

Holy Week liturgies intimately bring Jesus' passion and resurrection to life

Madeline Shelton
Chapel Intern

This year at the Chapel we joined with our neighbors at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church to celebrate the Triduum of Holy Week. While it was Spring Break at both Tulane and Loyola, many students and faculty joined us as we enacted the rituals of Jesus' death and resurrection. It was my own first time to participate in a Maundy Thursday and Easter Vigil Service. I found the experience profoundly moving.

On Maundy Thursday, we walked down Zimple to St. Andrew's as a group. I was unsure about the order of the service, but knew that somehow foot washing was involved. Not only did we wash one another's feet in a sign of humble service to our friends, but we also participated in the stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday. Taking such an active role in the ritual made the text come to life. Little by little, all the shiny brass and trappings of religiosity were removed, and only Jesus and an empty cup upon the altar remained.

When we returned Friday to remember the Lord's passion, I felt that I had just dined with Him the night before. We had washed feet, been fed with heavenly food, walked home in the prayer of the garden, and now upon us was this turn of events! The cross before me was seen with the fresh eyes of my heart – and it hurt. Though I knew the end of the story, I allowed myself to be transported to a different place and time through the solemnity of the space and the reading of the

Lord's passion. The rest of the night and next day I joined those first century women in their mourning, all the while knowing what a shock they were about to receive.

Saturday night began with a beautiful dusk that ushered in the lighting of the new fire and the beginning of the Easter Vigil. We guarded our flames with a certain amount of youthful glee as we entered the sanctuary after Mother Gummer. In the candlelight we heard the story of God's compassion and hope for His people as voiced by the Prophets of the Old Testament. With that foundation, we renewed our commitment to Him through our Baptismal Vows. And then came a great moment – when all the lights and organ and singing burst forth with the pronouncement that Christ is Risen! We had made noisemakers at the Chapel consisting of oatmeal boxes and lentils. Unfortunately, in our gusto, the lid flew off and lentils went everywhere! But in the joy of it all, the mess didn't matter one whit.

That first Easter Eucharist was such a powerful symbol after walking with Jesus through the instruction, joy, and sorrow of the preceding days. The power of the ritual is that it takes us out of ourselves and transports us into another sphere of awareness. The Triduum did just that by inviting us to participate in reframing the Good News in the context of God's continuing call to reconcile His people to Himself. I look forward to celebrating Holy Week with the Chapel next year – and inviting more and more students to join in a rich and deep celebration of the Paschal mystery.

Chapel of the Holy Spirit

Episcopal and ELCA Campus Ministry to Tulane and Loyola

Summer, 2010



Bishop Brown's Visit



Clockwise from top left: Bishop Elect Thompson with chapel members, family and friends; Bishop Brown with candidates and their sponsors; newly baptized August LeBourgeois, and friends from Loyola School of Music offer music during the service.

A season of rest follows a fruitful Spring

The Rev. Julianna Cappelletti Gray
Chaplain

Happy summer to all of you. The heat of the season has arrived here in New Orleans bringing with it a slower pace to our common life and work.

How good it will be to have an opportunity to reflect on the last academic year and prayerfully consider where the Spirit will guide us in the year to come. As I think back to the numerous events of this spring, the ones that are most significant in my mind are the ones that have been conduits for the nurture of our relationships with God and with our neighbors.

We hosted a fruitful Inquirers' Class at the Chapel during Lent. So many people expressed interest in the class that we started a second weekly section in order to accommodate everyone. In addition to being a place for thoughtful dialogue about faith, Inquirers' class became a place where relationships were forged across the lines of age. It was a great joy to observe the way in which intergenerational relationships were formed between long-time members of the Chapel, students, and young adults.

At the completion of the Inquirer's Class, the Right Reverend James Brown celebrated with us as 13 new members in our community were brought into the faith through Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmations of Faith. I hope you will enjoy Sally and Nicholas' contributions to this newsletter where they share reflections with us about what the special day meant for them.

Another wonderfully successful new activity at the Chapel has been a monthly Saturday afternoon Canterbury Tea. Believe it or not, the idea for this lighthearted venture was first imagined by young adults at a sermon talk-back time as folks brainstormed what the Chapel of the Holy Spirit could offer to the larger community to bring people together.

Canterbury Tea time has brought folks together to enjoy crochet and bocce ball and scones and classical music and white table clothes. While we are called to roll up our sleeves and serve our neighbors, we also are called to get to know our neighbors and to simply remember how to play. Canterbury Tea has reminded us how to do just that!

Finally, now that Chapel House is in full use both for intern housing and for volunteer housing, we are so often being brought together with neighbors from different parts of the country that have come to New Orleans to serve. These groups often worship with us, motivate us for service through their example, and help us to see what the church looks like in different areas.

This spring, the Chapel of the Holy Spirit was privileged to host a group of students from St. Alban's Episcopal Campus Ministry at LSU at Chapel House. How good it was to have our two student groups together and spend a day rebuilding a home in New Orleans!

God has been so good to us at the Chapel of the Holy Spirit this Spring. Please pray for us as we continue seeking to serve God and our neighbors on the campus communities of Tulane and Loyola.

