



### This Week at St. Brendan's

<b>Sunday</b>	(3-17)	8:00 a.m.	Worship
		8:30 a.m.	Hospitality Hour
		9:00 a.m.	Sr. Choir rehearsal
		10:00 a.m.	Worship
		10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
		11:15 a.m.	Hospitality Hour
		11:15 a.m.	Discipleship Group
		11:30 a.m.	Lenten Series
<b>Monday</b>	(3-18)	11:00 a.m.	Be a Modern Episcopalian
		6:00 p.m.	Rite 13 meeting
		7:00 p.m.	Episcopalian small groups
<b>Tuesday</b>	(3-19)	7:00 a.m.	AA meeting
		10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
		10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
		12:30 p.m.	Tai Chi
		7:00 p.m.	Love-Teach-Heal
<b>Wednesday</b>	(3-20)	9:00 p.m.	Men's Breakfast
		5:30 p.m.	Meager Meal
		6:00 p.m.	Lenten Series
		7:00 p.m.	Worship
		7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
		7:00 p.m.	Conversation Friends
		7:30 p.m.	Sr. Choir rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	(3-21)	10:00 a.m.	Brendan's Boots
<b>Saturday</b>	(3-23)	9:00 a.m.	Sacristans
		All day	Diocesan Event

### Serving Sunday, March 17, 2019

Celebrant:	The Rev. Regis Smolko
Lay Reader:	8:00 a.m. Ruth Horton
	10:00 a.m. Dean Peters
Acolyte:	Acolyte team
Prayers:	Susan Shoemaker
Chalice Bearers:	Janice Moore
	Theresa Bryant
Altar Guild:	Joan Klinefelter
	Janet Fesq
FISH:	Mary Bertucci
Godly Play:	Nate Boyd
Door:	Becca Sands
Nursery:	Pat Carl
	Mary Haider
Ushers:	Bradford Thompson
	Larry Toler
Vestry:	Chris Botti
	Janice Moore
Hospitality:	Allison Kline
	Linda Mesko
LEM:	Ruth Horton

## The Priest's Corner

### **"The Cosmic Christ?"**

We are exploring the notion of the "Cosmic Christ" in our Wednesday Lenten meditations and meager meal get-togethers. When I hear terms such as this, I experience the feeling of incompetence. My first thought is, "This is too far beyond me. I'm incapable of grasping it."

But then I'm confronted with the fact that the notion comes from Franciscan spirituality and has roots in Sts. Francis and Claire themselves. They were the simplest of souls. "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" is Francis' expression for the universe. It's so friendly, so much like "gently moving the caterpillar off the road so it doesn't get trampled under foot." Indeed from where or whom do humans get the permission to think they have more rights to the road than caterpillars? "Cosmic Christ" seems to suggest that we are more one with the universe than master over it.

"Cosmic Christ" is defined as that aspect of God which pervades all of creation, the Christ who "fills the universe in all its parts" (Ephesians 1:23). A way to grasp this concept might be this: "When God's Word, love aware of itself, comes pouring into nothingness, the universe happens." The Word of God in this way of thinking then begins not with the Bible but with the creation. The universe is the external embodiment of the Inner Word of God, and this is the meaning of "Cosmic Christ."

St. Bonaventure (a Franciscan theologian) concludes that every leaf, cloud, fruit, animal and person is to be seen as an outward expression of the Word of God in love! Thus each creature has its own identity, integrity and dignity. Christ is Word of God with a capital "W." Birds that serenade us, water that quenches our thirst, you and I – each creature is a word of God (with a small "w." All creation comes into existence because it (we) are spoken in love, by love itself!

So "Cosmic Christ" is Franciscan eco-spirituality. We Franciscan-types respect this earth-spirit. We believe that all creatures are intimately linked, cosmically connected. As one distinguished writer said, "Nothing can be itself without everything else." Every being somehow carries the divine (Cosmic Christ). Every being is basically sacred. If we truly believed this, we would change our ways, be more thoughtful, walk with a lighter step, and show our love and gratitude and concern for sister sparrow,

brother caterpillar, sister water, brother star and the rest of the family. To become this earth- and creation-sensitive is the challenge placed before us who are Franciscan at heart.

