

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie April 2020

PAX CHRISTI

News

The Triduum

An invitation to
see more clearly
and deeply

Page 6



PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208
Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm
Friday 8:00am–12:00pm

Mission Statement: As a community of faith nourished by the Eucharist, we are committed in our discipleship with Christ to act for justice, be of generous service, and authentically welcome all to Pax Christi Catholic Community.

Values: God-Centered, Justice, Inclusion, Spiritual Growth, Stewardship, and Lay Leadership.

Mass Schedule

Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Mondays	8:30am
Tuesdays	8:30am
Wednesdays	6:00pm
Thursdays	8:30am (Word Communion Service)
Fridays	8:30am

Rosary prayed following weekday morning Masses.
Nursery available at all Sunday Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)

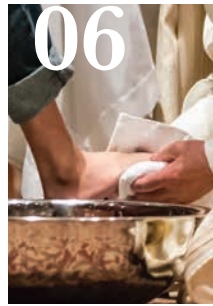
Saturdays 3:30–4:30pm (lent)

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Parish Director

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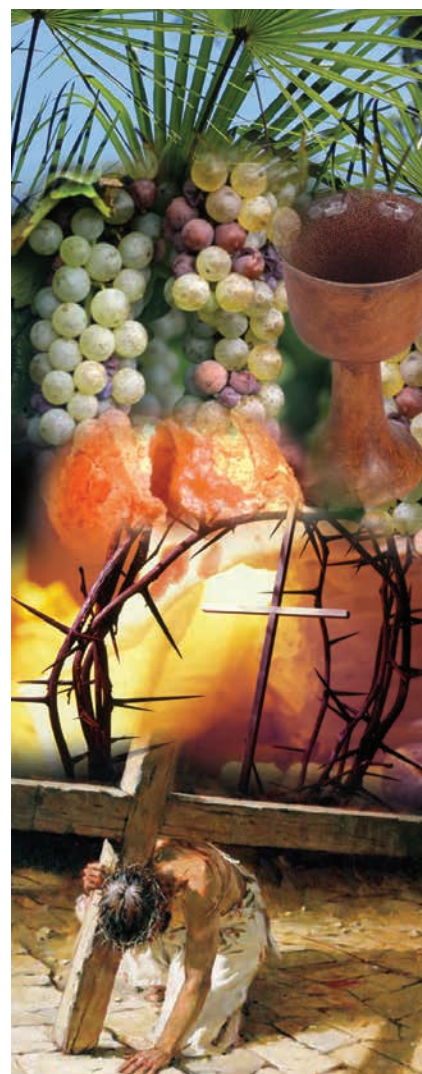
Living into the Easter Story

Many years ago, I had the opportunity to participate in a 30-day silent and guided retreat, with the retreat director utilizing the *Spiritual Exercises* developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola. In the structure of the *Exercises*, there are four “weeks” or movements, with the ultimate purpose of the month-long retreat to experience a sense of spiritual integration of contemplation and action, prayer and service, and emotions and reasons. The two primary forms of praying taught in the *Exercises* are meditation and contemplation. In meditation, the mind is used to ponder the basic principles that guide the Christian life by praying over words, images, and ideas. The contemplative pray-er delves into feeling more than thinking, which stirs

the emotions and the embers of our deepest desires, relying on the power of our imagination to “see” ourselves in the setting and scenes of the Gospels and using our senses to experience the Scriptures, thereby becoming involved in the text by praying with the Scripture rather than studying it. For me, it was a most transformative experience that provided foundation to guide my spiritual journey.

The scriptures of Holy Week are filled with dramatic images as we enter into the story of Jesus’ last days, His death, and the Resurrection. Whether it is the Palm Sunday ride into the holy city of Jerusalem, the intimacy of the Last Supper, the betrayal by Judas and the others gathered who once claimed their support but drifted away because of fear and the need for disassociation, the scenes of the Good Friday passion, crucifixion, and death of Jesus, the grief of His closest followers, the strategizing by the women to visit the tomb, the announcement by the closest ones that Jesus had been raised, all are tableaus containing the opportunity to ponder not only the happenings of this week but the effect this has on us as pilgrims traveling in this part of the twenty-first century. We may reflect on what wisdom we might gain from each story,

Jane Schmitz
Parish Director



Nothing compares to the sensation of
being alive in the company of another.
It is God breathing on the embers of our soul.

– Mark Nepo, *The Way Under the Way*

what impact this part of our Christian story has on us, and our disposition as observers or partakers of this Great Mystery. Jesus, and the Risen Christ's story, is closely united with our story, but how? It will take some prayer and decision to risk peering deeper into these mysteries than perhaps we've done before.

Mystagogy is a word still somewhat foreign to many, and certainly not a word frequently used in the lexicon of our everyday language. In the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, mystagogy is the concluding stage of the movements of initiation into the Christian community. However, in a much larger sense, mystagogy, a Greek word meaning "the uncovering of mystery," encompasses the rest of our faith journey as the people of God. The mysteries of God are always before us, waiting to be noticed, pondered, unfolded, and celebrated. It encompasses our whole life. It is learning how to live into the Easter story, with Jesus' story not eclipsing ours, not overshadowing ours, but guiding our story so that we may make sense of the mysteriousness of the chapters of our lives which define our humanness.

The scriptures of the liturgical cycle of the seven weeks of Easter are rich stories of the appearances of Jesus and the response of the eyewitnesses to those manifestations of the Risen One. As we have been challenged to place ourselves in the descriptive stories of the Holy Week and Easter Sunday events, the invitation still remains as we examine—like Thomas wished to—the wounds and presence of Jesus and their meaning for us today.

