

Church of the Epiphany ♦ Rumford, Rhode Island

# The Herald

Late Summer- 2010

## From the Rector

I tend to approach September with a love/hate attitude, at least until it actually begins. I love the idea of a new school year and the feeling of a fresh start in all kinds of ways. My children anticipate new teachers, my husband greets new students, and we all look forward to new beginnings. At church we experience renewal with lively programs and a surge in attendance and energy. This year, our new assistant, Edmund has given us lots to anticipate. I look forward to fellowship and worship with old and new friends. As in many families, our calendar at home and church begins to look different in September. We add more commitments and a routine begins to take shape. I love the idea of the new routine...but, then again, I hate saying goodbye to the spacious days of summer. I tend to worry over how it will all fit together, and if I will be able to keep up. I start to fret about time and my perception that it will become scarce.

This year, I've been given a spiritual gift that is helping me to move through the transition. Last week our clothes dryer broke. At first I did not experience this as a gift, but rather as a crisis. Just at

the time when the piles of sweaty play clothes and wet pool towels were about waist high, we realized that our dryer was blowing cold air. Soon after, we learned that the repair would take weeks. I tried not to panic thinking of the pace of the school days and the mountains of laundry.

Then one day, I looked out the window to see rows of colored clothing hanging in the back yard. Mike had strung our fence posts with clotheslines and clean laundry. I've been out back now for several days, spending early mornings and late afternoons quietly pinning up linens and clothes, testing for dryness, and folding the finished laundry. This may sound strange, but it has been like praying. Actually, it has been prayer. It has quieted my mind, given me deep gratitude, and reminded me of God's presence.

Today as I was hanging a load of whites, I was moved by the colors of the maple tree overhead and the breeze moving gently through its leaves. Hanging a whole load of laundry on an outside line is vastly different from stuffing it in the dryer in a basement and setting a timer. When it is all smoothed out and lined up,

*continued on page 4*



## Church of the Epiphany

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[www.epiphanyep.org](http://www.epiphanyep.org)

We are in the Episcopal  
Diocese of Rhode Island,  
numbering over 25,000  
members.

*Bishop:*

*The Rt. Rev'd Gerilyn Wolf*

We are part of the  
Episcopal Church in the  
USA, numbering over 2.5  
million people.

*Presiding Bishop:*

*The Most Rev'd Katharine  
Jefferts Schori*

We are part of the Anglican  
Communion, a global  
community of 78 million  
people.

*Archbishop of Canterbury:*

*The Most Rev'd Rowan  
Williams*



## WORKING MISSION STATEMENT

*We welcome all for Christian  
worship, fellowship, and service,  
trusting God to transform our lives  
and the world.*

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### **HERALD DEADLINE**

Late Autumn *Herald* issue  
deadline is October 17.

**STAFF**

The Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick  
*Rector*

The Reverend Edmund Harris  
*Assistant to the Rector*

Nathaniel Taylor  
*Music Director*

Beth Dench  
*Parish Administrator*

Jim Hibbert  
*Sexton*

*You can reach staff by email by using  
firstname@epiphanyep.org*

**VESTRY**

Dennis Burton, *Senior Warden*

Bill Dench, *Junior Warden*

Scott Haggerty, *Treasurer*

Michelle Callahan, *Clerk*

Janice Johnson '11

Megan Mistretta '11

George Nunes '11

Bill Chase '12

Judy Lockard '12

Gracelynn Rizzolo '12

Alan Hess '13

Kathy Ivey '13

Bruce Lambert '13

Emily Dench, *Jr. member*

Matthew Hawryluk, *Jr. member*

**REGULAR EVENTS @ Epiphany**

**Sunday**

8:00a.m. Holy Eucharist, no music

9:15a.m. Christian Education

10:30a.m. Holy Eucharist, w/music

5:30p.m. Overeaters Anonymous

**Tuesday**

7:30p.m. Gamblers Anonymous

**Thursday**

7:30p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

**Vestry meets on third Wednesday  
of each month at 7p.m.**

All are welcome to attend.

