



The Missioner

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
Washington & 11th Streets, Lockport, IL 60441
815-834-1168 www.stjohns-lockport-il.org

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March 2016

"Shake off the dust..."

The month of March marks the latter half of the Lenten season, and ends with the celebration of Easter. I've said it so many times, but it remains the truth—this season, especially Holy Week through Easter, are really the story of our faith. In that final week leading to Easter, we contemplate the humanness of Jesus as he faces the fear of his own mortality in the Garden of Gethsemane. As we join in the chorus "Crucify him! Crucify him" on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, we likewise get in touch with the *inhumanity* that is our potential, and that of all people. That's to say it's uncomfortable, it's difficult, but it grounds us in reality. Our faith is born from pain and sacrifice, but will always be understood in the light and hope of the Risen Christ.

The point is, the Church's identity is caught up in this work of always being resurrected—always being brought to new life. And when we begin to get a good hold on this truth, that's when we begin to see how this identity as resurrection people spills out into the world. But this starts not with having flashy programs, rather it starts when the individual people in the Church begin to realize that the resurrection life is a gift that each of us is given. So, this, in turn, means that the way that the power of resurrection and transformation reaches our world is not through the organization of the Church, it's through people...people who themselves have been changed by the love of the Risen One. So, go out and change the world!

Easier said than done, though, I admit. And, given all that has happened at St. John's over these past 5 years, I suppose it could be difficult for some of us to even imagine what changing the world from this vantage would even look like...

Here's the thing, though—and I don't mean to sound like I'm over-spiritualizing things, but I can't help thinking of the story of Lazarus. If you remember this story, Jesus was away and heard that his friend Lazarus was ill, but remained where he was instead of going to see to Lazarus. By the time he does go back to Bethany, Lazarus has been dead for some time, and his sisters, Mary and Martha, are frustrated with Jesus. Anyway, everything is set right again when Jesus prays, and commands Lazarus to life again. It's a powerful story of resurrection, and incidentally is specific to John's Gospel. Lazarus, who was very dead, was brought back to life by Jesus.

And yet, there is this slightly comedic quality to the story that I think is also a powerful lesson. See, Lazarus was able to heed Jesus' command to come out of the tomb, but because the poor guy was wrapped in burial shrouds, he couldn't go much further. It's not until Jesus tells people to help Lazarus remove the shroud that he's able to really enjoy what Jesus had done. Lazarus could no more scratch his nose, or even wash the stink of death and tomb from himself than he could walk home and live the life that had been given back to him.

So, here's the question for March, for Eastertide, and even beyond: if St. John's is part of the Church, the Risen Body of Christ in the world, will we take the burial shrouds off and *live* again? Are we ready to wash off the stench of death and the tomb so that we begin a renewed and vital life?

I think it's very possible, because we're seeing signs of it already—this new life. But what true life will inevitably mean is that whatever vitality emerges isn't kept solely for the people who are already in the church... It *must* be used for the work of changing the world.

Resurrection life will always find a way to be shared, and given for the life of the world. This has been God's vision, and Jesus begun that work on the first Easter morning. Now it's up to us at St. John's to take our birthright as evangelists—bearers of the Good News of Jesus to make a difference beyond the walls of our building.

Peace,

Fr. Matt Humm+

Worship & Formation

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday March 20
Stations & Eucharist at 8 & 10:30 AM

Monday & Tuesday March 21 & 22
Morning Prayer at 9:30 AM

Wednesday March 23
Eucharist at 9:30 AM
Tenebrae at 7:00 PM

Maundy Thursday March 24
Maundy Thursday and Agape Meal at 6 PM
Garden Watch & Reconciliation at 8 PM

Good Friday March 25
Garden Watch Ends at 8 AM
Ecumenical Crosswalk at 12 PM
Veneration of the Cross at 7 PM

Holy Saturday March 26
Liturgy & Prayer at 12 PM
Easter Vigil at 10:30 PM

Easter Sunday March 27
Eucharist at 8 & 10:30 AM

(Helping Hands Needed: Several opportunities to help / participate during this week will be available. Sign-up sheets at the back of the church. Thank you.)

Prayer & Meditation

This year we will be utilizing the Living Compass booklet, *Living Well through Lent 2016-Letting Go With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind* as a community resource for Lent. Available at the back of the church for pick-up.

Daughters of the King gathers Mar 2 & 16 at 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall. Contact Wendy Stewart to learn more.

Forward Movement Daily Devotional Booklets (Feb - April issue) available now at the back of church.

Centering Prayer - gathers each Saturday in the church at 8 AM.
Contact: Charity Humm

Formation Offering Each Wednesday During Lent

All are invited to join each Wednesday Morning (9:30 AM) or Evening Eucharist / Formation (7 PM) offering this Lenten Season of **"The Passion According to Cool Hand Luke."**

Stations of the Cross every Wednesday at 6:30 PM.

Contact: Fr. Matt

Easter Lilies

The tradition of decorating our sanctuary with Easter Lilies continues at St. John's. Each year through your **generosity, we beautify our church with lilies to symbolize Jesus' resurrection, and in addition we are able to purchase the paschal candle and other adornments.** If you would like to share in the decorating, there are flower envelopes in the pews and in the back of the church for your convenience. Please return your donation on or before March 20 so we can place our order with the florist in time for Easter.