Richard Rohr, in his book *Immortal Diamond: The Search for Our True Self*, helps us to understand more clearly a perspective of the message of the Resurrection:

In all accounts, the Risen Body still carries Christ's scars and reveals them too—hands, feet, and side are all mentioned. Remember that resurrection is not woundedness denied, forgotten, or even totally healed. It is always *woundedness transformed*. You still carry your scars forever, as both message and trophy. They still "hurt" in a way, which keeps you mindful and humble, but they no longer allow you to hurt other people. Pain transformed is no longer pain transmitted.

We are who we are. We each have our stories, hopefully a mixture of the joyous, the painful, the wondrous, the challenging, the astounding, the sad, the humorous, with wisdom collected from all of the events of our lives to form our story. We often think that we could write a book about all the unusual circumstances and ordinary narratives that make up our life story. The book is being written. How we live in the light of the Resurrection becomes the subtitle.





The Triduum: An Invitation to See More Clearly and Deeply

Perhaps the most beautiful line ever penned for a pop song came from John Lennon, who began “Strawberry Fields Forever” with the words, “Living is easy with eyes closed, misunderstanding all you see.” An entire book on spirituality could flow from that simple yet profound statement, though we need not write or even read that book when we can experience its truth through full and active participation in the liturgies of the Easter Triduum, considered in and of itself a liturgical season, comprised of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. As we enter deeply into the heart of the Paschal Mystery, we are offered the opportunity to reflect upon and have our eyes opened to the deepest levels of truth. And so what is it that we are to see and experience?

Before answering that, it is important to understand that the spiritual journey that Jesus made is the very same spiritual journey we need to enter into day after day or, in this context, year after year in the celebration of the Triduum. As grateful as I am to live in the times and culture that I do, with all of the advantages it affords me and my family, I am painfully aware that such privilege can aid us in “living with eyes closed.” It becomes too easy to believe that winning and being successful are the only games in town, that suffering, vulnerability, and humiliation can and should be avoided, and that life and death are polar opposites.

What we experience in the celebration of the Triduum liturgies challenges all of those assumptions. For example, my favorite moment in the Holy Thursday celebration is the ritual of the washing of the feet. On one level, it is certainly symbolic of

servant leadership, of compassion, and of loving kindness. But as spiritual writer Ron Rolheiser points out, it is at its deepest level an act of humility, and in a very real powerful way, it teaches us to be willing to “give up our right to be right.” Jesus, who was guilty of nothing, chose to wash the feet of those whom He knew would eventually run away from Him in fear, because He knew it was more important to be in relationship with them than it was to prove to them He was in the right. What would happen in our society if we chose to “wash the feet” of others, especially those with whom we disagree with? For example, what might happen if members of opposing political parties chose to “wash each other’s feet” via coming together at the table and discussing issues compassionately, as opposed to yelling hurtful words and closed statements simply to prove they are right? Might we actually establish deeper roots for new life and Resurrection to occur in our society?

On Good Friday, I am always moved at the beginning of the liturgy, as the celebrant lays prostrate in front of the crucifix, while the rest of the assembled community kneels to remember and enter fully into the reality of Jesus’ death. As I grow older, I find myself not so much focused on the painful and horrific nature of crucifixion (which it certainly must have been) but rather the mere humiliation of it. None of us likes to fail or be humiliated, and yet it is an important part of the spiritual journey. Henri Nouwen understood this concept very well and wrote poignantly throughout his life regarding humiliation as necessary to move us from living at the mere superficial level to a deeper authenticity.



Or as Richard Rohr likes to say, “Success has nothing to teach you after the age of 30.” What he means by that is that though we certainly do not go out and attempt to fail, the most important lessons in life will all come through an experience of failure, of humiliation, of real and/or metaphorical dying. If we take an honest look at our lives and consider the experiences that made us the most deep and compassionate, you will invariably connect your personal depth to experiences that you are most ashamed of, that were most painful, that felt as a type of “death.”

But endure them, and with the grace of God, we can and we will. This becomes most alive for me during the baptisms at the Easter Vigil. Plunged into the waters of death, they are eventually raised out of those waters as new and transformed creations. In all of creation, nothing is born without some sort of death preceding it. Nothing. And this is especially true in our spiritual lives. Ron Rolheiser teaches that there is “no road to the glory and vision of Easter Sunday without passing through the pain and humiliation of Good Friday.” So, as we enter into this most sacred season of the Triduum, it is my hope and prayer that we all can allow a sort of death experience to enter into our lives so that we are more able to be as fully alive as we were created to be. And then perhaps we can go forth into the world with eyes wide open, understanding more fully everything we see and experience, and continue the process of bringing about the Reign of God in the here and now.

Written by Scott Brazil, Director of Faith Formation



HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 9

7:00pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper
(Followed by Adoration in chapel through 10:00pm)

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10

3:00pm Living Stations
7:00pm Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 11 – No private reconciliation

12:00noon Blessing of Easter Food
8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass
(All are invited to a reception immediately following Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12

7:00am Easter Mass
9:00am Easter Mass
11:00am Easter Mass
(No 5:00pm Mass)

MONDAY, APRIL 13

Building Closed, No Morning Mass

Blessing the Easter Food: Holy Saturday, April 11, Noon

The custom of bringing Easter food to the church for a blessing began in Eastern Europe, was brought to the United States by immigrants, and has become more increasingly mainstream. A decorated basket containing a sampling of the foods to be eaten for Easter dinner is blessed on Holy Saturday. Some of the traditional foods are:

- A round loaf of Easter bread, usually decorated with a cross of dough, symbolizing Christ, the True Bread;
- Ham or sausage representing the overabundance of God’s mercy and generosity ;
- Brightly decorated hard-boiled eggs representing new life and Resurrection;
- Butter shaped into a figure of a lamb or small cross as a reminder of Christ;
- Salt for flavor as a reminder of a Christian’s duty to others.