Regis +

## Announcements

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**CRIS Advocacy** (Christian Response In Emergency Situations) meets monthly on the third Sunday in the library after the 10 a.m. service to determine distribution of St. Brendan's outreach tithe each month. Each person present has an equal voice and vote. The next meeting will be THIS SUNDAY, March 17. All are welcome.

This week we are praying for the work of Southern Poverty Law Center and Mercy Ships.

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**Brendan's Boots**, the parish hiking group, will take its next walk on Thursday, March 21, at Allegheny Cemetery in Pittsburgh's Lawrenceville neighborhood. The historic cemetery holds the remains of notable Pittsburghers including Stephen Foster, Josh Gibson, Stanley Turrentine, Lillian Russell, Thomas Mellon, Harry Thaw and John Neville. Participants will meet at the church at 10 a.m., then carpool to the cemetery. The group will have lunch afterwards. Everyone is welcome; feel free to bring a friend.

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Would anyone like to receive the **sacrament of Confirmation when Bishop Dorsey McConnell visits St. Brendan's** on May 12? The parish is considering a one-day retreat to prepare for the sacrament, which persons age 14 and up may receive. Parents are invited to consider along with their children the young person's readiness for this spiritual step into Christian maturity and leadership. Adults who have not been confirmed are invited to take this important spiritual step as well.

The bishop will also receive into the Episcopal Church any person who wants to take that formal step. Episcopalians who would like to reaffirm a commitment to this church community (for instance, those who were previously members of other Episcopal churches) are also eligible to receive a special blessing from the bishop. If you are interested in participating in any of these special rites on May 12, please contact Regis.

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**The Green Thumb Gang** would love your help on Saturday, April 6, at 9:00 a.m. Bring your wheelbarrow, shovel garden rake and gloves. Sign up in the narthex if you have some time to help.

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Prayer requests can now be sent to **Community of Hope** through our email; [stbrendans.coh@gmail.com](mailto:stbrendans.coh@gmail.com). This was created to give parishioners and others in the community an extra opportunity to request prayers for anyone in need. We can include those persons in our daily prayers or send out a prayer via text or email to someone. Please note, this is in addition to, NOT in place of, the St. Brendan's prayer list.

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**Cuddling Ministry.** It's now a possibility and finally available to us. Would you like to help newborns who struggle with addiction? West Penn Hospital in Bloomfield has a program to do just that and it's so easy. Volunteers will rock, walk, soothe and cuddle the infants. Times are 24/7. No training needed. The hospital provides clearances. All you need to do is go online at [www.ahn.org/volunteer-application](http://www.ahn.org/volunteer-application) and fill out an application. Someone will then contact you. Please let Regis know of your interest, and go to the web site above to get an application.

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**North Hills Food Pantry.** Our focus for March is on collecting canned foods; items such as tuna and canned pastas or stews are especially needed. As always, all non-perishable food items or paper products are welcome. Please remember, no glass jars. If you have any questions, contact Ruth Horton at [rvhorton@gmail.com](mailto:rvhorton@gmail.com). Thank you for your support.

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**Help Wanted.** Looking for a way to pitch in at St. Brendan's but not sure how? Here are several places where your help is needed.

- **Fundraising Ideas.** Do you have an idea for a fun and effective fundraiser that would support the mission of St. Brendan's? Maybe you have participated in a great fundraiser at a previous church or at your child's school? If so, please see Chris Botti, the vestry's fundraising liaison, or contact her via email at [shadypatch@msn.com](mailto:shadypatch@msn.com). Thanks!

- **Hospitality Committee Members.** Would you like to part of a fun-loving group of people who plan, prepare food and help with set-up/clean-up at church-sponsored events? If so, please sign up to join the Hospitality Committee today! The parish is preparing to host Lenten Learning Day 2019, which will take place on Saturday, March 23. This is a diocese-sponsored event and we will rely on our Hospitality Committee to ensure that it is a successful one. If interested, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the narthex table. Please direct any questions to Mike Newton or send him an email at [michaelnewton2004@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelnewton2004@yahoo.com). Thank you!

