



Phone:
(315) 353-2037

Our E-mail
stphilips@live.com

Our website
saintphilipsnorwood.com

The Rt. Rev. William H. Love, Bishop

The Rev. Kathryn Boswell, Rector

Wardens:

Romi Sebald

Helen Harris

Vestry:

Charlie Colbert

Irene Hargrave

Lynn Howe

Karen Morgan



St. Philip's Church

*Rector's
Message*



Rev. Kathryn Boswell
Rector

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CommonLife

**February-March 2018 Volume 10 & 11
Issue 2 & 3**

Welcoming the weary, dedicated to
discipleship

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:28-29)

Dear brothers and sisters,

In a nice little bit of circumstantial humor, this year, Valentine's Day 2018, the traditionally fluffy day of romance and fat little cherubs and all things chocolate, is also Ash Wednesday, the day on which we call to mind our mortality and enter the long, solemn season of Lent. The world will make sure we don't forget Valentine's Day; every store is already awash with pink and red, reminding us to send lacy greetings to all our loved ones. But on the whole, the world is largely unaware of and unconcerned with the approach of the Lenten season. After all, death and repentance aren't really very effective promotional gimmicks. Very few people understand the purpose of Lent, except perhaps for it being an opportunity to try to lose a few pounds. Because the one thing people know about Lent is that you're supposed to give something up. And people are always looking for a new angle on self-improvement.

But the real meaning of the Lenten season largely remains a mystery to people. Its origins go back to the days of the early church, when converts to Christianity went through a long process of study and preparation before they were baptized, which happened, traditionally, on Easter Sunday. Therefore the 40 days of Lent were the days of preparation for all catechumens (which is what people are called who are in the process of preparing for baptism) as well as people who had been separated from the community of believers for some serious sin – a time to prepare mentally by studying the truths of the faith, to prepare spiritually by prayer, self-examination and repentance, and to prepare physically by disciplining the flesh with fasting and doing works of giving and mercy. Like Jesus, who fasted and wrestled with Satan for 40 days in the desert before he began his ministry, Lent gives



St. Philip's Church
42 S. Main St.
P. O. Box 225
Norwood, NY 13668

TO:

his followers an opportunity to face our own demons of weakness and fear and self-indulgence, without pretense or excuse; and to get prepared, mentally, spiritually and physically, for the joy of the Resurrection.

We may observe Lent in many excellent ways, from devotional reading to gathering with our brothers and sisters for the Lenten luncheons. But I'd like to put in a good word for fasting, which doesn't enjoy the greatest popularity, as Lenten observances go. As I have mentioned, there are some who see the Lenten fast as primarily an opportunity for losing a bit of the poundage we gained over the holidays. But there is a much more profound, and less self-absorbed, reason for the practice of fasting, and that is to increase our awareness of, and solidarity with, the suffering in the world around us. I would like to quote Fr. Robert Capon's wise words on the subject. This is from his book *The Marriage Supper of the Lamb*.

“[Hunger] is not only the best sauce; it is also the choicest daily reminder that the agony of the world is by no means over. As long as the passion goes on, we are called to share it as we can – especially if, by the mere luck of the draw, we have escaped the worst pains of it. Do all you can to help, of course; but don't, for all that, forget that you are also called simply to bear. In the end, the agony lies too deep for any cure except the cross. Fast, therefore, until his Passion brings the world home free. He works through any crosses He can find. In a time of affluence, fasting may well be the simplest one of all.”

Let each one of us enter into this holy season, walking in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus, who invites us to take up our cross and follow him.


Kathryn+



March 2018

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Common Cents closed	2 Stations of the Cross Noon 	3 10:00 am Daughters of the King Common Cents 10-Noon
4 The Third Sunday in Lent 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	5	6 10 am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	7 10:30 am Nursing Home service Noon Lenten Luncheon Women's Guild 1:30 pm	8 Common Cents 10-2pm	9 Stations of the Cross Noon 	10 Common Cents 10-Noon 10 am Vestry
11 The Fourth Sunday in Lent 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	12	13 10am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	14 Noon Lenten Luncheon 6pm Lord's Prayer study	15 Common Cents 10-2pm	16 Stations of the Cross Noon 	17 Common Cents 10-Noon
18 The Fifth Sunday in Lent 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	19	20 10am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	21 Noon Lenten Luncheon 6pm Lord's Prayer study	22 Common Cents 10-2pm	23 Stations of the Cross Noon 	24 Common Cents 10-Noon
25 PALM SUNDAY 10 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour 	26	27 10am Bible Study Common Cents Closed	28 Noon Chrism service at Tupper Lake Community Dinner 5-6:30pm  6pm Lord's Prayer study	29 Maundy- Thursday Agape meal and Communion 5:30 pm Common Cents Closed	30 Good Friday Stations of the Cross Noon Good Friday service 5:30 pm 	31 Holy Saturday Common Cents Closed Easter Vigil service 7pm
APRIL						
1 EASTER SUNDAY 10 am Holy Eucharist	 2	3 Common Cents 10-2pm	4	5 Common Cents 10-2pm	6	7 Common Cents 10-Noon

