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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Rattles, Snakes, and
Patrick.

You might have noticed a weird sound during the liturgy on Ash Wednesday and last Sunday. That sound is the sound of a crotalus (from the Latin transliteration of the Greek for "rattle"). A crotalus can take different forms from a true rattle, to castanets, to a clapper, to two sticks being banged together. It was traditionally used during the Triduum (the three days before Easter) in lieu of the altar bells. The purpose was to mark the same events as the bells, but with a more somber sound.

At St. Matthew's, during Lent, bells are not usually used and so the crotalus makes its appearance early. Like the Altar Bells it serves to communicate a simple message, "pay attention, important things are happening".

Of course, there is another crotalus out there. It is a type of rattlesnake found in the Western Hemisphere from southern Canada to southern Uruguay.

We do not have one of these.

Who else do not have these,

The Good News

March 15, 2019



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

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

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

MLT

Regular meeting at 6PM Sunday, March 17th.

Special Evensong

Evensong is offered each Sunday at 5:30.

On March 24th, Fr. Ben Hankinson from Trinity, Mt. Vernon will be our officiant and will lead Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

If you have never participated in this Eucharistic Devotion it is a wonderful time of prayer and meditation. All are welcome.

Chrism Mass

The annual Chrism Mass and the renewal of ordination vows will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral at 10AM on April 13th. The oils used at Baptism and the Anointing of the Sick for the next

or any of their relatives?
The Irish.

Thanks, legendarily of course, to St. Patrick, whose commemoration is usually held on 17 March.

St. Patrick, a Romano-Celt from the western part of Britannia was captured as a youth by the Irish and served as a slave. His duty was to herd animals. During his vigilance, both to his prayers and his duty, he was called to make his escape and continue his study of the Faith. During his vigilant study, he again experienced the call to return to those who had abused him and bring the Faith to the Irish people. He obeyed, and the rest is history.

On our trip to Ireland, Amy and I, found a statue of Patrick standing on the top of the old motte and bailey in Granard. We could see it from over a mile away standing vigil over the village. It was a wonderful find, so we stopped and climbed the hill as part of our pilgrimage. Our vigilance in observing the scenery paid off with a wonderful experience.

year are also blessed at this service. This is an important moment in our mutual life as a Diocese, and all are invited to attend. If you would like to attend please let one of the clergy know and we will arrange carpooling.

Eucharistic Minister Training

We have been notified that our current licenses for those serving as Eucharistic Ministers are due to be renewed.

If you are a currently a Eucharistic Minister, or believe you are called to assist with the Chalice at the Holy Eucharist, we will have a brief training after both services this Sunday and April 7.

If you are not available for either training, but still wish to serve, please notify Fr. Halt and he will schedule a time to meet.

Holy Week Schedule

It is never too early to announce and plan for Holy Week.

Our schedule will be as follows:

Palm/Passion Sunday (4/14)--Regular Sunday Schedule

Maundy Thursday (4/18)--7PM Mass w/ The Watch to follow.

Good Friday (4/19)--Noon (spoken service) & 7PM (sung service)

Holy Saturday (4/20)--9AM Holy Saturday Office

Easter Sunday--6AM The Great Vigil of Easter

8:30 (ish) Easter Brunch

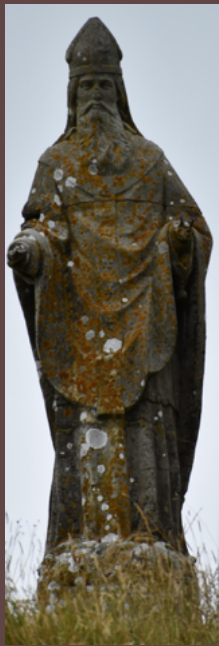
10AM Rite II Holy Eucharist

For Easter Week there will be a noon Mass Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Thursday Mass will be at 7:30AM.

