

thanksgiving for your Mom, Grandmother, or a special someone who has been like a Mom in your life. Please fill out the form that is available in the Sunday bulletin. Return the form to the church office, or place in the Sunday offering plate, with a donation of \$5 for each rose you would like to dedicate. **Requests need to be in by Sunday, May 4.** On Sunday, May 11, we will have special bouquets of roses in the sanctuary honoring all the “Moms” in our lives. After the 11:00 service on Mother’s Day you are welcome to take the rose(s) that you dedicated to enjoy. Your dedications will appear in Dragon News on May 11. Happy Mother’s Day! (Extra forms are on the parish hall table.)

Understanding Islam, a five-part series designed to explore the rich cultural heritage offered by this faith tradition, and make us conscious of the challenges our Muslim brothers and sisters face in this country and beyond (May 3, 10, 15, 17 & 29) will be offered by the York Diversity Forum along with the York High School Civil Rights Team. First up on Saturday, May 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., *What is Islam?* Bates anthropologist Heather Lindkvist will give a presentation on the basic tenants of Islam and the Koran. Since 2001, she has conducted ethnographic fieldwork among the Muslim community in Lewiston. She is also a member of an interdisciplinary research group conducting a comparative study of Islam in the United States. Discussion will follow. Samples of foods from Islamic culture and tradition will be available at all programs. All five sessions in the series will be held at the York Public Library and admission is free.

Schedule for St. George’s This Week

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - Hispanic Ministry
Wednesday: 12 noon - **Deadline:** *April 27 bulletin*
6:30 p.m. - Divorce/Separation group meeting
Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist & Healing
7:00 p.m. - Parish Choir rehearsal

Serving the Southern Maine Seacoast Region

POB 364 / 407 York Street, York Harbor, Maine 03911
Phone: (207) 363-7376 Fax: (207) 363-6886
Email: office@stgeorges-yorkharbor.org
Website www.stgeorges-yorkharbor.org

The Rev. Paige M. Blair, *Rector*; The Rev. Steven Godfrey, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Sudie Blanchard, *Deacon*; The Rev. Aaron Perkins, *Deacon*
Kathy Fink, *Music Director/Organist*; Lorrie Whittaker, *Parish Administrator*



Dragon News
Weekly Notices
Week of April 20, 2008

EVENTS, DATES & ACTIVITIES

Hispanic Ministry. This Sunday, April 20, 10:00 a.m., the Rev. Virginia Marie Rincon, Hispanic Missioner in our diocese, will be with us to tell us about her work with *Tengo Voz* (I have voice). *Tengo Voz* is a grassroots organization committed to assisting Latino women and their families in the greater Portland area by offering help with finding jobs and housing, domestic violence prevention and referral, spiritual direction, as well as educational and cultural support. Virginia Marie also serves as priest to Mission San Luca, the growing and vibrant Hispanic congregation that meets at St. Luke’s Cathedral in Portland. If you have read the lead article in the February “Northeast” (our diocesan newspaper) you know that Virginia Marie is an informed and passionate advocate for the immigrant population in Maine and beyond. You won’t want to miss this event.

Special Ingathering on Sunday, April 20, for the retirement of Bishop Chilton Knudsen. It is customary for the people of the Diocese to present a new Bishop with his or her pectoral cross. Bishop-Elect Stephen Lane has chosen to use Bishop Oliver Loring’s pectoral cross, which is being rehabilitated now. It is also customary to have a portrait made of the retiring Bishop. Bishop Knudsen has selected well-known Maine portrait artist Ron Frontin to do her portrait, which will hang in the Cathedral upper hall with portraits of Maine’s previous Bishops. *Bishop Knudsen has made it clear that she does not want a purse in connection with her retirement.* If any funds are received by this ingathering in excess of those needed for the pectoral cross and portrait, those funds will be designated for Bishop Lane’s discretionary fund.

Please use the specially-marked envelope in your Sunday bulletin if you wish to make a contribution. Please make your check out to “Diocese of Maine” and put “Transition Fund” on the memo line of the check.

Youth Classes. Godly Play & Godly Time: April 20: Circle of the Holy Eucharist. April 27: Symbols of the Holy Eucharist.

BeadforLife jewelry makes a wonderful gift! BeadforLife jewelry will be available for purchase this Sunday, April 20, after all services. Please come by to take a look at this amazing jewelry. It is beautiful, affordable, and helps women in Uganda become self-

sufficient. To learn more visit www.beadforlife.org. Please contact Heather Hesse-Stromberg (603-335-2327 or heatherh-s@msn.com) with any questions.

