



## **The Forty Days of Lent**

The penitential season of Lent draws near. On February 14, Ash Wednesday, we commence forty days in which we observe a period of repentance, and spiritual discipline. For us, these forty days emulate the time Jesus spent in the wilderness in preparation for his ministry. It is a period of time for our growth and preparation. The Lenten season can mean different things to different people, as we grow and prepare in various ways. Ultimately, we are to use this time to draw closer in relationship with God.

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer have been the traditional ways to gain results, benefitting to both our physical and spiritual well-being. While we think of Lent as the season in which we "give something up" for a period of time, it is more than this. It is about putting something positive in its place as we prepare and grow. This may mean for us that it is a time to "take up something new" in our life, as well as look at something in a new way.

The practice of fasting is meant to help take our eyes off the things of this world and instead focus on God. This offers us an opportunity to try something new in order to help us find focus in life. While we may contribute money to help others throughout the year, in almsgiving during Lent we are reminded to contribute our time as well. And while we may pray on a regular basis, this season prompts us to set aside even more time to spend with God in prayer, study, or worship. The season of Lent helps us to be aware of how we spend our time and opens us to try new things.

I invite the congregation to join together for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Tuesday, Feb. 13, presented by the men of the parish. The following day, Ash Wednesday, I commend to you the various worship times scheduled throughout the day, both at the church and at Oak Crest Community Chapel.

Like last year, our worship on Sundays during Lent – 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. – will be a service of Holy Eucharist, Rite One.

I also invite you to join with me for our parish Lenten Program and Supper, beginning on Wednesday, February 21, at 5:30 p.m., in Waterman Hall. Please see the full schedule and more information about this program on Page 2 of this newsletter. We will start the evening by gathering for Holy Communion in the parish hall, followed with the serving of soups and salad. The program is *24 Hours That Changed the World*, a video and conversation-based study, by Adam Hamilton.

Lastly, The Way of the Cross (The Stations) will take place in the church every Friday during Lent at Noon. You may check the parish calendar at the office or on the parish website for the full Lent schedule.

May everyone have a meaningful and spirit-filled Lenten season.

*Peace, Fr. Jim*



## **Ash Wednesday Services: February 14**

### **St. Peter's Church**

**7:30 a.m.** - Liturgy for Ash Wednesday; Imposition of Ashes.

**8:30 a.m.** - Morning Prayer, Rite II.

**7:00 p.m.** - Holy Eucharist, Rite II; Imposition of Ashes, with Hymns.

### **Oak Crest Community Chapel**

**2:00 p.m.** - Holy Eucharist, Rite II; Imposition of Ashes

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

*February 13 from 6:00- 8:00 p.m. Festivities before Lent begins*

Come one, come all: A pancake supper will be served on Shrove Tuesday this year presented by the men of the parish. Mark the date on your calendar: February 13, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

A special menu will be offered featuring a choice of 2 styles of pancakes. Regular pancakes and Henry's world famous com pancakes, (featuring corn grown on the Burgweger farm). Scrambled eggs, sausage, milk, juice and coffee will round out the menu.

So join us to eat and make merry before the Lenten season begins. Sign up sheets for workers and diners are in Waterman Hall. We ask that you put your family name and the expected number of diners on that list so we know what to buy; and helpers, please sign up as well.

And here's a bit of history to remind us of the meaning of Shrove Tuesday:

*Shrovetide, Sin Confession and the Last Feast Before Easter*

The Sunday, Monday and Tuesday before Ash Wednesday are collectively known as Shrovetide, with Shrove Tuesday being the last day. The word 'shrove' is the past tense of the verb 'shrive', which means the confession of sins in order to be forgiven for them. Shrovetide represents a time when Christians would confess their sins and ask God for forgiveness, in preparation for Lent.

Being the last day before Lent, Shrove Tuesday was not only a time for confession and forgiveness, but a time for a celebratory feast. Christians made pancakes on this day in order to use up the leftovers in their cupboards that they would have to give up during the fasting period. It would be the last chance they would have to indulge in rich foods such as dairy, eggs and fats until Easter, because these were forbidden for the duration of Lent.

