



RECTOR'S LETTER

Our formal observance of Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6, with Masses at 9:30 am and 7 pm. Lent is a season of penitence and fasting imitating our Lord's practice in his wilderness experience and as a way to prepare ourselves – our souls and bodies – for the joy of Jesus' Resurrection. It is a period of 40 days' duration which culminates in the drama of Holy Week. For those who pay attention to such things, Sundays are not properly days *of* Lent, but days *in* Lent. This seemingly minor linguistic distinction speaks to the reality that Sundays are always feasts of our Lord's Resurrection and are, therefore, never penitential in essence.

On the Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday, we will have a program and simple dinner of soup and salad beginning at 6 pm in the parish hall. We will begin with the simplified and shortened form of Evening Prayer, have supper, move into our program, and end with the shortened office of Compline, "At the Close of the Day."

Our program will be based on the Lenten Meditations published by Episcopal Relief and Development. These daily meditations will provide ample food for prayer and thought during this vital season and are available at the rear of the church. Should you be unable to attend, please let the office know and we will be happy to see you receive a copy.

While Lent is most assuredly about our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone, it is, at

its heart and center, about new life in Jesus Christ. Barbara Brown Taylor, priest and author, has called sin "the language of salvation," provocative though that is and assuredly joyful, as it should be.

Please join your fellow members to explore just how it is that our sin may lead to our salvation; an insight voiced by Paul and later affirmed by the brilliant and sympathetic Julian of Norwich.

Blessings,
(The Rev.) Carlton E. Kelley

ANNUAL BELLEFONTE CHAMBER VOLUNTEER FAIR

All are invited to the American Philatelic Society, 100 Match Factory Place, who are hosting the Bellefonte Chamber Volunteer Fair on Saturday, March 2, 2019, from 10 am to 2 pm. Free to the public, the Fair is an excellent way to talk to many community service nonprofits in one place. You can choose an ideal volunteer opportunity that matches your interests and available time. This is a great way for students to meet their school community service requirements.

FACILITIES UPDATE

The Parish Hall door by the new steps has been reversed, so that it opens out and has a crash bar. The Mary Beaver Parish Hall now meets the fire code by having two exits that open out with crash bars. Many thanks to Jim Jackson for your tireless work on these improvements.

FROM THE DEACON'S PERCH

My dear companions in Christ,

I enclosed a small portion of a Lenten meditation to jump-start our Lenten season and to strengthen our bonding and relationship with Christ and the cross. May you and your family take a small portion of time out of your hectic lives this season to pray and remember what Christ gave to us through the cross and resurrection. As always, I offer myself to you to help strengthen your prayer life and to be on the journey with you.

~ *Den. Alex*

Daily Meditation: A very special day.

Ash Wednesday

The ashes we use are the burnt palms from last year's celebration of Passion Sunday. We begin our Lenten journey aware of where we are going. We want to enter the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus for us more fully. That is the purpose of our journey. It is why we mark our heads with his cross. It is why we fast today and abstain from meat. Our Lenten program is not an effort to save ourselves. We have been saved by his sacrifice. Our self-denial helps us, in the darkness that surrounds us, to prepare ourselves to receive his light. For this is a journey to the Easter font, where we will renew the promises of our Baptism, remembering that in dying with him in the waters of Baptism, we are reborn with him to everlasting life. This year's journey begins today.



“Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment.” *Joel 2:12-13*

Teach us to be loving, not only in great and exceptional moments, but above all in the ordinary events of daily life. May we abstain from what we do not really need and help our brothers and sisters in distress. May we bear the wounds of your Son in our bodies, for through his body he gave us life.

Prayer: On this special day, Ash Wednesday, may our sacrifices in fasting and prayer be a way to clear away the clutter in our lives to see you more clearly. Lord, I know there is distraction within me and around me. In these coming days let your Light shine in the darkness. Help me long for that Light until we celebrate it at the Vigil six weeks from now. And most of all Lord, help me to honor this day with the ashes on my forehead. May it help me remember where I have come from and where I am going. Lord, I acknowledge to you my sins and my deep need for your loving forgiveness and grace. I pray that this Lenten season that you will make me so much more aware of how much I need your healing in my life. May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

BIG FOOD DOINGS THIS MONTH

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

On March 5 we will offer our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner to the public.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY CORNED BEEF

Our now-famous New York-style corned beef and cabbage dinner will take place on March 16. Bring your family and friends.



