



The Compass

... Pointing People toward Christ



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SPRING 2020



The basis for the traditional spiritual practices of Lent is found in Matthew 6:1-18, in which Jesus teaches the importance of **prayer, fasting, and charitable giving** ("alms").

Each of these practices (or "disciplines"), if done faithfully and with a sincere heart, is designed to bring us closer to God—and to others, in love.

And yet, many of us find we are too busy, stressed, tired, or distracted to truly keep a holy Lent. So I'd like to suggest that if you can't do all three, try *one*.

If you choose **prayer**, set aside a few of minutes (or more) each day to intercede for some need in the world—whether nearby or far away, or simply, give God thanks and praise. If you're not used to praying spontaneously, our *Book of Common Prayer* has prayers for everything you can imagine. See page 810 and following.

And plan to stay after the **Maudy Thursday Mass**, April 9th, for our **one-hour prayer vigil**.

If you opt for **fasting**, but don't want to (or can't, for health reasons) give up certain foods, meals, sweets, or alcohol, there are many things from which we can "fast," to make more room for God: Spend less time with your TV, the Internet, or smart phone. Give up—or cut back on—nonessential shopping, complaining, gossiping, or cursing. Maybe, talk less and listen more.



If you decide **charitable giving** is more your style, St. John's offers many opportunities to be generous: Bring a weekly item for the Octorara Area Food Cupboard; contribute nonperishable pastas and sauces on **Pasta Night**, March 6th; donate funds to the Outreach budget; take a meal to a shut-in (see p. 6); send cards to our elderly and the sick. *Use your imagination!*

The principle of Lenten discipline is that we give up something in our normal daily practice, to use that time, money, or opportunity, to focus more on God and others.

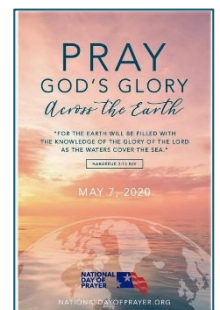
The Lord doesn't want empty religious gestures during this penitential season, or any other. What He wants is our **hearts**. God was clear when He spoke to the prophet Isaiah (58:6-7):

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice ... to let the oppressed go free ... Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?"

Ask God for the grace to keep a Holy Lent, that He might reward you with a greater closeness to His loving presence.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the **National Day of Prayer Service** at St. John's on **Thurs. May 7th at 7 pm.**

Yours in Christ's love and service, Mother Nina +



Join us for a Lenten Taizé-style service of Worship and Prayer on Saturday
March 28 at 7:00 pm



This informal, candlelit service (without a sermon, offering, or Eucharist) includes inspirational Scripture readings, easy-to-sing uplifting chants, prayer, and peaceful, meditative silence. It's the perfect opportunity to invite an unchurched friend or neighbor—and to draw closer to God in this reflective season.

Stations of the Cross

6 pm - Every Friday in Lent
 March 6 - April 3



This ancient devotion is brief, but meaningful. Afterward, we share a meatless potluck supper and warm fellowship. Try it sometime!

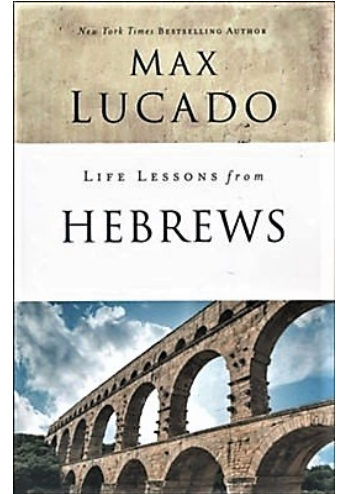


Friday, March 6,
following Stations of the
Cross: "Pasta Night"!

Come for "Stations" first, or just plan to attend the meatless potluck pasta supper afterward. See the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to bring food to share. Also, please generously contribute boxed pasta and canned sauces, or other non-perishable foods, for the Octorara Area Food Cupboard.

Spring Bible Study April 22 – June 24

Wednesdays
6:00 to 7:00 pm

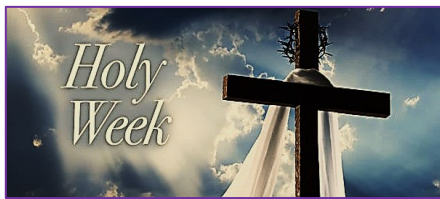


We will be reading and discussing the New Testament Book of Hebrews, using Max Lucado's "Life Lessons" series. There are still a couple of workbooks left, and anyone is welcome.

When we celebrated our 290th Anniversary last Fall, St. John's Church received several letters of commendation—from the Governor, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, U.S. Senator Pat Toomey, and others—and we were featured in a large story in *The Lancaster Newspaper*. A plaque showing this article, and all the framed congratulations, now hang in the church entryway.

Check it out!





Palm Sunday—April 5, 10:30 am

Liturgy of the Palms, Reading of the Passion Gospel, and Holy Eucharist, Rite I.

Messianic Seder—April 7, 7 pm

Remember Jesus' Last Supper, dining as He did with His friends, in this historic meal from the Jewish tradition.

Maundy Thursday—April 9, 7 pm

Solemn Holy Eucharist, Rite I, followed by a one-hour prayer vigil "in the Garden with Jesus" (before the Blessed Sacrament). Devotional materials will be available for those who choose to stay for any length of time.

Good Friday—April 10, 7 pm

The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday, with Communion from the Reserved Sacrament. Spend an hour with Jesus on this holiest of days.

Great Vigil of Easter—April 11, 7 pm

The first service of Easter, with the lighting of the Paschal fire; chanting the Exsultet song of praise; reading through God's plan of salvation in the Scriptures; and concluding with Holy Eucharist, Rite II.

Easter Day—April 12, 10:30 am



Join us for a light breakfast at 9:00 am before our Festal High

Mass, Rite II, as we celebrate with joy (and trumpeter **Vinnie Shickora**) the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and His victory over death and the grave!

40 Days of Thankfulness

Once again, this year during Lent, we are encouraging everyone in the congregation to observe this holy season by finding one or more things to thank God for, every day.



You can write each day's thanks on a slip of paper and collect them in a jar, to review after Easter; jot them down in a journal; or just remember to think of what you are grateful for as you go about your daily activities. Gratitude always draws us closer to God, and lifts our spirits!



In conjunction with the efforts to restore and repair our church's historic cemetery, our **Cemetery Restoration Group** has established a **Facebook page for St. John's Cemetery**. Please visit it at: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Compass-Cemetery-102422364667602/>

For more information, you may also call 610-857-5311 or email 1729cemetery@gmail.com



Vacation Bible School "Noah's Ark: God Always Keeps His Promises"

June 20, 2020

10 am to 3 pm

for kids ages 5-12

Noah obeyed God when no one else would. That's how he learned "God always keeps His promises!" Kids will follow Noah and his family as they race to build an ark and fill it full of animals before the Great Flood—and then discover with them a bright new world lit by the rainbow of God's love.

Along with Bible stories from the Book of Genesis, there will be easy crafts, fun games, and exciting songs for children to enjoy with the new friends they'll be making.

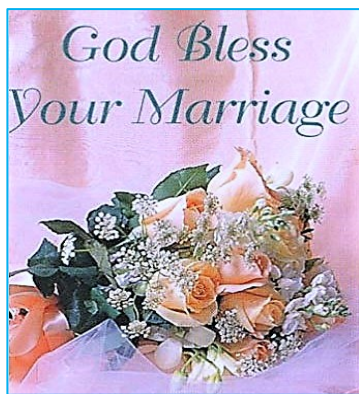
Online registration will be available starting April 4 at:

<https://vbspro.events/p/events/091431>



Saturday, May 23 at 2:00 pm

Guests are invited to bring donations for the Octorara Area Food Cupboard.

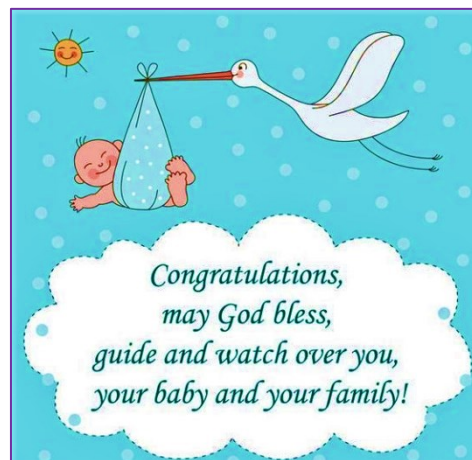


On December 28, 2019, St. John's former Organist, **Lisa Guglielmo**, married **Eric Hartman** at the Episcopal Church of the Trinity, in Coatesville, Pennsylvania.

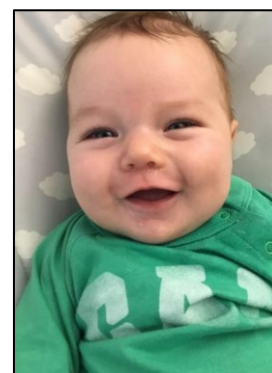


On Valentine's Day, February 14, 2020, **Belen and Owen Palwick-Goebel** (AO3, U.S. Navy) were married in Lancaster, California. Owen's Mom is Liz Palwick-Goebel.

Congratulations to the whole family!



Werner Andrew Baldwin



was born to Andrew and Liz Baldwin on November 23, 2019. We will have the joy of celebrating his **Baptism on Sunday, May 3 at 10:30 am.**

Alex Baldwin and Kim Knoth, along with little brother Weston, welcomed **Eliot Patrick Baldwin** on January 29, 2020.





Birthdays & Anniversaries

MARCH

Jennifer Hoskins	3/4
Gregory Wilkinson	3/4
Nancy Rohrer	3/10
Alex Wilkinson	3/22
Amy Wilkinson	3/22
Collin Arment	3/22
Ralph Kirchofer	3/23
John Strattan	3/25
Elsbeth Zaayenga	3/28
John Trofe	3/30
Grier Hoskins	3/31
♥ Bo & Sabra Grimes	3/15

APRIL

Nina George-Hacker	4/1
Tina Zurcher	4/6
Terri Fant	4/11
Susan Gansauer	4/13
Ron Kelly	4/17
James Trofe	4/18
Betty Buchanan	4/18
Nick Kinka	4/22
Robt. "Benjamin" Baldwin	4/24
April Wilkinson	4/26
♥ Hank & Terri Fant	4/15
♥ Andrew & Liz Baldwin	4/24

MAY

Joanne Cipollini	5/2
Giulianna DeMarco	5/4
Fran Gilfillan	5/6
Debbie Martin	5/15
Joan D'Aloisio	5/20
Lou D'Aloisio	5/22
Cheryl Shurak	5/31
♥ Philip & Robin Lipsky	5/5
♥ Tom & Nancy Rohrer	5/6
♥ Rick Hacker & Nina George-Hacker	5/14
♥ Barry & Linda Baldwin	5/17



At the end of 2019, **Mary Lou Weaver** retired after *59 years*. She worked at the Coatesville Hospital for 5 years; Victor Weaver (Chicken) for 24 years; and the New Holland Church Furniture Company for 30 years. Mary Lou now volunteers energetically for many activities at Garden Spot Village.

In early 2020, **Sharon Frankhouser Fremont** retired after *46 years*. She started as a bookkeeper and Purchasing Manager at the Blue Ball National Bank, where she worked for 31 years. Sharon spent 5 years as Purchasing Manager for First National Bank of West Chester, and served 8 years for the PA Association of School Business Officials, on the Procurement Committee. She finished her career with 10 years as Purchasing Manager for the Chester County Intermediate Unit, overseeing 12 Chester County school districts and 22 municipalities and schools.

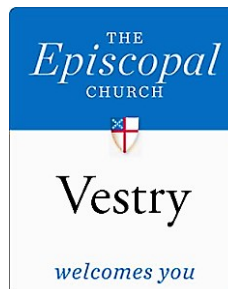
God bless Mary Lou and Sharon for their many years of good work, and may He grant them a wonderful time of retirement, filled with direction, purpose, meaning, enjoyment—and good health!

NEW VESTRY MEMBERS

At our 2020 Annual Meeting, the parish elected Vestry members who had not previously served:

S. Butler "Bo" Grimes and **James Hershey**. Bo—a retired educator—serves as the liaison for **Christian Education**, and James—a relatively new member—is the Vestry contact, along with **Hank Fant**, for **Evangelism and New Members**.

Members re-elected to serve on the Vestry are:



Hank Fant
Sharon Fremont
Rick Hacker
Liz Palwick-Goebel
Tom Rohrer
Bob Yarnall
Linda Zynn

Thank you for your service!



Saturday, March 7, 10 am until Noon, the Cemetery Restoration Group will be holding an informational meeting for volunteers. Come and prepare to take part in conserving your church's graveyard. All skills welcomed.

Tuesday, March 17 at 7 pm, regular Vestry Meeting. Please email any agenda items to Sharon Fremont.

Sunday, March 29, during Coffee Hour, the Vacation Bible School Team will hold its second organizational / planning meeting. Anyone who could not attend the first meeting but would like to take part is welcome!

Tuesday, April 21 at 7 pm, regular Vestry Meeting.



Don't forget: Sunday, March 8, 2020, "spring ahead" one hour ... or you'll be late to church.

The Rev. Canon Daryl Fenton, Director of CMJ-USA

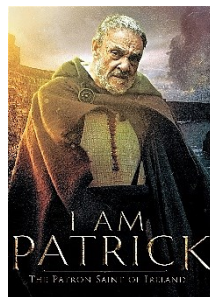


(Church's Ministry to Jewish People) has been asked to head up the Israel branch for the next few years. He will also join the clergy staff of **Christ Church, Jerusalem**



[Anglican]. You may remember he preached at St. John's two years ago and taught us much

about the kinship between Judaism and Christianity. Blessings to Fr. Daryl and his wife Sandy, in their new assignment.



Coming to a theater near you!

A documentary about the life of **St. Patrick of Ireland**

(March 17-18).

Also, the movie of **Sight & Sound's** amazing production of **"Jesus"**

(April 7, 9, 11).

Go to www.fathomevents.com for theater near you, showtimes, and tickets.



St. John's homebound members to pray for, visit, or send cards to, include:

Shirley Fisher
Moravian Manor, Rm. 240
300 W. Lemon St.
Lititz PA 17543

Matilda Harrington
Heatherwood
3180 Horseshoe Pike, Apt. A214
Honey Brook PA 19344

Gail Smith
Harrison Senior Living
41 Newport Ave.
Christiana PA 17509

John & Jane Strattan
12 Hinden Homes
Denver PA 17509

Elsbeth Zaayenga
Tel Hai
Box 190
Honey Brook PA 19344

Please pray about whether God may be calling you to serve at the altar as an Acolyte or Eucharistic minister, and whether the Holy Spirit may be leading you to join the Franciscans of the Risen Christ spiritual community. *We need you!*