



The Grace Vine

April 2011

Rector's Writ

In the prayer journal we discuss with our study of *Unbinding Your Heart* we're finding we all have a lot to learn about prayer. We share in the joy of some encouraging and amazing stories about how God hears and answers our prayers. We share in the struggle of walking the careful path of prayer to know God's will without allowing our own agenda and our will to get in the way of listening and obeying. We're willing to work at letting our prayers—and our lives--be guided by the light of Christ's teachings.

We're already past the half-way point of Lent, and there's a part of us that doesn't want to stay in this penitential mode any longer than we have to. We want to follow the teachings, the way of Jesus, especially in making time to pray.

Yet we fall short and regularly "miss the mark," the loose Greek translation for sin. C.S. Lewis describes our 'easy sin' as the ongoing struggle between committing ourselves to God's will or selfishly allowing ourselves to do as we please. In *The Problem of Pain*, Lewis writes: "From the moment a creature becomes aware of God as God and of itself as self, the terrible alternative of choosing God or self for the center is open to it. ...It is the fall in every individual life, the basic sin behind all particular sins: at this very moment you and I are either committing it, about to commit it or repenting it."

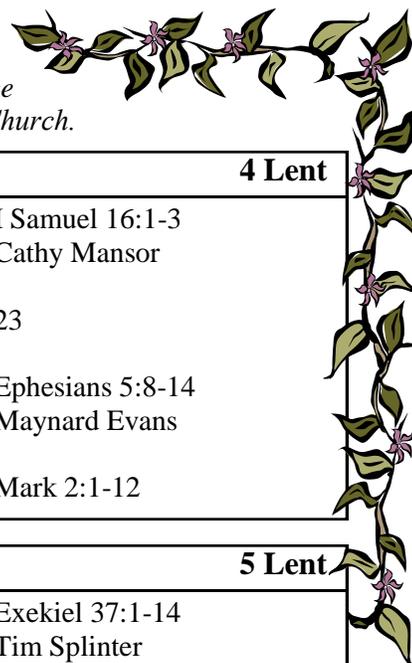
Each Lent we're called to that very serious business of remembering our sins and wretchedness, our dust and limitations. But we remember that in the context of prayer and Scripture where we hear about the mercy and goodness of God and his love for all he's made. Christ Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer has shown us the nature of God and provided our salvation. The penitential season is only complete when it's followed by the joy, hope, and renewal we believers receive in Christ's resurrection. Please invite a friend or family member to join us for Easter Services. Such good news needs to be shared.

Easter Blessings & Joy to You and Those You Love



Service and Lay Ministry Schedule

If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and call the parish office with that person's name. Thank you for sharing in the liturgical ministry of Grace Church.



Sunday, April 3		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	4 Lent
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	I Samuel 16:1-3 Cathy Mansor
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert	Psalm	23
Greeters	Jeff Marsh & Bev Lewis-Mercury	2nd Reading	Ephesians 5:8-14 Maynard Evans
Acolyte	TBD	Gospel	Mark 2:1-12
Coffee Host	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Nancy & Fred Lundgren		
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren & Cindy Hoskins		
Counters	Reba Cook & Barb Popiel		
Emeritus	Kathy Summy		

Sunday, April 10		8:00- & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	5 Lent
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Exekiel 37:1-14 Tim Splinter
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder	Psalm	130
Lay Reader	Roberta O'Keefe	2nd Reading	Romans 8:6-11 Carolyn Englert
Greeters	Jim & Nancy Ervin	Gospel	Matthew 14:22-33
Acolyte	TBD		
Coffee Host	8:00 George Furrer 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald		
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren & Cindy Hoskins		
Counters	Reba Cook & Barb Popiel		

