



## Weekly at St. Brendan's

**Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship, via live streaming**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UckCY2BEJXlqMoVc\\_nXG7ew](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UckCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXG7ew)

**Monday 8:30 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>

**Friday 7:30 p.m. Game Night, via zoom**  
 Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>

## Sunday, August 23, 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

### Vote by Mail

I'm hearing our Little Log is getting too long. And it is! I'm going to try to reduce my corner, so today the message is: You Must VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! It's safe and it's easy:

**Step 1**—Request a ballot from your County Election Office (go to [www.alleghenyvotes.com](http://www.alleghenyvotes.com))

**Step 2**—once you receive it, complete it (do it sooner than later) IMPORTANT! Fold it and place it in the INNER SECURITY ENVELOPE, seal this envelope and SIGN IT (the envelope).

**Step 3**—put this Inner Security Envelope, now sealed and signed, into the OUTER ENVELOPE. Then seal this one too and add your return address.

**Step 4**—How many stamps are you going to need? NONE This Year. The State of PA is footing the bill this year.

That's all there is to it! Do this and I promise these Priest's Corners will be shorter and shorter!

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! as if your life depends on it...AND THIS YEAR IT ACTUALLY DOES.

Now Do This! RIGHT NOW!

**Regis+**

PS Watch this link for further confidence: : <https://youtu.be/XKhEfff6NHU>



**St. Brendan's ESL program** is starting up again starting on September 1. If you would like to meet people from other countries and help them to feel more comfortable and successful in Pittsburgh, this might be your ministry. We have several volunteers all of whom work with the students online through Zoom. The students are arranged into two classes - one for high beginner students and the other is for intermediate to advanced students. Both classes meet at the same time each with its own lessons and volunteers. The lessons are prepared for you. Volunteers can be flexible about when they volunteer so they can sign up when they see on our ESL online calendar what times they want to work. The classes are conducted Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 and Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30pm.

If you are thinking about volunteering and have any questions, you are free to contact one of us: Tim Austin [austover@gmail.com](mailto:austover@gmail.com)  
 Linda Schneider [schneiderlinda@comcas.net](mailto:schneiderlinda@comcas.net) Ginny Volponi [gabby4045@gmail.com](mailto:gabby4045@gmail.com) Joyce Donadee [jdjdonadee@gmail.com](mailto:jdjdonadee@gmail.com).

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**The ESL team needs volunteers** to translate our ESL flyer, which advertises our classes to people in the community. If you know someone who could translate our flyer into Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, or one of the Indian languages, please let Joyce Donadee know at [jdjdonadee@gmail.com](mailto:jdjdonadee@gmail.com).

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## Senior Warden's Corner

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Like so many words we use every day, “**Goodbye**” has lost its connection with its roots. The French say, “Au revoir.” And the Germans say, “Auf Wiedersehen.” Both phrases translate as something like “Be seeing you!” or “Till we meet again!” But the English “Goodbye” is different; it’s an abbreviation of the phrase “God be with ye”—which makes it especially meaningful in a faith community like ours.

COVID-19 has impoverished our lives in so many ways, one of them being its denial of the opportunities we all desire “to say our goodbyes.” Stephanie Illsley and Justin Zeigler moved down to the D.C. area a couple of months ago. Next week, Thaddeus Popovich will fly out West to embark on a new stage of his life’s journey in California. And it will not be long before Rob and George Latta also depart to join their family in the Carolinas. Each of these Brendanites will be sorely missed by his or her friends; each contributed in her or his own way to our church family and leaves a hole that it will be hard to fill.

But we can still say “Goodbye” to them with a smile, remembering that “Goodbye” is at its roots a prayer—a prayer that, once answered, assures us that each of our friends will enjoy God’s protection and companionship wherever their new lives may lead them.

**Sr. Warden, Tim Austin**

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**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!

