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Rector's Ramblings



This is a Gnu

Behold I bring you the gnaws, all the gnaws that is fit to print this week. I have spent way too much time on Zoom the last couple of days, and I think I am getting a bit pun--chy...

I apologize that this week's newsletter is late. I was waiting to be able to update you on the Diocese of Springfield's recovery plan.

There was a meeting of the Diocesan Council yesterday to discuss the proposed plan and it remains a work in progress. Hopefully, it will be promulgated early next week.

However, any changes to the current situation will not take place before 31 May.

As soon as the Diocesan plan is released, I will update you on how St. Matthew's will implement that plan.

On a different note, Bishop Daniel announced to Council yesterday that he is postponing his retirement due to the impact of COVID-19 on the ability to due the necessary work to elect his successor.

Once Illinois is able to gather again for this type of work, he will call for an election.

I think that is all the gnus for now.

May God bless you all, and I hope to "see" you on Sunday.

Dave+
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

The Good News

May 15, 2020



This Sunday is the Sixth Sunday after Easter.

Sunday Eucharist Outline is [here](#).

Full Service is [here](#).

Both bulletins have the music included.

You are invited to stream the service from the comfort of your home prayer corner or the parking lot. For those who wish to receive, Holy Communion will continue to be offered after the Liturgy using the drive-way for reception. It is distributed in as sanitary and safe method as receiving a meal from a "curbside" pickup restaurant (gloves, mask, etc.). Holy Communion will remain available for 30 minutes after the end of the service. If you do not wish to receive, I commend the practice of Spiritual Communion, which can be found in the links below.

Other services this week.

**Tuesday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer
5:30PM Evening Prayer**

**Wednesday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer
Noon Holy Eucharist
5:30PM Evening Prayer**

**Thursday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer
Noon Holy Eucharist
5:30PM Evening Prayer**

Friday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer

Services will be streamed if possible.

NB--As the governmental authorities continue to update policies, all plans are subject to change.

As always, you remain in our prayers, and I ask that you let us know if you need anything at this time. St. Matthew's stands ready to help as we can.

Dave+

A Couple of Links

[St. Bede's Breviary](#) (Daily Offices)

[Book of Common Prayer](#)

[Spiritual Communion \(Update\)](#) (An Anglican Rite).

[Prayer of Elder Paisios for the World](#) (I have found this quite helpful at the current time).

From the Jr. Warden

The work of the church goes on through plagues, pestilence, and disasters. Those of you who are practicing social distancing and staying home can still contribute your tithing to keep St. Matthew's providing worship and other services to the parish. Weekday morning Mass at 7:30 a.m., Evening Offices at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday Mass at 10 a.m. are being streamed on St. Matthew's Facebook page. You can contact your bank to have a direct check mailed at whatever interval you choose. You can mail in checks to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 1920 E. Oakland Ave, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Please remember that Outreach is not able to hold the book sale this spring and will not have money to support Advent Chakupewa's medical education expenses or any of their other causes. Donations to them can also be made, be sure to note those special funds in the memo line of your check.

Yours in Christ,

Gary Ploense
Jr. Warden

Outreach Opportunities ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

Advent Time

Advent is enrolled in year 3 of a 5 year course to become a doctor. He is the son of Bishop Elias in Tanzania. In US dollars, his tuition would be \$2,273 per year. Room & Board is an additional \$1826 annually. Celebrate with the St. Matthew's family and the Outreach Committee on learning that all \$4099 has been raised/committed for this coming year's studies!

Meals

Thank you for the generous outpouring of support for this ministry. The freezer is quite full at this time.

We also have packages of Tender Mercies meals from Midwest Food Bank.

If you, or someone you know, need(s) a meal at this time please let us know, or stop by the office when it is open.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:
[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

Thank you to all of you who faithfully serve in the ministry of the Altar. At this time we are suspending the scheduling of servers to keep you safe and to reflect the changing circumstances we face.

A service will always be held on Sunday, but the numbers allowed to be present will necessarily be limited. If you wish to serve at any service where you will be present, you are invited to do so.

We will resume scheduling as events allow.

Thank you again, and may God bless you.

Birthdays & Anniversaries May 17 - 23

Anniversaries
Amy & Fr. Dave Halt

Birthdays

Dedications for this week:

*The Memorial Candle is lit in loving memory of
Phyllis Jean Feaster's birthday on May 15th
by her Son, Morris*

6th Sunday of Easter, May 17th

O God, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love toward thee, that we, loving thee in all things and above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through 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