



Sunday, February 13, 2022

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Bill Pugliese

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

Weekly at St. Brendan's

- Sunday:** 8:00 am Worship, in person
10:00 am Worship, in person
10:00 am Worship, via live streaming https://www.youtube.com/channel/UckCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew
- Monday:** 7:45 am Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom, Monday thru Saturday
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4796201105?pwd=bXM5OHJ2UEh4TXhQT1RkZnVrQWNVdz09>
Meeting ID: 479 620 1105 Passcode: 092720
11:00 am Be a Modern Episcopalian, via zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81976791143?pwd=NnN0cW5xSFVFMmk1VIFBcVJia05LQT09>
4:00 pm Bible-Lite Group <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
- Tuesday:** 7:00 am AA meeting, via zoom Dial in: 312-626-6799 Meeting Id:345 892 252
11:00 am Bible Study, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
4:30 pm Book Club discussion, via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484853481>
- Wednesday:** 3:00 pm Deacon hours
7:00 pm Evening Service, in person
- Friday:** Varying Limited office hours, please call ahead.

The Priest's Corner

DOGS, FAT CATS AND JELLY BEANS

I love dogs. Dogs love me. I also love jelly beans. They love me, too, as too many of them cause a bulge around my midsection. I don't like cats – fat cats, skinny cats: cats. I don't like them because they don't like me.

The summer after I graduated from college, I spent several weeks working in a parish on Chicago's Southside. When I arrived home in late August, I discovered that a big, fat cat (she was pregnant) had made her home on the side of our house. As I walked up the steps carrying my suitcase, the cat, who later became known as Gertrude, was sunning herself on the porch. She took one look at me, hissed, and took off. From that moment on, until I left three weeks later to go back to seminary, she avoided me.

A week after our first encounter, Gertrude gave birth to five offspring. As my Mom told the story, as I walked out the front door, suitcases in hand, Gertrude walked in the back door, litter trailing behind, to make herself at home. And she did for the next ten years. Every time I returned home from seminary or for a visit after ordination, I somehow knew I was doing so with Gertrude's grudging permission.

I truly have nothing against cats. God must have had a good reason to create them, perhaps only to torment me and those of my ilk. Now, lest I incur the wrath of half the population, and especially my little sister who adores them, let me hasten to add that there is probably an internal reason why cats and I don't get along: after three days in the same house with a cat, I acquire The Cat's Revenge: my eyes water and my nose runs.

None of this happens with dogs. Dogs don't make my eyes water and don't put on pounds like jelly beans. It's like the problem of evil: how can a good God create something good (a cat) that will cause a good person (me) to not get along? The answer? Beats me!

The reason why cats and I don't get along should be the least of my worries. What I should really worry about is not why I like dogs and cats don't like me. What I should worry about are those jelly beans: not why I love them (why not?), but why I eat too many of them when I know I should not.

The love-dog, hate-cat problem is beyond my control. I can't help it if I like dogs and I can't stop my nose from running while around cats for too long a time. But I can stop eating all those jelly beans. It is that which is under my control and which I do not maintain control that is my real worry, or should be.

All this is simply a reminder that if you are like me, we often worry more about that over which we have no control and less about the over which we do. And that over which we do is what usually gets us into trouble. We need to worry about that!

Bill



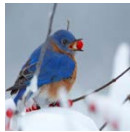
A BFF (Brendan's Family & Friends) donation was given in celebration of George Snyder's 70th birthday, from Nancy and George.

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. BFF funds have been used to purchase various items. Thank you for making a difference at St. Brendan's by becoming a BFF donor. Contact Katie if you are interested in making a [donation. StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com).



St Brendan's Men's Breakfast, Monday, February 14th. Gentlemen, please join us at the Bob Evans in Cranberry at 9:00 AM for breakfast and coffee. Sign-up not absolutely necessary, but allows me to give them a heads-up approximate number to expect. Contact Steve Horton at stephenshorton@gmail.com for additional information.

Children's Corner



Bluebirds & Happiness

Have you ever heard the story of the Bluebird of Happiness? When I first heard it, the story was set in Russia, but gradually I learned that bluebirds are symbols of hope in Russia, China, France, and even among Native Americans.

The gist of the story is that just like the bluebird, happiness or joy is hard to capture. We can see it flit by, but if we chase after happiness once we get it, it is hard to keep. You can't lock it up, you can only think about having it.

Think of blowing bubbles when you were little. Wasn't it funny how something so simple could make you so happy? Remember running around trying to catch the bubble in your hand before it popped?

