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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

This week our Adult Formation conversation was on the Sacrament of Baptism and we explored the Baptismal Covenant in the Book of Common Prayer.

In the Covenant we confess the faith as received in the Apostles' Creed, and take on five further promises.

1. To remain in the Apostles' teaching (essentially the Creeds), fellowship (meeting with fellow believers for mutual edification in a specific local body), the breaking of bread (Holy Eucharist), and in the prayers (the offices and personal prayer).
2. To persevere in resisting evil and when we fall into sin to repent and return to the Lord.
3. To proclaim by word AND example the Good News of God in Christ.
4. To seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves.
5. To strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.

These are the promises we make each time we baptize a new Christian or renew our Baptismal Covenant. These are the promises by which we are made accountable as members of Christ's body.

Each of these promises build upon the other and grows out of our commitment to the previous

The Good News

April 20, 2018



Wednesday April 25 - 5:30 p.m.

Adult Formation and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd meets this week.

The Adult Formation topic for discussion is the Sacraments, and this week's conversation will focus on Holy Eucharist.

In preparation, attendees are asked to read and outline the structure of one of our Eucharistic Prayers in either Rite I or Rite II.

Breakfast Fellowships

Men's Breakfast will meet Saturday, 4/21, at 8 AM.

Cursillo

The Diocesan Cursillo weekend for adults will be 22-24 June at Toddhall. This is a renewal and growth weekend for anyone over the age of 18. It is a powerful experience and life-changing.

If interested, please see Fr. Dave for more information.

St. Michael's Conference

The annual Diocesan St. Michael's Conference will be held 10-16 June at St. Michael's Church in O'Fallon. The conference is open to youth ages 13-19 as "Michaelites" and young adults who wish to serve as counselors.

The topic for this year is "Called, Consecrated, and Commissioned" and will focus on the meaning and discernment of vocation and ministry. There will be lay and

promise. These promises, then, are the outline of Christian growth, development, and progress. Promises 2-5 stem from the basic promise of being faithful to the Gospel as received in Scripture and Tradition, connection to a specific local body of believers, joining together for Eucharistic worship, and having a solid life of prayer.

In this Easter season as we prepare for Pentecost, let us take seriously the promises we have made and hold each other accountable for our mutual growth in Christ and love and service to those made in His image.

Christ is Risen!

Dave Halt, Rector
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog

clerical presenters from across the Diocese, the daily cycle of Mass and Office, as well as, fellowship and recreational activities.

The cost of the conference is \$100 and scholarships are available.

Please see Fr. Dave for registration information.

Quilters' News

The quilters are offering a quilt for a silent/secret auction, that Peggy Blackley pieced and the current quilters have finished. It will make a great gift for Mother's Day, Birthday, or just to have and hold for your own comfort. See it on display in the Parish Hall.

All of the MONEY will go the THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE for their community activities. The reserve limit on the quilt is \$100.00

BID RULES:

1. Name, telephone number and \$\$\$\$ on bid paper
2. Put bid paper in designated box
3. All bids must be in by May 5, 2018
4. The bids will be opened/winner notified on May 6, 2018

Happy bidding, The Quilters

Outreach Opportunities

Outreach Opportunities For
The Months of March and April 2018

Mid Central Community Action's (MCCA) emergency shelter, **Neville House**, provides safe harbor, assists and provides families in crisis situations with individual and group counseling for adults and children, and serves as a community resource providing awareness, advocacy, and education on the issue of domestic violence.

Neville House personnel have suggested the following necessary supplies for the shelter and its residents: women, children and occasionally men.

Personal hygiene items: full size shampoos, conditioners and body wash for men, women and children, along with bath soaps and lotions, towels and washcloths;

Clothing: women's underwear in various sizes, along with brassieres (C-cups plus); men's clothing and underwear in sizes M/L;

Shoes and/or sneakers: in a variety of sizes for men, women and children;

Laundry and Cleaning supplies; Laundry detergent, bath and kitchen cleaning products, paper towels and toilet paper;

Kitchen supplies: non-perishable items, canned soups and meats, and boxed meals for the pantry;

Gift cards and/or monetary gifts*; grocery, and other gift cards help

provide fresh produce, dairy and other perishable items for the kitchen, or other resident needs. Monetary and gas cards assist in transporting residents to doctor appointments, job interviews, and/or their children to school/daycare.

Please place supplies in the Outreach baskets in the narthex and the hallway beside the fireplace. We bless and thank each and every one of you for your continued generosity to those in need in our community.

The Outreach Committee

**Please don't leave money or gift cards in the baskets. These should be clearly noted for OUTREACH and placed in the offering plates.*

BOOK/DVD/BAKE SALE

The Outreach Committee will hold its spring Book/DVD/Bake Sale on Saturday, April 28, from 8 AM to 1 PM. Donations of gently used books, DVDs, CDs, and other recordings are greatly appreciated. Please put donations in the parish hall near the bookcases. If you need help getting items to the church please call Debbie Leighton at 662-7478.

Please bring baked goods to the church during office hours of Friday, April 27 (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.) or during set-up, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. Anyone who would like to help set-up for the sale is welcome to do so.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Serving Schedule

22-April

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Martha Carroll

E.M.: Shelley Carter & Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Susan Long & Shelley Carter

29-April

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Shelley Carter

Lector: Robin Levine

E.M.: Emily Levine

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Linda Thomas & Ann Sokan

St. Matthew's Schedule beginning April 22nd

Coffee Hour follows 10:00 worship in the Parish Hall

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I

Sunday-10:30 a.m.-Rite II

Sunday-11:00 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Sunday-5:30 p.m.-Evensong

Monday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Monday-5:30 p.m.-Brownies

Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Tuesday-10:00 a.m.-Quilters

Wednesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Light Supper

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.-Adult Formation & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Holy Eucharist and breakfast

Friday -7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Friday-3:00 p.m.-Book/DVD/Bake Sale set-up

Saturday-8:00 a.m.-Book/DVD/Bake Sale

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

If you have anything you would like added to the schedule or announcements in the bulletin and news letter please send an email reply to the newsletter, or call the office.

May Schedule

May 10--7:30 AM Mass for the Ascension

May 13th--Graduate Recognition at 10AM service. Please provide information on graduates to the Office by May 10th.

May 20th--Pentecost. Fr. Joe will be Celebrant that day.

May 27th--Trinity Sunday. Supply Priest will Celebrate.

Fr. Dave will be attending his last PhD intensive 14May-26th May. He will leave immediately the conclusion of Mass on the 13th and be back in the office on the 29th of May. On Sunday the 27th he will be attending the retirement Mass of his former National Guard Chaplain, mentor, and friend in Lancaster, Ohio.

From the Junior Warden

In an effort to improve lighting and provide space for a cry room that allows continued participation in the liturgy for parents, we will be removing several of the panels separating the narthex from the nave. This will be done before the Feast of Pentecost.

This is an experiment to see if their removal and replacement with glass is feasible in terms of glare, light, and general appearance.

After these are removed, please share your opinions with either a Warden or member of the Mission Leadership Team.

Bells In Motion of Central IL

presents: "Historic Route 66" concerts

Saturday, May 5, 7:00 p.m. - Pontiac, IL

tickets in advance - 815-844-1187

or

Sunday, May 6, 4:00 p.m. - Springfield, IL

tickets available at the door

For details about these bell-ringer concerts, see the bulletin board in the main hallway

Readings for April 22, 2018

Hymns: #708, #417, #663, #518

The First Lesson

Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is `the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be

saved."

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who
trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Epistle

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Gospel

John 10:11-18

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away--and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I

know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Birthdays & Anniversaries April 22 - 28

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Gary Ploense

Susan Clark

Amy Halt

Collect for Sunday, April 22nd

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

