



This Week at St. Brendan's

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|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Sunday | 10:00 am | Worship, via live streaming https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew |
| Monday | 8:30 am | Daily Morning Prayer Zoom ID # website https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4796201105 No password required |
| | 11:00 am | Be a Modern Episcopalian, via zoom |
| Tuesday | 7:00 am | AA meeting, via zoom Dial in 312-626-6799 Meeting Id: 345 892 252 |
| | 8:30 am | Staff meeting, via zoom |
| | 10:30 am | Bible Study, via zoom |
| Saturday | 9:00 am | Sacristans |

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell

Participating and representing St. Brendan's in prayer and worship and receiving Holy Eucharist for all members and friends of St. Brendan's

The Priest's Corner

Welcome to St. Brendan's, Bishop Dorsey, and a Few Other Tidbits

As some of you might recall, May 3 was our originally scheduled Bishop's Visitation day. The bishop visits each parish in the diocese once a year to spend quality time with the parish, baptize and confirm people wanting these sacraments and receive new people who are ready to become members of the church. Due to COVID 19, the bishop had to re-configure his schedule; I wasn't expecting him to visit us until well after we had public worship back up, and operating. However, in a conversation I had with him today, we concluded he would come and visit our parish anyway and partake in our live streaming. I am so happy about this, and actually feel a sense of loving security because of this generous offering. Bishop Dorsey very much wants to greet you all and share his love and concern for all Brendanites at this time of our mutual re-aligning with life during the pandemic. Welcome to St. Brendan's, dear Bishop!

Bishop Dorsey will preside at our live-streaming liturgy, and he will preach. During our last Modern Episcopalian Monday 11:00am Zoom Meeting (with 14 attending) we started a new process—not only do we talk about something Episcopalian from The Revised Handbook of the Episcopal Church, we also added 5 minutes at the beginning of the virtual get-together to reflect on the Sunday's sermon we just heard the day before, and an additional 5 minutes reading the upcoming Sunday's Gospel and share some thoughts about it. (I've always wanted to have a group of people reflect with me on the Scripture that will give life to my upcoming sermon.) This Sunday's Gospel comes from John 10:1-10. It's where Jesus talks about false shepherds jumping the gate and getting into the sheepfold to do it harm. True shepherds go through the gate of the sheepfold and follow the guidelines of the gatekeeper. Jesus then goes on to say, "I am the gate!" And he says this twice. What in the world does Jesus mean when he says he "is the gate?" Wow! What's the function of a gate? Why is Jesus a gate? What happens when we go through such a gate? Marge Marine, coming from her medical background, said a "gate is like a vaccine." It changes you and immunizes you against evil. Others gave ideas around "boundaries" and a "protection area." So, is Jesus like a vaccine, a boundary, or the entrance to a protection area? When we go through Him, are we changed for the better, made stronger, immune, see greener pastures? So, of course, I was getting a lot of ideas for my sermon on Sunday. Enter—the Bishop!

Well, I got to share all these ideas generated by the Episcopalian Group with Bishop Dorsey, and he and I got really excited on the phone about the sermon—ideas were running high. It was such a neat experience. I know the bishop was really energized. So...I think we're in for a great sermon! Its birth, of course, came from the Evangelist John, but Brendanites last Monday morning made it come alive a bit more, earlier this week. What an exciting place this St. Brendan's is! I'm always "Wowed" by the way I receive life in this robust community. So...why not drop into the Monday morning Episcopalian Group during this pandemic? It's so easy to come to the Zoom meeting and you can stay in your PJs sipping coffee or tea while talking when you feel like it or not—you can just listen.

Here's the link: <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>

If you prefer to enter thru the Meeting ID: The # is: 457 542 3762. It doesn't require a passcode.

Back to the live streaming liturgy with the bishop: we will not have baptisms, confirmations or receptions at this visit of the bishop. We do already have 12 people so far wanting to be received this year—and this is without even making it public that we are gathering those who want to commit more deeply to the church. So, if you are wanting to be received, or you know someone who may be

wanting to take this step in the next several months, please let me know. I will send you three focusing steps to accomplish this desire and connection.