Called to Communion: RCIA Seekers 2020

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is the process in which the Catholic Church welcomes people into the Church. RCIA is much more than a program, it is a process in which conversion of the heart brings one to Jesus Christ through learning, discussion, prayer, and community.

We currently have three candidates who are preparing for Full Communion by celebrating Confirmation and Eucharist with us. Three catechumens will receive all three Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist—at the Easter Vigil Mass.

We welcome all of these new members to the Pax Christi community!



Megan** and Jon* Eddy

Megan and Jon have discerned the call to journey through the RCIA process together. They are the proud parents of two children, Anderson and Everly, both of whom were baptized here at Pax Christi in November of 2019. Megan was baptized in the Baptist tradition while Jon, though having grown up practicing the Presbyterian and Lutheran traditions, was never baptized. They both have heard the call to seek communion with the Catholic Church through the positive experience of their son, Anderson, who is a student at Our Lady of Grace Catholic School in Edina. He expressed a desire to receive his first communion, which inspired Megan and Jon to also seek full communion with the Church. Serving as a sponsor for both Megan and Jon is Heather Peters, whose husband is also in the RCIA process this year.

*Catechumens

(non-baptized individuals seeking full initiation into the Church)

**Candidates

(those baptized in another faith and seeking Full Communion with the Catholic Church)



Scott Fischer**

Scott's life has been that of a spiritual seeker. He grew up in the Presbyterian tradition, but eventually found himself venturing out to different church communities to find a spiritual home. His search has brought him to our Pax Christi community, and he has discerned a call to enter into full Communion with the Catholic Church. His sponsor is parishioner Ken Robinson. There are many aspects of Catholicism that appeal to him, though his devotion to Mary seems to be a primary influence. Scott currently resides in Carver, and he is the father of three children: Isaac (age 24), Tobi (age 20), and Aiden (age 16).



Derek Hoyt**

Derek, who was baptized in the Lutheran tradition but later confirmed in the Congregational Church, has been happily married to his wife, Heather, for 18 years. They have two children: their daughter Lucia (age 13) and their son Alexander (age 10). The call to participate in the RCIA process and receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil, has come through his exposure to and critical exploration of the Catholic faith as a member of the Pax Christi community for several years, as well as a desire to be fully united with the rest of his family in the practice of one faith tradition.



Matt Peters*

Matt has been a member of the Pax Christi community for over eight years and has come to love the sense of community he has experienced during that time. He grew up in the Lutheran tradition, while his wife, Heather, is a lifelong Catholic. They have been married for nearly 13 years and are the proud parents of two children, Joshua and Mark, both of whom attend Notre Dame Academy in Minnetonka. The sense of belonging at Pax Christi, along with the influence of his wife and the positive experience at Notre Dame Academy for his children, have helped Matt discern a call to be baptized and enter into full communion with the Church. His sponsor is his good friend Nick Czaplewski.

Tung Thanh Nguyen*

Tung's call to join the Catholic faith community has been the longest journey of our group—literally. Born in Vietnam in a Buddhist family, Tung moved to the United States at the age of 10 and began attending a Lutheran church. His discernment of the call to the Catholic faith at this time in life is being done in union with his fiancé, Tran, who is also going through the RCIA process in Vietnam. Tung is appreciative of the support he receives from his RCIA sponsor here at Pax Christi, Doai Long Hoang. Tung's plan is to travel back to Vietnam for the wedding after both have celebrated their initiation sacraments.



All Are Welcome:

Pax Christi Values Inclusion

At its founding in 1981, the leaders of Pax Christi carefully chose key values that would identify, guide, and unify us as a Catholic community. One of these enduring values is inclusion. This means that we are committed to building relationships and creating an inclusive culture through our attitudes, actions, and activities. As a parish, we communicate this value of welcoming and belonging in many ways, from greeters at Mass to posts on social media:

- We are committed to sharing vibrant, inclusive celebrations of the Eucharist. But our sanctuary is big. If you can't see what's going on at the altar or ambo, you will be less able to fully engage in the Mass. After 13 years, the rear-projection screens that flank the altar have aged and darkened. This summer, the parish will install two 10 by 16-foot screens that will improve viewing throughout the sanctuary. Better image clarity will also help people who are hearing impaired and rely on reading lips. The project also includes three new cameras, including a swivel camera posted near the baptismal font. This camera will provide better views of the presider at the altar, and it will allow the congregation to more easily view baptisms at the font.

- We want parishioners and guests to know what's going on at Pax Christi. But we don't all get our news the same way. We value clear, regular, targeted communication. Screens throughout the parish building scroll through daily meetings and events. Our weekly announcements are shown before all weekend Masses and are posted online. We share information about our ministries and programs at paxchristi.com and through social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Flocknote, our parish email system, permits us to target messages to specific groups; offers easy opt-out of groups; and allows a safe, secure way to communicate with youth. (Don't use Flocknote? Look for the sheep icon at paxchristi.com to get started.)

- We review the ways we communicate. The ways the parish communicates today may not work tomorrow. For example, Pax Christi has almost completely dropped direct mail. This move reduces our postage and paper expenses, as well as staff and volunteer time. Electronic communication also reflects our commitment to care for creation, one of the themes of Catholic social teaching. However, we also understand that visitors may want to grab a paper bulletin after Mass, and that some parishioners prefer to read a printed magazine. Our communication methods balance these needs to include as many people as possible.

