



April 2010

Down By The Riverside

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Columbus Blvd & Christian St, Philadelphia, PA 19147 215-389-1513

Thoughts from the Rector

What's New?

Jesus told anyone who would listen to him that things would be changing, that he was doing a work during his flesh-and-blood lifetime on earth some two thousand years ago that was going to make all things new. Indeed God had been saying such things for eons, according to Scripture. Some day, some way, some how, things were going to be “new.” So, what’s new?

Given that we have more than one version of the story of that first Easter morning we might find it helpful to read all four Gospel accounts of what happened that day, what was *new* that day, according to those who were there. We might think we know the answer, but let’s go ahead and check out the four versions of the story first. We find them in Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12; and John 20:1-18.

So, what did we recognize as new? And, maybe more important to us as we move into our new days, what did we recognize as not so new? New, of course, is the missing body. New, for many, is an understanding of what “no body found in the tomb” really means to us. New is the movement from death to life, the opposite of all we can attest to in our life-to-death existence. New is the visual and audible presence of angels. And new is the continuing communication, presence, and instruction from the One who has died to those who followed Him and continue to seek Him.

Those are pretty monumental “new” things to contemplate. But let’s notice as well the old, the typical behavioral modes of typical human beings when faced with a new thing, a thing that will not be contained in our intellect or reason yet cannot be denied. Lots of running around, telling and retelling just what happened, when it happened, and who was there. Men and women not trusting each other, compatriots trying to outrun each other, outdo each other, be first to affirm or deny the un-affirmable and undeniable. Fear, fear, fear – to the point of deciding not to tell anyone anything. Just run away, hide, lay low.

And so we, like those who came before, are challenged to greet the new day in a new way. Jesus led humanity through the Red Sea, showing us how to live a fully human life, showing us how to hear and see the Good Creation,

(continued on next page)

teaching us by example how we are able, in days of joy as well as days of doubt and suffering, to remain aware of the great gift of life given to us. He led us across the wilderness of death into a place that is filled even fuller with the gift of life and flows with all we need to be not only fully human but eternally the children of God.

Shall we greet the new day with fear? Shall we run away, or stand and insist on our own rightness? Shall we doubt each other, or strive to be winners while others lose? Or shall we put down all that separates us from this amazing new day and stand together in faith, believing that in the rising to life of this One who has died, the order of things has been completely undone, and all things have been made new. You, me, this church, this city, this creation - made new by the One in whom all things are made.

Phillips Brooks said: *Let every man and woman count himself immortal. Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him say not merely, "Christ is risen," but "I shall rise."*

Let us with confidence claim our new lives, our new days, proclaiming as a new people, risen to new heights, the ancient words that echo down the centuries and illuminate the fullness of what has been done for us: *Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

Peace,
Joy +



A Last Note from our Seminarian

I first visited Gloria Dei in my first year of seminary as part of a Lutheran's in America course. We were visiting some of the oldest Lutheran sites in Philadelphia, and of course Gloria Dei was one of them. I remember thinking that with such rich history, Gloria Dei must be a fascinating congregation. Little did I know I would have the opportunity to get to know you during this year.

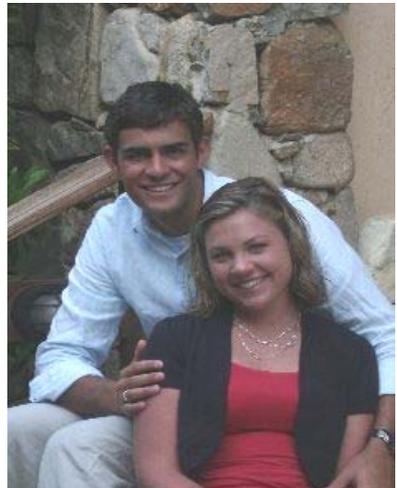
As a congregation you have certainly surpassed my expectations. It is so exciting to see you developing ecumenical partnerships with the nearby Methodist church to the point where you worship together at each other's churches. What a congregation full of fun activities and good fellowship. It has been such a privilege to hear your stories, to participate in worship, the Lucia Fest and the Lenten Soup and Study. It was a delight to join to at the Seaman's Church Institute at Christmas and see firsthand what a generous congregation you are.

I appreciate you welcoming me to the pulpit to preach many times and welcoming me into your community with such hospitality and grace. It is wonderful to see how well you blend such a deep history with new, fun events and ministries like Guatemala Sunday and the Valentine's Day breakfast.

