

THE APOSTLE

April 2024

The Sunday Morning Book Club

Alleluia!! Christ is Risen Indeed!!

In my estimation, our Lenten book group, which explored Graham Greene’s novel *The Power and the Glory*, was a great success. Our discussions were well attended and lively, and I hope others enjoyed them as much as I did. Last year, we had another great series of discussions on the book, *A Post-Covid Catechesis* by Victor Lee Austin. Both sets of discussions were held on Sunday mornings after church in the memorial room. This seems to be a convenient and congenial time to do such things. I hope to keep the magic going. So: you are all cordially invited to **Holy Apostle’s Sunday Morning Book Club**. While we’re at it, you’re invited to invite other people as well. If you have a friend, family member, or neighbor who might be interested, invite them along. They are more than welcome to come to church first, or join us afterward. There will be plenty of coffee and donuts to go around. This is a place to belong, and that means creating unique and various opportunities for people to engage.

We’re starting at what I hope is a leisurely pace of one book every one or two months. Discussions will be on a Sunday during the month that (hopefully) doesn’t conflict with anything else. If that schedule doesn’t seem to work for us, we’ll change it. It’s ours and we can do what we want. As always, you can attend the discussions without reading (or finishing) the book and vice versa. We are pretty laid-back people, I think. There are certainly no book club dragons among us, which is a selling point when you invite all your bookish friends and neighbors.

T.S. Eliot famously wrote that “April is the cruelest month” so we won’t discuss any books in April. April can be a reading month and we’ll jump right into discussion on the first Sunday of May (second Sunday is Mother’s Day, third is Vestry meeting, and fourth is Memorial Day, phew, there goes May).

I’ve chosen a couple of books to get started. I’ve also received a wonderful recommendation, which will be the June book. You can easily acquire these books online. You might try Bookshop.org, or Amazon (if you really must). I love brick and mortar bookstores, though, and I can recommend visiting Narberth Bookshop. I know they currently have the July selection, and they would be happy to order the other two for you with no shipping fees. *(continued on p. 5)*

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Inserts:

April Parish Prayer List
April-May-June Outreach Calendar

April 2024

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
HE = Holy Eucharist MP = Morning Prayer	1 <i>Office Closed</i>	2	3	4	5	6
	7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM AA Meeting 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 11AM Bible Study 7:30PM Compline	7:30PM Compline	9:30AM Parish Hall Setup 7:30PM Compline
7 <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>	8 <i>The Annunciation (Transferred)</i>	9	10	11	12	13
9AM Family Eucharist 10AM HE Rite 2 & Baptism 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 6:30PM HE Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 11:30AM Project Share Lunch 7:30PM AA Meeting 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 11AM Bible Study 7:30PM Compline	7:30PM Compline	9:00AM Pockets of Hope 7:30PM Compline
14 <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20
8AM Parish Hall Setup 9AM Family Eucharist 10AM HE Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM AA Meeting 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 9:30AM Darby Food Giveaway Delivery—Pasta Sauce 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 11AM Bible Study 7:30PM Compline	7:30PM Compline	9:30AM Parish Hall Setup 10AM Choir Practice 7:30PM Compline
21 <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>Feast of St Mark, Evangelist</i>	26	27
9AM Family Eucharist 10AM HE Rite 2 11:30AM Vestry Mtg 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 11:30AM Project Share Lunch 7:30PM AA Meeting 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 11AM Bible Study 5PM May "Apostle" Submissions Due 7:30PM Compline	7:30PM Compline	9:30AM Parish Hall Setup 7:30PM Compline
28 <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	29	30				<i>Special Events</i>
9AM Family Eucharist 10AM HE Rite 2 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 12:30PM Newsletter Mailing 7:30PM Compline	9:15AM MP Rite 2 7:30PM AA Meeting 7:30PM Compline				



April Birthdays

06 Kiersten Wertz Lopez
Robbie Zorc
09 Emma Gallagher
16 Lisa Ferreri

17 Drew Meiers
19 Pat Dyer
22 Michael Avis
26 Judi Kraft

28 Fr. James Stambaugh
Bryan Houck
Shawn Houck
29 Jim Jervis

FAMILY EUCHARIST - SUNDAYS @ 9AM IN THE PARISH HALL

Our **FAMILY EUCHARIST** service is designed for families with young children, but everyone is welcome. Each week's thoughtful message encourages participation from all who are present. Donuts and coffee are available before, during and after the service.

