



This Week at St. Brendan's

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship, via live streaming https://www.youtube.com/channel/UckCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew
Monday	8:30 am	Daily Morning Prayer Zoom ID # website https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4796201105 No password required
	11:00 am	Be a Modern Episcopalian, via zoom
Tuesday	7:00 am	AA meeting, via zoom Dial in 312-626-6799 Meeting Id: 345 892 252
	8:30 am	Staff meeting, via zoom
	10:30 am	Bible Study, via zoom
Saturday	9:00 am	Sacristans

Sunday, April 26, 2020

Celebrant: The Rev. Julie Smith

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

As We Begin to Envision the "New Normal"

Governor Wolf just released the "Process to Reopen Pennsylvania" at 6:45 p.m., April 22, 2020. I'm writing this Corner after studying the document for only three hours, but confident of a few important factors that I would like to share with Brendanites and friends.

Tim Austin, our Senior Warden, and I began conversations about how we reopen St. Brendan's about 10 days ago. We confirmed that we would wait for the Governor's and Bishop's leads to activate our process, and we would guarantee compliance with all the restrictions and precautions outlined by the state and our diocese. To these we would add robust consideration of, and implementation of, all reasonable recommendations and/or expectations made by our congregation. In his Senior Warden Corner this week, Tim initiates the start of our information-gathering stage of learning Brendanite expectations regarding our reopening. Please respond as clearly as you can with what conditions you need in place for you to be physically present again at worship. To encourage specificity and focused responses, we ask you to convey your thoughts in 250 words or fewer. Please respond to Tim's request. We need your input on this very serious matter.

Here's what I've gleaned from the Governor's process for our state. The process put forth is a data-driven decision support tool that will enable a balance between maximizing the results of PA's economy while minimizing public health risks. CMU assisted significantly in designing this tool. This tool will help better understand the current health and economic status, as well as the inherent risks and benefits to easing restrictions by sector and region. This final sentence suggests that the implementation of the process will be staggered, perhaps by county or counties or regions. It will be a customized reopening.

Pennsylvania will return to work cautiously. Ongoing social distancing, universal masking and other public health guidance will be essential practices for quite a while and even as we move through the three stages of the process: the Red Phase, Yellow Phase and Green Phase. This is known as the three-phase matrix to determine when counties and/or regions are ready to begin easing some restrictions.

Phase 1: RED: State-wide we are currently in the Red Phase. Here our goal is simply to minimize the spread of COVID-19. We social distance and non-life sustaining business and schools are closed. We are under "Stay-at-Home" orders and large gatherings are prohibited. We wear masks outside the home. We could not reopen the church for worship.

Phase 2: YELLOW: As regions or counties move into the yellow phase, some restrictions on work and social interaction will ease while others, such as closures of schools, gyms, and other indoor recreation centers, as well as limitations around large gatherings, remain in place. Retail locations will be able to open with some guidelines.

The purpose of this phase is to begin to power up the economy while keeping a close eye on the public health data so the virus remains contained. We still would not be able to open our church for worship.

Phase 3: GREEN: This phase eases most restrictions by lifting the stay at home and business closure orders to allow the economy to strategically reopen while continuing to prioritize public health. While this phase will facilitate a return to a "new normal," it remains important to continue to monitor public health indicators and adjust orders and restrictions as necessary to ensure the end of disease spread.

We would be able to have public worship during this phase. I feel very confident that our leadership is healthily proactive and “on top” of the latest breaking information regarding our pandemic. We will make it to the “new normal.” Please be assured that your safety is my uppermost priority as we make decisions about reopening for public worship at St. Brendan’s.

Regis+

Announcements



Have some sewing skills and extra fabric? The pastoral care team is sponsoring a project to deliver face masks to essential personnel. If you’re interested, this is a link to a video and instructions on how to make them.

<https://www.craftpassion.com/face-mask-sewing-pattern/?pid=1257#picgallery> Once you have made a few, let us know and we’ll arrange to pick them up from your home and make sure they go where needed. Contact Ruth Horton at rvhorton@gmail.com with any questions or when you have completed a few.

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	Patrick	Mike
Julie	Jennifer	Cindy	Lane	

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.

CRIS response to Coronavirus Pandemic. April, 2020

1. Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. \$1,000
They anticipate a significant increased need due to the coronavirus. With all the lay-offs, business closures and school closings, many more people need donated food.
2. The Pittsburgh Foundation, *Emergency Action Fund*. \$1,000
They Address immediate and long-term impacts of COVID-19
 - a. To support small and mid-size non-profit organizations serving predominantly low-income households. Funding to assure organizations can meet basic needs of these people.
 - b. To organizations that manage emergency funds providing direct financial assistance to individuals impacted by COVID-19.
 - c. To support community health centers - funding for masks, protective gear and medical supplies.
 - d. To support small art organizations and individuals that have had to cancel productions.
3. Impact Your World - *MedShare* \$1,000
They provide urgently needed medical supplies, including masks and isolation gear, and medical equipment to healthcare professionals, clinics and hospitals for the fight against coronavirus.

