



March 2012

# Down By The Riverside

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Columbus Blvd & Christian St, Philadelphia, PA 19147 215-389-1513

## Thoughts from the Rector

*Journeying Inward and Outward*

The Ash Wednesday meditation in our 2012 Lenten Meditations booklet (from Episcopal Relief and Development) says that Lent is a time when “we are invited to journey inward to encounter and confront all that separates us from God; and it is also a time to journey outward to encounter and confront all that causes pain, damage and separation from others.”

That’s a tall order, don’t you think? Travelling in two directions at the same time? I’d much rather concentrate on one, then when I’ve reached my goal turn and tackle the next hard road. But that is simply, and clearly, not what Jesus models for us. And it is Jesus that we are committing to travelling with, so we’d do ourselves a favor if we let him be the guide, since he knows where we’re going.

We’d also fare far better on this journey if we pay attention to two things: what Jesus says, and what Jesus does. He came to show us the way – the way to being fully human, the way to the Father, the way to *shalom*. To be wholly and completely what God created us to be may be impossible this side of that Great Wakin’ Up Morning, but it is clear that this is our goal – at least according to Jesus.

Spending time during the Lenten season working on our journeying – inward and outward – has the possibility of making us disciples willing to listen, to see Jesus on the road with us, and to grasp the need to be in a community that works at revealing the Good News in all it does and says, in its very identity.

May we journey together this Lent, lending a hand when needed, allowing time for quiet gatherings, being an inviting community prepared to see Jesus in friend and stranger, neighbor and nomad, comforting those in pain, following Jesus no matter where he goes, and learning from him how we may become more like him.

From Bethlehem to Jerusalem, from manger to cross, from life to death, from ashes to ashes, may we see the glory of God in the journey inward and

(continued on next page)

outward, may we know the love of God in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus, may we know the grace of God in the Holy Spirit present with us here, now, always.

May you have a Holy and Blessed Lent.

Peace,

*Joy +*



## From the Rector's Warden

### Annual Meeting

Gloria Dei, our parish, holds its Annual Meeting on the first Sunday of May. This year, that's May 6, 2012. The Annual Meeting includes reports on the state of the parish (mission, finances, activities) and the election of a new class of vestry members.

The vestry is the elected body of lay parishioners administering the temporal affairs of the parish and serving as a council of advice to the rector. In that sense, the vestry is very much a "leadership body" for the parish. The vestry has a major role in our current project of finding Gloria Dei's place in the 21st Century.

Gloria Dei can use your talents - on the vestry as well as in other places. As noted below, you're committing yourself to this work for a three-year term. Most months, the vestry meets for about two hours on the third Wednesday of the month.

The vestry of Gloria Dei is composed of twelve individuals, of whom four are elected each year for a three-year term. The Bylaws of Gloria Dei state that vestry members must "be baptized and confirmed lay persons of the age of eighteen years and upwards, who shall have been worshipers in this Church as

their usual place of worship for at least one year prior to the date of the election and who shall appear by the books of the Corporation to have contributed towards the expenses of the Corporation, by payment in time, talent or treasure a sum of not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).”

To be considered for election at the Annual Meeting, a person must meet the qualifications above and “be nominated to the Secretary in writing by at least three (3) members, and at least four (4) weeks prior to the election; and the consent of the nominee endorsed on said nomination in writing.”

Nomination forms will be available in the church and in the parish office beginning on Sunday, March 18, 2012. Persons wishing to run for election to the vestry must secure the signatures of three parish members on that form, sign the form themselves (indicating their willingness to stand for election), and submit that form to the Secretary of the vestry (Lisa Reeves) no later than Sunday, April 8, 2012. Just a reminder that April 8 is Easter Sunday so it would be a good idea to submit those nomination forms a bit “early.”

Public notice of those nominated will be posted by the Secretary of the vestry on the bulletin boards in Riverside and in the church and will be noted in the church bulletin for the four weeks preceding the election.

This year, in addition to the four individuals to be elected for a three-year term, one additional person will be elected to a two-year term to fill the unexpired term of a vestry member who resigned during the year.

Please – think about your ability to serve Gloria Dei as a vestry member. If you can make that commitment, get a nomination sheet on March 18, and put yourself in the running.

*Jerry Buescher*



## **Easter Flowers**

If you wish to make an offering to Gloria Dei this Easter, as a memorial or thanksgiving, please return the enclosed envelope with the information you would like to be printed in our Easter bulletins. In order to insure your information appears in our bulletins we need to receive your envelope no later than April 1, 2012.

## Help us turn TRASH into CASH!

Did you know that children in Nigeria still get polio? Although polio has been eradicated in the United States and most other countries in the world, children under five are still being infected with the disease. About one out of 200-400 children infected will suffer paralysis or even death.

The Gloria Dei Confirmation Class of 2012 is raising money to buy polio vaccines for children in Africa through UNICEF. They are participating in the FundingFactory® Recycling Program. This fundraiser is FREE and simple because there's nothing to sell and no paperwork to fill out. But we won't get very far without your support. Please donate your empty ink cartridges, laser cartridges, cell phones, mp3 players, gps devices, digital cameras, and laptops. We'll take it from there! We will recycle the cartridges, cell phones, small electronics, and laptops through FundingFactory to earn money for polio vaccines.

