

## All Saints Episcopal Church

The Reverend Michael Kyle, Rector

# The Mustard Seed

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February 2009

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- *Bishop's Annual Visit*
- *Ozark Music Festival*
- *E. C. W.*
- *Vestry Election*

## The Season of Lent

*Retreating Into the Wilderness with Jesus*

Lent is a forty-day period before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday. We skip Sundays when we count the forty days, because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection. Lent begins on 25 February 2009 and ends on 11 April 2009, which is the day before Easter.

In the Roman Catholic Church, Lent officially ends at sundown on 9 April (Holy Thursday), with the beginning of the mass of the Lord's Supper.

In most churches, the decorations are purple, the royal color, to prepare for the King.

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful re-dedicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing

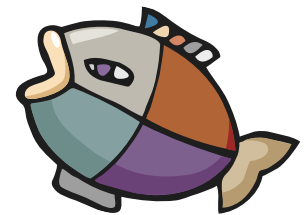
the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days. All churches that have a continuous history extending before AD 1500 observe Lent. The ancient church that wrote, collected, canonized and propagated the New Testament also observed Lent, believing it to be commandment from the apostles.

Because Sunday is the day of the Resurrection, we skip over Sundays when we calculate the length of Lent. Therefore, in the Western Church, Lent always begins on Ash Wednesday, the seventh Wednesday before Easter.

In many countries, the last day before Lent (called Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Carnival, or Fasching) has become a last fling before the solemnity of Lent. For centuries, it was customary to fast by abstaining from meat during Lent, which is why some people call the festival *Carnival*, which is

Latin for *farewell to meat*.

One can fast, which is a spiritual discipline that does not involve starvation or dehydration.



### Meatless meals are a way of fasting

The purpose of the liturgical calendar is to relive the major events in Jesus' life in real time, which is why Lent is forty days long. If Jesus were born on 25 December then His conception — thus also His incarnation — would have been nine months earlier, on about 25 March. That is when the angel Gabriel would have announced Jesus' birth to Mary. Thus 25 March is known in the historic church as *The Annunciation*.

## Lenten Services

**Lent** begins on February 25th with two worship opportunities that afternoon and evening. At 5:30 pm we will have a family service of Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes. At 6:00 pm we are invited to soup supper at First United Methodist Church with worship beginning at 7:00 pm.

Feb 25	First United Methodist Church 256-6167	6:00 pm soup supper Imposition of Ashes following
March 4	First Presbyterian Church 2564247	6:00 pm soup supper Worship Service following
March 11	St. Mary's Catholic Church 256-2556	6:00 pm soup supper Worship Service following
<b>March 18</b>	<b>All Saints Episcopal Church</b> 256-2215	<b>6:00 pm soup supper</b> Worship Service following
March 25	First Christian Church 256-2887	7:00 pm Worship Service Refreshments following
April 1	St. Paul Lutheran Church	7:00 pm Worship Service

**Bishop Howe will make his annual parish visit to All Saints on Sunday July 5, 2009**

### Did you know???

The Book of Common Prayer is available online! It may be accessed via the Diocese of West Missouri web site at [www.episcopalwestmo.org](http://www.episcopalwestmo.org). Go to the button for "Episcopal Resources" and you will find many useful items including the online Book of Common Prayer, the Anglican Cycle of Prayer and much more. Also on this site

you will find information about Youth and Young Adult Ministries in our diocese, the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, information about the various churches in our diocese and more. You will even find a link to the All Saints' website at [www.allsaintswestplains.com](http://www.allsaintswestplains.com). Join us and view our site; lots of interesting news!