Although Pancake Day has its origins in religion, nowadays it is enjoyed by many people, regardless of their religious orientation. Pancake Day is also known as Mardi Gras and Fat Tuesday, and its cultural traditions vary around the world.

*Henry Vincent*

## Schedule of Wednesday Evening Lenten Study and Supper

**Feb. 21 - March 21: Wed. evenings**

**In Waterman Hall**

**5:30 p.m.** - Holy Eucharist, Rite II-Waterman.

**6:00 p.m.** - Lenten Supper and Program:

*24 Hours That Changed the World.*

First week, Feb. 21: *The Last Supper.*

Second week, Feb. 28: *The Garden of Gethsemane and Condemned by the Righteous.*

Third week, March 7: *Jesus, Barabbas, and Pilate and The Torture and Humiliation of the King.*

Fourth week, March 14: *The Crucifixion.*

Fifth week, March 21: *Christ the Victor.*

### **About the study**

Our Lenten program is based on Adam Hamilton's book, *24 Hours That Changed the World*, a video and conversation study of the last day of Jesus' life. During the course of these five Wednesday evenings, a brief video segment will help us retrace the steps of Jesus from the Mount of Olives to Mount Calvary. Our journey will take us to traditional holy sites as if we were walking the streets of Jerusalem today. In our conversation that follows, additional material will help us to nurture our own spiritual journey. Along the way, we will be asking the questions: *What is the meaning in Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection? How do I find myself in the story? What is it that I might see and understand differently by being on this journey?* Each Wednesday session is approximately one hour in length of time.



## Parish Notes

### *Search Committee Update*

As reported to the Vestry on January 18, our candidate for rector unfortunately withdrew from consideration. Although this is disappointing, it is not unusual. Other parishes in the diocese have recently been in the same position and have been able to call their Rector with very good results. Our open position is now on the diocese web site and will be discussed at the next hiring conference. The Search Committee will continue its efforts to call the Rector who is meant to be with St. Peter's.

Judy LaPorta and Phil Montgomery, Co-chairs

### **Christian Outreach Committee**

#### *Red Bowl Offering*

A check for \$268 was sent to VAC Meals on Wheels. A thank you to everyone who donated to help fight hunger locally.

The February Red Bowl designated organization is the DeKalb County Rehab and Nursing Center Auxiliary (DCRNCAJ. The Center is a 190-bed, state of the art building, located just north of NIU. It is the oldest and largest health care provider in DeKalb County. Beginning as a Poor Farm the facility has evolved over many generations to a progressive, skilled nursing center that is highly regarded for its quality nursing care and its commitment to improving daily life for seniors with healthcare needs. The center is now licensed to participate in both Medicare and Medicaid programs and offers a Dementia Care Unit

The DCRNCA is an organization of men and women who are willing to give of their time to help others. The auxiliary provides assistance to the Center and its staff for the benefit of the residents. This is achieved by assisting where needed, raising funds for the purchase of special equipment and activities, and donating new, gently used, or handmade items suitable for sale in the PeddlerShop.

Please consider donating to the February Red Bowl Offering to help the DCRNCA achieve its goals.

### *Hope Haven Dinners*

St Peter's continues to provide a meal for the community homeless at Hope Haven on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. Needed volunteers include a chair for each month and persons to prepare or purchase food items. Sign-up sheets for each month in 2018 are located in Waterman Hall. Plan ahead to help prepare a home-cooked meal for our area homeless this year!

### *Sycamore Food Pantry*

Thank you to everyone who brought in snack donations during the month of January for the NIU students at Grace Place. Your generosity was most appreciated.

In February we return to giving our food donations to the Sycamore Food Pantry located at the First United Methodist Church in Sycamore. Please keep the food pantry on our grocery list in 2018. The pantry is always low in supplies after the holidays. Please bring a can or two of food to church and the Outreach Committee will see that it gets to the Sycamore Food Pantry.

