



In the Garden that Grows St. Brendan's

At a recent lunch with an old friend on a beautiful day, I was talking about some of St. Brendan's Sunday School activities. Just then it occurred to me that the school year is quickly winding down. Wow! Where did these months go? As with many educational programs, it's time to start planning for next year.



During a Sunday School class on Palm Sunday, I had one of those "teaching moments" that parents and teachers like to talk about. I was amazed by the attentiveness of the children that day. They were listening to a long story that covered the major events of Holy Week. You could hear a pin drop as I was reading. All eyes were on the pictures in the book, and all ears were on the words they were hearing. There was a little fidgeting, a little movement, but just a little. The questions flowed afterward. Think about it: Holy Week is filled with intrigue, mystery, a setting like no other. The characters are many — Jesus sharing a meal, soldiers on the prowl, disciples asleep in the garden, villains, townspeople, even a donkey and a rooster.

The story flows from one scene to another. The kids loved it. What did I witness among them as I read and we discussed? Engagement, curiosity, making connections, sharing, questioning, wondering — all essential to learning. This is what happens during Sunday School. What didn't happen that day? We ran out of time to complete a related craft. Oh, well! They all chose to take it home. I felt (and hope) that the kids left that day better prepared to interpret the events of Holy Week in a way that made sense to them.

So, what does Sunday School look like and sound like these days?

- Mother Robin blessing children and sending them off to class to learn about God each week
- The clump of feet and lots of chatter as kids make their way to and from classrooms
- Quiet moments as children listen to or read Bible stories and passages
- Hands in the air as the kids wait their turn to share thoughts and questions
- Noisy times as they work on activities to demonstrate what they've learned
- "Can we look through the books?" "Where's the big book of pop-up Bible stories?" "What are we making today?" "Don't forget to take your project with you." "We brought pancake mix for the food bank. I love pancakes." "Is my work on the bulletin board?" "Can we come back next week?"
- Smiles, funny comments, laughter
- Little kids and big kids, on the altar and in the aisles, taking on important roles in the monthly children's worship service
- Children working together and learning the importance of community service
- Pizza and games during occasional get-togethers outside the classroom

This is just a snippet of what you see in our Sunday School program. In many ways it's like a garden. Start with rich soil, add sunshine and rain, and you can have a field of great abundance. And it's good not just for the individual plants that sprout up, but also for the bigger landscape that is St. Brendan's. At its root, it's kids becoming aware of their place in God's kingdom and in our community. But this is also a garden with growth potential for the wider church.

What does St. B.'s need to give our children the foundation to grow their faith? We need teachers. You don't need to be a Bible scholar or experienced teacher to join the ranks. What you need is your own belief in God, a willingness to share it with a great group of kids, and an enjoyment of children. We can provide the rest: curriculum, materials, ideas, guidance. You pick the Sundays on which you're able to teach. You pick how often you teach.

What do you get out of it? You make new friends. You feel good about what you've given to children that day. You get to see God's world through the eyes of a child. By being part of the children and youth team, you help to ensure the continuation of our faith, our church, our community.

We'll begin planning — and planting — soon for next year's Sunday School garden. Please talk to Annemarie, Allison, or Saundy about helping as a teacher. We need you. St. Brendan's needs you. Our kids need you to grow in faith.

**Blessings,
Saundy Waseleski**



A donation was given to **the BFF, Brendan's Family & Friends fund in loving memory of Judy Appeldorn**, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of her passing on April 20, 2019, from John Appeldorn.

Game Night At St. Brendan's - Join us on **Friday, May 17 at 6:30** for a night of board games and fun. Bring a snack to share. Board games and drinks will be provided. If you have a favorite board game, bring it along! Games available will be: Ticket to Ride, Camel Up, Sushi Go, Point Salad, Abduktion, and more. Contact Kate Heston at kmheston71@gmail.com for more details.

Thank you to everyone who supported the t-shirt sale. We raised over \$350 for St. Brendan's. We ordered some extra t-shirts, so if you missed the sale and you would like to get one please contact Kate Heston at kmheston71@gmail.com. We have adult sizes small thru extra large available.

