



This Week at St. Brendan's

Sunday	(1-12)	8:00 a.m.	Worship
		9:00 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
		9:00 a.m.	Brother's Brother Ministry
		9:00 a.m.	Hospitality Hour
		10:00 a.m.	Worship
		10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
		11:30 a.m.	Hospitality Hour
Monday	(1-13)	11:00 a.m.	Be a Modern Episcopalian
		1:30 p.m.	International Bible Study
		7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday	(1-14)	7:00 a.m.	AA meeting
		10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
		10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday	(1-15)	7:00 p.m.	Worship Service
		7:00 p.m.	Conversation Friends
		7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
		7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	(1-16)	10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
Friday	(1-17)	5:30 p.m.	Sliding into Sabbath
Saturday	(1-18)	9:00 a.m.	Sacristans

Serving Sunday, January 12, 2020

Celebrant:		The Rev. Regis Smolko
Lay Reader:	8 a.m.	Joe Macklin
	10 a.m.	Debbie Wunsche
Acolyte:		Acolyte team
Welcome Table:		Megan Overby
		Tom Waseleski
Prayers:		Darrell Johnson
Chalice Bearers:		Janice Moore
		Darrell Johnson
Altar Guild:		Ellen Groves
		Anelisa Tarrant
Sunday School Lambs:		TBD
	Fish:	Sandra Waseleski
	Door:	Mary Bertucci
Nursery:		Stephanie Illsley
		Silvia Bertucci
Ushers:		Chris Fleissner
		Eric Helmsen
Vestry:		Janice Moore
Hospitality:		The Bertucci Family
Steward:		Tim Austin
LEM:		Ruth Getz

The Priest's Corner

Catechisms and Covenants

This Sunday is the baptism of Jesus. Traditionally, churches renew baptismal vows or, if there are candidates, we have baptisms. It is a joyous day and one that allows us to recall what our obligations are as Christians. The Modern Episcopalian class and the Bible study group both discussed our obligations, but in somewhat different ways last week. So, how are we working our side of our covenant with God?

In the Modern Episcopalian class, we began the Catechism and had an interesting discussion about the section on God the Father, especially the questions:

Q. What does this mean about our place in the universe?

A. It means that the world belongs to its creator, and that we are called to enjoy it and to care for it in accordance with God's purpose.

Q. What does this mean about human life?

A. It means that all people are worthy of respect and honor because all are created in the image of God and all can respond to the love of God.

From these questions, our discussion turned to the recent earthquake in Puerto Rico and the fires in Australia. How are we being stewards of the earth given to us by God? Listening to the news about the fires in Australia, I feel almost like the fires are out of control but also that it is a siren call to action – just as the earthquake in Puerto Rico is a call to action. This makes me ask, I know these are two examples, but are we abusing creation rather than enjoying it?

The next question in our Catechism is about human life, and our conversation turned to the Middle East (which also came up in Bible Study). How do we respond with respect and honor when we attack people in that region? How do we engage in conversation, discuss our concern, work out our problems if power is our reply? In Bible study we discussed Romans 14 where Paul is explaining the new covenant – how to treat those who are different from you in how they eat, how they pray, how they behave. And Paul's reply is:

Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of another ... The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and has human approval. Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. (Romans 14: 13, 18-19)

This week as we renew our Baptismal Covenant, we will be asked several questions that follow the conversations in these classes, questions Christians wrestle with and wonder about and try to fulfill.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

I think we come to church to find what "with God's help" means for us so that we can serve God together. We renew our covenant with God to remind us that we do have God's help in hard times, that the choice to live in love or live in fear is ours to make and with God living in love is the best choice. That is what Paul is reminding us with his call to pursue peace.

**Peace,
Julie+**



Sticks & Strings will meet **TONIGHT, Thursday, January 9, at 7 p.m.**, first one of the new year! Try a new project! Feel free to bring a friend. See you then. Contact Joni Reis with questions. joan_reis@yahoo.com.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Speaker Series. Ken Gormley, president of Duquesne University, author and constitutional scholar, will speak on "Watergate, the Clinton Scandals and Impeachment in the Age of Trump" on **Thursday, January 16, at 7 p.m.** Doors will open at 6 p.m. for drinks and appetizers. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

Help us to make this the most successful Speaker Series appearance yet. Please join us.

