



Weekly at St. Brendan's

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship, via live streaming
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew

Monday 8:15 a.m. Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom
Zoom website <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4796201105>
11:00 a.m. Be a Modern Episcopalian, via zoom
Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>.

Tuesday 7:00 a.m. AA meeting, via zoom
Dial in: 312-626-6799 Meeting Id:345 892 252
9:00 a.m. Staff meeting, via zoom
Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
11:00 a.m. Bible Study, via zoom
Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
4:30 p.m. Book Club discussion, via zoom
Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484853481>

Sunday, September 27, 2020

Celebrant: The Rev. Regis Smolko

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

The Priest's Corner

You Bring Me Joy

This week, in several conversations, out of nowhere Bishop Michael Curry's name came up – and I got to boast, yes, he's my Bishop and to a person, the speaker said – he exudes such joy.

In times like these, with isolation, separation, and rancorous partisan disputes, Bishop Curry does seem like an island of joy in a sea of trouble. And one person asked, how do you think he does it?

How does he remain hopeful, and joyful, and loving in the face of all the problems we are having? And I thought how can he not?

He seems to live this week's reading from Philippians, "If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."

Bishop Curry encourages me. And I needed that encouragement this this past week, especially with the death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the political infighting. So, I looked for what Bishop Curry said about her. I found that he tweeted, "while on earth Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg made God's work her own." And though saddened by her death, I feel blessed to have such a man as our leader.

So this week's reading about encouragement, love, and joy, is about recalling our blessings, not counting our problems. Like Bishop Curry, I know problems exist, but rather than dwell on them, I look at our blessings. And we have many blessings at St. Brendan's. From our Diocesan leadership, to our parish leaders, to the groups who meet, to ministry teams, we are all working together to let the same mind be in us as was in Christ Jesus.

I see us working together to let the same mind be in us as was in Christ Jesus. In our various Zoom meetings and streaming services, I see people coming together in different ways to meet and pray together and enter into one another's lives for the benefit of God's kingdom.

The paradox of this time has been that while we are apart, we are also finding so many ways to be together that I think in some ways our lives are more entwined with one another than they were before; that moving us into new ways to be together frees us to be more together. This intentionality of connection allows us to remove barriers which divide, so that we may live in peace.

And today, as the calendar tells us it is Autumn, we are reigniting Sunday School (virtually) and discussing Advent (and the Christmas pageant). Quickly, some of you will be hearing from me about pageant plans. Our pageant this year will blend elements of tradition with technology to give us encouragement during the dark days of winter.

Peace
Julie+

A BFF donation was given by Libby Juel in celebration of Larry Toler and Bradford Thompson's marriage.



Need a gift for someone who has everything? Would you like a way to acknowledge a special family event like a baptism or a birthday? A donation to the Brendan's Family and Friends (BFF) fund is the perfect way to honor that special person or event. BFF funds are earmarked for unbudgeted building needs and have been utilized for items such as air conditioning replacements, audio-visual equipment; safety film on some glass doors and windows, and of course our upcoming acoustic tile work in the social hall. Please pick up a BFF card in the narthex or from our website and make a donation today! Your donation will be noted in the Little Log. Thank you for making a difference at St. Brendan's by becoming a BFF donor!



Next Public Forum: October 13 on Voter Suppression: In line with St. Brendan's commitment to support Black Lives Matter, our next Public Forum will be held on Tuesday, October 13 at 7:15 pm. The topic will be voting rights/voter suppression, which remains a significant issue for people of color right here in Allegheny County and surrounding areas. You can get more information at st.brendans.org and register by emailing StBrendansKate@gmail.com. Make sure you mark the date on your calendar!



