

From: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsbldm.org
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St. Matthew's Windows continued...

The next set of windows are all thematic expressions of Jesus' parables.



We see, first, the parable of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37 where we are reminded that the neighbor is the one who offers compassion. The Samaritan is holding the wounded man and offering drink, while behind him the priest and Levite pass by.



Next is the rendition of Lazarus and Dives (or the Rich Man) in Luke 16:19-31. This is probably a lesser known parable for today's Church, and its shocking subject matter can be seen in Dives' disregard for Lazarus in the first frame, and in the second the great gulf between Dives, in the jaws of Hell and Lazarus, in the bosom of Abraham. In the parable Dives asks Abraham to send Lazarus back to warn his brothers, but is told that if they will not heed

The Good News

March 11th, 2016



A Note on the Celebration of the Eucharist

During Lent we will be celebrating the Eucharist "Ad Orientem" or "east facing." This is not literally east, but liturgical east, meaning the direction one is facing when looking at the Altar from the Nave. This is among the options possible for a celebration of the Eucharist, and as is often the case in Lent, serves as an opportunity for Catechesis (Christian Formation/Education).

In classic Christian theology the priest in celebrating serves as an icon of Jesus Christ our Great High Priest and the direction the priest celebrates communicates different meanings of that iconographic element.

Celebration in the position of "Versus Populum" or "towards the people" is our normative style, and while appearing inclusive actually derives from a theological position that the priest is, especially in the Eucharist, "in the person of Christ the head". Simply stated, this means that the priest, ritually becomes Jesus as the last supper as the host of the table.

Celebration in the position of "Ad Orientem", highlights another form of Christ's High Priestly ministry, that of intercessor as a fulfillment of the ancient type of the priesthood of Aaron. In this symbolism, the priest gathers (collects) the prayers of the faithful and offers them up to God. Traditionally, this also highlights the direction of communication flow. Outside of the invitation to communion, announcements (which were not included in the classic liturgies), and the request for permission to proceed (the salutation), whenever the priest is talking to God, the priest faces the Altar. Conversely, whenever the priest, or lector, speaks for God (lessons, Gospel, Homily) he/she will face the people.

Note, that the Church has used both forms of celebration in its history, and neither is "right" or "wrong". They just highlight different things. However, it is important to note that the Altar, and what takes place there, forms the focal point of the celebration in both.

I invite you to note the subtle differences as we celebrate in this manner during Lent, and to share your experience with it.

Dave+

Moses and the Prophets they will not be convinced if one should rise from the dead.



The Prodigal Son, our text from last Sunday, Luke 15.11-32 is the third in the series. The father is embracing the son in the foreground (note the swine). In the background two servants wrestle with the fatted calf, leading it to the slaughter house, while another servant rushes out with a robe for the prodigal.

May these beautiful works of art continue to teach and inspire us in our worship.

Dave+

Service Schedule for the week of March 13, 2016

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
7:30 AM

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
10:00 AM

Evensong 5:00 PM

Other Services:

Morning Prayer

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Friday 7:00 AM
and Thursday 7:30 AM (Holy
Eucharist)

Rosary 5:30 PM Wednesdays.

Intercessory Prayer

Monday at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday
at 12:40 p.m., and Thursday at
10:20 a.m. in the Chapel

Dave+

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

During Lent we will study the lives of the Apostles after Pentecost. Each evening will begin at 6PM with soup and salad and conclude no later than 730 with Compline.

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.

Breakfast Fellowships

The Women's Breakfast Fellowship will meet at 830 tomorrow (3/12). All women of the parish are invited.

The Men's Breakfast Fellowship will not meet this month due to the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral.

Easter Brunch

The annual Easter Brunch will be held between services on Easter Sunday. All are invited to attend and break the Lenten Fast. A sign up sheet is in the hallway by the office. We will also need volunteers to help clean up following. Ham and drinks will be provided.

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 years 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.

Parish Mission

We have a group of seven who will be travelling to St. Vincent this summer to work on repairs to a small church. Updates will be given as plans are put on a firmer footing.

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

Holy Week Service Schedule

- Maundy Thursday
 - 3/24/16
 - 7:00pm
- Good Friday
 - 3/25/16
 - 7:00pm
- Easter Vigil (Saturday)
 - 3/26/16
 - 7:00PM

Ministry Links

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

Tabora Update

Over \$14000 was sent by the ECW of the Diocese of Springfield for the construction of the girl's dormitory/hostel at St. Peter's Secondary School. This will cover about half of the building, and construction is set to begin in the near future.

Stations of the Cross

Will not be prayed this Friday due to a wedding rehearsal.

Congratulations

Our postulants, Tim and Matthew, have been approved as Candidates for Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons.

Chrism Mass

The Diocesan Chrism Mass and Renewal of Ordination Vows is on Saturday, March 19th at St. Paul's Cathedral. All members of the Diocese are invited to attend.

Maundy Thursday-Good Friday Vigil

The annual prayer vigil before the Blessed Sacrament, also called The Watch, will be held from the end of the Maundy Thursday liturgy until noon on Good Friday. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Consider spending an hour with Jesus during the Triduum.

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.

Good News Daily

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

Transitions

As some of you may or may not know Pat has found full time employment and will no longer be the Parish Administrator here during the week. My name is Connor Bennett and I will assuming Pat's duties here during the day for the time being.

Readings & Music for March 13th, 2016

Hymns: #521, #474, #675

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Psalms 126

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy. REFRAIN
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed. REFRAIN
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. REFRAIN

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:
circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe
of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal,
a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Ministry Assignments for March 13th and 20th

13-March

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Lector: Amy Halt

Acolytes: Shelly Breneman Carter and Hally, and Sarah Halt

Shadow: Georgia

Crucifer: Christian Pitts

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Janet Hoffman and Dedee Champion

20-March

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Ann Nadakavukaren

E.M.: Diane Gardener

10:00

Lector: Ann Sokan
Acolytes: Chris Bennett, Liam Halt, and Christian Pitts
Shadow: Georgia
Crucifer: Collin Bennett
E.M.: Shelly Brenneman Carter
Monday Counter: Gary Ploense
Coffee Hour: The Pitts Family

Birthdays & Anniversaries March 11th- 27th

Anniversaries

Paul and Janenne Schmidt

Birthdays

Ora Bachmann
Martha Lakin
Roy Laws
June Mcanulty
James Gordon
Daniel Teas
Jimmy Bray
Gus Mather
Pam Laws

Collect for Sunday, March 13th

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Contact Information

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