

The Epistle

Loving
Joyous
Inclusive

March 1, 2015

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the Name of Christ.

By the time you receive this, we will be well on our Lenten journey. I hope that you are taking advantage of the opportunities provided for the St. Paul's community to respond to the Church's call to make this a season marked by prayer, the study of Scripture, self-denial and acts of charity. (More information is available in this newsletter.)

It may seem odd to you, but I enjoy Lent. Before Ash Wednesday, I always struggle with what to give up and what discipline to take on. Sometimes my disciplines make me healthier or more productive. Sometimes I find them easy and other times rather challenging. What matters most is not whether we make it to Easter without eating some ice cream or a piece of chocolate; what matters most is whether our Lenten disciplines make us better Christians and members of this community. I pray that you are having a Holy Lent.

Finally, on a personal note, many of you have asked how this downstater is adjusting to our harsh winter. I think I was prepared for far worse, so I am doing well. Yet like so many of you, I yearn to see the green grass so I can get back to spoiling a good walk by chasing a golf ball around and watching the New York Mets and Rochester Red Wings.

With my prayers for a Holy Lent and a Blessed Holy Week, I remain,

Your friend and Rector,

(The Rev'd) Robert A. Picken

Thursday Evenings in Lent

Thursday evenings: March 5, 12, 19 and 26.

6pm -- Soup Supper, 6:45pm -- Program followed by Compline

Our Lenten study this year will offer an informal yet informative look at the rites of Holy Week -- the central focus of the Christian year. What role does Scripture play? Where did this all come from? Why do we do what we do on certain days? And, most importantly, how are these liturgies separate yet incomplete without the others? This four part series will cover: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Great Vigil of Easter. Presented by the Reverend Robert Picken.

Please register in the Parish Activities Book in the Parish hall so we can plan accordingly.



9AM Sunday Morning Adult Formation

February 22nd – March 22nd

Sin, Forgiveness and Reconciliation

February 22nd – **Opening the Conversation:**
Perspectives on Sin and Redemption (Using various
resources from tradition and the Anglican Communion.)

Guest Speakers

March 1st –Dorothy Lindsay: Good and Evil

March 8th –Jean Garofolo: Social Sin and Social Justice

A Study of the Prodigal Son

March 15th –Sin and Separation from God

March 22nd –Forgiveness, Reconciliation and Redemption

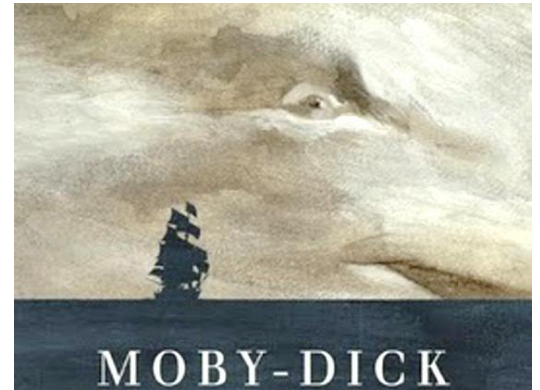
Image: The Return of the Prodigal Son by Rembrandt



Moby Dick Book Group

Have you always wanted to read Moby Dick, but never quite got to the end?

It seems that every five years, a group at St. Paul's reads this classic novel by Herman Melville. I began my adventure at St. Paul's in just such a group ten years ago. We were about twelve members, so I got to know part of the St. Paul's community in a non-threatening way and joined in a lively discussion. A new movie, *In the Heart of the Sea*, by Ron Howard is coming out in March based on a novel of the same name. The incident described was the jumping off point for Moby Dick.



We'll meet from April 12th through June 14th after the 10 am services for just one hour. We plan to read about fifty pages per week. Please let me know if you would like to join in or have questions. Contact: Nancy Gear, ngrear@stpaulsec.org or 585-271-2240.

Caring Ministries Meeting – All Welcome

The next meeting of the Caring Ministries Committee will be held on March 14th at 9am in the Cadigan Room. All are invited to join us. The Caring Ministries group was formed over the past two years to better coordinate all of the in-reach efforts at St. Paul's – St. Paul's Visitors, Eucharistic Visitors, Flower Ministry, Memorial Teas, Healing Prayers, and Prayer Shawl Ministry. This meeting will be our first with Rob Picken, and will plan for our activities over the coming months. Please plan to join us. If you have any questions, call Nancy Gear at the Church Office: 585-271-2240.

Thank you for serving in RAIHN during our rotation week Feb 15-22!