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**ST. BRENDAN'S BELIEVES  
BLACK LIVES MATTER**  
JOIN US FOR A PUBLIC FORUM VIA ZOOM  
Tuesday, September 1 @ 7:15pm  
visit us at [stbrendans.org](http://stbrendans.org) for details

**Mark Your Calendars: Tuesday, September 1 at 7:15 pm.** St. Brendan's is hosting a public forum to address race, religion and reconciliation on Tuesday, September 1 at 7:15 pm via Zoom. Jon Delano from KDKA-TV will be moderating. Speakers will be Eric McIntosh, Canon for the Beloved Community for the Diocese, Tim Austin, our Senior Warden, and Tanisha Brown, founder of Black Lives Matter of Pittsburgh.

Please visit [stbrendans.org](http://stbrendans.org) for more information. Email Katie at [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com) to register.

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**CRIES Advocacy. (Christian Response In Emergency Situations).** This week we are supporting the Brother's Brother Foundation. <https://brothersbrother.org/> A local organization that responds to need following natural disasters.

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**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.

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**Do you have a special prayer request?** Contact Ruth Horton [rvhorton@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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## Kid's Corner

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### **Buoyed by Faith**

Can you feel it? The growing excitement – fall is coming, and school is almost here. Kind of. Sort of. Maybe?? When I was young, we would go back-to-school shopping and get new clothes and new shoes and new pencil boxes to keep in our desks. As I got older, it was new notebooks and finally, in high school, I got a backpack for the first time.

And each year, I would think, this is THE YEAR. The year I will be popular, and pretty, and do all of my homework on time, and get all As. And never worry about passing tests, and never, um, do bad things like putting off doing homework or watching too much TV, or playing outside too long and falling asleep instead of reading.

But what I really wanted to do every new school year was be someone new. Not someone *different* but a better version of ME. I wanted to be a new and improved version (Julie 2.0) so that the people around me would have to say, “Who is that girl?” And I would ask, “Who do you think I am?”

In this week's Gospel, Jesus asks similar questions. First Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do the people think I am?", then he asks the disciples, "Who do You say I am?" They sound kind of like the same question, but they are different.

In his first question he is not asking whether people know his name – they really didn't. In times before cell phones and texting, news spread person to person by word of mouth. Meaning you had to actually see someone to tell them something. So when Jesus asks who the people say he is, he's asking, "Have they heard of me and have they heard about the message I'm spreading – the Good News about God?"

But the disciples said, "Well, the people think you're one of the prophets come back to life or you are John the Baptist." And the people were wrong – on the right path but still a bit too far away to know the real, true answer.

So when he asks the disciples, the people living with him day and night, always around him, and listening to his every word, he's asking, "Are you hearing what I'm saying?" Only one disciple, Simon Peter, had the courage to say, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus must have been so happy that one of the disciples had been listening, because he said, "You are absolutely right, Peter!"

Many people today still do not know Jesus. If you ask, some people will say Jesus was a great teacher. Other people will say he was a prophet or a great religious leader. But the real answer today is the same answer that Peter gave when Jesus asked it. He is the Christ – the Son of the living God.

So, no matter how you are attending school in the next few days or weeks, be yourself. Be brave. Listen to your teachers and boldly try to give the right answers. Listen to your parents and stay safe.

Love & Blessings,  
**Julie+**



We celebrate our **September wedding anniversaries:**

2 Patricia & Neil Galone      8 Linda & Jason Konley      8 Tamara & Bill Spoonhoward      30 Michele & Michael Long

We celebrate our **September birthdays:**



1 Ethan Burdette	1 Anthony Turo	3 Luke Cerra	8 Griffin Wick
11 Phoebe Juel	12 AJ McKenna	13 Sylvia Affleck	13 Bobby Cerra
13 Jason Konley	14 Tash Zukowski	15 Max Karn	15 George Latta
16 Wes Sands	17 Ida LaQuatra	18 Rory Sands	18 Anelisa Tarrant
22 Melinda Bell	23 Michael Donadee	26 Lauren Chappo	

If you would like your birthday or wedding celebration announced in our Little Log, please contact Katie, [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com).

