



Sunday, March 20, 2022

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Bill Pugliese

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 Worship, via live streaming https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew
- Monday:** 7:45 am Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom, Monday thru Saturday
<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://us02web.zoom.us/j/81976791143?pwd=NnN0cW5xSFVFMmk1VlFBcVJia05LQT09>
4:00 pm Bible-Lite Group <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
- Tuesday:** 7:00 am AA meeting, via zoom Dial in: 312-626-6799 Meeting Id:345 892 252
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>
- Wednesday:** 3:00 pm Deacon hours
7:00 pm Evening Service, in person
- Friday:** 11:00 am Limited office hours, please call ahead.

The Priest's Corner

THEY JUST DON'T GET IT

A while back I saw a t-shirt with this delightful observation on the back: "Heaven is where the police are British, where the chefs are Italian, where the mechanics are German, where the lovers are French and it is all organized by the Swiss. Hell is where the police are German, where the chefs are British, where the mechanics are French, where the lovers are Swiss and it is all organized by the Italians."

I suspect most of us would agree and with a smile on our face. But there would be those who would say the T-shirt was stereotyping people. Well, of course! But I would assert that the observation is more typical than stereo. Italian cuisine over British? No contest. Swiss vs. Italian governing? No contest. Italy has averaged two parliaments a year since WWII. Rather the point of the observation is that we are all different, that it takes all kinds and types of people to make up this world, this country, this church of ours. But there are those who just don't get it.

I love the Olympics. Athletes from all over the world come together to test their skills against one another. Fierce but friendly competition because each knows the work it took to just get to the Games let alone winning a medal. I always root for the athletes from the USA but truly enjoy the side-stories of other athletes from around the world and the work and hardships they went through to make it to the Games. Every athlete deserves a medal just for making it that far.

Some would say that the tongue-in-cheek T-shirt philosophy or that behind the Olympic Games is all hokum, a pipe dream, even wrong. They would say that those of us who believe we are all equal even though we are all different, of different types and cultures, that we just don't get it. It is they who just don't get it. It is precisely our diversity that makes this world, and especially this country of ours, such a wonderful place to live in, even with that which is not so wonderful – and there is a lot of that to be sure.

Diversity is what makes for growth. If we all looked, thought, believed alike, it would be the most boring world to live in. If that were the case, my guess is that there would be rebels who would somehow rise up to challenge our thinking, acting and believing. The truth is we have too many rebels or rebels who rise up for the wrong reason: they want everyone to be and think and believe and act as they do. And, sadly, they often use violent means to try to force and enforce their beliefs. They will never succeed in spite of their efforts. We are just too diverse as a people.

If blame is to be found why Italians, by and large, are better cooks than the British and the Swiss are better than governing that the Italians and Norwegians are better in Winter Olympics than Summer, then that blame rests entirely on God's shoulders. God created us different. If God wanted us to be all alike, that is the way God would have created us. Those who think otherwise just don't get it.

Bill

Holy Week Services:



Palm Sunday: One Service at 10:00 a.m. with the Visit of Bishop, The Right Rev. Ketlen A. Solak!



Holy Thursday: Service at 7:00 p.m. with Foot Washing and The Stripping of the Altar



Good Friday: 12:00 Noon - Stations of the Cross; 7:00 PM - Good Friday Service



Holy Saturday: 8:00 p.m. - The Great Easter Vigil



Easter Morning: One Service at 10:00 a.m.-- Festive Celebration of the Resurrection



The Vestry met on Monday, March 14, and received a report from the Treasurer, Roger Botti, as is typical for the first official meeting of the year following the Vestry Retreat. Fr. Bill informed the Vestry of the clergy's decision to hold only one service on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday (at 10:00a). Co-Junior Warden, Ron Ladick briefed the Vestry on security concerns and lighting issues following a walkthrough of the facility with me (Cameron), Sean Sweeney, and Co-Junior Warden, Donna Aiello. Pr. Julie provided the Vestry with an update regarding Vacation Bible School for the Summer. Finally, Donna and I provided the Vestry with an update regarding the removal of the swing set and the moving of the Garden of Hope. Full details of our meeting can be found in the Vestry's meeting minutes, which will be posted in the Narthex.

--Cameron Grosh, Senior Warden

The Children's Corner

Try, Try, Again!

