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Rector's Ramblings

As a reminder, I will be leaving on August 27th for my two weeks at The Antiochian Orthodox Institute/House of Studies. We will be meeting at the Antiochian Village near Ligonier, Pennsylvania.

I am excited about getting started in the classes, and yet feeling a bit stressed as I finish the assigned pre-reading. If, for any reason, you have felt that I have not been as pastorally present as I should over the past month, I beg your forgiveness.

The reading has been fascinating and formative. The early Church was tremendously blessed with amazing intellectual giants who were able to see the impact of various theological positions on the spiritual life of the Church.

I know that my teaching, preaching, and pastoral care will be developed through this contact and study as over the past months people like Maximus, Ignatius of Antioch, and Basil of Caesarea have become more than teachers, they are living friends.

I leave you today with this from St. Ignatius of Antioch:

"Be deaf therefore when anyone speaks to you apart from Jesus Christ, who was of the family of David, and of Mary, who was truly born, both ate and drank, was truly persecuted under Pontius Pilate, was truly crucified and died in the sight of those in heaven and earth and under the earth; who also was truly raised from the dead, when

The Good News

August 12, 2016



Construction Update

Buzard Organ and Twin City Electric will be here Tuesday to solve the remaining issue with electric supply to the blower motor.

Emil Frei Company will also be here Tuesday to re-install the stained glass.

The last remaining items are the rails for the steps which are being manufactured and the installation of the stone cap on the new "grotto" area of the steps.

Thank you to Roger Thomas, Gayle Thomas, and Bob Kohlhasse for all their work.

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.

Christian Education

We are doing something new this Fall! Sunday School is moving to Wednesday evening, and while the adults are studying with Father Dave, children, ages 3 through age 12, will be in [Catechesis of the Good Shepherd](#) (click for more information). This wonderful program is a hands-on, developmentally appropriate way for them to discover Scripture, Liturgy, and Prayer. We have been working hard to create a special space for the children to meet God; we call it an "atrium"-the name used by the Early Church for the place where catechumens studied. For this year, children 3 through

his Father raised him up, as in the same manner his Father shall raise up in Christ Jesus us who believe in him, without whom we have no true life." (Epistle to the Trallians IX).

Blessings,

Dave+

Ministry Links

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

age 6 and 6 through 9 will be together, though working separately, and our 9 through 12 year-olds will be in another room, building, painting, and creating materials to help them discover their faith.

We are launching this program on Wednesday, September 14th, and we need your help to be ready! Please [click here](#) to view a list of donation items which you may no longer use at home or which may be found at thrift stores. PLEASE mark off items you are providing on the bulletin board so we know how complete our list is and to avoid getting too many of any certain thing.

Men's Breakfast

Will gather at 8AM on August 20th. We need a host for this event as Fr. Dave will be serving as the Chair for a Diocesan Council meeting.

Intercessory Prayer - Summer Schedule

Intercessory Prayer is offered at 8 p.m. on Monday, and on Thursday at 10 a.m. There is no Wednesday session scheduled for the summer.

Thank You Fun

Dear Sisters and Brothers serving in ministries for the people of St. Matthew's

Please join on Friday evening, August 19 at the Corn Crib for a fun evening of fellowship to thank you for your dedicated service. You and a guest are invited for baseball, hot dogs, popcorn, pop, and fun. Gates at the ballpark open at 5:35pm.

An anonymous donor is providing tickets. Dutch treat for food and beverage.

Please sign up on the bulletin board. Include your name, email address, phone number and name of your guest.

For any questions, comments, concerns and suggestions in the meanwhile, please contact Tim Leighton at tim.leighton@gmail.com or 309/826-7391.

Thank you for helping share the Good News of Christ in us.

Adult Study

Wednesday at 6PM.

We are moving through the New Testament into the Apostolic period. We will be reading together the Epistles of Paul to the Corinthians as well as those of St. Clement to the Corinthians. Copies of St. Clement's work will be passed out.

Outreach Opportunities

Many thanks for your fine generosity to our Items-of-the-Month program from The Outreach Committee! Unfortunately, our work is never done. August-September-October we will collect school supplies for Oakland School, items that will be needed throughout the school year. Here are some suggestions: Crayola crayons packs, baby wipes for hands after having peanuts, chalk, pencils, hard plastic pencil boxes, erasers (big pink ones and pencil-top erasers), markers, pens, Sharpies, highlighters. Also, soccer and playground balls, jump ropes, Lego's, puzzles, games for K--5 kids, such as Connect 4, chess boards, etc. And please continue to collect box top coupons for schools. Father Dave will be delivering supplies and coupons to Oakland School. If you want to donate funds instead, please designate "Outreach" on your envelope or check.

Please Volunteer to help serve at the Midwest Food Bank -Monday, August 15 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. See Chrissy Stoffer for details and to sign up.

Also, if you are interested in volunteering in any capacity at Oakland School, please let Fr. Dave know.

Parish Schedule for the week of August 14 - 20
Coffee Hour follows worship, in the Parish Hall

Sunday-8:30 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary
Sunday--afternoon--Brooks Family event
Monday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
Monday-8:00 p.m.-Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
Wednesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary
Wednesday-6:00 p.m.-Bible study
Thursday- 7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer
Thursday-10:00 a.m.-Intercessory Prayer
Friday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
Saturday--8:00 a.m.--Men's Breakfast

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: Mornings, 8:00 a.m.- noon

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.

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 8:30AM each Sunday and 5:30 PM on 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.

Good News Daily

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

Readings & Music for August 14, 2016

Hymns:# 364, #490, #555, # 324, # 562

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Psalm 82

Deus stetit

1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?

3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;

4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.

5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *

all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;

7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince."

8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry

land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Luke 12:49-56

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites!

You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Ministry Assignments for August 14 & 21

14-August

7:30

Greeters: Doug and Dede Dyson

Lector: Mona Johnstone

E.M.: Diane Gardner

10:00

Acolytes: Liam Halt & Christian Pitts

Crucifer: Alex Davingman

Lector: Dedee Champion

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Pam Laws

Coffee Hour: Linda Thomas & Ann Sokan

21-August

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Julie Bennett

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolytes: Jack and Nolan White

Crucifer: Sarah Halt

Lector: Sandy Kohlhase

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Susan & Jeffrey Clark

Birthdays & Anniversaries August 14th - 20th

Birthdays

Bill Jones

Susan Long

Collect for Sunday, August 14th, 2016

Almighty God, who hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same 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

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