*See calendar for special events*

*Continued from cover*

pillowcases, cloth napkins, towels, shirts, stuffed bears and all else, I cannot ignore thoughts of the bodies and the richness of life in my home. Today the laundry reminded me of my family as they headed out for the first day of school. I prayed for each one as I pinned up t-shirts and socks. I remembered that growing up, this was how we *always* did laundry and I gave thanks for my mother who washed my play clothes when I was a child. My neighbor left for her hour-long commute as I was finishing up outside. She is a practicing Muslim, fasting in this season Ramadan. I prayed for her as she seeks a deeper connection to God in these hot days without food or drink.

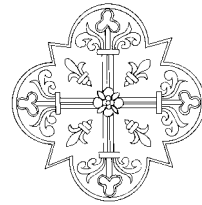
The clothesline and the ordinary work of hanging clean laundry taught me again, that when I approach life with awareness and gratitude, there is always more than enough. There is more than enough energy from the sun to dry the clothes. There are more than enough clothes. And I can certainly stop fretting! There is more than enough time to do whatever *really* needs to be done. There is more than enough love in my family, in my church and in God's loving embrace of us all. Perhaps the laundry has taught me to remember that God is present in the most ordinary times and people, even in the chores.

As we all move through the transition from summer into autumn, we are invited to deepen our lives in Christ through the many fresh opportunities for worship, education, fellowship and service through our church. This *Herald* is filled with such

opportunities and I look forward to sharing them with you. May we also pay attention to God's presence in the most ordinary of moments: the dinner tables, the sports fields, the clothes lines. There is more than enough of whatever we will need.

*Jennifer*

## Upcoming Dates



### Baptism

\* All Saints Sunday,  
November 7

\* Baptism of Our Lord,  
Sunday, January 9, 2011

*Please speak with our clergy for  
more information.*

Welcome Sunday  
September 26, 2010

Speak with Jennifer or Edmund  
if you would like to become a  
member of Epiphany.



## Program and Budget Hearings

During the month of September the Program and Budget Committee will be presenting a one year budget, for the purpose of operating the Diocese of Rhode Island in 2011. Come find out what your parish dollars can build for the whole of the Diocese.

Your attendance and participation at these hearings is vital, to help discern the call of Christ for the Diocese in this financially and spiritually challenging environment. All are welcome to come, learn, and discuss! Parish Delegates are especially encouraged to attend, in order to make well informed votes at Convention in October.

The Program and Budget Committee was charged at the last Diocesan Convention with recasting our budget for the upcoming year and anticipating the insights of the Mission Task Force. The Committee has worked diligently during this past year to develop a financial profile that most effectively promotes vital parishes. Be with us to add your voice and insights to this important process.

Questions? Contact Ty Creason (401) 274 4500 x 242



### Hearing Dates

Tuesday Sept. 7th, 7pm @ St. Michael's, Bristol

Wednesday Sept. 8th, 7pm @ St Luke's, East Greenwich

Tuesday Sept. 14th, 7pm @ St. Mark's, Warwick

Thursday Sept. 16th, 9am (For Clergy Only) @ The Cathedral of St. John

Saturday Sept. 18th, 9am @ The Cathedral of St. John

## From the Assistant

### New Sunday Evening Service to Begin on November 28th

Earlier this year, as I was discerning about whether to apply for the position of Assistant at Epiphany, one of the items on the job description that piqued my curiosity was the opportunity to initiate a third regular worship service during this coming winter. Both in seminary and before, designing worship has always been a particular joy of mine, especially when liturgy allows people to experience God in new and life-giving ways.

I'm very excited to announce that a regular Sunday evening service will be starting at Epiphany on the first Sunday of Advent, November 28th at 6 p.m.