The newly formed Communications Council is committed to engaging our community through effective communication. Share your ideas with the council—or join us! Contact Melissa Nault, Communication Arts Director, at mnault@paxchristi.com.

Written by Nicholle Check, Communications Council Chair

Pax Christi Values

GOD-CENTERED ~ We hold God as the center of our daily lives and provide a place for spiritual rest and rejuvenation.

JUSTICE ~ We advocate for the marginalized and act as catalysts for systemic change.

INCLUSION ~ We build relationships and create an inclusive culture through our attitudes, actions, and activities.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ~ We engage in a lifelong process of spiritual growth and continually learn how to live out our faith.

STEWARDSHIP ~ We acknowledge our God-given gifts and put them into action as we pray, serve, and share.

LAY LEADERSHIP ~ We co-lead and share in the responsibility of upholding the mission of the church.





Teri Karels:

Putting Information in the Hands of the Pax Christi Community for Almost 20 Years

Though they are in clear view, the resource racks which hold pamphlets at Pax Christi's front entrance and near Dorothy Day Hall are a fixture that may easily go unnoticed. But for parishioners who are in need of spiritual guidance or experiencing a major life event—such as the loss of a loved one, illness, a mental health issue, or family discord—the resource racks hold valuable information to help them adapt to life's challenges.

The resource racks are managed by the Care and Support Ministry and are restocked every Thursday morning by Teri Karels. Teri initially took on the job when she was part of the Pastoral Ministry Council in the early 2000s, and has continued to do so ever since. Twenty years is a long time to do anything, but Teri said that stopping in each week just became part of her routine. Teri says her call to this role was something she just “happened upon.” However, given that she has been restocking for so long, it would seem that the job was perfectly suited for her, and it was. Teri was a librarian who has experience working in both public and private libraries, including the Water Resources Center Archives at UC Berkeley, and the Graduate Theological Union Library. She appreciates order and is passionate about people being informed. Restocking the literature each week allows her to satisfy both of these desires.

Teri believes it's important for people to be able to do research on the issues they are dealing with, and the pamphlets can be a good starting point in that process. The other benefit of exploring the literature in the resource racks is that the materials frequently point people to local sources of support. The same is true of the resources listed under the Community Resource section of the Care and Support tab of the Pax Christi website. Teri says that despite the multitude of resources accessible online, many people still like to read a paper copy. The Living Faith and Care Notes are always popular resources and are sometimes difficult to keep in stock. As someone who has used Care Notes herself, Teri says that this resource is a quick read at just eight pages long, addresses a variety of issues, and can be passed along to others.

Teri said that getting to know the staff at Pax Christi is one of the things she has most enjoyed about this role. As a parishioner since 1992, Teri has been involved in other areas of Pax Christi, including Hospitality and Funeral Hospitality, the Pastoral Care Lending Library, Vacation Bible Camp, and Pax Christi's 25th Anniversary Celebration. Despite her longevity in maintaining the resource racks, Teri plans to take a break from restocking. Teri is still called to a role in care and support, but now it will take the form of caring for the ones closest to her.

Written by Karin Poellinger, Staff Writer and Technical Editor

Leap and the Net Will Appear...

It is said that if we, “leap, the net will appear...” There is the paradox that we have to be willing to believe: take a leap and then amazing things will happen. The net was always there but we just didn’t see it. This is true for faith, too.

We baptize our children with the belief that when we make this decision, we invite Christ to walk with our child. We stand in front of our community, family, and friends and claim a life of faith for our child. We publicly say that we will teach and share our faith. We commit to walking in faith ourselves.

But what holds up our beloved community? What makes it grow, flourish, and ensure that it will be here for our children and grandchildren, friends, and neighbors? You do. We do, together.

Every time you show up for Mass, welcome your friends and neighbors at the front doors, sing joyfully, play an instrument, and serve Eucharist, you are sharing your gifts. We are grateful.

You bring hope when you generously drop off groceries or new blankets for neighbors who have little or no resources. You bless a child when you sew a quilt. You build community when you pour coffee or offer a neighbor a ride to a meeting. You show up in so many different ways at Pax Christi and the broader community.

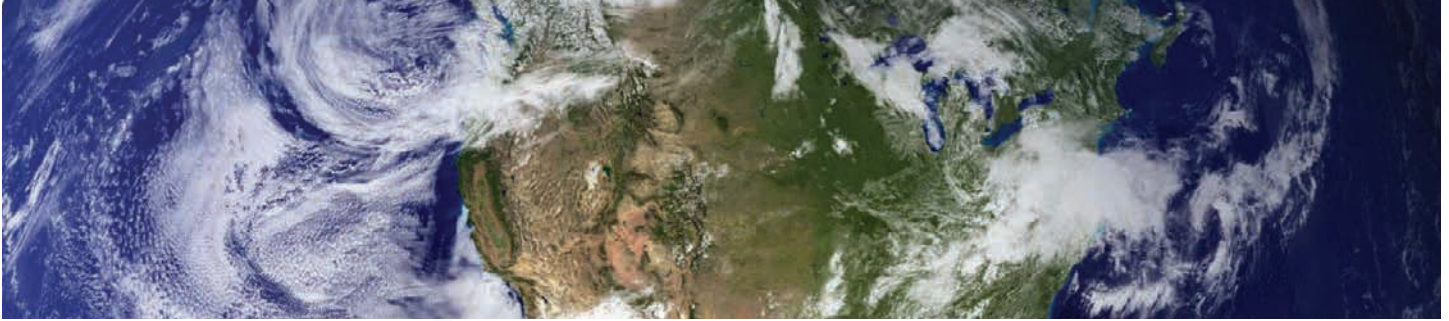
You are telling people every time you serve a meal to a neighbor struggling, or unpack groceries at PROP, that faith matters. You make a difference when you show up, and meet with elected officials to remind them about those who are forgotten. You are a witness to the life of Christ.

