



The Circuit Rider

Life in the Big Bend Episcopal Mission – March 2009

St. James' to Celebrate 100 Years



On the weekend of April 25th and 26th, St. James' Church will celebrate its 100 year anniversary. In February, a group of parishioners met after church to plan the festivities. Laura Butler has graciously agreed to be coordinator for the events. If you would like to help, contact Laura or the Vicar.

The Southeast Deanery of the Diocese of the Rio Grande will hold its April meeting at St. Paul's on Saturday the 25th. Members will be present for the anniversary celebration as will The Rt. Rev William Frey, Retired Bishop of Colorado who is currently



acting as our Assisting Bishop. Bishop Frey will be available for confirmations. If you are interested in confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church, please let the Vicar know. Look for more details on the celebration in next month's Circuit Rider.

Focus Group Weighs in on Bishop Selection Process



On Monday evening, February 16th, a group of Big Bend Mission parishioners met with The Rev. Canon Carol McGowan at the home of Lon and Dedie Taylor in Ft. Davis. The meeting was one of a series of meetings around the diocese sponsored by the search committee for a new

Bishop for the Diocese of the Rio Grande. The group was asked to answer five questions about the diocese and about the characteristics of our next Bishop. Dinner and some lively discussion followed the meeting. As data coordinator for the search committee, Dedie Taylor collected answers from all of the meetings around the diocese. Many thanks to the Taylors for their hospitality.



Lenten Study at Casa de la Rosa

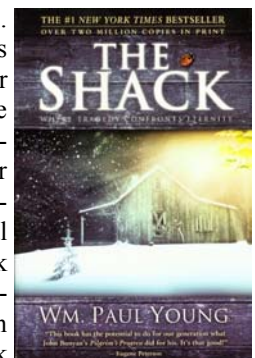
This year the Lenten study series for the Big Bend Mission will take place at Casa de la Rosa in Ft. Davis on Tuesday eve-



nings starting at 6:00pm with a pot-luck supper. The first session will be on March 3rd. Join us to study Lenten concepts using photo-language. No reading or preparation is required. The material is not sequential. Come to any or all sessions. For directions, contact Tom Graf at 432/386-7677 or tgraf11@gmail.com. If you need assistance with transportation, contact the Vicar.

Terlingua Discusses The Shack

Members of Sts. Mary and Joseph's Church and other members of the Terlingua community will gather during Lent to discuss the national best selling book *The Shack*. Discussion will begin with a pot-luck supper on Wednesday evening, March 18th at 6pm. For information on location, contact the Vicar at 371-2255. This will be a "read as you go" project, so get yourself a copy of the book and join in.



"Jesus has turned all of our sunsets into dawns."

Clement of Alexandria - 150 A.D.

Stations of the Cross



The Stations of the Cross are a series of devotional events depicting the final hours of Jesus' life on earth. The tradition as chapel devotion began with St. Francis of Assisi in the medieval period. These devotions may be done at any time, but are most commonly done during the Season of Lent, especially on Good Friday and on Friday evenings during Lent. The stations are:

1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus takes up his cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets His afflicted Mother
5. The cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene
6. A woman wipes the Face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls a second time
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls a third time
10. Jesus is stripped of His garments
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. The Body of Jesus is placed in the arms of His mother.
14. Jesus is laid in the tomb.

Stations of the Cross during Lent in the Big Bend Mission

Casa de la Rosa, Ft. Davis
Fridays starting at 6:00pm

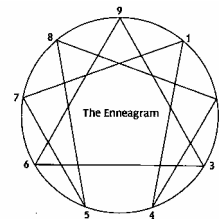
St. James', Alpine
Thursdays starting at 5:15pm

“A whole stack of memories never equals one little hope.”

Charles M. Schultz

Thoughts on The Enneagram

Author Eckhard Tolle has said, “When you live in a world deadened by mental abstraction, you don't sense the aliveness of the universe anymore. Most people don't inhabit a living reality, but a conceptualized one.” The Enneagram teaches that there are nine basic ways of processing reality. Until we see that no one has the complete picture, and all of us see according to our own bias, we can never catch a glimpse of life as it really is right now in the present moment. The Enneagram helps us to confront our “conceptualized reality” and offers us a way through to the living reality we inhabit.



Space in the Enneagram workshop in August is filling up. Now would be a good time to make your reservation. Suzanne and Joe Stabile, of Life in the Trinity Ministry will help us understand the Enneagram. The workshop dates are August 7-9, 2009. The cost is \$75 per person including meals. Scholarships are available. If you have questions, or would like to sign up for the workshop, contact The Threshold at tgraf11@gmail.com or call Casa de la Rosa at 432-386-7677.

Last Month's Question: Who was Saint Patrick?

Answer: St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born into a Christian family somewhere on the northwest coast of Britain in about 390. At about the age of sixteen, he was captured by a band of Irish slave-raiders and carried off to Ireland where he was forced to serve as a shepherd. He subsequently he escaped and returned to Britain to be trained as a Christian and take holy orders. He returned to Ireland as a missionary and is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland.

This Month's Question: What is The House of Bishops?

Dear Hankie - Advice to the lovelorn and spiritually downtrodden

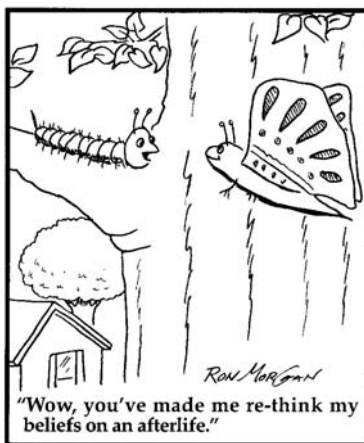


Hankie is in seclusion this month. She is disappointed that no family pets have written in with spiritual questions. She is trying not to take it personally. She knows how easy it is to avoid the hard questions. So, send a picture of your pet and their spiritual question to Hankie c/o seth@equimax.com, or give Seth a message when you see him. There are no unimportant or dumb questions. If you don't have a picture to provide, just send a question.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil that seek to rule the world.

This is True: “To me is given all authority in heaven and on earth, a lo, I am with you always to the end of the world.”

From “An Affirmation of Faith from South Africa”



“Wow, you've made me re-think my beliefs on an afterlife.”

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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