The Worship Commission, Jennifer, Nat, and I envision that this service will be brief, simple, and beautiful. There will be candlelight, incense on occasion, hymns and chants from diverse sources, readings from scripture, a short homily, and Holy Communion. To allow for greater flexibility of seating, it will take place in the parish hall, and will be followed each week by a simple soup meal. Lastly—and most importantly—everyone is welcome. People who've never set foot in church, and regular churchgoers alike. Singles in their twenties, families with young children, and people in the eighties. Everyone!

Now a question I've already heard from some people in the congregation is: why do we need another service? We're

not bursting at the seams on Sunday morning yet, so why should we offer an additional liturgy? Good question! True enough, we're not exactly at the point of lining the aisles with folding chairs every Sunday morning. At the same time, however, I'm not of the mind that we can always measure our growth entirely in numbers, nor do I believe we should wait passively and hope that the crowds come. As members of the Body of Christ, you and I believe that our community has some extraordinarily good news to share

with the people of East Providence and beyond. News that might compel us to take our worship places it hasn't gone before.

Since the very beginning of the Church—and even beforehand according to the Jewish custom—Christians have gathered to worship God at different hours of the day. Although Sunday morning has always been the primary occasion for worship in the Church, Christians have also recognized that praying at other times of the day—including the evening—enabled them to encounter God in different and powerful ways. From the perspective of someone who spends a lot of time thinking about what we do at church, one of the greatest challenges that the Church of the 21st century faces will be finding meaningful ways for people to encounter God. Not a long while ago, people took it for granted that life revolved around Sunday morning. Stores were closed. Fewer people worked.

*I'm very excited to announce that a regular Sunday evening service will be starting at Epiphany on the first Sunday of Advent, November 28 at 6 p.m.*

And certainly no one had soccer practice! Alas, these are no longer the realities. For many people—including faithful members of our own congregation—Sunday morning is no longer a time that is free for worship.

It's sometimes easy to see challenges like these as part of an insurmountable obstacle. But I think that a more authentic Christian response to these challenges is to see them as an invitation from the Holy Spirit to find new and creative ways to

welcome people into our life at Church. It is my belief that an evening service will empower us to open our doors a little wider to people in our own church community, as well as the larger community in the hope that more people will have an encounter with Jesus in this place.

In the peace of Christ, *Edmund*

## Blessing of the Animals



Bring your animals and yourselves to Church of the Epiphany, Sunday, October 3 at 10:30 a.m. (8 a.m. service is pet-free) for the Blessing of the Animals. During the service, animals of all kinds and sizes will be brought forward to be blessed. Please bring your pets on a leash or in a carrier.



## Sunday School Registration

Registration for Christian Education classes has begun. And the new program year at Epiphany begins on September 12! We strongly encourage you to register yourself and/or your child before the first day of classes. A registration table is located in the entrance of the church. Questions? Call or email Edmund at [edmund@epiphanyep.org](mailto:edmund@epiphanyep.org). Whether you're 3 or 93, we invite you to take advantage of the excellent opportunities for Christian formation at Epiphany this year. These include:



**Godly Play** (Aged 3 though 6<sup>th</sup> gr.)

**Rite-13** (Ages 11-14)

**Journey to Adulthood** (Ages 14-16)

**Young Adults in Church** (Ages 16-18)

**Adult Education**

**Bible Study**



## *Blessing of backpacks, briefcases and bags*

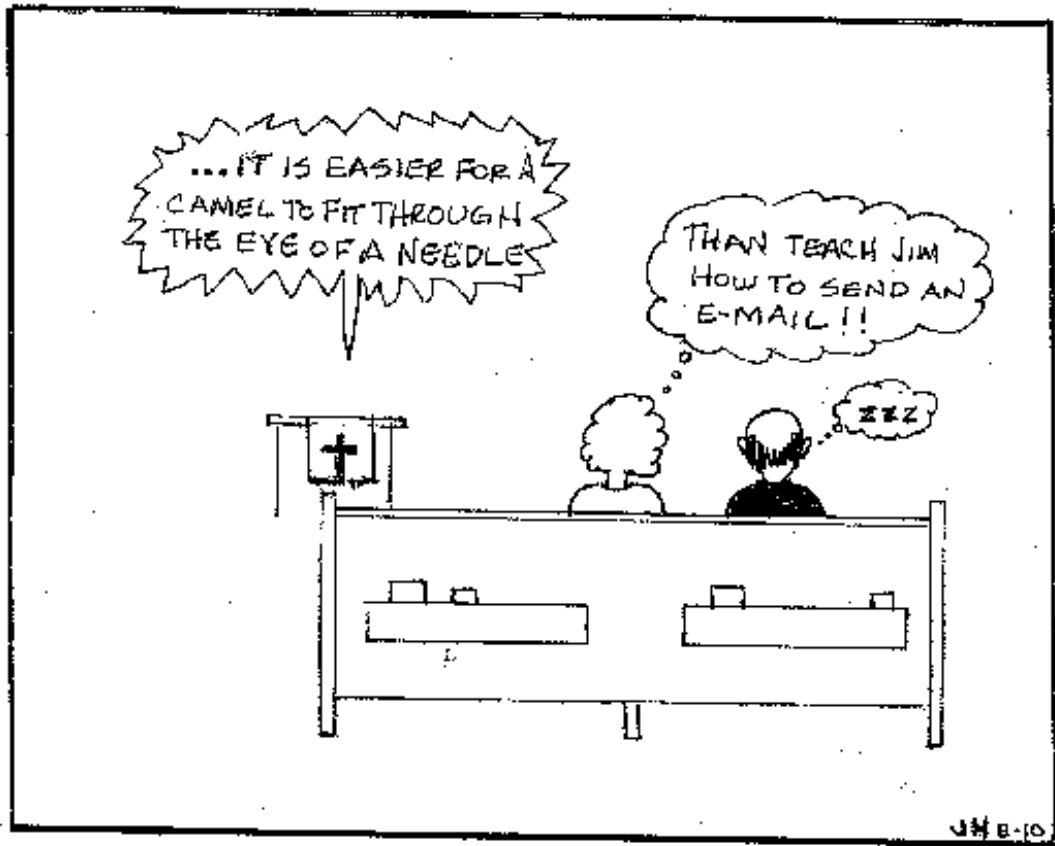


Sunday, September 12, be sure to bring your backpacks, briefcases, book bags or whatever you use to carry your things to and from school or work, to church to be blessed. Backpack/bag blessings will be done at both the 8 & 10:30 services. Start the fall off right!

## **Commissioning of Teachers and Students**

On Sunday, September 12 we will commission teachers & students to begin our Christian Education program year. Also, at both the 8 & 10:30 a.m. services, students will receive a very special gift to encourage them on their Christian journey.

# “Amused” by JIM



## From the Assistant

### ***Christian Education Begins Sunday, September 12th!***

In the service of Holy Baptism in the Prayer book, one of the promises we all make as members of the Body of Christ is to “support these persons in their life in Christ.” One of the most important ways that we fulfill this solemn vow and embody the support we have promised to give one another is through the strong Christian Education program at Epiphany. The excellent opportunities for Christian formation that we enjoy at Epiphany provide all of us with manifold ways to grow into the full stature of Christ. Whether as a teacher or a student this autumn, you and your family are invited to join in! Christian Education takes place on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. and lasts until 10:15 a.m.

### **Rite 13**

Ages: grades 7 & 8

Teachers: *Jim Bryant & Renée Haggerty*

### **Journey to Adulthood (J2A)**

Ages: 14-16

Teachers: *Jessica D’Alessandro & Tom Mistretta*

### **Young Adults in Church (YAC)**

Ages: 16-18

Teachers: *Maurice Holmes & Geri Manning*

**Godly Play**, Ages: 3 through grade 6  
Teachers: *Jenny Dickinson, Kathy Ivey,  
Natosha Johnson, Jennifer Pedrick, Meg  
Pilato, Ruth Porter*



### **GODLY PLAY SCHEDULE**

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- 12 Circle of the Church Year
- 19 The Good Shepherd & World  
Communion
- 26 The Great Family

#### **OCTOBER**

- 3 St. Francis, Blessing of the  
Animals
- 10 The Story of Abraham
- 17 Jacob
- 24 King David
- 31 Exile and Return

**Godly Play Training**  
**Church of the Epiphany**  
**Saturday, September 18**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
Speak with Edmund if you  
are interested in  
attending.