I have been so impressed with your care for each other and for the children in your midst. It's great to see even the youngest of children having roles in worship so they grow up knowing they are an important part of the Gloria Dei family. I have deeply enjoyed getting to know you during this year and am so grateful for how welcoming and supportive you have been as I learned about worship and ministry at Gloria Dei. You are a wonderful teaching congregation and hope you will continue to use your gifts to help other seminarians gain such great experience.

My last Sunday at Gloria Dei will be April 18th, I hope to see many of you that day to thank you in person for all of your kindness and support. I thank God for this opportunity to learn, worship, and be in community with this congregation and wish you all the best as you continue to follow the Holy Spirit to new and exciting places.

Diana Booren



From the Hospitality Committee ...

Special thanks to all who continue to contribute their “time, talent, treasure” to our Sunday morning fellowship. For a few Sundays now, there have been goodies provided from the sign up sheets in Riverside Hall. We look forward to your continued support on the sign up sheets. Next, how about a hand helping to put out food, make a pot of coffee, or cleaning up?

Any suggestions or questions, please contact the “Two Busy Bs” Ann Blackstone (215-990-8776) or Peggy Buescher (267-456-4718).

Ann Blackstone and Peggy Buescher
for the Hospitality Committee



Camp Arrowhead

Kids are you interested in going to Summer Camp?

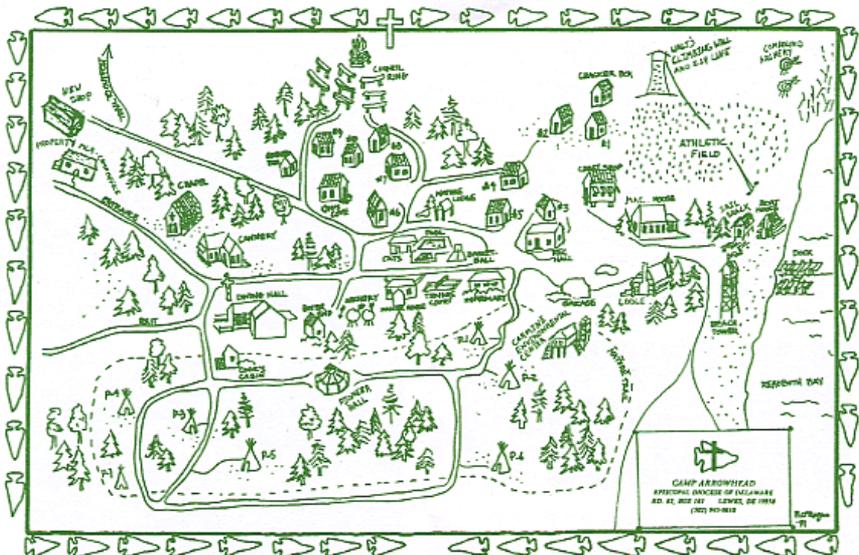
We are headed back to Camp Arrowhead.

Open to children entering 3rd through 9th grade.

Please contact Heather Myers for more information.

215-512-0363 or moosefamily@comcast.net

Visit www.camparrowhead.net for session dates.



Holy Week and Easter Schedule

March 28

Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Reading,
Holy Communion Rite II
9am and 11am

March 31

Wed. in Holy Week

Passover Seder for Christians
6:00pm

April 1

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday Liturgy,
Holy Communion, stripping of the altar
7:00pm

April 2

Good Friday

Easter Egg Preparation
10:00am
Good Friday Liturgy
Communion from the reserved sacrament
7:00pm

April 4

Easter Day

Easter Vigil, Holy Communion, Rite II
5:30am
Holy Communion, Rite II
9:00am
Easter Egg Hunt
10:00am
Holy Communion, Rite II
11:00am

All are welcome in the Lord's House



Prayer
Chain

Requests For Prayers Are Always Welcome

Please contact the church office (215) 389-1513
or Florence Brook (215) 271-1091,
(865) 585-4768, or fbrook529@hotmail.com

Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need

Wouldn't You Want to Know?

We attend a wonderful church. The people are warm and accepting and joyful. We have hard-working, dedicated individuals who happily do much of the congregational “heavy lifting” for us. We are blessed with a spirited, thoughtful pastor who has the ability to touch us each individually while encouraging the community we value so highly. Joy connects with us by speaking honestly and personally but she also calls on us to see the larger picture, to make whatever connection we can between our faith and the world around us, both near and far.

We have a Sunday school with beautiful, fun-loving children. We have a brilliant and inspirational church musician. We have great food. We have discussion groups and festivals and meals and entertainment.

We are very lucky to have one of the most picturesque and historically-important buildings in the country in which to worship. The church yard and other buildings are more beautiful and expansive than any other urban church could hope for.

