

AROUND THE DIOCESE

At Resurrection Parish in Randolph, tradition ushers in holy season of Lent

By **HENRY M. HOLDEN**

RANDOLPH As Lent approached in 2009, the director of music at Resurrection Parish here, Rick Edinger, was looking for an inspiration to present a meaningful opening to the Lenten season.

Edinger, who has had the music ministry for 12 years at Resurrection, said, "We have this tradition of having Stations of the Cross following the Soup Suppers every Friday during Lent. As the music ministry I felt we had a responsibility to incorporate art and stewardship, and present the Stations of the Cross in some creative way."

Edinger decided to present Joseph M. Martin's "Lenten Sketches," and now, seven years later, it is a tradition, always offered on the first Friday after Ash Wednesday, immediately after the soup supper (this year Feb. 20).

Inspired by classic works of art, "The Lenten Sketches" is a series of tableaux illustrating the final days of Christ's earthly ministry — the Triumphal Entry, the Last

Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the crucifixion.

Edinger said, "I thought rather than go to a prayer booklet which has your standard Stations of the Cross, looking at them through whatever lens the booklet wanted to look at them, I found the 'Lenten Sketches' and I felt this was a more powerful way to present Jesus' road to Calvary."

As 25 members of the combined Youth and adult choirs of Resurrection Parish performed the 35-minute cantata, artwork by artists, such as Gustav Doré and Michelangelo, were electronically projected before the congregation creating an impressionistic portrait of the last days of Christ.

Edinger has a skilled cantor who backs up his ministry. Giovanna Reyes-Mir joined the ministry almost 11 years ago and conducts the choir. "It is great that we have a cantor who has skills beyond singing," said Edinger. "She can lead the congregation and she also conducts the choir. She had a lot of experience conducting other choirs before

LENTEN SKETCHES on 17

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"LENTEN SKETCHES"
Twenty-five members of the combined youth and adult choirs of Resurrection Parish in Randolph perform "Lenten Sketches."

Lenten Sketches

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she arrived here," he said.

"Presenting the 'Lenten Sketches' is just our humble effort as artists, and musicians, and creative thinkers at telling this story the best way we know how," said Edinger. "We try to make it both visually stimulating, aurally stimulating to our ears, and also incorporate

Scripture to capture Jesus' great ministry."

As the music guides the congregation through the sanctuary of shadows, it also offers hope for joy that will come with the morning and the rising of the Son.

"We hope the reflective narration, combined with evocative choral hymns and art create a worship moment that is an unforgettable experience of deep meaning and emotion to all who attend," said Edinger.