In addition, when the time comes to meet with the bishop again and have our formal Reception ceremony with him, we are going to re-gather the six individuals who declared their memberships to St. Brendan's last year. (For those who weren't with us last year—we had 3 adults baptized and another adult confirmed last year when the bishop visited. We also had one 4-year old baptized along with another 6 people who were received. In addition to all this, we had another 6 people wanting to be received, but they were out of town when the bishop visited last year. The bishop gave us permission to have a "membership-declaring ceremony" the following Sunday. These six will complete their formal Reception with the bishop when our public worship re-opens and we can reschedule a real-time Bishop's visitation. If all this sounds confusing—this is what it's like being in a growing church community that's experiencing abundance while fighting a pandemic.

One last thing to share. You will notice a new method of receiving the Eucharist at this Sunday's liturgy. In addition to wearing masks during the service and maintaining social distancing, we will experiment with a strict protocol for preparing and receiving the bread of Eucharist. This has been developed by our priest, Dan Hall. He is a surgeon at UPMC and set in place this Eucharistic protocol. Some of you might know his wife, the Reverend Natalie Hall. She has visited St. B's many times and most recently taught the program Love, Teach, Heal last year at our church. So notice our new Eucharistic practice; and if situations permit, I'll spend some time next week describing the process in the Priest's Corner.

Continue being safe and be assured that we will make it through all this. Find time to congratulate yourselves for all the changes you have made to stay safe and protect one another. We are God's people. Catch a glimpse of the divine as we continue on. Be blessed.

Regis+

Announcements



Do you speak a second language?

We are looking for readers who speak languages other than English to participate in our virtual Pentecost Sunday service on May 31. It's easy, you will record the short reading in another language from your own home, and it will take only 5-10 minutes of your time. We would love to hear from you if you can help! Just give your name to Katie at St. Brendan's 412-364-5974 or stbrendanskatie@gmail.com. Thank you!



Have some sewing skills and extra fabric? The pastoral care team is sponsoring a project to deliver face masks to essential personnel. If you're interested, this is a link to a video and instructions on how to make them.

<https://www.craftpassion.com/face-mask-sewing-pattern/?pid=1257#picgallery> Once you have made a few, let us know and we'll arrange to pick them up from your home and make sure they go where needed. Contact Ruth Horton at rvhorton@gmail.com with any questions or when you have completed a few.

Dear Friends of St. Brendan's,

St. Brendan's Episcopal Church would like to thank, and request your prayers for, the following parishioners and friends or family of parishioners. Each is a medical professional or an emergency first responder who is helping people cope with the Coronavirus outbreak. They are using their skills and risking their own well-being by tending to those whose health has been threatened.

We are grateful for their selfless dedication and ask that God watch over them, keep them safe and give them both strength and rest. We hope that you will join the church in thanking and praying for:

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Kimberly Becker | Maddie Bell | Kate Burnett | Frank Casey | Bob Cerra |
| Brenna Conroy | Adele Cotter | James Cotter | Laura Dugan Demers | Nicholas Demers |
| Andrea Dickerson | Franklin Park Police Department | | Franklin Park Volunteer Fire Department | |
| Rebecca Donadee | Amanda Gagnon | Jeff Gagnon | Shelley Gagnon | Betsy Gentile |
| Lynne Gloor | Ann Hockenberry | Beth Lutz Hoffman | Eric Hood | John Jacobs and staff |
| Kerri Jensen | Dr. Ken | Luke O'Neill | Kim Pierce | Becca Sands |
| Warren Sands | Andrew Smith | Justin Zeigler | Cindy | Jennifer |
| Julie | Lane | Mike | Patrick | |

Prayer for our medical personnel and first responders.

