

GRACE NOTES — March 2023

MOTHER CATHY'S CORNER

Are you ready? Everything packed and checked and checked again? Put the mail on hold, got the pet-sitter lined up, cleaned out the refrigerator and set the lamp timers? Checked that the stove is off and the doors are locked? Calculated the baggage fee?

Isn't this how one prepares for a journey? Looking forward to the destination, yes, but focusing on the here-and-now in order to be able to leave it well.

That is exactly what we do in Lent. And in preparing for death.

These ideas are very unpopular these days. No one wants to think about death. No one really wants to consider penitence either – those areas in which we have fallen short by a little or a lot. Somehow we'd just rather that reconciliation just "happened" – allowing us to breeze past that uncomfortable and awkward process of getting into specifics -- examining ourselves, repenting (not excusing) what we have done or left undone, asking forgiveness of those whom we have injured, and changing our behavior to restore what harm was done, and so it doesn't happen again. We do these things so that our relationships can move forward without the excess baggage of guilt, resentment, estrangement and regret resulting from our past actions. And because Jesus said to.

During Lent we have an opportunity to practice repentance. We began on Ash Wednesday with the sobering reminder that we are dust and will return to dust. We prayed a litany of penitence. We continue on the Sundays of Lent with the Penitential Rite at the beginning of each service. It is a season of preparation--a journey to celebrate Christ's resurrection – which is also our destination.

Eric Symes Abbot, Dean of Westminster Abbey (1959-1974) wrote,

Asking for Christ's Forgiveness

*It does seem that people
come to themselves when
they are able to repent and
certainly when they are forgiven.
Love when it is true longs
to forgive. Forgiveness does not
mean forgetting; it means
remembering the past in a new way.
When we ask for Christ's forgiveness,
the effect is that in so far as
the past is remembered again,
it will have lost its power to hurt us
and make us afraid.*

Cathy +



Photo: Oskar Kadaksoo on Unsplash

Annual Cook – Off: March Madness

This year's challenge: YOUR FAVORITE MARCH MADNESS snack, appetizer, or munchie.



What's THE BEST to eat while watching NCAA BASKETBALL??

Share your favorite snack, appetizer or munchie with other parish members on MARCH 19th following the 11 AM service, or just come and taste the goodies, and vote for your favorite

There will be a sign up in early March in the Welcome Area for cooks and tasters.

SHROVE TUESDAY

Thank you to all the members of the congregation who volunteered their time to plan, shop, cook, prepare and cleanup for the Shrove Tuesday Community Pancake Supper. Our guests enjoyed the event!



GIVE

Thank you to those who continue to support the church by bringing or mailing in your offerings. For those who would like to make a gift without having to write a check and use the postal system, please consider giving online by clicking the green button on the home page of our website that says, "Give." It is an easy and safe way to give to Grace. You may also contribute in this way for flowers, or to special efforts like Thanksgiving Meals.

FEBRUARY VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- ◇ Our audit has been completed favorably and the report will be sent to the diocese. There were a few recommendations which will be considered for implementation.
- ◇ Our request for a reduction in our diocesan financial assessment has been submitted. We are awaiting the decision.
- ◇ We are looking into ways to save money, including energy costs.
- ◇ In light of Mother Cathy's resignation effective April 30, 2023, we are working on distribution of responsibilities and will be asking parish members to step up and help.



HELP WANTED: TREASURER NEEDED

Our current Treasurer will be stepping down and we need a new one. It is important to have someone taking care of the books and keeping the finances in order. Dave will help with the transition. For a job description, if interested or you have any questions, contact Allen Wolf, Dave Ferrari, or any vestry member.

Photo: Recha Oktaviani on Unsplash



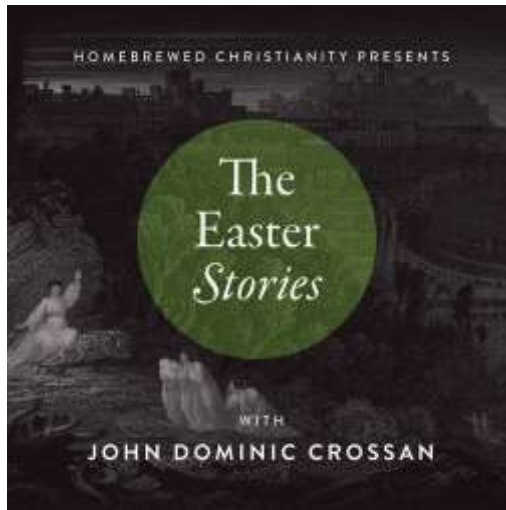
SYRACUSE HOME WORSHIP



Worship at Syracuse Home
for Evening Prayer is scheduled
at 3 pm March 19th

Readers, singers, musicians, and people to help residents with the bulletin are all needed. Please speak to Mother Cathy if interested in helping out.

FORUM LENTEN STUDY



Beginning March 7th, this Lent the Tuesday 1:00 PM Forum will be viewing the video series *The Easter Stories: Celebrating, Questioning, & Explaining the Easter Stories with John Dominic Crossan*. This four-part video series plus Q & A sessions is based on Crossan's book with Marcus Borg, *The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem* and *Resurrecting Easter: How the West Lost and the East Kept the Original Easter Vision*. Copies of *The Last Week* will be available for \$10, and the parish owns one copy of *Resurrecting Easter* which may be borrowed from the library. Come join us and hear the Easter stories in a whole new way!

