



# CCA TODAY

sharing the news of  
Christ Church Anglican

May 2009

The Sunday School class of Jeff Cunningham, Henry Lau, Daniel Lau, and Emily Muzyka wrote this poem.

## HOLY WEEK

*On a donkey into Jerusalem Jesus did ride,  
Laying palms before Him, Hosanna, they cried.*

*Into the room for Passover to dine,  
Jesus gave the disciples His bread and His wine.*

*In the garden alone He went to pray,  
Knowing that His betrayal was a few steps away.*

*Jesus' disciples could not stay awake,  
And for 30 coins, His life Judas did take.*

*The rooster crowed after Peter's denial,  
And Jesus was brought before Pilate for trial.*

*Mocked and whipped, with a crown of thorns on His head,  
Nailed on a cross, "King of the Jews" it read.*

*Into two, the veil of the temple was torn,  
Jesus' body was laid in the tomb till Easter morn.*

*On the third day the angel rolled the stone away,  
And the Heaven opened singing, Christ the Lord is risen today!*

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8:00 am, 10:00 am  
9:00 am Sunday School &  
Adult Christian Education

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## ANTHONY BATES — ONE YEAR

I can't believe one year has gone by. I remember the doctors telling me the grim details of Anthony's accident and prognosis and thinking Why God--Why did this happen? Then when he was "out of the woods" after a few weeks, the doctors said it will be a long road ahead for recovery...at least a year before he is walking. I thought...a year is such a long time, how will we get through this?

Well, that year has gone by and I can't believe how fast it seems now. Anthony went from the very worst situation to beating all the odds in his steps to recovery and walking much sooner than they thought he would and healing faster as only miracles can do. We still will never know what the reason for God's Plan for us to go through this journey, but I can tell you one thing we have learned in all of this is that our family has become stronger in our abilities and in our Faith! And we have been blessed with our friends and family showing us more love, support and prayer than anyone could imagine.

We have witnessed a miracle in Anthony's recovery and we Thank our Lord for getting us through the 'rough spots' and continuing to help us in the road ahead.

Love to you!  
Jenn Bates

## EVERY BIT HELPS

*by Carlyne Fisher*

The money that has been patiently collected each week (by all of you) towards the purchase of each recipe sampler (called Smitherings), has now reached \$150. See what giving a little something as a thank you or in appreciation can add up to. This money will be put towards the rector's discretionary fund. We can also do it again for the Christmas season as they can be inserted inside your Christmas cards. A nice remembrance!

*God's Work in Progress*

## LOOKING TOWARD OLIVET (PART 6)

by Ed Wood

Matthew 24:9-13 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. (See also - Mark 13:9-13, Luke 21:12-19.)

The Lord's words above began to be immediately fulfilled as we read in the book of Acts. Eventually, all of Jesus' original loyal apostles were martyred for the faith except for John and even he had to endure imprisonment as an old man on the island of Patmos. The evangelist Paul, author of most of the epistles in the New Testament and the man largely responsible for bringing the faith to the Gentile world, most likely met his end in Nero's Rome a few years before the destruction of the temple by Titus' troops in 70 A.D.. The prophecy above truly has been and is still being fulfilled with Christian martyrdom continuing in places this very day.

In the United States it certainly has not gotten anywhere near that bad, but there are ominous signs that things are changing. I'm old enough to remember when putting up Christmas lights in town, a crèche on town property at public expense, and saying the Lord's Prayer along with the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of the school day wasn't an invitation for a lawsuit. Seems like people have "tolerance" for everything these days, except for Jesus. Once upon a time most of the church even believed in the Bible. Look where it is now!

In the passage above we have a reference again to the coming of false prophets, a subject we've already encountered. The repetition of it again in the Discourse very likely indicates that this problem will persist and even intensify right up until the time Jesus returns.

In addition, the Lord relates that because iniquity (which means gross injustice or immorality) will abound in the Last Days, people will become hardened toward one another. This theme is repeated not only by Paul (2 Timothy 3:1-5, 1213) but alluded to in the Old Testament by

Isaiah 700 years earlier (Isaiah 5:20-30). The news media provides ample evidence of this on a daily basis. I think we are rapidly losing our ability as a civilization to be shocked by anything no matter how outrageous it might be - in effect, having our consciences seared to insensitivity.

Still, despite the harsh reality revealed in the passage above we are also given words of hope that perseverance and endurance in the faith will ultimately deliver us the eternal salvation that God promised to all who believe on his Son - the one who has overcome the world (John 16:33b).

Next month we'll look at Matthew 24:14 and Mark 13:10 concerning the promulgation of the Gospel to every place on the globe.

