



The Holy Eucharist

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 a.m. Sunday, March 26, 2017

*Newcomers and visitors, we welcome you warmly.
May you find here, by the grace of God, that which feeds your soul.
May you leave here with a heart prepared to serve.*



*During the season of Lent we will be observing
a period of silence before our services in lieu of a prelude.
Please use this time to transition from the outside world to the liturgy
by kneeling in prayer or sitting in quiet reflection.*

The people gather in prayerful silence

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

I want to walk as a child of the light

Hymnal, #490

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Book of Common Prayer, page 323

Celebrant Blessed the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People **God's mercy endureth for ever. Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

The Celebrant stands facing the people and says,

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

All kneel, as able

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

Celebrant The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

all pray together

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

KYRIE

all stand

Hymnal, S-91

**Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy

PRAYER FOR THE INTERIM TIME all pray together

Almighty God, we pray for the people of St. Mary's during this time of transition. May we be genuine in our self-reflection, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, imaginative about our future, and daring in our faith. As we seek to find, instill in us trust in your loving guidance. As we seek to challenge, unite us in our commitment to serve and to know Christ in each other and the world; As we seek to inspire, fill us with your bountiful spirit. All this we pray, empowered by the love of Christ our Lord. Amen

THE FIRST LESSON

seated

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will

show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S CHOIR ANTHEM

Amazing Grace

Early American Melody

THE SECOND LESSON

seated

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

all stand

Antiphon

Cantor: Lord, to whom shall we go? *All:* You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Music: Eric Choate (b.1990)

Jesus says, I am the light of the world;
Whoever follows me will have the light of life. (*St. John 8:12*)

Antiphon

THE HOLY GOSPEL

standing

John 9:1-13, 28-38

Response after the introduction to the Gospel **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”

He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach

us?” And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him

Response at the end of the Gospel reading **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE CHILDREN’S HOMILY

Bob Scavullo

THE DOXOLOGY

all stand

Praise God from whom all blessings all flow

Praise him all creatures here below

Praise him above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

After the Doxology, the Pre-School class processes out for programs in the nursery.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

standing

The Nicene Creed

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

adapted by Natalie Hala

Leader Jesus, remember us when you come into your kingdom. Hear us as we pray:
 For your church around the world,

People **We ask new life.**

Leader For all who carry out ministries in your church,

People **We ask grace and wisdom.**

Leader For people who have adopted Lenten disciplines,

People **We ask inspired discipleship.**

Leader For people of faith in every land,

People **We ask new unity in your name.**

Leader For those yet to believe,

People **We ask your faithful love.**

Leader For governors and rulers in every land,

People **We ask your guidance.**

Leader For people who suffer and sorrow, especially ..(The Deacon continues prayers from the St. Mary's Prayer List and invites the congregation to add theirs.) Gracious Lord,

People **We ask your healing peace.**

Leader For family, friends, and those who have entered your heavenly kingdom, especially.. (The Deacon continues prayers from the St. Mary's Prayer List and invites the congregation to add theirs.) Gracious Lord,
People **We ask that your loving arms embrace them.**
Leader For the thanksgivings of our lives, especially.. (The Deacon continues prayers from the St. Mary's Prayer List and invites the congregation to add theirs.) Gracious Lord,
People **We are grateful.**
Deacon Holy God, your son, Jesus Christ, spoke peace to a broken world and brought humanity the gift of reconciliation by the suffering and death he endured. Teach those who witness God's name to follow the example given us. May our faith, hope, and charity turn hatred to love, conflict to peace, and death to eternal life; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN

The King of love my shepherd is
verses 1, 2, 5, 6

Hymnal, #645

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

standing

BCP, page 340

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

The celebrant continues...

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Who dost bid thy 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 thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing,

SANCTUS

Hymnal, #S-114

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Stand or kneel as able as the celebrant continues...

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, page 336

**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

BCP, page 337

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

All **We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

THE INVITATION

All who desire to know God are invited to receive the consecrated Bread and Wine.