And that is the problem with the happiness that comes from blowing bubbles -- it doesn't last! The minute you reach out and touch one of the bubbles, it pops – SPLASH right in your face.

No matter how many times we chase bubbles, they are always just out of reach. And, as soon as it touches something - the ground or our hands - the bubble is gone.

And as we get older, we still do this. A lot of us chase after happiness, bigger raises, bigger cars, more of whatever, but like the bubbles, happiness is always just out of reach. Or, just when we think we have it, our bubble bursts.

Think of those things that we think make us happy. Things like money, food, video games, days off of school, or being popular. None of these things really bring happiness or last. They may make us feel good for a few minutes, but once we eat the food, or spend the money or conquer the game, we want more.

Jesus knew that we often look for happiness in the wrong places. He even said we might be happier if we were poor, hungry, crying, and disliked by others. Why would Jesus suggest such a thing?

Jesus reminded us that when we are poor, we can trust in God to supply everything we need instead of depending on ourselves. When we are hungry for truth and goodness only God can satisfy our hunger. When we are crying, we can trust in God to comfort us and ease our pain. When we think we have no friends, we have a friend in Jesus. Jesus is the friend who will never leave us.

And we all want to be happy, right? If so, then the secret for real happiness is not to spend our time chasing bubbles. We should find ways to follow Jesus - that is the source of true happiness.



**Peace,
Julie+**



For the Month of February, **The North Hill Food Bank** is in particularly in need of dry spaghetti, noodles, 14 oz. cans of tomato sauce, and Sloppy Joes or Manwich. As always, they will gladly accept any other non-perishable food items. Note: The food banks do not accept anything in glass jars. Please do not leave any expired items.



Are you a Gardener? Because many of our neighbors struggle with having enough to eat and especially do not have easy access to fresh produce, St. Brendan's began our Garden of Hope seven years ago. Currently, we provide fresh produce to the North Hills Food Bank.

Our Garden of Hope needs help this year! We are looking for a few people who would be willing to take charge of getting it off to a great start. It's approximately 18' x 24' and located in 8 raised plant beds that are already fenced and ready for the project. We need someone to prepare soil, obtain materials (we have a budget), and plant veggies like lettuce, zucchini, tomatoes, onions and kale. Once the planting is completed, we can set up a schedule for watering and harvesting.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Donna Aiello at donna.aiello@forecastdirect.com or 412-759-1521. Thank you!

Please Consider volunteering to be our Memorial Garden Coordinator. Just outside the Chapel doors, you will find our Memorial Garden, in which parishioners are welcome to arrange for their cremains to be interred. Maintaining the Garden (mowing, trimming, etc.), working with potential purchasers, and ultimately managing interments fall to a small committee for which we are seeking a Coordinator to succeed Bill Spoonhoward and Dan Moore. The maintenance work is seasonal, while other functions may occur at any time.

CRIES Advocacy

CRIES Advocacy, (Christian Response In Emergency Situations), meets monthly on the third Sunday in the library after the 10:00 a.m. service where they determine the distribution of St. Brendan's 10% tithe of our pledged income. This week we are praying for the work of two organizations. One is Mercy Ships, who provide medical services around the world bringing hope and healing to many. The other is Miryam's Kitchen, where a monthly donation is made to cover the cost of one dinner each month during the pandemic.



Animal Friends is always in need of blankets and bath towels for their sheltered animals. If you have some that you would like to donate to, there is a bin outside the front door to the entrance of the church for the collection.



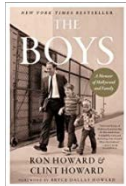
Next Forum: Thursday, February 17 at 7:00, via zoom **Topic: Racism in Mass Incarceration**
This Forum addresses how slavery has evolved, how laws like the 13th Amendment have helped this process, and how this applies in Pennsylvania today.

Speakers are from Straight Talk, a non-profit which emerged from the movements to abolish death by incarceration (DBI) as well as solitary confinement in Pennsylvania. Their mission is to restore justice by building a statewide decarceration movement across Pennsylvania -- and dismantle institutions of state violence.

Speakers are:

- David Garlock, who is currently PA state organizer for Straight Ahead and is a criminal justice reform advocate.
- Jennifer Black, central PA community organizer for Straight Ahead, who comes from a background of both activism and academia.

To register for this important Forum, email: office@trinitywexford.org.



