

**From:** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsblm.org  
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## Contents



## The Good News

This Week's Readings

January 31, 2020

### Rector's Ramblings

Tomorrow I have the honor of preaching at the annual Mass of the Society of King Charles the Martyr. This year the Mass is at our cathedral in Springfield. While he was a King, he is remembered for his witness to the Faith and his attitude of charity towards those who called for his execution. Here a few words from his writings at the time immediately before his death. (Spelling is his own and conventional in the 17th Century)

"I bless God, I Pray not so much, that this bitter Cup of violent Death may pass from Me, as that of his wrath may pass from al those, whose hands by deserting Me, are sprinkled, or by Acting and Consenting to My Death are embued with My Bloud."

"Which I humbly beseech him mercifully to accept; and although death be the wages of my own sinne, as from God, and the effect of others sinnes, as men, both against God and me; yet as I hope my own sinnes are so remitted, that they shall be not ingredients to imbitter the cup of my death, so I desire God to pardon their sinne, who are



### Wednesday Evening

Our Wednesday Evening study will focus on "The History of the Episcopal Church" starting this Wednesday. Our topic for this week will be "Particularity".

The Eucharist will be a commemoration of The Martyrs of Japan (1597)

Eucharist is celebrated at 5:30. Study begins at 6.

### Feast of the Presentation

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple. It has also been called the Feast of the Purification of Mary, and Candlemas.

This is one of the few feasts of the Church that preempts the celebration of the regular Sunday. In this case the Presentation replaces the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

It is traditional to bless candles that will be used during prayer at the Candlemas service. If you would like to have candles blessed for home please bring them in and set them in front of the altar before the service.

### Evensong

Despite the big game that is super and is played in a bowl, but whose name cannot be shared for copyright reasons, Evensong will still be celebrated week at 5:30PM.

### Theology Uncorked

Will meet on the 9th at 6PM.

to pardon their sins, who are most guilty of my destruction."

"Yea it is better for us to be dead to our selves, and live in thee; then by living in our selves, to be deprived of thee."

"If thou Lord with be with me, I shall neither fear nor feel any evill, though I walk thorow the valley of the shadow of death."

"O let the voice of his (Christ's) bloud be heard for my Murtherers, louder then the cry of mine against them."

"O deal not with them as bloud thirsty and deceitfull men; but overcome their cruelty with thy compassion and my charitie."

"O my Saviour, who knowest what it is to die with me as a Man; make me know what it is to passe through death to life with thee my God."

"That by they Goodnesse, which is thy Self, thou wilt suffer some beam of they Majestie so to shine in my minde, that I, who in my greatest Afflictions acknowledge it my noblest Title to by thy Creature, my still depend confidently on Thee."

These meditations and prayers, written without the presence, or comfort, of a chaplain speak loudly to Charles faith. May his witness inform our own.

Remember!

### **Mission Leadership Team**

Will meet on Sunday the 16th at 6PM.

Congratulations to those elected to serve on the MLT: Deedee Champic Susan Clark, and Bill Johns.

Jim Cooper will continue as Sr. Warden, and Gary Ploense will serve as Warden. By our bylaws both will also serve as delegates to Synod.

Matt Matsuda is our at large delegate to Synod with Eric Teoro and Roy Laws serving as alternates.

### **Chili and Soup Cookoff/Trivia Night**

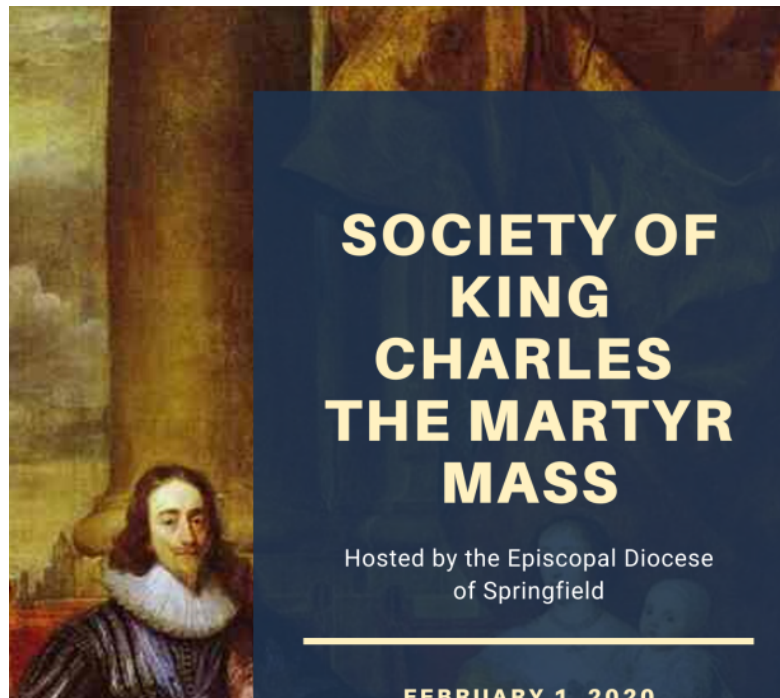
Come join the fun on Saturday, February 8 for our 2nd annual chili/soup cook off! Please bring your favorite chili or soup. No need to bring a w/ pot - only about 12 servings. If you'd rather, bring any accompaniments (crackers, bread, muffins, etc.) or a dessert, or just come for the fun and some good eats!

There will be a trivia contest so come and have lots of fun on Saturday, February 8 at 6PM!

### **Society of King Charles the Martyr**

The Diocese of Springfield is hosting the annual Mass for the Society of Charles King and Martyr. The service will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral Springfield. Bishop Daniel will be the Celebrant and Fr. Halt will be the Homilist for the service.

Mass begins at 11AM and a lunch will follow. You can RSVP for the lun calling St. Paul's at 217-544-5135.



See you Sunday!

Dave+  
309-660-8515

## Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage  
The Episcopal Diocese of  
Springfield  
Rector's Blog (new)  
Find us on Instagram--stmattsblm  
Twitter--@BloomingtonSt



### 2019 Giving Statements

Your annual giving statements are printed and available in the hallway outside the parish hall. Please help us avoid the high cost of postage by remembering to collect your statement before tax season gets in full swing.

### Bishop Election

As was announced after our last Diocesan Synod, Bishop Daniel has called for the election of a new bishop for the Diocese and announced his own retirement in June of 2021. The Standing Committee of the Diocese, which is responsible for holding the election, has published a letter updating us on the process to elect the XIIIth Bishop of Springfield.

That letter can be found [here](#).

More importantly they have asked that we keep this election in our prayers and they suggest the following prayers for our use. We will use one of these each Sunday as part of the Prayers of the People.

*Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equitably for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. - BCP page 81 #13*

*Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the choosing of a bishop for this Diocese. Teach them in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide them to perceive what is right, and grant them both the courage to pursue and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. - Adapted from BCP page 818, #12*

### Outreach Opportunities

#### ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

##### HEARTLAND HEADSTART PANTRY DRIVE

Heartland Head Start works to educate children and empower families. Our goal of our family work is to help our families be as independent as possible. When families are trying to move from dependence on Government help to independence, we try to fill in the gaps as they grow. For example; As family income increases government help decreases, leaving the family still in need. We provide what we can so that their paychecks go farther while they are making this transition. Our families use Snap cards (that diminish with rising paychecks) and food pantries. We try to make available items that

cannot be obtained at these sources, often coming out of the pockets of staff members. This is where I ask for your help. We try to maintain a small pantry of non-food items for our families, I am asking St. Matthew's outreach committee to hold a drive for our family pantry. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Patty Pitts  
Heartland Head Start Home Educator

Shampoo  
Soap/bodywash  
Deodorant  
Children's bath products  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Toilet paper  
Paper towels  
Diapers (all sizes) (NO NEWBORNS)  
Baby wipes  
Laundry detergent  
Dryer sheets  
Cleaning supplies  
Hand soap  
Dish soap  
Kitchen garbage bags  
Gas card  
Wall mart gift cards

#### **The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

### **Worship Serving Schedule**

2-February 2020

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Thurifer: Emily Lavikoff

Lector: Amy Halt

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase

Monday Counter: Gary Ploense

Coffee Hour: Pam & Roy Laws

9-February 2020

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Chris Bennett

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

10:00

Acolyte: Shelley Carter

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Sandy Kohlhase

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Pam Laws

Monday Counter. Pam Laws  
Coffee Hour: Valerie & Rex Schaeffer

## **St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of February 2**

*Coffee Hour fellowship follows worship in the Parish Hall*

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I  
10:00 a.m.-Rite II  
5:30 p.m.-Evensong  
Monday-9:00 a.m.-B-N Community Co-operative\*  
11:00 a.m.-Private Music Lessons \*  
Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer  
10:00 a.m.-Quilters  
Wednesday-1:30 p.m.-Private Music Lessons \*  
5:30 p.m.-Mid-week Holy Eucharist  
6:00 p.m.-Adult Study  
Thursday -7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer & breakfast  
9:00 a.m.-Moms in Prayer \*  
2:00 p.m.-Private Music Lessons \*  
Friday-  
Saturday-8:30 a.m.-Women's breakfast  
2:00 p.m.-Private Music lessons \*  
6:00 p.m.-Chili-Soup Cookoff in Parish Hall

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

*\* Authorized Group--St. Matthew's guests*

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

## **Readings for February 2, 2020**

Hymns: #436, #517, #257, #277 (words with different tune)

Old Testament

Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former

years.

Psalm 24:7-10

*Domini est terra*

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 "Who is this King of glory?" \*

"The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle."

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 "Who is he, this King of glory?" \*

"The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory."

The New Testament

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all people a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries February 2 - 8**

*Anniversaries*

*Birthdays*

None listed

## **Dedications for this week:**

### **Presentation of our Lord Sunday, February 2nd**

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we thy children may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same Holy Spirit, in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Contact Information**  
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