## CHURCH SCHOOL

by Sara Cunningham

Another successful year of Sunday school has past. Thank you to all of the dedicated teachers who work so hard throughout the year! The last day of Sunday school for the children will be May 31, 2009. We are very blessed to have such a wonderful group of children and teachers in our church.

"God Made Teachers... God understood our thirst for knowledge, and our need to be led by someone wiser; He needed a heart of compassion, of encouragement, and patience; Someone who would accept the challenge regardless of the opposition; Someone who could see potential and believe the best in others...So He made Teachers!"

## CELL PHONE VS. BIBLE

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go....  
hmm...where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected — because Jesus already paid the bill.

## THE FIRST PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

by Vickie Manfredi

Oh Joy! The first meeting of this new province will take place June 22 - 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Vincent's Cathedral in Bedford, Texas.

The meeting is convened under the Provisional Constitution. The agenda will include:

- 1) Worship
- 2) Presentations in support of the mission province
- 3) Scripture teaching
- 4) Addresses by international leaders
- 5) Consideration for ratification of the Provisional Constitution

Blocks of rooms in nearby hotels are reserved for attendees. There is an open invitation.

Church, please pray and cover this historical moment. Anything in transition is subject to attack by the enemy, oh yes, we have one. We are on the frontier and we are an adventurous people. Praise God, we are also a faithful people standing as a light in this dark time. We have walked apart and now are prepared to stand apart within our own American Province.

Shout to The Lord!

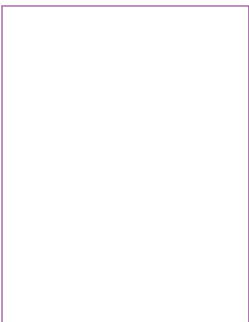
## MEET THE VESTRY

*CCA Today will be publishing brief bios of our vestry members each month.*



**Jennifer Bates** I have had the honor of being part of Vestry since 2008. My hometown is “good ole’ East Haven, but I currently live in North Haven and have for over 13 years now. My husband -of almost 17 years - is Anthony (I think you all may know him...) we have 2 beautiful daughters:

Cecilia (13) and Sophia (11) and 2 very cute “puppies”: Phoebe (3) and Zoe (1-1/2) and one very fat cat: Sherbie (9). I have worked at Yale New Haven Ambulatory (Temple) for 10 years as a Buyer and I’m currently going back to school for my associates degree with a future path in Nursing (Lord willing!!). In my “free time”...all 8 minutes of it...I enjoy reading, shopping and hanging out with my family and friends and especially my Bff-Diane Yaccarino! I feel extremely blessed to have so many caring, loving people in my life.



### **Barbara F. Cunningham**

I live in East Haven with my husband James B. Cunningham, Jr. We are former members of Christ & the Epiphany Church. I’m a graduate of S.C.S.U. with a B.S. degree in secondary education, English major. Careers I’ve enjoyed so far in life include: legal secretary; wife & mother of 2 sons

& grandmother of 6; teacher; banker; and accts. clerk. I’ve had the pleasure to volunteer with such great organizations as Marrakech (adults with disabilities), SARAH (adults with disabilities), United Way of Greater New Haven (loaned exec. program) and the CT Food Bank. I love opera & most classical music; love to read; and love to travel. I have found true spiritual growth with Christ Church Anglican family.



**John Guida** I’m John Guida and I’m married to Kathy Guida. We have two children, John Jr. & Barbara (Petrosino). We have four grandchildren, Rachel (20), Devin (6), Aidan (5) & Chloe (3). Kathy & I were members of Christ & the Epiphany Church for 35 years. Both our children were baptized, and made their 1st. communions

& confirmations there. Barbara was married at C& E and her three children were baptized there. We are now happy & joyous here at Christ Church Anglican. I was honored to be asked to serve on the vestry & I’m honored to be elected Junior Warden. With the help of Annie Lau & Michelle Viesselman we started a CCA newsletter, & thanks to all of you, it’s been a success. Kathy & I live with Barbara and the grandkids in Southington, CT. We love it here but would never think of leaving our family at CCA.



**Jamie Viesselman** I’m the proud father of two beautiful children, Morgan (4) and Kyle (1). My wife Michelle and I have been married for nine years and our family lives in Milford. I’m a graduate of the University of Connecticut (huge UConn sports fan) and Columbia University. I work as an elementary physical

education teacher in Westport teaching kindergarten through fifth grade—and love every minute of it. In my spare time, I enjoy playing with his kids, golfing, playing softball, and weight training. I was a parishioner of Christ and the Epiphany church since the late eighties and am very excited to serve Christ Church Anglican as a new member of the Vestry.