Outreach Opportunities

Items of the Month

March and April focus is on Mid Central Community Action's (MCCA) emergency shelter: Neville House. Neville House provides safe harbor, assists and provides families in crisis



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St. Matthew's has an opportunity for all of us to practice vigilance and to experience the wonder of the Resurrection. Our Easter Vigil, will be held at 6AM on 21 April. On that day we will put away the crotalus and ring the bells. We will celebrate that the evil one, symbolized by a snake, has been defeated. We will proclaim, as did Patrick, the Gospel of the risen Christ, and welcome new members into the Body of Christ. It will be a wonderful and joyous experience, and a proclamation that "important things are happening."

Blessings,

Dave+
309-660-8515

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 requests the following for women, children and occasionally men: personal hygiene items, clothing, shoes/sneakers and socks, laundry & cleaning supplies, kitchen supplies, and gift cards. Specific items requested are listed on the displays with Outreach baskets, which are located in the narthex and hallway near the fireplace.

Book/DVD/Bake Sale

The Outreach Committee will hold its spring Book/DVD/Bake Sale on Saturday, March 30, 8 AM to 1 PM. Please bring any donations to the parish hall and place them near the bookshelves. Call Debbie Leighton with any questions at 662-7478.

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.

Community Action Poverty Simulation Volunteers Needed

CAPS promotes a great understanding of poverty. They need volunteers to help staff the event on March 19th, Tuesday, from 8 AM to noon. The simulation will be held at ISU where as an agency volunteer, you would play a school teacher, police officer, social service worker, banker or other job but you do not need experience in any of these roles. Please speak with Robin Levine if you have questions or want to sign up.

Job Opening (Tentative)

The MLT has authorized the creation of a job description for a Sexton to care for basic cleaning and maintenance of our facilities. The position is part-time and would not increase our bottom line expenses for cleaning and maintenance. That is, if we can find someone who is interested and meets our requirements.

The primary qualities we are looking for in a potential hire are positive attitude, genuine care for a job well done and helping our facility continue to be a welcoming space. If you know of someone who has these qualities, is physically capable of light lifting (40lbs), and is available to work regular part-time hours,



Ministry Links



St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of

please have them contact us for an application.

Birthday Announcement

The family of Daniel Teas wants his friends and church family to know that Daniel will celebrate his 90th birthday on March 23. If you would like to send a card:

Daniel Teas
MHC 5241
2025 E Lincoln
Bloomington, IL 61701

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

17-March 2019

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Julie Bennett

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Thurifer: Brad Bauman

Crucifer: Shelley Carter

Lector: Chrissy Stoffer

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Cris Embree & Gary Ploense

24-March 2019

7:30

Greeter: Dede & Doug Dyson

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Liam Halt

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: John Stoffer

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Susan & Jeff Clark

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of March 17

Coffee hour follows 10AM worship in Parish Hall

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite I

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

1:00 p.m.-Green Scouts

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

6:00 p.m.-MLT meeting

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

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

10:00 a.m.--Quilters

6:00 p.m.-Zumba

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

2:00 p.m.-Piano Classes

5:30 p.m.-Holy Eucharist

6:00 p.m.-Adult Bible Study

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

2:00 p.m.-Piano Classes

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

5:30 p.m.-Stations of the Cross

Saturday-7:30 a.m.-Zumba

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 17, 2019

Hymns: #

Old Testament

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat

three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Psalm 27

Dominus illuminatio

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? *

the Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?

2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who
stumbled and fell.

3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.

5 One thing have I asked of the Lord;
one thing I seek; *

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my
life;

6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe
in his shelter; *

he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.

8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *

I will sing and make music to the Lord.

10 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

13 You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the Lord will sustain me.

15 Show me your way, O Lord; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.

17 What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the Lord *
in the land of the living!

18 O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the Lord.

The Epistle

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Gospel

Luke 13:31-35

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Birthdays
Ruth Stock
Daniel Teas

Dedications for this week:

Collect for the Second Sunday in Lent, March 17th

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