FundingFactory also sponsors a businesses support program, where your employer can help out our Confirmation Class without spending a cent. FREE prepaid shipping labels can be sent, free of charge, directly to any business, organization or other facility within the continental United States. Business supporters simply need to load boxes, apply a FREE prepaid shipping label and leave them for the next UPS pickup. If you work for a company that may be interested in supporting us, please call FundingFactory toll-free at 1.888.883.8237. Give the customer service representative our church identification number, 303730 and they'll set you up to support our account.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Julie Daye at 215-520-7097 (e-mail - [julitag22@yahoo.com](mailto:julitag22@yahoo.com).)

Thank you for your support! Confirmation Class of 2012



## Holy Week and Easter Schedule

April 1	Palm Sunday	<i>Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Reading, Holy Communion Rite II</i>	10:00am
April 4	Wed. in Holy Week	<i>Passover Seder for Christians</i>	6:00pm
April 5	Maundy Thursday	<i>Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Holy Communion, stripping of the altar</i>	7:00pm
April 6	Good Friday	<i>Easter Egg Preparation Good Friday Liturgy and Communion from the reserved sacrament</i>	10:00am 7:00pm
April 8	Easter Day	<i>Easter Vigil, Holy Communion, Rite II Holy Communion, Rite II, Baptism Easter Egg Hunt</i>	6:00am 10:00am 11:15am

*All are welcome, all the time*



*Donate to Gloria Dei  
Make a pledge payment  
Purchase books  
Make Amazon purchases*



Now all these things can be done online at Gloria Dei's website!  
Just visit us as [www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org) and find out what else we're doing.  
Check out our Facebook page while you're there.

# Calendar

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**Mar 3** Diocesan Council Meeting 9:00AM - Noon - Riverside Hall

**Mar 6, 13,  
20, 27** Yoga (Classes are \$8.00)  
Beginners Class 6:00 - 7:00PM  
Advanced Class 7:15 - 8:15PM

Evensong 6:30PM - 7:00PM - Church  
Gloria Dei Ringers practice immediately following - 7:00PM

**Mar 7, 14,  
21, 28** Tai Chi (Classes are \$8.00) 10:00 - 11:00AM  
Please dress for outdoor class - in the event of rain  
moves to Riverside Hall  
Lenten Soup & Study - 7:00 - 8:30PM - Riverside Hall

**Mar 11** Daylight Savings Time begins today ●  
Swedish Service - 4:00PM



**Mar 15** Swedish Colonial Society  
- Riverside Hall - 1:00 - 3:00PM

**Mar 18** Norwegian Service - 4:00PM

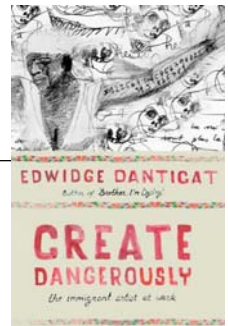
**Mar 19** Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room

**Mar 22** *JAZZ & Joe* - Riverside Hall - 7:30PM  
St. Gloria Dei

**Mar 25** Guatemala Sunday



**Mar 26** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall  
*Create Dangerously* ●  
by Edwidge Danticat



# The Lectionary for March

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## March 4<sup>th</sup>, The Second Sunday in Lent

*O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy; Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16      Psalm: 22:22-30  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 4:13-25      Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

## March 11<sup>th</sup>, The Third Sunday in Lent

*Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 20:1-17      Psalm: 19  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25      Gospel: John 2:13-22

## March 18<sup>th</sup>, The Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Numbers 21:4-9      Psalm: 107:1-3, 17-22  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10      Gospel: John 3:14-21

## March 25<sup>th</sup>, The Fifth Sunday in Lent

*Almighty god, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34      Psalm: 51:1-13 or 119:9-16  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10      Gospel: John 12:20-33

# Snyder Binns Simes

## Part 2

When Rev. Simes arrived at Gloria Dei, he found a congregation of substantial people in one of the oldest and most desirable sections of the city to live. The Navy Yard was located at Federal Street and there were many business men and government employees representing the various shipping interests close by. North of the Church was one of the largest ship yards and dry docks.

Enthusiasm and good will for the young rector and his bride were met by the whole hearted support of the congregation. The momentum given in the early years enabled many projects to be carried out later. Some of the projects outlasted the changes brought about in the neighborhood.

The Simes never had children. During their courtship they learned shorthand. Rev. Simes sermons were written in shorthand and Mrs. Simes made notes, also in shorthand. It was their way of confidential correspondence. They were inseparable companions in recreation as well as in their work. They usually took a vacation from two to three month in duration. These experiences were put to some practical service in the Parish in the form of lectures and addresses. The people could share in the experiences and derive an interest in distant missions and foreign lands. In 1890 Rev. and Mrs. Simes traveled to Alaska and over the years their interest in the Alaskan missions deepened by generous gifts. Their interest became even greater when one of the assistants became a missionary in Alaska. Some of the other places visited included England, Switzerland, Russia, Norway, and Sweden.