ANNUAL MEETING

You're invited to attend **St. Brendan's Annual Meeting** Sunday, January 26, after the 10 a.m. service. Parishioners will elect three new vestry members, hear Regis' priorities for 2020, receive an overview of parish finances and have a chance to ask questions. You can enjoy St. Brendan's usual, sumptuous hospitality during this important meeting. Also:

- **All ministry leaders** should email to Katie a year-end summary of their group's activities by January 13. These will be included in the annual report that will be emailed to the congregation prior to the Annual Meeting. Upon request, a copy of last year's report for the Annual Meeting can be e-mailed to you by contacting Katie stbrendans@comcast.net.

- **To help with the January 26 hospitality, all members are asked to please bring** either soup or a salad or desert.

- **Three candidates – Donna Aiello, Mary Bertucci and Cameron Grosh** – have stepped forward for election to the vestry at the Annual Meeting. Their brief bios appear below. Parishioners are still free to nominate other candidates or nominate themselves.

DONNA AIELLO – I am excited about the possibility of representing the congregation of St. Brendan's as a vestry member. A little about me ...

Family: My partner Sharon and I have been together 22 years. I have two daughters, both married, and four grandchildren. I am blessed with a wonderful family!

Spiritual: I attended a Roman Catholic church for 45 years. After leaving there and searching for a new spiritual home, I found St. David's Episcopal. I really appreciated the church and congregation. When I moved to the North Hills, I was referred to St. Brendan's. It didn't take long to feel completely at home here; it became my second family. Currently, I am on the Worship Committee and co-chair the Justice Ministry. I am also a greeter; I participate in the Merry Meal Makers and I attend the Monday class studying "The Episcopal Handbook."

Work: I have co-owned my own direct marketing agency for the past 30 years. I have a strong work ethic and have been blessed with amazing clients.

I feel I will be an asset to the vestry. My hope is to continue to have our church be a community where ALL are welcome to experience God's grace in their lives. I want to help our church grow in love, kindness, acceptance and, of course, numbers! I believe anything is possible!

MARY BERTUCCI – I grew up on the North Side of Pittsburgh and was raised as a Catholic by Italian immigrant parents, attending Catholic schools in the city. I moved to Chicago to attend Loyola University, where I met my husband Dale. After getting married and having two children, we relocated to Wexford about 10 years ago so that our children could grow up near their cousins.

We found St. Brendan's not long after that while looking for a new church community that better aligned with our faith and world views. We later became confirmed members of the Episcopal Church along with our two children, Silvia (14) and Anthony (12).

Professionally, I've worked in the financial services industry my whole career and am currently a marketing and brand strategy manager at Bank of America.

I teach Sunday school at St. Brendan's and enjoy helping with various parish events, such as the Cookie Walk. We appreciate the opportunities that St. Brendan's provides to teach our children what it means to be good Christians, especially through the examples set by our members.

CAMERON GROSH – I first came to St. Brendan's in January 2017. As many know, I came at a time during which factors in my personal life made it difficult for me to feel comfortable in a church. However, the warm welcome I received that day made it clear to me that St. Brendan's was different from the churches I had experienced in the past. The members of St. Brendan's have become my second family and my support system through many big changes in my life that have taken place over these past two years.

I've had the pleasure of being involved with the Rite 13 group and getting to learn from some of the bright young minds we have here at St. Brendan's, as well as the opportunity to serve on a few committees. I am honored and excited by the opportunity to continue to give back to this community through service on the vestry.

Over my couple of years here, I've seen many new faces come to call St. Brendan's home as I have. I look forward to playing a role in ensuring that St. Brendan's continues to be a place that more and more people will want to call their home as well.



A big thank you to 8 o'clockers Ellen Groves, Joan and Paul Klinefelter, Dottie Antonucci, Pat Carl, Marcy Little, and Miryam's coordinator Chris Botti for preparing a delicious calico bean dinner with coleslaw, fruit salad, cheddar biscuits and homemade brownies. Thanks also to the Lattas for delivering the meal.



St. Brendan's Justice Committee is looking for new members who are interested in making a difference by working for equality, justice and transformation. Our projects include immigration, voter registration, collections for Haiti, gun violence prevention and the climate crisis. Typically, we meet the third Wednesday of every month from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Donna Aiello at 412-759-1521 or Claire Grotevant at 412-974-0617.



Brendan's Boots. The parish hiking group will take its first trek of the new year on the Panhandle Trail in Collier Twp. on **Saturday, Jan. 25**. Participants will meet at the church at 9 a.m., then carpool to the trailhead. After the walk, the group will enjoy lunch at LeoGreta in Carnegie. Everyone welcome; feel free to bring a friend. For more info, please contact Tom Waseleski, twaseleski@comcast.net.

