

## Contents

This Week's Readings

## Rector's Ramblings

*With Fr. Halt away at pre-Lenten retreat, the article of inspiration from last week shall be repeated:*

A word from a member of the Altar Party.

I am the newest and most inexperienced member of the Altar Party, having served as Crucifer only a few times. Father Dave has asked me to share what I told him I have experienced in my limited service thus far, something that I did not anticipate.

Being close to the altar and a part of the rites in the service has had a significant impact on my spirituality. Experiencing the power of the mysteries and miracles that transpire at the altar during the service is impossible for me to put in words. But what I can tell you is that it has changed me profoundly. I encourage anyone who may feel the slightest sense of call to serve to come and join the Party!

Thank you, Brad for your service and witness.

Dave Halt, Rector  
309-660-8515

## Ministry Links

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

## The Good News

February 9, 2018



### Mardi Gras & Ash Wednesday

The Men of St. Matthew's will be serving a Pancake Supper on Mardi Gras (2/13). Dinner will be served from 6PM-7PM. We will even attempt heart shaped pancakes for Valentine's Day. Prep will begin at 4:30.

Ash Wednesday services will be held at 7AM and 7PM. The 7AM service will be a quiet Rite I and the 7PM will be a Sung Rite II.

### Adult Formation

Will be on hiatus until 21 February.  
For Lent we will try something just a little bit different. We will study Hymns and Prayer. Each night we will discuss a couple of hymns from our Hymnal, different types of prayer, and spend time in quiet practicing prayer.

### Theology Uncorked

Meets at 6PM after Evensong on 11 February. The topic for conversation this month is the "Meaning and Purpose of Lent". Anyone interested in the conversation is invited.

### Breakfast Fellowships

Women's Breakfast will meet at 8:30 AM on 10 February.  
Men's Breakfast will meet at 8:00 AM on 17 February.

### Altar Leadership

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ  
Would you please mark Sunday, February 18 on your calendar to join Fr. Dave and Dn. Tim for a brief ministry

training/refresher after the 10:00am service.

We are asking all serving as Acolytes, Crucifers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Thurifers to come together for review and refresher of our various ministries and their details. Feel free to go briefly to coffee hour and then gather around the rail promptly so we can share about a half an hour to cover key aspects of the functions.

To prepare for February 18, please share any specific questions or concerns you may have about your ministry so we can be sure to cover what you wish to know.

Deacon Tim

### **Time to Update the Directory**

In early 2018, we need to publish a new Congregational Directory, and so it is time to gather updates and new information. We will leave 1 copy of the old directory out for you to examine - if your information is incomplete, inaccurate, or missing we ask that you fill out the reporting sheets provided. If you have a photo (.img format) to include, send it to the Office (office@stmattsbldm.org) and if you want to have a photo taken at no charge, see Gary Ploense.

*Gary will take photos for 10AM worshippers on the next three Sundays (Feb 4, 11, 18) and then he will be available for 7:30AM worshippers on Sundays (Feb. 25, March 4 and 11). He sets-up in Parish Hall immediately after worship.*

### **The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

### **Serving Schedule**

11-February

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Liam Halt

Lector: Sandy Kohlhase

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Susan Clark (sub)

Coffee Hour: Valerie & Rex Schaeffer

14-February Ash Wednesday  
7:00 AM

7:00 PM

18-February

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Volunteer needed

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson & Shelley Carter

Thurifer: Emily Lavikoff

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Shelley Carter

E.M.: Shelley Carter

Monday Counter: Gary Ploense

Coffee Hour: Valarie Jones & Kathryn Morris

### **Outreach Opportunities**

**COMMITTEE MEETING - Sunday 2/18, 9:00 AM**

#### ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

In January and February of the new year, let's help The Salvation Army collect nonperishable food items to help needy people get through the winter. Here are suggestions:

Canned fruits & vegetables

Canned soups

Peanut butter

Canned meats (tuna, chicken, etc.)

Macaroni & cheese boxes

Box dinners

Any nonperishable food items

We will continue to collect and deliver gently used coats and other winter items to The Salvation Army through January. Thank you all so very much for your continuing generosity.

The Outreach Committee

### **Faith In Action**

Join us for a fun filled evening at -

FIA's Annual Gala Auction & Dinner!!

February 10, 2018, 5:00-9:00

Raddison Hotel, 8 Traders Circle, Normal

Dinner, Games, Raffles, Live Auction plus a cash bar

Dinner choices : Asiago Chicken, Pork Loin,

or Eggplant Parmesan

Tickets: \$65 e. or \$585 for a table of 10

For tickets, contact Linda Thomas, FIA Liaison

(lthomasheyworth7@gmail.com, 309-242-7160),

or RSVP to public.bnfia.org, 309-827-7780  
Request seating at St. Matt's tables

**St. Matthew's Schedule for the week of February 11th**

*Coffee Hour follows 10:00 a.m. worship in the Parish hall*

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

Sunday-5:30 p.m.-Evensong

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

Monday-11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.-ISO Auditions

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

Tuesday-10:00 a.m.-Quilters

Tuesday-11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.-ISO Auditions

Tuesday-6:00 to 7:00 p.m.-Pancake Supper

Wednesday-7:00 a.m.-Ash Wednesday Rite I

Wednesday-7:00 p.m.-Ash Wednesday Rite II

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

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

Friday-3:00 to 5:00 p.m.-Confession

Friday-5:30 p.m.-Stations of the Cross

Saturday-8:00 a.m.-Men's Breakfast

*Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.*

*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.*

**Readings for February 11, 2018**

Hymns: #137, #129, #475, #135

Old Testamen

t2 Kings 2:1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to

the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Psalm 50:1-6

*Deus deorum*

1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; \*  
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*  
God reveals himself in glory.

3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*  
before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.

4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*  
to witness the judgment of his people.

5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, \*  
those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice."

6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*  
for God himself is judge.

The Epistle

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries February 11 - 17**

#### *Anniversaries*

#### *Birthdays*

Jerod Roberson

### **Collect for February 11th**

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same 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