Lord, please bless and care for all healthcare workers and first responders. Grant them wisdom, knowledge, skill and compassion so that they may be instruments of Your healing power for those they serve and care for. Give them strength and support. May they be able to do their work in a spirit of love and kindness and mercy. Keep them safe and well as they make personal sacrifices on behalf of Your community. Amen.



St. Brendan's would like to help with meeting the needs of our community and neighbors. If you have medical equipment, especially **pulse oximeters**, that you might make available, please consider donating. The item would need to be wiped with a disinfecting medium, such as a Clorox wipe, and packaged in a plastic bag. Contact me if you can help with this. Thank you! Regis

Senior Warden's Corner

In challenging situations, as we were all reminded countless times as children, it is important to “count one’s blessings.”

Bishop McConnell’s virtual visitation this Sunday will certainly be one of those. So too is the richness we have experienced—quite unexpectedly in most cases—in worshiping remotely in the past six weeks.

At its monthly meeting last Monday, our Worship Committee discussed those streamed liturgies and unanimously agreed that we should plan on continuing to stream even after the coronavirus no longer threatens us in the same way. After all, routine streaming as part of whatever “new normal” lies ahead will allow Brendanites who are recovering from a recent surgery, caring for a sick relative or traveling out of town for business or on vacation to remain a part of our worshipping community.

It will also, I hope, provide some relief for the otherwise almost irresistible urge to resume public worship at 2365 McAleer Road as quickly as possible. In the words of the John Hopkins Center for Health Security, “the desire to get back to normal as quickly as possible is a common reaction in [any] catastrophic context, *and it is an impulse worth restraining.*” [italics added by me] Our Worship Committee, the Vestry, Regis and I will continue to develop plans for how to gather again in person safely; the Bishop and experts at the diocesan level are having the same discussions. But it is important to note that everyone that I have spoken with or heard from has reaffirmed the belief that we must move cautiously and even conservatively. The costs of a wrong step are too serious to contemplate—and, God be thanked, technology has given us alternatives to fall back on for now.

Sr. Warden, Tim Austin

CRIS Advocacy response to Coronavirus Pandemic. April, 2020

1. Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. \$1,000
They anticipate a significant increased need due to the coronavirus. With all the lay-offs, business closures and school closings, many more people need donated food.
2. The Pittsburgh Foundation, *Emergency Action Fund*. \$1,000
They Address immediate and long-term impacts of COVID-19
 - a. To support small and mid-size non-profit organizations serving predominantly low-income households. Funding to assure organizations can meet basic needs of these people.
 - b. To organizations that manage emergency funds providing direct financial assistance to individuals impacted by COVID-19.
 - c. To support community health centers - funding for masks, protective gear and medical supplies.
 - d. To support small art organizations and individuals that have had to cancel productions.
3. Impact Your World - *MedShare* \$1,000
They provide urgently needed medical supplies, including masks and isolation gear, and medical equipment to healthcare professionals, clinics and hospitals for the fight against coronavirus.

Finally, our tithes to Brother's Brother Foundation will be directed to recovery response for the damage caused by the recent tornado in Arkansas and Kentucky.



Do you have a special prayer request? Contact Ruth Horton. Pastoral Care Ministry members will include those persons in daily prayers or send out a prayer via text or email to someone if requested. All prayers and requests are kept confidential.



NEW VOTER REFORM LAWS UPDATE. As many of you are aware, the upcoming Pennsylvania primary has been rescheduled for June 2. STOP THE SPREAD AND REGISTER TO VOTE BY MAIL: Anyone can sign up to vote by mail as long as you are already a registered voter – no reason necessary. Just go to VOTESPA.COM, click on “Other Links”, then “Votes PA” and you can register right there. The county must receive your application May 26 at 5 p.m. Deadline to register to vote in PA is May 18. If you are not registered and want to be able to vote, or for more information on the latest improvements, visit VOTESPA.COM. For more information on the candidates, visit VOTE411.ORG starting about three weeks before each election.

