



OCTOBER 1, 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

A Heart Full Of Thanksgiving

What a magnificent day September 15, 2007 was for me! Fifteen St. Thomas' parishioners made the trek to New York City to attend my ordination to the priesthood at The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. Their presence and the prayers of the rest of the community made the day that much more memorable, special and blessed.

I am so excited about this coming time together as I serve as your assistant rector. I look forward to our journey. Thank you for your support, encouragement, excitement and prayers.

God's Blessings on all of you.

John+



Feed the Hungry Sundays Have Moved

You may have noticed that Feed the Hungry envelopes are appearing on your chairs on the third Sunday of each month rather than the first Sunday. In May, the Outreach Committee decided to move Feed the Hungry Sunday to the third Sunday of the month to coincide with House of Ruth Sunday. The donations that we collect each month in the Feed the Hungry envelopes will be given to the following organizations on a rotating basis:

Charlie's Place, Open Table/Church of the Pilgrims, Loaves and Fishes, So Others Might Eat (SOME), Bread for the City, Martha's Table

If you would like to have any cash donations you make included in the yearly tax receipt you receive

from the parish, please put your name on the outside of the envelope. Your donations mean a lot to these small, grass roots organizations, and we thank you for participating in our Feed the Hungry program.

– The Outreach Committee

Sacred Grounds: Oktoberfest!

7:00 pm — Evening Prayer on steps of the old altar

8:00 pm to Midnight — Oktoberfest celebration

Come join us Friday, Oktober 5 as we celebrate the marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese of Saxe–Hildburghausen. We will eat, drink, and be merry. As a special treat, those who wear Lederhosen will be rewarded with their very own Sacred Grounds beer stein!

Sacred Grounds, a monthly event held at St. Thomas' (Episcopal) Parish, invites Christians and those exploring their spirituality in their 20s & 30s to come and socialize with people from around the city. We always have plenty of free food and drink. Free parking is available at the side of the church.

All are welcome!

Contact Dustin Cole at (202) 441-0907 dustindc@gmail.com for more information.

Arts in the Park — Saturday, October 20

All are invited to St. Thomas' third annual "Arts in the Park" arts show **October 20**. It promises to be a fun night under the stars where you can see creative works by many local artists, hear live music, and dance. There will be a fun art/workroom for the children in attendance. Delicious treats and wine will be provided. We are looking for more artists to participate in the show so please pass the word on to any creative types you know. For more info or to get involved please e-mail Dustin Cole at dustindc@gmail.com

St. Thomas Foliage Hike in George Washington and Jefferson National Forest

Join us **Saturday, October 27, 2007** for a circuit hike to Duncan Knob atop Catback Mountain, one of the many ridges that make up Massanutten Mountain. This hike lets you become familiar with the ridges and valleys of this great mountain in Virginia, just west of Shenandoah National Park. The color should be at about peak!

This hike of just under 9 miles, will cover approximately 2,240 vertical feet, and takes around six hours, including breaks. We will carpool from the church parking lot at **8:00 am SHARP** and drive to the trail head near New Market, VA off of Interstate 81.

Bring plenty of water, pack a lunch, dress in layers, and wear appropriate footwear. Clouds and sprinkles will not deter us. Have a favorite verse or poem about God's earth and the gift of nature? Bring it to share at rest breaks. This will be a smoke-free, cell-phone free event.

Please sign up on the bulletin board at church. For further information, call Jerry Donahoe at (202) 543-1339.

House of R_{uth} : We Need U

The House of Ruth is a women's shelter that has multiple locations throughout Washington, DC. On the **third Sunday of every month** St. Thomas provides you with a terrific opportunity to help women and children in the DC area at their Madison House location on 10th Street, NE. We spend two hours helping prepare meals and the night's dinner for 60 women in the kitchen. Please **meet at 10:00 am** in the lobby of the church and we'll have you back before noon. If are able to attend or able to purchase food items please contact Chris Parker Hunt at (301) 318-7877 to get involved.

Honduras Coordinating Committee "Fiesta"

The Diocesan Honduras Coordinating Committee will hold a "Honduras Fiesta" **from 6:30 to 9:30 pm on Thursday, November 8** at The Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 633 Sligo Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

There will be Central American food, beverages, and live music and an address by The Rt. Rev. Lloyd Allen, Bishop of Honduras. A video presentation of the recent mission trip to Honduras will be followed by a question period for congregations to learn how they can become more involved in reaching out to our brothers and sisters in Christ in Honduras.

Ample parking is available on side streets and at the school, located on Silver Spring Avenue behind the church. RVSPs are not necessary but helpful. For further information, call the Ascension parish office at (301) 587-3272.

2007 Pledge Statements Have Been Distributed

The parish recently mailed out contribution statements to parishioners who have pledged for the 2007 fiscal year. The Finance Committee appreciates everyone who took the time to review their contribution statement and alert us to possible errors. We take our obligation to the parish for accurate record keeping seriously. We will follow-up and correct any errors brought to our attention. The parish plans to continue to send contribution statements on a quarterly basis. Thanks to all parishioners for their generous contributions.