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**Quiet Evening Prayer.** The next candlelight Evening Prayer service will be on Wednesday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel. Please mark your calendars now. The service includes Taize music and silent prayer, reflection, or meditation – with Communion afterwards for those who wish to remain. The service is especially appropriate for this penitential season. Bring a friend and enjoy this quiet time with the Lord.

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**Be a BFF!** A donation to the Brendan's Family and Friends (BFF) fund is the perfect way to honor a special day or loved one while supporting unbudgeted building needs of our church. Over the past year, BFF funds have been used to refurbish our sound system, purchase kitchen items such as flatware, microwave oven and shelving, as well as technology items which make it possible to record Fr. Regis' sermons for our website. These are just a few of the items procured via BFF! Vestry is considering earmarking BFF funds for future projects such as improved cell phone reception in our lower level as well as installation of acoustic tiles in the social hall. Won't you please help make such projects a reality? Please consider making a BFF donation today! Thank you!

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We all find ourselves back at the grocery store every week, right? Do you know that you can help raise funds for St. Brendan's when you grocery shop?! Purchase your groceries using Giant Eagle or Kuhn's gift cards bought at church. Because St. Brendan's buys the cards in bulk, the church makes 5 percent on every sale. Cards are sold after both services on Sundays. You can also purchase them during business hours in the church office. **It's the no-sweat fundraiser!**

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St. Brendan's **Adopt-a-Highway** chapter will perform its first roadside litter cleanup of the year on Saturday, March 30. Participants, who must be at least 14 years old, will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. and carpool to the Camp Horne interchange of I-279 in Ohio Twp. The cleanup is usually finished by 10:45. If interested, please sign the sheet on the narthex table or contact Tom Waseleski.

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**Book Club** is reading "Educated" this month, Tara Westover's memoir of growing up in a survivalist family in the mountains of Idaho. Living off the grid, Westover's family has a profound distrust of schools, doctors, and the federal government. Largely self-taught until the age of 17, Westover manages to get into college and go on to earn a Ph.D at Cambridge University. We'll gather Thursday evening, April 4. at 7:00 p.m. in the church library for discussion and fun. For more information, contact Pat Carl at [pkarrcarl@gmail.com](mailto:pkarrcarl@gmail.com).

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St. Brendan's will benefit from donations of **used ink cartridges**. Please bring them to church and place the cartridge in the box near Katie's office. Thank you.

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**Winter Coats Drive is now ended.** Leslie Aizenman of Jewish Family & Community Services in Squirrel Hill extended a warm and gracious "thank you!" to St. Brendan's for its generous donations this winter of outerwear for the immigrants and refugees it serves. She said that our donations kept many people warm this winter. Perhaps it is a time to reflect on how this expression of thanks acknowledges the living out of our mission at St. Brendan's. Many thanks to all who were able to participate in this worthy endeavor.

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**Trinity Cathedral Walk-In Ministry.** Every five weeks Brendanites help to staff the Walk-In Ministry at Trinity Cathedral downtown, feeding and clothing 70 to 90 desperately needy people. Our next week in the rotation is March 18-22. You can help by donating children's diapers; new, white athletic socks and underwear for women and men; toothpaste, razors and travel-size cans of shaving cream. Please leave donations in the wicker basket outside Regis's office. If you might be interested in volunteering at the cathedral in person, please see Linda Schneider, Meg Overby or Tim Austin.

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**Episcopal Workday** at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Again this year the SJO Committee is sponsoring a repack session at the Food Bank during Lent. Come join fellow Episcopalians from across the diocese at our volunteer workday at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. We'll be working in the Repack Center at GPCFB's main Duquesne warehouse facility (1 North Linden St, Duquesne, PA 15110) from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 13.