Celebrating October wedding anniversaries of:

3	Emily & Brad Zupancic	4	Nancy & Wilder Bancroft	4	Allison & Phil Burdette
4	Ruth & Steve Horton	12	Mary & Karl Haider	17	Kelli & Bobby Cerra
17	Brigid & James Christenson	22	Saundy & Tom Waseleski	25	Joan & Paul Klinefelter
31	Peter Sweet & Mike Newton				



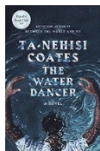
Celebrating October birthdays of:

1	Kate Heston	1	Ken Parsons	2	Annemarie Malbon	3	Michael Long
6	Nicholas Fleissner	7	LuAnn Aldridge	15	John Riley	15	Randy Stachel
17	Mary Haider	18	Conor Wick	20	Mike Newton	21	Judy Flick
23	Gail Gil	24	Caitlyn Schantz	29	Karen Dennis	30	Karl Haider
31	Darrell Johnson						

If you would like your birthday and/or wedding celebration published in our Little Log, please contact Katie with the dates. StBrendansKatie@gmail.com.



Mark your calendar for Blessing of the Animals, October 11, 11:30 a.m. at Blueberry Hill Park. Please bring your pet for a blessing. We will also remember the pets we have lost. More information will be available soon.



Our book discussion group continues to meet on Tuesdays at 4:30 via zoom. We are reading – *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates. We read a chapter or two at a time - not the whole book - so our discussions can go a bit deeper.

If you would like to join us or if you need assistance, contact Julie jlsphone1@gmail.com.

Feel free to join us on zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484853481> Meeting ID: 814 8485 3481, if needed.



We continue to offer the **opportunity to receive communion on Mondays and Fridays** by appointment only. If you are interested, email Katie at StBrendansKatie@gmail.com your availability Monday/Friday and morning/afternoon. You'll come to the portico in front of the church with a mask on and approach the reception area in a socially distanced way. Regis or Julie will meet you for a brief service with Eucharist available for you to receive. We can catch up for a few minutes then depart.

COMING SOON - Youth Program Coming soon – a survey for youth group – primarily what day to hold our meetings. Youth group is for all young people in grades 6+ who seek to deepen their relationship with Jesus through the study of scripture, through discussions of modern life lived with faith, and by exploring one's call to service.

To do this, we will be exploring questions about the Bible, Faith, the Episcopal Church, and our calls to service by reading, discussing and serving our church. In addition, some young people are about to be confirmed and we will work to prepare them for confirmation in the Episcopal Church.

Our leaders for this year will be Cameron, Allison, and Julie.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Julie at jlsphone1@gmail.com.

Senior Warden's Corner

For over twenty years, St. Brendan's has sponsored a **Holiday Craft Fair and Cookie Walk** on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. If you haven't seen it yet, this is quite the display—wreaths and candles, ornaments and tinsel, all spread out on twenty or more vendors' stalls upstairs; tray upon tray of delicious cookies, brownies and breads, home-baked by Brendanites and their friends, downstairs.

Sadly, in light of this year's COVID-19 restrictions, we cannot repeat that very successful formula. **But do not despair!** We are instead planning an appropriately distanced Cookie Walk (more accurately, perhaps, a Cookie Drive-Up) on Saturday, November 21. This will be a great opportunity for as many members and friends of our parish as possible to get involved in a fun activity that brings in some useful funds for the church while also giving our neighbors a reason to learn a little more about us and our programs.

We are going to have two needs: **bakers** and **customers!**

We will shortly send out as an email blast instructions about how to participate as a baker. **Please read that email when it lands in your in-box** and see if you can't find a morning or two to become a baker! Involve the family too—baking is fun for all ages and stages.

But we also need customers, so it is important for everyone to get the word out. Here too, we'll be sending out all that you need: a colorful .PDF that you can send as an attachment to your best friends online or print off and attach to the inside of the rear windows of your car.

We have just eight weeks to pull this off—but we can do it. After all, **we are ... St. Brendan's!**

CRIS Advocacy. (Christian Response In Emergency Situations). This week we are supporting the work of Southern Poverty Law Center, an organization that fights racism, white supremacy and intolerance through legislative and educational efforts. Teaching Tolerance programs reach over 70,000 schools. <https://www.splcenter.org/>.

