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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Bring up the Lenten Fast in a group of Episcopalians and you can have a great conversation. We can talk about what we are giving up. We can talk about the positive way of adding a spiritual discipline to our lives against the negative way of "giving up" something. We can talk about "fasting" from things like anger and being forgiving. All of these things are good, but do not get to the heart of why we take time to practice self-denial, fasting, and prayer.

The why is actually quite simple, we fast to take one more step in placing the body under the discipline of the soul rather than allowing the soul to be under the authority of the body. The Snickers' commercials are good catechesis for this point. You take a "star" who appears grumpy or whiny, give them a Snickers, and they become a totally different person and "normal". The tag line? "You're not you when you're hungry!"

What is in control? The body and its passion for food, or the soul?

This is why we fast, to continue the struggle to

The Good News

March 1, 2019



Ash Wednesday Schedule

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at noon and 7PM. The noon service will be spoken.

There will be no Bible Study on Ash Wednesday. That is formal organized Bible Study, I hope each of us will do our own private study that day. D+

Shrove Tuesday

The Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, March 5. The men of the church will gather between 4 and 5 to prep and begin cooking. Dinner will be served beginning at 5 and ending at 7.

A freewill donation will be accepted to offset the cost of the meal, and any funds raised above expenses will go towards defraying the cost of our parish fellowship events.

Please come out and bring your family and friends!

Lenten Formation

Adult Study in Lent will focus on the Psalms as prayer. Please send your favorite, or least favorite, Psalms to Fr. Dave for inclusion in discussion.

Fellowship Breakfasts

Women's Breakfast - is scheduled on Saturday, March 9, at 8:30 a.m.

Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, the 16th, at 8:00 a.m.

have our soul in control and to focus on the things of Christ.

You're not you when you're spiritually hungry, but satiated in body.

May your spiritual hunger be filled in your Lenten Fast.

Blessings,

Dave+
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

All members and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend and enjoy the fellowship at these casual and friendly events.

Outreach Opportunities

The January-February Outreach program is non-perishable foods for the Salvation Army. Please bring canned goods and nutritious boxed foods to share.

Outreach-Education

Advent Chakupewa, son of Bishop Elias, is continuing school to become a doctor. His tuition is annually \$2273 + \$1836 for room & board, but this is far more than his family and community can provide. St. Matthew's hopes to continue his support in this valuable ministry. If you wish to participate, please make funds available to St. Matthew's with the notation: Outreach-Education.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

3-March 2019

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Mona Johnstone

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt

Thurifer: John Stoffer

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Valarie Jones

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Gary Ploense

Coffee Hour: Valerie & Rex Schaeffer

10-March 2019

7:30

Greeter: Dede & Doug Dyson

Lector: Chris Bennett

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Jack Pitts
Crucifer: Christian Pitts
Lector: Karyn Smith
E.M.: Bob Kohlhase & Emily Lavikoff
Monday Counter: Pam Laws
Coffee Hour: Debbie Leighton & Patty Pitts

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of March 3

Coffee hour follows 10AM worship in Parish Hall

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II

10:40 a.m.--Sunday School for Children

1:00 p.m.-Green Scouts

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

Monday-5:00 p.m.-WMFY classes

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

10:00 a.m.--Quilters

5:00 p.m.--Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

6:00 p.m.-Zumba

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

noon-Ash Wednesday spoken service

2:00 p.m.-Piano Classes

7:00 p.m.-Ash Wednesday service

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer & breakfast

2:00 p.m.-Piano Classes

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

4:00 p.m.-Girl Scouts OVERNIGHT lock-in

Saturday-7:30 a.m.-Zumba

8:30 a.m.-Women's Breakfast

2:00 p.m.-Piano Classes

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

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.

Readings for March 3, 2019

Hymns: #135, #326, #381

Old Testament

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron

and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Psalm 99

Dominus regnavit

1 The Lord is King;

let the people tremble; *

he is enthroned upon the cherubim;

let the earth shake.

2 The Lord is great in Zion; *

he is high above all peoples.

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *

he is the Holy One.

4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,

you have established equity; *

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God

and fall down before his footstool; *

he is the Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,

and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *

they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *

they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *

you were a God who forgave them,

yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God

and worship him upon his holy hill; *

for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

The New Testament

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the

Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

About eight days after Peter had acknowledged Jesus as the Christ of God, Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Birthdays & Anniversaries March 3 - 9

Anniversaries

Dede & Dough Dyson

Birthdays

Heather Mather

Jane Shadid

George Dyson

Roger Hunt

Matt Matsuda

Dedications for this week:

Collect for the Last Sunday after Epiphany, March 3rd

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