I could go on, but in short, we have it good. Very good.

My family has been attending services and participating in other activities since December 2008. You still might not know us by name, and that is ok. (If you know us at all it is probably as Quinn, and Quinn's Dad and Quinn's Mom! - that's ok too.)

As people, and as a congregation, it is good for us to be humble, and it is sensible enough to let those who find us appreciate us as they will and reach their own level of connection. But one could also look at us and see a certain pride – a feeling that we are doing things the right way, which, when added to the blessings outlined above, may give rise to the view that anyone with any sense who happens to discover us will immediately want to join us. Maybe it is just me, but, however much I might wish to believe that our neighbors will find us, I am beginning to feel I am being complacent in not doing more to find *them*.

Whatever your role, whatever you contribute to the church, whatever you bring away from it, aren't you glad to be here? If you did not know about Gloria Dei, *wouldn't you want to know?*

What I am suggesting is often called “outreach.” I don't particularly like that term as it sounds very “business-speak,” but since we're talking business of a sort, we have to admit that there are very few people who will have the “happy accident” of finding us without other encouragement.

I would like to be proactive in telling people in the neighborhoods around us about Gloria Dei. I would like a few people to join me going door to door

and simply letting people know we are here. I am not suggesting anyone leave what Joy calls their “comfort zone” - I am looking for people who can bring their comfort zone with them. I have done this before and I won't lie and tell you that our efforts will be supremely successful. Or even slightly successful. But then, if you have the right mindset, what we will be doing is not particularly difficult. Look at it this way: we are not selling something, we are giving it away! And believing in what we are doing will make it that much easier.

Please join me to plan one or two Saturday mornings in May to go out and help people find us!

Ralph Johnson

215-922-6992 • r@ralhpsjohnson.com



Ding Dong Merrily on High!

It is always wonderful to have new toys with which to make a joyful noise! Gloria Dei will soon have a Three Octave set of Malmark 'Choir Chimes'. These are very much like handbells and are played exactly like handbells but are much easier on the budget.

What we will now need are people to play these new instruments! I am looking for those young and old (in between as well!) who would be willing to gather and practice for about one hour per week and present a piece of music once monthly or so. I am told a group of 10 is ideal for three octaves of bells. More, of course would be welcome and I wager fewer could also be made to sound well. We could start this in the summer, or wait until fall.

I invite those interested to find a moment with me so we can discuss logistics. You can find me always after church on Sundays, or call me at 609/462-9000, or email me at fej@fejko.com.

Enjoy the Spring!!

fej



Calendar

April 1 Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Holy Communion, stripping of the altar - 7:00PM

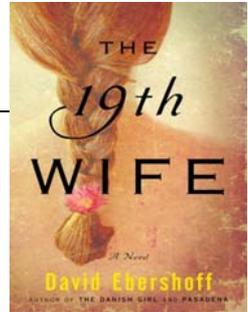
April 2 Easter Egg Preparation - 10:00AM
Good Friday Liturgy - Communion from the Reserved sacrament - 7:00PM

April 4 Easter Day
Easter Vigil, Holy Communion, Rite II - 5:30AM
Holy Communion Rite II - 9:00AM
Easter Egg Hunt - 10:00AM
Holy Communion Rite II - 11:00AM

April 7 Clericus Meeting - Riverside Hall - 9:30 - 11:30AM

April 11 Swedish Service 4:00PM

April 12 Book Club 7:00 PM - Riverside Hall
The 19th Wife
by David Ebershoff



April 13 Guatemala Meeting - Roak Room - 7:00PM

April 18 Norwegian Service - 4:00PM

April 21 Vestry Meeting - 7:00 PM - Roak Room

April 22 Jazz & Joe - 7:30 - 10:30PM - Riverside Hall

JAZZ & Joe
at Gloria Dei

April 29 Southwark Deanery Plenary Session - 6:30 - 8:30PM
- Riverside Hall

May 1 Yard Day - 8:00AM till ?

May 2 Annual Meeting - 1 service at 10:00AM - Meeting follows

The Lectionary for April

April 1st, Maundy Thursday

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 12:1-4,(S-10), 11-14

Psalm: 116:1, 10-17

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 2nd, Good Friday

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm: 22:1-11

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:1-25

Gospel: The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

April 4th, Easter Vigil

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only begotten son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Romans 6:3-11

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

April 4th, Easter Sunday

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Gospel: John 20:1-18

April 11th, Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty and everlasting god, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 5:27-32

Psalm: 118:14-29

2nd Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

Gospel: John 20:19-31

April 18th, Third Sunday of Easter

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Psalm: 30

2nd Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

Gospel: John 21:1-19

April 25th, Fourth Sunday of Easter

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Psalm: 23

2nd Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Gospel: John 10:22-30



Easter Egg Hunt • April 4th • 10 AM



Stewardship Committee

By the time you read this, the Christian Seder Dinner will be history. But the Stewardship Committee will have done its part to make that event a memorable one for its religious significance, its occasion of fellowship and friendship, and for its just plain good food. Thanks to everyone who helped, whether that help was in the kitchen, in the dining area, in foods contributed, or in participation.

