



Sunday, June 6, 2021

Celebrant: 10:00 a.m. The Rev. Regis Smolko

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 via live streaming https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew
- Monday:** 8:15 am Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom
<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://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
1:00 pm Bible-Lite Group
- Tuesday:** 7:00 am AA meeting, via zoom Dial in: 312-626-6799 Meeting Id:345 892 252
8:00 am Staff meeting, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
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>
6:00 pm Bible Study
- Wednesday:** 7:00 pm Evening Service
- Saturday:** 9:30 am Women's virtual Coffee Hour <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8944116431>

The Priest's Corner

It Could Never Happen to Us!

Every day there's a mass shooting in the United States—sometimes more than one. There's so much of it these days, I'm often numb—and feel like there's nothing that can be done. Then a reflection came through my Facebook feed from the mother of a child who was in lockdown in a for-real, active shooting in a mall. Then I realized it was a mall in Pittsburgh; and that the mother was our own Amy Boyd and the child was precious Zoe—the young girl we all know who's on her way to her teen years and who blesses our Sunday live streams with a solo every few months as a member of our virtual choir.

"It could never happen to us!" just changed. Now I know I can no longer let myself go down the tempting road of just "giving up" when it comes to gun violence. "The gun lobbyists are undefeatable!" I used to say. "No!" I now reply to myself. "I can't numb out! Yes! I can do something! We can do something!" We can keep aware and help others remain aware. You might recall that at St. Brendan's pre-pandemically we were about to hold an event in our churchyard. It was the T-shirt Project—one t-shirt on a cross for each person killed by useless, senseless gun violence in our county over the past year. All 120 crosses in our church yard to call out awareness of gun violence in our country, in our city. We must give this witness!

By sharing Amy's Facebook post with you, my hope is that it energizes you to stay aware and to help others do the same. Amy gave me permission to share this with you, so here's Amy's letter:

Yesterday I got the call that I always knew I would get some day. Zoe was at the mall with a friend. The phone rang and I thought she would be asking me something like whether it's OK for her to stay over at her friend's house. Nope, not a sleepover.

"Mama, there's a shooting at the mall!!! I'm hiding in a storage room at Hollister! I love you so much Mama!!! I love you I love you love you and I never really said goodbye when I left!!! Mama I'm scared!"

She put me on the phone with a stranger, another mom who was out shopping with her teenage daughter at Hollister and was hiding in the storage room as well. (if anyone knows of Sherry who happened to be hiding in the storage room at Hollister, please give her a giant hug and all the love from me for being with my daughter when she was scared). Sherry assured me that Zoe was safe and was with adults and that there was a back exit door, also the front entrance to the store was locked.

Zoe was hyperventilating as she does when she is scared so we talked through some breaths and I told her everything that I know to be true in these situations. Be quiet, hide, listen to the adults, silence your phone. Breathe in and out. Focus on breathing.

Fortunately, it was not a madman with a gun but a targeted incident between a small group of people. Zoe was never in danger, she and her friend are fine and everyone in the mall is fine. The incident really didn't even last that long. Of course when I got the initial call from the closet, I didn't know that and there was nothing on the news about it yet. That was a terrifying period of time where we had no idea what was going on.

Fortunately, and sadly, but yet fortunately, Zoe and her friend had some knowledge about what to do in an active shooter situation because they have drills in school. So I am grateful to Avonworth School District for teaching this skill set to our kids. I guess it's pointless to talk about what a shame it is that the schools need to teach this. We're so far past that. This is just the world we live in. Yes, I want the world to change but this isn't *only* about gun control. It is so much bigger than that.

My baby is traumatized but is home and sassy as ever and I'm not sure what the after effects will be for her but I am glad she is physically okay. I want to say that I hope that's the last time she has to hide in a closet for fear of an active shooter, but my optimism is running really low.

—Amy

Thank you, Amy, for allowing us to experience at least in part what so many people in our country experience daily. So glad your situation turned out the way it did. Even though this was not exactly the same as an active shooter looking to kill whoever's in his path, the feelings of a mother and a daughter in real time were the same. May we all get reinvigorated to do something to help stop gun violence before it's too late--perhaps even for some of us.

"It could never happen to us!" simply is not true.