## NOTES

- Please pray for the healing of Myrtle Cunningham, Anthony Bates, Jill St. Germaine, Bobbie Buckley, Jay Faber, Katelyn Scott, Teresa Frost, Marijane Bell, Katy Chaffee, Nancy Baccki, and Frank Stoddard.
- We support Fair Haven Parents Ministry as one of outreach efforts. Please bring in food donations and leave them in the basket by the entrance. The offering taken at coffee hour also goes to FHPM.
- Contact Jennifer Bates, Diane Spadacenta, or Vinnie Yaccarino for Stop & Shop certificates.
- The Wednesday Bible Study at the Wilkes home (672 Townsend Avenue, New Haven), resumed on April 22 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The study will concentrate on the Gospel of Mark. Please let Father Gil know if you plan to attend.
- The Thursday night Prayer Group is at the Heermans home, (47 Prospect Road, East Haven), beginning at 7:30 p.m. Father Martins focuses on Intercessory Prayer.
- Remember this is your newsletter so, voice your opinion, write your stories, tell us what you like or don’t like; your options are unlimited.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 19 ..... Vestry Meeting, 7:30pm

## INTERCESSION / PRAYER WALK *by Vickie Manfredi*

Thursday evenings at Kate and Nile's home has become an adventure! Joined by a few faithful prayer warriors from OMSC and led by Father Martins we have been studying Scripture and building our foundation and faith to do a prayer walk. He does it all the time, leads teams throughout many countries and is now helping us prepare to do the same.

We have been wanting to venture out, especially me, but our wings are clipped for a few reasons, a few good reasons. A prayer walk is not just something you take on lightly and don't prepare for. Just as an army doesn't just march out onto the battle field without being trained, equipped or without a plan. So, spiritual warfare is a process of preparation. We have the ground rules and the Rule Book! We have picked a place for our storm trooping, the New Haven Green.

We are doing a little research on its history and mapping a strategy. Safety first is our teaching. Know your enemy. Fit in to the surroundings and take down the enemies altars!! I feel like I have been to boot training with the Marine Corp.! But I tend to shoot from the hip and am worried about my toes or Kate's, worse.. Father Martin's! So far we don't have loaded guns but we are not going to leave home without them, spiritual weapons that is.

Today I just happened to be driving by that green and asked the Lord if I could just walk it, not pray just observe. We know we have to go out in two's or else! So I put a fleece to the Lord and said if there was a parking place in front of the green I would walk it and just take a few notes as to what I saw. Oh yes, there was a parking place (I got ticketed though for taking too long. )

I noted what was on every side, stayed to the upper green closest to Yale. Saw historical church buildings with dates back to the year 1639, walked into Trinity Episcopal Church and then out. The engraving on their altar tiles read Holy, Holy, Holy. I was saddened when I left to sit on a bench nearby. A man walked by me wearing a black leather jacket with chains around the front. The chains made a noise that told me he was a captive. He was intoxicated and groaned as he stepped in front of me. I just made a note.

Looking back at the churches in front of me they seemed to be heavy, weighing the very ground down they were on. I made more notes, drew a few things and noticed one church on the far corner of College Street that I didn't have the name of.. I decided to walk there and jot down the name. It was then I noticed two men walking the path, one was carrying a large wooden cross,

the size a man could be hung on. The other was talking about salvation and Jesus and giving out tracks. I couldn't believe my eyes and scampered along to cross their path. They stopped and began to talk to me about Jesus but soon discovered I already know Him. Tears welled in my eyes because my faith was small, concealed in my little notes and observations. Their faith was big ... they were unashamed to profess and stand out. There were two of them, Father Martin's first rule!

They introduced themselves, one a pastor from an Assembly of God Church nearby and the other a disciple ... learning and growing. Seems a lot of us are. We exchanged the important stuff and bypassed the weather remarks. I was there mapping and observing, they were there proclaiming and declaring. People walked by averting the cross and averting them, except for a few who drew close to hear more.

I talked to them about the churches I had observed and when asked, told them about the Episcopal trail I had come down and now left. They said my presence built their faith that day but I knew the Lord just wanted me to know that my littlest steps count for something. I confessed to them I couldn't do what they were doing ... yet! They said what I was doing on the other side of the green carried over to their side, they were smiling, I was smiling and God was smiling! We prayed together, right there with the cross between us! I felt the thunder of its impact as we interceded.

Think about it, in Father Gil's words! I stopped at the green wondering if I should be there and the cross went right by me. How many times in my life did that cross go by me before my eyes looked at it and my heart said "yes ' to it? Maybe I still avert its work in my life. Today I chased after it, stopped and prayed before it and joined with two saints to agree with the accomplished work done on it through Jesus. New Haven felt heaven today!

Who owns that green anyway?

Psalm 24: 1

The earth is the Lord's and all it contains,  
The world, and all those who dwell in it.

Oh happy day!