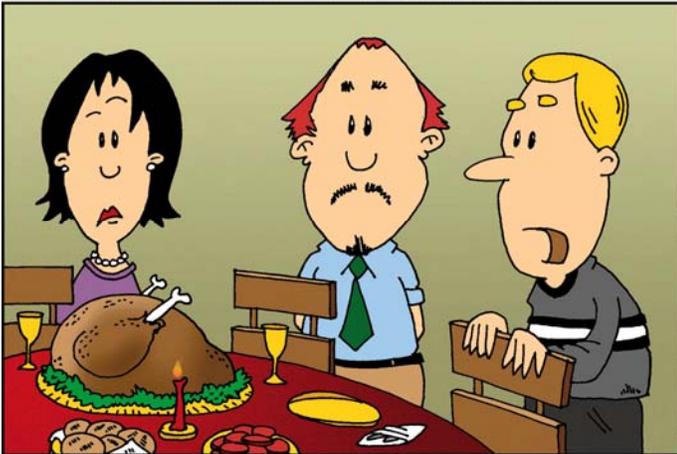


Available online at www.annunciationoradell.org; click on "Events" then "e-News" to go green and see your paperless copy—in color!

REVEREND FUN WWW.REVERENDFUN.COM



Cartoon copyright Gospel Communications International, Inc - www.reverendfun.com

Is Your Pledge Recorded?

If you have not already submitted your pledge of financial support of your parish church for 2010, please do so immediately; our annual pledge in-gathering was held November 1. Your parish leadership need this information to make our diocesan pledge and prepare our annual budget in a timely fashion. Please help! ✕

*Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime,
ye ringers!*

Special Thanks to...

Jamie MacKenzie, for trimming the new shelving in the kitchen and priming the shelves as well as the new wall in the sacristy area.
Diane May and Ginny Baird, for helping to clean up the church after the pew cutters were here.
Grace, David, and Daniel Oliff, for staffing our church table at Oradell Family Day.
Marie Mitchell, for needlepointing another beautiful cushion for our altar rail, with the help of Ginny Baird.
Salto's Decorating, of Kinderkamack Road, for blocking Marie and Ginny's work and making it into a cushion—at no charge! ✕

Upcoming Events

There are numerous events listed on our parish web site (www.annunciationoradell.org). Click on "Events" to see either the calendar or highlights of special upcoming activities. One new activity this year is the commemoration of World AIDS Day, December 1 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to this Evening Prayer service, which will be followed by a festive reception in the parish hall. Our Episcopal Church Women will also sponsor a rummage sale, November 7, 8:30 to 1. ✕

The Bells Are Ringing

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Sue and George Keitel, our hand-bell ringers debuted on October 4. They are now installed in a permanent location for rehearsal and performance at the back of the church.

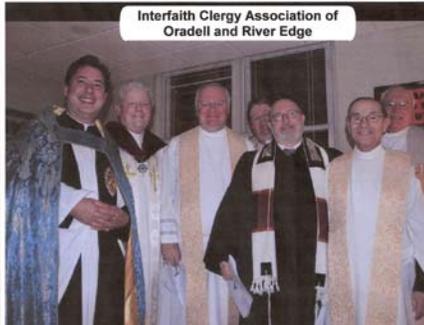


Show in the picture are left are: David, Disha, Cynthia, Jane, Sue, George, Ginny, Jamie, Jeff, Victoria. The ringers prepared a prelude that happened to be the same tune as our closing hymn, so they rang along with the fourth stanza of Beethoven's *Ode to*

Joy as the congregation sang out, "Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine." This new guild plans to perform regularly at our worship services, including the late service on Christmas Eve. There is room for more ringers! Speak with Sue if interested. ✕

River-Dell Thanksgiving Service

The annual interfaith service of religious communities in Oradell and River Edge will be held this year at Grace Lutheran Church in River Edge at 925 Fifth Avenue, on November 22 (Sunday), beginning at 4 p.m. Last year, we had the pleasure of hosing this annual event, which local clergy and congregations have presented for many years. Please do join us, if you can! ❖



