



## Weekly at St. Brendan's

- Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship, via live streaming**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc\\_nXXG7ew](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew)
- Monday 8:15 a.m. Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4796201105?pwd=bXM5OHJ2UEh4TXhQT1RkZnVrQWNVdz09>  
 Meeting ID: 479 620 1105 Passcode: 092720
- 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, October 11, 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

### **Voters Are Experiencing Suppression| Manipulation in the North Hills and Greater Pittsburgh**

I rarely tell you what you should or should not do, but today I want to tell you that you or someone in your family **MUST** Participate in our 2nd Public Forum on Voter Suppression, Next Tuesday (October 13 at 7:15PM). It's only an hour, and you can do it from home. Contact Katie to register, [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com).

We had a planning meeting this afternoon, and I learned so much that I didn't know. For example, voter suppression is happening in our area. Most think this sort of thing happens only in the South. Much to my surprise, just as much of it happens in our community. Esther Bush (President of the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh) told us about how the League just won a court case regarding "signature discrepancies." Foolish obstacles (like not using the correct ink color) can disqualify a vote; in other regions of PA, not having a Driver's License ID can disqualify. Esther explained how they won the case in one area of PA and now have to re-win it because of another section of PA claiming it. She said they just won another suppression case having to do with no requirements for the state to notify that a faulty detail disqualified a vote. The League won it in one county—now have to re-win it in another to make it effective. Lots of crazy rules abound, all aimed to keep voting difficult for People of Color. Voter suppression has many faces, and you will be educated about them and given tools by which you can do something about the suppression tactics. Please send someone from your family to this forum (Register with Katie —[StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com)).

Ken and I hand-delivered our mail-in ballots today to our post office this afternoon, and we insisted we witness the clerk stamp our signed envelopes. She generously stamped them in front of us and made sure we saw her place them in the correct mailing container for delivery. At the same time, we can work the at the polls this year, just click on this link <https://www.eac.gov/help-america-vote> and follow the easy directions to register. I'm planning to donate some hours to that if I get chosen. I already learned how to recognize voter intimidation and/or manipulation; and more importantly, I learned what to do about it if I see it. Usually an intimidator gets you to think he or she is a "poll worker." Don't be tricked. If it feels odd, it is odd—trust your gut. Then do these three things:

- Tell him/her to kindly step aside.
- Take his/her picture with a cell phone.
- Call the FBI at 800-253-3931 (put # on your speed dial).

You **MUST** vote this year! This election will be the most important election of your life. It is an obligation, I trust you'll do the right thing. Attending this public forum on Voter Suppression and Manipulation/Intimidation on Tuesday, October 13 at 7:15pm will make you comfortable to vote. Contact Katie to register and get the link to attend. [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com)

Thank you, Everyone.

**Respectfully yours,  
 Regis+**



**Mark your calendar for Blessing of the Animals, October 11, 12:00 noon at Blueberry Hill Park.** Please bring your pet for a blessing. We will also remember the pets we have lost. The entrance to this beautiful park lies just half a mile down the hill from St. Brendan's (take a right onto Blaine's Way, Sewickley, PA 15143). A large shelter has been reserved to protect everyone from all but the worst weather. Any cancellation will be posted as an email blast and on the church's Web site, and will also be announced during the 10:00 a.m. service.

Welcoming all our animal friends: hairy, furry or scaly; hooved or winged; two-, four- or eight-legged; cute or curious!

Please take care to protect your pet and the pets of others in an appropriate way when you come to the park! If your pet does not play well with others, a photo or a stuffed animal can be blessed instead. Sunday, October 11, Noon – 2:00 p.m.

If you are able, please bring some pet food with you to the Blessing and we will see that it reaches animals in need. Thank you!



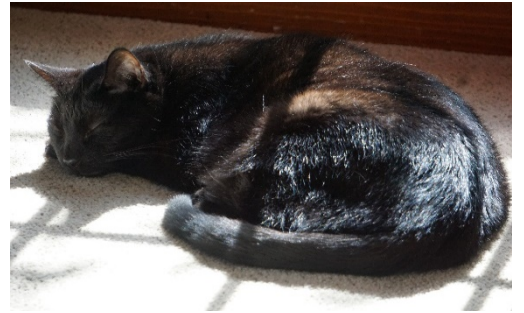
We continue to offer the **opportunity to receive communion on Mondays and Fridays** by appointment only. If you are interested, email Katie at [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com) your availability Monday/Friday and morning/afternoon. You'll come to the portico in front of the 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.



## Senior Warden's Corner



**Megan and I** look forward to seeing the pictures and hearing the tales of the Blessing of the Animals at Blueberry Park this Sunday. Our own housemates (Wordsworth and Coleridge—see *photos*) would not be there even under the best of circumstances; they are such stay-at-home cats that the mere sight of the cat-carriers traumatizes them for weeks! But we and they will be with you in spirit. This will be a rare occasion to experience the joy and wonder of God's creation at a time that has recently given us far too little of either.



