. If you have any questions or need help dropping things off, call the school at 229-0100 or contact Tanya Hall. Hope to see you there!

**Hospital/Sickness/Injury Plea:** One of the worst feelings I get is when I find out that a parishioner has been in the hospital, and I didn't know about it. Some have said, "Oh, I knew you were busy and didn't want to bother you."

Please bother me.

One of the reasons I am here in the first place is to visit the sick and injured. It's hard to do so if I don't know about it. If you don't want visitors or only want brief visits, I promise to honor your wishes - but I would always prefer to know. The same is true if you are going in for a procedure - even same day. I would also appreciate knowing. I'm happy to be with you as you go in if you'd like. Oh, and if I can't get there for some reason, I'll try to make sure someone from the church visits. Just let us know.

**Lent Madness Victor "Halo-ed":** Well, the NCAA may still be going on, but the Lent Madness tournament is over and we have a winner. Not only that, but she's someone connected to someone from this parish.

The winner of the Golden Halo is Francis Perkins.

What? You don't know her?

She was the first female Secretary of Labor as well as the first female member of the Cabinet. When President Roosevelt asked her to take on the role, she insisted that she be allowed to do things her way and push her agenda - an agenda she freely admitted was formed by her Christian faith as expressed in the Episcopal tradition.

Believing that all good things are given by God rather than earned and that we are called to give freely as well, to care for those who do not have, her agenda included caring for the disadvantaged. Since this was 1933 in the depths of the depression, her vision resonated with the nation.

Francis Perkins can be credited with pushing FDR toward, among other things: a forty-hour workweek, a minimum wage, worker's compensation, unemployment compensation, a federal law banning child labor, direct federal aid for unemployment relief, Social Security, a revitalized public employment service, and health insurance.

She was a lay person but her faith changed the world.

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### **Schedules**

*A Note About Schedules: The names you see below are those listed on their respective schedules. There are often times when due to sickness or travel, substitutes are asked to fill in or trade. This will probably NOT be reflected in the lists below - so if there is an inconsistency between what you see here and what you see on Sunday, that's okay.*

**Birthdays:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Suzanne Whitman, Kathleen Craft, 4<sup>th</sup> Sue McGlynn, 5<sup>th</sup> Jaylen Thatcher, 6<sup>th</sup> Susan Huepler, 7<sup>th</sup> Carol Vinall

**Acolytes:** April 7: Nick Granados-Kramer, Skye O'Halloran, Mike Minter  
April 14: Nancy Montero, Gage Minter, Tess Manning

**Altar Guild:** April 7: Team I  
April 14: Team I

**8 AM Reader:** April 7: Debbie Belding, Gary Glancey  
April 14: Angela Henry, Jim Smyth

**10 AM Readers:** April 7: Wilma Tully, Nancy Montero  
April 14: Russell Urban-Mead/Deirdre Mae Micker

**Ushers:** April 7: Kathie Champion and Mary Gabel  
April 14: Andrew and Tanya Hall

**Pledge Clerks:** April 7: Janet Bright and Joanne Lown  
April 14: Doug and Deb Belding

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** April 7: Saira Shahani  
April 14: Jodi Triola, Ross & Connie Eames, Kathy Graff

**Please see Pat Keefe if you would like to host a coffee hour!**

### **This Week's Lectionary**

[Acts 5:27-32](#)

[Psalm 150](#)

[Revelation 1:4-8](#)

[John 20:19-31](#)