### Fr. Mike and Deacon Craig's Sunday Sermon Schedule

Feb	March	April	Mike's away days:
1 Mike	1 Craig	5 Craig	<b>Feb 20&amp; 21</b> Diocesan Campus Ministry Committee & Diocesan Congregational Development Committee meetings in Bolivar.
8 Mike	8 Mike	(Palm Sunday)	
15 Craig	15 Mike	12 Mike	<b>Feb 27 &amp; 28</b> Diocesan Council in Harrisonville
22 Mike	22 Mike	(Easter Day)	
	29 Mike	19 Mike	
		26 Mike	

**Tid Bits**

**Wednesday Gathering**— Join us at 5:30 for Church Service, 6:00 for a pot luck dinner and lots of fellowship. Bring a friend and remember all students **EAT FREE** so spread the word.

**Recycling at All Saints**— All members are welcome to bring in your recyclables, guide lines are posted in the kitchen and pick-up is every Monday morning. All #1 and #2 plastic accepted. Please rinse and crush!

**Baptism &/Or Confirmation**— See Fr. Mike or call him at 256-2215 (Office) or 417-505-0702 (Cell)

**Altar Flowers**— Check out our new flower chart, sign up for a special Sunday in Thanksgiving for Blessings or in Memory of a loved one. The cost is \$30 per Sunday. Flowers will stay on the altar until faded or be taken to shut-ins if possible.

**Annual Visit**— Fr. Mike is planning his annual visit to each parishioner. A

sign up sheet is in the church or parish hall to set a day and time *or* you may call Mike at 417-505-0709.

**The Ozark Festival Chorus** Calling all singers! There are openings for men and women to sing in the chorus under the direction of David Hall. The chorus presents concerts in the Spring (April or May) and the Christmas Concert in Dec. Rehearsals will be Monday evenings at 7:00 beginning with Jan. 26



Rehearsals will be in the choir room at West Plains High School. For further information contact Rebecca Ramsey at 417-257-8901 or e-mail her at rebeccakramsey@gmail.com.

**Let's Celebrate**



- John Morrison- 1
- Zach Morrison- 2
- Teresa Figley Ward- 5
- Don Fields- 12
- Lisa Warren Shaw- 22
- Mike Kyle- 24

**Welcome!**

Christa & Jeff Thompson and Aaron T. J. (Thomas Joseph II) Figley

**Shrove Tuesday** - Pancake supper will be held on Feb 24 beginning at 5:00 pm. We need a variety of items for the supper and we

need volunteers. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall; more info call Mike Kyle at 417-505-0702



**If we missed your day, let us know**

**E.C.W.** (Episcopal Church Women). An organizational meeting was held Fri. Jan 23 at 10:30 in the Parish Hall. We will meet again on Sat Feb 21 at 10:30 in the Parish Hall. All women of All Saints are invited to share in fellowship and bring your ideas and thoughts. For more info call Dianne Ivie at 257-1407 or Sharon Neathery at 256-3606

**Vestry News/Annual Meeting News**

The meeting was called to order with an opening prayer by Fr. Mike.

The 2008 minutes were read by Ivan Crow and accepted. Ivan was elected to be Secretary of the Annual Meeting for 2009.

Elected to the Vestry are: Wayne Plocher &

Etta Jett for three-year terms. Hinton Stokes will fill the un-expired term of Terry Howard.

Wayne Plocher was appointed Senior Warden by Fr. Mike.

Elected as Delegates to the 2009 Diocesan Convention are: Wayne and Bonnie Plocher with Di-

anne Ivie and Anne Kyle as Alternates.

The treasurer's report was given by Lisa Shaw and was accepted. The 2009 proposed budget was presented with 16 pledging members.

Meeting adjourned with full tummies by all.

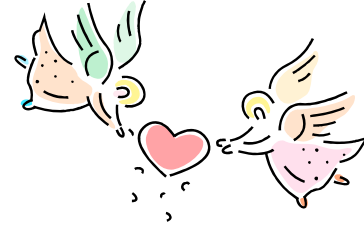
**Lent begins on  
February 25  
Ash  
Wednesday**

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# All Saints Episcopal Church

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A Newsletter for All Saints' Episcopal  
Church