This big story of faith needs every “hand on deck.” Some of us are “called” to lead. Whatever your gifts, we are all “called” to serve alongside. We need every prayer. We need your passion, ideas, vision, and enthusiasm. Join us. Consider joining a council. Connect with us on SERVE. Be part of our unfolding story.

Pax Christi is changing the story of what is possible when people of faith come together. I heard recently that **“Christ is the net.”** Maybe we are called to help Christ extend that net in the world. People know Christ because you are showing them. There is more hope, love, friendship, and joy, because of you. Your generosity changes everything in touches.

Written by Maura Schnorbach, Director of Development and Engagement





Earth Day Celebrates 50 Years:

Faith Climate Action Week is April 19–26

Everyone shares a love for our common home. This year's Climate Action Week theme is **Love Made Visible**.

Our first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970. Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin wanted to raise awareness about our role in protecting our planet. It happened in response to oil spills, smog, and rivers so polluted they literally caught fire. He asked Americans to join in a grassroots project demonstrating support for environmental protection. The first Earth Day launched a wave of action. The Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts were created because of the response to the first Earth Day in 1970.

Today this idea has grown bigger and stronger than ever.

Looking for a way to celebrate Earth Week? The Environmental Challenge Committee and the Climate Justice team invite you to check out the table in the narthex the weekend of April 18 and 19 to find ways you can participate and do something special for our common home.

Did you know? One of the highest ranked personal actions that can reduce our carbon footprint is reducing food waste. In fact, if food waste was a nation it would be the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases, behind China and the U.S.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- April 19: Visit the signup table in the narthex for ideas to celebrate Earth Day
- April 19: EMC has a tree specialist speaker presenting in Room 212, 10:00–11:00am
- April 25: Park Cleanup
- May 2: Pax Christi Cleanup 8:00am–1:00pm

WATCH FOR DETAILS TO COME:

- Roadside cleanup
- St. Francis area cleanup

Here are some ways you can show your love for Mother Earth:

- Eat seasonally and regionally as much as possible. The food you consume will travel fewer miles and use less gas to get to your plate.
- Cook from scratch and choose less processed foods. Foods that are processed have a larger carbon footprint than their raw or minimally processed alternatives.
- Reduce food waste by planning ahead and storing food correctly.
- Planting trees absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and puts it back into the earth where it contributes to the health of the soil.
- Sign up to help clean a local park or help clean up the roadside.
- Join us in a tree planting ceremony here at Pax Christi.
- Cut back on plastic consumption. Use cloth grocery bags so you can reuse them.
- Reduce your dependency on bottled water and drinks.
- Conserve water. Water your lawn wisely.
- Create a rain garden or plant an eco-friendly garden.
- Go for a walk and enjoy the smells of fresh air. While you're out, pick up trash you find along the path.

Pope Francis asks "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?"

Let's do our part in preserving our planet so our children are able to enjoy the call of a loon, taste the handiwork of the bee, feel the rush of sparkling clean water, and see the beauty of the monarch as they float through the air on a clear, blue, sunny day.

Written by Peg Musegades, Member of Environmental Challenge Committee and Environmental Justice Social Action Team



We Live to Tell the Tale:

Senior High Winter Retreat

On a beautiful winter evening at the end of January, seven high school youth and two adults from Pax Christi dragged loads of groceries, backpacks, and art supplies into the Episcopal House of Prayer in Collegeville, Minnesota. Over the next two days, the youth had many opportunities for rest and reflection: sleeping in, journaling, creating poetry and art, walking through the woods, cooking for each other, touring the Saint John's Bible Gallery, taking time for solitude, and praying together.

What I know for certain is this: There's something incredibly sacred about the stories of teenagers. These stories are often surprising, heartbreaking, inspiring, and puzzling—sometimes all at once. Young people today can easily use social media and chronic busyness as a shield against vulnerability, hiding from authenticity in the name of conformity and safety. But more than ever, youth desperately need spaces where they can reclaim and rewrite the harmful narratives that have grown up, around, and within them.

Through a variety of contemplative prayer forms, this retreat invited the youth to identify and tell their stories, sharing the experiences and narratives that shape who they are and how they walk through the world. They explored the ways that their

stories can get distorted by their inner critic, by family members and peers, and at times by our church and society as a whole. Additionally, the youth drew on several iconic scripture stories to examine their own stories of identity and calling.

The youth reflected on several questions that all of us would do well to ponder. In fact, I would encourage you to take some time this month to consider the following questions, perhaps through journaling or another prayer practice:

- What are the stories I believe about myself? How are they influenced by those around me? How are they influenced by my experience of religion/spirituality?
- Are there any narratives that seem to disconnect me from God, self, or others? How could I “rewrite” those narratives or see them differently through the lens of love, mercy, joy, hope, and peace?
- What impact could this have on the world around me? How might God be calling me to respond?

Written by Jesse Johnson, Jessie Johnson, Youth Formation Minister

Gift of Love



**Saturday,
April 25**

The 15th Annual Cana Dinner

On April 25, the Hall of Martyrs and the Dorothy Day space will be transformed into Pax Christi's 15th annual Cana Dinner, celebrating the gift of love. The event started by recognizing marriages and has now evolved to include committed couples and widows and widowers. Marriage and committed love are gifts worth celebrating. Being in a committed relationship is both beautiful and difficult, joyful and frustrating, life-giving and continual work. Few of us realize when we stand in front of the person we love and say our vows—"For better for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part"—what that journey will look like.

