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Lent 2017 begins on 1 March! Be prepared!

Details of the weekly schedule and special events during this time set apart for repentance and renewal can be found to the right of this space. Please take advantage of any opportunities you have to make your Lent one of spiritual growth.

Liturgically, Lent brings some changes. The biggest change is the removal of the "Alleluia" from the service, especially at the breaking of the bread (Fraction). I know that it takes me a couple of weeks to get this down, and I have the big note rubrics in front of me.

This year, however, the location of the "Peace" will change during Lent. The Peace, during Lent, will be exchanged after the Fraction and before the Communion. I expect that it, too, will take a bit to become normal.

There are several reasons for this change. The first is that with the addition of the penitential rite, and confession, to the beginning of the service, it would make sense to have the "Peace" exchanged then. However, this is not allowed under the rubrics (instructions). Secondly, moving it for a short time allows us the opportunity to really live out what this ritual element is.

The "Peace" comes to us from our reading in the Gospel of Matthew this week and Jesus' instructions to be reconciled before offering our gifts at the Altar. This has had

The Good News

February 10, 2017



Parish Education

We are currently studying Revelation. All are invited to study this work together and discover the history and meaning of this most enigmatic of books.

Thank You

Over \$671 has been raised to support the clergy and people of the Diocese of Tabora in Tanzania during the current drought. This has been sent to the Diocese to be wired to Tabora and will provide over 2500lbs of food.

Continuing our partnership with our brothers and sisters, we will keep a container on the counter during coffee hour to feed others as we have been fed. If you have loose change and small bills, please consider making a small donation each week.

Breakfast Fellowships

Women's breakfast meets this Saturday, 2/11, at 8:30AM.

Men's breakfast meets on 2/18 at 8AM.

Ash Wednesday & Lent Schedule

Ash Wednesday Service will be held at 7PM on March 1st.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 5:30 each Friday in Lent.

Fr. Halt will be available to hear confessions from 3-6PM on Ash Wednesday, 3-5 on Fridays in Lent, and between services on Sunday. Other times may be scheduled as needed.

a long standing place in the Tradition of the Church, and is explicitly referenced as a requirement for participation in the assembly in an early source called the Didache (Teaching of the Twelve Apostles).

"On the Lord's Day of the Lord come together, break bread and hold Eucharist, after confessing your transgressions that your offering may be pure; but let none who has a quarrel with his fellow join in your meeting until they be reconciled, that your sacrifice be not defiled" (Didache XIV.1-2).

The "Peace" is meant as an opportunity to be reconciled with those against whom we have sinned or who have sinned against us. To be blunt, the "Peace" is not greeting time or welcome time, it is about seeking and offering forgiveness.

It is my hope that during Lent, the new location of the Peace, will help us all think deeply about this most important ritual act in the life of the Church.

In Christ,

Fr. Dave
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

To help prepare for confession as small booklet is available in the literature racks.

Movie Night

Join us Saturday Evening, March 11, for the movie "Risen" starring Joseph Fiennes as a Roman Tribune assigned to investigate the strange events around a Jewish prophet.

Movie will begin at 6:00 PM. Pizza, popcorn, and drinks will be provided.

A short discussion will follow. Friends are always invited.

The movie is rated PG-13.

Lenten Book

This year instead of a "Lenten Study" I am recommending that we read together Archbishop Justin Welby's, Dethroning Mammon. I have several copies available if you wish to purchase one for \$11.41. Copies can also be purchased online at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or as an e-book.

A discussion of the book will be held each Sunday evening in Lent after Evensong (6PM).

Morning Prayer - Standard Schedule

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

Intercessory Prayer

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

Guild of the Holy Rosary

Meets immediately after the 10:00 service on Sunday morning and Wednesdays at 5:30pm.

Prayer List Update

The active prayer ministry at St. Matthew's is ready to update the printed list - found each week in the Good News Daily. On the 12th of February, we will be updating the list. If you want to move someone to the Thanksgiving category, please let us know. Please fill out a prayer slip for anyone who should remain.

Outreach Opportunities

Outreach Committee meets Sunday, February 12 at 9:00 a.m.

January & February Items of the Month

During the cold winter months of January & February 2017, the Outreach Committee will be collecting items for the Salvation Army, with emphasis on products for its local shelter. The shelter houses and feeds men, women, and children in need of a warm place to sleep and a good breakfast and dinner.

You can help by filling the outreach baskets with such items as: 1. Cleaning Products: laundry detergent, dish detergent, bathroom cleanser, bleach; Paper & Plastic Products: toilet paper, napkins, 40-45-gallon garbage bags, latex gloves; Personal Hygiene Products: razors, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, foot powder, lotion; Miscellaneous Products: dish towels, face towels, coffee, gift cards from Sam's Club (for general operation of the shelter).

Many, MANY thanks for your marvelous generosity to those in need in our community. The Outreach Committee

Parish Schedule for the week of February 12th

Coffee Hour included in the Annual Meeting following worship in the parish hall.

Sunday-9:00 a.m.-Outreach Committee meeting

Sunday-11:00 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Sunday-5:30 p.m.-Evensong

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-5:30 p.m.-pot-luck supper

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

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer & Breakfast out

Thursday-6:00 p.m.-Cub Scout pack meeting

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.

Good News Daily

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

Readings & Music for February 12, 2017

Sirach 15:15-20

If you choose, you can keep the commandments,
and to act faithfully is a matter of your own choice.
He has placed before you fire and water;
stretch out your hand for whichever you choose.
Before each person are life and death,
and whichever one chooses will be given.
For great is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is mighty in power and sees everything;
his eyes are on those who fear him,
and he knows every human action.
He has not commanded anyone to be wicked,
and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

Psalm 119:1-8

Beati immaculati

1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, *
who walk in the law of the Lord!
2 Happy are they who observe his decrees *
and seek him with all their hearts!
3 Who never do any wrong, *
but always walk in his ways.
4 You laid down your commandments, *
that we should fully keep them.
5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct *
that I might keep your statutes!
6 Then I should not be put to shame, *
when I regard all your commandments.
7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, *
when I have learned your righteous judgments.
8 I will keep your statutes; *
do not utterly forsake me.

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who

waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The Gospel

Matthew 5:21-37

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

Ministry Assignments for February 12 & 19

12-February

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Christian Pitts

Crucifer: Sarah Halt

Lector: Sandy Kohlhase

E.M.: Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Pam Laws

Coffee Hour: Noels

19-February

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Diane Gardner

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Brent Baughan

Lector: SB Carter

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Andersons

Birthdays & Anniversaries February 12 - 18

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Jerod Roberson

Collect for February 12th

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in thee:
Mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness
of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant
us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we
may please thee both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our
Lord, who liveth and reigheth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