RESOURCES FOR LENT

Episcopal Relief and Development Lenten Meditations: Who is my neighbor? —Download a booklet, access online at episcopalrelief.org/lent. or subscribe to receive daily emails.

A variety of Lenten resources available in the Welcome Area beginning February 12.

Tuesday Forum Join us at 1 pm Tuesdays beginning March 7th for our Lenten study

Lent Madness a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints. Sign up to receive a daily email at <https://www.lentmadness.org/> or Like LentMadness on Facebook.

Holy Eucharist Tuesdays at noon

Daily Offices online at www.missionstclare.com

A NOTE FROM THE HANEYS

Greetings to everyone at Grace from the Haneys in Ohio. We would like to thank everyone who sent a card and/or a prayer on the occasion of Bruce's 80th birthday in November. We had a nice party for him with some out-of-town family members attending. Unfortunately, soon afterwards he was hospitalized with several issues, chief of which was kidney failure. He slowly improved and went to a skilled nursing facility in mid-December. He still needs a lot of care, but he is now in a very nice facility just five minutes away, here in Powell, a suburb of Columbus. We remember our friends at Grace fondly and thank you for your messages of support.

Nancy and Bruce Haney

EASTER BASKETS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Help Outreach brighten the lives of local preschool children by donating items for their Easter baskets.

The following items are requested: small toys or games, books, writing tools, paper pads, activity kits, stickers, small bouncy balls, sidewalk chalk, soap bubbles, jump ropes, watercolors, bath toys—anything small & fun for young children.

Individually wrapped edible treats too such as, cookies, candy, crackers... enough to fill 17 baskets.

Please deliver donations to the Welcome Area by Monday March, 27th. Thank you & have fun!



Current COVID-19 Precautions



We will increase or decrease the ventilation, recommend or require masks and physical distancing, and other measures depending on the current status of Onondaga County. If you are sick or have any symptoms, please stay home.

Photo by Jan Kopřiva on Unsplash.com

HAVE YOU SEEN US ON YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK?

Grace Church is now livestreaming to Facebook for our 11:00 AM Sunday services. We have several very regular attendees, and others find it convenient during travel or bad weather. Can't find our Facebook Page or YouTube Channel? Click the social media icons in the header and footer on our website GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org.



COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

OFFICE HOURS

TUES 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM WED 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM THURS 7:30 AM — 11 AM

Please call the office in case there have been changes to Maria's schedule



THANK YOU FROM BALDWINSVILLE CHRISTMAS BUREAU



Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau 2022

To: *Grace Church*

Once again due to the overwhelming generosity of groups and individuals, the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau was able to help 126 families in Baldwinsville have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season! Without your support, hundreds of individuals would not have received a Christmas dinner complete with a turkey. Along with extra food, clothing, coats, boots, hats and mittens, house items, books, and toiletries. Most importantly, Christmas Bureau was able to "assist" Santa Claus by providing toys and a filled stocking for every child! Children under age 3 received a baby bag filled with items such as blankets, diapers, clothes, and toys.

We could never accomplish any of this without you. The entire Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau committee and our parent organization, the Baldwinsville Volunteer Center would like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks. Every year, we are amazed at the generosity and compassion of donors such as yourself! We also hope you will think of us again next year! Please like our Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau Facebook page for information on the 2023 Christmas Bureau! We hope you have a happy, healthy, and blessed 2023!

Lauri Bernstein, Christmas Bureau Coordinator mrs64126@gmail.com or (315) 727-5435

Janet Therrien, Christmas Bureau Chairperson

Stephanie Pelcher, Christmas Bureau Assistant Co-Chair



MARCH OUTREACH—SAMARITAN CENTER

We will be assisting with the meal service shift 12:30 - 3PM on 3/26 at the Samaritan Center. This is a meaningful way to help our neighbors. We have a volunteer sign-up sheet in the church Welcome Area or you may contact the church office or Sue Purdy. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. During the month of March until 3/26 we will be collecting basic needs items (please refer to next page) for the Samaritan Center Closet. Also located in the Welcome Area is a poster with a short list for you to take of potential items to purchase to donate.



Basic Needs Closet

The Samaritan Center's Basic Needs Closet provides the everyday essentials that help our guests feel confident and dignified.

greatest needs

- Soap/Body Wash
- Shampoo
- Deodorant/Body Powder
- Lotion
- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Detergent (small size)
- Dish Soap (small size)

seasonal needs

- Hand Warmers (September-March)
- Travel Mugs (September-March)
- Sunscreen (April-August)
- Ponchos (April-August)
- Reusable Water Bottles (April-August)

basic needs

- Conditioner
- Razors
- Tissues
- Feminine Hygiene Products (especially pads)
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Floss
- Washcloths/Loofas
- Chap Stick
- Q-Tips
- Band-Aids
- Hand Soap
- Shaving Cream
- Combs, Brushes, Picks
- Nail Clippers/Files
- Socks - especially men's sizes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Diapers (especially sizes 5 & 6)



**Samaritan
Center**
NO ONE GOES HUNGRY



215 North State Street, Syracuse, NY 13203
(315) 472-0650
www.samcenter.org

Website: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org
office@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org
315 635 3214
110 Oswego Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027



Tuesday 12:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist Rite 2
Sunday 11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite 2 with music & livestream
Sunday 8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite 1

WORSHIP



Grace Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 6, 110 Oswego Street
Baldwinsville, NY 13027 - 0006