The Book Club will meet on Thursday, **March 3rd at 7 pm** to discuss, "The Boys: A Memoir of Hollywood and Family" by Ron and Clint Howard. In this dual autobiography, the famous brothers open up about their unusual childhood growing up in Hollywood with their Midwestern parents. It's been described as "A delightful, warm and fascinating story of a good life in show business". Please join us as we delve into this remarkable read! More info to come on whether we will meet at the church or via Zoom. Contact Chris Botti at shadypatch@msn.com if you have any questions. Thank you!



Update on **St. Brendan's Inquirers Group:** The group of Brendanites who joined Fr. Regis and Darrell for six weeks of conversations about Episcopal beliefs and practices in November and December has resumed those conversations in the new year. The Inquirers Group meets every other Tuesday evening from 6:30 – 7:30 via Zoom and uses chapters from Walk in Love – Episcopal Beliefs and Practices to guide discussions. Notes and questions from assigned chapters are published with the Zoom link in advance, so it isn't necessary to read the assigned chapters to participate fully in the conversations. The schedule for upcoming meetings is Feb. 22, Mar. 8, Mar. 22. Everyone

is welcome to join these conversations as we explore together what it means to live the Christian life in the Episcopal and Anglican traditions. If you would like to join these conversations, call, text or email Darrell at 412-337-3041 or johnsdj31@verizon.net.

A Social Justice volunteer opportunity. Do you have a few hours on a Saturday morning to join a team of St Brendan volunteers to pack lunches for delivery to Neighborhood Resilience Project? Our Justice Ministry has partnered with St Paul's United Methodist Church to deliver 240 lunches monthly to this worthwhile organization. St Brendan's has agreed to do this in our church on Saturday March 12. Sam's Club has donated a major portion of the items and we supply the rest, *and* our volunteer power.

Please join me and others on **Saturday March 12 at 8:30 am** to do this work.

Contact Ginny Volponi 412-491-8130 or gabby4045@gmail.com to sign up. If this Saturday doesn't fit your schedule and you are interested in future dates, please let Ginny know.

The mission of Neighborhood Resilience Project is, 'Creating resilient healing and healthy communities. One block at a time.'

Read more on their website. <https://neighborhoodresilience.org>.

Upcoming Events from our Neighbors

The Beloved Community Initiative (BCI) has scheduled two monthly events for 2022 for anyone in the diocese to attend. The first Wednesday of each month will be a bible reading and the third Wednesday of each month will be a prayer and share. You can attend as you are able.



Crafters for good wanted!

Please join us **Friday, February 25th from 4pm to 7pm** at Gallery Forget-Me-Not (31 E. Main St. Carnegie, PA) as we gather to sew, knit, and crochet hats and scarves for those in need. We need folks to cut out patterns, assemble, sew, knit, and crochet. Aren't a crafter? Join us for fellowship. Can't join us that night? You can create on your own and donate finished items. We also need donations to purchase fabric, yarn and pay for mailing.

Finished items will be sent to a Native American reservation where warm items are desperately needed. For more information contact Kathleen at kganster@verizon.net, 412-377-8364 or Laura at Istuart@nfhcs.org or 724-674-8856.

St. Paul's, in partnership with our Nursery school and several other local faith communities, is **hosting anti-racism educator Dr. Ali Michael** the weekend of **February 19-20** to share about "Becoming the Beloved Community."

Dr. Ali Michael returns to her hometown of Mt. Lebanon for several presentations focused on building and sustaining a healthy multiracial community. She will hold several sessions:

- For **Faith Communities on Saturday 2/19 at 3 pm**, located at Bower Hill Presbyterian Church (more information [here](#))
 - For **St. Paul's parishioners at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Sunday 2/20 at 9:45am** (more information [here](#))
 - For the **South Hills Community on Sunday, 2/20 at 6:30pm**, located at Mt. Lebanon High School (more information about this event [here](#); read about this session in Mount Lebanon Magazine [here](#).)
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Requested Prayers

We pray for our beloved members of St. Brendan's, especially; Bill Spoonhoward, Megan Overby, Jim Harpst, Alice Butterworth, Sandy Nagy, Matthew, Jim Gray, Mary, Mark Shoemaker, Larry Tarrant, Mark Kinley.

We pray for our parents, especially; Fred and Diane Davis, Kenneth and Adele McCormack, Sandy Martin, Ray Militzer, Naomi Getty and Lenora.

We pray for our family members, especially; Steve Parsons, Sue Burchill, Mike Dixon, John Barie, Tom Groves, Raphael Walton, Chris Sensenich, Linda Ahlbrand, Marie Hazelton, Nathan Schlumpf, David Pingree, Bob Keihl and Robert Donato.