St. Brendan's Book Club will meet on **Monday, May 6 at 1 pm** in the library. We'll discuss My Life in France by Julia Child. All are welcome! Upcoming titles:



- June 3: Did Ye Hear Mammy Died by Seamas O'Reilly
- July 1: An Invisible Thread by Laura Schroff
- August 5: The Wager by David Grann
- Sept. 9: The Heaven and Earth Grocery Story by James McBride (Note postponed due to Labor Day on Sept 2)

Note book club friends suggest getting on the library waiting list right away for August and September titles as both are very popular. Contact Anne Semmler (annegsemmler@gmail.com) with any questions.



North Hills Food Bank- For the month of April, we are focusing on collecting breakfast item such as cereal, pancake mix, syrup, muffin mix, and juice boxes. All other donations are gladly accepted. Please be sure there is no glass, and the expiration dates are not past. Thank you.

Children and Youth



- **Sunday, April 21:** Children will meet with Daniel, our music director, immediately after the service. They will practice a song that will be sung during the service on April 28. Links to the music were sent by Annemarie to parents in an email this week.
 - **Sunday, April 28:** Children's Worship Service. There will be no Sunday School classes that day. The children will participate in various ways in the service. Bishop Ketlen will be visiting that day. There will be a short music practice with the children before the service. Please arrive by 9:45. More information regarding readings, duties, etc. will be sent by Annemarie.
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CHANGED Notice about Stewards. For a couple of weeks, we have been calling for volunteers to serve as "stewards" on Sunday mornings. One person has stepped forward, and I am grateful to him for doing so. But we need a few more recruits if the program is to be sustainable. One obstacle may be that stewards have usually served for both the 8:00 and the 10:00 services on the day that they were assigned -- certainly a significant allocation of time. It has therefore been suggested that we should accept stewards who serve for only one of the two services on a given day. Clearly, we will need to "pair" that person with another who is willing to cover the other liturgy. If such a "shared" arrangement would make it possible for you to serve, please talk to Tim Austin (508-688-9554, austover@gmail.com).



St. Brendan's Scholarships. The parish invites church members who will be enrolled in college, technical school, or other post-secondary education in fall 2024 to apply for a St. Brendan's Scholarship. New and renewal applications are welcome. Grants are awarded on the basis of a person's years of participation and attendance in St. Brendan's services and activities. Guidelines and applications, which must be received by the church no later than **Saturday, May 1**, are available at the following link: <https://forms.gle/EqFsRVvFZVhXAceK9>. Launched in 1996 by a parishioner, the late Dorsey Doddroe, the scholarship fund has awarded 79 grants to 31 students. The program is sustained by the generosity of St. Brendan's members, and donations may be made to the fund at any time.

Justice Ministry Events



We are working to improve our current recycling process, but we need help from all of you. There will be recycling bins specifically labelled for clean paper at the doors of the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall. Bins for glass, tin cans, and plastic bottles will be in the kitchen. All other items should go into the general trash cans. Please be careful when disposing of your trash, and make sure it goes into the correct container. Any larger corrugated cardboard boxes can be left in the kitchen and will be taken to the Franklin Park collection site.

Thank you for your help with this project.

**End Gun Violence:
PA Advocacy Day**

Tuesday, May 7, 2024
PA State Capitol Harrisburg

CEASEFIREPA



Last year, 500 Pennsylvanians descended on Harrisburg, demanding an end to gun violence. Soon after, the first bipartisan policies in years passed the PA House. Please join us on **Tuesday, May 7**, as they continue their life-saving work. **CeaseFirePA** has two busses going to Harrisburg, one leaving from St. Paul's Methodist in the North Hills and the other from Station Square. Both busses will be leaving at 5:30am sharp that morning

and returning to Pittsburgh early evening.

To register, go to <https://act.ceasefirepa.org/a/advocacyday24?ms=homepage>. If you have questions, please contact, please contact Marilyn Mulvihill (mimi15143@yahoo.com) or Donna Aiello (donna.aiello@forecastdirect.com).

It's time to face the truth, **gun violence isn't random or inevitable**. Our system is **Deadly by Design**.

Join us **April 25 at 7 pm** for a screening of **Deadly by Design**, a story telling film where gun violence survivors explain how policy failures lead to their tragedies. We will learn how we can shift the narrative on gun violence to insure we are safer.

