

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Bishop
The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector
Gerrie Vergona, Treasurer
Esther Graham, Music Director
Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator
Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Wardens and Vestry 2022

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden
Peter Quigley, Property Warden
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano
Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue
Kay Karlick, Tom Larson, Ken Seda
Joanne Smithson, Clerk

Mission Statement

To proclaim the faith that our years have engendered: to use the diversity
of our Episcopal experience while working toward a common goal; to teach
the young about Jesus and to reach out and affect the lives of those in the community.

"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!

We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly with the Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector.

To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Please notify the church office 732-350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations.
If it is an emergency you may also reach Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or
Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



ASH WEDNESDAY

HOLY EUCHARIST AND ASHES RITE I

Hymnal

The Word of God

The Service begins — all seated — in silence

Collect of the Day

First Lesson: Book of Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalm 103

Second Lesson: Second Letter to the Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Gradual Verse

Holy Gospel: Mathew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sermon - *The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.*

Invitation to a Holy Lent

Blessing & Imposition of Ashes

Psalm 51

Litany of Penitence

The Peace

Offertory Anthem: *“Jesus remember me ”*

Doxology: *“All things come of thee O Lord”*

HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharist Prayer I

S112 Sursum Corda

S113 Sanctus

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

S157 Agnus Dei

Communion Hymns:

697 *“My God, accept my heart today”*

143 *“The glory of these forty days”*

Post Communion Hymn

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

142 Recessional: *“Lord, who throughout these forty days”*

March 2, 2022

10 AM, 4 & 7 PM

BCP

Insert

Insert

Lenten Booklet

Insert

Lenten Booklet

Insert

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Save the Date on Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY GROUP-

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am, for info contact *Roberta Mackey* at (917) 696-6863

CHOIR PRACTICE-

Wednesdays at 10am

HEALING SERVICES-

Thursdays at 10:00 am

ORDER OF ST. LUKE-

2nd Thursday of each month, - March 10th after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING-

Monday, March 28th @ 10am

WHITING GARDEN CLUB-

Whiting Garden Club meets next on March 2 at 10AM in the Parish Hall call *Stefanie* if you plan to attend.

DO YOU NEED A PLEDGE CARD?

Please see our Treasurer, *Gerrie Vergona*.

LENTEN SCHEDULES-

Available in the Narthex

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER -

The Men's Club, with the help of ECW, will have the delicious Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 12 beginning at 3PM-5PM. Tickets are \$15 each. Enjoy the usual items--corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, Irish soda bread, and delicious desserts. There will be door prizes, a treasure auction, and a 50/50. Call the office for tickets, or buy them on Sundays in the Narthex.



ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. Compline is now on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** at 7PM on **YouTube** and **Zoom**. All are welcome!

COME AND SEE!!!



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

“Embracing the Uncertain”

Bible reflections on dealing with uncertainty

Beginning Tuesday, March 1st, at 11am and 5pm and every Tuesday after for the next Seven weeks during lent.

A sign up sheet is in the Narthex or call the office to reserve a book.

Dear Friends:

I am sending this request to you because I am in need of a living donor kidney. Presently, I do home dialysis every day for 9 hours each time. By getting a living donor, I would be able to lead a normal life again.

The donor does not have to be a match to me. St. Barnabas Hospital will match that donor kidney to someone, and they then find me a matching donor. It is a win, win for 2 people. The donor can be a complete stranger willing to do this unselfish act. I am praying for a special angel to help.

If you have any questions, please call me at (732) 330-6781, or the St. Barnabas Transplant Center at (973) 322-5346.

Thank you for your consideration

Pat Hayton

32 A Texas Boulevard

Whiting, NJ 08759

Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022

Collect of the Day

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.*

First Reading

Book of Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations. “Yet even now,” says the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. Who knows whether he will not turn and repent, and leave a blessing behind him, a cereal offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, “Spare thy people, O Lord, and make not thy heritage a reproach, a by word among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, “Where is their God?”

