

## Contents

This Week's Readings

## Rector's Ramblings

### McLean County Parish

Several years ago the Diocese in Synod adopted a vision statement that proclaimed that the Diocese is organized for mission into Geographic Parishes.

Last year the Diocese in Synod changed the Canons to reflect this vision with new terms for Parishes and other congregations.

This year, Bishop Daniel is taking a special interest in bringing the vision to reality here in McLean County.

To that end, in March Christ the King hosted a joint meeting for the Mission Leadership Teams, Bishop, and clergy of both Eucharistic Communities. On 14 October, St. Matthew's hosted a follow-up meeting with the Mission Leadership Teams of Christ the King and St. Matthew's, Bishop Daniel, and yours truly. The point of these meetings was to discover ways in which the vision for joint mission in the Parish of McLean County could move forward.

At the conclusion of the October 14th meeting, a way forward was charted, and conversations have continued. These conversations had to remain confidential until leaders who were not present were brought up to speed. That has finally happened, so we are relieved to be able to share our observations at the fora (forums?) mentioned in the right column.

In Christ,

Shelley Brenneman-Carter, Sr.

## The Good News

November 3, 2017



### Fora (Forums?)

This week and next after each service a forum will be held in the Parish Hall for those interested in conversation about the information in the Rector's Ramblings. All are invited to participate.

### Parish Education

Parish study of the Book of Judges on Wednesday evenings - 6:00 p.m. We begin with a very light meal at 5:30 if interested.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for children meets at 5:45 after the supper.

All are invited.

### Theology Uncorked

A new ministry for young adults meets this Sunday in the Rector's study immediately following Evensong. Invite your friends and anyone who might be interested.

### Thanksgiving

Our annual Thanksgiving celebration will be held on 11/19 immediately following our worship service. A sign up sheet is in the hallway by the office. All are welcome and guests are encouraged.

**There will be only one service at 9:30AM that day (11/19). Please mark your calendars!**

### Youth Evening

Will be held after Evensong on 11/19. Invite a friend for an evening of food, games, and conversation.

Warden

Roy Laws, Jr. Warden

Dave Halt, Rector  
309-660-8515

## Ministry Links

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

### **Supporting Oakland School**

The Student Council and School Promise Council of our neighborhood grade school, Oakland School is holding a 'Fun'draiser on November 3rd, 6-8 p.m. It is a team trivia contest called *Racing Into 1st*.

*Cost is \$15 per person and teams can be pre-arranged or formed at the event. Please see the poster on the main hallway bulletin board.*

### **Clergy Conference**

Fr. Halt and Deacon Leighton will be attending the mandatory Diocesan Clergy conference from mid-morning on 6 November through lunch on 8 November.

### **Breakfast Fellowships**

Women's Breakfast will meet at 8:30 AM on 11 November in the Parish Hall.

Men's Breakfast will meet at 8AM on 18 November in the Parish Hall.

There will be no Breakfast fellowships in December.

### **The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:  
[Good News Daily](#)

### **Guild of the Holy Rosary**

Meets immediately after the 10:00 service on Sunday morning.

### **Serving Schedule**

5-November

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Liam Halt

Lector: Sandy Kohlhasse

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Susan Clark  
Coffee Hour: Leightons & Pitts

12-November

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Lector: SB Carter

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: SB Carter

Coffee Hour: Chrissy & John Stoffer

### **Outreach Opportunities**

#### **ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH**

Why the big white box in the hallway across from the office?  
That's where we're asking you to place clean, gently used coats you no longer wear. We will deliver them to The Salvation Army's local headquarters for distribution to needy people this fall and winter. We'll also collect other gently used winter wear (gloves, hats, scarves). THANK YOU! The Outreach Committee

### **Parish Schedule for the week of November 5th**

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

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I

Sunday-10:00 a.m.-Rite II '

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

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

Monday-5:30 p.m.-Brownies

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

Tuesday-10:00 a.m.-Quilters

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

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Light supper

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.- Adult formation & CGS

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

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

Saturday-8:30 a.m.-Women'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 & Music for November 5, 2017

Hymns: #437, #545, #314, #690

Old Testament

Micah 3:5-12

Thus says the Lord concerning the prophets  
who lead my people astray,  
who cry "Peace"

when they have something to eat,  
but declare war against those  
who put nothing into their mouths.

Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision,  
and darkness to you, without revelation.

The sun shall go down upon the prophets,  
and the day shall be black over them;  
the seers shall be disgraced,  
and the diviners put to shame;  
they shall all cover their lips,  
for there is no answer from God.

But as for me, I am filled with power,  
with the spirit of the Lord,  
and with justice and might,  
to declare to Jacob his transgression  
and to Israel his sin.

Hear this, you rulers of the house of Jacob  
and chiefs of the house of Israel,  
who abhor justice  
and pervert all equity,  
who build Zion with blood  
and Jerusalem with wrong!

Its rulers give judgment for a bribe,  
its priests teach for a price,  
its prophets give oracles for money;  
yet they lean upon the Lord and say,  
"Surely the Lord is with us!

No harm shall come upon us."

Therefore because of you  
Zion shall be plowed as a field;  
Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins,  
and the mountain of the house a wooded height.

Psalm 43

*Judica me, Deus*

1 Give judgment for me, O God,  
and defend my cause against an ungodly people; \*  
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

2 For you are the God of my strength;  
why have you put me from you? \*  
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?

3 Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, \*  
and bring me to your holy hill

and to your dwelling;  
4 That I may go to the altar of God,  
to the God of my joy and gladness; \*  
and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.  
5 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?  
6 Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

#### The Epistle

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

#### The Gospel

Matthew 23:1-12

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father-- the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."

**Birthdays & Anniversaries from November 5 - 11**

*Anniversaries*

*Birthdays*



**Collect for Sunday, November 5th**

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 thy 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