Light refreshments will be served.

For more information contact Marilyn at mimi15143@yahoo.com.



Please turn your **"Help the Homeless"** mite boxes in!

Thank you to all who have followed the Lenten "Help the Homeless" calendar and filled their mite boxes. Please remember to bring them to church by next week so the Bishop can bless them when she is here; the money will then be counted and sent to Outreached Arms, a non-profit for the homeless.

If you have not taken part in this Lenten project and would still like to help, you can drop a check, made out to Outreached Arms, in the blue container. Questions? Contact Donna Aiello at donna.aiello@forecastdirect.com.

Prayer Requests

We pray for our beloved members of St. Brendan's, especially: Allison, Avery and Eli Kline, Jean Pett-Ridge, Ruth Haider, Matthew, Jim Gray, Nancy Bancroft, Kelli Cerra, Dave Miller, Alice Butterworth, Bill Spoonhoward, Jean Skwarecki, Joan Beatrous, Ruth Haider, Charlotte Pierce, Rosie Wood, Sherri Angeletti, Judy McKarnin, Margie Davies, Linda Schneider, Larry Tarrant, Nancy Snyder, Joyce Donadee, Mark Shoemaker.

For our parents, especially: Ken McCormack, Margaret Nagel. Ray Militzer, Lenora, Diane Davis.

For our family members, especially: Neil Amor, Carol and Guy Estes, Tom Groves, Pat Schulze, Jack Connifey, Bee Ward, Rich, Sierra Reckley, Carol Broskey, David Pingree, A-C, Nathan Schlumpf, Joann, Frank Nagy, Pat Shields, Ann & Ben Kirkpatrick, John, Sue Burchill, Jay & A, Margaret and Lawrence Czerpak, Rosalie & Geoff Wood, Carol Schmitz, Bob Kiehl, Robert Donato, Christian, Paula Watson, Marie Hazelton,

For our friends, especially: Mike Colavita, Ellen Kuntz, The Sammaroco family, Terri Hockenberry, The Silveira family, Laurie, Jordon Medlin, Ruth C., Connie Geiger, Vivian, Cindy & Bob Getty, Ron Neurohr, Patty Herrington, Pat Reiner, Nancy Baker, Josh, Phil & Bernice Bollman, Juliana Moses.

We pray for all who have died, especially Justine Sammaroco and Bob Flynn.

If you know someone who would like a visit from Mtr. Robin, please email her at robin@stbrendans.org.



April Ministry Calendar 2024

Date	Lectors	Sunday School	Nursery	Altar Guild	Greeters	Ushers	Steward	Vestry	Hospitality
April 7 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous 1 st Tim Austin 2 nd Sandy Nagy P Paul Quinn	Lambs Saundy Waseleski FISH Allison Kline Door keeper Susan Shields	Liz MacDonald Dawn day-Quinn	Ellen Groves Phoebe Juel	Saundy Waseleski Tom Waseleski	Kate Heston Donna Aiello	Linda Limberis	John Appledorn	Sharon Hlawati Donna Aiello
April 14 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 George Snyder 1 st Tim Austin 2 nd Kate Heston P Tony Turo	Lambs Saundy Waseleski FISH Michael Waseleski Door keeper	Liz MacDonald Pat Carl	Joan Kleinfelter Barb Fure	Sue Wimmer Derek Wimmer Donna Aiello	Mary Bertucci Dale Bertucci	n/a	Tom Waseleski	Megan & Tim
April 21 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Johanna Rengers 1 st Derek Wimmer 2 nd Ann Vinski P Ann Vinski	Lambs Saundy Waseleski FISH Allison Kline Door keeper Ellen Groves	Liz MacDonald Susan Shields	Sylvia Affleck Janice Moore	Annemarie Malbon Annie Koch	Allyson Baierl Dan Moore	John Appledorn	Dan Moore	Megan & Tim
April 28 One service at 10:00 am Children's Service	1 st Children 2 nd Children P Mary Bertucci	Children's Worship No Sunday School	Liz MacDonald Molly Kirk	Dottie Antonucci Anelisa Tarrant	Toni Passarello John Appledorn	Children Linda Limberis	Tim Austin	Frances Harpst	Kathy & Dave Miller

