

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



Second Sunday of Lent

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

March 12, 2017

10:30 a.m.

A Lenten Message from the Rector

Lent is a season that invites us to be actively engaged in the process of *becoming* the unique person God has called each one of us to be. To help guide us in this process of *becoming*, we turn to our rich Anglican tradition for support. For the next 40 days, we inhabit a liminal space, an in-between time of quiet reflection, prayer and meditation. Lent is a penitential season, meaning that we are intentional about reviewing our lives and the choices we make. We take time out from our daily schedule to devote sincere thought and prayer to naming and confessing our sins (the word "sin" is from the Greek for "miss the mark"). We reflect on the brokenness in our lives, not to be maudlin, but as a necessary step toward enriching and deepening our spiritual lives. In acknowledging how we miss the mark, we also acknowledge our need for God, not just on Sunday but every day. Let this Lent be a holy invitation to experience God's grace with the promise of hope and renewal.

If you are with us for the first time, please make yourself comfortable. We look forward to meeting you. If you would like to learn more about the church, please fill out a card (hanging in each pew), put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or member of the clergy, and we will be in touch. It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you should need to participate in the service is found here, in this bulletin and in the blue hymnal in the pew rack. Hearing assist devices are available as is nursery care for young children. Please ask the ushers for assistance with these or with any other requests. Again, welcome.

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY Final: Andante (*Sonata VI*)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

THE INTROIT Lift thine eyes (*Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn

Words: Psalm 121:1-3

Trio: Emily, Julia, & Katherine Foust

Lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.
Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved, thy keeper will never slumber.

SILENT PROCESSION

All stand at the sound of the bell.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: Plainsong Mode I, Orbis Factor

Translation: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lent brings us an opportunity for deeper reflection, as we take a break from musical fanfares and descants, and replace them with a silent procession and meditative chant. The service music that we sing during Lent is all from the Gregorian Missal; both the Sanctus and Agnus Dei were famously set in Maurice Duruflé's Requiem.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 12:1-4a

All sit.

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 121

The people say the words in bold and sing the Antiphon as indicated.

My — help comes from the LORD, the ma - ker of heav'n and earth.

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 **My help comes from the Lord, ***
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 **Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel ***
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 **So that the sun shall not strike you by day, ***
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 **The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, ***
from this time forth for evermore. *Antiphon*

THE EPISTLE

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 604 When Christ was lifted from the earth

SAN ROCCO

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A period of silence is kept. The people say the words in bold.

On this second Sunday of Lent, come Holy Spirit, and fill us anew with humility and willing vulnerability. As we walk in the wilderness with Jesus, may he find our hearts and minds prepared by our focus on him. — Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, the source of all authority, wisdom, and knowledge, we pray for Donald, our president; for Dannel, our governor; and for their cabinets and aides, that your gifts may be their goals and strength. Grant them the Spirit of Divine Truth and mercy toward those who are harassed and oppressed, hungry and alone. — Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us. Take away the arrogance, hatred and mistrust that infects our hearts and divides us; and unite us in bonds of love to work through our confusion and struggles to accomplish your purposes on earth. — Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Christ Jesus, you are the Great Physician. Touch all those desiring healing of mind, body, soul and spirit with your merciful light and grace. — Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, bless all ministers in St. John's Parish, ordained and lay, and all our people. Strengthen the faithful, wake up the careless, restore the penitent and fill each with your unsurpassed grace. — Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit, grant that what we hear today with our outward ears may be so grafted inwardly in our souls that the changes you call us to make shall be our joy. — Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, we give into your eternal care and mercy those who have died. Let light perpetual shine upon them and keep them in perfect peace. — Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Celebrant Almighty God, giver of all good things, help us to finish the work that we have been given to do, and sustain us with the intercessions of your Spirit, who lives and reigns with you and your beloved Son, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All remain standing or kneel.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE WELCOME

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY He, watching over Israel (*Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn

Words: Psalm 121:4, Psalm 138:7

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not nor sleeps.
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, he will quicken thee.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and

Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

San - ctus, San - ctus, San - ctus Dó - mi - nus De - us Sá - ba - oth.
 Ple - ni sunt cae - li et ter - ra gló - ri - a tu - a. Ho - sán - na
 in ex - cé - l - sis. Be - ne - dí - ctus qui ve - nit in nó - mi - ne
 Dó - mi - ni. Ho - sán - na in ex - cé - l - sis.

Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All remain standing or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Everyone is invited to receive communion at St. John's. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the clergy at the communion rail. If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest. To request healing prayers, proceed to the baptismal font in the back of the nave immediately after receiving communion.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM God so loved the world (*The Crucifixion*) John Stainer (1840-1901)
 Words: John 3:16-17

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son,
 that whoso believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.
 For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world;
 but that the world through him should be saved.

John Stainer's choral setting of the famous John 3:16-17 text is a standard of the choral repertoire, and part of a larger work, The Crucifixion. The full oratorio is still performed annually at St. Marylebone in London, which commissioned it in 1887. The short text of God so loved the world is so well-known because it explains the whole Easter story, encapsulating the essence of the Christian Gospel in fewer than 30 words.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR MISSION

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves, when our dreams have come true because we dreamed too little, and we have arrived safely because we sailed too close to the shore. Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess, we have lost our thirst for the water of life; when having fallen in love with time we have ceased to dream of eternity; and, in our efforts to build the new earth have allowed our vision of the new heaven to grow dim. Stir us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas where storms will show Thy mastery, where losing sight of land we shall find the stars. In the name of Him, who has pushed back the horizons of our hopes and invited the brave to follow Him. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

HYMN IN PROCESSION 473 Lift high the cross

CRUCIFER

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

The minister dismisses the people and they respond, Thanks be to God.

THE VOLUNTARY Fugue (Sonata VI)

Felix Mendelssohn

The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say Amen at the end of the Voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.

St. John's Vestry members are on hand to welcome you to worship today. Today's greeter is Heather Simson.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Hope Eakins

Preacher: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

Layreader: Bess Amamoo

Acolytes: Sophie Murchie, Eddie Genece, Genella Evans, Claire O'Brien

Ushers: Brad Babbitt, Annabel Clapp, Jean Mitchell, Jeff Verney

Healing Prayers: Cindy Lawler

Altar Guild: Ginny Kemp and Conny Deluca

At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center:

Layreader: Tom Moore

Musician: Joyce Burke

In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, for those serving our country in armed services, and for all victims of war and violence.

The parish of Santa Cruz del Norte, our companion parish in Cuba, and Saint Sauveur School, Les Cayes, Haiti.

Séinaire de Théologie d'Église Épiscopale d'Haïti (STEEH), the Episcopal Seminary in Haiti.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster; the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford; and the Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Our postulants, Stacey Kohl and Michael Corey, and our missionary in Haiti, Dr. Lucinda Mosher.

All those whose hurts, burdens and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing:

Jim Evans	Jim Tracy	Robert Connolly	Chas	Jay
Kim Green	Cheryl Trahan	Mary Stoughton	Susan	William
Carol Grieco	Marlene Lambert	Grayson Moore	Kathy	Ian
Janet Ray	Frank & Susan Murray	Kate Forbes	Jim	Alec

Those who are celebrating birthdays this week:

Phoebe Uricchio	Barry Miller	David Grimaldi
Sam Bainbridge	Ginny Kemp	Emily Hardy

Those who are celebrating anniversaries this week:

Wendy and Richard Bartlett

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the churches of Maseno South and Maseno West (Kenya).

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Grace & St. Peter's, Hamden; Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford; Good Shepherd, Hartford; and for bishops, ECCT staff and parish employees, and their families.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

St. John's will hold an **Adult Inquirers Class** with the Rev. Susan Pinkerton after the 10:30 a.m. Sunday services **starting TODAY and continuing on March 19, March 26 and April 2**. Inquirers classes are especially for adults considering being confirmed in the Episcopal church, but any adult who wants to learn more about the Christian faith and Episcopal practice and liturgy is welcome to attend. Please join us in the library after the 10:30 service today if you're interested. Lunch is provided.

The Grace Academy Girl Scouts will be selling Girl Scout Cookies in Hubbard Hall directly after the 10:30 service today. Please support the Girl Scout program at Grace Academy in Hartford, one of St. John's community partners where we sponsor a student. The Girl Scout troop is led by St. John's parishioner Mary Hardy. Cookies are \$5 - \$6 a box, payable by cash or check.

Bach's Birthday Bash is TODAY at 3 p.m. at Avon Congregational Church. This concert celebrating J.S. Bach's upcoming birthday will feature music performed by area musicians, including our own Scott Lamlein and Kari Miller, our regular assisting organist. Come enjoy this free concert followed by a reception with, of course, birthday cake! A free-will offering will be accepted. At 6 West Main Street in Avon, better known as the white-steepled New England church on the corner of Routes 44 & 10.

Trinity Academy, a tuition-free nonprofit elementary school located at Trinity Episcopal Church, invites all to their Excellence Dinner: The Magic of Trinity, on **March 18 at 6 p.m.** at the Bond Ballroom in Hartford. For more information or to buy tickets, contact Trinity Academy through their web site at TrinityDay.org.

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut's Spring Training & Gathering is an annual training day with dozens of workshops. The 2017 Gathering will take place **Saturday, April 1** from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event is designed for both clergy and lay people, and Susan Pinkerton will be leading a workshop with Bishop Laura Ahrens. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.episcopalct.org/spring-training/>.

A revitalized **Christian Education committee will meet after the 10:30 service on Sunday, April 2**, to provide ideas and support for our religious education programs for children and youth. Contact Janet Babbitt, director of Christian education, if you have questions or want to participate but can't attend the meeting.

St. Patrick's Day Youth Night @ St. John's



6:30—8:30 p.m.
Friday March 17, 2017

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with fellowship, pizza & a movie!

Please bring a snack, salad, drink or dessert to share. See sign-up sheet in your class.

Location: Lower Level Meeting Room

RSVP to Janet@sjparish.net by Thursday March 16, 2017

RESOURCES FOR A HOLY LENT

Our inaugural **St. John's Lent devotional**, including reflections created by parishioners, is now available in the literature racks at either entrance. Use it to support your Lenten practice—and get to know other St. John's parishioners a little better.

A **"Women Together" Lenten book study**, to which all women from St. John's, Trinity Church and St. James's Church are invited, is held **every Tuesday in Lent from 3 to 4:15 p.m.** at St. John's. The group is reading and discussing *A Season of the Spirit* by Martin L. Smith. Through 40 daily meditations and prayers, Smith leads readers on a journey of discovery in which we find that Christ, through the Spirit, embraces every aspect of our humanity. Copies of the book may be purchased from St. John's for \$15.

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton is leading an informal **Bible study at noon every Wednesday** in Lent. All are welcome to drop by—one time, every week, or somewhere in between.

The Society of Saint John the Evangelist (SSJE) is offering an **online "5 Marks of Love" Lenten course**, which provides a daily email with links to readings, videos and questions for individuals and small groups to "...reflect not on what we should do, but on how we should live. We will draw on...monastic spirituality to suggest how we all can balance action with contemplation, so that our words and deeds proceed from the deepest places of our hearts, where God dwells." You may access the course free of charge at 5MarksOfLove.org.

Camp Washington is offering a **Lenten retreat March 31 - April 1**. Led by Brother Robert L'Esperance from SSJE, the retreat is for those who want to explore a contemplative prayer practice. Cost is \$205 for a private room, \$175 for a shared room, and \$125 if you want to attend sessions but not stay overnight. Register at campwashington.org.

Do you know who Moses the Black is?

Born around the year 330 in Ethiopia, Moses was a bandit and thief who converted to Christianity and renounced violence when, fleeing from the law, he took refuge in a monastery and was inspired by the brothers' faith. He became known in his monastic community for his remarkable willingness to forgive those who did wrong. When a band of marauders was approaching the monastery to attack, Moses sent most of the monks away, welcoming the invaders openly and refusing to violently oppose them. He and the other brothers who stayed behind were all killed. Moses the Black is the patron saint of nonviolence, and he beat out John Wycliffe (the first person to issue a direct literal translation of the Bible—one not overlaid with Church-sanctioned commentary—in English) in one of this week's **Lent Madness** "battles."



Provided by Forward Movement (the people who publish the *Forward Day by Day* devotionals), Lent Madness is a March Madness-style bracket chart plotting "competitions" between saints of the church. Each day, two saints are featured, with basic biographical information presented for each. As Lent progresses, "things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch."

