



News & Views

from the hill

Church of the Resurrection, Hopewell Junction, New York



RESURRECTION

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Revelation 3:20

Volume 6, Number 1 - 2007
Lent

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From the Senior Warden

I am honored and delighted, on behalf of your 2006 Vestry / Search Committee, to introduce you to the Shrivvers - Fr. Mic, his lovely wife Paula, and their five young children Marcelina, Ashley, Rachel, Joshua, and Maya! By the time this Newsletter reaches you, most of you will have already had the opportunity to meet them in person! We welcome them, stand by to help them integrate into the life of our parish as well as the Hopewell community, and look forward to worshipping and serving God with them in our beloved little church on the hill.

Fr. Mic was raised within the Roman Catholic Church, served in the Army after graduating from High School in Pennsylvania, graduated from Spring Arbor University with a degree in Family Life Education, and then worked in both consumer electronics and industrial electronics manufacturing and distribution. He discovered the Episcopal Church before his marriage to Paula - very quickly getting involved with Lay Ministry in many different areas of his parish. Finally, after one of his Alpha Weekends, he found himself being drawn more and more towards full-time ministry. He received his MDiv at Virginia Theological Seminary and accepted a position as Associate to the Rector at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan where he has been gaining experience in Liturgy, Preaching, Newcomer Ministry and Youth work while he has also discovered that Pastoral Care is his real passion. He's also a dedicated and loving husband and father to his large and exuberant family. We are so grateful that you are here, Fr. Mic!

There's no hesitancy in our new Priest's enthusiasm and willingness to get started as our Rector! Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will read of Bishop Taylor's upcoming Visit for Confirmation and Reception and you will find a partial calendar of Lenten and Easter worship services at Resurrection, with more information to follow.

Fr. Mic will confer with the Diocese and then set a date for his Installation this spring. The Vestry sincerely hopes that each and every one of you will want to come to each and every event!



I cannot write this last column without expressing the deepest thanks to all of you. The Vestry has been faithfully dedicated to the responsibilities unexpectedly thrust upon us last April. The continual prayers of the congregation were definitely instrumental in keeping us strengthened through the challenge of this leadership. We have been so blessed by the varied and dynamic Supply Clergy that have helped us over the past eight months - many of them have really become family that I truly hope will come to Resurrection again!

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Beyond celebrating the weekly Eucharist for us, they tended to our pastoral care through hospitalizations and counseling in crises, they prepared parishioners and performed the sacraments of Baptism and Burial and always were encouraging to us laity as we worked through this interim period of our various emotions.

Resurrection has truly grown through this experience - thanks be to the Grace of God! We have undoubtedly lost some families that were shaken by another interim period but there have been new families come - and stay - and get

involved in ministries and activities! Our total attendance numbers may be a tad smaller than they were, but those who are here now are rock solid in their commitment - coming almost every Sunday! So many people have responded to the need to pitch in and help in some way, either big or small, and that's another blessing because parishioners, both old and young, are becoming more aware of their individual gifts and talents and are spontaneously offering them to the well-being of our church and the carrying out of God's work in this place.

I sincerely pray that each of you will give the same prayers, love, patience, acceptance, and support to Fr. Mic and the 2007 Vestry that you have extended to me this past year.

Gratefully, and within the Peace of our Lord,

*Anne Kasin
Sr. Warden*

More "Quiet People"

Have you heard any of the questions during Coffee Hour of late ...

"Who cut and stacked the broken cherry tree limbs after that big windstorm?"

"The play yard looks great without that old rotten fence and did you see that the climbing bridge has been repaired AND painted?"

"Someone dug in and replaced the old gutter drainage pipe leading from the roof downspout - was that you?"

"Who did all the clean-up and repair work in the rectory - did we hire an electrician? You could have a picnic on that garage floor! I wish I were moving in!"

"Are you the one who repaired the sagging church sign at Routes 52 and 376?"

"I wonder who finally replaced those burned out light bulbs - it sure makes a difference!"

Resurrection not only had the professional services of a contractor for its repairs during the fall, but MANY of the smaller items have quietly and competently been taken care of by our own parishioners. They know who they are and, although the parish doesn't, we are nevertheless very grateful!