If you prefer, gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the clergy know.

You may also receive a blessing instead of bread and wine by crossing your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

standing

BCP, page 339

All **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

SENDING OF THE LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR *

Celebrant N., in the name of this parish family, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts to _____. Together we share in the body and blood of Christ.

People **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.**

* when needed

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CHURCH SCHOOL RECESSIONAL Lead us, heavenly Father

Hymnal, #559

verses 1 - 2

During the recessional, Kindergarten through Confirmation classes process out for Sunday School

THE SERMON

seated

The Very Rev. Dr. Donald G. Brown

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lead us, heavenly Father

Hymnal, #559

verse 3

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Herzliebster Jesu, op. 122

Johannes Brahms

Ah, Holy Jesus

1833-1897

**As a courtesy to those who wish to continue in prayer or listen to the postlude,
please exit quietly and join in fellowship in the courtyard.
We request that there be no applause after the postlude.**

Thank you.

Announcements at St. Mary the Virgin

WELCOME VISITORS & GUESTS

We are delighted that you chose to worship with us. We hope to be in an on-going and holy relationship with you in the days and years to come. Let us know how we can be of service to you. May God bless you and all whom you love.

Please fill out a welcome card and put it in the offering plate, or give it to one of the ushers or clergy. We are happy to add you to our email list so you can keep up with the programs, activities, and news of St. Mary's.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. MARY'S

“And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ Then I said, ‘Here I am! Send me’.” (Isaiah 6:8) Ordained clergy cannot do it all. St. Mary's is blessed by devoted lay people, Stephen Ministers, who have been called to live their baptismal covenant by being present with people in times of transition and crisis for as long as they are needed. These people have trained for fifty hours over six months in skills ranging from prayer and scripture to listening and social service referral. Stephen Ministry is an international program in over 12,000 congregations, representing 170 Christian denominations, in all 50 states and 25 countries. St. Mary's commissioned its first Stephen Ministers in 2014. **TODAY, at the 11:00 a.m. service** we will commission the following Stephen Ministers: Alli Bunker, James Shepherd, Megan Burrows, Alexandra Pearson, Joannie Ericson, Kory Li, and Laurie Martin. We thank God that each of them has said, “Here I am! Send me.” For more information about Stephen Ministry or if you or someone you know may benefit from having a Stephen Minister, please contact

Stephen Ministry at
stephenministry@smvsf.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

TODAY is the fourth Sunday in Lent, also known as Refreshment Sunday and Laetare Sunday, is the traditional mid-Lent Sunday. It was a time of refreshment and relaxing the penitential discipline of Lent. Rose-pink vestments are allowed to take the place of the purple vestments of Lent. (In case you are wondering, St. Mary's does not own rose-pink vestments.) Here at St. Mary's, we adorn our altar with blooming branches to replace the starkness of no flowers during Lent and to remind us that our redemption and rebirth (or blossoming) are at hand come Easter Day. "Mothering Sunday" is a popular name in England for the fourth Sunday in Lent. It was customary in some places to visit the mother church of one's diocese or chapel on this day. In other places it was customary to visit one's mother on "Mothering Sunday." Apprentices visiting their parents on this day often took home a "mothering cake." If you are a fan of *Downton Abbey*, the first episode of season five kicks off with the servants off to visit family on Mothering Sunday. So celebrate

today, the fourth Sunday of Lent, in joy that Easter is near!

- *Natalie Hala, Verger & Liturgist*

MUSIC FOR THIS MORNING

TODAY the choir will sing a short movement from Howells' Requiem, which we performed last year for All Souls. Our Psalm this morning is Psalm 23 and the movement is a musical setting of this favorite text. Howells was a 20th-century English composer whose music is a staple in our Anglican tradition.