We have a lot of sayings about trying and making a good impression. One expression I used to hear a lot is you only get one chance to make a first impression. But then I would also hear, if at first you don't succeed, try, try, again.

So which is it? A good first impression or a series of trying?

I know my first attempt at doing something is hard. I am . . . afraid I might make a mistake, or I am afraid I will fail. My mother would encourage me to keep on trying but always try by doing my best. So when I was not successful, and there have been many times I was NOT successful at first, I could try again but also know I tried my best.



Like that time I failed a test I thought I had studied for when I was studying German in High School. After I got an F, in red, on the top of the test, I had to take it home and have my parents sign it. My mother asked, did I try my best? I thought I had, I said I thought I had but maybe I could try harder. So the next test, I studied more frequently, a little every day, and then the night before the test, I studied my notes, and I got an A on the test. And the next year, I got all As in German and I was invited to join the German National Honor Society.

But what does this have to do with fig trees? And if you listen to the Gospels, what does Jesus have against fig trees?

Well, in this week's Gospel lesson, Jesus tells a story about a man who had a fig tree in his vineyard. He went to the vineyard expecting to find some figs on his tree, but there were none. He said to the man who took care of the vineyard, "For three years I have been coming expecting to find figs on this tree and I haven't found any. Cut it down! It is just taking up space."

"Leave it alone for one more year," the keeper of the vineyard begged. "I will dig around it and put fertilizer on it. If it has fruit next year, fine. If not, then cut it down."



At this point in the story, who hasn't done their best? The tree, the keeper of the vineyard, or the owner? Who knows – but the keeper of the vineyard, said wait. Give it some time, let me try again. Let me try harder. I'll do more work, I'll make some changes if you give me time, I think the tree will produce fruit.

But what the story is really about, is about forgiveness. God expects us to do our best and produce good things for God, but if we don't God doesn't get rid of us, God gives us more time to get things right.

And what does God expect from us? Well, not figs, but “fruits of the spirit” like love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, and kindness. Just as the owner of the vineyard gave the fig tree another chance, God keeps giving us more and more chances and it is important for us to know that we don't have to do it alone. The keeper of the vineyard helped the tree by working the soil and adding fertilizer. When we allow Jesus to work in our lives, Jesus helps us to produce the kind of fruit that God expects.

Peace,
Julie+



Adopt-a-Highway. Want to do some real Spring cleaning? Want to give two hours to beautifying a piece of America seen by thousands of travelers each day? Become part of St. Brendan's Adopt-a-Highway crew on **Saturday, March 26.** Volunteers, age 14 and up, will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m., carpool to Camp Horne Road in Ohio Twp., and pick up litter along the interchange at I-279. The group will finish by 10:45. For more info, please contact Tom Waseleski, twaseleski@comcast.net.



Hospitality Hour has resumed after the 10:00 service on Sundays. Sign-ups are available for those interested in providing the treats. Donations are also accepted toward the costs.

We celebrate the **April Wedding Anniversaries** of:

7 Susan & Mark Shoemaker
27 Annemarie Malbon & Daric Thompson



26 Gladys & Les Carlisle
27 Mary & Jim Evanochko

We celebrate the **April Birthdays** of:

1 Libby Juel
10 Claire Grotevant
12 Marcy Little
20 Edith Waseleski
26 Les Carlisle

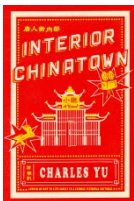


7 Kevin Boyd
10 Lin Shadgett
18 Leah Byrne
23 Ted Dannerth
29 Arlena Pugliese

10 John Appledorn
10 Ann Vinski
20 Mark Shoemaker
23 Susan Shoemaker



Do you like to sing? **Would you like to join the choir?** We are excited to announce that the Choir will be bringing back live music at the 10:00 service. If you would like to join this fulfilling ministry, send your interest to Katie stbrendansKatie@gmail.com. All voices and experience levels are welcome.



April Book Club Selection

“Interior Chinatown” follows the story of an Asian-American actor struggling against clichéd roles and stereotypes, both at work and in his life experiences. It’s a deeply personal novel about race, pop culture, immigration, assimilation and escaping the roles we are forced to play. Join us at the church on Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 pm as we discuss this thought-provoking book. Please feel free to contact Chris Botti at shadypatch@msn.com if you would like more info.



