



The Guardian

MARCH 2016



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, PALM SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Procession with Palms

MONDAY, MARCH 21

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist • 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 24

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Washing of the Feet and Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25

8:00 a.m. Proper Liturgy for Good Friday (no music or Veneration of the Cross)
12:00–3:00 p.m. Ecumenical Good Friday Service at Guilford Community Church
7:00 p.m. Proper Liturgy for Good Friday with Veneration of the Cross, St. Michael's

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 26

7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter, followed by a celebratory reception

EASTER DAY, MARCH 27

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, 10:15 a.m. Festival Holy Eucharist



HOLY WEEK

WHAT IS HOLY WEEK?

During the last week of the Lenten season we celebrate Holy Week, a sacred time of the year for Christians when the events of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection are remembered. In the remembering of the sacred stories, we hope not only to remember, but to experience the drama of these stories ourselves, that we may know Christ's love for us in a new way. All are welcome at any or all of these services!

Palm Sunday. This special liturgy begins with a procession of the congregation and the blessing of the palms, commemorating the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The Gospel reading is the complete story of the Passion. The service underlines the contrast between the crowd's joyous greeting of their king and then their condemnation of him—the contrast between shouts of "Alleluia" and "Crucify him!"

Monday and Tuesday. We gather together on the Monday and Tuesday of Holy Week for a brief time of prayer and the Eucharist. At these services, lay people are asked to preach.

Wednesday. At 7:00 p.m., we will gather for a Tenebrae service in the church. In this service, candles are extinguished gradually as we hear a series of readings about the passion story.

Maundy Thursday. The word *maundy* is derived from the Latin word *mandatum* (commandment) and refers to Jesus giving the "new commandment" to "love one another as I have loved you" to his disciples at the Last Supper (John 13:34). The Maundy Thursday service commemorates the Last Supper and often focuses on two things Jesus did at the Last Supper: the washing of the disciples' feet and the institution of the sacrament of Holy Communion. The service ends in complete silence with the stripping of the altar, in recognition of Jesus' prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane and the despair and death to come.

Good Friday. This day commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. During this solemn service, we mourn for the death of Jesus and for our own sins.

Easter Eve, Saturday. The Easter Vigil is called the "king of liturgies." At 7:00 p.m., we light the new fire of Easter and move from darkness to light telling the ancient stories of God's people. We proclaim the Easter message, "Christ is Risen!" Bring your bells and other musical instruments.

Easter Sunday. This is the most important day of celebration in the Christian year. On this day we celebrate how Christ overcame death to rise to new life, offering his redemption and love to all.





NEWS OF THE PARISH

ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

At the Annual Meeting last month, Lynn Billington, John Byrnes, and Judith McBean were elected to the Vestry. Christopher Wesolowski and Darcey Mercier were elected as delegates to represent the parish at the annual Diocesan convention in November, with Jenn Karstad and Jack Lilly elected as alternates. After discussion at the Annual Meeting, the Vestry convened and decided to display the “Black Lives Matter” sign in front of the Church while moving forward to address the issues of racism. Many thanks to all who attended the meeting and all who have agreed to serve on the Vestry and as delegates to the Diocesan Convention.



A CALL FOR MAN-POWER!

Planning is underway for the Spring Tag Sale. In the past, Vince Johnson has graciously been the point person for larger-item donations, working to arrange pick-up time, manpower, and storage. Currently Vince must focus on his health and recovery and rightfully so. This is a plea for assistance in filling this vital role. So, guys, if you want to help with the Tag Sale here is a perfect opportunity. Ideally, a team consisting of an acting leader, with 2–4 additional strong men and a truck (or two) would work perfectly to share the load. The majority of pick-ups, beginning in late March, are stored offsite at various locations until the week prior to the sale. At that time the items, depending on storage location, are either transported to the rectory garage for pricing or held until the day of the sale and brought directly to the Tent Sale. The timing for all pickups is worked out by the team leader directly with the team and donor. The number of pick-ups varies greatly from sale to sale. It could be just a few or it could be several.

Can you help us out? Please contact Anne Cook at 802-896-9446 or email anek.cook@gmail.com for more information or to offer your support.



PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE: OPERATING INCOME/EXPENSES FOR JANUARY

Total Pledges Received: \$41,533 vs. Budget of \$19,333 (215% of Budget)

This is the amount of income from pledges alone that we have received. Note that this total includes pledges that were “pre-paid” last year for 2016.