DAILY OFFICE

MORNING PRAYER is held in the church **at 9:15AM Monday through Thursday**. This 15-20 minute service is an excellent way to start your day. Please make plans to join us as you are able! If you cannot join us in person, you can always hold Morning Prayer on your own beginning on p. 75 in the BCP.

COMPLINE is held via Zoom **every night beginning at 7:30PM**. The link can be found in the weekly Acts of the Apostles email and on the back page of this newsletter. Or contact the church office for assistance: office@holypostlespa.org

DATES OF NOTE

BAPTISM OF BRYSON LANE MCWILLIAMS - SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH @ 10AM SERVICE

Join us for a joyful baptismal service as we welcome the grandson of Suzanne and David Lees into the household of God. Bryson is the son of Nick and Heather Lees McWilliams who were married at Holy Apostles by Fr. James on New Year's Eve 2021.

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION - MONDAY, APRIL 8TH @ 6:30PM

Join us for a celebration of Holy Eucharist - in person or via livestream - on this special day commemorating the announcement by the angel Gabriel to Mary that she would be the mother of God's Son, Jesus (Luke 1:26-38). The Annunciation is traditionally celebrated on March 25, but as that date fell within Holy Week this year, the celebration has been moved to the first available date after Holy Week and Easter Week.

POCKETS OF HOPE - SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH @ 9:00AM

The Pockets of Hope group will be using the Parish Hall on Saturday, April 13TH between 9AM and Noon. All are welcome to join them for their sewing project! (On "Pockets of Hope" weekends we do Family Eucharist setup at 8AM on Sunday morning).

DARBY FOOD GIVEAWAY - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH @ 9:30AM

On Wednesday, April 17th, we will be transporting our collection of pasta sauce to the Darby Rec Center for distribution. We could use assistance moving the items from the Outreach closet in the narthex to the delivery vehicles. With your assistance, this task takes about a half hour.

MAY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE - THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH BY 5PM

All submissions gratefully accepted!

MAY NEWSLETTER MAILING - MONDAY, APRIL 29TH @ 12:30PM

There's always room for more helpers in the Memorial Room for a session of folding, stuffing, stamping and labeling. Come join the fun!

Window Replacement Project

Last month, we let you know that the window replacement project was finally going to get started. Well, as happens with these types of things—there were some delays. But NOW you can see the evidence of the project getting underway with the dumpster and supply container that are taking up a bit of room in the parking lot.

As of this writing, we don't have a schedule in hand yet for which windows will be replaced on which days—but we'll do our best to keep you informed in the weekly "Acts of the Apostles" email as we make our way to the finish line.

In the meantime, we can tell you this:

- Architectural Windows' installation team is expected to begin replacement work during the week of April 1st.
- The entire project is expected to take about a month. Expect delays in the event of severe weather.
- The installers' work day runs from approximately 7:30am to 5pm and they will be working some weekends.
- There may be a Sunday or two when the Parish Hall is unavailable for coffee hour. Pray for gorgeous April weather so we can gather outside should that be the case.



Thank you for your patience and understanding. Please excuse our mess!



Here we see Jim Jarvis performing his weekly sweeping of the ever-present sweet gum balls that fall all over the walkways and driveway. No matter how many times they're swept up—next week there are more!