The wedding feast at Cana was the transformation of water-into-wine—the first public Christian miracle of Jesus. In the Gospel of John, Mary, her son Jesus of Nazareth, and some of His apostles were attending a wedding in Cana, a city in Galilee. During the wedding banquet, the supply of wine was becoming depleted. Running out of wine would have been an embarrassment to the bridegroom's family. At Mary's request, Jesus asked the house servants to fill stone jars with water, which He then transformed into wine (John 2:1-11). The Cana Dinner recognizes this miracle and provides an opportunity to share our journeys with others who have also dedicated their lives to another person.

Over the years we have had many themes for the evening from "All That Jazz" to "A Night in the Tropics." This year's theme is "The Gift of Love." Giving someone your love is an amazing, selfless gift. Love is so hard to describe because it isn't two or three-dimensional. Love between two people grows and changes over time, so much so that it is impossible to capture all its many phases. Being with other parishioners honoring this gift of love promises to be an evening to remember. A hosted cocktail hour begins at 6:00pm, followed by a sit-down dinner with several meal choices. The evening is capped off with entertainment by The Grace Notes Trio. Free childcare is provided, including a meal for the children. Also included is the chance to take a wonderful photo with whomever you bring to the party. Additionally, you will be given the opportunity to request who you will sit with at tables of eight. Register online for \$80.00 per couple. Mark your calendars and come enjoy an evening celebrating love.

Written by Beth Halvorson, Cana Dinner Planning Committee



Ministries of Presence

CARE CENTER VISITORS

Throughout each week, lives of Catholic residents in area care centers are blessed by the presence of regular visitors from Pax Christi. Some shared ministers bring communion and pray one-to-one, and others lead communion services for small groups at various care centers. Monthly celebration of Mass at three area care centers is also supported by Pax Christi care center visitors.

BEFRIENDER MINISTRY

BeFriender ministers are trained laypersons who are available to offer a listening ear to those who are experiencing a difficult or transitional situation. BeFrienders are here to listen and care; BeFrienders do not give advice or judge, and all conversations are kept confidential.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know is homebound and unable to attend Sunday Mass, we have trained shared ministers who can bring communion and offer prayers of support.

PAX PETS MINISTRY

Pax Pets ministers are a group of animal lovers who know and appreciate the ability of pets to demonstrate God's unconditional love. Certified pet teams visit area care centers and make hospice visits. Pet teams meet periodically to gain knowledge and build community with one another.

Training specific to each ministry is provided; ongoing monthly enrichment/education opportunities for shared ministers are offered.

**For additional information visit
www.paxchristi.com/careandsupport.**



France Including Normandy with Fr. Michael Byron

Spend nine nights, August 3-13, 2020, in France touring Normandy, the Loire Valley, and Paris. Visit Lisieux, an important pilgrimage town in France due to Saint Therese, "The Little Flower." Travel the shores of Normandy and visit the cemetery that honors American troops. Enjoy a wine tasting at Château Moncontour. End the trip admiring the illuminated monuments of Paris during a cruise on the River Seine. And so much more! For complete details about this special pilgrimage, visit www.magitravelinc.com.



Share the Soup Warm the Hearts!

A Faith Formation Community-Wide Lenten Opportunity!
All are welcome to join the efforts of the Faith Formation youth to collect over 1,000 cans of soup for PROP. Soup may be donated in the bins located outside Room 130 or in the food bins by the main entrance. Thank you SO much for your generosity in helping to provide a warm meal on a cold winter's night. Please check out www.propfood.org for most current needed foods.

Parishioner News for February 2020

Baptisms

Amelia Diane Ingle	2/16/2020
Grace Louise Irlbeck	2/16/2020
Krosby Jean Kapitan	2/16/2020
Evelyn Marie Lohrenz	2/16/2020
Luca Jacobe Sebolboro	2/16/2020

Funerals

Lourdes Lacaba	2/6/2020
Brian Foltz	2/7/2020
Patrice Marie Alkire	2/20/2020
Phyllis J. Olson	2/21/2020
Joseph M. Longval	2/28/2020

New Members

Simon and Kate Blaser
 Gregory Bode and Ann Wendling
 David Cummings and Josephine Ju
 Robert and Lubomira Ireland
 Thompson and Kimberly Lewis

Readings for April 2020

Available online at www.usccb.org/bible/readings

READINGS FOR THE WEEK APRIL 5, 2020

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25
 Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27;
 Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
 Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc,
 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
 Friday: Is 52:13 – 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25;
 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 – 19:42
 Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 – 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10,
 12, 13-14, 24, 35; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16:
 5, 8-11; c) Ex 14:15 – 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; d) Is 54:5-14; Ps
 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 – 4:4;
 Ps 19:8-11; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 h) Rom
 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mt 28:1-10
 Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col
 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

READINGS FOR THE WEEK APRIL 12, 2020

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15
 Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18
 Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35
 Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48
 Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14
 Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-21; Mk 16:9-15
 Sunday: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9;
 Jn 20:19-31

READINGS FOR THE WEEK APRIL 19, 2020

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
 Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
 Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21;
 Lk 24:13-35

READINGS FOR THE WEEK APRIL 26, 2020

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29
 Tuesday: Acts 7:51 – 8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; Jn 6:30-35
 Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40
 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51
 Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59
 Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69
 Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23:1-6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10



Whats going on...

