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Rector's Ramblings

Sts. Simon and Jude

Today is the Feast of Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yesterday, when I celebrated Mass with the Thursday Morning Prayer Group, I remarked that we really do not know that much about St. Simon or St. Jude.

Jude, of course, has a letter in the New Testament, and we know he is the brother of James and son of Salome, but other than that there is not much.

Simon was a Zealot from Cana. We do not know if he was given his sobriquet for being a member of the Zealot party, zealous for the law, or zealous for Our Lord. I suspect it was a combination of factors.

We do know that they were martyred for their faith, and did evangelize as far away as Persia and Mauritania. Yet, that is it.

However, even their semi-anonymity should be an encouragement for us. They are remembered for being faithful and fulfilling the ministry to which they were called.

So, often we think of the saints as those who have done all the right things and all the great things. While there are saints who have done so, many were just folks who followed Jesus and lived their lives in response to his grace.

That is why St. Simon and St.

The Good News

October 28, 2016



Bishop's Homecoming

Bishop Martins will make his annual homecoming on October 30. He will preach and preside at both services and will be available for conversation after each service. Please greet your bishop on his visit.

All Saints and All Souls

All Saints Day will be observed with a simple service at 6PM on Tuesday 11/1. This will be an a cappella sung Eucharist.

All Souls Day (a requiem for all the faithful departed) will be observed at 7AM on Wednesday 11/2. If you have members of your family you would like to be remembered in the requiem, please let the office know. Fr. Dave already has all the names on the Columbarium, and would like to include as many of your loved ones as you would share.

Parish Education

We continue our Christian Formation program this Wednesday. We start with a soup and salad supper at 5:30 with classes for all ages at 6pm. There is no need to bring items to the supper, it will be provided this week. Adults will be studying Hebrews and Trinitarian Theology.

Training for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers

Annual training will be held on November 6 (note change of date) at 8 & 11 AM. All current lectors/Eucharistic Ministers and anyone who wishes to serve in these ministries are invited to training.

Jude are so impressive to me.
They are remembered for their
faithfulness, and I pray so shall we
be.

Blessings,

Dave+

Ministry Links

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

Constitution and Canons

A new Diocesan Constitution and a new set of Canons will go into effect on 1 January 2017. Please watch this space for information on the changes made and how it impacts this Eucharistic Community.

From the above, it should be noted that one of the major changes is a formalization of the language used in the Diocesan Vision and Mission Strategy. St. Matthew's is no longer called a Parish in the new documents, but rather an Incorporated Eucharistic Community. This change of nomenclature does not change the nature of our relationship with the Diocese in terms of obligations and privileges, but does mean a change in focus.

Our Parish is now, properly, McLean County and we are called to minister to those who live in this county. This is closer to the English model than the classic American understanding of a parish made up of those who attach themselves to it.

Now, how this works out is yet to be determined.

A Eucharistic Community is a congregation that is formally recognized and authorized by the Bishop and Synod of the Diocese, whose primary purposes are the celebration of the Sacraments, forming disciples, and the sending of those disciples into the parish for ministry.

Certainly, this will be a time of questions and discernment as we as a Eucharistic Community in this Parish and the Diocese wrestle with the meaning of these changes and the challenges of their embodiment on the local level.

If you have further questions, please see Fr. Dave and he will attempt to answer them as best he can. Alternatively, as the Bishop this week as he is the lead visionary for these changes.

Morning Prayer - Standard Schedule

Morning Prayer is offered at 7AM on Monday and Tuesday, 8:30 AM Wednesday and Friday, and at 7:30 AM on Thursday. The fourth Thursday at 7:30 AM is Holy Eucharist.

Intercessory Prayer - Fall Schedule

Intercessory Prayer is offered at 8 p.m. on Monday, and on Thursday at 12:15.

Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 20th, there will be only one worship service, at

9:30 a.m. followed by the annual Thanksgiving pot-luck.

Sign up sheets will soon be available for your participation.

Outreach Opportunities

August-September-October we will continue collecting school supplies for Oakland School. If you want to donate funds instead, please designate "Outreach" on your envelope or check.

Help keep someone warm this coming winter by donating your discarded but gently used coat to the **Salvation Army's annual coat drive**. It's easy - just place the coat(s) and any used gloves, mittens and hats in decent condition into the big white box in the hallway across from Pat's office. The outreach committee will deliver them to the Army's west Washington St. headquarters. Thank you for helping those in need.

The Outreach Committee will hold a **Bag Sale** on Saturday, October 27, 8AM - 12PM. There are lots of books, DVDs, CDs, VHS tapes and puzzles for sale. Bring a bag to fill for \$5.00. See you on Saturday.

Parish Schedule for the week of October 30

Coffee Hour follows worship, in the Parish Hall

Sunday-8:30 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

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

Monday-8:00 p.m.-Intercessory Prayer

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

Tuesday-10:00 a.m.-Quilters

Wednesday-8:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Pot-luck supper

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.-Adult Bible Study & Catechesis
of the Good Shepherd

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

Thursday-12:15 p.m.-Intercessory Prayer

Thursday-6:00 p.m.-Cub Scouts

Friday-8:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Friday-6:00 p.m.-Brownie Troop

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.

Good News Daily

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

Readings & Music for October 30, 2016

Hymns: #411, #318, and printed in bulletin

Old Testament

Isaiah 1:10-18

Hear the word of the Lord,
you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!
What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the Lord;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams
and the fat of fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me,
who asked this from your hand?

Trample my courts no more;
bringing offerings is futile;
incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation--

I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

Your new moons and your appointed festivals
my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me,
I am weary of bearing them.

When you stretch out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;

your hands are full of blood.

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings

from before my eyes;

cease to do evil,

learn to do good;

seek justice,

rescue the oppressed,

defend the orphan,

plead for the widow.

Come now, let us argue it out,
says the Lord:

though your sins are like scarlet,

they shall be like snow;

though they are red like crimson,

they shall become like wool.

The Response

Psalm 32:1-8

Beati quorum

1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!

2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.

4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in
time of trouble; *

when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *

you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

The Epistle

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and
sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly,
and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing.

Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of
God for your steadfastness and faith during all your
persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.

To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will
make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every
good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord
Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the
grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was
there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was
rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the
crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran
ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was

going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

Ministry Assignments for October 30 & November 6

30-October

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: David Hanck

E.M.: Fr. Dave

10:00

Acolytes: Jack White & Nolan White

Crucifer: Brent Baughan

Lector: John Stoffer

E.M.: Robin Levine

Monday Counter: SB Carter

Coffee Hour: Leightons & Pitts

6-November

7:30

Greeters: Doug and Dede Dyson

Lector: Mona Johnstone

E.M.: Diane Gardner

10:00

Acolytes:

Crucifer:

Lector: Alex Davingman

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: SB Carter

Coffee Hour: Coopers

Birthdays & Anniversaries October 30 - November 5

Birthdays

Vivian Kraft

Bob Kohlhase

Collect for October 30th

Almighty and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; Grant, we beseech thee, that we may run without stumbling to obtain they heavenly promises; through 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