And for our friends, especially; Bill Phelps, Dennis Ranalli, Becky Horton, Tom & Betty Norris, Sherri Hilbert, Joan Gonzales, Heather and Dan Houle.

St. Brendan's Episcopal Church would like to thank, and request your prayers for, the following. 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.

Kimberly Becker	Maddie Bell	Sheila Bigelow	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	Chris Fleissner	Amanda Gagnon	Jeff Gagnon	Betsy Gentile
Lynne Gloor	Ann Hockenberry	Beth Lutz Hoffman	Eric Hood	John Jacobs and staff
Kerri Jensen	Dr. Ken Judson	Abby Montgomery	Luke O'Neill	Kim Pierce
Becca Sands	Warren Sands	Andrew Smith	Cindy Jennifer	Julie
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.



February 2022 Ministry Calander

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Greeters	Usher	Vestry	Hospitality
February 2 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
February 6 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 George Snyder 1 st Alan Schneider 2 nd Donna Aiello P Mary Bertucci <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	Sylvia Affleck Libby Juel	n/a	Joyce Donadee Saundy Waseleski Tom Waseleski	Mike Wick Donna Aiello	Cameron Grosh	Postponed
February 9 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
February 13 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves 1 st Tony Turo 2 nd John Appledorn P Tony Turo <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	Joan Klinefelter Anelisa Tarrant	n/a	Toni Passarello Kate Heston John Appledorn	Tim Austin Allyson Baiert	Donna Aiello	Postponed
February 16 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
February 20 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Nancy Snyder 1 st Linda Limberis 2 nd Marilyn Mulvihill P John Appledorn <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	Shari Tarrant Ellen Groves	n/a	Megan Overby Tim Austin Dean Peters	Eric Helmsen Kate Heston	Ron Ladick	Postponed
February 23 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
February 27 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am Children's Sunday, 4th	8 Sylvia Affleck 1 st (Children) 2 nd (Children) P (Children)	Tammy Spoonhoward Phoebe Juel	n/a	Allyson Baiert Kate Heston Annemarie Malbon	Dale Bertucci Anthony Bertucci	Mary Bertucci	Postponed



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: Cameron Grosh
Jr. Wardens: Donna Aiello & Ron Ladick
Adult Formation: John Appledorn
Audio-Visual Technology: Sean Sweeney
Communication: Sean Sweeney
Finance: Mary Bertucci
Fundraising: Kate Heston & Lauren Ramakrishna
Inreach & Hospitality: Kate Heston
Newcomers: Kate Heston
Outreach: Donna Aiello
Safety & Security: **Ron Ladick**
Secretary/Clerk: Lauren Ramakrishna
Stewardship: **TBD**
Worship: Neil Galone
Treasurer: Roger Botti
Assistant Treasurer: Ellen Groves

WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS

Acolytes: Anelisa Tarrant
Altar Guild: Anelisa Tarrant
Flower Ministry: Libby Juel
Sylvia Affleck
Scheduler: Kelli Cerra
Ushers: Eric Helmsen

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY LEADERS

Audit: Kevin Boyd
Book Club: Chris Botti
Book Discussion Club: Julie Smith
Brendan's Boots: Tom Waseleski
Dinner Group: Janice Moore
Finance Chair: Mary Bertucci
Green Thumb Gang: Dan Moore
Historian: Ellen Groves
Holiday Arts & Crafts & Cookie Walk: Karen Dennis
Memorial Garden: Dan Moore
Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich
Rental: George Snyder
Scholarship: TBD
Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis
Debbie Jennings
Web Site: Kelli Cerra
Annemarie Malbon

OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS

Adopt-A-Highway: Tom Waseleski
CRIES Advocacy: Ellen Groves
ESL: Tim Austin
Joyce Donadee
Garden of Hope: Open
Justice Ministry: Ginny Volponi
Miryam's: Julia Wick
North Hills Food Banks: Ruth Horton & Donna Aiello

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 8:00-3:00
Web Site ~ <http://www.stbrendans.org>

Online Parish Directory ~ <https://www.stbrpit.com/> (authorization required for access--apply online)

Facebook ~ <https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/>

Nextdoor ~ <https://franklinparkpittsburgh.nextdoor.com/pages/st-brendans-episcopal-church-sewickley-pa/recommend/>

Priest, Bill Pugliese ~ wjpugliese@aol.com

Youth Education Director, Julie Smith ~ jlsphone1@gmail.com

Deacon, Darrell Johnson ~ johnsdj31@verizon.net

Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ StBrendansKatie@gmail.com

Music Director, Daniel May ~ bluesub@verizon.net