



**ST. DUNSTAN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# THE 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

## February 24, 2019

### 8 am

*Welcome to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!*

*If you are new, or would like to update your information, please fill out a pew card.  
And please join us for coffee and fellowship immediately following the service.*

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## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*The congregation is invited to observe silence during the prelude,  
out of respect for those who are listening, and as an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and healing.*

**Prelude** Prelude in C ("The 9/8") BWV 547

*J.S. Bach*

**Priest** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People** **And Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Priest** 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. **Amen.**

**People** **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## The Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Genesis 45:3–11, 15

*A decisive moment in the story of Joseph as he reveals himself to his brothers, who then journey home to tell their father Jacob that his son is still alive. The brothers are at first overwhelmed by the discovery that the brother they had sold into slavery is now Pharaoh's right-hand officer. Joseph tells them not to be upset: this has all been part of God's plan to preserve Israel during the coming time of famine.*

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?"

But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty."

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 *Noli aemulari***

*A psalm of advice to the wise, instructing them to avoid evil and to wait patiently on the Lord in righteousness.*

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the Lord and do good; \*  
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the Lord, \*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, \*  
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light \*  
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the Lord \*  
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, \*  
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, \*  
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; \*  
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; \*  
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; \*  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The Lord will help them and rescue them; \*  
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,  
because they seek refuge in him.

## 1 Corinthians 15:35–38, 42–50

*Paul continues to discuss the question of resurrection from death. Some of the Corinthians are not sure whether they believe in resurrection, especially if it involves a physical body. There will be some form of body, Paul tells them. In this sense individuality will continue, but it will be a body of a transformed nature. As we have lived in a body like that of the earthly Adam, so we will have a body like that of the heavenly Jesus.*

Someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## **Luke 6:27–38**

*Jesus calls his followers to a way of life that reaches beyond worldly understandings of what is good. In acts of mercy and kindness, disciples are to show forth the character of their heavenly Father. This manner of love extends even to enemies. It means learning to forgive and not judging others, for the measure given will be the measure dealt in return.*

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said, “I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Serenity prayer**

**God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
The courage to change the things I can,  
And the wisdom to know the difference. Amen.**

**The Sermon**

*After the sermon a brief silence is kept.*

The Rev. Rob Fisher

## 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 worshipped 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 *Standing or kneeling.*

**Leader** With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying,  
“Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God,  
and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Leader** For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God,  
and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Leader** For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mary, our Bishop, and for all the clergy  
and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For Donald, our President; Gavin, our Governor; for the leaders of the nations,  
and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the Monterey Peninsula; Hinche, Haiti; for every city and community,  
and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For reasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the good earth which God has given us,  
and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans,  
and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute,  
for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader That we may end our lives in faith and hope,  
without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.  
**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader We pray for the search for the 4th Bishop of the Diocese of El Camino Real.  
We pray especially for the members of the Search Team, the Transition Team,  
Bishop Mary and the person God is calling to be our next Bishop.

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader In the communion of St. Dunstan, St. Andre, and all the saints,  
let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**People To thee, O Lord our God.**

Priest We offer these our prayers and thanksgivings to you, O God,  
the source of all that is true and holy, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Confession of Sin** *Standing or kneeling. Silence may be kept.*

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

**People 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.**

**The Absolution**

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

**The Peace** *All stand.*

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

*The people exchange the peace with one another.*

**Announcements** *All are seated.*

**Prayer for a Birthday**

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your  
servant N. as he/she begins another year. Grant that he/she may grow  
in wisdom and grace, and strengthen his/her trust in your goodness  
all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## The Offertory

Priest Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Priest All things come of thee, O Lord.

**People And of thine own have we given thee.**

### The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer IIb; Episcopal Church of Scotland*

Priest The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Priest Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker. Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being, and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment. Day and night celebrate your glory till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your only-begotten Son, you have revealed yourself to the world.

By the guiding of a star, you made him known to the nations as the son of David and king of Israel; that in following him, we might be led from darkness and into his marvelous light.

Filled with the Spirit, who descended upon your Son at his Baptism in the Jordan, we who are baptized in his name strive for his heavenly kingdom in whose radiance we are transfigured and the earth is transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose who celebrate the manifestation of your Son we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

**People Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

Priest    Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father. In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us. Our hope is built on him in whom you are well pleased. Having been shown to the world as your beloved Son, he proclaimed the good news of your kingdom. The blind received their sight, the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed, and the captives set free. At his word, water became wine, the hungry were filled with bread, and the dead were raised. Before he was given up to suffering and death, desiring to complete the work for which he came into the world, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:  
“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:  
“Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.”