Sliding into Sabbath, a weekly soup and discussion space for us to end our work week and begin our Sabbath will continue on Fridays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., in the Social Hall. Contact Julie by e-mail jlsphone1@gmail.com if you are interested or have any questions.

If you have a change/addition you'd like to make to the **Ministry Calendar**, please contact Janice Moore at chicago@zoominternet.net. She is planning to print more. Thank you.



Volunteer Program. Do you have a skill or talent you'd like to share? Would you like to see if you're the perfect fit to volunteer at St. Brendan's? (Spoiler alert – you are!) Have you ever thought, "I wish St. Brendan's would do that!"? Maybe you'd like to make some phone calls now and then. Maybe you'd like to organize a tap-dance ministry. Maybe you have an hour or two a week to do some word processing from home. Whatever your gifts, we're looking to use them. Dust off your tap shoes, limber up your typing fingers, and send us your brainstorming ideas – notes and sentence fragments welcome – to help us get started creating some volunteer job descriptions.

Send your email with "Volunteer" in the subject line to Debra Hvisdak: dkhvis@gmail.com.



Grocery Cards! Before you head to Giant Eagle or Kuhns, be sure to buy a grocery card at St. Brendan's! Did you know that our church earns 5% for each grocery card that we sell? Basically, if you eat, you can raise funds for St. Brendan's! It's easy! Just visit the vestry member who is selling grocery cards in the narthex each Sunday, buy a grocery card for Kuhns and/or Giant Eagle, then go shopping. Cards are also available during office hours. Thanks for your support of the easiest fundraiser in town! Happy New Year!

CRIES 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 the parish's outreach tithe each month. Each person present has an equal voice and vote on where the money goes. This week we are praying for the work of Allies for Health & Wellbeing, (formerly the AIDS Task Force) a local organization that provides comprehensive treatment and support to those living with HIV. The next CRIES meeting will be **Sunday, January 19**. All are welcome.

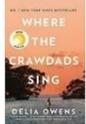
North Hills Food Pantry. We are asking for packaged food donations to help needy families. Please remember, no glass jars. If you have any questions, contact Larry Toler, ldtoler@aol.com. Thank you for your support.



Need a gift for someone who has everything? Would you like to acknowledge or remember a loved one on a birthday or anniversary? A donation to the **Brendan's Family and Friends (BFF) fund** is the perfect way to honor that special person or event now or anytime throughout the year. BFF funds are earmarked for our unbudgeted building needs. Please pick up a BFF card in the narthex or from our website and donate today! Thank you for making a difference at St. Brendan's by becoming a BFF donor!



Get Ready for Our Book Sale! The holidays are over and it is time to look ahead to our upcoming book sale fundraiser on **Friday, February 21, and Saturday, February 22**. Please start saving your books to donate for this sale. We need as many as we can gather, so please ask your family and friends for their book donations, too! Books can be brought to church beginning February 9, so feel free to tell everyone you know to put aside new or gently used books, CDs, DVDs and audio tapes. No need to save magazines, encyclopedias, textbooks, VHS or music cassette tapes as these items will not be sold at this event. Please see Chris Botti or Saundy Waseleski for more information. Thanks so much for your support of St. Brendan's!



Book Club has been watching the Northland Public Library reserve list, and you finally can get Delia Owens' "Where the Crawdads Sing" without waiting months for it to come in! Join us to discuss this evocative debut novel about a child growing up practically on her own in the wild marshes outside a small coastal community in North Carolina. We'll be meeting **Thursday, February 6, at 7 p.m.** in the church library. For more information contact Pat Carl pkarrcarl@gmail.com.

Second Truck for Haiti: We are resuming our donations for Haiti. The first truck has finally reached its destination for distribution. Isaac Mondelus, our parishioner from Haiti, now has an additional truck that we need to help fill for a possible January departure. Items requested are sewing machines, light-weight clothing (no sweaters or extra-large sizes), bicycles, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toiletries and school supplies (pens, pencils, notebooks, sharpeners, etc). Isaac and the Justice Ministry gratefully appreciate any help you can give.



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

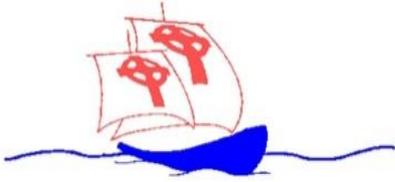
Please visit our website: <http://www.stbrendans.org>
Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/>
Recommend us on Nextdoor: <https://nextdoor.com/pages/st-brendans-episcopal-church-sewickley-pa/recommend/>



Do you have a special prayer request? You can write one and leave it on the prayer plate by Regis' office. On Sunday those prayers are offered up to God during the 8 a.m. service. Each week they are collected by the Community of Hope and added to their daily prayers. You can also email prayer requests to stbrendans.coh@gmail.com. Community of Hope 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.

