

April 25 2019

**“Our mission is to celebrate God’s transforming Love in Jesus, by following where Jesus’ Love is calling us to serve the community”**

On Sunday, April 28

— 8 am Said Eucharist

—10 am Sung Eucharist

Sunday School meets in the Undercroft at 10am

—11:15 am Coffee Hour

—2:30 pm Service at Lakeside Manor

—6 pm AA meeting

Inside this issue:

—“Have You Understood All This?”

One of Fr Mark Brown’s sermons posted in the SSJE website

—Viewing and Memorial Service for Margot Lowell

May 5th dinner for Lakeside residents at Ascension

—Lots of Photos —  
Maundy Thursday at Ascension—joint with St John’s. And coming up Next Week—photos of Good Friday at St John’s—joint with Ascension, Easter Sunday at Ascension.

## Ascension This Week

**Have You Understood All This?— a sermon from Fr Mark Brown  
Posted July 28, 2016 in the SSJE Website**

Matthew 13:47-53

*“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.”*

I can’t help imagining Jesus suppressing a little smile at this response. He’s just finished a string of parables about the Kingdom of God: the sower, the weeds among the wheat, the treasure found in a field, the pearl of great price, the net cast into the sea catching fish of every kind.

Have you understood *all* this? Yes, they say, without hesitation. Well, hardly. The whole point of parables is that they are open-ended and give fresh meanings over time, as we bring life experience to bear on them. We can’t say we’ve ever completely understood a parable, because it’s not meant to be understood, in the sense of complete comprehension. But, because we don’t know what we don’t know, we can think we understand.

And, of course, as far as the things of God are concerned, we don’t—at least completely. Which is why parables are so fitting in conversation about God. It’s fair to say we may have *begun* to understand.

But Christian faith is not just about understanding, at least in the intellectual sense. Isn’t it more a sense of identity and a feeling of attraction? A sense that we belong to Christ and Christ belongs to us? And a kind of gravitational attraction to the mystery of Christ? A kind of gravitational pull toward that which we cannot clearly see or comprehend, yet is something both alluring and necessary.

To seek understanding is a good thing, but it’s not everything. The larger quest is more about giving ourselves up to the attraction of Christ’s glory, .... It is to be drawn to that pearl of great price being formed within us. It is to be drawn to the treasure buried in the depths of our hearts—and to the one who put it there in the first place. It is to give ourselves up to the attraction of that glorious seed planted in the soil of our hearts—and, indeed, to the one who sowed the seed, to the one who is glory.

*“Have you understood all this?” he says...*

*Note: Fr Bill is away on a scheduled week of vacation. He’ll return Monday, April 29. For any pastoral needs this week, please contact Deacon Geri Swanson, deakswan@aol.com.*

Dear Friends,

Sadly, Margot Melanie Lowell who was born on July 22, 1943, passed away on April 20, 2019. Margot was a long-time, active member of Ascension. She was greatly missed during the time of her illness.

Visitation will be on Friday, April 26, from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

CASEY FUNERAL HOME  
350 Slosson Ave  
Staten Island, NY 10314

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, April 27, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Mother Joanne Izzo will be the priest for this service.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
1 Kingsley Ave  
Staten Island, NY 10314

Margot's daughter-in-law Pamela gave us her address for condolence messages:

Mr. & Mrs. David Lowell  
72 B. Lawrence Court  
North White Plains, New York 10603

## Opportunity to Help:

**Sunday, May 5:** As you know we are hosting a brunch on May 5<sup>th</sup> (immediately following 10:00 am mass) for our friends at Lakeside Manor. We are asking for volunteers to help with kitchen duty, serving and of course food. In this newsletter you will find information from the sign-up sheet which is posted in the Undercroft. It will give you an idea of what is still needed and allow you to decide in which area you might want to help. These items can be brought to the church Saturday morning at 10 or before the 10am mass on Sunday.

Thank you for helping Ascension do God's work through our ministry with Lakeside Manor.



The choir at the Maundy Thursday Service.

**LAKESIDE MANOR BRUNCH: Food needed – Sunday, May 5 following the 10am Service**

HAM: Heated and Sliced	Cindy McCloskey
Sliced Roast Chicken (Costco Roast chickens are fine)	Jody Lamberti
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String Beans (approx. 20 Cups or half tray)	
Carrot Salad	Cindy McCloskey
Yams (half tray)	Nancy Williamson
Quiche	
French Toast Casserole (13x9 inch pan)	Cindy McCoskey
French Toast Casserole (13x9 inch pan)*	
French Toast Casserole (13x9 inch pan)*	
French Toast Casserole (13x9 inch pan)*	
Fruit for fruit bowl : cut up mix of Cantaloupe, pineapple, watermelon, honeydew, grapes, strawberries, & Blueberries	
Brownies (13x 9 inch pan)	Aley Norberg
Brownies (13x 9 inch pan)	
Brownies (13x 9 inch pan)	
Cupcakes: 2 dozen	
Cupcakes: 2 dozen	
Maple Syrup	
Milk (1 gallon)	

**We also need Volunteers to:**

- Set up Tables, place settings & Chafing Dishes Saturday Morning, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10am
- Set up Food after 10am service
- Serve Food
- Clean up
- Wash Dishes



Above and Left: The serving table, pots of several soups lined up; Nancy Williamson and Mo. Rhoda, and a happy group with their bowls in front of them!.



Below and Below Left: The Eucharist service on Maundy Thursday.





Above and Right: Foot Washing on Maundy Thursday.

God loves you.  
No exceptions.



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You. [www.dohio.org](http://www.dohio.org)

**Save the Date: Upcoming Events for Richmond Episcopal Ministry:**

**Sunday, May 5: Dinner for Lakeside residents at Ascension, following the 10AM Eucharist service. Volunteers needed! Sign-up sheet posted in the undercroft!**

**Sunday, May 12:** . Please join us in a special worship service on **May 12th at 10 am** acknowledging the grace of the mothers in our lives, as well as on **June 16th at 10 am** commemorating the significance of the fathers in our lives.

**Thursday, May 30:** Celebration of the Feast of the Ascension, at Ascension.

1 Kingsley Ave, Staten Island, NY 718.442.4187

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<http://www.ascensionsi.org/>