### *OUTREACH PROJECTS*

St Peter's parishioners can help small Outreach Projects in a big way by saving and donating these items:

- Personal items collected from vacations are sent to Safe Passage
- "Pop Tops" benefit a Ronald McDonald House
- \* Print Cartridges for recycling help the local Habitat for Humanity
- Campbell Soup Labels are used for books and equipment at local elementary schools
- Milk carton bottle tops benefit local schools
- Box Tops for Education benefit local elementary schools
- Canceled Stamps are sent to a Catholic Native American School in AZ for cleaning and sale to collectors

The next meeting of the Christian Outreach Committee will be Wednesday, February 14, in Waterman Hall at 12 Noon. Feel free to join us.

## Notes from Vestry Meeting 1-18-2018

At 7:00 P.M., the meeting was called to order by Interim Rector, Fr. Jim Clement, who led **opening prayers**. Those **present** were Fr. Jim Clement, Interim Rector, Senior Warden Bill Nicklas, Junior Warden Anita Biletzky, Vestry members John Vain, Barbara Weaver, Jack Frost, Phil Montgomery, Judy Dettloff, Lynne Roberts, and Bronwyn Burgweger, along with Donna Hill, Vestry Clerk

### Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report - John Vain reported that income for 2017 exceeded expenses by \$17,722.15. The carry-over to 2018 is \$9,492.44.

**Search Committee** - Phil Montgomery, who represented the Committee, reported that the Committee was informed by the Diocese that their candidate withdrew last week. The Diocese has re-posted the position and this posting will remain open until March, when it is possible that one or more new applicants will be referred to the Committee for their consideration.

**Interim Rector's Report** - Fr. Jim continues his work in the parish and in the larger community. Father Jim thanked Father Lamb for serving during his recent vacation. Father Jim also expressed his gratitude for everyone who helped during the recent Christmas services. The Ash Wednesday schedule (February 14) will include a 7:30 a.m. Liturgy with imposition of ashes and a 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes. Father Jim will also serve at Oak Crest on the afternoon of Ash Wednesday, offering Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Final Budget Preparation**-The Vestry had a long and spirited discussion. John Vain and Father Jim led the Vestry through each line item, and also discussed a future option to enhance the trust fund income stream. In the end, and after an additional pledge of \$5,000 was discerned, the Vestry recommended a 2018 operating budget with revenues of \$149,098 and an equal

amount of expenditures, including a \$1,500 Diocesan pledge.

Related to the 2018 Operating Budget discussion, the Vestry voted to authorize the Church's trust officers and Treasurer to bring back options at the March Vestry meeting regarding how to increase the "draw" from the trust funds without jeopardizing the principles of those funds.

**Vestry Candidates**-There are four openings:

Senior Warden (3-year term)

Vestry (3-year term)

Vestry (3-year term)

Vestry (remaining 2 years of unfulfilled term)

Four candidates have stepped forward: Donna Hill, Henry Vincent, John Boies, and Phil Montgomery.

For Senior Warden, Phil Montgomery will be the only candidate in the annual meeting program.

### NEW BUSINESS

Air Conditioning in Waterman Hall-Senior Warden Nicklas informed the Vestry that several anonymous donors have stepped forward to entirely finance the air conditioning of Waterman Hall, including the library with private funds. The project was briefly described, which will involve two local contractors (HVAC and Electrical). After some discussion, the Vestry authorized the work to proceed.

