

# The Red Door

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

June 2022

### THE DISAPPEARING FEET OF CHRIST

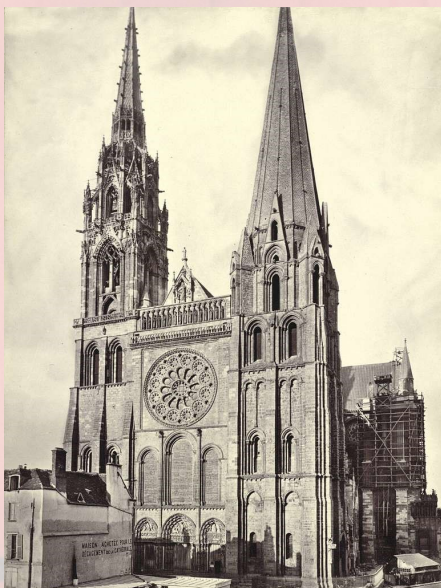
#### The Feast of the Ascension

Many years ago I went on a seminary field trip to England and France. The purpose of the trip encompassed the history of the Church of England and overall history of the Medieval Church. We visited churches, lots of churches. Small churches, large cathedrals, and we traveled a lot...mostly on foot...for 20 days. We went in January. I have experienced an English and French Winter. Every church we visited had no heat.

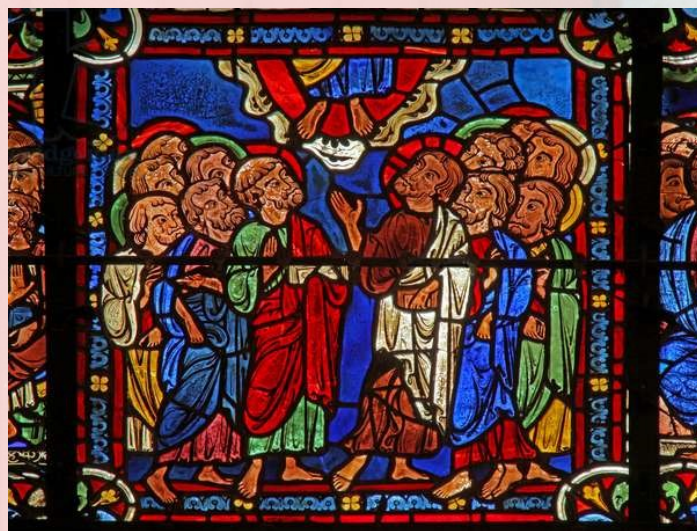
There were some incredible moments that are etched on my heart: worshipping in an ancient vault in the Undercroft of Canterbury Cathedral; a private tour of Notre Dame in Paris; and the great Gothic Cathedral of Chartres. In fact, my Facebook photo is me bundled up outside of the Chartres Cathedral.

Chartres was the last Cathedral we visited before heading back to Ohio. It's located in a town of the same name about 50 miles southwest of Paris. The town dates back to Roman times and the present Cathedral, started in the 12th Century, stands upon the remains of a 4th Century Romanesque church.

As you head into town, there before you is the great cathe-



dral, majestically sitting upon a rise. I had studied its architecture, particularly its flying buttresses, which always intrigue me. My two friends were set on seeing all the 176 stained glass windows, one of the primary features of this UNESCO Heritage site. As with all sculpture and stained glass in churches, they were intended to be educational, telling the stories of the Old and New Testaments, and the Lives of Christ and the Saints. They dragged me through the church, particularly heading for the stained glass window designated "O" in the ambulatory around the Choir and main altar. It's the giant center window of 3 in the Chapel (bay) of the Apostles.



It's about 100 feet high and even in the gloomy winter light, incredible. What they had come to see is a panel at the very top called, "The Disappearing Feet of Christ." It represents the Feast of the Ascension. It's been a tad controversial because there is no Christ portrayed as is normal in pictures of the Ascension. Instead, what you have are the Apostles looking up at the feet *(continued on page 3)*

# VESTRY

# Vestry Report

John Joy, Sr Warden  
 Charles Everhart, Jr Warden  
 Richard Davis  
 Judy Franklin  
 open  
 Andrea Harner

Newsletter editor—John Glaze  
*Submissions to THE RED DOOR are welcomed. © items cannot be published without consent of the owner.*

*Samaritan Outreach continues to depend upon donations to meet their current needs. Please help us help SOS serve our community. There is a collection box in the foyer of the new building.*

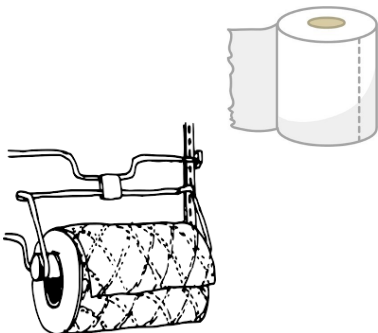


Diapers

Clothes Washing Liquid

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels



*If you would prefer to mail a monetary donation:  
 Samaritan Outreach Services  
 PO Box 242  
 Hillsboro, OH 45133*

I am pleased to report work on our flooring and HVAC system is underway. The new flooring has been delivered to the church, and the undersized HVAC unit has been removed. A huge thanks to Charles Everhart for finding someone to buy the old unit for \$600! The concrete pad for the new unit has been formed up and may be poured by the time you all read this. I would also like to thank the Vestry (Andrea, Charles, Rich, and Judy), Maggie, and John Glaze for their time and efforts this year in working to make St. Mary's a wonderful place to worship.

The Diocese is offering Listening Sessions (mostly via Zoom and one at Proctor) to us to hear hopes and concerns regarding the upcoming search for a new Bishop. Those session dates and times are listed in the eConnections newsletter, or contact Maggie for that information.

Please note two dates upcoming early in June. June 4th is Pride Day in Hillsboro and St. Mary's will have a booth (in the form of a tent) during the event hours of 3 pm to 8 pm. The event sponsor is Hillsboro Against Racism and Discrimination (HARD) and will be held at Liberty Park. If you are interested in helping, please let Maggie know as soon as possible. The Diocese is providing most of the material and hand-outs.

Please also note Sunday June 5, and plan on staying for coffee hour! Schedule permitting, we are planning on hosting a visit from Rev. Michael Ralph, the new Missioner who is supporting the work of several of our neighboring Episcopal churches. Please plan on attending and meeting Michael, as well as learning more about his new role in supporting the rural Episcopal churches in our area.

Respectfully submitted,

*John Joy*

## ~ ~ ~ UPCOMING DATES ~ ~ ~

**29 May**—Last worship day in Sanctuary (remember, our car park has limited spaces now. In addition to that, you may park in front of the insurance office (NOT Subway, nor laundry), on the street or in the bank parking lot. Please do not block the driveway to the ATM, however!

**4 June**—Pride Day at Liberty Park

**5 June**—Service in Lacy Hall and Visit from the Missioner and carry-in meal

ON HOLD UNTIL LATER IN THE YEAR!

Sandy's Free Lunch

Last Saturday  
of each month!  
Stop by here for a  
sack lunch!  
Front of the  
Education Building  
11am-1pm

of the disappearing Jesus. All you see of Jesus are his feet. There is this pained look on all their faces.

You have to have binoculars to see it clearly, but in so many ways the artist who created it was brilliant. I can't think about the Ascension since without seeing that pane of stained glass and the feet of Christ.

Every painting of the Ascension has Christ in all His Glory at the very center. He's that perfect Renaissance Savior... long flowing hair, bathed in bright light, surrounded or floating on a perfect white cloud, staring down at those being left behind. They are dazzled and bathed by the light, faces filled with awe.

Not here. This is the point where Jesus has risen high towards Heaven and all that's left in those waning moments, all that they can see of him are his feet. No bright light to illuminate their faces. Just the ebbing light of feet.

This tells the story of what it must have been like for the Apostles, to be left behind once again. They'd just gotten him back and he's leaving them alone again. Yes, he's promised to send the Advocate to them, but when will that be? What are they supposed to do in the meantime? Are they a bunch of sheep

without a Shepherd once again? Their last image of him is disappearing feet as he rises. Pentecost is still 10 days away.

As you stand there straining to look up to the panel way at the top, you suddenly realize what it must have been like for them. Straining to see the Lord. Trying hard not to lose sight of him. The height of the window and the grey stone of the chapel alcove adding to the sense of despair in the cold winter light.

Don't we feel that way sometimes, too? Sometimes I think we can't even catch a glimpse of his feet. Where has he gone? Am I left behind?

But...right above that panel, at the very top of this great big window that depicts events in the lives of the Apostles is Jesus on His throne. In all His glory. And, He's giving a blessing to them. It's there to remind them, and us, that even when all we can see of the Lord is the bottom of His feet, He's still on his throne. He's still with us in a different Glory, blessing us and all we do in His Name. He's never absent.

And we're never alone, even if all we can see are His Disappearing Feet.

Blessings,  
*Rev. Terri*



How are you doing? Singing has improved since my article, for the most part. Still room for improvement and I shall continue encouraging you to sing your praise just as you speak words of praise and worship.

Remember, you don't sound as bad as you think (unless your neighbor starts shooting you glances that indicate otherwise!). However, God hears and loves each voice singing to him! There should never be a silent voice during the singing of the hymns and responses.

### Let us hear you sing **JOYFULLY!!**

Would you like to visit with Rev. Terri? Call the church office to schedule an appointment!

### PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation and these on our Parish prayer list: Margaret Lyons, Joyce Kittrell, Herschel Hook, Nancy Orth, Mary Reynolds, Maxine McGrath, Sharon Kamm, Bob & Dorothy Hodson, Dan Fisher, Bob Lowell, the concerns of Paul & Joyce Nort, those suffering with coronavirus as well as all health workers treating them, the patients and staff at Georgetown Veterans Home as well as those serving in our armed forces: Macy Lyle, Henry Sherrill, Jaden Chin-Franz and Javier Paula.

*\*Names in **Bold** will be removed at the end of the month. If you know the person continues to need our prayers, please call the church office.*



# The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
234 N. High St.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133



## June

8—*Susan Price*  
11—*Nancy Orth*  
13—*Carlene Phillips*  
17—*Betty Heathcote*  
23—*Maggie Hatfield*  
29—*Judy Franklin*

## Lector & Intercessor Schedule

**1st wk Betty & Jim Heathcote**  
**2nd wk Connie Reynolds & Dea Flinn**  
**3rd wk Carol & John Joy**  
**4th wk Rich Davis & Connie Reynolds**  
**5th wk Connie Reynolds & Dea Flinn**

## ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH INFORMATION

The Diocese of Southern Ohio  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
234 N. High St Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-2043

The Rev. Terri Thornton  
Supply Priest

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 am  
IN PERSON & *Streaming on Facebook*  
COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND—  
Sunday after service.

*We strive to be safe and make our parishioners and  
guests feel safe and welcome!*

**WEB SITE:**  
[www.smehillsboro.weebly.com](http://www.smehillsboro.weebly.com)