February 2018

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Common Cents 10-2pm	2	3 Common Cents 10-Noon 10:00 am Daughters of the King
4 The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	5	6 10 am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	7 10:30 am Nursing Home service Women's Guild 1:30pm	8 Common Cents 10-2pm	9	10 Common Cents 10-Noon Vestry 10:00 am
11 The Last Sunday after the Epiphany 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	12	13 10 am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm Shrove Tues. 5pm Pancake Supper	14 ASH Wed.  Service at 6pm Valentine's Day	15 Common Cents 10-2pm	16 Stations of the Cross Noon 	17 Common Cents 10-Noon
18 The First Sunday in Lent 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	19	20 10 am Bible Study Common Cents 10-2pm	21 Noon Lenten Luncheon 6pm Lord's Prayer study	22 Common Cents 10-2pm	23 Stations of the Cross Noon 	24 Common Cents 10-noon
25 The Second Sunday in Lent 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	26	27 Common Cents 10-2pm	28 Noon Lenten Luncheon Community Dinner 5-6:30pm  CommUnity Supper 6pm Lord's Prayer study			



Holy Week and Easter 2018

Sunday, March 25 **Palm Sunday** at 10 a.m.
Reading the Passion and Holy Eucharist

Thursday, March 29 at 5:30 p.m.
Maundy Thursday: the Last Supper

Friday, March 30
Good Friday: the death of our Lord
Stations of the Cross at noon
Service at 5:30
(the Church will be open in the afternoon
for quiet reflection)

Saturday, March 31 at 7 p.m.
The Great Vigil of Easter:
kindling the New Fire

Sunday, April 1 at 10 a.m.
Easter Sunday: Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

Join us for a celebration brunch following the Mass



Collect for Ash Wednesday

*Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing you have made
and forgive the sins of all who are penitent:
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

- from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer



DINNER
Come and share a
home-cooked meal
with us!

February 28th

Baked Ziti
Tossed Salad
Garlic bread
Dessert

March 28th
Holy Week

Soup
Bread
Fruit

**Common Cents will be closed
during Holy Week March 25th
through Easter April 2nd**



February Birthdays

Linda Dafoe	Feb. 10th
Stacey Ledger	Feb. 10th
Albert Layo	Feb. 12th
Nancy Levison	Feb. 17th
Lynn Howe	Feb. 20th
Michael Harris	Feb. 24th

March Birthdays

Felix Levison	March 1st
Lance Rowley	March 6th



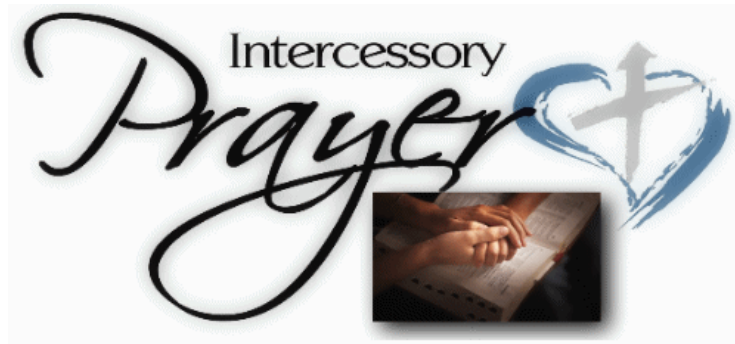
February Anniversaries

Larry & Carol Cavallaro
February 1st

Scott & Linda Dafoe
February 7th

Andrew & Susan Smith
February 24th

Intercessory Prayer



One of the blossoming ministries of this past year at St. Philip's has been the ministry of intercessory prayer. Our new group of Daughters of the King is committed to daily prayer for the needs of our church as well as needs in our community, our Diocese, and our world. In

addition, a small but faithful group has been offering intercessory prayer on Sunday mornings during the Communion. These are immensely valuable ways for us to serve one another. and prayer is a ministry that belongs not just to certain special people, but to everyone. As Paul wrote to the Ephesian church: "Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads...keep alert and never give up; pray always for all God's people."