TWELVE BASKETS EASTER BASKET DRIVE

Weekends of March 28/29 and April 4/5

Twelve Baskets Ministry invites us once again to use our imaginations to create colorful, bountiful Easter Baskets for children in need. Some suggestions: crayons, books for K-6, small games, coloring books, small toys, school supplies, healthy snacks, small amounts of Easter candy, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and shampoo. If possible, please wrap your Easter basket in cellophane. Baskets will be delivered to Holy Rosary Parish, Extension Services, East Side Learning Center, and St. Pascal's. Note that empty baskets, items to fill them, and gift cards are always welcome. Thank you for responding with a generous heart! Visit Twelve Baskets Amazon wish list online at <http://a.co/8DDP0A7>

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, April 3, beginning with Mass at 8:30am

Come and join other parishioners for Mass in the chapel at 8:30am, followed by coffee and hospitality. The event is sponsored by the Pax Christi Boomers and Beyond. All are welcome!

FARE FOR ALL

Tuesday, April 7, 3:30-5:30pm

Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/fareforall.

BOOMERS AND BEYOND
PAX CHRISTI SENIOR MINISTRY

Sign-up at www.paxchristi.com/boomers
to receive info on upcoming events.

Upcoming events include:

- April 3:** First Friday Coffee and Conversation
- April 15:** Brunch and Speaker
- April 16:** Feed My Starving Children

A CALLING TO LEADERSHIP

Council Information Sessions

Tuesday, April 14 or Thursday, April 16, 6:30-8:00pm **RSVP**

At Pax Christi we are preparing, A Call to Leadership. We will have two information nights and a commitment night to explore the "calling" to council leadership at Pax Christi. This is an opportunity to pray, to reflect, and to learn about our nine councils from our leadership. You may attend one of the information nights on April 14 or 16. The commitment night is on May 6. We are knocking at your door. Please RSVP online at www.paxchristi.com/layleadership.

MOMS ROCK: YOUTHLINK

Wednesday, April 15, 9:30-11:30am, Room 212, \$10 **RSVP**

YouthLink is a non-profit organization in the Twin Cities and is also one of Pax Christi's Justice Grant Board recipients. YouthLink provides case management for residents in St. Barnabas and Archdale Apartments, and training for those working with formerly homeless youth. Come learn more about the important work they do to empower teens and young adults and help them get off the streets! Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

BOOMERS AND BEYOND BRUNCH/SPEAKER

Second in the Series of Comparative Religions

Wednesday, April 15, 10:00am Brunch, 11:00am Speaker **RSVP**

The second speaker in our comparative religions series is Dr. Tamim Saidi, who will give a brief introduction of the Islam faith and then provide a comparison of Islam to Christianity. As a teenager, Dr. Saidi was forced to leave his family behind and flee to Pakistan as a refugee. He came to the United States in 1990, and has called Minnesota home ever since. In addition to receiving a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Minnesota, Dr. Saidi completed a two-year Multi-Religious Fellowship Program with the Collegeville Institute. He has served in many community activities, and for the past 20 years has served as a Sunday school teacher at the Islamic Center of Minnesota. Dr. Saidi has spoken and presented to thousands of Minnesotans about Islam and Muslim culture. Some of his articles have appeared in the Star Tribune, Pioneer Press, USA Today, St. Cloud Times and MN Daily. Register online today!



COMPASSIONATE CARE LISTENING CIRCLE

Thursday, April 16, 3:00–4:30pm RSVP

The Compassionate Care Listening Circle gathers monthly and is open to anyone who finds themselves at a crossroads in life. The listening circle provides a safe place for reflection and meaningful conversation as one strives to find an awareness of God in the face of life challenges. These challenges can include loss, caregiving responsibilities, mental illness, grief, chronic illness, or any life transition. In this small group setting we will have time for ritual, prayer, and sharing around a monthly topic. For more information, or if you would like to join this group, contact Jean Thoresen, Director of Care and Support Ministry, 952-405-7211, or jthoresen@paxchristi.com.

MOMS ROCK: ALLYSON SEGAR-COHEN

Wednesday, April 22, 9:30–11:30am, Room 212, \$10 RSVP

Allyson Segar-Cohen will lead us in a fun morning of crafts. Moms ROCK welcomes all parents, parents-to-be, and anyone else interested in joining. Gatherings include brunch and relaxing social time, followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

EASTER EVENING OF REFLECTION FOR ADULTS

Facilitated by Fr. Steve McMichael, O.F.M.
Thursday, April 23, 6:30–8:30pm, Room 212

Our faith is built on belief in the Resurrection, which is not simply a one-time event but an experience believers are called to enter into in the here and now. What would it mean to our lives of faith to live out the call of being an Easter people? Fr. Steve McMichael, relying on the witness of the gospel accounts, will help us unpack that question.

ANNUAL CANA DINNER

Saturday, April 25, 6:00–9:30pm RSVP

Couples of all ages are welcome to celebrate the "Gift of Love" when spring is in the air. The evening begins with a hosted wine reception followed by a catered dinner. After dinner, while entertained, enjoy coffee, wine, and dessert as the sun sets behind the pond. A couple's photo op will be offered during the evening, so be sure to dress as you would for a cocktail/dinner party. Tickets are \$80 per couple and include loving childcare. Register online now!

MISSION APPEAL WEEKEND

May 9 and 10 at all Masses

We welcome Bishop Chad Zielinski, the Bishop of Fairbanks, Alaska, for the annual Mission Appeal. He will speak on behalf of the Catholic Missions of Northern Alaska. Bishop Zielinski shepherds the largest geographic diocese in the country, a diocese that stretches over 410,000 square miles of wilderness, where 11,000 Catholics call their home. Amongst the poorest diocese in the nation, only eight of its 46 parishes and missions are capable of financial self-sufficiency. We look forward to Bishop Zielinski's presence as he shares his unique perspective of ministering to the church in Northern Alaska. A second collection will be held this weekend for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in the 49th state.