Do you see something that you could do? Just be a quiet person and do it! That's all part of Stewardship!

Know thy neighbor

The decades-old picture boards in the nathex have been totally rejuvenated by Regina Furphy and Theresa Simone! They look wonderful and Resurrection is very grateful!

These photo boards are great ways to get to know one another, to put faces together with names, and to display our parish family. If your picture is outdated, will you please submit an updated one? (A note: parents might like to have their picture separate from their children so that, as the children grow and change, the parents don't necessarily need to be rephotographed too - they can remain ageless!)

Also, sadly over the years, many of the pictures have been defaced. Parents may need to speak to their children about respect for the photos and about feelings that can be hurt when one's picture is marred.



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A short word about Church Etiquette

The five minutes before the start of our weekly Eucharist is set aside for preparing our hearts and minds for worship. The church bell is rung at 9:25, an announcement is made asking for quiet, and the prelude prepared by our organist begins. At 9:30 the processional hymn starts. Early arrivals have often come precisely for this quiet time and Charles has spent time practicing his music. The majority of our parishioners, however, seem to arrive between 9:28 and 9:32. While it is natural to want to greet one another, it is important to remember to be considerate of those who have started their worship at 9:25.

Notes of Appreciation

Our Endowment Trust Fund has received generous bequests from the estates of Ellie Ondatje and of Deanie Evans.

Our Capital Fund has received \$200 earmarked for helping with Narthex refurbishing, \$3000 earmarked for Landscaping along the front sidewalk and periphery of the church, and \$3000 earmarked for Purchase of Choir Hymnals and Pew Edition Prayer Books as well as Landscaping around the Rectory.

Resurrection has also been gifted with a new laser color printer for Patti's office, two new mailboxes for the bottom of the hill, and a new microwave for the rectory.

Thank you to these anonymous donors!

Adult Education

During this past year Gayle Rhodes has continued to faithfully lead a weekly Adult Christian Ed program of Bible Study loosely following the Christian Foundations Program developed by Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, "Looking at the Old Testament," by Stephen Noll. This pleasant and informal class has met in the undercroft at 8:30 AM between the two Sunday services thus affording everyone the opportunity to attend in conjunction with either the early or later service. The class will resume on January 28th with the beginning of I Chronicles. There are no homework assignments or tests - just an informal 45 minute gathering of inquisitive minds that are interested in learning more about the Bible in a small group gathering of friends. Coffee and Bibles are provided -Come and try it!

Confirmation

Bishop Don Taylor will be making an Episcopal Visitation to Resurrection on March 25th. This is Lent V and the Feast of the Annunciation and now also Resurrection's date for the Bishop's Confirmation and Reception.

In early February, Fr. Mic will be starting to prepare our young people for Confirmation and also any Adults wishing to be received into the Episcopal Church. His course material is from the Morehouse curriculum Living the Good News and is titled "I Will, With God's Help."

Any young people or adults wishing to participate in this program (if they haven't already given their names to Anne Kasin) need to speak to Fr. Mic right away.

Notes to Anonymous Angels

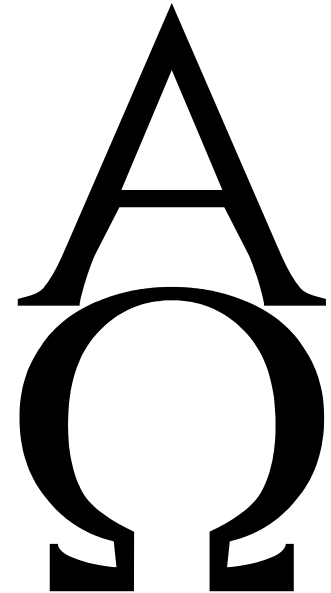
"How can I tell you how much I appreciate your emergency help with my prescriptions?"

"The Angels' Walmart giftcard came at a perfect time when there were so many needs - thank you all so much!"

"What a boost that gas card was to my tight budget! Thanks!"

"The generous donations of food items has made such a difference! Bless you!"

Angels Anonymous helps our own parishioners when they are in worrisome or crisis situations. If you would like to know more about the Angels, or wish to help, please contact Anne Kasin.