We have all seen the long lines of people at food distributions during this pandemic. This crisis has revealed much about our country, including that many people live pay check to pay check and are suffering from food insecurity. Plainly put: **People are going hungry.** We have another opportunity to perform one of the corporal works of mercy, to feed the hungry. Christ Lutheran Church, in Millvale, is in a working class community, where many are going hungry. They have stepped up and are giving out grocery cards to people in need. If you can donate anything to help feed the hungry, please go to www.clcmillvale.com select the fund “COVID 19-Gift Card Donation. You can also mail a check made payable to Christ Lutheran Church Millvale, at,917 Evergreen Ave.,Pgh 15209. Thank you for caring for those in need during this difficult time.

Join our Hallelujah Choir! In our Sunday, April 19, service we featured a video of many folks singing a joyful song called "Halle Hallelujah." We are inviting as many members of St. Brendan's (along with their friends and family) to do an individual video and send it to St. Brendan's. Each new video will be added to the main video each week. Eventually we hope to have over 100 people singing "Halle Hallelujah" together! It should be a fun way to spice up our weekly streaming service. Get more details and download the audio file here. <https://www.stbrendans.org/hallehallelujah>.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday between 10 am & 2 pm at North Hills Community Outreach Main office at 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101 is collecting donations.

Shopping carts will be placed outside the pantry, located behind the main building down the driveway. Please place the donated items into the shopping carts. Thank you.

Urgently needed items:

Plastic, paper and re-usable grocery bags.
Snacks such as granola bars, nutigrain bars, and crackers.
Fruit juice
Canned mixed fruit (cocktail), peaches, pears, mandarin oranges
Canned carrots, potatoes, baked beans
Spaghetti Sauce
Side dishes such as; rice-a-roni and instant mashed potatoes
Hamburger/tuna/chicken helper boxes
Oatmeal

Also needed:

Toilet paper Gallon ziplock bags Paper towels

Or you can mail a check to:

North Hills Community Outreach
1975 Ferguson Road
Allison Park, PA 15101



North Hills Food Pantry. During this time when we are unable to take donations into our church, the North Hills Food Bank is still in need of donations. Please consider making a monetary donation by sending a check payable to the North Hills Food Bank to the following address: North Hills Food Bank, 845 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15229. Thank you for your support.

Kid's Corner

Buoyed by Faith – Children's Corner

What do you have that you would protect from a thief? In the past week, as I made some zoom calls with young people, I was told about teddy bears. And I have some stuffed animals – my green bunny, my purple chick, and my teddy bear that are both priceless and of very little value. How does that happen?

The story of the teddy bear starts with Teddy Roosevelt who was a big game hunter but when he went bear hunting with friends, didn't get his bear. Someone in the group suggested he shot a cub tied to a tree. Teddy didn't think this was sporting, and freed the cub. When the newspapers wrote about this a cartoonist made fun of Teddy for not getting his bear, but a woman who made toys asked if she could use his name with a new toy bear and call it "Teddy's Bear." From there, the rest is history until today when we put teddy bears in windows.

This is global event, people from Australia to England, in China and the United States are putting teddy bears in their windows for people to look for on walks while we are all separated from each. They are small, happy, reminders that we are loved, and looked after, and still with each other even when we can't touch.

If you remember, I had a teddy bear on the altar last Sunday for "I Spy." But that teddy bear is special to me because it was a gift from someone who loves me. And my green bunny reminds me of a time with my sister and her family when I had trouble hearing something, so I was looking for the wrong thing and it became a family joke. And the purple chick was in an Easter basket sent to me by a sister when we both lived far apart from home and didn't get to see each other often. So they are all priceless to me and for a thief each has very little value.

In this week's gospel, Jesus says, "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.*" What Jesus gave us – his life for our eternal life – is both priceless (we can't put a value on that) and not something we could buy. It is ours, and like everything else precious to us, we want to protect it from someone trying to steal it or get us to give it away.

