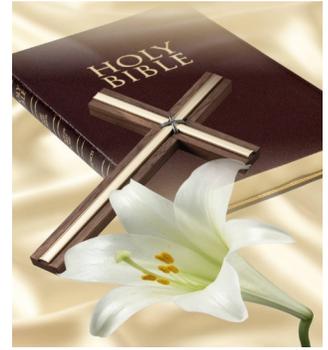


E-EMMANUEL

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April 2009



EDITORIAL:

Since January we have been worshipping in the Education Centre. This was occasioned by our decision to refurbish the church, that is, repair the roof, change the ceiling, reorganize the pulpit area, refurbish the baptismal pool, repaint the walls and retile the chapel.

When we return the benches will be no more; instead we will be seated for worship on padded chairs, a gift we receive from our members who reside in North America. We have to thank our Sister and Brother Claudia and Barry Hylton for coordinating the purchase of these chairs and for the personal sacrifices they made.

When we started this project we had less than 10% of the total cost but we were convinced that this was God's will and that God would see the project through. The fact that the job is now almost complete is a symbol of the fact that our greatest resource is faith in a faithful God. All things being equal we will return to the Chapel on Good Friday.

Now that we have refurbished the building let us now refurbish the Church ... the people of God gathered for worship. These verses from the prophet Ezekiel is worthy of our meditation: *Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12:*

Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and behold, water was issuing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east); and the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar. And on the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.

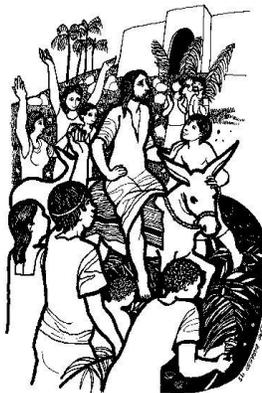
At this Easter time let this River of God flow from the temple to renew, revitalize and reinvigorate our lives.

Glenroy Lalor, Pastor

PALM SUNDAY

Today is being observed as Palm Sunday, a reminder of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It was marked by the crowds waving palm branches and proclaiming Jesus as the messianic King. The Gospels tell us that Jesus rode into the city on a donkey, fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9, and in so doing emphasized the humility that characterizes the Kingdom he proclaimed.

As we reflect on this significant event, let us spread before His feet, not palm leaves used for excited celebrations for a day, but ourselves, clothed in His grace; clothed completely in Him—for the rest of our lives.



April Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Basil Dixon | 1st |
| Isaac Watkis | 4th |
| Delmina Young | 7th |
| Alvin Sewell | 12th |
| Myrtle Genius | 16th |
| Adina Kidd | 20th |
| Herma Grandison | 22nd |
| Rachel Francis | 24th |
| Phillip Bedward | 27th |

OVERSEAS MEMBER

Cynthia Bryan 29th

APRIL REMINDERS

Holy Week Services - April 6-8

Mid day meditation at the Salvation Army

Evening services at the Anglican Church at 7 p.m. nightly

Easter Services - April 10th & 12th

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Good Friday Service | 12 noon |
| Easter Sunday Service | 10 a.m. |
| Easter Monday | 13th |

Please share in these opportunities for spiritual reflection and renewal

All are invited

We welcome your ideas and suggestions

Please e-mail us at

emmanuel_baptist_1828@yahoo.com

Or write us at:

PO Box 64, Pt. Maria, St. Mary

Reflections of the cross

What we behold on the cross: As they were *looking on*, so we too gaze on his wounds as he hangs. We see his blood as he dies. We see the price offered by the redeemer; touch the scars of his resurrection. He bows his head, as if to kiss you. His heart is made bare open, as it were, in love to you. His arms are extended that he may embrace you. His whole body is displayed for your redemption. Ponder how great these things are. Let all this be rightly weighed in your mind: as he was once fixed to the cross in every part of his body for you, so he may now be fixed in every part of your soul.



Contemplating the passion: True reverence for the Lord's passion means fixing the eyes of our heart on Jesus crucified and recognizing in him our own humanity.



