



THE WARDENS' WIRE ISSUE 3

Events for week of MARCH 5 -Lent 2

Sunday March 5 –

10.30 am Holy Communion
2 pm Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh service

Monday March 6

9.30-11.30 am Craft Circle
1.30-3 pm Friendship Group
7.30- Hamilton Schola Cantorum practice

Thursday March 9

5.30 pm Soup before
7.00 -7.30 pm Compline Service **

Friday March 10

1.30-3 pm Bible Study
6-9 pm AA group meets

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**St George's has offered Compline services during Lent for many years (excluding those pandemic years) Preceded by a simple meal of soup and a bun/bread ... Please join us – usually a fairly small group – and enjoy fellowship before the service which begins at 7 pm (coming to the service only is quite acceptable). Compline – an ancient service of quietness and reflection before the end of the day and 'is most effective when the ending is without additions, conversation and noise ' ... *not sure if our we can manage to leave without conversation !!.*

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PANCAKESThanks to Sandy, Rev Bob, Mel, Pam W, Michael W , Pamela, James, Ann, Carl, Thomas L, Louise, Alan and special thanks to Janet for the donation of pure maple syrup, and Linda P for the huge bowl of apple sauce.... A great event after 3 years,

As we have pancake mix and syrup left, we will be making pancakes the Sunday after Easter for those staying for lunch.

Events for Week of March 12 – Lent 3

Sunday March 12 **daylight saving time

10.30 am Morning Prayer
2. 00 pm Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh service

Monday March 13

9.30-11.30 am Craft Circle
1.30-3 pm Friendship Group
7.30 pm HSC choir practice
7-.00-9.00 pm AWWCA board meeting

Tuesday March 14

10.30 am Vestry meeting

Thursday March 16

5.30 pm Soup dinner
7.00 pm Compline Service

Friday March 17

1.30 – 3.00 pm Bible Study
6.00- 9.00 pm AA group meets

Saturday March 18

4 pm-6.15pm Movie Night ***
'Miracles from Heaven'

**MOVIE & PIZZA

This month we are showing Miracles from Heaven., an American Christian faith-based movie - a true story of a young girl with an incurable disease who had a near-death experience

Sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

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HAMILTON SCHOLA CANTORUM – a beautiful Evening prayer service was held on Feb 13th = thanks to these talented choristers and Director you won't want to miss their next event at St George's, later in the Spring.



MUSIC FOR LENT

If I were to say that I completely understand the music behind Bach's Matthew Passion it wouldn't be true. But I do know what I love. Sometimes that is enough when it comes to music. It changes my mood and overrides everything else. The soaring music, the words. They work as a whole. It was first performed at Good Friday Vespers in 1736 at St. Thomas's Church in Leipzig. It is as potent today as it was then.

That is how it works for me with both Bach's Christmas Oratorio and his Matthew Passion. One for Christmas and the other for Easter, both of them tying up the Christian journey.

I often listen to it when I get up. Bach's music fills my tiny cottage and bounces off the walls. It lends me some of the power that Bach must have felt when he wrote it. It's a good beginning to the day and it is a powerful way to spend some time during Lent. In particular I like the line when the singer says "I will watch beside my Jesus."

The disciples had fallen asleep even though Jesus had asked them to stay right with Him. It speaks of a tender Love, the way the singer refers to Him as "my Jesus."

And maybe that's our job at Lent, to watch beside our Jesus as the drama builds and the tension gets ready to burst into the story that will change world history forever.

There is a huge omission in Bach's Matthew Passion however and it has put some people against the telling of it. He has made no reference to the Resurrection which we believe completes the Story and fulfills Hope. The mission remains incomplete until we understand that His job on the cross was to save us from ourselves by bringing us to Himself. For my part I'll go with the National Public Radio telling of it with Tom Huizenga. He declares that Bach could have left his listeners in a sorrowful mood after the final chorus but Bach knew that "they would be celebrating the Resurrection in just a few days."

If you would like to borrow my CD I'd love to share it. I'll bring it to you next Sunday if you like and then perhaps you could pass it along to someone else the following Sunday who might like to hear it. There are some of you who will be happy to know that the libretto is also written in German and French as well as English.

Judy

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BUNNY BAGS !! These bright coloured grocery bags are at the church with a list of necessary items needed - our second collaboration with Crossfire to provide for the needy in Hamilton. Thanks to Jo-Anne for organizing this Lenten project.

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HOLD THE DATE: SATURDAY MAR.25 QUIET DAY Details to come

HONING IN ON HYMNS.....

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL (Horatio Spafford/Philip Bliss)

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

chorus

It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul)

It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come

Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And has shed His own blood for my soul

My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul.

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Horatio Spafford's life (1828-1888) was one of tragedy
A Presbyterian layman and lawyer from Chicago was ruined financially in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and in the same year his four year old son died of pneumonia . To help his wife and family recover, a trip to England was booked to work with D.L. Moody's evangelistic campaigns. While Horatio settled business in the US, his wife and four daughters went ahead of him. Crossing the Atlantic the ship was in a collision and sank killing more than 200 people - all four of his daughters died. His wife's telegram said only "Saved alone, What shall I do?". He immediately set off for England. When passing the area of the fatal collision he was inspired to write the words of this beautiful hymn. Three more children were born to Anna and in 1873 the Spaffords moved to Jerusalem. There they developed a philanthropic society helping Christians, Muslims and Jews. In 1888 Horatio died of malaria. Anna continued to work in Jerusalem and Jerusalem and died in 1923. Both are buried in Jerusalem.



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