**Anti-Racism/Black Lives Matter**

In our first anti-racism/Black Lives Matter discussion on Thursday August 6<sup>th</sup> we shared our working definition of racism to be in line with Merriam-Webster's updated definition. Merriam-Webster's, one of America's most trusted dictionary, just this June updated their definition of "racism."

Their entry now includes this addendum: "2a: a doctrine or political program based on the assumption of racism and designed to execute its principles; b: a political or social system founded on racism." This is a significant departure from the earlier definition of racism, which still reads: "a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race."

For the purposes of our discussions we are using this updated version as we view the issues as systemic.

You did not need to have participated in the last discussion to be a part of our NEXT DISCUSSION – Today, Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup> 4:30 p.m.

Because **the SPEAKER SERIES** made it easy to participate and continue your path to learning. **Michael Waseleski** presented a series on Reconstruction on two consecutive evenings - August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. This presentation challenged what we thought we knew about slavery and our knowledge and understanding of its legacy in the United States

We will hold our second discussion on **Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup>** and use the time to discuss what we learned from listening to Michael in the Speaker Series. Please come to the discussion whether you were able to attend the Speakers series or not.

This learning journey will lead to action steps both individually and collectively in addition to those suggested by the Justice Ministry.

Contact Ginny Volponi if you have questions, [ginny4045@gmail.com](mailto:ginny4045@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)

**Racial Justice course available:** Stevenson School for Ministry (SSFM) in the diocese of Central PA is offering a 5 week course called "*Racial Justice and the Body of Christ*" in September via Zoom. The course is FREE and his being taught by Dr. Joshua Davis, an SSFM faculty member. Anyone can take this course. To register, go to the link below.

<https://diocesecpa.org/shaped-by-faith-courses/>.

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**Please consider applying for an absentee ballot. We want you to stay safe.**

Registered voters can sign up today at [VotesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot](https://votesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot).



**5 things you can do in less than 5 minutes:**

- Make your bed
  - Feed your dog
  - Prepare a bowl of cereal
  - Reply to your parent's text
  - Sign up to vote by mail in the November 3 general election
- [votesPA.com](https://votesPA.com)

**You Can Make a Difference.** No matter your political preference, we all agree that voting is one of the most important civic responsibilities we have. And perhaps the most consequential election of our live time is coming up in November.

We need to do all we can to make sure that as many citizens as possible are registered to vote. Unfortunately, it is very difficult for some people to register. They work shifts, they lack transportation and many other obstacles stand in their way. You can help! We have voter registration forms with instructions available outside and in front of the building. We are urging each member of the parish to take 3 of the preaddressed applications and put a stamp on each. When you are out and about be aware of folks you meet who may not be registered and offer them an application. The cashier at the market, the Amazon delivery driver, the pizza delivery man, all these folks might welcome at chance to get registered to vote. Applications must be received by October 19, so we have lots of time. If everyone in the parish got 3 new voters, we could add almost 500 voters! Please do your part.

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**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.

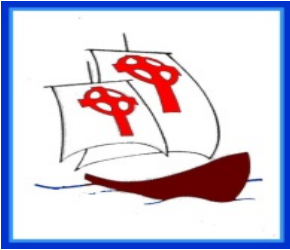
We are grateful for their selfless dedication and ask that God watch over them, keep them safe and give them both strength and rest. We hope that you will join the church in thanking and praying for:

- |                  |                                 |                   |   |                       |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 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            | Lane                            | 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.

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### **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

### **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](mailto:regisjs@verizon.net)  
Youth Education Director, Julie Smith ~ [jlsphone1@gmail.com](mailto:jlsphone1@gmail.com)  
Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ [stbrendans@comcast.net](mailto:stbrendans@comcast.net)  
Music Director, Daniel May ~ [bluesub@verizon.net](mailto:bluesub@verizon.net)  
Nursery Director, Meghan Thompson ~ [meghanthompson328@gmail.com](mailto:meghanthompson328@gmail.com)

### **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  
Justice Ministry: Donna Aiello  
Miryam's: Julia Wick  
Rob & George Latta  
North Hills Food Banks: Ruth Horton & Donna Aiello