Parishioners' Milestones

Birthdays:

Eric Olsen 10/21
Susan Dziemian 11/6
Hannah Cannizzaro-Garcia 11/7
Rahul Dass 11/9
Harold Graf 11/11
Susan Demay 11/14
Christina Gwynne 11/26
Joseph Bellitto 11/30
Lillian Kouletsis 11/30

Baptisms:

Patricia Seitz 11/3
Damian Tumulty 11/5
Marilyn Youakim 11/14

Confirmations:

Charles May III 10/22

Weddings:

Adela & David Wekselblatt 11/5
Barrie Bates & Jamie MacKenzie 11/12

Other News:

Kay Benning's first great-grandchild was born in September to grandson Tim Satkowski.
Marilyn Youakim's first grandchild is due next April.

Memorial Fund donations received in memory of:

Francis Engard Courtney, Jr.
Ewing Cobb
Eileen & Thomas Gavenis ❖

Christmas Services

Based on feedback from several of you, we are again experimenting with a new time for the later service on Christmas Eve. Here is the schedule:

Christmas Eve 2009:

Family Service, 5 p.m.

An informal children's pageant and homily, with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Any children wishing to participate should arrive no later than 4:30 and go directly to the Gabriel Classroom for costumes)

Festival Service, 9 p.m.

A more formal liturgy, with hand bells and choir, sermon, and a celebration of the Holy Eucharist

December 27, 2009:

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, 10 a.m.

A traditional service adapted from King's College, Cambridge, at which we get to hear glorious Bible stories of our redemption and sing a dozen Christmas carols.

Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!

We have a number of simple volunteer tasks that need doing at the church. Many of these are things that could easily accompany you to church on Sundays.

Laundry—each week you are here, take rags and kitchen towels home to wash, then bring them back the next week.

Check the Oil—each week during the heating season, check the level on the oil tank in the basement. If less than half, call the supplier for a fill-up.

Recycling (Jim Gwynne)—once a week, organize and set out for pick-up.

Dishwasher—on Mondays, empty the dishwasher of Sunday's dishes.

Seasonal Changes—re-set clocks, timers for heat and outdoor lights, and such things when the time changes each fall and spring.

Lavatory Check—each week (preferably *before* Sunday), check the lavatory for paper and supplies and refill as necessary.

If you able to take on one or more of these small but important tasks, please speak with Barrie. ❖

Advent Conspiracy

This year, we will again be holding back on the Christmas decorations until it is actually Christmas. During the preparatory season of Advent, we will add more and more greens each week, saving the bows and lights for Christmas Eve. While this seems very



counter-cultural, it is actually the ancient tradition of the church. It is modern-day retailers who have turned the pre-Christmas season into a frenzy of spending, spending, spending. One radio station last year even suggested that the twelve days of Christmas begin on December 14. This is wrong, wrong, wrong. The first day of Christmas is—and always has been—December 25,



and the season of Christmas continues for twelve days, culminating with the Feast of the Epiphany, on January 6. But people who have seen displays in Home Depot

beginning in August and heard carols broadcast since mid-October are tired of Christmas by the time it actually is Christmas. So they mucked with the tradition to suit the convenience of mass marketing.

Our Advent greening this year will include a tree used at the December 1 commemoration of World AIDS Day. At this service (followed by a reception with wine and cheese), we will have the opportunity to write the names of loved ones who died from AIDS on cards and then hang them on the tree. The following Sunday, we will be able to add the names of *all* of our dead loved ones, as a reminder that all the departed rest in peace until Jesus returns in glorious majesty. This Advent, let us pray for this event, in which peace and justice will finally rule over war and oppression. And, this Christmas, let us celebrate the birth of our Savior—not the depletion of our bank accounts.



Did you know Americans spend \$450 billion on Christmas each year? That's how much the Pentagon seeks in new funding over the next *five* years; nearly twice the original allocation of the federal TARP

program; and more than the gross domestic product of over 165 of the world's countries.