—Regis



Brendan's Boots, the parish walking group, will return to the trail THIS Tuesday, June 8, after a long Covid layoff. Participants will gather at the church by 9 am, then carpool to the boathouse parking lot in North Park for a trek around the lake. Lunch will follow at the lakeside Over the Bar Bicycle Cafe. Everyone is welcome; feel free to bring a friend. For more info, please contact Tom Waseleski, twaseleski@comcast.net.

CRIES Advocacy (Christian Response In Emergency Situations), donates 10% of our pledged income. This week we are supporting the work of Episcopal Relief and Development. They receive the tithe from CRIES Advocacy to aid in support following natural disasters.



OUR NEXT FORUM: Tuesday, June 15 via a Zoom webinar -- **Equality, Identity and Hope: The Asian American Experience**. Our speaker is Cynthia Choi, Co-Founder of Stop Asian Hate. She is also Co-Executive Director of Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), a civil rights organization committed to protecting immigrant livelihoods, and fulfilling the promise of a multi-racial democracy. Ms. Choi has 20+ years of nonprofit leadership experience, leading campaigns on immigrant rights, violence prevention, and more. She will not only provide us with historical information about the embedded bias, but also the latest information on what is happening to Asian Americans in our country and what we can do.

To attend, email Katie at StBrendansKatie@gmail.com. For more information, go to www.stbrendans.org. Timely and worthwhile!



Annual Parish "Pic-in-ick" and Liturgy by the Lake 10:00 am, Sunday, June 20.

We could use a little help with . . .

- organizing food and drinks
- bringing and/or organizing COVID-appropriate games and activities for various age-groups
- assisting with set-up and tear-down

If you can help in any of these ways (or some way that we haven't listed—yet!), please contact Tim Austin at austover@gmail.com.

Here are some details, more will be coming soon.

- Eucharist will be celebrated 10:00 am at Latham Shelter.
- The picnic meal will follow the service.
- Please bring your own chair/s or blankets.
- We will respect everyone's personal judgement in respect to COVID 19.
- Those who prefer to bring and consume their own meals are welcome to do so.
- Kids are welcome.
- The 8:00 am Eucharist service will be held at church.
- There is no rain date scheduled.
- If the picnic is cancelled, you will be notified by 8:00 am. The 10:00 service will then be at St. Brendan's, minus live-streaming.

Children's Corner

Welcome to Ordinary Time

Is that a yawn I see? I mean ordinary sounds kind of dull, and boring, and not very exciting. There's no Christmas in Ordinary Time there is just SUMMER. And parks and fairs, and baseball, and swimming, and fireflies, cook outs with s'mores, and all the things that make summer really fun.



For me, when I was growing up, summer also meant family reunions. And I have a BIGGGGGGG family – so my six (6!) brothers and sisters, and my cousins, and my aunts and uncles and grandparents and great grand parents and great aunts and uncles from both sides of my family would all get together – and try to figure out who was related to whom and how. One summer, I just counted and there were more than 80 of us at the picnic.



This was really confusing – and to make things more confusing, I have four (4) Marys in my family; 2 Janets, and a lot of Charleys, Charles, or Chuckies. Not to mention Aunt Jean, Uncle Gene, a sister Sandy and a boy cousin Sandy. But you can see how I might get confused – especially when people started telling stories. So I gave up. I called anyone who seemed old to me Aunt or Uncle; really old people I called Grandmother or Grandfather (and some of my relatives were really old – my Great Grandfather was in his 90s when I met him and lived to be 99, my grandmother Maud lived to be 100!) and anyone near my age was just a cousin.

This week in the Gospel, when the crowd was pushing Jesus, someone says to him, your family wants to see you. And Jesus says, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” I get that, I have a big family too, but then Jesus says, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

That means, you and me, when we do the will of God are part of Jesus' family too. And so is anyone else who does the will of God. Now that would be a HUGE family reunion.

Happy Summer,

Peace, Julie+

Senior Warden's Corner

Well, we did warn you that June was going to be a busy month—and now it is upon us! Important developments to be aware of:



As you learn more about the five candidates for Bishop of Pittsburgh and formulate your own views about their respective strengths, we now have a way for you to communicate those views to our delegates:

Please send them as an email message to stbrendansdeputies@gmail.com. Using this address will ensure that your opinions are considered by all five of the deputies who will represent St. Brendan's at the June 26 Electing Convention: Fr. Regis, Pr. Julie, Megan Overby, Joyce Donadee and Cameron Grosh. Please do not use their personal email addresses for election-related business.