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. 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.

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



January 2020

Ministry calendar

Date	Lectors	Welcome Table	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Nursery	Usher	Vestry	Steward	Hospitality
January 1 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Ellen Groves		Tammy Spoonhoward	~	~	~	~	~	~
January 5 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous L Annemarie Malbon P Sheila Bigelow C Stacey Coyle C Tim Austin LEM Joyce Donadee	Libby Juel Phoebe Juel	Terry Dezort Betsy Smith	Lambs Allison Kline Fish Sylvia Affleck Door TBD	Stephanie Illsley Sarika Sethia	Joyce & Michael Donadee	Larry Toler	Rob Latta	Karen Dennis Janet Fesq
January 8 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Alan Schneider	~	Linda Schneider	~	~	~	~	~	~
January 12 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joe Macklin L Debbie Wunsche P Darrell Johnson C Darrell Johnson C Janice Moore LEM Ruth Getz	Megan Austin Tom Waseleski	Ellen Groves Anelisa Tarrant	Lambs TBD Fish Saundra Waseleski Door Mary Bertucci	Stephanie Illsley Silvia Bertucci	Chris Fleissner Eric Helmsen	Janice Moore	Tim Austin	Mary & Dale Bertucci
January 15 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Sylvia Affleck	~	Sylvia Affleck	~	~	~	~	~	~
January 19 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 George Snyder L Alan Schneider P Tony Turo C Joyce Donadee C Michael Donadee LEM Ruth Horton	Donna Aiello Sharon Hlawati	Joan Klinefelter Janice Moore	Lambs TBD Fish Allison Kline Door TBD	Stephanie Illsley Annemarie Malbon	Brad Thompson Larry Toler	Ruth Horton	Dale Bertucci	Joyce & Michael Donadee
January 22 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Tammy Spoonhoward	~	Tammy Spoonhoward	~	~	~	~	~	~
January 26 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am Children's Sunday	8 Ellen Groves L Children P Children C Dean Peters C Debbie Wunsche LEM Darrell Johnson	Karen Peters Marge Marine	Tammy Spoonhoward Brigid Christenson	Children's Liturgy	Stephanie Illsley Libby Juel	Chris Fleissner Mike Wick	Annemarie Malbon	Eric Helmsen	Annual meeting soup ~ salad ~ dessert
January 29 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Ellen Groves	~	Ellen Groves	~	~	~	~	~	~

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 & Rodger Botti~~
- 16 ~~Gail Gil & Richard Gordon~~
- 23 ~~Anne Semmler and Cameron Grosh~~

March 2020

- 1 ~~Clair & Bob Grotevant~~
- 8 ~~Amy & Kevin Boyd~~
- 15 ~~Pete Sweet & Mike Newton~~
- 22 ~~Kate & Keith Heston~~
- 29 ~~Meghan & Robert Karn~~
~~Eric Helmsen~~

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

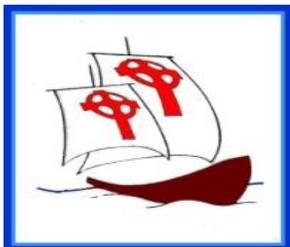
- 5 ~~Marilyn Mulvihill and Tim Michael~~
- 12 ~~open, volunteer needed~~
- 19 ~~open, volunteer needed~~
- 26 ~~Joni Reis and Thaddeus Popovich~~

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: Kelli Cerra
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich
Rental: George Snyder
Scholarship: Tom Waseleski
Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis
Debbie Jennings
Web Site: Kelli Cerra

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: Janice Moore
Newcomers: Dean Peters
Outreach: Larry Toler
Treasurer: Ellen Groves

WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS

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

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
Invite Welcome Connect: TBD
Miryam's: Julia Wick
Rob & George Latta
North Hills Food Bank Ministry: Larry Toler
Social Justice: Clair Grotevant
Marilyn Mulvihill
Under One Roof: Joyce Donadee
Jim Evanochko

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 Coordinator, Julie Smith ~ jlsphone1@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant, Katie Cervone ~ stbrendans@comcast.net
Musician, Erica Lin ~ hylerica@yahoo.com
Nursery Director, Stephanie Illsley ~ st3phyy2011@gmail.com