What does this have to do with the birth of Christ? As an alternative to the consumer madness, take a look at www.adventconspiracy.org, which suggests we make gifts rather than buy them, pair down our expenses on Christmas, and make donations to the world's neediest instead.



Here's one way you can help alleviate the problems of the world's most needy: Did you know that people are dying from the lack of clean water. In fact, it's the leading cause of death in under-resourced countries. 1.8 million people die every year from water born illnesses. That includes 3,900 children a day. The solution to this problem is directly beneath our feet. Drilling a fresh water well is a relatively inexpensive, yet permanent solution to this epidemic. \$10 will give a child clean water for life. That's not an estimate. It's a fact. And here's another fact: Solving this water problem once and for all will cost about \$10 billion. Not bad considering Americans spent \$450 billion on Christmas last year! By celebrating Christ in a new way at Christmas, we in the church can serve as the leading movement behind ending the water crisis once and for all, and putting the "Christ" back into Christmas.

Advent begins on November 29 this year. Considering keeping it in a new, different, and life-giving way. ✕

Episcopal Church Women

Will Sponsor a

Rummage Sale

Saturday, November 7

8:30 to 1

Please bring your gently-used items for sale to the church no earlier than November 1

Helping Restore Order

In the midst of the construction and debris, more than a dozen parishioners gathered on October 17 for a parish work day. We cleaned and organized the kitchen, making it more useful for us and for the other groups that use it regularly; painted newly renovated spaces; cleaned the boiler room and began to set it up with tools; hung a bulletin board; put the envelope racks back on pews that were missing them; began organizing



some archival materials; and discarded a whole lot of rubbish. In addition, we began to organize the clean-out of the courtyard room, so that it can be converted into parish offices. After the November 7 rummage sale, that room will be nearly empty! Thanks to George, Nancy, Allen, Chuck, Lynna, Marie, Diane, Ginny, Jamie, Elaine, Kay, Barrie, Marilyn, and especially Connor for their fine work! ✂



White Church Continues to “Go Green”

Last month, we signed up with a new janitorial supply company. They will provide us with 100% recycled paper products and environmentally responsible cleaning products. In addition to helping save the environment, we will also be saving money! Chic Wohrle, who for years has been buying these supplies for us at Costco, is especially appreciative of this change. ✂



The Church of the Annunciation

A Parish of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Newark
343 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, New Jersey 07649
201-262-7222 ✂ www.annunciationoradell.org

Bishop's Expectations

At our annual clergy day last month, the Bishop made his expectations of the clergy clear. These fall into



four general categories: be a “team player,” be working toward a tithe, see a spiritual director regularly, and be engaged in creative ministry. Fortunately, as your Rector I am already doing these things (even if I could do most of them better). I regularly attend diocesan events, clergy conversations, and other

events and activities. This year, I am encouraging everyone in the parish—not just me—to begin to work toward a tithe. I see my spiritual director monthly, and even my detractors will admit I am a whirlwind of ideas and creativity. It is good to know that we are on the right path, at least so far as our Bishop advises. —Barrie

What—More Change?

1) At their meeting in October, the Rector asked the Vestry to consider changing our Sunday service time. While this certainly will not happen for months, the idea is to begin a conversation about this topic, so that we can be sure everyone has the opportunity to participate. As you may know, most of the Episcopal churches in the area have their service at 10 a.m., like us. This makes it impossible to share clergy. Changing our service to, say, 9 or 11 would allow us to pair with another church for occasional clergy swaps (as we did last summer), or even on a more regular basis.

Obviously, this would have an impact on everyone, from Chic, who opens up, to the hand-bell ringers, who rehearse after church—let alone our partners in ministry, the Vision Church.

2) The Rector has also asked the trustees of the Memorial Fund to evaluate our investments and procedures. One possible change will be to transfer Memorial Fund monies to the Diocesan Investment Trust, which is managed by TIAA-CREF, a well-reputed non-profit investment firm. Another proposal involves changing the fund's bylaws, so that it will be more clearly defined either as an endowment or as a reserve fund—right now, it's a bit of a muddle. So, let's start talking! ✂