**Adult Education Opportunities Autumn 2010**

All Ages

*Facilitators: Edmund Harris & Jennifer Pedrick*

9/12 – Opening the Bible Again (or for the First Time):

An Introduction to the Old and New

Testaments: Part 1– Introduction

9/19 – Opening the Bible: Part 2 – The Old

Testament I: The Pentateuch

9/26 - Opening the Bible: Part 3 – The Old

Testament II: The “Writings” and  
the Prophets

10/3 – Opening the Bible: Part 4 – The

New Testament I: The Gospels

10/10 – Opening the Bible: Part 5 – The New

Testament II: Letters of Paul & Revelation of John

10/17 – Marked as Christ’s Own Forever: Part 1 – Preparation for Holy

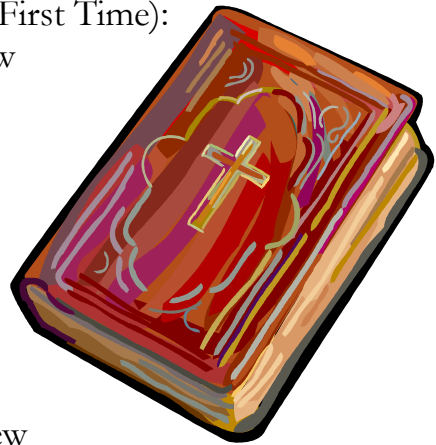
Baptism on All Saints Sunday

10/24 – Marked as Christ’s Own Forever: Part 2 – Preparation for Holy

Baptism on All Saints Sunday

10/31 – Marked as Christ’s Own Forever: Part 3 – Preparation for Holy

Baptism on All Saints Sunday



**Bible Study**

All Ages

*Facilitators: Richard & Carol Marsland*

**Weekday Bible Study (Lectio Divina)**

All Ages, Mondays at 7 p.m.

Location: The home of Bo and Kathy Ivey

*Facilitators: Bo and Kathy Ivey*



# Ministry Fair



Photos: Jennifer Pedrick

## Music Notes



As I write this, music is spilling out all over: on the shelves, on the chairs, on the piano, and, most of all, on the floor of the music room! We are sorting, organizing, and reshelving our large collection of music as we prepare for a new choral season beginning Sunday, September 12. On the 9th, Junior and Adult Choirs both begin our regular Thursday rehearsals - youth from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., and adults from 7:30 to 9 p.m. We look forward to building on last year's robust sound, by including more traditional choral anthems as well as continuing to lead a broad range of congregational hymn singing. We hope to sing out more in the community, whether it is in ecumenical services, hymn sings, or even neighborhood caroling at Christmastide. One important musical development on our horizon is the introduction of a weekly evening service, to begin in Advent, which will include simple participatory music that may recall ancient Christian traditions.

As September unfolds, stay tuned for news of upcoming musical offerings and

events, in the weekly bulletins and e-News. And, as always, please let me know if you have any particular feedback or desires about our musical worship, or if you would like to participate more fully in our musical life!

*Nat*

## Gentle Yoga

*Be still and know that I am God.*

Psalm 46:11



On September 14, Yoga classes will resume after the summer hiatus. They are offered every Tuesday evening beginning at 6 in the Parish Hall of Church of the Epiphany. Instructor, Maggie Martin is usually in the room before that for any newcomers who want to talk with her prior to their first class. The class is an all level/"user-friendly" class that allows for gentle stretches and warm-ups followed by standing poses, hip opener poses, twists and forward folds. Modifications are offered for all poses and physical abilities/limitations.