Next Forum: Racial Inequities in Maternal Health in Western PA, **Thursday, March 24 @ 7:00pm via Zoom.**

The U.S. has the highest maternal mortality rate of any high-income nation; AND this rate is 3-4 times higher for black women compared to white women. What factors are contributing to this alarming rise in death? What are the solutions? You'll find answers to these questions and much more at this enlightening Forum.

- Speakers are Ann McCarthy, staff Certified Nurse-Midwife, University of Pittsburgh Physicians and former Clinical Director of The Midwife Center for Birth and Women's Health
- Winter Clay, RN, Doula, Marriage Mentor and Cofounder of Masters of Maternity

To register, please email scregistration@uucnh.org

This forum has been planned by the Unitarian Universalists of the North Hills, in conjunction with St. Brendan's and Trinity Lutheran Church. Racial Inequities in Maternal Health – “First Do No Harm”: Combatting Black Maternal Health Disparities



The Upcoming Bishop's Visit: On those annual visits those who wish to be confirmed, received into the Episcopal Church or want to publicly renew their faith have an opportunity to do so. If you are one of these, please email Bill wjpuugliese@aol.com so you can talk about what this will entail. Our Bishop, **The Right Rev. Ketlen A. Solak**, will be with us on **Palm Sunday, April 10.**



Save the date for our annual church picnic, Sunday, July 24th!



For the Month of **March**, the **North Hills Food Bank** is particularly in need of either plain or flavored bottled water. They are also asking for ground regular and decaf coffee (11 oz size), as well as powdered creamer in small containers. Of course they will always accept non-perishable food items.

Note: The food banks do not accept anything in glass jars. Please do not leave any expired items.



We are collecting much **needed medical supplies for Ukraine**. We are asking for items such as band aids, gauze, medical tape, antiseptic wipes, and other items used in first aid kits.

We are also looking for donations of small non-perishable food items such as protein bars, packs of crackers, nut packets, and fruit pouches, as well as plastic forks and spoons.

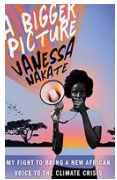
Donations will be taken to St's. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which is making arrangements for shipping. There will be a donation bin outside the front doors of St. Brendan's now through March 27.



CRIES Advocacy, (Christian Response In Emergency Situations), meets monthly on the third Sunday in the library after the 10:00 a.m. service where they determine the distribution of St. Brendan's 10% tithe of our pledged income. This week we are praying for the work of Environmental Defense Fund to Save Butterflies, an effort to fight climate change and bring butterflies back from extinction.

Join us in the library after the 10:00 am service, Sunday, March 20, 22.

Other Upcoming Events



Climate Crisis Book Clubs. Two Episcopal book clubs are coming up on the world climate crisis. **The first one, on March 22, at 7:30 pm**, will use the book "A Bigger Picture". This book is a manifesto and a memoir about how we can – and must – build a better future, inclusive to all. Leading justice activist Vanessa Nakate is a rising star in the global climate movement and brings her fierce, fearless spirit and new perspective to the biggest issue of our time. She shares her story as a young Ugandan woman who sees that her community bears disproportionate consequences to the climate crisis. To register, go [HERE](#)



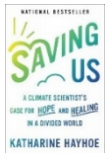
A Resident-Led Town Hall

Southern Pennsylvania Water Authority 6th Virtual Resident-Led Town Hall

Steelworker Voices: Facing the Threat from Close Range

Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 6 p.m. via Zoom

Click here to [REGISTER!](#)



The second book club was started by Episcopal delegates to the world climate negotiations in Glasgow last November. The book being read is Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World, by Texas Tech professor Katharine Hayhoe. The New York Times called her "one of the nation's most effective communicators on climate change". The next meeting is **Monday April 4, then May 2, June 6, and July 11**. You can register for this Zoom event [HERE](#)

Requested Prayers

We pray for our beloved members of St. Brendan's, especially; Nancy Snyder, Rodge Wood, Sandy Nagy, Jim Harpst, Mary, Matthew, Jim Gray, Mary, Mark Shoemaker, Alice Butterworth, Larry Tarrant and Mark Kinley.

We pray for our parents, especially; Fred and Diane Davis, Kenneth and Adele McCormack, Sandy Martin, Ray Militzer, Naomi Getty and Lenora.