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE/JUSTICE TRIP

June 28–July 3, \$200 RSVP

Current ninth through twelfth graders—make this summer the best one yet by traveling with Pax Christi to St. Louis, Missouri, June 28–July 3! Meet youth from Pax Christi and across the country as we experience a week of service, justice, and solidarity. The cost is \$200, and scholarships are available. Register online or contact Jessie Johnson, Youth Formation Minister, 952-405-7210, or jjohnson@paxchristi.com, with any questions.

THE BEST WEEK OF THE SUMMER!!

Bible Camp 2020

Week of July 20, 9:00am–12:00pm RSVP

Calling all campers from age three years to fifth grade! Come for faith, fun, and friendships. Fee includes a camp T-shirt, CD, daily snack, craft, and celebration activities. Come enjoy the best week of the summer with bible stories, music, crafts, games, and outreach opportunities. We need leaders in all areas, so please answer this calling. Contact Renee Dignan, Camp Director, for more information, rdignan@paxchristi.com. Register online today!

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER SERVICE WEEK

Week of July 20, 8:30am–4pm, Room 111, \$175 RSVP

Sixth through eighth graders, join us for a week of service and fun! The middle school summer service week runs concurrently to Vacation Bible Camp with service opportunities in the morning and fun activities in the afternoon. Lunch and transportation is included. The participants will visit a variety of service sites in the morning, and enjoy fun activities such as Cascade Bay, Grand Slam, and Valleyfair in the afternoon! Questions? Contact Evan Bierer, Youth Formation Minister, 952-405-7213, or ebierer@paxchristi.com.



Staff Contacts

PASTOR

Fr. Michael Byron
952-405-7219

DEACONS

Al Schroeder 952-405-7205
Charles Bobertz 952-405-7239

PARISH DIRECTOR

Jane Schmitz 952-405-7238

PARISH FINANCIAL MANAGER

Sue Fier 952-405-7202

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Maria Miller 952-405-7217
Andrea Ward 952-405-7207
Sally Bergum 952-405-7229

COMMUNICATION ARTS DIRECTOR

Melissa Nault 952-405-7221

CARE AND SUPPORT MINISTRY

Director Jean Thoresen 952-405-7211
Care Ministry Coordinator Renee Reardon 952-405-7200

FAITH FORMATION

Director (Adult Faith, RCIA, Preschool) Scott Brazil 952-405-7230
Grades 1 through 5, CLOW Renee Dignan 952-405-7212
Grades 6 through 8 Evan Bierer 952-405-7213
Grades 9 through 12 Jessie Johnson 952-405-7210

JUSTICE

Director Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247

OPERATIONS

Director Ken Reineccius 952-405-7250
Building Services Todd Nelson 952-405-7233

DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Director Maura Schnorbach 952-405-7220
Community Life Coordinator Lisa Cox 952-405-7204
Nursery and Hospitality Coord. Janell McBeain 952-405-7242

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Director Donna Kasbohm 952-405-7240
Liturgy and Funeral Coord. Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247
Teen Choir Sarah Wybaczynsky 952-405-7243

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Fr. Michael Byron, Pastor
Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
Fred Baumer, Chair
Nicholle Check
Mike Kennedy
Andy Leet
Mary Frances Messer
Dale Nelson
Phyllis Olson
Ricardo Ortiz-Nava
Dave Putrich
Mike Schneider
Cindy Schuh
Julie Tyler

PARISH TRUSTEES

Bruce Koehn
Carolyn Zucker

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Mike Kennedy

April

See page 18–19 for details
or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			Tot-Time Open Gym		First Friday Social Stations of the Cross	Easter Basket Drive
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Easter Basket Drive Faith Formation Sessions		Fare for All Baptism Prep Session		Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Living Stations 3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion 7pm	Blessing of Easter Food 12pm Easter Vigil 8pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Easter Sunday Mass: 7am, 9am, 11am	BUILDING AND PARISH OFFICE CLOSED NO MASS	Leadership Information Session	Boomer's Brunch and Speaker Event Moms ROCK Faith Formation Sessions	Compassionate Care Listening Circle Leadership Information Session		New Member Sign-up Weekend
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
New Member Sign-up Weekend Faith Formation Sessions		Leadership Meetings	Moms ROCK Faith Formation Sessions	Easter Evening of Reflection for Adults		Cana Dinner
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Faith Formation Sessions			Tot-Time Open Gym			

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CRS RICE BOWL PROGRAM



Lent is a journey we undertake as a community of faith and as a global Church. We are companions on this Lenten journey, giving and receiving support in our prayers, fasting and almsgiving, encouraging one another to care for our neighbors most in need as we prepare for the coming of Easter. Join nearly 14,000 faith communities in 180 dioceses around the U.S. who are participating in the CRS Rice Bowl Program. You are invited to use the Lenten Calendar—included with every CRS Rice Bowl—to reflect on the realities of our brothers and sisters around the world and how we can be in solidarity during the Lenten season. CRS Rice Bowls will be available to take home starting We encourage you to participate in this life-giving, love-giving, transformational journey right in your own home!



Church of Pax Christi of Eden Prairie
12100 Pioneer Trail
Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208

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TWIN CITIES, MN

**Please deliver
by March 31.**



15th Annual Cana Dinner

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 25,
6:00PM**



**Register online for \$80 per couple -
includes catered dinner, wine, dessert, childcare, entertainment**

Complete details on page 15 or online at www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration.