

## Orchid Corsages for Mother's Day

Did you grow up with Mother's Day corsages for Sunday services? This long-time tradition is making a comeback at St. Mark's for this Mother's Day, May 12. **We are offering orchid corsages for sale at the great price of \$15.00 per corsage** (compare at \$40.00 to \$45.00 at local florists). All proceeds will benefit St. Mark's.



Order corsages by using this insert or by calling the office at 307-634-7709. Please be sure to note "Orchid(s)" on the memo line of your check. **The deadline to order is Sunday, May 5.** You may pick up your orchid corsage on Friday, May 10, or Saturday, May 11, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., or on Sunday morning before church.

This is a wonderful way to honor your mom or grandmother or a special woman in your life while benefitting St. Mark's. **Thank you to our wonderful floral artist, Annette Brooker, for making this possible!**



Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ orchid corsages at \$15.00 each for a total cost of \_\_\_\_\_. I plan on picking up my corsages on:

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday, May 10, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday, May 11, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday morning, May 12, before church



*Thank you for  
supporting St. Mark's!*



## Features of Celtic Theology and Spirituality

What is the nature of Celtic Christianity that makes its theology unique and distinct from Roman Catholic Christianity? There are many standard elements of Christian theology that are shared in the Celtic tradition – such as the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Christ. The distinctiveness of the Celtic philosophy is rooted in its focus on the presence of the divine in the physical world. God is experienced in all of creation and therefore in all of nature. This concept leads to other closely related theological notions. If God is in all things, then the natural world is to be celebrated and honored as holy. This extends to every aspect of life, including human life as well. The everyday world is infused with a spiritual presence – even in the most mundane, everyday activities. For example, the ancient Celts had prayers for washing dishes and for drinking beer.

Another set of related concepts was that of holy geography: holy places – earthly sites where the divine seemed particularly present – and thin places – where the sense of a veil between the spiritual and the physical seemed to fade.

If creation is holy, humankind is a part of creation and therefore also holy and sacred. The Celts appreciated the whole of creation and saw humanity as just another kind of creature – not as the rulers of the earth. If creation is not only holy, but good, and humans are part of creation, then humans are basically good. This is a much different focus from the concept of original sin common in Augustinian Roman Christianity. The basic goodness of humans can bring joy – a joy in the acceptance and celebration of God's love for all people. This celebration engenders another Celtic concept – a strong sense of community, because all people together are valued and loved.

The Celts maintained rich spiritual practices such as prayer, meditation, communing with nature, care for those in need, hospitality, and poetic use of the imagination and art. They saw, in all experiences, the presence of the Spirit, and were very skilled at seeking encounters with God in all of life.