*Jeanette Woehr*







**The Jazz Sanctuary, Inc. presents a Jazz & Joe event:**

**Sponsored by:**

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K. Biederman: 215-934-3582

**Alan Segal Quartet**

alan@alansagal.net 215-208-7314

Eddie Etkins – George Sinkler – Alan Segal – Leon Jordan

**Thursday 3/22**  
**7:30 to 9:30 - Riverside Hall**



### **Vestry Meeting Bullet Points**

- First "Transforming Congregations" session held, attended by 7 from Gloria Dei. Participants have homework every week ...
- Preparations underway for Annual Meeting, May 6, 2012. Article in March Riverside about vestry member qualifications, elections
- A group of parishioners wants to tackle reupholstering the kneelers in church. Please let Joy know if you'd like to participate

(approved minutes for the February 2012 vestry meeting may be found on the bulletin board in Riverside Hall)

## Story Continued ... Guatemala

Gather with us on Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup> as we catch you up on Happenings in Guatemala.

Listen as we talk about our adventure with Friends and Families, both old and new. Feel the Emotion of being a part of something Spiritual and Moving.

Hear what the people say about the Goodness that has been Provided to them.

Allow your Thoughts to Hear what Continuing Our Support will Mean to our Brothers and Sisters.

Guatemala Cuisine along with some "Market Day" items will be available.



*"Gathering at La Anunciacion"*



*"Gathering at La Ascension"*

## To The Bible Challenge Participants

Those who have taken up the Bible Challenge - to read the whole Bible in one year, I just want to let you know you are in my prayers. As I face the challenge each day I think about you who are taking this journey alongside me, and I want to encourage you. Together we can make it! We're deep in Leviticus right now and it feels like we'll never get back to the story. We run the danger of getting discouraged. So, here's a hint - **Skim the hard parts!** Yes, you can skim over genealogies and other more legalistic passages, and most of Leviticus for that matter. But do **skim**, and don't **skip**. You never know when a verse, a small part of an otherwise boring and seemingly meaningless passage, may suddenly awaken you to a new awareness of God's work in and with creation. Keep up this good work. And remember, you're not alone!

Blessings,

*Joy +*



"Grande boy gathers with friends"

**Prayer**  
*Chain*

**Requests For Prayers Are  
Always Welcome**

Please contact the church office  
(215) 389-1513  
or Florence Brook (267) 273-5175,  
fbrook529@hotmail.com

*Intercessors will pray  
on behalf of those in need*



**Memorial Cards in loving memory of  
William Farro**

By: Bert Kubiak

**Jennie Eells**

By: Donna & George Collins

**James Burns**

By: Dolores Kromchad

**Flossie Zern**

By: Florence Brook

Marge Lord

Joe & Dolores Collins

Jean & Bob Neill

Bert Kubiak

**Paul Minacci**

By: Jim & Cathy Ufheil

**A Statement of Purpose  
of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church**

We the Congregation of GLORIA DEI (Old Swedes') CHURCH, existing by and for the Glory of God, knowing that God, through this Congregation, helps us to find our way and to use our gifts, gather together

- To honor and celebrate the acceptance of our differences and uniqueness;
- To be an inviting, welcoming, sustaining, loving community;
- To respond to the needs of others;
- To preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition, and heritage of this sacred place.



**Sunday Service:**

10:00 AM

Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM

**Office Hours**

Tuesday-Friday 9:30-2:30

**CLERGY**

The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

**STAFF**

Paul Fejko, Music Director

Terry O'Brien, Parish Administrator

Paula & James Minacci, Sextons

Deirdre Flint, Dir. of Comm.

Mark Roberts, Treasurer; O.S.C.A.R.

Seminarian, Paul Gibson

**VESTRY**

Megan Bartlett

Florence Brook

Jerome Buescher, Rector's Warden

Robert Dieters, Acct. Assistant

Carol Jenkins

Dolores Kromchad

Heather Myers

Barbara Potts

Lisa Reeves, Secretary

Mark Roberts

James Ufheil, Acct. Warden

**STANDING NOTICES**

**Weddings**

Weddings at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church must be scheduled with the clergy at least three months in advance. All weddings in the church will be governed by the Canons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Book of Common Prayer. Pre-marital counseling is a prerequisite. No weddings will be conducted during Lent.

**Funerals**

When death occurs a family member is asked to contact the clergy so that timely arrangements for a funeral may be made. It is appropriate for the funeral of a Christian to take place in the church. It is also appropriate that funeral arrangements be made in advance and kept in a file in the church office. Burial plots are available for members of the parish in the church's cemetery. Consult the church office for costs and details.

**Baptisms**

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during one of the principle Sunday liturgies and is governed by the Canons of the church and the Book of Common Prayer. Baptism is normally celebrated on one of the four appropriate feast days designated in the Book of Common Prayer. These are: The Baptism of our Lord (1/8/12); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/8/12); Pentecost (5/27/12); and All Saints Sunday (11/4/12). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.