To reserve your volunteer slot contact Jerry Stephenson at [JJmestephenon@verizon.net](mailto:JJmestephenon@verizon.net) by Wednesday, April 3. We'll need your name, parish affiliation and email address (so Jerry can send you a link for online registration). Volunteers must be at least 12 years of age and be able to stand for two or more consecutive hours. We are limited to only 20 volunteers this time. Volunteer spaces will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

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**Please scroll to the next few pages for the Hospitality Hour schedule and the March ministry calendar.**



# March 2019

## Ministry calendar

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Nursery	Usher	Vestry	Hospitality
<b>March 3</b> Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves L Theresa Bryant P Nate Boyd C Stacey Coyle C Dean Peters LEV Stacey Coyle	Chris Botti Shari Tarrant	Fish Allison Kline Godly Play Lisa Fleissner Door Rob Chappo	Stacy Connifey Mary Haider	Joyce & Michael Donadee	Chris Botti Larry Toler	Mary & Dale Bertucci
<b>March 6</b> Wednesday 7:00 pm	Ellen Groves	Ellen Groves	~	~	~	~	~
<b>March 10</b> Sunday 8 & 0:00 am	8 Charlotte Pierce L Michael Donadee P Anne Hunt C Joyce Donadee C Michael Donadee LEV Joyce Donadee	Janice Moore Betsy Smith	Fish Allison Kline Godly Play Joyce Donadee Door Libby Juel	Stacy Connifey Libby Juel	Bob Smith Mike Wick	Kevin Boyd Janice Moore	Bradford Thompson Larry Toler
<b>March 13</b> Wednesday 7:00 pm	Alan Schneider	Linda Schneider	~	~	~	~	~
<b>March 17</b> Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ruth Horton L Dean Peters P Susan Shoemaker C Janice Moore C Theresa Bryant LEV Ruth Horton	Joan Klinefelter Janet Fesq	Fish Mary Bertucci Godly Play Nate Boyd Door Becca Sands	Pat Carl Mary Haider	Brad Thompson Larry Toler	Chris Botti	Allison Kline Linda Mesko
<b>March 20</b> Wednesday 7:00 pm	Gladys Carlisle	Les Carlisle	~	~	~	~	~
<b>March 24</b> Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves L Children P Children C Janice Moore C Alan Schneider LEV Darrell Johnson	Ellen Groves Anelisa Tarrant	Children's Liturgy	Mary Haider Sarika Sethia	Chris Fleissner Eric Helmsen	Tom Waseleski Tim Austin	Peter Sweet Michael Newton
<b>March 27</b> Wednesday 7:00 pm	Sylvia Affleck	Sylvia Affleck	~	~	~	~	~
<b>March 31</b> Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous L Debbie Wunsche P Darrell Johnson C Stacey Coyle C Darrell Johnson LEV Stacey Coyle	Chris Botti Sylvia Affleck	TBD	Stacy Connifey Annemarie Malbon	Larry Toler Brad Thompson	Ruth Horton	Karen & Dean Peters

# Hospitality Hour Hosts/Hostesses

October 2018  September 2019

## October 2018

- 7 Nancy & George Snyder
- 14 Pat Carl & Joan Beatrous
- 21 Animal Blessing
- 28 Gail Gagnon & Karen Dennis

## November 2018

- 4 Joyce & Michael Donadee
- 11 Darrell Johnson & Ruth Horton
- 18 Eric Helmsen & Joni Reis
- 25 Nancy & Wilder Bancroft

## December 2018

- 2 Saundy & Tom Waseleski
- 9 Chris & Roger Botti
- 16 Anelisa Tarrant & Janet Fesq
- 23 Julia Wick & Ken Parsons
- 30 Rob & George Latta

## January 2019

- 6 Kate & Keith Heston
- 13 Anne & Jno Hunt
- 20 Julia & Mike Wick
- 27 Mary & Jim Evanochko

## February 2019

- 3 The Fleissner family
- 10 Janice & Dan Moore
- 17 Ken Parsons & Regis Smolke
- 24 Amy & Kevin Boyd