The lamb that was slain gives us new life: He was led forth like a lamb; he was slaughtered like a sheep. He ransomed us from our servitude to the world, as he had ransomed Israel from the hand of Egypt; he freed us from our slavery to the devil, as he had freed Israel from the hand of Pharaoh. He sealed our souls with his own Spirit, and the members of our body with his own blood.

Prayer: O Jesus, stretch forth your wounded hands over your people to heal and to restore, and to draw us to yourself and to one another in love. Amen.

Adapted from: <http://www.rc.net/wcc/cross.htm> <http://www.rc.net/wcc/cross.htm>

Remember to pray for the sick and shut-in members of the church and in our surrounding communities. Here is a list of some of our shut-in members:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Roslyn Walters | Jeremiah Dalhouse | Rueben Byfield |
| Herma Grandison | Hilda Bryan | Audrey Maxwell |
| John Harriott | Athelia Williams | Lucan Scott |
| Basil Dixon | Alberta Johnson | Adassa Reddie |
| Inez Graham | Roslyn Walters | Hazel Allen |

WORLD PEACE

Jesus came to give us peace in a world troubled by wars, distress, heartaches and pain.



As we pray during this Holy Week let us remember those persons who are seeking peace. Let us remember that we were given a mission by Jesus, to let peace reign over this earth by our stance for justice and truth. We are reminded by the words of Martin Luther King, Jr.:

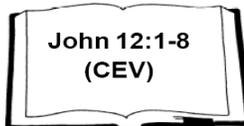
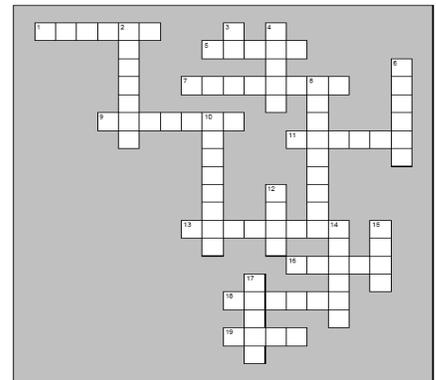
"The cross we bear precedes the crown we wear. To be a Christian one must take up [the] cross, with all its difficulties and agonizing and tension-packed content and carry it until that very cross leaves its marks upon us and redeems us to that more excellent way which comes only through suffering."

O God, teach us what it is to be faithful; Let us have courage to take up the cross for our time And risk the hard work for justice and peace.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

John 12:1-8 (CEV)

- 13 across) Six days before _____ Jesus went back to Bethany,
- 5 across) where he had raised Lazarus from _____.
- 7 across) A meal had been _____ for Jesus.
- 1 across) _____ was doing the serving, and Lazarus himself was there.
- 8 down) Mary took a very _____ bottle of perfume
- 15 down) and poured it on Jesus' _____.
- 19 across) She wiped them with her _____.
- 9 across) and the sweet smell of the _____ filled the house.
- 17 down) A disciple named _____ Iscariot was there.
- 11 across) He was the one who was going to _____ Jesus, and he asked,
- 2 down) Why wasn't this perfume sold for three _____ silver coins
- 12 down) and the money given to the _____?"
- 14 down) Judas did not _____ care about the poor.
- 10 down) He asked this because he carried the _____
- 4 down) and sometimes would _____ from it.
- 16 across) Jesus replied, "_____ her alone!
- 18 across) She has kept this perfume for the day of my _____.
- 6 down) You will _____ have the poor with you,
- 3 down) but you won't always have _____."



Puzzle by Dorothy A. DeBisschop, bible-activity-sheets@adelphia.net
Prepared for FREE Distribution through www.homiliesbyemail.com

The renowned

Portmore Vision Gospel Choir

winner of the Enchanted Youth Award (outstanding ministry) and the Omega Award for Excellence (best live performance-choir)

presents

Resurrection Celebration

at the
Emmanuel Baptist Church

Date: Sunday, April 12, 2009
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Cost: \$500 (Adults); \$200 (children under 12 at the gate)

Refreshments will be on sale