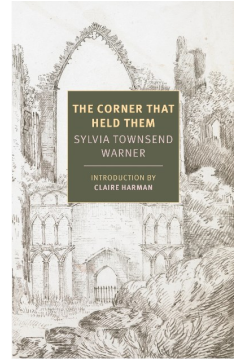


The Sunday Morning Book Club (continued)

(continued from p. 1)

May: *The Corner that Held Them* by Sylvia Townsend Warner

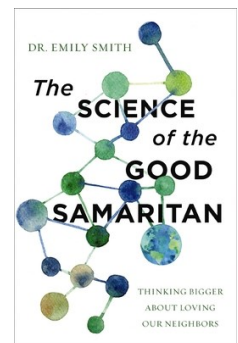
Sylvia Warner was a remarkable English writer and musicologist who died in the 1970s. She's most known for her super weird and witchy proto-feminist novel, *Lolly Willowes*. *A Corner that Held Them*, first published in 1948, is equally eccentric and unlike any novel before or after it. It is set in a convent in medieval England during a time marked by outbreaks of the Bubonic Plague. It's about the seemingly boring—but actually fascinating (no really!)—lives of the residents of the convent over the course of centuries. It's going to be a total hoot, but don't get too attached to any one character... *A Corner that Held Them* (and *Lolly Willowes*) has been reprinted in a beautiful paperback by the NYRB Classics, which is probably my favorite publishing endeavor. They really know how to make a paperback.



Discussion May 5

June: *The Science of the Good Samaritan: Thinking Bigger about Loving our Neighbors* by Emily Smith

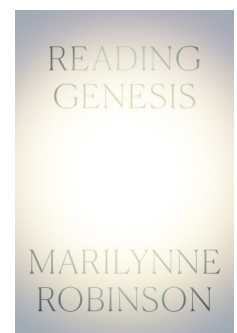
Thanks to Rosemary Hughes for this recommendation. Emily Smith is an epidemiologist (a field close to my heart since a dear family member is also one). She's the person who was catapulted to internet fame (with all the attendant horrors) for her Facebook page, "The Friendly Neighbor Epidemiologist." She's also a Christian, and this book represents her practical, ethical, and theological thinking about the Second Great Commandment in light of her research as a scientist, and her experience of the pandemic. *The Science of the Good Samaritan* is published by Zondervan.



Discussion June 30

July: *Reading Genesis* by Marilynne Robinson

You read my descriptions of the first two books and began to wonder if the common thread was "terrible diseases," but that would be false. The common thread is "*incredibly smart and talented women whose written work deals with faith but does not try to silo faith and religion from all the richness and variousness of life.*" Marilynne Robinson is widely acclaimed as one of America's greatest living novelists and essayists. Her books include *Housekeeping*, *Gilead*, and *Home*. She retired from teaching at the Iowa Writer's Workshop, after doing much to make it one of the most prestigious writing programs in the country. She is also a committed Christian and writes about her faith brilliantly. Her newest book, just published to wide acclaim, is *Reading Genesis*. It promises to be a fascinating and rollicking interpretation of the book of Genesis that presents the text in all its richness, without falling into the fundamentalisms of either academic higher criticism, or anti-intellectual literalism with all its crazy baggage about Creation vs. Evolution and what happened to the dinosaurs. *Reading Genesis* is published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.



Discussion July 28

James +

ADVENT BAG COLLECTIONS

February -

- Toothbrushes—we've met our goal!
- Toothpaste—we received 20 additional tubes, we could still use 10 more regular-sized tubes of toothpaste

March -

- Hair combs—we've met our goal!
- Hair brushes—we've received 40, we could use 10 more

April -

- Backpacks—we already received 5 before the month started, we need 45 more.

For this item we need the exact one specified in the Amazon shopping list. If you can find the exact model elsewhere, feel free to purchase from another vendor. Or you can choose to use the GIVE link on our website - <https://www.holyapostlespa.org/give> - and donate to Outreach and we'll do the purchasing for you. Just put "Advent Backpacks" as the area you are supporting with your contribution.



Advent Bags

If shipping items to the church, please mark the package **Attention: Advent Bags**. It is also helpful to include a gift receipt if you'd like confirmation that your package has been received.