Volunteer Opportunity! We are looking for several Brendanites who would be interested in volunteering at the Trinity Walk-in Cathedral in downtown Pittsburgh. The Trinity Cathedral Ministry helps feed and clothe many people in desperate need. Our involvement is to help sort and distribute those items to those who need them. This would involve a commitment of 4-5 hours every five weeks at most, usually from 10am am til 2pm. You'll find this volunteer work to be very worthwhile and fulfilling. If you are interested in helping, please contact Katie at StBrendansKatie@gmail.com.



We received a thank you note from the North Hills Food Bank.

"I send a special thank you to all of your parishioners for the wonderful produce they donated over the past several months. The peppers, cucumbers, herbs, tomatoes, kale, zucchini, squash and any other item that I may have missed looked very good and of course fresh!!! It was a treat to see how happy our clients were to be able to get the fresh produce. You could not have found better items to donate. I send you all a Big Thank You hug. God bless you. Bobbe, Director, North Hills Food Bank".



You can help. We have tubs outside to the right of the front doors for any food donations. Or, if you wish, checks can be sent to St. Brendan's and we will convert them into grocery gift cards. **We have now discovered a new mission. There are halfway houses in lower income areas who share any donations to them with their neighbors, and we will be supporting them with some of our food donations. This gives those residents a sense of meaningful purpose, being the ones to share rather than the ones in need.** We will continue distributing food to the North Hills Food Bank and the Community Outreach.

Need food? We can help. If you or someone you know has a food shortage, contact the church and we will be happy to help.



Do you have a special prayer request? Contact Ruth Horton rvhorton@gmail.com. Pastoral Care Ministry 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.



Please make note of these important dates:

October 19 last day to register.
October 27 last day to apply for mail-in ballot.
November 3 ELECTION DAY.

More information is available at: vote411.org. Plan your vote now.

“White privilege” is a term we have heard often lately. Do you really understand what is meant by that phrase? White privilege is not racism, it is not prejudice, it is not hatred, it is not intolerance and it is not white supremacy. Join us on October 6 to unpack what white privilege means and how this invisible advantage affects the American experience.

Please join Julie and Ginny for the fourth discussion in this series which will be facilitated by Marilyn Mulvihill. This discussion will define and discuss White Privilege.

Attendance at a prior discussion is not necessary to be a part of our next discussion at a new time.

Tuesday, October 6 at 7 PM.

We hope to continue to discuss what being an ally means for us individually /collectively and how to process what we are experiencing.

Contact Ginny Volponi if you have questions, at gabby4045@gmail.com. The Zoom link for the Antiracism discussions is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4796201105>. Meeting ID: 479 620 1105 One tap mobile +13126266799,,4796201105# US (Chicago) +19292056099,,4796201105# US (New York)

Collection for Haiti: We have resumed our collection of items to be sent to Haiti. Summer clothing, shoes and any medical supplies (walkers, wheelchairs, etc.) are especially needed. If you have items to donate, you can drop them off in the large blue bin on the front porch of St. Brendan's. Thank you for any help you can give!

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	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	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.

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

VESTRY MEMBERS

Sr. Warden: Tim Austin
Jr. Warden & Secretary/Clerk: Ruth Horton
Adult Formation: Dean Peters
Audio-Visual Technology: Cameron Grosh
Communication: Annemarie Malbon
Finance: Mary Bertucci
Fundraising: Larry Toler
Inreach & Hospitality: Janice Moore
Newcomers: Mary Bertucci
Dean Peters
Outreach: Donna Aiello
Safety & Security: Tim Austin
Stewardship: Larry Toler
Treasurer: Ellen Groves
Assistant Treasurer: Roger Botti
Worship: Cameron Grosh

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
Rob & George Latta
North Hills Food Banks: Ruth Horton & Donna Aiello

WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS

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

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 Director, Julie Smith ~ jlsphone1@gmail.com

Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ stbrendans@comcast.net

Music Director, Daniel May ~ bluesub@verizon.net

Nursery Director, Meghan Thompson ~ meghanthompson328@gmail.com