Finally, our tithe to Brother's Brother Foundation will be directed to recovery response for the damage caused by the recent tornado in Arkansas and Kentucky.

Senior Warden’s Corner

In a communication with diocesan clergy late last week, Bishop McConnell responded to questions he had been receiving about **whether, when and how public worship would resume**. “Governor Wolf,” the Bishop wrote, “[has been] full of encouragement, but essentially said the status quo remains in place until further notice; *stay home, stay safe*. That is my position as well.” It is in that context that Fr. Regis and I have begun discussing, **preliminarily and in purely abstract terms**, how we at St. Brendan’s might go about reopening the church once we are told by the Governor and the Bishop that that is even an option.

Each of you will have your own list of factors that you already know will influence **your personal decision** about whether and when to return to our beautiful church for public worship. Those factors will vary widely from person to person. But it would be helpful to Regis and to me, and ultimately to the Vestry, to know what Brendanites think we should be considering as we look ahead. When the time comes, we want to reopen in a way that reflects **our responsibility to welcome, but also to protect, all God’s people**—as God grants us the wisdom to understand that delicate balance.

I therefore invite anyone who would like to do so to send me a brief description of the concerns you currently have regarding resuming public worship. I stress “currently” because I recognize that the situation changes with every day that passes; nobody can be sure that they will see things tomorrow the same way that they see them today. Don’t worry: we won’t hold you to what you write now. Quite the contrary in fact: our plan is to **maintain open communication on this question** as our thinking evolves in the coming weeks.

One other important note: this is not (and will never be) something we decide by ballot. As priest-in-charge, Fr. Regis holds the responsibility for making decisions about worship at St. Brendan’s, albeit in consultation with the Bishop and with our Wardens and the Vestry. Nevertheless, your reflections will help to ensure that, in reaching those decisions, he has been able to give every consideration to what will inevitably be a wide range of opinions.

You may send your comments—**of 250 words or less, please**—to me at austover@gmail.com. All comments will be carefully read and considered; I will be the only one who knows who submitted them.

Sr. Warden, Tim Austin



St. Brendan's would like to help with meeting the needs of our community and neighbors. If you have medical equipment, especially **pulse oximeters**, that you might make available, please consider donating. The item would need to be wiped with a disinfecting medium, such as a Clorox wipe, and packaged in a plastic bag. Contact me if you can help with this. Thank you! Regis



Do you have a special prayer request? Contact Ruth Horton. 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.



North Hills Food Pantry. During this time when we are unable to take donations into our church, the North Hills Food Bank is still in need of donations. Please consider making a monetary donation by sending a check payable to the North Hills Food Bank to the following address: North Hills Food Bank, 845 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15229. Thank you for your support.

We have all seen the long lines of people at food distributions during this pandemic. This crisis has revealed much about our country, including that many people live pay check to pay check and are suffering from food insecurity. Plainly put: **People are going hungry.** We have another opportunity to perform one of the corporal works of mercy, to feed the hungry. Christ Lutheran Church, in Millvale, is in a working class community, where many are going hungry. They have stepped up and are giving out grocery cards to people in need. If you can donate anything to help feed the hungry, please go to www.clcmillvale.com select the fund “COVID 19-Gift Card Donation. You can also mail a check made payable to Christ Lutheran Church Millvale, at,917 Evergreen Ave.,Pgh 15209. Thank you for caring for those in need during this difficult time.



NEW VOTER REFORM LAWS UPDATE. As many of you are aware, the upcoming Pennsylvania primary has been rescheduled for June 2. STOP THE SPREAD AND REGISTER TO VOTE BY MAIL: Anyone can sign up to vote by mail as long as you are already a registered voter – no reason necessary. Just go to VOTESPA.COM, click on “Other Links”, then “Votes PA” and you can register right there. The county must receive your application May 26 at 5 p.m. Deadline to register to vote in PA is May 18. If you are not registered and want to be able to vote, or for more information on the latest improvements, visit VOTESPA.COM. For more information on the candidates, visit VOTE411.ORG starting about three weeks before each election.



Pittsburgh will celebrate **Earth Day virtually again on Wednesday, April 22, starting at Noon.** The theme this year is a climate emergency; there will be teach-ins, speakers, and music! Please join others and sign up at <https://www.facebook.com/events/233475844491431/>. You can also sign up by going to St. Brendan's facebook page where you will find the link.

Kid's Corner

Buoyed by Faith – Children's Corner

Hello all,

Do you remember a couple of weeks ago was EASTER!!!! Fr. Regis in his sermon told us the story about the Sunday School class where everyone was given a large plastic egg (as your grandparents may remember L'Egg panty hose came in large eggs) and told us to go find things that reminded them of rebirth, the resurrection, new life. Basically to go look with all of your senses to the world around you and see things with new eyes. And one boy had an empty egg because he said it was the resurrection.