## March 2019

- 3 Mary & Dale Bertucci
- 10 Brad Thompson & Larry Toler
- 17 Allison Kline & Linda Mesko
- 24 Michael Newton & Peter Sweet
- 31 Betsy & Bob Smith

## April 2019

- 7 Karen & Dean Peters
- 14 Sharon Hlawati & Donna Aiello
- 21 Megan Overby & Tim Austin
- 28 Ellen Groves & Kelli Cerra

## May 2019

- 5 Karen & Dean Peters
- 12 Mother's Day
- 19 Sharon & Ron Ladick
- 26 Tammy & Bill Spoonhoward

## June 2019

- 2 Linda & Alan Schneider
- 9 Susan Shoemaker & Margie Davies
- 16 Annemarie Malbon & Janet Fesq
- 23 Parish Picnic
- 30 Jillian Mooman & Cameron Grosh

## July 2019

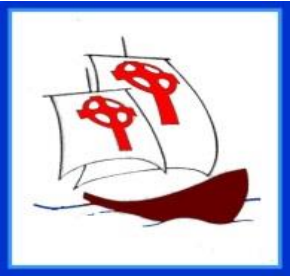
- 7 Stacy Connifey & Mary Haider
- 14 Judy Flick & Marcy Little
- 21 Debbie Wunsche & Jim Gray
- 28 Joan & Paul Klinefelter

## August 2019

- 4 Ruth & Steve Horton
- 11 Angela & Michael Schlumpf
- 18 Allison & Phil Burdette
- 26 Theresa Bryant

## September 2019

- 1 Darrell Johnson & Isaac Mondelus
- 8 Laureen & Todd Douds
- 15 The Aretz & Kinley family
- 22 Melanie & Thaddeus Popovich
- 29 Jean Pett-Ridge & Marge Marine



### **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.

### **VESTRY MEMBERS**

Sr. Warden: Tom Waseleski  
Jr. Warden & Education: Ruth Horton  
Worship & Safety/Security: Tim Austin  
Fundraising & Clerk: Chris Botti  
Finance & Technology: Kevin Boyd  
Communication: Annemarie Malbon  
Inreach/Hospitality/Secretary: Janice Moore  
Newcomers: Dean Peters  
Invite/Welcome/Connect & Outreach: Larry Toler  
Treasurer: Ellen Groves

### **WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS**

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

### **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: Roger Botti  
Historian: Ellen Groves  
Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale: Anelisa Tarrant  
Invite Welcome Connect: Brad Thompson  
Memorial Garden: Dan Moore  
Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski  
Nursery: Stacy Connifey  
Parish Profile: Kelli Cerra  
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich  
Rental: Mark Shoemaker  
Scholarship: Tom Waseleski  
Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis  
Debbie Jennings  
Web Site: Kelli Cerra

### **ST. BRENDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Corner of Rochester & McAleer Roads  
2365 McAleer Road, Sewickley, PA 15143  
Phone: 412-364-5974 ~ Fax: 412-364-6024  
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 in Charge, Fr. Regis Smolko ~ [regisjs@verizon.net](mailto:regisjs@verizon.net)  
Administrative Assistant, Katie Cervone ~ [stbrendans@comcast.net](mailto:stbrendans@comcast.net)  
Music Director, Debbie Wunsche ~ [dwunsche@zoominternet.net](mailto:dwunsche@zoominternet.net)  
Musician, Erica Lin ~ [hylERICA@yahoo.com](mailto:hylERICA@yahoo.com)  
Nursery, Stacy Connifey ~ [stacy.connifey@gmail.com](mailto:stacy.connifey@gmail.com)

### **OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS**

Adopt-A-Highway: Tom Waseleski  
CRIES Advocacy: Ellen Groves  
English as a Second Language: Joyce Donadee  
Elizabeth Murphy  
Linda Schneider  
Invite Welcome Connect: Bradford Thompson  
North Hills Food Bank Ministry: Ruth Horton  
Garden of Hope: **Open**  
Miryam's: Julia Wick  
Rob & George Latta  
Janice & Dan Moore  
Stacy Connifey  
Under One Roof: Joyce Donadee  
Jim Evanochko