The next “big thing” for Old Swedes is the May Flea Market ~ Saturday, May 22, 2010. The Stewardship Committee will be gearing up for its part in that. The Flea Market is certainly a place for “many hands.” There’s set up to do, all day, on Friday May 21, and all sorts of things to do on the 22nd – set up, sell sandwiches, baked goods, beverages, and pretzels, man the Church Table, and clean up. You can sign up to donate meatballs, chili, soups, baked goods, or soda and water, or you can donate funds to purchase those items. Sign-up sheets will appear in Riverside Hall.

Contributions of food and beverages is a big thing. But “hands” are needed as well. If you’ve never worked a Flea Market, talk to people who have – it’s hard work, no question about it, but it’s a great way to meet people in the parish. Putting hot dogs into rolls alongside someone for a couple of hours gives you a whole new perspective on that person!

There will be meetings of the Stewardship Committee on Sunday, April 25, 2010 – one meeting after the 9:00 AM service and another meeting after the 11:00 AM service. Pick the meeting that fits your schedule and pitch in!

Please join us if you can. And if you’d like to become a member of the Stewardship Committee in a more formal way, please contact Jerry Buescher (in person, or by phone at 215-432-4292, or by e-mail at jerome.buescher@gmail.com) or the rector, Joy Segal, in person or through the church’s office telephone number 215-389-1513.

Jerry Buescher for the Stewardship Committee



Fund Raisers and Repairs

Doesn't it seem like something is always needing repair? The heater, the roof, or the steeple. Things weren't any different in 1869. In fact things were so bad that summer that the Church was ordered closed from July 18th to September 12th. The pews were to be re-upholstered, a drain laid in the lower part of the yard, and a new Communion table replaced that which had been serving the purpose since 1846. The Vestry secured a \$1500 loan to cover the bills. In the Fall of 1869 a week long bazaar was held in the large Sunday School building, \$1200 was raised. The final repair bill was over \$2200. The \$1000 balance was covered by donations.

In 1881-82 better drainage was needed for the Church, the Sexton's house needed repair, the inside of the Church needed painting, the heater needed to be repaired again. In 1882 a fireproof vault was built into the South Vestibule of the Church for the preservation of the Church records and the safe-keeping of other valuables. The interior of the Church was repainted in 1886, new carpets were laid, and new gas fixtures put in for about \$800. Outside a brick wall bounding the Church property on Swanson Street was erected in 1898 at a cost of more than \$1400.

Outside the Church, the old burial ground, connected with the Shot Tower at Front and Carpenter Streets, was disposed of in 1872. The proceeds were divided between the original three Swedish Churches. In 1911 Gloria Dei purchased from the other two their share "in the property immediately adjoining its Churchyard on the north."

It's been a pleasure writing this column for the past three years, however recent history says it's time to move on. I hope these columns have given you a little insight into the rich history of the Church and colonial Philadelphia. Until next time . . .

Bob Josuweit



It has been a blessing to read Bob Josuweit's articles these past three years. He has a great gift for sharing our history and making it come alive for us and we will miss his voice in the Riverside. Thank you, Bob, for your wonderful contributions, for your time and dedication, and for encouraging us to cherish our history.

All Are Welcome

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend the Annual Meeting
Sunday May 2nd • 1 Service at 10am

Meeting after service will include committee reports and updates as to what is and has been going on at Gloria Dei for the last year.

This is also when we have our vestry elections.
Breakfast and Hospitality after the meeting.



Next Date: April 22nd

JAZZ & Joe

at Gloria Dei

Every fourth Thursday,
between the hours of 7:30 & 10:30

the Jack Alan Quartet

Parking Available • Admission: A Donation would be Appreciated • Coffee and Sweets Provided

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

Christian Street and Columbus Boulevard • Philadelphia, PA 19147 • 215-389-1513 • www.oldswedese.org

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Guatemala and Us

A mission to help one person at a time

A Heart Felt Thank You to all who supported our fund raising effort. With your help we have raised our “goal” of support for the scholarship children and doctor visits.

We DO make a difference!