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Thank You!

As we settle in for the cold days of winter, I want to once again express my appreciation to the singers, musicians and parents for contributing their talents and time in preparing for and participating in the various Advent and Christmas services just passed, including: Mary Belle Duvivier, Marilyn Ciano, Pamela Henry, Mary Crisman, Gerri Rhodes, Tom Crisman, Bert Mazutto, Daniel Tutoni, Kris Haubrich, Michalyn Curran, Rose and Lucy Simone and A. J. Simone. We are fortunate to have so much talent in our parish!



Choir Schedule

The adult choir rehearses on Thursday night, 7:15 -9:00 PM. All people interested in music, learning to sing and sharing in warm fellowship with fellow lovers of music are welcome.

If you are unable to join us on Thursday nights for practice but wish to sing with the choir at the 9:30 AM Sunday service, please request a copy of the music being performed and attend Sunday morning practice (9:00-9:15 AM).

Starting February 1 the choir will begin work on music for Lent and Easter.

Choir practice will not be held on March 1 and March 22.

A new notation in each Sunday's service leaflet!

Beginning this month an asterisk (*) will appear at the end of the title of hymns that were selected as "favorite hymns" by all parishioners who completed last summer's favorite hymn survey.

Home visits for shut-ins and those who appreciate music!

This past holiday season five members of the congregation received visits by Charles in order to share the joy of music with those who are shut-in or unable to directly participate in the music life of the church. Please do not hesitate to speak with Charles if you know of someone who is sick, elderly, suffering or in need of a friendly and musical visit.



Excerpt from "What is a Church Choir", The American Organist

(the monthly magazine of the American Guild of Organists), November 2006:

"...there is the whole business of the development of the individual choir member as a person, as a Christian, and as a musician. The devoted singer studies profound texts and magnificent music, surrounded by the sound of peers drilling notes, reading text, drilling, laughing, drilling, inspiring...did I mention drilling?"

When the choir works on a piece for several weeks, each singer has sung that text from twelve to 20 times, absorbed the music, and felt the passion. If text, music, discipline, and fellowship have any impact at all, that person has no choice but to improve in understanding of each of these."

Web Site

By now you should know that Resurrection has a web site - it is listed on the front of the bulletin each week: <http://nyresurrection.homestead.com/> . Below is a description of some of the pages beyond the home page with the picture of the church:

Resurrection Today:

Contains the announcements from the current week, along with the Sunday scripture readings. As a bonus, if you scroll to the bottom, you will enjoy "God's Billboard" for the week. (Contact me if you should see a good one.)

Members Area

This is where we put the prayer list, as well as the acolyte Lem Lay-reader schedule. This page is password protected as people asking for prayer may not

want casual browsers to see their names, or know when children will be at church. Contact a warden or the web master if you need to know the password.

Archives

Here you can find old newsletters, and bulletins from the last 3 months.

Push Me

Each week this should take you to a site of some interest. Past links have included the "Lego Church", Advent Art, news about our new presiding bishop, and the history of the Christmas tree. Please feel free to suggest future targets to the web master.

That should give you an idea. If you have good photos of a church activity, or any other suggestions, please contact me.

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Youth Group

Youth group has been busy during these past several months. We started meeting in October and got off to an exciting start. The youth hosted a very successful "Youth Sunday". Several kids participated in the service and we kicked off our Samaritan's Purse service project. Our parish was able to donate 44 boxes to this organization. The youth group spent an evening gathering, sorting and preparing the boxes for delivery. We also spent an evening crafting for our annual Craft Fair. We never have any trouble finding waiters and waitresses for the Craft Fair...thank you!!!

During the month of December we hosted another "Youth Sunday". We also participated in a Gingerbread House Build. The youth group got together and planned, baked and decorated 2 gingerbread houses. These houses were donated to Habitat of Humanity for their annual fundraiser at the Galleria Mall in Poughkeepsie. The Gingerbread House Build raised just over \$4,000 for our local chapter of Habitat of Humanity. There were many great houses there...but ours were AWESOME!! I am so impressed and proud of the work our kids did! Please take the time to look at the picture display in the undercroft...I'm sure you will be proud too!!

Thanks again to Michalyn, Craig, Megan, Lucy, Serina and Brittney...Cindy and Joetta too.

I'd like to give a special thanks to the Curran family for letting all the gingerbread house construction go on in their home...during the very busy holiday season. Especially to Brenda for those last minute construction details and the delivery of the houses to the mall.

Please watch and listen for these future events: Youth Sunday (April 29), Bowling, Family Fun Night, Youth Lenten Program, Hang Night for High School. However, with Confirmation scheduled for March 25 the next several weeks will be spent in preparation. Please keep our candidates and all our young people in your thoughts and prayers.

Anybody up for a little ping pong? How about a challenge? Wonder how Father Mic's ping pong skills are? Father Mic, youth group challenges you to a game of ping pong. Please join us at our next meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2007, at 6 PM in the church undercroft. Pizza, soda and dessert will be served. All are invited and bring friend! Please call Debbie Evans 223-1913 or Brenda Curran 226-6861.



The Episcopal Church
of the Resurrection

Hopewell Junction, New York

Items for parishioners of The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. We are located in Hopewell Junction, NY

Apparel

[View Site](#)



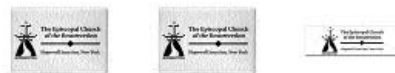
Hats & Bags

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Stickers, Buttons & Magnets

[Back to Top](#)



Resurrection's online web store...

Items like coffee mugs, hats, t-shirts and more, all with the Resurrection logo imprint, can be purchased online. A portion of the proceeds from sales at the store is returned to Resurrection. You can visit the site anytime. If you have any suggestions or questions you can speak to any Vestry member. The address is...

<http://cafepress.com/nyresurrection>

Hospitality @ Resurrection

It isn't just the job of the wonderful greeters and ushers. Through surveys and conversations over the past two years, I have heard people say that the greatest attribute of Resurrection is the feeling of family. Do you think of Resurrection as your Christian home and the congregation as your family?

I recently asked the greeters and ushers to think back to their initial visit to Resurrection. I asked them why they came back a second time and what it was that kept them coming. The resounding response was feeling welcomed and feeling like a part of the family. I then asked them to name the person or people that most made them feel like they were a part of Resurrection. Yes, some of the names were the names of the greeters and ushers, but several of the names were people whom never served in either of those capacities. Each of us can, and needs to take an active part in the welcoming ministry at Resurrection.

Think about having company in your home. Do you greet your guests warmly? Do you show them around so they are comfortable with their surroundings? Do you feed them? Do you engage in conversation and fellowship with them? Resurrection is our house and anyone that walks through those red doors is our guest. Please help to make our guests feel welcomed.

Anyone of us can spot a new person or family. We can glance over to make sure they are comfortable with our prayer book and hymnal. We can guide the children to Sunday school. We can invite them down to coffee hour. If you see someone at coffee hour standing alone, please walk over, smile, and say hello. Introduce the newcomers to a vestry member or a fellow parishioner.

Make sure you are wearing your nametag. You will only have one or two names to learn. The newcomer will have 100 names to learn. Wearing your nametag gives them a face and a name together.

Remember, Christian hospitality is the job of each and every one of us.

Women's Prayer Group

How often have you seen the dates for the Women's Prayer Group listed in the bulletin? Just about every one list our meeting dates and times, but do you know what the Women's Prayer Group is? The WPG is a small intimate group that varies from 5 to about 10 ladies from meeting to meeting whose main focus is to support each other in prayer. We have read books together, shared devotional material, but mostly we have shared our personal faith journeys together. We intentionally pray for each other on a daily basis. We are a support system for each other as we journey closer to Christ and to each other. We pray for each others' needs and we give praise and thanksgiving for the joys and answered prayers. Through the women's prayer group, I have learned to be more intentional about my prayer life, not just for the women that I have come to love as sisters, but for every aspect of my life and the life of fellow Christians.

We meet the second and the fourth Monday of each month in the undercroft from 7PM - 8:30PM. We celebrate with a Christmas gathering and we have our annual girls' night out every July. Come discover the joy and strength that is present in a small, intimate, Christian group. The next few meeting dates are: Feb 12th & 26th, March 12th & 26th.