May Ministry Calendar 2024

Date	Lectors	Sunday School	Nursery	Altar Guild	Greeters	Ushers	Stewards	Vestry	Hospitality
May 5 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 1 st Marilyn Mulvihill 2 nd Linda Limberis P Mary Bertucci	Lambs FISH Door keeper	Liz MacDonald	Tammy Spoonhoward Phoebe Juel		Kate Heston Donna Aiello	Tim Austin	Richard Munsch	
May 12 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Sylvia Affleck 1 st Tony Turo 2 nd Cindy Koszarek P Kate Heston	Lambs FISH Door keeper	Liz MacDonald	Ellen Groves Anelisa Tarrant		Dan Moore TBD	John Appledorn	Sandy Nagy	
May 19 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous 1 st Mary Bertucci 2 nd Sandy Nagy P John Appledorn	Lambs FISH Door keeper	Liz MacDonald	Sylvia Affleck Barb Fure		Mary Bertucci Dale Bertucci	Mike or Julia Wick	Melanie Popovich	
May 26 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am Children's Service	8 George Snyder 1 st Children 2 nd Children P Donna Aiello	Children's Worship No Sunday School	Liz MacDonald	Joan Kleinfelter Kathy Miller		Children John Appledorn	Tim Austin	Kate Heston	



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: Dan Moore
Adult Formation: John Appeldorn
Communication/Technology: Sandy Nagy
Children & Youth: John Appeldorn
Finance: Frances Harpst
Fundraising: Frances Harpst
Inreach & Hospitality: Kate Heston
Membership: Melanie Popovich
Pastoral Care: Melanie Popovich
Outreach: Richard Munsch
Secretary/Clerk: Kate Heston
Worship: Neil Galone
Treasurer: Kevin Boyd

WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS

Acolyte: Anelisa Tarrant
Altar Guild: Anelisa Tarrant
Flower Ministry: Libby Juel & Sylvia Affleck
Greeter: Donna Aiello
Lector: Ann Vinski
Scheduler: Kelli Cerra
Spirituality: Donna Aiello

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY LEADERS

Audit: TBD
Book Club: Anne Semmler
Brendan's Boots: Tom Waseleski
Bulletin Coordinators: Pat Carl & Carol Meese
Dinner Group: Janice Moore
Fiber Crafting Club: Sherri Angeletti
Finance Chair: Lauren Ramakrishna
Historian: Ellen Groves
Holiday Happenings/Cookie Walk: Donna Aiello
Memorial Garden: John Appeldorn
Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich
Rental: Marilyn Mulvihill
Scholarship: Allison Kline~Ann Vinski~Mike Wick
Web Site: Kelli Cerra

OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS

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

WEEKLY AT ST. BRENDAN'S

Sunday: 8:00 am Worship, in person
11:00 am Worship, in person and live streaming
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew

Monday: 8:00 am Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom, Monday thru Friday
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83591825912?pwd=a3BGcCswanE1OFFXaVBWbDBYRGM1UT09>
9:00 am Katie office hours till 1:00 pm
10:00 am Modern Episcopalian, via zoom

Tuesday: 9:00 am Katie office hours till 1:00 pm
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: 9:00 am Katie office hours till 1:00 pm
1:00 pm Mother Robin office hours till 5:00 pm
6:00 pm Midweek Eucharist

Thursday: 1:00 pm Katie office hours till 3:00 pm
11:00 am Mother Robin office hours till 4:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am Katie office hours till 1:00 pm

ST. BRENDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2365 McAleer Road, Sewickley, PA 15143
Phone ~ 412-364-5974

Web Site ~ <http://www.stbrendans.org>

Online Parish Calendar ~ <https://www.stbrendans.org/calendar>

Online Parish Directory ~ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1By4bzW6dJ2AwwZVlmlqjcQ4WFAynP16D/view?usp=sharing>
(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-in-Charge, Mother Robin Jarrell ~ Robin@stbrendans.org

Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ Katie@stbrendans.org

Deacon, Rev. Darrell Johnson ~ darrell@stbrendans.org

Music Director, Daniel May ~ bluesub@verizon.net

Nursery Director, Liz MacDonald ~ Liz702988@gmail.com

Vestry ~ Vestry@stbrendans.org