At 10:00 P.M. the meeting was adjourned. **Closing Prayers** were offered by Fr. Jim Clement

Respectfully submitted by

Bill Nicklas, Senior Warden

# FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

				<b>Feb 1</b>	<b>Feb 2 Presentation of Jesus in the Temple</b>	<b>Feb3 12pm DAR Meeting</b>
<b>February 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany</b> 7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:30am Book Club	<b>7</b> 8:30 am Morning Prayer  4pm Daisy Scouts	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>February 11 Last Sunday after the Epiphany</b> 7:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 10-10:30 Children's Christian Education 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:00 am Coffee Hour	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6-Bpm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	<b>14 Ash Wednesday</b> 7:30AM Liturgy for Ash Wed and Imposition of Ashes 8:30 Morning Prayer 2pm Oak Crest. Holy Eucharist Rite II and Imposition of Ashes 7pm Holy Eucharist Rite II & Imposition of Ashes	<b>15</b>	<b>16 Noon</b> Way of the Cross (Stations)	<b>17</b>
<b>February 18 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 7:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I 11:00 am Coffee Hour	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 8:30 Morning Prayer 4pm Daisy Scouts 5:30pm Holy Eucharist Rite II 6pm Lenten Study & Supper.	<b>22</b>	<b>23 Noon</b> Way of the Cross (Stations)	<b>24</b>
<b>February 25 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday In Lent</b> 7:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 10-10:30 Children's Christian Education 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:30pm Holy Eucharist Rite II 6pm Lenten Study & Supper	<b>MARCH 1</b>	<b>March 2 Noon</b> Way of the Cross (stations)	

**February 2018 Schedule for Nursery and Children Christian Education (CCE)**

**February 4 Nursery:** Cindy Vain & Jenny Sidmore

**February 11 Nursery:** Linda Saxer

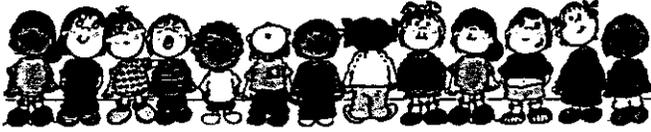
**February 11 CCE:** Jenny Sidmore and Jean Evans

**February 18 Nursery:** Nancy Franke and Jenny Sidmore

**February 25 Nursery:** Jan Fitzhenry

**February 25 CCE:** Jenny Sidmore and Jean Evans

"Sharing, caring and working together, helping to make the world a better place." "Korer's Kids



**LADIES' NIGHT OUT**

Our next Ladies' Night Out will be on Wednesday, February 21" at Applebee's. Cocktails at 6:00 and dinner at 6:30. A sign- up sheet will be posted in Waterman Hall. Please join us for a night of fun, food, and great company! Our January LNO was held at Los Ranchero's and was a fun night with great food and conversation.

Hope to see you there!

Judy LaPorta



You didn't know that St. Peter's had a library? Perhaps you are aware of the library, but how long has it been since you've visited this area of the Parish House? **You are invited to an Open House on Sunday, February 4 and February 11.**

Judy Dettloff and Larry Dirst have been working over the course of many weeks to clean the library and to organize the materials. They would like to share with the parish all that can be found there. In addition to

books, you will find past service bulletins, previous issues of the Morningstar, photo albums, Vestry minutes and biographical information about our former rectors. These items can now easily be located.

**Please join us from 8:30-8:45 or 11:30-11:45 on February 4 or 11.** There is a wealth of information available to us about the history of St. Peter's as well as many books for reading. This is all housed in a very comfortable location on the second floor of the Parish House.

Additionally, items that do not have a place in the library will be available throughout the month of February in Waterman Hall. Parishioners may take anything that is of interest to them. There are many photographs from past events in which you may find yourself, a relative, or a good friend. Please take these to keep or to share with friends.

***Scripture Readings February 4 through February 25***

***February, 4***

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalms 147: 1-12, 21c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1: 29-39

***February, 11***

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalms 50: 1-6

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

***February, 18***

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-9

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

***February 25***

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:22-30

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38



## Prayer Corner

### *For the Search Committee*

We pray for our Search Committee as they assess the needs of our congregation and evaluate candidates for Rector. Grant them open minds, perceptive hearts, balance and integrity in their work together, responsiveness to all points of view and unity of purpose. Help them to recognize that your guiding hand is in their midst ready to reveal that which they should do. Help them to listen and respond with open hearts, to the honor and praise of your Name. Amen.