We now obey your Son’s command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ’s Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.

**AMEN.**

Priest    And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People    **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 Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Priest 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.

***All are welcome to receive the Holy Communion.***

The bread is received in the open palm. The wine, if desired, may be taken from the cup by drinking (guide the chalice gently to your lips by the base) or by dipping the bread.

Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

If you have a wheat sensitivity, you may ask the priest for a gluten-free wafer.

## The Post-Communion Prayer

Priest Let us pray.

People **E**ternal 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.**

## The Blessing

Priest **L**ife is short.

And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts  
of those who travel the way with us.

So be swift to love.

Make haste to be kind.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

*Celebrant & Preacher:* The Rev. Rob Fisher  
*Lay Server:* Mystery Chastain  
*Lector:* Janel Hornbeck



*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God*

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*St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church celebrates God's diverse creation and strives to build an inclusive community that welcomes everyone, no matter age, gender, sexual identity, culture, ethnicity, economic status, or ability.*

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## Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to [office\(at\)stdcv.org](mailto:office(at)stdcv.org) by midnight Monday.

## common thread

*spirit, music, food, drink, community*

Now the Second Friday each month,  
6 pm in Carlyle Hall

**Friday,  
March 1**



## Children & Youth Ministries

*To get involved or learn more,  
contact the church office.*

**Light and Love** (Ages infant–4 years)  
10 am Sundays in the nursery

A safe, sunny space where the youngest children can learn and play while parents experience the service. All children are also heartily welcome in church!

**Godly Play** (Ages 4 and up)  
10 am Sundays in Carlyle Hall

Based on Montessori principles, Godly Play allows children to explore their own innate spirituality through engagement with stories from the bible.

**Re:form** (Tweens and Teens)  
11:30–12:45 Alternate Sundays

Using games, videos and discussion, participating youth develop their tools for critical thinking, faithful reflection and discovery. And they have fun!

**Youth in Action** (Tweens and Teens)  
At least once per month; sites vary

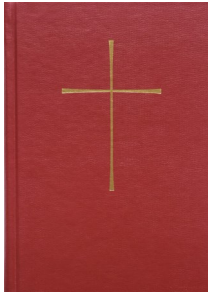
A kid-driven volunteer service program through which our youth address social and environmental issues, help others in the community and have fun!  
Open to any local kids who want to make their community a better place.

*Sunday Morning Class:*

## **The Book of Common Prayer**

**9 am (Outer Office)**

Today we return to the Rector's Outer Office to continue our study of the Book of Common Prayer. Our subject is the Holy Eucharist. We will look at the Order of Worship by examining what we do and what it all means? Hopefully our worship on Sunday will take on a whole new meaning! Please join us!



*Help us know you by*

### **Filling out a Pew Card**

If you are visiting us, are new to Saint Dunstan's, or if your contact information has changed, please fill out a Pew Card and drop it in the collection plate. Thanks!

### **In our prayers this week. . . .**

Sam, Andrew, J.J., Richard, John, Cora, Ross, Victoria, Peter, Ida, David, Jack, Jan, Cecily, Jane, Brad, Kay, Jeanne, Dick, Libby, Daniela, Donna, Yolette, Sarah & Joe, James, Fran, Augie, Daniel, Glenn, Gigi, Beth, Phil, John, Nancy, Jeff

### **For the repose of the souls . . . .**

Ginny Crawford, Joe Polaschek

*Last week to apply!*

## **2019 WSD Grant Applications**

***Application deadline: March 5; 2 pm***

We have \$10,000 to give away from our Madrigal Affair in December. Grant Applications are available in the WSD Folder in the Church office. They can be returned to the office or emailed to Pam Austin or Elizabeth Pasquinnelli.

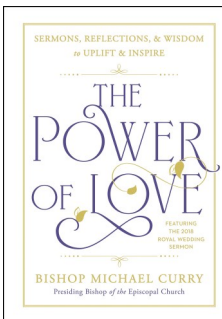
### ***Presentations & Voting, March 24<sup>th</sup>!***

The Women of St. Dunstan's will hear from each of the Grant Applicants at their Meeting on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. The Priority Voting will be done at the end of that meeting only. So, please put that date on your calendar as it is so

*Lenten series*

## **Home Groups to Explore**

### **"The Power of Love"**



We will gather in small groups to reflect on the theme of love, through sermons of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

Gatherings will take place in the homes of parishioners in local neighborhoods.