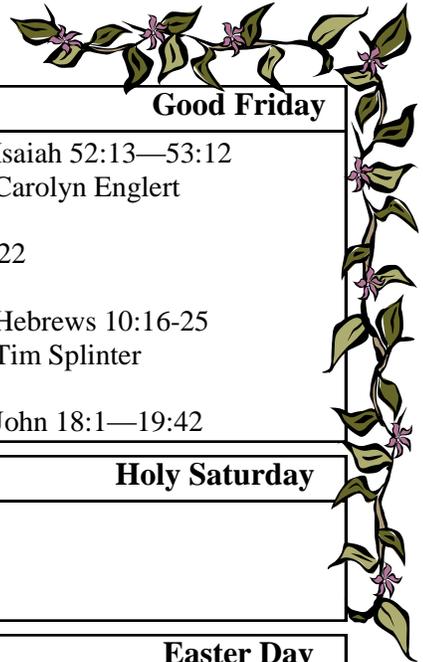
Sunday, April 17		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Palm Sunday
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 50:4-9a Nancy Lundgren
Lay Reader	Addrienne Conway	Psalm	31:9-16
Greeters	Nancy & Fred Lundgren	2nd Reading	Philippians 2:5-11 Fred Lundgren
Acolytes	Schyler Conway & Jenna Summy	Gospel	Matthew 26:14-27:66
Altar Guild	Shirley Johnson & Debbie Shorts		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Rick Lashley & Debbie Shorts 10:00 Kay Canan & Chris Stickle		
Counters	Reba Cook & Barb Popiel		
Emeritus	Bill Snyder		

April 18 & 19		6:00 PM Evening Prayer
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Wednesday, April 20		6:00 PM Healing Service and Holy Eucharist
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Thursday, April 21		7:00 PM Holy Eucharist	Maundy Thursday
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 12:1-14 Martha Croll
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder	Psalm	116:1, 10-17
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald	2nd Reading	I Corinthians 11:23-26 Jeff Croll
Acolyte	Eric Splinter	Gospel	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren & Cindy Hoskins		
Counters	Reba Cook & Barb Popiel		





Friday, April 22 **7:00 PM Way of the Cross** **Good Friday**

Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 52:13—53:12 Carolyn Englert
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder	Psalm	22
Lay Reader	Addrienne Conway	2nd Reading	Hebrews 10:16-25 Tim Splinter
Greeters	Irene & John Machisko	Gospel	John 18:1—19:42
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren & Cindy Hoskins		
Counters	Reba Cook & Barb Popiel		

Saturday, April 23 **10:00 AM** **Holy Saturday**

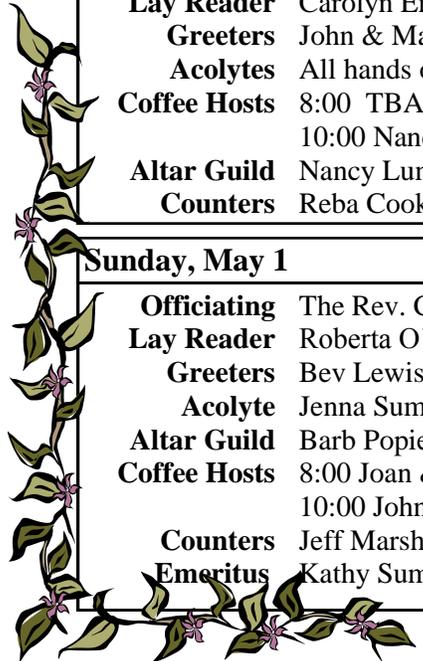
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren & Cindy Hoskins
Counters	Reba Cook & Barb Popiel

Sunday, April 24 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Festive Holy Eucharist** **Easter Day**

Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Acts 10:34-43 Martha Croll
Deacon	The Rev. Williams D. Snyders	Psalm	118:1-2, 14-24
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert	2nd Reading	Colossians 3:1-4 Jeff Croll
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald	Gospel	John 20:1-18
Acolytes	All hands on deck		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 TBA 10:00 Nancy & Jim Ervin		
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren & Cindy Hoskins		
Counters	Reba Cook & Barb Popiel		

Sunday, May 1 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist** **Easter 2**

Officiating	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Maynard Evans
Lay Reader	Roberta O'Keefe	Psalm	16
Greeters	Bev Lewis-Mercury & Jeff Marsh	2nd Reading	I Peter 1:3-9 Cathy Mansor
Acolyte	Jenna Summy	Gospel	John 20:19-31
Altar Guild	Barb Popiel & Amy Neely		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 John & Irene Machisko		
Counters	Jeff Marsh & Cathy Mansor		
Emeritus	Kathy Summy		



I want to thank everyone in the parish for the generous gift that I received at the annual meeting in recognition of my twenty-five years as treasurer. I was both overwhelmed and humbled. I am glad that I could serve my parish and I am also grateful that it is now in the capable hands of Marcia Splinter. Thanks again to all !

-Fred Lundgren



Did You Know?...



Did you see **McKenna Conway**'s picture on the front cover of the new Cedar Hills brochure? She's looking really cute. There is a copy of the brochure on the parish hall bulletin board ---take a look...

Nikki Stickle took her driver's test and passed. She's driving all over Ravenna and according to her mom, **Chris**, she's doing a good job! Congratulations Nikki! Now we have a new driver in the community...

Her sister **Sammie** was chosen to be a member of the ensemble choir at Ravenna High School, congratulations Sammie...

Megan Worthen is in the middle of softball practice for Waterloo High School team, hope you have a great year!...

7th grader **Eric Splinter** is in the high school musical. This year the school will be presenting "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" and Eric is the head Umpa-Lumpa. Can't wait to see that! ...

Marcia and Tim Splinter have been working very hard on fund raisers for their son **Kevin's** traveling baseball team...

On April 4th **Irene and John Machisko** will be back from Florida after spending the winter in Bonita Springs. Sounds lovely. Hope they can bring some nice weather with them...

John McDonald has been busy at the church "fixing" up the restrooms. The one off the parish hall got a new coat of paint on the walls. It's been spruced up with pictures, a table, and flowers. All this has been a big improvement. And the same has been done to the lady's restroom next to the office, while and the men's room got the tile removed and is the process of improvements. It's really as nice and as pleasant as a restroom can be. Thanks to Gracie's Back Door for their goodies and John McDonald and **Sue Ahrens** for painting the walls. It looks great!...

John McDonald enjoyed his fishing trip to Florida with his brother. They stayed at a nephew's home, who lives on a canal so you can fish right out of his back yard. They caught some really "nice" fish. Good eating too...

Just a little bit of our history. Does the name **Sarah Collins** mean anything to you? Well it should, you see it every Sunday you attend church. The large windows in front of the church (facing Cedar Ave.) have the name Sarah Collins on them. Sarah died in 1898 and bequeathed a house and two lots to be used as a rectory. In our church history it states that she was a devout churchwoman and in addition left a sum for the diocesan missions...

Did you know our Grace church building is the oldest church in Ravenna that has been in constant use?..

This month **Leslie Thomas** is going to Paris and Switzerland. She will meet up with a friend who is already there on business, and they plan to see the sites. She would like to be skiing in Switzerland, but taking all that equipment would be taxing....

The youth group had a wonderful Mardi Gras. Those youth group members and adults working on this fundraiser were:

Lisa & Paige Paxton; Phillip & Noah Crouse & Brittany Cannon; Addrienne, Schyler, McKenna, & Jillian Conway; Stacey & Zack Scibelli; Courtney, Phillip, Gerry, Maggie & Sammy Rich along with two of their friends; Kathy, Emily, & Jenna Summy. Megan Worthen; Tim & Eric Splinter (Tim cooked pancakes); **Nick Frieden** (Nick cooked potatoes); **Chris, Nicole, & Sammie Stickle; and Rev. Carol**. Thanks to everyone who helped, donated or came to eat and enjoy the hospitality. The Youth Group really appreciates all the support and love you give to them. A special thanks to Nikki Stickle. Every time Addrienne or Chris would say they needed anything, she was more than happy to get her car keys (she got her license on that Tuesday) and run the errand. The funds earned from the Pancake dinner are going towards buying a bricks for Haiti's Cathedral and helping a family with three children, here in Ravenna, who had a house fire and lost just about everything. They are now planning a Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, April 15th. Come and enjoy the good food and fellowship...

Carolyn Englert's 16 year old grandson **Austin** has been accepted in the University of Texas Upward Bound Math and Science Program. It comes with a college scholarship to the University of Texas, Arlington. Good work Austin!...

Bette Brooks is finished with her chemo treatments and wants us to know that she is doing well and appreciates all the prayers. Five years of close monitoring will follow and we will continue to keep Bette in our prayer. It was great help to her to have daughter **Beverly** fly home and stay be with her for each treatment...

Ash Wednesday was a cold rainy day, just like so many days we've have, but one of the sunny spots was a visit by **Jean and Len Mercer** who attended the noon service. It was really good seeing them. They came in from North Carolina to be with their son **Adam** who was recovering from surgery...

If you haven't been there lately, you might want to see what's available in Gracie's Back Door. They've acquired some great items. Take a look!...

McKenna Conway, Sammie Stickle, and Jenna Summy are part of the cast of Willie Wonka Junior, a city wide production. And **Schyler Conway's** latest dance competition awarded her the second highest score in the studio, and she was a member of the production number that received the highest score....

If you have information you want to share in the "Did You Know" please email it to: office@graceravenna.org

On the Horizon

Friday, April 15 Spaghetti Dinner

Run by the Youth Group. \$6/ea, \$4
ages 4-12, 3 and under free.

Saturday, May 7 Mother's Day Flower Sale

Pray for good weather. We'll need
donations of ribbon and knick knacks to
put in with the basket plants.

**Order forms are now available and
are due May 1st.**

Saturday, September 17 Ravenna Balloon A-fair

We are considering putting in a float
this year. See Addrienne if you have
interest in helping.

Saturday, October 22nd 2nd Annual Wine Tasting

Save the date...details will follow.

Beer Tasting?

There has been suggestion of having a
Beer Tasting to compliment our Wine
Tasting. If anyone steps up to lead, the
Fun-draising Committee is ready to
help make it happen.

No Garage Sale This Year

The Garage Sale is not on the agenda
for this year, but it should be on
for next year, so start saving
up your stuff!

Acolytes Schedule

Check these dates now so we
can make any changes before
we publish next month:

5/8—Kevin & McKenna

5/15—Schlyler & Paige

5/22—Eric

5/29—James

6/5—Kevin

Tim@splinterfactions.net

Marcia@splinterfactions.net

330-527-2084

Birthdays

- 3rd Sonja Sherwood
- 4th Larry Thomas
- 12th Cathy Mansor
- Billy T. Johnson
- Phil Rich
- 13th Kathy Summy
- 18th Olivia Golec
- 20th Sue Ahrens
- 23rd Bernice McCauslin
- 25th Judy Canan
- 29th Marcia Splinter

- 10th Grace Church 145
years!



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Baptisms

- 1st Phyllis Shorts
- 2nd Dennis Dier
- 4th Jennifer Golec
- Tracy Shriver
- 5th Bill Snyder
- 7th Dale Espey
- 9th Jim Ervin
- 10th Jamie Popiel
- 11th Bruce Ahrens
- 12th Sally Wolf Langan



Anniversaries

- 20th Jim & Nancy Ervin

Fathers (and Mothers) and Friends

By Bette Brooks

*They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still.
The world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will.*

Tikhon

April 7

Vasily Ivanovich Belavin was born on January 19, 1865, into a devout Russian Orthodox family—his father was a priest who dreamed of greatness for his third son. Young Vasily entered the theological academy a year younger than usual where he gained the nickname “the Patriarch.” Although he was outwardly serious, he also liked to joke. He was popular, humble, kind, and clearly intelligent. He completed the program at the age of 23, too young to be ordained but enjoying the right to receive his degree of Master of Theology without having to take additional exams because of his high grades. He returned home to Pskov. He taught dogma and moral theology at the local Seminary but remained true to his desire to take monastic vows. He did so in 1891 and took the name Tikhon in honor of a Russian saint.

In 1892, he was transferred to the Chelm Seminary as superintendent. He continued to develop his administrative skills to add to his teaching skills and assumed wider responsibilities in the Archdiocese of Chelm/Warsaw. His reputation grew steadily and he was recommended for the newly-vacant Vicariate of Lublin. However, he was not yet 33, the canonical age at which he could assume such a post. The archbishop waited for Vasily’s birthday then elevated him to the post. Two years later (1898), he became Orthodox Bishop of the Diocese of the Aleutian Islands and Alaska—in actuality, all of North America. People tried to delay his departure by lying on the train tracks. He finally arrived in New York and slowly crossed the country, meeting the faithful and preaching in Russian Orthodox churches and cathedrals. Among his first actions were the reorganization of the diocese and its renaming—the Diocese of the Aleutians and North America—and he began studying for his American citizenship exam, which he passed.

After nine years in America, he returned to Russia as Bishop of Yaroslavl, then he was transferred to Vilnius, Lithuania. On June 21, 1917, he was elected the ruling bishop of Moscow; a month later he was raised to the post of Metropolitan of Moscow; three months later he was elected Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church, a role that would put him in direct conflict with the Communist leaders of the Russian Revolution. He bravely condemned the execution of the tsar’s family in 1918 and protested the violent attacks by the Bolshviks on the Church as well as the seizure and destruction of church property. After the Communists consolidated their power, he was accused of being a saboteur, for which he was imprisoned in the Donskoy Monastery in 1922. Many believe that his American citizen saved his life during this time. He continued to publicly protest the nationalization of church property and his persecution for this “crime” caused an international incident. In 1924 he fell ill and was hospitalized. On April 5, 1925, he served his last Divine Liturgy and died two days later. His willingness to lead a church under constant attack by secular authority, to be the face of morality and right in a society torn from its roots by revolution, and his willingness to speak up for the faithful have made him a saint of both the Russian Orthodox and Episcopal Churches.

Prayer: Holy God, holy and mighty, you call us together into one communion and fellowship: Open our eyes, we pray, as you opened the eyes of your servant Tikhon, that we may see the faithfulness of others as we strive to be steadfast in the faith delivered to us, that the world may see and know you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be glory and praise unto ages of ages. Amen.

April

The Grace Vine

2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						
3 Lent 4 •8am HE •9am Coffee •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	4 	5	6 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	7	8	9 •Fellowship & Game Night 6:30
10 Lent 5 •8am HE •9am Coffee •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	11	12 •2-4pm Sit & Stitch •7pm Vestry Meeting	13 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •6pm Healing Service & Eucharist	14	15 •5-7pm Spaghetti Dinner	16
17 Palm Sunday •8am HE •9am Coffee •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	18 •6:00 Evening Prayer	19 •6:00 Evening Prayer	20 6:00 Healing Service with HE •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	21 Maundy Thursday Service 7pm •8am Retired Men's Breakfast	22 •Good Friday Way of the Cross 7pm	23 •Holy Saturday 10am
24 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •10am HE •11:15 Coffee & Easter Egg Hunt	25	26 •2-4pm Sit & Stitch	27 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •No Choir Practice	28	29	30

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church
 Tony Worthen (2011)
 Reba Cook (2011)
 Alice Boydell (2011)
 Cory Conway (2012)
 Sue Ahrens (2012)
 Joan Seman (2012)
 Cathy Mansor (2013)
 Jeff Marsh (2013)
 Barb Popiel (2013)

Grace Episcopal Church of Ravenna
 The Rev. Carol Evans—Rector
 The Rev. William Snyder
 Marsha Snyder—Secretary
 Mary Ann Switz—Organist/Choirmaster
 Phone: 330-296-3443
 Web Site: www.graceravenna.org
 Email: revcarol@graceravenna.org

Get your Grace Vine electronically!

The Grace Vine is now available as an Adobe Acrobat PDF file on the church web site. If you would like, you can start retrieving it from there, rather than having a paper copy at the back of the church or in the mail. You would receive an email notifying you when the issue ready and linking to it so you don't get a huge email in your inbox.

If you would like to take advantage of this, send me an email at grwebmaster@graceravenna.org. Please consider carefully, however. We would rather make the paper copy and have it read than save the paper and postage and have it go unread. Thank you.



The Grace Vine

Grace Episcopal Church
 250 W. Cedar St.
 Ravenna OH 44266



Easter Music & Flowers

Contributions for Easter & Music may be made by using this form. A musician will be hired and we will adorn the altar with lilies, hyacinths, and tulips. The suggest contribution is \$15.00.

_____ I would like to contribute to Easter music _____ I would like to contribute to Easter flowers

In memory of: _____

In thanksgiving for: _____

Given by:

