

**From:** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsbldm.org  
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## Rector's Ramblings

He is Risen!

Taking a break from our regularly scheduled program.

With repairs set to begin in the next week or so, we have made some changes to the Sanctuary that need to be communicated.

1. We will not be using the organ from this Sunday until the end of construction. The loft will be sealed to keep dust from entering the organ pipes and to repair the stairs. To this end we have moved the piano from the choir room to the west side of the Nave.

2. The choir will be sitting in the Sanctuary forming a true Chancel Choir. In order to accommodate the extra seating capacity needed, the pulpit has been removed (temporarily) and replaced with an additional small pew.

3. With the change in seating, the altar area has been arranged in a Basilica style seating arrangement. The Bishop's chair and the two benches in the East Narthex have been placed behind the altar against the reredos. The Celebrant and Eucharistic Ministers will be seated on the benches. The Bishop's chair will remain empty, unless he is actually present with us. This is a visible reminder that we are simply a

## The Good News

April 15th, 2016



### Breakfast Fellowships

#### Men's Breakfast will meet on 4/16 at 8AM.

#### Morning Prayer - Standard Schedule

Morning Prayer is offered at 7AM on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and at 7:30 AM on Thursday. The fourth Thursday at 7:30 AM is Holy Eucharist.

#### Bible Study

Continues this Wednesday at 6PM. We will be studying Paul's Letter to the Galatians and the Letter of James. It will be a compare and contrast study of Faith v. Works.

Please feel free to bring your dinner to the study.

#### Construction Update

Construction/repairs to the building will begin in the next week or so. During this time we will lose the use of the choir loft and organ.

#### Pastoral Letter

Bishop Daniel has released a pastoral letter calling for a wave of prayer in the Diocese of Springfield. Here is a link if you would like to read it.

<http://www.episcopalspringfield.org/6015-2/>

Plans for our implementation of this plan will be announced in the near future.

parish in the one Church called the Diocese of Springfield.

4. Crucifer and Torchbearers will sit on the Epistle (east) side of the Sanctuary. The Bookbearer and Thurifer (if scheduled) will sit next to the credence table on the Epistle side.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make these changes during the reconstruction period.

Dave+

## Ministry Links

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

### **St. Michael's Conference**

The second annual St. Michael's Conference for youth 13-19 will be held from June 12-17th at Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL. Registration forms are available in the Church Office or from Fr. Dave.

Highlights of this year's conference:

Mo. Beth Maynard will teach on the sacraments.

Fr. Dave will teach on Genesis 1-3.

Fr. Ian Wetmore will lead a conference on the Parables.

Fr. David Baumann will teach on practical prayer.

Also, afternoon trips for rock climbing, a Cardinals game, and a pool party.

Ask any Michaelite from last year to find out how exciting and transforming this conference is.

### **Local Mission Opportunities**

ITEMS FOR THE MONTH FOR MARCH AND APRIL 2016 - As we progress into the New Year please consider assisting those in our community who are seeking help to escape the abuse of domestic violence. 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 has suggested some necessary supplies for the shelter and its residents: laundry and dish soap, paper products (paper towels and toilet paper), and cleaning supplies/products. In addition, personal hygiene items such as (bath soaps, lotions, shampoos, toothpaste and brushes) are always needed along with gift and gas cards. 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.

The Outreach Committee will hold a Book, DVD, and Bake Sale on Saturday April 23, 8:00AM-12:00PM. Please bring your donations of Books, DVDs, CDs, LPs, and other recordings and place them near the Bookshelves. If you need help getting your donation to church, please call Debbie Leighton at Home (309)-662-7478 or at Work (309)-828-7600

### **The Guild of the Holy Rosary**

Several of our members have formed a guild for the promotion and praying of the Rosary. The Guild has put together a devotional manual that they are eager to share with anyone who wishes. They meet at 5:30 PM each Wednesday to pray together, and invites all members of St. Matthew's to join them in prayer. Please join the Guild in prayer for our Church, our Parish, our clergy, and each other.

### **Parish Mission**

We have a small group who will be travelling to St. Vincent this summer (26 June-9 July) to work on repairs to a small church. We will be joined by six members of St. John's, Lancaster, Ohio.

Please pray for those who will give of their time, energy, and treasure to assist our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Currently, we have \$4750 towards our goal of \$5000 for repairs

Currently, we have \$4750 towards our goal of \$5000 for repairing the roof at St. John's, Owia. Please consider making a small donation to help our fellow Anglicans worship in a safe and secure building.

#### Good News Daily

This Week's Good News Daily is [here](#).

### **Readings & Music for April 17th, 2016**

Hymns: #181, 664, 691

Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Psalms 100

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; \*  
serve the LORD with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. REFRAIN
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age. REFRAIN

Revelation 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever!  
Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;  
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

## **Ministry Assignments for Holy Week April 10th-17th**

### 17-April

#### 7:30

- Greeters: Ray Durham
- Lector: Ann Nadakavukaren
- E.M.: Bill Johns

#### 10:00

- Lector: Sandy Kohlhase
- Acolytes: Chris Bennett, Shelley Breneman Carter & Hally
- Crucifer: Christian Pitts
- Thurifer/Boat: Collin Bennett and Daniel
- E.M.: TBD
- Monday Counter: Susan Clark
- Coffee Hour: The Baughans

### 24-April

#### 7:30

- Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

- Lector: Bill Johns
- E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00am

- Lector: Dedee Champion
- Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack & Nolan White
- Crucifer: Alex Davingman
- Thurifer/Boat: Sarah Halt & Georgia
- E.M.: Jack Pitts
- Monday Counter: Pam Laws
- Coffee Hour: Martha Lakin & Linda Stawick

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries April 15th- May 1st**

#### Birthdays

Sue Jones

Morgan Kimmerling

Gary Ploense

Susan Clark

Amy Halt

Kevin Roberts

Justin Palm

Diane Gardener

### **Collect for Sunday, April 17th**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

### **Contact Information**

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