This Sunday, at the 10:00 am Eucharist, we will formally commission the Discernment Committee for their work. If you cannot attend in person, please join us on the livestream to witness this important step in the life of the parish.

We have also created on our Web site a new page for FAQs (“Frequently Asked Questions”) so that you can remain abreast of the discernment process that is just beginning. To have your question answered, please direct it to Allison Kline (aaklrm@comcast.net) and to me (austover@gmail.com) and one or both of us will develop an answer, updating the page from time to time.

Tim Austin



St. Brendan's will resume the weekly **Wednesday evening service** beginning June 9 at 7:00 pm in the chapel. The short service (approx. 30 min.) will follow closely Evening Prayer from the Prayer Book. Communion will be offered at the end of the service. The format will be similar to the monthly Taize service from 2019 but without music. For more information email Rev. Darrell at johnsdj31@verizon.net Please join us for a quiet, peaceful, mid-week break. (Masks and distancing will be observed.)



Are you using Amazon Smile when you shop on line? Let's get St. Brendan's free money. Amazon Smile. Directions are on our website www.stbrendans.org. Please tell family, friends, coworkers and neighbors to join us.

Upcoming Events from our Neighbors

OUR RIGHT TO CLEAN AIR: A Resident-Led Town Hall Meeting. **Wednesday, June 9** at 12:00pm noon and repeated at 7:00pm -- a grass-roots rally to discuss the future of the Mon Valley. This affects all of us. To register, use this: [LINK](#)



Requested Prayers:

For the members of St. Brendan's: Rosie and Rodge Wood, Larry Tarrant, Wesley Bell, John Jacobs, Larry Toler, Matthew, Mark Shoemaker, Dr. Ken Judson and Mark Kinley.

For our parents: Sandy Martin, Ray Militzer, Naomi Getty and Lenora.

For our family members, especially; Steve Parsons, Geoff Wood, Lane, David, Karen Dansak, Marie Hazelton, Adara Rose, Patrick Schantz, Tom Groves, Nathan Schlumpf, Bob Keihl, David Pingree and Robert Donato.

For our friends: Dave Frazier, Jane Young, Sherri Hilbert, Joan Gonzales, Heather and Dan Houle.

For those who have died: Larry Tourangeau, Trish Galone and Norma Cervantes (Darrel Johnson's sister).





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.

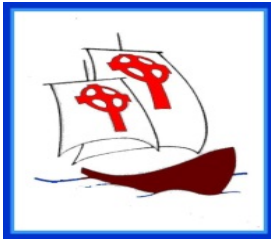
We are grateful for their selfless dedication and ask that God watch over them, keep them safe and give them both strength and rest. We hope that you will join the church in thanking and praying for:

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	Chris Fleissner	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 Judson	Luke O'Neill	Kim Pierce
Becca Sands	Warren Sands	Andrew Smith	Justin Zeigler	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.



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: Tim Austin
Jr. Warden: Janice Moore
Adult Formation: Ron Ladick
Audio-Visual Technology: Sean Sweeney
Communication: Lauren Ramakrishna
Finance: Mary Bertucci
Fundraising: Larry Toler
Inreach & Hospitality: Tim Austin
Newcomers: Tim Austin
Outreach: Donna Aiello
Safety & Security: Ron Ladick
Secretary/Clerk: Lauren Ramakrishna
Stewardship: Larry Toler
Worship: Cameron Grosh

Treasurer: Ellen Groves
Assistant Treasurer: Roger Botti

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: Pat Carl
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
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
ESL: Tim Austin
Joyce Donadee
Linda Schneider
Garden of Hope: Tim Michael
Justice Ministry: Donna Aiello
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, Regis Smolko ~ regisjs@verizon.net

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

Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ StBrendansKatie@gmail.com

Music Director, Daniel May ~ bluesub@verizon.net

Nursery Director, Meghan Thompson ~ meghanthompson328@gmail.com