Carroll has been organizing prayer teams each Sunday morning, and would very happily welcome additional people. Some might feel comfortable praying aloud for the needs of your brothers and sisters; others might prefer to offer silent prayer support. We would like to have all-women teams occasionally, and other times all-men teams, so that people will feel comfortable asking for personal needs. All prayer offered is valuable and is heard by God, who loves to bless his children. Please consider whether you might be able to serve in this important way. We will have a sign-up in the coming weeks for those who would be willing to be part of the Sunday prayer teams.

Thank you!

Vestry News:

A huge thank you to Sharon Yousey for her years of loyal dedicated service to St. Philip's Vestry.

We welcome to the Vestry for 2018 Irene Hargrave.



Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered.
For our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

Johann Heermann (b. 1585)



The Lord's Prayer

Wednesday evenings at 6 during Lent, beginning February 21st, all are invited to a discussion group, focused on the prayer that our Lord taught his disciples. For our text, we will be using *The Lord and His Prayer*, a book of six reflections written by N.T. Wright, former Bishop of Durham, UK, and currently professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. The reflections are thoughtful, but not lengthy. I think they will lead us into fruitful discussion, and a deeper understanding of these words that are so familiar to us. In his prologue, Wright has this to say:

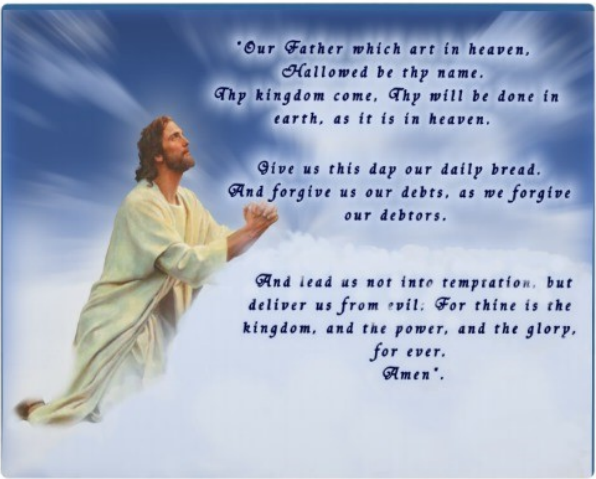
“We live, as Jesus lived, in a world all too full of injustice, hunger, malice and evil. [The Lord's] prayer cries out for justice, bread, forgiveness and deliverance. If anyone thinks those are irrelevant in today's world, let them read the newspaper and think again.

“The more I have studied Jesus in his historical setting, the more it has become clear to me that this prayer sums up fully and accurately, albeit in a very condensed fashion, the way in which he read and responded to the signs of the times, the way in which he understood his own vocation and mission and invited his followers to share it. This prayer, then, serves as a lens through which to see Jesus himself, and to discover something of what he was about.

“When Jesus gave his disciples this prayer, he was giving them part of his own breath, his own life, his own prayer....When you take these words on your lips you stand on hallowed ground.”

Please let me know if you would like to be part of this study. I will order the books soon. They are about \$10, but I will order extras and you are welcome to borrow a book if you don't want to buy a copy. You are welcome to order a copy of the book even if you aren't planning to attend.

This is going to be good. Hope you can join us.



The Way of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent it is our tradition to meet at noon for The Way of the Cross, a devotion that comes from our Episcopal Book of Occasional Services. It is a powerful way of experiencing our Lord's Passion and Death with our whole selves, not merely reading the Scriptures and thinking about them, which is of great value, but walking from icon to icon, treading by faith in our Lord's footsteps from his arrest to the moment his body was laid in the tomb.

We are people of the Resurrection, proclaiming every moment of every day that Jesus is alive and present with us in power through his Holy Spirit. We proclaim that the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea in which Jesus was laid is forever empty. We do not walk the way of the Cross to wallow in our grief and guilt. We walk to remember anew, with amazed and thankful hearts, how our Lord's love brought him to suffer all things as a mortal man that we might share his divine life forever. I invite you to join us as we allow this Lenten devotion to deepen our love for the One who loved us more than his own life. If anyone is unable to attend the noontime Way of the Cross because of work, please speak to me about arranging an evening devotion in addition to the regular time