We were blessed to have The Rev. Jane Gober, Canon for Transition Ministry, celebrate Palm Sunday with us this year! Holy Week was only just underway when this newsletter went to print, but we hope you made the most of the experience and took Fr. James up on the invitation "to participate spiritually, emotionally and sacramentally in the Passion of Christ."

Alleluia ~ He is Risen Indeed!

*Sundays
in the
Great Fifty Days*



There are seven Sundays in Eastertide, each with it's own name. These names come from the Roman Church, Byzantine Church and our corner of Holy Mother Church. (Their connection with that Sunday Gospel may vary because of the cycle of the lectionary.)

Second Sunday in Easter: The name Quasimodo Sunday comes from the Introit for this Sunday. It is also know as St. Thomas Sunday or Thomas the Doubter Sunday coming from the Gospel about Thomas doubting that it is Jesus who appears to the Apostles after the Resurrection. (Also known as Low Sunday)

Third Sunday in Easter: This Sunday has been known as The Feast of the Holy Sepulcher and Feast of the Myrrh-Bearers, the Marys at the tomb. In some traditions it has the title of The Feast of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd.

Fourth Sunday in Easter: Good Shepherd Sunday comes from the reading "I am the Good Shepherd" and the collect exhorts us to follow where Christ leads. This has also been called Vocation Sunday - priest called to be the shepherds of the church.

Fifth Sunday in Easter: Cantate Domino... the Introit Sing to the Lord. Cantata Sunday. The collect calls us to recognize Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life and again, to follow in Christ's footsteps. In the Byzantine Rite this Sunday was called Sunday of the Samaritan Woman.

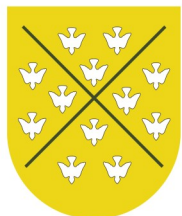
Sixth Sunday in Easter: This is Rogation Sunday, which precedes Ascension Day. The days following this Sunday are traditionally marked by fasting, prayer and particularly the blessing of the harvest.

Seventh Sunday in Easter: (Sunday after the Ascension.) This was known as Sunday of the Roses a tradition dating back to Roman times through the 6th century. The collect says *I will not leave you comfortless* and the rose petals represent the tongues of fire which appeared above the Apostles heads when the Holy Spirit descends upon them.

I encourage you to read the collects of these Sundays (BCP, pages 224-226) and think about what you might name the Sundays in Easter.

Alleluia! The Lord is Risen!


music@holypostlespa.org



CHURCH *of the* HOLY APOSTLES

PENN WYNNE

a place to belong

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Rector's Email: rector@holypostlespa.org

Rector's Cell: (505) 410-0672

2024 Vestry

Lyn DeSilets - *Clerk of the Vestry*, Nancy Haas, Rosemary Hughes, Judy Jervis, David Lees - *Accounting Warden*,
Drew Meiers - *Senior Warden*, Hu Peck, Annette Smith, Patty Wertz, Joe Zorc

Worship with Us

Sunday:

Family-focused Service @ 9:00 a.m.

Join us in person in the Parish Hall - Coffee and Donuts included!

Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:00 a.m.

Join us in person or via Livestream on our YouTube Channel

<https://holypostlespa.org/watch/>

Mondays thru Thursdays:

Morning Prayer Rite II @ 9:15 a.m.

Join us in person

Daily:

Compline @ 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Use this link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/233415613?> Passcode = love

or call into the meeting toll-free 1-888-475-4499

Callers will be prompted to enter this meeting ID: 233 415 613

Christian Education

Children:

Join us at our 9am Family-focused Eucharist as Father James brings the weekly scripture to life and relates it to our lives with his Object Lessons.

Adults:

Bible Study - Thursdays @ 11:00 a.m. via Zoom

Use this link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/788355291?> Passcode = love

or call into the meeting toll-free 1-888-475-4499

Callers will be prompted to enter this meeting ID: 788 355 291