Psalm 103

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; *

- 15 Our days are like the grass; *
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
and its place shall know it no more.
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord
endures for ever on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;
- 18 On those who keep his covenant *
and remember his commandments and do them.
- 19 The Lord has set his throne in heaven, *
and his kingship has dominion over all.
- 20 Bless the Lord, you angels of his,
you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.
- 21 Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, *
you ministers of his who do his will.
- 22 Bless the Lord, all you works of his,
in all places of his dominion; *
bless the Lord, O my soul.



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting Winter clothes **ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear,* and other items. Our Summer clothes are now on clearance sale. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.

ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN ~ is in need of additional members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732-350-7584 for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain, your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION MEETING (VIRTUAL)

Saturday, February 5th Online. Please contact Fr Paul or Stefanie Bodine with any questions.

CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS ~ We will be revisiting the Caregivers program sometime after our annual meeting on January 30th. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. If you have any questions please feel free to contact JoAnn Smithson at 609-268-0821.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING

Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan. Contact our Treasurer, *Gerrie Vergona* if interested.

COFFEE HOUR



A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2022 - sign up! Everyone is so grateful for the delicious food that you share, your help, and they love chatting after the services. Any questions, contact *Stefanie* at (732) 350-2904

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws

Days and Hours of Operation are:

Tuesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Wednesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws is made up of members of the **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** community and other volunteers who assist in maintaining our pantry, provide food for the sick, the hungry and the needy. The food pantry is here to help those who have minimal funds to work with and come to us when they have a specific need for food. The **Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws** through very generous donations is also able to provide pet food for dogs and cats. For further information please call: **Jim Jados, Director, Food Pantry at (732) 408-5948.**

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Thank you to all who have donated. There are parishioners as well as other members in our community who benefit greatly from this valued fund. If you wish to contribute, please use the basket on the back table for donations



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month--March 10th, after the Healing Service.

Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:

Celebrant: N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

People: May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

Celebrant: Continues with a closing prayer.

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines 1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am
The Arbors 2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Pines 3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm



he remembers that we are but dust.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

We beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. "Thus, when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in



Welcome to St. Stephen's

On this first day of Lent, today the Liturgy presents a challenge to Christian people. It confronts us with the radical change in living which is the Way of Christ.

We are faced with sin and salvation as alternative directions for our lives: sin as separation from God, from others, from our selves and from the natural world; salvation as reconciliation with God, others, our selves, and the natural world.

The Liturgy on Ash Wednesday is reduced to its primary elements of Word and Sacrament. We are called to consider our mortality and in that context our sin and our absolute dependence upon God for salvation and for life.

We may be tempted to limit our concerns to our sins and our mortality, letting the ashes be the most important thing in our worship today. But we use the ashes simply as the starting point for that which is far deeper and ultimately more important: salvation. The ashes, the penitence, the fasting: all of these are but means toward the goal of Ash Wednesday, of Lent, indeed, of all Christian living; namely, repentance, new life, and ministry to others.

“Be reconciled to God...” Paul tells us. Repentance, says the prophet Joel, opens us to the discovery of God’s love and mercy. Make your prayer, fasting, and ministry the mark of an inner and fundamental way of living day in and day out, the Lord says.

“Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return,” is turned around into, “you shall have life, and you shall have it abundantly.”

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.

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ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 2, 2022

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 10:00 am	<i>Kay Karlick</i>
LEM 10:00 am	<i>Bill Bodine</i>
Altar Guild 10:00 am	<i>Debbie Fisher, Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 10:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 4:00 pm	<i>Joanne Smithson</i>
LEM 4:00 pm	<i>Richard Smithson, Barbara Marshall</i>
Altar Guild 4:00 pm	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 4:00 pm	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>
LEM 7:00 pm	<i>Robert Virtue, Greg Hartline</i>
Lector 7:00 pm	<i>Valerie Thompson</i>



Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to

The Glory of God

In Memory of
Fr. John Dewland

and
Son, George P Frey IV

By Joy J Frey

In Memory of
Charles Rotsaert by Stefanie and Bill Bodine



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to

The Glory of God

In Memory of
Virginia Clark by Sandy Gaskill

In Memory of
My Cat "Allura", by Sandy Gaskill