We pray for our family members, especially; Bill Donadee, Steve Parsons, Sue Burchill, Mike Dixon, John Barie, Tom Groves, Raphael Walton, Chris Sensenich, Linda Ahlbrand, Bob Keihl, Marie Hazelton, Nathan Schlumpf, David Pingree and Robert Donato.

And for our friends, especially; Josie Kovacic, Dima Boroday and family, Bill Phelps, Dennis Ranalli, Becky Horton, Sherri Hilbert, Joan Gonzales, Tom & Betty Norris, Heather and Dan Houle Family and Friends of Iza Kubanowska,

We pray for who have died, especially Simon Pease.

St. Brendan's Episcopal Church would like to thank, and request your prayers for the following. 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.

Kimberly Becker	Maddie Bell	Sheila Bigelow	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	Betsy Gentile
Lynne Gloor	Ann Hockenberry	Beth Lutz Hoffman	Eric Hood	John Jacobs and staff
Kerri Jensen	Dr. Ken Judson	Abby Montgomery	Luke O'Neill	Kim Pierce
Becca Sands	Warren Sands	Andrew Smith	Cindy Jennifer	Lane
Julie	Mike	Patrick		

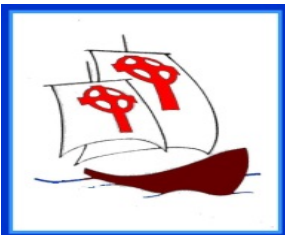
Prayer for our medical personnel and first responders.

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.



March 2022 Ministry Calander

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Greeters	Ushers	Vestry	Hospitality
March 2 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
March 6 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves 1 st Dean Peters 2 nd Ann Vinski P Alan Schneider <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	Sylvia Affleck Anelisa Tarrant	n/a	Dean Peters John Appledorn	Mike Wick Donna Aiello	Cameron Grosh	Postponed
March 9 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
March 13 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous 1 st Mary Bertucci 2 nd Tim Austin P Donna Aiello <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	Ellen Groves Phoebe Juel	n/a	Donna Aiello Sharon Hlawati	Eric Helmsen Kate Heston	Donna Aiello	open
March 16 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
March 20 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 George Snyder 1 st Tony Turo 2 nd Kate Heston P Donna Aiello <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	Dottie Antonucci Shari Tarrant	n/a	Saundy Waseleski Tom Waseleski	Dale Bertucci Anthony Bertucci	Mary Bertucci	open
March 23 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a
March 27 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am Children's Sunday, 4th	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 1 st (Children) 2 nd (Children) P (Children)	Joan Klinefelter Libby Juel	n/a	Kate Heston Wesley Bell	Allyson Baierl TBD	John Appledorn	open
March 30 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	n/a	n/a	n/a



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: Cameron Grosh
Jr. Warden: Donna Aiello
Adult Formation: John Appledorn
Audio-Visual Technology: Sean Sweeney
Communication: Sean Sweeney
Finance: Mary Bertucci
Fundraising: Kate Heston & Lauren Ramakrishna
Inreach & Hospitality: Kate Heston
Newcomers: Kate Heston
Outreach: Donna Aiello
Secretary/Clerk: Lauren Ramakrishna
Worship: Neil Galone
Treasurer: Roger Botti
Assistant Treasurer: Ellen Groves

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: Chris Botti
Book Discussion Club: Julie Smith
Brendan's Boots: Tom Waseleski
Bulletin Coordinators: Pat Carl
Carol Meese
Kathy Miller
Dinner Group: Janice Moore
Finance Chair: Mary Bertucci
Green Thumb Gang: Dan Moore
Historian: Ellen Groves
Holiday Arts & Crafts & Cookie Walk: TBD
Memorial Garden: John Appledorn
Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich
Rental: Marilyn Mulvihill
Scholarship: Allison Kline
Ann Vinski
Mike Wick
Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis
Debbie Jennings
Web Site: Kelli Cerra
Annemarie Malbon

OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS

Adopt-A-Highway: Tom Waseleski
CRIES Advocacy: Ellen Groves
ESL: Tim Austin
Joyce Donadee
Garden of Hope: Annemarie Malbon
Justice Ministry: Ginny Volponi
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, Bill Pugliese ~ wjpugliese@aol.com

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

Deacon, Darrell Johnson ~ johnsdj31@verizon.net

Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ StBrendansKatie@gmail.com

Music Director, Daniel May ~ bluesub@verizon.net