-*Eric Choate, Interim Director of Music*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Palm Sunday is two weeks away but you wouldn't know it if you were in Sunday School classes today. To prepare children for a heightened understanding of the events of Holy Week, we're starting today by presenting the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the day we call Palm Sunday. Lessons in all grades will feature palm fronds, donkeys, cheering people and shouts of Hosanna. What does it all mean? By the end of the day, even the youngest children will be able to tell you. The 5th and 6th graders who last week made 100 ham and cheese sandwiches later distributed at the Open Cathedral service near the Civic Center, are today hosting a plant and bake sale to benefit Heifer International. In weeks past they've cultivated herbal seedlings which will be featured at today's sale. We hope you will be extravagant with your purchases and generous in your donations. The class would very much like to purchase a lamb or a goat (\$150 each) for a needy family.

-*Nancy Clark, Sunday School Director*

YOUTH GROUP

No youth group meeting tonight or next week, April 2. But get excited for the Ocean Beach Bonfire Adventure Night on **Sunday, April 9.**

MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER:

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

At **6:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday, April 13th**, we will gather together to begin our journey with Jesus by recalling the Last Supper with a shared meal in the Great Room. Maundy Thursday recalls the institution of the Eucharist as worship and communal gathering. The ritual is deeply rooted in the ancient traditions of Judaism, including the inherent value of hospitality. This year we are seeking your help in making this meal by asking you to prepare one dish to share. The recipes will come from one of the most respected chefs in the world, Yotam Ottolenghi. If you are not familiar with him, Ottolenghi's cuisine showcases Mid-eastern, cross-cultural cuisine he first discovered as a young boy in his hometown of Jerusalem. His best selling cookbooks (*Jerusalem, Plenty, and Plenty More*) include many quick to prepare and delicious, healthy recipes. **If you would like to contribute a dish to our Maundy Thursday meal, please contact Natalie Hala at natalie@smvsf.org.** She will be happy to match your culinary skills to the menu of the evening and to provide the recipe for you, if you do not have access to them. Why wait months for dinner reservations at one of his award-winning London restaurants? Come, taste, and see the goodness of the Lord on Maundy Thursday at St. Mary's by

participating in an Ottolenghi meal at St. Mary's table where all are welcome.

–*Natalie Hala*

HAND BELL RINGERS WANTED!

The hand bell choir of St. Mary the Virgin is preparing for Easter services and needs a few more ringers. Please consider lending your hands to a bell or two to join in this ministry, ringing with a small, fun, and dedicated group of people. No experience necessary, we will teach you. If you can count to four, swing your arm, or read a newspaper, then you can ring. We welcome adults and young people ages 12 and up. Consider joining as a family activity. Our **regular rehearsal time is Wednesday 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. however for the Wednesday Lenten series we will adapt to the group's schedule, probably 5:30 to 6:30, or move to Thursdays for a few weeks if necessary.** We will accommodate schedules as much as possible. Please contact **Marla Perkins**, Interim Hand Bell Choir Director with questions or to join us at **marla@smvsf.org**.

2017 LENTEN SERIES

LIVING THE WAY OF THE CROSS FROM THE HISTORICAL JESUS TO THE COSMIC CHRIST

Join **Fr. Don Brown** as the **Lenten series continues on March 28 at 6:00 pm in the Great Room** The five-week series is designed for all parishioners who would like to know more about Lent, the meanings inherent in the Stations of the Cross, and the traditions that surround our observances and religious practices during Holy Week. The series is designed to challenge us to develop new

practices based on ancient teachings and lean into new cosmology, the stations of the cosmic cross. The series includes a light soup supper. If you have friends who want to know more about faith practices in the Episcopal Church, please invite them to attend with you.