### 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 via Zoom. 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.

The following will be there discussing this crucial issue:

**Moderator:** The Rev. Regis Smolko, Priest, St. Brendan's Episcopal Church

**Panelists:** The Rev. Dr. Moni McIntyre, Regular Sunday Supply Priest, St. Stephens, McKeesport, retired professor at Duquesne University  
 Ron Bades, Election Integrity and Security Professional, League of Women Voters  
 Ms. Esther Bush, President of the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh  
 Tim Stevens, Chairman and CEO, Black Political Empowerment Project (B-PEP)

**Mark Tuesday, October 13 at 7:15 pm on your calendar for this important event! Go to [stbrendans.org](http://stbrendans.org) for more information and to register. You can also register through Katie [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com).**

Thank you!

All are welcome so please pass the word around! Thank you!



**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.

# Children's Corner



## Why do we celebrate St. Francis?

Do you know when your birthday is? Of course!!!

My mother used to wake me up on my birthday, with a special "Happy Birthday, Julie, something very special is going to happen for you today."

Do you celebrate your birthday with cake and ice cream, presents, and maybe a party? Sometimes. Maybe not this year, but we have parties in my family to remember birthdays and our special days – like anniversaries or firsts. My brother says, if we can't think of a reason to celebrate, we celebrate the sun coming up.

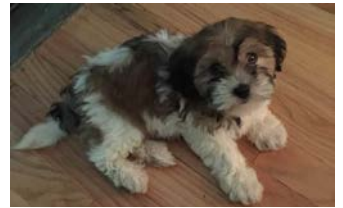
Well, the church does something similar. Some church days are very special – red days – like Christmas. Others are white days – like Easter. But if you ever look at a church calendar, not just what color or season we are in, most days have a special note to remind us of the importance of that day. In fact, almost every day is special to someone in the church.

We have two books that help us remember who we celebrate on different days all year. These books give us brief biographies of the person (or people) and special prayers for the day. What may surprise you, is not everyone in the book is a religious person (like a Saint or an apostle) but are added because of his or her heroic faith, love, goodness of life, joyousness, service to others for Christ's sake, and devotion.



This week, as we gather to bless our pets on Sunday, we also remember St. Francis who is the patron saint of animals and ecology because he loved all animals and even preached to birds. So this Sunday if you bring your pet to Blueberry Park for a blessing, we will be doing what St. Francis did – loving our pets, and loving that God gave us pets to love.

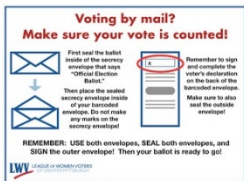
Pets are part of God's creation and when we bless our pets, we thank God for creation. Our pets link us to creation and remind us we are responsible to help God as we help our pets. We remember how our pets comfort us, make us happy and give us companionship.



We also remember other animals, the ones who give us wool and feathers to keep us warm. We thank you for animals that give us milk, cheese and eggs to help us grow and to keep us healthy. We thank you for horses, donkeys and oxen that work hard on farms around the world.

All is this we do, when we remember St. Francis and his preaching to the birds.

Peace,  
Julie+



## 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](http://vote411.org). Plan your vote now.



**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.



**Collection for Haiti:** The school bus for Haiti is almost full and another one will be purchased soon. Keep bringing in those donations from your family and friends to St. Brendan's to the Haiti plastic bin by the front doors of the church. People from the community are also dropping off items. Donations of summer clothes, shoes, kitchen items, bedding, medical supplies, If anyone has access to a solar panel at a reduced, price one or two can be used by the people in Haiti. Some of the remaining items need to be counted and sorted and then the bus will be driven to Miami to be put on a ship for Haiti. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Aiello or Joyce Donadee.

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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.

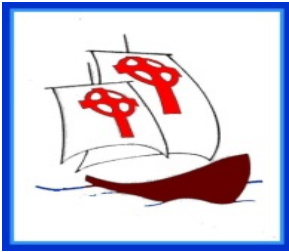
We are grateful for their selfless dedication and ask that God watch over them, keep them safe and give them both strength and rest. We hope that you will join the church in thanking and praying for:

|                  |                                 |                   |   |                       |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 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            | 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.

### **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: 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: 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  
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 8:00-2:00

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](mailto:regisjs@verizon.net)

Youth Education Director, Julie Smith ~ [jlsphone1@gmail.com](mailto:jlsphone1@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com)

Music Director, Daniel May ~ [bluesub@verizon.net](mailto:bluesub@verizon.net)

Nursery Director, Meghan Thompson ~ [meghanthompson328@gmail.com](mailto:meghanthompson328@gmail.com)