Ann Buerschaper
June Talarico
Anna Maria Deluccio
Judy McGrath
Nyaik Thongjang
Peggy Willard
Jackie Barnes
Kevin Frisch
Bob and Liz Litwiller
Kara McShane
Robert Shaddock
Marty Larch
Debra Nelson
Andy and Linda Johnson
Ken Nelson
Les Kernan
Casey Hochheimer
Lindsey Korth
Chari Krenis
Karen McShane
Colleen Kunz

Mary Gulick
Liz Cook
Mark Rennard
Chris and Nancy Curtis
Nancy Grear
Carol Cunningham
Nancy and Bob Frank
Corinna, Paige and Lily
Cunningham
Neely Kelley
Doug Kelley
Betsey King
Dorene and Ed MacDonald
Mary Callaway
Alice Eldredge
Rita Lancy
Erin Wright
Carole Ross
Gene Tiesler
Rob Picken
Mark Fitzstevens

Sue Speer
Barb and Fred Suter
Donna and Sam Dispenza
Anne Brown
Grace Henshaw
Gwen Cheney
Rose Welch
Sheryl Infantino
Susan Kaemmerlen
Hank Kingston
Bev Strohm
Jane Chapman
Tim Dewart
Judy Carpenter
Wataru Okada
Jim Talpey
Wendy Lesko
Jody Manly

Each one of the above people gave the gift of time in some way to complete the St. Paul's/Paul's Place rotation week Feb 15-22. Thank you Everyone.....Paul's Place doesn't happen without you!

(Apologies to anyone who deserves to be in the above list but was signed up under someone else's name. Please contact Nancy Frank) St. Paul's RAIHN/Paul's Place Leadership Team

A RAIHN Experience

Bob and I were sitting in the kitchen alcove at St. Paul's having coffee at 5:45 am on Feb 17th just having done an overnight shift with the guests at RAIHN. As the volunteer bus driver (who transports the guests to the day center) arrived and joined us, he shared the following story which he gave me permission to share with you:

He and his wife were at a local mall food court selling kazoos for Camp Good Days and Special Times when a teenage boy left his group of friends and came over to him. The boy said, "Hey, I know you. You're the bus driver." A couple hours later the boy came back to him and said, "Thanks."

Nancy Frank, Communications for Paul's Place

We receive letters...

From Episcopal Senior Life Communities for our gift of \$2500 to the ESLC Supporters Campaign. They thanked us for supporting their efforts as they support the seniors they serve.

From Berkeley Divinity School at Yale for our gift of \$1250 as they strive to make Berkeley a seminary "to God's honor and glory."

From Virginia Theological Seminary for our gift of \$750 to provide financial aid to students, strengthening their service to the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.

From the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska for our gift of \$2100 to the Fr. David Salmon School (2014 gift).





Merciful God,
we entrust to your never-failing care and love . .

Mark C. Hargrave, Jr.
February 1, 2015

Martha B. Clark
February 8, 2015

Charlotte L. Spears
February 16, 2015

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord;
And let light perpetual shine upon them.
May their souls, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Memorial Scholarship Fund Deadline April 30th

The St. Paul's Episcopal Church Memorial Scholarship Fund is funded by the Vestry to provide scholarship aid for members of pledging families of St. Paul's and their children who have graduated from high school and who are enrolled in full time college programs. The application deadline is the last business day in April. The application and eligibility criteria are available on the St. Paul's website (from homepage (www.stpaulsec.org) click Learn, then Scholarships) or via the church office. We encourage members of the parish, including prior recipients, to make contributions to the fund when they are able.

The Scholarship Committee

**We Retired the Alleluias for Lent
at this morning's 10AM Eucharist.
February 15, 2015**





Can you stay awake one hour?.. Holy Week Watch

Jesus came and found them sleeping ; and he said to Peter, 'Simon are you asleep? Could you not keep awake for one hour?'... [Mark 14:37]

Again this year during Holy Week we will be holding a Prayer Vigil from 8pm on Maundy Thursday through 3pm on Good Friday, the traditional hour of Jesus' death. Just as Jesus asks his disciples to stay awake with him for just one hour in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before his death, we invite you to do so for an hour at St. Paul's this year. Those who took part last year were very moved by the experience. The vigil will be held in the Norton chapel. You can sign up on the poster in the Parish Hall where you will also find more details. For questions you can contact: Jennifer Zogg, Hank or Kathy Kingston, Ann Buerschaper, Jim Blake or Nancy Grear.



Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year program, taken one year at a time, for laity to strengthen their knowledge of the Bible, the traditions and history of the church; and most importantly, a place for discussing our faith journeys. We plan two groups for the fall – an on-going Monday morning group (9:30 – noon) and a new evening group (6:00 – 8:30). EfM groups are organized around 6 – 12 participants, plus a trained Mentor who facilitates the discussion and helps keep the group organized. The curriculum is provided by the Sewanee Seminary, a school of the University of the South.

The groups will meet weekly, with some breaks for holidays. They will begin in September and complete the following May/June. The cost of \$350 covers tuition charges and all materials needed, except for your own copy of a Bible. Materials can be seen and discussed by contacting Nancy Grear at ngrear@stpaulsec.org or calling 585-271-2240. Registration should be completed by June 22nd. See the St. Paul's website for more information and links to other sites.



REMINDER!

Daylight Saving Time begins

Saturday, March 7

at Midnight.

Set your clocks ahead one hour!

AA Meetings @ St. Paul's

- Tuesday – 6:00pm – The Women's Home Group
- Wednesday – 8:15pm – The Young & The Reckless
- Thursday – 8:15pm – The Academy Group
- Friday – 10:05pm – Heard It Through the Grapevine
- Saturday – 10:00pm – Last House on the Block

Al-Anon Meetings @ St. Paul's

- Wednesday – 7:00pm – Wednesday Nite Al-Anon Family Group (WNAFG)