For further information, please contact Leeann Haubrich at 227-8474.

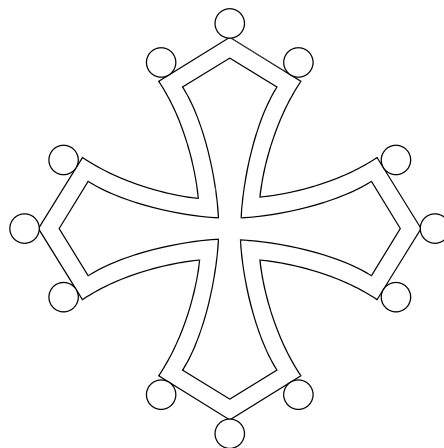
The Men's Prayer Group

Have you ever passed by the Church the last Monday of each month and noticed that the lights in the undercroft are on? Ever wondered what might be taking place? Quite simply... fellowship!

The Men's Prayer Group meets the final Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Church. These gatherings provide the men of the parish the opportunity to read and reflect on Holy Scripture (currently we are reading the Psalms), meditate and pray together, and share in a variety of social functions. These have included dinner out together, as well as special holiday events.

The Men's Group is open to any and all men of our Parish, or for any men in our community seeking a deeper and more meaningful relationship with Christ. One need not be an expert in scripture knowledge, theology or the ways and means of the Anglican faith. The only requirements are a love of God and an inquisitive and searching spirit.

Come to share your faith... come to pray... come to hear other men express their faith... or just come to sit quietly and listen. For more information contact Joe Haubrich at 226-8474 (via e-mail at jghaubrich902@yahoo.com) or Deke Rothacker at 226-1083 (via e-mail at dekedeb@juno.com).



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Our Acolytes

Resurrection is fortunate to have 17 dedicated acolytes: Alex Anderson, Dana Anderson, Julian Benson, Nicholas Benson, Michalyn Curran, Matthew Evans, Rayanna Furphy, Megan Haggerty, Dennis Haubrich, Tristyn Koren, Brittany Lisowski, Craig Russo, Jessica Shockman, Greg Simone, Erika Svenson, Gabrielle Tutoni, and Nicole Tutoni.

Two of our newest rookies had exciting debuts. Alex Anderson's November 26th debut turned into a replacement on November 12th when one of the regularly scheduled acolytes couldn't make it. With having had no practice on the Gospel torches, Alex was suddenly faced with navigating the communion rail, and with more responsibilities than he expected to have for his first service. How are those fingers Alex? Since that initial showing, Alex has mastered the railing.

There would have been only one possible service longer than the one

Tristyn Koren premiered in, the midnight service on Christmas Eve. Not many kids her age can even stay awake that late. Tristyn did a stellar job even though she was ready for a nap by the time of the announcements. Thanks for hanging in there Tristyn!

Speaking of the Christmas Eve service, the Christmas Eve service was on the same day as Advent IV. Every acolyte that served the Midnight service did a commendable job, but did you know that four acolytes served both the morning service and the midnight service? Kudos go out to Michalyn Curran, Craig Russo, Jessica Shockman, and Dennis Haubrich for doing an outstanding job even with serving double duty that day. Thank you for your time, talent, and dedication!

From the heart...

I just want you to know how proud I am to be part of a parish that exemplifies what it means to be a church. The church is not the building or even the

rector; it's the people. I have watched in awe as everyone at Resurrection has just picked up the pieces and jumped right in to keep our little church on the hill running. There are too many people to thank and for fear of not mentioning each individual or group of people, I won't. But we have had a priest for every Sunday and holy day. The church building and the rectory saw many improvements and the church always looked beautiful and welcoming to parishioners and newcomers. Attendance has been remarkable for having had no rector and we have gained some new parishioners over the past several months. All of the little things as well as all of the major things just seemed to get done. We truly have remarkable dedicated parishioners that I am proud to call my bothers and sisters in Christ.

Leeann Haubrich

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, and saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; and saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.



Buildings and Grounds

2006 was a very productive year for us as far as building and grounds are concerned, thanks mostly to our anonymous donor. We look forward to having another year of the same for 2007. Two items that are currently in the planning stage are the painting of the narthex and the refinishing of the floors in the church.