Clean Water Action. All are invited to the third annual New Hampshire Folk Festival on Saturday, April 26, 8:00 p.m., at South Church, 292 State Street, Portsmouth. The seacoast's own Cormac McCarthy will headline the festival, along with rising stars Antje Duvokot and Jake Armerding with his band. A percentage of the proceeds will benefit Clean Water Action! Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. FMI about the festival or to purchase tickets online, go to <http://www.ticketbiscuit.com/CuzinRichard/EventPage.aspx?EID=18054> or call 603-436-8596. Tickets are also available at *Paradiza*, 63 Penhallow St., at *RiverRun Bookstore*, 20 Congress St., and at *Cuzin Richard's office*, 93 High St. in Portsmouth.

Maine Sea Coast Mission. On Sunday, April 27, the Rev. Gary A. DeLong, Executive Director of the Maine Sea Coast Mission will be with us. He will preach at 7:45 and 11:00, and lead the spiritual formation discussions at 9:00 and 10:00. The Maine Sea Coast Mission is a non-denominational, faith-based organization which provides for the physical and spiritual needs of the island communities in Penobscot Bay and the mainland communities of Washington County. They have been doing this work for more than 100 years, and continue to develop new, innovative programs to meet the needs of the people they serve. Half of our special Easter offering went to the Maine Sea Coast Mission as part of our outreach effort

AIDS Walk. Time to start planning to participate in the annual AIDS Response Seacoast AIDS Walk, one of their most important fundraisers each year. Mark your calendar for Sunday, May 4, 2:00 p.m. (registration at 1:00 p.m. at 1 Junkins Ave., Portsmouth). St. George's always sends a large contingent—let's continue that tradition. (Remember, dogs can walk, too!) Lauren Segalla 363-8642 and Abbie Duquette 363-2556 are the St. George's Team coordinators, contact them for more info, or go to <http://aidsresponse.kintera.org/walk08>. Notice the beautiful display in the parish hall, also.

Parishioner Linda Fry is looking to share a residence temporarily in exchange for cleaning and driving assistance and contributing to household expenses. Please contact Linda at 641-7819 or the Rector at 363-7376.

United Thank Offering (UTO). During the month of April you will find the UTO display in the church, including information, placemats, bookmarks, and new and additional little blue boxes. Please help yourself. Our formal ingathering will be April 27; however, you are welcome to place your UTO envelope in the offering plate anytime during April. There are UTO envelopes in the pew racks. Please count the coins in your box and write a check for the total, putting "UTO" on the memo line. Thankfulness is a wonderful habit.

The parish administrator will be on vacation May 1-7. This will not affect weekly deadlines for Dragon News or the Sunday bulletin.

"Berwicks Church." Do you live in South Berwick or Berwick, North Berwick or Eliot or in that general neck of the woods? As many as twenty St. George's parishioners are gathering the last Thursday of each month at 5:45 at the First Parish Federated Church in South Berwick (on Route 4/236, across from the Dunkin Donuts). We meet in the "Vestry" or fellowship hall under the sanctuary to celebrate the Eucharist in a simple, kid-friendly way and then share potluck supper. The next gatherings will be April 24 and May 29. Everyone is welcome. Come drive across Route 91 and join us! Invite friends too, especially folks who live in or near the Berwicks who might not have found St. George's because it's a little to far to drive.

Sing Into Spring on May 18, 7:00 p.m. This will be our next musical evening. We will vote on our favorite Easter/spring hymns, so look for the ballots in your Sunday bulletins in the near future. Live musical acts will perform, interspersed with the winning hymns that we will all sing together. It will be another fun evening of music and fellowship. Would you like to perform? Can you sing or play an instrument? Alone or in a duet/trio/group? Music Director Kathy Fink would like to hear from you right away! Sign up in the parish hall.

Since 1993 St. George's has been in a Covenant Church relationship with the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity, Habitat for Humanity York County. As a Covenant Church we are committed to providing support through prayer, through financial resources and most especially by giving of our time and talent. Since 1985, Habitat for Humanity York County has completed 22 homes and housed more than 100 people with the help of volunteers. Two years ago our local affiliate participated on Blitz Build 2006 building the Peverill family home in Shapleigh in just one week. It went so well the first time HfHYC has decided to do it again! **Blitz Build 2008 will take place May 31st-June 7th on the Gebung Road in Alfred.** The Family Selection Committee is currently interviewing families who submitted applications for consideration. Douston Construction is leading the coordination on this project and they have teamed up with skilled local subcontractors to produce a top-quality home. Habitat for Humanity York County is very excited to team up with Douston to produce its 23rd home. FMI about Blitz Build 2008 and our local project visit <http://www.habitatyorkcounty.org/>. There are many ways to be involved in Habitat for Humanity, from serving on committees, to volunteering on work sites, or helping to raise funds to cover the cost of building homes for families who have no other way to become homeowners in York County, Maine. FMI about how you can support this important ministry contact HfHYC at P.O. Box 267, Kennebunk, ME 04043 or call (207) 985-4850.

Mother's Day Roses. This year we are again giving everyone the opportunity to "remember Mom" on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11. You can purchase a rose, in memory of or in
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