Books will be available through the church or can be purchased online or in stores. Sign up on the Welcome Table.

*The beginning of Lent in two parts:*  
**Mardi Gras & Ash Wednesday**  
**March 5 & 6**

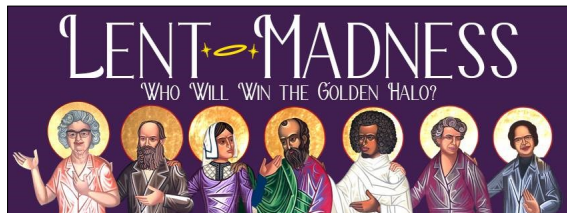
Plans are still underway for the details of our Mardi Gras celebration, but rest assured: les bonnes temps are going to be roulez--ing!



Mardi Gras (literally “Fat Tuesday” in Cajun) is also known as Shrove Tuesday, when people would make confession and receive penance and forgiveness of their sins (“to be shriven”) and have Pancake Suppers. And there is a deeper connection between Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday: cleaning out the cupboard! Whether you have a Mardi Gras or a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, both are intended to get rid of the rich foods that one might be giving up for Lent. Much more than just a big party, this is the first part of the penitent season of Lent that continues the next day as we are reminded that we are “but dust, and to dust we shall return.”

So join our Mardi Gras celebration the evening of March 5 and come back on Ash Wednesday for the Imposition of Ashes at either 12 noon or 6 pm.

**Sign up on the Welcome Table!**



*Coming soon to a church near you:*  
**Lent Madness!**

Lent is coming soon, and with it comes... Lent madness! What is this nonsense? Two Episcopal priests have developed this fun way to learn about Saints during Lent. 64 Saints are nominated by the Lent madness public (that’s you and me)—then they are arranged into a bracket much like a sports elimination tourny. Each day during Lent (except Sundays) you read about two Saints and decide which of the two should advance toward the grand prize—the Golden Halo! Then you go on line and vote. You can also comment, add thoughts, poetry, music and read the wickedly clever musings of others. Or you can just read about the Saints and call that it. Your choice. We will have booklets available at the Shrove Tuesday festivities for those who would like to read about the nominated Saints. Or you can get all the information on line at [lentmadness.org](http://lentmadness.org). This is all in fun, and it gives us an opportunity to learn about some of the great Saints of God. You will be able to track the progress of the Saints toward the Golden Halo on a poster behind the Welcome Table during Lent.

# THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

PARISH OFFICE OPEN TUESDAY—FRIDAY, 9 AM—1 PM

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## Sunday, February 24

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 am Sunday Morning Class  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist  
Children's Ministries  
7:00 pm AA

## Monday, February 25

## Tuesday, February 26

10:00 am PEO  
7:30 pm AA

## Wednesday, February 27

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Healing  
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
1:00 pm Staff Meeting  
2:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, February 28

## Friday, March 1

6:00 pm Common Thread

## Saturday, March 2

2:00 pm Reception & lecture  
3:00 pm *Music at St. Dunstan's presents*  
Paul Carmona, organist  
6:00 pm Newcomer Dinner

## Sunday, March 3

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 am Sunday Morning Class  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist  
Children's Ministries  
11:30 am Holy Week Liturgy Planning  
7:00 pm AA

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## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

22 Courtney Shevelson      27 Lawrence Reierson      28 Crosby Hawthorne  
26 Sarah Hawthorne      27 Joseph Talley

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Rob Feller      9 Jeff Jones      16 Mike Hendrickson  
1 Chase Melich      10 Abigail Davis      22 Sally Dietrich  
2 Flo von Platen      10 Hannah Davis      28 Tracy Jones  
6 Alma Rose Lewis      10 James Miller      28 Liz Rondelle  
7 Ari Roohbakhsh      12 Grace Merrill      30 Art Pasquinelli  
7 Sue Spangler      13 Roger Fulton      30 Niki Tugwell  
8 Graham Simpson      16 Kurt Buche      31 Avery Kasdan



## **WE HOPE YOU FIND YOURS HERE**

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

## **WHAT WE ARE FOR**

The dignity and worth of every person. An open minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. God's friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life's rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life's challenges. A "user-friendly" church experience. Children, youth and families. We believe that God is love, and we pray that God will use us to spread that love.

## **WHAT WE ARE AGAINST**

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don't always avoid these!)

## **WHAT WE VALUE**

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God's creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

## **WELCOME!**

*Originally written by the people of St. Bartholomew's, New York, this statement has been modified for our use with their permission.*

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