*Classes will start at 6 p.m. and run to 7:15 p.m. There is a fee of \$10/class. For more information, you can reach Maggie at 401-846-2080.*

## Calendar

*Saturday, September 4, 9 a.m.- Noon*

**Not By Bread Alone** retreat. Participants will bake bread for the Eucharist as well as share a time of prayer and fellowship.

*Tuesday, September 7, 9-11:30 a.m.*

**The Thrift Shop reopens** after it's summer hiatus. Regular hours, Tuesdays & Saturdays, 9-11:30 a.m.

*7 p.m.*

**Building & Grounds Commission meeting** in the Living room.

*Thursday, September 9, 7:30-9 p.m.*

**Senior Choir** resumes Thursday night rehearsals. Speak with our Music Director, Nat Taylor if this is something of interest to you.

*Sunday, September 12, 8 & 10:30 a.m.*

The new program year of **Christian Education** begins today. **Blessing of backpacks**, book bags & briefcases will be done at both services; bring whatever you use to carry your things to and from school or work, to church to be blessed. Start the fall off right!



*Monday, September 13, 7-9 p.m.*

**Finance Commission meeting** in the Living room.

*Tuesday, September 14, 5 p.m.*

**Bread of Life Food Pantry** is open this evening at Newman Congregational Church.

*Tuesday, September 14, 6-7:15 p.m.*



Join yoga instructor, Maggie Martin, for **Gentle Yoga** classes in our Parish Hall. Each class is \$10 and Maggie is available before class for any questions you may have.

*Wednesday, September 15, 7 p.m.*

**Vestry Meeting** in the Parish Hall. The meeting is open to all parish members.

*Saturday, September 18, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.*

**A Godly Play Training** will be held at Epiphany for everyone involved in our Godly Play ministry or would like to be.

*Sunday, September 26*

On this day, **Welcome Sunday**, we will recognize new members who are formally joining our church.

*Tuesday, September 28, 5 p.m.*

**Bread of Life Food Pantry** is open this evening at Newman Congregational Church.

*Saturday, October 2, 9 a.m.- Noon*

**Not By Bread Alone** retreat. Participants will bake bread for the Eucharist as well as share a time of prayer and fellowship.

*Sunday, October 3, 10:30 a.m.*

**Blessing of the Animals** at the 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (the 8 a.m. service will be pet-free.)



**Late Summer 2010***Tuesday, October 5, 7 p.m.***Building & Grounds Commission meeting** in the Living room.*Sunday, October 17***Autumn *Herald* deadline.***Monday, October 18, 7-9 p.m.***Finance Commission meeting** in the Living room.*Saturday, October 24, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.***The 220th RI Diocesan Convention** will be held at the Marriott Hotel, Orms Street, Providence.*Sunday, October 31*Today is **Dedication Sunday**. We will be turning in our 2011 pledges at the offertory.*11:30 a.m.*Come to the **Halloween Spooktacular** following the 10:30 a.m. service. Join us in the Parish Hall for games, food and fun! Don't forget to wear your costumes!*Sunday, October 31***Celebration of All Saints** including Holy Baptism.

## The pumpkins are coming!



Pumpkins, for our annual **Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser**, will arrive sometime in the first week of October and we will need every possible volunteer to make it successful. There's something for everyone, from helping to unload the pumpkins to the daily sales of pumpkins & gourds. Watch for the signup sheet and add your name to the list ~ help make this the best Pumpkin Patch yet! Contact Janice Johnson at 508-761-8622 or [momj6311@msn.com](mailto:momj6311@msn.com)

# Coming Events

**Sunday, September 12** – The new Christian Education program year begins! Don't forget to bring your backpacks, book bags & briefcases to be blessed at either the 8 or 10:30 a.m. services.

**Sunday, October 3** – Blessing of the Animals at the 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (the 8 a.m. service will be pet-free.)

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