**Saturday, March 16
4 - 7 PM**

St. John's Episcopal Church - Fellowship Hall
120 W Lamb St., Bellefonte

\$20 per person; \$15 children 10 and under
information: 814-355-0497

CHILI COOKOFF

TINA SCOTT, WINNING COOK

Our annual chili cook-off was held on a freezing February Saturday. All the chilis were excellent, and competition was hotly contested (😄). Fifty-plus ballots were cast, and the church made about \$284. Our thanks go to all the talented cooks and to the many diners. Congrats to Tina on her *second* cookoff win!

AROUND THE PARISH FAMILY TABLE



Bethany Mauger Lucas Honored

Bethany Lucas received an award for Support Employee of the Year at Bay District Schools. She is an Autism Paraprofessional at Merritt Brown Middle School in Panama City, FL.



Beth will now go to Orlando, hopefully to win the award for Support Employee of the Year in the State of Florida.

Send your family news (with photos if available) to stjohnsscribe@gmail.com.

THANK YOU FROM THE LUCAS FAMILY

Last fall, Scott Mauger's daughter's family suffered a catastrophic loss in Hurricane Michael. The generous people of St. John's immediately came to their aid with donations through the Deacon's Discretionary Fund.

Dear People of St. John's,

The warmth and generosity of the people of St John's Episcopal Church has been overwhelming. My family and I have benefited from the many blessings, prayers, and gifts that we have received from you.

From soaked walls, holes in the roof, broken windows, damaged ceilings, and the loss of many household and personal items, we are slowly making progress to restore our home. Even though we are living in a rented camper in our front yard and seeing progress every day at the house, our broken hearts are still mending. The donations we have received have allowed us to pay for our day-to-day costs that are not covered by insurance. Your support has truly kept us going during the past four months.

Every time our spirits are low, we think of the good people of St John's and their generosity, and our spirits are lifted. Thank you does not seem like enough, but our thanks are heartfelt and will never be forgotten.

God Bless,
David, Bethany, Jacob, and Emma Lucas

CHALLENGE PLEDGE MET



**FROM
THE
SENIOR
WARDEN**

At the annual meeting, a Matching Challenge was issued to the parish: If we increased our

pledges by a total of \$10,000, that amount would be

matched by an anonymous donor.

We are thrilled to announce that we have achieved the goal, and this additional income provides a greatly needed boost to the annual budget. The final numbers have not been counted, but results so far indicated that we have exceeded \$10,000.

Once all pledges have been received and recorded, we will provide final numbers. The Vestry wishes to thank all the members of the congregation for their participation in increasing their pledges.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME



Daylight saving time begins on March 10. Since you'll be losing an hour of sleep, don't forget to come to church!

GROWING, GROWING, GROWING

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

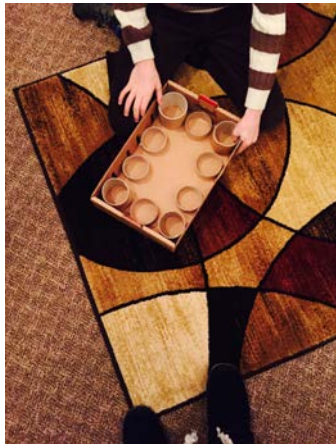
As planned, we have added another class to our Sunday School, this one for children 4-8 years old.



Our Youth Group is taking an active role in this new program by helping the younger ones to learn Bible stories with songs, games, and crafts to

reinforce their understanding of our faith.

Following a rewarding trip last year to PAWS to deliver hand-crafted pet blankets, our Youth Group continues to support our local animal shelter, this month by making cat toys.



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Begin every day in Lent hearing God say to you that you are God's Beloved.

Ash Wednesday

- Masses at 9:30 am and 7 pm with the Imposition of Ashes

All Fridays in Lent *except Good Friday*:

- Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm

Beginning **Wednesday, March 13**, at 6 pm and every Wednesday in Lent *except Holy Week*:

- ***Simple Supper with program in Parish hall.***

We will begin with a shortened form of Evening Prayer, "In the Early Evening," and conclude with a shortened form of Compline, "At the Close of Day." These are found in the BCP on pp 139 and 140.

If you have not done so, please take a pamphlet at the rear of the church: Lenten Meditations - from Episcopal Relief and Development. These are free and will form the basis of our discussions.

- Monday - Wednesday *during Holy Week: April 15-17*: Mass at 9:30 am
- Maundy Thursday: Mass at 7 pm
- Good Friday: 12 noon and 7 pm
- Holy Saturday: The Great Vigil of Easter at 8 pm
- Easter Sunday: Masses at 8 am and 10 am
- Deacon Alex's men's group book study continues at his home on Mondays at 7 pm.
- Fr. Carlton's discussion of Julian of Norwich continues on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Sunday School Room.

Prayer from Archbishop Desmond Tutu and The Reverend Mpho Tutu:

"I want to be willing to forgive but I dare not ask for the will to forgive in case you give it to me and I am not ready. I am not yet ready for my heart to soften. I am not yet ready to be vulnerable again, not yet ready to see that there is humanity in my tormentor's eyes."

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Vestry Collection Counters

Jim Jackson and Carol Fyfe

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8 a.m.

10 a.m.

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Mar 3 Dcn Dyakiw Dcn Dyakiw

Eucharistic Minister

Book/Server

Crucifer

S. Dillon

M. Perkins

XX

Mar 6 Ash Wed Dcn Dyakiw Dcn Dyakiw

Eucharistic Minister

Book/Server

Crucifer

XX

Mar 10 Dcn Dyakiw Dcn Dyakiw

Eucharistic Minister

Book/Server

Crucifer

Carol Fyfe

S. Dillon

M. Perkins

XX

Mar 17 Dcn Dyakiw Dcn Dyakiw

Eucharistic Minister

Book/Server

Crucifer

Tom Quigley

S. Dillon

M. Perkins

XX

Mar 24 Dcn Dyakiw Dcn Dyakiw

Eucharistic Minister

Book/Server

Crucifer

Mitch Holland

S. Dillon

M. Perkins

XX

Mar 31 Dcn Dyakiw Dcn Dyakiw

Eucharistic Minister

Book/Server

Crucifer

Carol Fyfe

S. Dillon

M. Perkins

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BIRTHDAYS

XX

- 2 - ANNE LUCAS
- 9 - KAY MCCLELLAN
- 10 - MARY JONES
- 22 - MIKE FITZGERALD
- 23 - JONATHAN PRESTON
- 29 - DEACON ALEX DYAKIW

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS



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MAR 3 CAROL FYFE & KATHRYN GROSSMAN

MAR 10 TINA SCOTT

MAR 17 OPEN

MAR 24 OPEN

MAR 31 OPEN

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Community Lunch 11:30 am Presbyterian Church	2
3 Last Sunday after the Epiphany Mass 8 Sung Mass 10 11:00 Young Singers Rehearsal	4 7 pm Men's Group 8 pm AA Mtg	5 4-6:30 pm Pancake Supper  7 pm Book Group 8 pm AA Mtg	6 9:30 am ASH WED Service 12 pm AA Mtg 7 pm ASH WED Service	7	8 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross	9
10 First Sunday of Lent Mass 8 Sung Mass 10 11:00 Young Singers Rehearsal	11 7 pm Men's Group 8 pm AA Mtg	12 7 pm Book Discussion Group 8 pm AA Mtg	13 9:30 Healing Mass 12 pm AA Mtg 6:00 pm Simple Supper & Program	14	15 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross	16  Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner 4 – 7 pm Parish Hall
17 Second Sunday of Lent Mass 8 Sung Mass 10  11:00 Young Singers Rehearsal	18 7 pm Men's Group 8 pm AA Mtg	19 7 pm Book Discussion Group 8 pm AA Mtg	20 9:30 Healing Mass 12 pm AA Mtg 6:00 pm Simple Supper & Prgm	21	22 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross	23
24 Third Sunday of Lent Mass 8 Sung Mass 10 11:00 Young Singers Rehearsal	25 7 pm Men's Group 8 pm AA Mtg	26 7 pm Book Discussion Group 8 pm AA Mtg	27 9:30 Healing Mass 12 pm AA Mtg 6:00 pm Simple Supper & Program	28	29 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross	30
31 Fourth Sunday of Lent Mass 8 Sung Mass 10 11:00 Young Singers Rehearsal						