Total Operating Income: \$58,076 vs. Budget of \$27,254 (213% of Budget)

This is our total income and includes rental income, fund raising (including pledges), memorial gifts, altar guild flower income, hospitality, tag sale, and other miscellaneous income.

Total Operating Expenses: \$31,750 vs. Budget of \$27,566 (115%)

This is the dollars needed to run the church, including salaries, utilities, repaying our building loan from the Diocese, outreach, rectory expenses, administrative expenses, mission and ministry, worship and music, congregation development, grounds upkeep, and snow removal.

MARCH LECTONARY

Sunday, March 6: Joshua 5: 9–12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5: 16–21; Luke 15: 1–3, 11b–32

Sunday, March 13: Isaiah 43: 16–21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3: 4b–14; John 12: 1–8

Sunday, March 20: Liturgy of the Palms —
Luke 19: 28–40, Psalm 118: 1–2, 19–29
Liturgy of the Word — Isaiah 50: 4–9a;
Psalm 31: 9–16; Philippians 2: 5–11; Luke 23: 1–49

Sunday, March 27: Acts 10: 34–43; Psalm 118: 1–2, 14–24; 1 Corinthians 15: 19–26; John 20: 1–18



WONDERFUL WINTER GATHERINGS

The past several weeks in the life of St. Michael's have been incredibly rich! Many thanks to all who helped to plan, organize, and work at these events. I am afraid to list names, lest I leave someone out, but know how much we appreciate your ministry at St. Michael's and what a difference these events have made to our parish.



*On January 24, we had our first **Sunday Morning Parish Breakfast**. About 100 people attended this breakfast of amazingly delicious food, wonderful fellowship, and tremendous hospitality.*



*From February 5–7, we held our first **St. Michael's Women's Retreat** at Hallelujah Farm in New Hampshire. Twenty-two women stayed for the whole weekend and an additional 12 women came for Saturday during the day. Coming together with other women from St. Michael's in such a holy and renewing place was incredible. The retreat gave us the time and space to connect deeply with one another.*



*On Tuesday, February 9, the Outreach and Mission Team hosted the **Pancake Supper**, which provided yet another opportunity for us to come together in love and fellowship (and another opportunity to eat great food). It was fun, festive, and a great way to enter into the Lenten season.*



EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

LIVES OF COURAGE AND FAITH: 2016 TUESDAY LENTEN SERIES CONTINUES IN MARCH

St. Michael's Tuesday evening Lenten series has been wonderful. If you haven't had a chance to attend, please do! We gather on Tuesday evenings at 5:15 p.m. for dinner, then move to the Meeting Room for our program and end with Compline by 7:15 p.m. You may come for any or all parts of the evening. All are welcome.

Lives of Faith and Courage is a series where we learn about inspiring and faithful individuals and how they respond (or have responded) to various world challenges with amazing vision, imagination, and action. Some of these individuals are still alive, others have died. Some of these individuals are well-known, others are not.

Tuesday, March 1, Joanna Macy, presented by Jean Smith. Joanna Macy writes, "The most remarkable feature of this historical moment on Earth is not that we are on the way to destroying the world, we've actually been on the way for quite a while. It is that we are beginning to wake up, as from a millennia long sleep, to a whole new relationship to our world, to ourselves, and to each other." Author, Buddhist scholar, and environmental activist, Johanna Macy is an acclaimed teacher. It is her goal to help us identify our curiosity, energy, and strength that together we may live out the active hope our world needs now.

Tuesday, March 8, Greg Boyle, presented by Mary Lindquist. A Jesuit priest famous for his gang intervention programs in Los Angeles, Fr. Greg Boyle makes winsome connections between service and delight, compassion and awe. He heads Homeboy Industries, which employs former gang members in a constellation of businesses. This is not work of helping, he says, but of finding kinship. The point of Christian service, as he lives it, is about "our common calling to delight in one another."

Tuesday, March 15, Albert Schweitzer, presented by Karen Guthrie. Albert Schweitzer, a Noble Peace Prize awardee, was born in 1875 in a small village in Alsace, then part of Germany. By age 29, Schweitzer held doctorates in philosophy and religion, was an acclaimed organist and a world authority on Bach, had published three books, and had held positions as a church pastor, a principal of a theological seminary, and a university professor. But many years earlier, aware of the desperate medical needs of Africans, he had decided that at age 30 he would undertake medical studies, become a doctor and devote the rest of his life to direct service in Africa. In 1913, at the age of 37, Dr. Schweitzer and his wife, Hélène, opened a hospital in Lambaréné, Gabon, and he spent most of the rest of his life there, dying there at age 90.

ADULT FORUMS FOR MARCH

The Adult Forum meets from 9:00–10:00 a.m. on Sundays in the Meeting Room. All are welcome.

During the Lenten Adult Forums from February 14 through March 13, we are looking at three elements of the Baptismal Covenant, asking ourselves what they mean to us and finding different ways we can live them out. On the first three Sundays of Lent we discussed the Creed ("Do you believe..."), and continued with the apostles' teaching and fellowship, and then with persevering in resisting evil. The series continues through the end of Lent, as follows:

March 6, "Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?"—What is the Good News, for you personally, for the world? Jean Smith will lead.

March 13, "Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?"—Sarah Benton leads.

March 20 and 27, No Forum



ROTA FOR MARCH

LITURGICAL ROTA FOR MARCH 2016 • 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM SUNDAY SERVICES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

| Position | March 6 | March 13 | March 20 | March 27 |
|----------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|---|
| 8:00 A.M. SERVICE | | | | |
| Lay Assistant | Anita Crosson | Kate McGinn | Wayne Cook | Wayne Cook |
| Intercessor | Kiersten McKenney | Anne Brown | Doug Lilly | Doug Switzer |
| Sacramental Healing | Janet Cramer | Janet Cramer | Janet Cramer | Janet Cramer |
| Usher | Judy McGee | Judy McGee | Anne Cook | Anne Cook |
| 10:15 A.M. SERVICE | | | | |
| Crucifer | Fred Bump | Miranda Smith | Mikael Mattson | Jeff Hiam |
| Torch Bearers | Marion Wojcik Annelise Fedoruk | Julian Siegel Jonah Johnson | K.C. Mattson Jake Mattson | Clara Fritz Caleb Fritz |
| Element Bearers | Judith Hildreth Sue Dyer | Richard Burtis Ricky Davidson | Betsy Bates Nancy Barber | Chris Hart Darcey Mercier |
| Lay Assistant | Annamarie Pluhar | Jeff Hiam | Greg Lesch | Miranda Smith |
| Lector | Martin Leggott | Elise Burrows | Caleb Fritz | Joyce Vining Morgan |
| Intercessor | | | | Mary Carnahan |
| Ushers | John Daly & Leigh Marthe | Andy & Elise Burrows | Judith & Alan McBean | Sarah Benton Betsy Bates Linda Rice |
| Sacramental Healing | Carolyn Taylor-Olson | Judith Hildreth | Robin White-Diamondstone | |
| Altar Guild | Sue Dyer Elise Burrows Pat Laubach Laurie Chiperfield | Sue Dyer Elise Burrows Pat Laubach Laurie Chiperfield | Jane Sbardella Lucia Osiecki | Jane Sbardella Lucia Osiecki |
| Coffee Hour | | Dianne Clouet | Mattson Family | |
| Counters | Ricky Davidson Jared Rediske | Sherry Stimmel Jeanette Landin | Judy McGee Anne Cook | Wayne Cook Judith Hildreth |

If you cannot make it, please find your own replacement; then call Jeanie in the Office at 802-254-6048, ext. 104. Thank you.

VESTRY OF ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sarah Benton, *Senior Warden* | swbentonvt@gmail.com | 802-579-2185

Deb Jones, *Junior Warden* | deborele@gmail.com | 802-257-4582

Lynn Billington | billington_l@yahoo.com | 802-380-4309

John Byrnes | john.byrnes@webbersupply.com | 802-254-6457

Richard Cogliano | rcogliano@svcable.net | 802-558-2195

Wayne Cook, *Treasurer* | wecooks.alot@gmail.com | 802-896-9446

Ronny Johnson | 802-257-7143

Bruce Lawrence | brattvt@yahoo.com | 802-257-1494

Doug Lilly | mimililly595@gmail.com | 802-257-5221

Judith McBean | jmcbean1959@gmail.com | 802-254-6975



EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

STRONG MIND CLEAR HEART: A CHRISTIAN-BUDDHIST RETREAT IN MAY

Last spring, we welcomed Will Duncan and Ann Curry to speak at St. Michael's about their experience completing a three-year solitary meditation retreat. They were such amazing teachers and such wonderful people that we have invited them back to do a retreat at Hallelujah Farm over Memorial Day Weekend, May 27–29. This retreat will be focused on mediation and prayer techniques that help us develop deep compassion. It will draw from both the Christian and Buddhist traditions and involve times of teaching, practice, silence, and conversation. Below is a description written by Will Duncan:

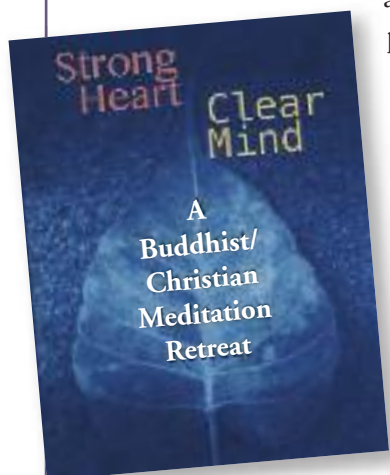
Practice: We will learn three essential tools for understanding what meditation is and how it works. These tools can be applied to your present meditation or other spiritual practice.

Ideas: Drawing on Buddhist and Christian scriptural practices we will explore techniques on how to develop deep compassion in the midst of everyday situations and difficulties.

Reflection: As we approach the beginning of summer we take some time for reflection and to contemplate the potential of our coming year.

Although this retreat does not take place until the end of May, we are publicizing it now to help with your spring planning. Also, *registration is limited*, so we encourage you to register soon if you are interested, as the retreat will be offered to the wider community

as well as St. Michael's parishioners. Please go to St. Michael's website for registration information, www.stmichaelsvermont.org or speak with Mary Lindquist for further information. Also, you may check out Will's website to learn more about him, www.willduncan.org.



CELEBRATIONS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----------|---|
| March 2 | Susan Kochinskas |
| March 3 | Christine Hart, Kristen McKenney |
| March 5 | Jodi Clark |
| March 6 | Wayne Cook |
| March 9 | Eric Potter, Martin Leggott |
| March 11 | Teri Robinson, Marie Lawrence |
| March 14 | Mimi Lilly |
| March 15 | Michael Doty-Tolaro |
| March 16 | Chris Chapman |
| March 19 | Ken Neilson, Karen Guthrie |
| March 20 | Bob Walker |
| March 21 | Robert Kochinskas |
| March 22 | Bruce Lawrence |
| March 24 | James Wilmott, Joan Pinilla, Margery McCrum |
| March 25 | Kate LeBlanc |
| March 26 | Trevor Borek |
| March 28 | Tom Woodbury, Elizabeth Moore |
| March 29 | Braeden Smith |
| March 30 | Craig Newbert |
| March 31 | Jan Bennett |

ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| March 7 | Elizabeth Vick & Craig Hammond |
| March 12 | Nancy & Jeffrey Durborow |
| March 23 | Kate & Dana McGinn |



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Clark Anderson, editor • 802-257-1409

bodyinthelibrary@mac.com

Susan Kochinskas, designer • 802-387-2732, flockshm@sover.net

Guardian Mailing List: contact Jeanie Crosby with address changes or requests to be added or removed from *The Guardian* mailing list. jeanie@stmichaels-vt.org or 802-254-6048.

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Saint Michael's Episcopal Church

16 Bradley Avenue, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301-3429
802-254-6048 • info@stmichaels-vt.org • www.stmichaelsvermont.org

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The Guardian

a Christ-centered community of practice awakening to the abiding presence of God



Our Worship Together

| | |
|------------------|--|
| SUNDAYS | 8:00 a.m., Quiet service of prayer and Holy Communion 10:15 a.m., Prayer, music, and Holy Communion, with Sunday School and childcare |
| WEEKDAY MORNINGS | 6:00 a.m., Silent hour in chapel |
| WEDNESDAYS | Noon, Brief service of prayer and Holy Communion |
| THURSDAYS | 5:30 p.m., Contemplative service of chanting, silence, and prayer |
| SATURDAYS | 8:00 a.m., Centering Prayer |

Coming Up at St. Michael's Episcopal

*Please see front for full schedule of
Holy Week services*

MARCH 1, 8, 15:
Tuesday Lenten evening series continues

MARCH 12: Men's Breakfast Meeting

MARCH 20: Palm Sunday

MARCH 27: Easter