Well this week the gospel is about disciples on the road to Emmaus. And while they were walking a stranger joined them. This wasn't too weird for their time, they probably needed a new story, new energy, and new companions frequently. But they walked and talked for a long time with this stranger and never even asked him his name. That night, when it got dark, they asked the stranger to join them for dinner. And he did. And when he took the break, and broke it, they realized FOR THE FIRST TIME, this was Jesus.

Wow... they thought he really is alive, (that L'Egg really is empty) and then they looked again, and he was gone. Really gone, in the flash of an eye gone. So they ran back to the town they came from – which must have been pretty far away as they had walked all day to get to Emmaus only to run back to their old town, find their old friends, and say, Jesus is alive. WE saw him. He told us what the scriptures meant. And when he told us about the Scriptures, it was like our hearts were on fire with love for the Scriptures and Jesus and God.

Today and every day, we need to remember, Jesus is still with us today. And while he may not drop in for a stroll with us, each time we see the miracle of birth, or birds eggs, new flowers, a rainbow, or any of the miracles of creation, we are reminded Jesus is with us.

So this week, I'm challenging you to keep your eyes opened for those signs of miracles all around you, and when you find the following let me know where and when you found them.

What to look for:

1. A bird – any kind but look for the brightest bird you can find.
2. A bug – I've not seen many yet, but I'm sure they are coming – can you find a lady bug?
3. A red flower – I have plenty of yellow ones in my yard but I've not seen a red one, yet.
4. An Evergreen – they stay green all year, but now they are harder to see as other greens are coming out.
5. A Nut or a Seed – from nature – not one in the kitchen – silly.
6. A fallen leaf – an old one from last year or a new one from this year – we need them both.
7. A butterfly – ask me sometime about Boris and Natasha the no goodnick butterflies who live in my backyard.
8. A Yellow flower – even a dandelion will do.

You can email me with pictures of your findings or updates at jlsphone1@gmail.com or call me at 412-995-0915 (priests like calls too.)

Peace & Love,

Julie+

Join our Hallelujah Choir! In our Sunday, April 19, service we featured a video of many folks singing a joyful song called "Halle Hallelujah." We are inviting as many members of St. Brendan's (along with their friends and family) to do an individual video and send it to St. Brendan's. Each new video will be added to the main video each week. Eventually we hope to have over 100 people singing "Halle Hallelujah" together! It should be a fun way to spice up our weekly streaming service. Get more details and download the audio file here. <https://www.stbrendans.org/hallehallelujah>.



Special Corona Virus – Resources for People in Need

- BigBurgh.com
 - [United Way 211 COVID-19 Page](#)
 - [Allegheny County COVID-19 Food Resources Map](#)
 - [Allegheny County Health Department COVID-19 Page](#)
 - [City of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Page](#) *VLP Veteran Food Distribution Delivery Request - 412-481-8200*
 - [Financial Empowerment Centers](#)
 - [Pennsylvania Utility Commission Updates](#)
 - [Women's Center & Shelter Resources](#)
 - [Homeless Children's Education Fund: Crowd-sourced Resources Compilation](#)
 - [Pittsburgh Cares Buddy \(Volunteer or Need\) Sign Up](#)
 - [Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank COVID-19 Page](#)
 - [Surge Workforce Job Postings, PA CareerLink](#)
 - [Allegheny County Emergency Resources PDF](#)
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Due to the isolation, stress and uncertainty of COVID-19 many seniors (and indeed people of all ages) are self-medicating with alcohol. Off-premise alcohol sales were up 55% in the third week of March this year compared to last year, according to data reported by Nielsen, an international measurement and data analytics company. Additionally, The World Health Organization says alcohol may put people at an increased risk for the coronavirus, weakening the body's immune system and leaving drinkers at risk for other risky behaviors that could increase the likelihood of contracting coronavirus. Click on the link for more information. <https://www.aging.com/alcohol-abuse-amongst-the-elderly-a-complete-guide>

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 & Roger Betti~~
- 16 ~~Richard Gordon, Janice & Dan Moore~~
- 23 ~~Anne Semmler and Cameron Gresh~~

March 2020

- 1 ~~Janice & Dan Moore~~
- 8 ~~Amy & Kevin Boyd~~
- 15 ~~Eric Helmsen and Ken Parsons~~
- 22 ~~open~~
- 29 ~~Meghan & Robert Karn~~

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 ~~open, volunteer needed~~
- 12 ~~Kate & Keith Heston~~
- 19 ~~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: 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
English as a Second Language: Tim Austin
Joyce Donadee
Linda Schneider
Garden of Hope: Tim Michael
Miryam's: Julia Wick
Rob & George Latta
North Hills Food Bank Ministry: Larry Toler
Social Justice: Clair Grotevant
Marilyn Mulvihill
Under One Roof: Inactive

WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS

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

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: Dean Peters and Mary Bertucci
Outreach and Social Justice: Donna Aiello
Safety & Security: Tim Austin
Treasurer: Ellen Groves (with Roger Botti)
Worship: Cameron Grosh

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, Stephanie Illsley ~ st3phy2011@gmail.com