So remember, Jesus loves us and wants us to follow him each and every day. Sometimes others try to get between us and Jesus or take away what Jesus gives us, so we ask Jesus to help us, watch over us, and protect us from those who want to lead us astray.

Julie+

Due to the isolation, stress and uncertainty of COVID-19 many seniors (and indeed people of all ages) are self-medicating with alcohol. Off-premise alcohol sales were up 55% in the third week of March this year compared to last year, according to data reported by Nielsen, an international measurement and data analytics company. Additionally, The World Health Organization says alcohol may put people at an increased risk for the coronavirus, weakening the body's immune system and leaving drinkers at risk for other risky behaviors that could increase the likelihood of contracting coronavirus. Click on the link for more information. <https://www.aging.com/alcohol-abuse-amongst-the-elderly-a-complete-guide>.



Special Corona Virus – Resources for People in Need

- BigBurgh.com
 - [United Way 211 COVID-19 Page](#)
 - [Allegheny County COVID-19 Food Resources Map](#)
 - [Allegheny County Health Department COVID-19 Page](#)
 - [City of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Page](#) *VLP Veteran Food Distribution Delivery Request - 412-481-8200*
 - [Financial Empowerment Centers](#)
 - [Pennsylvania Utility Commission Updates](#)
 - [Women's Center & Shelter Resources](#)
 - [Homeless Children's Education Fund: Crowd-sourced Resources Compilation](#)
 - [Pittsburgh Cares Buddy \(Volunteer or Need\) Sign Up](#)
 - [Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank COVID-19 Page](#)
 - [Surge Workforce Job Postings, PA CareerLink](#)
 - [Allegheny County Emergency Resources PDF](#)
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Hospitality Hour Hosts/Hostesses

October 2019  September 2020

October 2019

- 6 ~~Melanie & Thaddeus Popovich~~
- 13 ~~Dottie & Carl Antonucci~~
- 20 ~~Kinley & Aretz families~~
- 27 ~~Lauren Chappo and Becca Sands~~

November 2019

- 3 ~~Brenna Conroy & Kristen Bailey~~
- 10 ~~Melinda & Wesley Bell~~
- 17 ~~Sheila Bigelow & Jim Roche~~
- 24 ~~Church sign-up (Appetizers)~~

December 2019

- 1 ~~Choir~~
- 8 ~~Brigid & Jim Christenson~~
- 15 ~~Julie Smith & Colette Satler~~
- 22 ~~Church sign-up (appetizers)~~
- 29 ~~Stacey Coyle and Andrea Dickerson~~

January 2020

- 5 ~~Karen Dennis and Janet Fesq~~
- 12 ~~Mary & Dale Bertucci~~
- 19 ~~Joyce & Michael Donadee~~
- 26 ~~Annual Meeting church sign-up (soup)~~

February 2020

- 2 ~~Donna Aiello & Sharon Hlawati~~
- 9 ~~Chris & Roger Botti~~
- 16 ~~Richard Gordon, Janice & Dan Moore~~
- 23 ~~Anne Semmler and Cameron Gresh~~

March 2020

- 1 ~~Janice & Dan Moore~~
- 8 ~~Amy & Kevin Boyd~~
- 15 ~~Eric Helmsen and Ken Parsons~~
- 22 ~~open~~
- 29 ~~Meghan & Robert Karn~~

April 2020

- 5 ~~Cindy & Pete Larson~~
- 12 ~~Hospitality Committee~~
- 19 ~~Libby and Phoebe Juel~~
- 26 ~~Stephanie Illsley & Justin Ziegler~~

May 2020

- 3 ~~The Bertucci family~~
- 10 ~~Parish Men~~
- 17 ~~Laureen & Todd Douds~~
- 24 ~~Sharon & Ron Ladick~~
- 31 ~~Linda & Jason Konley~~

June 2020

- 7 ~~Marian & AJ McKenna~~
~~Trish & Neil Galone~~
- 14 ~~Annemarie Malbon and Joe Macklin~~
- 21 ~~Erica & Mark McClure~~
- 28 ~~Parish Picnic~~