Giulianna+

Chapel Celebrations from the Spring of 2010

Members who received the Sacrament of Baptism:

Sally Higgins, Renee and August LeBourgeois

Members Confirmed:

Andrew Dunn, Lindsey Kiefer, Chris Meinzen,
Laura Plummer, Julie Rodgers, Nicholas Sola

Members received into the Episcopal Church:

A.J. Balatico, Laura Sauzer

Members who made a public reaffirmation of their faith:

Stacy Krost, Katie Ross

Members who entered into eternal life: (full obituaries at www.nola.com)

Thomas Baker, Jr
Linda Willis Ireland
Harvey Lee Marcoux III

May their souls and the souls of all the departed
rest in peace. †

Reflections on Bishop Brown's visitation to the Chapel

A journal entry on being baptized...

Sally Higgins

April 18, 2010

This morning I was baptized! What a most incredible, wonderful experience. I am thankful that I am an adult and got baptized—although there is more angst associated with age (because I think we may be less trusting than kids).

I am so thankful that I am old enough to remember today! There was a string quartet playing with the small organ in the left hand corner. The time of day was so lovely too, and everything about the chapel was holy and beautiful. It was so peaceful.

Inside, I did feel nervous, but looking back, I now realized that this was excitement more than anything else. After the baptism, I was so overjoyed for communion that I started crying. Must still work on my pride, though, because in the process of trying to wipe away tears as quickly as I could, I spilt some of the wine between my fingers. I think this was okay, though. God knows how jittery I can be!

So many of my best loved friends were there! It was great to have Laura and Maddie sponsor me. You know what? I love sacraments. This was so wonderful to celebrate the full commitment to faith and fellowship in Christ, that it made me want to go get married just to celebrate like this with God soon! :)

A haiku on being confirmed...

Nicholas Sola

a commitment
to God, myself, and y'all
confirmation

'Bowls for Haiti' raises \$2,500

Rosanne Adderley
Associate Professor of History, Tulane

Like most of the world, the Chapel community watched with sadness the loss of life and catastrophic devastation in Haiti following the earthquake in late January of this year. Across the Diocese of Louisiana, around the city of New Orleans, and on the campuses Tulane and Loyola University, that sadness came with an outpouring of generosity and determination to find ways to help the Haitian people in the midst of their immediate need and during an inevitably long term process of rebuilding.

The losses suffered in south Louisiana five years ago following hurricanes Katrina and Rita were of a much smaller scale than those in Haiti this year. However, as New Orleanians, we remain keenly aware of what it means to have one's community catastrophically transformed by natural disaster exacerbated by longstanding human failures to care for all people and all creation in just and equitable ways.

We also remain gratefully aware of the generosity that continues to be extended to us in our own rebuilding. In this diocese we have been particularly blessed with the overwhelming spirit of love and partnership brought to us by thousands of volunteers and friends around the country and around the world.

It was this same spirit of love and partnership that the Chapel community hoped to bring to our own efforts to help our brothers and sisters in Haiti. We were immediately helped in this effort by the formation in early February of an ad hoc committee within the Diocese of people concerned with planning local responses to the Haitian earthquake. Two participants on that committee, Dr. Arlette Delchamps of Trinity, Morgan City and Chapel Intern Madelyn Shelton, along with one of Maddie's former professors from the Newcomb Ceramics Department at Tulane conceived the idea of a two-day "Bowls for Haiti" fundraiser.

Among the world of artists who work in ceramics, there is a basic concept known as an "Empty Bowl" fundraiser. Potters produce bowls for sale for a chari-



table purpose, and the bowls are sold in the context of a meal usually involving food that participants can receive in their newly purchased bowls. Such events provide artists with an opportunity to donate their talents for a cause while providing all participants with the opportunity to share an evening together focused on that cause.

Dr. Delchamps is a Haitian doctor who practices in south Louisiana, but who has for many years participated in medical outreach in Haiti. On Thursday evening, March 18th, Dr. Delchamps made a slide presentation of her first post-earthquake trip to Haiti and shared with an audience of about thirty people a detailed introduction to the challenges faced by millions of Haitian people because of the earthquake and also the economic and political problems which Haiti has faced for decades.

Thursday evening was also the first opportunity for everyone to view the bowls destined for sale on Friday. They were beautiful and numerous! Student and faculty

artists at Tulane produced over 100 bowls in support of the fundraiser. Additionally, several local and national artists donated other pieces for special sale in a simultaneous silent auction. Dr. Delchamps and her husband donated about dozen pieces of Haitian art work including leather goods, wooden masks and small paintings of Haitian daily life.

Food was donated for the event by Jacquimo's, the Gumbo Shop, and Rouse's. In addition to the amazing art, we shared jambalya, gumbo, creative salads and bread pudding—a perfect New Orleans conclusion to two-nights of education and fundraising on behalf of our Caribbean neighbors. The event raised more than US\$2500 which will be donated to support the Trinity School for Music, in Port-au-Prince, and Partners in Health, the organization with which Dr. Delchamps has worked.

Summer 2010 at the Chapel

Sunday 10am: Holy Eucharist followed by coffee hour and sermon talk-back

Thursday 5pm: Centering Prayer

Summer activities such as movie night, day at the Zephyrs, and crochet-palooza!

For details, check our website regularly or email Giulianna at giulianna-gray@gmail.com to get on our Chapel of the Holy Spirit email list.