There are still needs though, and the committee will be working throughout the year to bring you updates about what these may be, along with personal stories from our brothers and sisters in La Anunciacion and La Asencion.

Our next event will be the Flea Market table. Donations are much appreciated – so get your “stuff” together. For more information on donating please contact Heather Myers 215-512-0363

The Guatemala Committee

Guatemalan Coffee
\$10/Bag

The Guatemalan Coffee comes in approx. 1 pound bags; either whole or ground.

This is fair trade coffee and helps the San Lucas Toliman Project.

www.sanlucasmision.org is where you can find more info about the coffee and project.

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church thanks you for your generous support.

Witness Trees

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

BY YOUR GENEROUS OFFERING THE WORK & WORSHIP OF THIS, THE OLDEST CHURCH IN PENNSYLVANIA, IS PERPETUATED

This year the collections from our Lucia Fest services began a fund for the care and maintenance of the many trees on our property. Gloria Dei is over three hundred years old and many of the trees have witnessed much of its history. But many of them are in need of professional care if they are to continue to be a source of beauty and an integral part of our beautiful grounds.

These trees need your help so that they may continue to be our witnesses of history as it unfolds in this beloved place of sanctuary, worship, and community activity.

Glorious Trimmers: \$25 - \$99; **Swedish Pruners:** \$100 - \$199; **Philadelphia Defenders:** \$200 - \$499;
Extraordinary Arborists: \$500 and above; **Friends of Gloria Dei:** Any amount

Send donations to:

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church
Colonus Boulevard 42 Christian Street
Philadelphia, P.A. 19147



For information (915) 989-1515 www.odd-usa.org



Writer Needed

Our dedicated history writer, Bob Josuweit, has decided that after three years of wonderful contributions to our newsletter it is time to step down. (see Bob's last article in this issue)

So, we're looking for someone (or someones) who would be willing to eke out from the many resources available at Gloria Dei some interesting, entertaining, enlightening, and informing stories to share with our readers. We have a long and rich history and we want to continue to share it with our readers.

If you think you might like to contribute in this way please be in touch with Jeanette Woehr (jeanette@philarmh.org) or Pastor Joy (jsegal1214@aol.com).

Thanks, from the Rector and the History Committee



MEMORIAL CARDS in loving memory of:

Tony Romano

By: Marge Lord & Family
Joe & Dolores Collins
George & Donna Collins
Bert Kubiak

Ella Collins

Joe & Dolores Collins
Jack & Ginny Collins

Louise Collins

Doris Connor
Susan Lewandowski

In REMEMBRANCE of

Frank Corazo – 1954-2010

**A Statement of Purpose
of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes’) Church**

We the Congregation of GLORIA DEI (Old Swedes’) CHURCH, existing by and for the Glory of God, knowing that God, through this Congregation, helps us to find our way and to use our gifts, gather together

- To honor and celebrate the acceptance of our differences and uniqueness;
- To be an inviting, welcoming, sustaining, loving community;
- To respond to the needs of others;
- To preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition, and heritage of this sacred place.



Sunday Services:

9:00 & 11:00 AM

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday 9:30-2:30

CLERGY

The Very Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director
Terry O’Brien, Parish Administrator
Paula & James Minacci, Sextons
Candace Roberts, Dir. of Comm.
Mark Roberts, Treasurer; O.S.C.A.R.
Diana Booren, Seminarian

VESTRY

Jerome Buescher
Barbara Chilcott
Carl Delia
Dave Hammond
Diane Honor
Robert Jenkins
Dolores Kromchad
Heather Myers, Rector’s Warden
James Parsons
Lisa Reeves
James Ufheil, Acct. Warden
Jeanette Woehr, Secretary

STANDING NOTICES

Weddings

Weddings at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes’) Church must be scheduled with the clergy at least three months in advance. All weddings in the church will be governed by the Canons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Book of Common Prayer. Pre-marital counseling is a prerequisite. No weddings will be conducted during Lent.

Funerals

When death occurs a family member is asked to contact the clergy so that timely arrangements for a funeral may be made. It is appropriate for the funeral of a Christian to take place in the church. It is also appropriate that funeral arrangements be made in advance and kept in a file in the church office. Burial plots are available for members of the parish in the church’s cemetery. Consult the church office for costs and details.

Baptisms

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during one of the principle Sunday liturgies and is governed by the Canons of the church and the Book of Common Prayer. Baptism is normally celebrated on one of the four appropriate feast days designated in the Book of Common Prayer. These are: The Baptism of our Lord (1/10/10); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/4/10); Pentecost (5/23/10); and All Saints Sunday (11/7/10). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.