July 2020

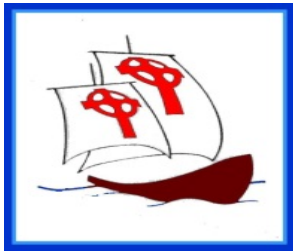
- 5 ~~open, volunteer needed~~
- 12 ~~Kate & Keith Heston~~
- 19 ~~Volunteer needed~~
- 26 ~~Joni Reis and Thaddeus Popovich~~

August 2020

- 2 ~~Lauren & Ashwin Ramakrishna~~
- 9 ~~Arlena & Bill Pugliese~~
- 16 ~~Anne Semmler and Andrew Sprentz~~
- 23 ~~Saundy & Tom Waseleski~~
- 30 ~~AJ Turo, Rob & George Latta~~

September 2020

- 6 ~~Nancy & George Snyder~~
- 13 ~~Emmalynne & Michael Waseleski~~
- 20 ~~Emily & Brad Zupancic~~
- 27 ~~Janet Fesq and Chris Fleissner~~



ST. BRENDAN'S MISSION

Jesus said, "I have come to give life – life in all its fullness." John 10:10.
Our mission is the realization of fullness through:
the worship of God; service to the world;
active concern for each other;
and education to expand mind and spirit.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY LEADERS

Audit: Kevin Boyd
Book Club: Pat Carl
Brendan's Boots: Tom Waseleski
Dinner Group: Janice Moore
Finance Chair: Eric Helmsen
Green Thumb Gang: Dan Moore
Historian: Ellen Groves
Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale: Karen Dennis
Memorial Garden: Dan Moore
Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski
Parish Profile: Inactive
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich
Rental: George Snyder
Scholarship: Tom Waseleski
Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis
Debbie Jennings
Web Site: Kelli Cerra

OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS

Adopt-A-Highway: Tom Waseleski
CRIES Advocacy: Ellen Groves
English as a Second Language: Tim Austin
Joyce Donadee
Linda Schneider
Garden of Hope: Tim Michael
Miryam's: Julia Wick
Rob & George Latta
North Hills Food Bank Ministry: Larry Toler
Social Justice: Clair Grotevant
Marilyn Mulvihill
Under One Roof: Inactive

WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS

Acolytes: Anelisa Tarrant
Altar Guild: Anelisa Tarrant
Community of Hope: Ruth Horton
Flower Ministry: Sylvia Affleck
Libby Juel
Scheduler: Kelli Cerra
Ushers: Eric Helmsen

VESTRY MEMBERS

Sr. Warden: Tim Austin
Jr. Warden & Secretary/Clerk: Ruth Horton
Adult Formation: Dean Peters
Audio-Visual Technology: Cameron Grosh
Communication: Annemarie Malbon
Finance: Mary Bertucci
Fundraising: Larry Toler
Inreach & Hospitality: Janice Moore
Newcomers: Dean Peters and Mary Bertucci
Outreach and Social Justice: Donna Aiello
Safety & Security: Tim Austin
Treasurer: Ellen Groves (with Roger Botti)
Worship: Cameron Grosh

ST. BRENDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Corner of Rochester & McAleer Roads
2365 McAleer Road, Sewickley, PA 15143
Phone ~ 412-364-5974
Office hours ~ Monday thru Friday 8:00-2:00
Web Site ~ <http://www.stbrendans.org>
Facebook ~ <https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/>
Nextdoor ~ <https://franklinparkpittsburgh.nextdoor.com/pages/st-brendans-episcopal-church-sewickley-pa/recommend/>
Priest, Regis Smolko ~ regisjs@verizon.net
Youth Education Director, Julie Smith ~ jlsphone1@gmail.com
Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ stbrendans@comcast.net
Music Director, Daniel May ~ bluesub@verizon.net
Nursery Director, Stephanie Illsley ~ st3phy2011@gmail.com