–*Natalie Hala, Verger & Liturgist*

ACOLYTE APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Next **Sunday, April 2, 2017**, we will recognize the good works of the acolytes for this school year during the **9:00 a.m. service** immediately following the announcement –*Sandy Briggs*

2017 ANNUAL PARISH RETREAT

Please mark your calendar for **Friday, May 19th through Sunday, May 21st** for our Annual Parish Retreat at the Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg. This much loved tradition is a time for parishioners of all ages, from all services, to come together and enjoy fun and fellowship. We can engage in hiking, eating, swimming in the saltwater pool, tasting cheese and wines, worshiping in the Ranch's lovely historic chapel, dropping into quiet contemplation, exploring the town of Healdsburg, doing crafts, playing games, eating s'mores by the campfire, and yes, enjoying some fellowship and community! Do it all or just enjoy sitting with a book, basking in the beauty of the wine country. The registration costs include comfortable lodging, all meals, crafts and other supervised activities for the kids, and entertainment for all. Registration forms will be available at **www.smvsf.org** and in future bulletins. Look for more details in coming announcements. **The deadline to sign up is May 12 at noon.**

We also need volunteers to help at the Ranch; please contact **Amy Cebrian** at amycebrian@gmail.com if you can help. We have loved going for years and hope to see you at the Ranch!
-Amy Cebrian

LENT MADNESS SCORECARD UPDATE

The first full week of Lenten voting continued the trend of upsets when Moses the Black took down "the morning star of the English Reformation," John Wycliffe. It also had its blow-outs. Anselm of Canterbury barely got 20% of the vote against Florence Nightingale. Odo of Cluny (wasn't he in *Game of Thrones*?) also embarrassed Theodore the Studite. Raymond Nanatus edged John of Nepomuk. In the closely watched contest between the two Augustines, Canterbury prevailed over Hippo. *Location, location, location.* Next week it will be interesting how the great pain in Pope Leo X's neck, Martin Luther, does against Native American deacon and missionary, David Oakerhater. Does Franz Jagerstatter stand a chance against Joan of Arc? How do you dress to vote for (or against) Amelia Bloomer? (Will the vote be a cover-up?) These and more contests await your interest and your vote at <http://www.lentmadness.org>.

-David Crosson

ADULT CONFIRMATION/ INQUIRER'S CLASS

Do you find yourself wondering what it means to be a Christian as an Episcopalian? Do you have questions about how the Episcopal Church came about and what is it that is normative in belief and practice in the Episcopal Church? Have you thought about having your baptismal promises renewed through the right of Confirmation? Starting on **Sunday, April 23 at 12:30 p.m.** and ending

at 2:00 p.m., St. Mary's three priests will be offering a series of classes to address these and what other questions you might have about the Christian faith as lived out in the Episcopal Church. The class will meet weekly through May 21. The class will include discussions of Liturgy and the Liturgical Calendar, Sacraments, Reformation and Anglican Theology, Anglican Ethics and Morality, Spirituality, and along the way will address whatever other related questions class participants raise. Anyone 16 years or older is welcome in the class. Participants may just attend for information and all will have the opportunity, should they choose, to reaffirm their faith or to be confirmed at Grace Cathedral on June 4. For more information, contact any of the class leaders. You can register for the class [Here](#).

Fr. Don G. Brown, Interim Rector

NEWS FROM THE RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Starting in late February and up through the beginning of April, nearly every weekend has involved one or more teams of Search Committee members out visiting candidates in person. The teams are comprised of three Committee members who travel to the home parishes of the Semi-Finalist Rector candidates for in depth interviews, references and also a chance to meet families (or significant others) as well as to see the candidates in action preaching during a service. Once we have visited all the Semi-Finalists, we will discuss what we have learned and determine which candidates will become Finalists. We aim to deliver these names to the Vestry by late April or the beginning of May. The good news is that our Finalist decision is shaping up to be a tough task as we have some

fantastic Semi-Finalists from which to choose. Please keep praying for us. As always, we appreciate your support and positive thoughts. -*Diana Sullivan, Mike Stafford, Creighton Reed*

LAY MINISTRY

Altar Guild: *Deborah Franklin, Mary Hill, Carrie Tsai*

Eucharistic Visitors: *Alexandra Grover, Anna Sylvester, David Crosson*

8:00 a.m. service

Chalice Bearer: *Josie McGann*

Usher: *Leslie Hughes*

9:00 a.m. service

Chalice Bearers: *Fran Hegeler, Jim Griffith, Steven Currier*

Lector: *Lindsay Walsh*

Prayer Leader: *Linda Woodworth*

Children's Homily: *Bob Scavullo*

Ushers: *Pat Nishita, Sandy Stadfeld, Jeff Landry*

Acolytes:

First Crucifer: *Mac Woodworth*

First Torch Bearers: *Henry Magher, Hunter Magher*

Second Crucifer: *Ginny Woodworth*

Second Torch Bearer: *Leila Dahlem, Johnny Perkins*

Servers: *Ben Boyden, Margaret Veatch*

11:00 a.m. service

Chalice Bearers: *Alisa Fisher, Natalie Hala, Bob Bledsoe*

Lector: *Alexandra Pearson, Kori Li*

Prayer Leader: *Alli Bunker*

Ushers: *Guy Kornblum, Robert Manette, Linda Logemann*

We Pray For...

PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES and FRIENDS

Randy Kwock
Joan Howell
David Stickley
Venod

The Tilley Family
Hope Tarpey Brady
The Perkins Family
Charles Urhke

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Roy Brichard
Mason Brown
Mitch Graham
Bob Mittelstadt
Pat Okimoto
Kerry Reed
Matt Sowick
Joan Toto
Lisa Vance

Rebecca Wardell
The Community at the Heritage
The Community of St. Francis
The Presidio Gate residents
The CASA foster children
Nick
Dolores Cook
Carol Hughes

DISCERNMENT OF MINISTRY

Kathleen Bean
Nan Slavin
Stephanie Lehman

RECENTLY DECEASED

Kathleen Connery
Michael Haggin
Mary Jane Eddy
Carl Zachrisson
Eric

GLOBAL CONCERNS

For children throughout the world, that they may have equal access to justice.

For compassionate conflict mediation and peacebuilding throughout the world.

THANKSGIVING

For our Stephen Ministers, especially those commissioned today: Alli Bunker, Megan Burrows, Joannie Ericson, Kory Li, Laurie Lenore Martin, Alexandra Pearson, and Jacob (James) Shepherd.

TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS

Names may be submitted to our prayer request email at prayfor@smvsf.org or by filling out a **YELLOW** prayer card and placing it in the offering plate. Names will remain on the prayer list for **two weeks** and may be re-submitted.

The Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin

2325 Union Street
San Francisco CA 94123
Tel. 415.921.3665

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

www.smvsf.org

St. Mary's Staff Directory

All phone extensions are for: 415.921.3665

The Very Rev. Dr. Don Brown

Interim Rector don@smvsf.org x306

The Rev. Dr. Paula Nesbitt

Assisting Clergy paula@smvsf.org x384

The Rev. Nancy Bryan,

Deacon nancyb@smvsf.org; x364

Marla Perkins

Interim Children's Choir Director
marla@smvsf.org, x310

Kevin Bulivant

Director of Finance and Facilities
kevin@smvsf.org, x316

Nancy Clark

Sunday School Director nclark@sdfs.net;
(415).387.7741

Nancy Svendsen

Events Coordinator nancys@smvsf.org;
(415) 205.6787

The Very Rev. Hollinshead T. Knight

Assisting Clergy lin@smvsf.org x383

The Rev. Tim Smith

Deacon tim@smvsf.org x352

Eric Choate

Interim Director of Music eric@smvsf.org; x363

Natalie Hala

Parish Verger & Liturgist natalie@smvsf.org, x314

Carla Ocfemia

Parish Administrator & Social Media Specialist
carla@smvsf.org; x302

Michael Stafford

Youth Minister mike@smvsf.org; (415).794.4928

Jackie Schroeder

Nursery Care jackie@smvsf.org

Manny Gabiana

Associate Administrator manny@smvsf.org; x353

Pastoral Emergencies

There is always a clergy person on call.
To reach him or her at off hours, call the office at **415.921.3665** and **press 4**.

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LITURGICAL STAFF

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Deacon

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Verger & Liturgist

Tel. (415) 921-3665 2325 Union Street, San Francisco, California www.smvsf.org