We also hope to address our storage problem, some landscaping possibilities, upgrading our playground, a privacy fence for our playground, correcting our drainage problem behind the rectory, and whatever problems arise in between. If you have any suggestions or know of any problems that we should be looking at, please let us know.

Tony Simone and Rob Furphy

SAVE THE DATES !!!
Please mark your calendars with these upcoming events

Ash Wednesday
February 21 - Holy Eucharist, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Fridays in Lent, Stations of the Cross, 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 25, Bishop Taylor, Confirmation



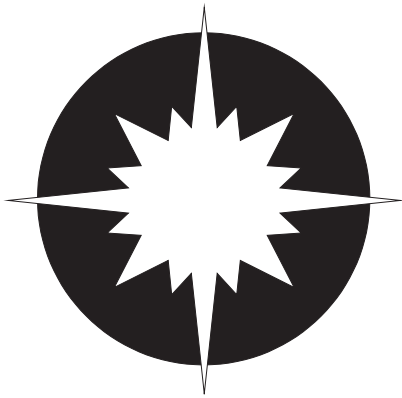
Lent is not all about giving things up. It's also about adding good things to our lives or to others' lives - the kind of good things that follow on what Jesus asks of us.

- Reconcile yourself to someone you don't like, or even hate or did something bad to, or just intentionally stayed away from.***
- Do random acts of kindness for people, just because they're there; give them little tastes of God's love.***
- If you haven't taken the time lately to be in a refreshing, natural spot, do so. We live in the midst of God's natural beauty in the Hudson Valley. Even if it's a brief stay, even a half-hour or so, try it.***
- Study, meditate, and pray over one or two Scripture passages for each day, through a daily lectionary (assigned Bible readings for each day), the Daily Office (Scripture-based devotions for set times of day), or devotional booklets or email lists.***
- Think upon something ordinary that you do every day, and think about God while doing it, in a way that ties into what you're doing. Or think of a place you come to regularly, and each time think where Christ might be in this place, what Christ might do there, or what you might be led to do for Christ.***
- Attend special worship services. Perhaps it's a liturgical church's daily morning or evening prayer service (Matins and Vespers). Perhaps it's a Wednesday Lenten service. Or maybe it's time you started going to the Sunday morning services every Sunday.***
- Try to find a new way every day to bring to mind Jesus' death on the cross, and why it happened.***

O God, our times are in your hand. Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BCP p. 830



Grant, O Lord, that as we have been received into the congregation of Christ's flock and signed with the sign of the Cross, in token that hereafter we should not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, so we may manfully fight under his banner against sin, the world, and the devil, and may continue Christ's faithful soldiers and servants unto our life's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Amen

February

Birthdays

- 4 Essie Churchill
- 5 Liz Pavelka
- 6 Barbara McLain
- 8 Peter Hajosch
- 8 Dennis Haubrich
- 8 Christopher Hoerter
- 18 Paul Curran
- 24 James Wood
- 26 A.J. Simone

February

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 3 Barbara Dinehart
- 14 William Happ
- 27 Dannielle Beitzell

March

Birthdays

- 2 Julian Benson
- 2 Thomas Starzyk
- 5 Audra Furphy
- 3 Susanne Beyer
- 11 Michalyn Curran
- 12 Kathleen Hajosch
- 14 Scott Neely
- 23 Dana Anderson
- 23 Joe Simone
- 26 Gabrielle Tutoni
- 26 Nicole Tutoni
- 28 Joseph Haubrich
- 31 Barbara Simone

March

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 3 Michael Diano
- 3 Betty Richter
- 7 Marisa Diano
- 8 Fred Frost
- 9 Bill Svenson
- 10 Paul Curran
- 10 Regina Furphy
- 11 Thomas Crisman
- 12 Andrew Ciancio
- 28 Ashley Hajosch
- 30 Lewis Duncan
- 30 Ilona Pagan

Don't see your birthday or anniversary listed here? Please contact the church office at 226-5727, or by e-mail at...

nyresurrect@yahoo.com

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RESURRECTION

**Church of the Resurrection
Hopewell Junction, New York**

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Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wickedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