You can download your own bracket, read about the saints, and vote each day for which of the day's paired saints you like best at www.LentMadness.org, or track the competition on the bracket posted on the bulletin board outside Hubbard Hall.



The office desperately needs small-denomination gift cards to Walgreens, CVS, Subway, ShopRite, & Dunkin Donuts. We keep gift cards in \$5 to \$10 denominations on hand for people who come to the church in need of food and other essentials — and we are almost completely out. You may drop gift cards off at the office during the week, or hand them to any staff member on Sundays.

Provide child care for several children from refugee families while their parents learn English. The children have supervised play time in our nursery while their parents participate in ESOL classes on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. You may bring your own children along to play too. Contact Brooke Whittemore at brookewhittemore@sbcglobal.net to sign up.

Donate a new or gently used computer in good working order to Father Colbert, who oversees St. Sauveur School in Les Cayes, Haiti. It can be a laptop or desktop. There is a volunteer who can carry it down to Haiti in late March. Contact the parish office if you can help.

Sign up to host a Sunday coffee hour on the Faith Forum bulletin board in Hubbard Hall.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

- ❖ Faith@Work Faith Forum series — March 12, 19, and 26 at 9:30 a.m.
- ❖ “Women Together” Lent book study — Tuesdays in Lent from 3 to 4:15 p.m.
- ❖ Lent midweek Bible study — Wednesdays in Lent, starting March 8, at noon
- ❖ Men’s Bible study — Every Thursday at 6:30 a.m.
- ❖ Adult Inquirers Class — March 12, 19, 26 and April 2, after the 10:30 a.m. service
- ❖ St. Patrick’s Day Youth Night — March 17 at 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Evensong with the Bishop’s Choir School, Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield — March 26 at 5 p.m.
- ❖ Episcopal Church in CT Spring Training — April 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

FAITH@WORK A SPECIAL FAITH FORUM SERIES

The workplace is a laboratory for moral choice.

- How does Christian faith shape our decisions?
- What ethical challenges face us in the boardroom, the classroom, the shop?
- How does our faith affect our choice of vocation?
- “What would Jesus do?”

These are some of the vital questions that we will be exploring during the Sundays in Lent, in conversation with four intriguing guests. Two are well-known members of St. John’s, one a physician and the other an insurance executive and civic leader. Two other guests are prominent figures from the wider world, one a neuroscientist and college president and the other a high-ranking government official.

Each session of Faith@Work will follow the pattern of introduction, interview, and open questions from the audience. Be sure to be there!



Faith@Work

A St. John's Faith Forum series on the connections between our daily work and our Christian faith

March 5

Jeff Verney, president of UnitedHealthcare Retiree Products & Services

March 12

Dr. Joanne Berger-Sweeney, president of Trinity College

March 19

Dr. Karan Emerick, pediatric gastroenterologist at CCMC & Yale-New Haven Hospital

March 26

The Honorable Togo D. West Jr., former secretary of the Army and secretary of veterans affairs

**9:30 a.m.
Sunday mornings**

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning

5:00 p.m. Evensong on selected last Sundays of the month

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer each Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Christian Education at 9:30 a.m. September – May

STAFF

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net).....	Rector
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)	Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net)	Deacon
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net)	Priest Associate
The Rev. William Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net).....	Priest Associate
The Rev. Helen M. Moore* (helen@sjparish.net).....	Director of Pastoral and Spiritual Ministries
Janet Babbitt (janet@sjparish.net).....	Director of Religious Education
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton
Mary Scripko (mary@sjparish.net)	Religious Education Assistant
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

**These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John's mission and ministries.*

VESTRY

Buffy Ineson.....	Warden
Wes Winterbottom.....	Warden
Beth Grieco and Chris Byrd.....	Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar	Clerk

2015-17: Courtney Bass, Jan Hickcox, Heather Simson

2016-18: Bess Amamoo, Tim Goetz, Ginny Kemp, Will Smith

2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Douglas Hyland, Virginia Van Dyk, Andrew Worrell

ST. PAUL'S DEAF CONGREGATION

Sundays, 10:30 a.m., in the church

Lay leaders: Victoria Crosta – text: 860-478-6524; Melissa Render – text: 860-983-4606