### *For Guidance*

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *For the Parish*

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *For the Dead*

Eternal Lord God, you hold all souls in life: Give to your whole Church in paradise and on earth your light and your peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of those who have served you here and are now at rest, may at the last enter with them into your unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *For Quiet Confidence*

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

FOR.WARD, TOGETHER FORWARD  
FEBRUARY 14, 2008 -2018.



Northern Illinois University

Honoring the passing of ten years,  
February 14, 2008-2018

Forward, Together Forward Remembrance  
Events  
February 9-14, 2018

Please take special note of the:

Community Appreciation Reception  
Friday, February 9, 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Holmes Student Center, Capitol Room

Community members, first responders, public safety staff, medical and mental health personnel, and NIU staff and faculty who actively contributed to the response and healing of our community 10 years ago are invited to join us for a special community appreciation reception.

# Birthdays and Anniversaries in February

## Birthdays

- 3 Chad Newquist
- 5 Reese Lyn Hill
- 5 Ella Ryan Hill
- 5 Jim Hill
- 8 Alyse Mommer
- 8 George Abizaid
- 9 Jason Vain
- 13 Presley Klus
- 15 Lisa Montgomery
- 16 Clare Shea
- 18 Suzie Geisler
- 19 Henry Burgweger
- 20 Brian Lee Koehnke

## Anniversaries

- 26 Henry & Pat Burgweger

# The Morning Star

## Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

218 Somonauk Street  
 Sycamore, Illinois 60178  
 815-895-2227

[www.sycamorestpeters.org](http://www.sycamorestpeters.org)

## Parish Office Hours: 9am-1pm Monday-Friday Newsletter Staff

The Rev. James Clement	Publisher
Anita Biletzky	Editor
Jane Ovitz, Barbara Weaver, Carol Quitno, Pat Burgweger, Helen Beamish, Nancy Franke	Circulation

## Deadline for Submission of Articles

5:00 PM on the 20th of each month. Email your articles to [office@sycamorestpeters.org](mailto:office@sycamorestpeters.org) or place them in the Parish mailbox in Waterman Hall by the 15th of the month. All articles are subject to editing for length and clarity.

## Email subscriptions

You may receive the Morning Star by email by sending a message to [office@sycamorestpeters.org](mailto:office@sycamorestpeters.org).

## Parish Clergy and Staff

The Rev. James Clement	Interim Rector
<a href="mailto:jclement@sycamorestpeters.org">jclement@sycamorestpeters.org</a>	
Larry Dirst	Organist

Anita Biletzky	Assistant to the Interim
<a href="mailto:office@sycamorestpeters.org">office@sycamorestpeters.org</a>	
Days in office: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	
Jean Erlenborn	Bookkeeper
<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@sycamorestpeters.org">bookkeeper@sycamorestpeters.org</a>	
Days in office: Monday, Wednesday	

## The Vestry of the Parish

Phil Montgomery Senior Warden (2021)	847-702-7445
Anita Biletzky, Junior Warden (2019)	815-793-5500
Bronwyn Burgweger (2020)	815-761-9866
Judy Dettloff (2019)	815-895-4225
Barbara Weaver (2020)	630-728-8144
Henry Vincent (2020)	847-683-1951
John Boies (2021)	815-353-9703
Donna Hill (2021)	815-739-1493
John Vain, Treasurer	815-895-4324

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## Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candles

To dedicate Altar Flowers or a Sanctuary Candle for a Sunday in 2018, please sign up on the reservation sheets on the

bulletin board just outside the Parish Office. Then fill out the dedication form and turn it in to the office.

## The Parish Vision Statement

Red doors open for growth and renewal, where we find ourselves and others transformed.

## The Parish Mission Statement

To be an inclusive fellowship growing in the Holy Spirit, nurturing the burdened and the joyous, reaching out to our communities and God's world.