

**From:** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsblm.org  
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## Rector's Ramblings

He is Risen!

Easter did not end on Monday morning. The season of Easter continues for Fifty Days, culminating in the celebration of Pentecost.

As we continue our Easter journey, pray for the Church, its mission, and your part in that mission.

Bishop Daniel has called for a "Wave of Prayer" between Ascension and Pentecost for the renewal of the Church and its evangelization. Now, is not too soon to start.

For He is Risen, and that is good news yesterday, today, and forever.



Dave+

## The Good News

April 1st, 2016



### 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

Continues this Wednesday at 6PM. We will be studying Paul's Letter to the Galatians and the Letter of James. It will be a compare and contrast study of Faith v. Works.

Please feel free to bring your dinner to the study.

### Pastoral Letter

Bishop Daniel has released a pastoral letter calling for a wave of prayer in the Diocese of Springfield. Here is a link if you would like to read it.

<http://www.episcopalspringfield.org/6015-2/>

Plans for our implementation of this plan will be announced in the near future.

### 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.

### 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

## Ministry Links

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

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 small group who will be travelling to St. Vincent this summer (26 June-9 July) to work on repairs to a small church. We will be joined by six members of St. John's, Lancaster, Ohio.

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

Currently, we have \$3550 towards our goal of \$5000 for repairing the roof at St. John's, Owia. Please consider making a small donation to help our fellow Anglicans worship in a safe and secure building.

## 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.

The Outreach Committee will hold a Book, DVD, and Bake Sale on Saturday April 23, 8:00AM-12:00PM. Please bring your donations of Books, DVDs, CDs, LPs, and other recordings and place them near the Bookshelves. If you need help getting your donation to church, please call Debbie Leighton at Home (309)-662-7478 or at Work (309)-828-7600

## Good News Daily

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

## **Readings & Music for March 20th, 2016**

Hymns: #182, 174, 492

### **Acts 5:27-32**

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

### **Psalm 118:19-24**

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the Lord.  
20 "This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."  
21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.  
22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.  
23 This is the Lord's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.  
24 On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

### **Revelation 1:4-8**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

### **John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

### **Ministry Assignments for Holy Week April 3rd-10th**

04/03/2016

7:30

- Greeters: Ray Durham
- Lector: Mona Johnstone
- E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

- Lector: Brad Bauman
- Acolytes: Shelley Breneman Carter, Alley & Devan Roberson
- Thurifur/Boat: John Stoffer
- Crucifer: Sarah Halt
- E.M.: Bob Kohlhase
- Monday Counter: Pam Laws
- Coffee Hour: Roger & Debbie Thomas

04/10/2016

7:30 AM

- Greeters: Doug and Dede Dyson
- Lector: Martha Carroll
- E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00 AM

- Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack and Nolan White
- Thurifur/ Boat: Bill Johns
- Crucifer: Christian Pitts
- Lector: Chrissy Stoffer
- E.M.: Shelly Brenneman Carter
- Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis
- Coffee Hour: Lynne Baldwin and Kathryn Morris

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries April 1st- April 16th**

### Anniversaries

Chris and Julie Bennett

### Birthdays

Patty Pitts

Michael Dean

Martha Carroll

Ann Sokan

Debbie Thomas

A.J. Holderby

Barbara Allsup

Lewis Garrison

Cristan Embree

### **Collect for Sunday, April 3rd**

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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