Worship & Formation



Schedule this Month: March 13
Time: during 10:30 AM Sunday Service
Ages: 3—11
Where: In Parish Hall
Contact: Fr. Matt



March Lectionary

Date	1st Lesson	Psalm	2nd Lesson	Gospel
March 6	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
March 13	Isaiah 43:16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
March 20	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 23:1-49
March 27	Isaiah 65:17-25	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12

Bishop's Committee News

*The next Bishop's Committee Meeting will be held on Sunday,
March 20 after the 10:30 AM service.*

*Copies of the 2016 St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church Annual Meeting Packet /
Reports and all Bishop Committee Minutes are available in the Church Office.*



FUNDRAISER COMMITTEE KICK-OFF MEETING

All are welcome participate in this fun kick-off
and learn more about the events planned.

Tuesday, March 1 from 7—8 :15 PM

Contact: Pam Carter



Outreach



Morning Star Mission Meal Service - considering serving a warm meal to those in need this Lent on Mar 12. Carpool group departs church at 10:30 AM and drives to mission. 2.5 hours, once a month makes a difference to those in need. Sign - up sheet for 2016 at back of church.



Prayer Shawl Ministry - Mar 2 & 16 gatherings at 11:30 AM to knit and crochet shawls.

Can't make it? Contact Julia Matile and find out more.

Beginners and home knitters/crochet talents welcome!

Blessed shawls always available in the church.

Please consider taking a shawl today and passing it on to those in need of comfort .



Food Pantry - weekly donations gathered for those in need within Lockport. Food staples like beans, tuna fish, cereal / oatmeal, soups/stews and peanut butter / jelly always appreciated.

Please consider giving generously / often each Sunday this Lenten season.

Parish Life

I would like to thank everyone that came out to enjoy Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner.
It was great seeing everyone.



A special thank you goes out to our volunteers Sue & Tom Drake and Tom Moore for doing all the cooking. Ruth Johnson & Lillian Hensley for helping put everything together. Mike Graziadei for helping set up, and also collecting money at the door. Nick Wirth for helping take down tables and reaching stuff down from shelves. It was fun working with all of you.

Thank you for all your hard work.

Jan McElheny



Recently I visited with Evonne Cook & Anne Patterson. They are now living at "Senior Star at Webber Place". They are in the Memory Care section. When I was there, they asked me to say "Thank You" to everyone that has sent them cards. They really enjoy getting them. They also said that they would love to have visitors. So if you are ever out their way, please stop in and say hello.

Address: 605 Edward Drive, Romeoville, IL 60446.

Jan McElheny



A big thank you to all that donated food and the monetary donations to coffee hour. It is greatly appreciated. Coffee hour is a great time for fellowship. We hope you come over for a cup of coffee or tea and a bite to eat. Everyone is welcome.

Lillian Hensley



Note of Gratitude for continued service to the mission here at St. John's...

- Prayer Shawl Ministry: Ruth Johnson, Julia Matile, and Jan McElheny.
- Rob Brennan, Art Pesavento and Fr. Matt for installing the new treads on the church ramp.

March Birthdays

Karen Lockyer	3/3
Katherine Falls	3/6
Winston Corbett	3/12
Catherine Hall	3/14
Sara Riofski	3/15
Lillian Hensley	3/16
Shannon Williams	3/18
Brandon Davis	3/18
Greg Carter II	3/20
Dale Lundy	3/22
Tom Moore	3/22
Kathy Zurek	3/22
Barbara Mitchell	3/26
Janice Waggoner	3/26
Mark Secor	3/28
Deb Huddleston	3/30
Peter Tierney	3/30

Those for whom prayers
have been asked:

Denise T., Johnise H., Valetta R., Marie H.,
Karen M., Sandy J., Kathy S. and Roberta B.
And all those with terminal illnesses, their families,
and those caring for them.

March Anniversaries

Karen & Erwin Wirth	3/1
Gerald & Deb Huddleston	3/12
Douglas & Linda Tierney	3/23

*** Please contact the office if any of the above
information changes.*

Website: www.stjohns-lockport-il.org
Telephone: 815-834-1168
Calendar: [Calendar - Google](#)
E-mail: office@stjohns-lockport-il.org

Some Helpful Resources For Daily Prayer

For Daily Prayer www.missionstclare.com
For Daily Reading satucket.com/lectionary
Episcopal News [www.episcopalcafe.com\](http://www.episcopalcafe.com/)
<http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens>
Facebook [St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church-Lockport, IL](#)
Diocesan Website episcopalchicago.org
National Church episcopalchurch.org
Parish Connections stjohns-lockport-il.org
Twitter [@forwardinchrist](#)

March's - Humor & Smiles Corner Reason #70

In the Episcopal Church you will be treated as an
adult, and the child in you will be welcomed.

Alex H. MacDonell
Diocese of New Jersey

Crew, Louie, 101 Reasons to be Episcopalian,
Morehouse Publishing, Harrisburg, 2003, xiii

Important Dates to Remember

March 1Fundraiser Kick-off Mtg @ 7 PM
March 2Lenten Formation @ 9:30 AM
.....Daughters of the King @ 10:30 AM
.....Prayer Shawl Ministry @ 11:30 AM
..... Stations of Cross@6:30 PM and Lenten Formation @ 7 PM
March 5Centering Prayer @ 8 AM
March 9Lenten Formation @ 9:30 AM
.....Stations of Cross@6:30 PM and Lenten Formation @ 7 PM
March 12Centering Prayer @ 8 AM
.....Morning Star Mission Meal Svc at 10:30 AM
March 13Church School @ 10:30 AM
March 16Lenten Formation @ 9:30 AM
.....Daughters of the King @ 10:30 AM
.....Prayer Shawl Ministry @ 11:30AM
.....Stations of Cross@6:30 PM and Lenten Formation @ 7 PM
March 19Centering Prayer @ 8 AM
March 20Bishop's Committee after 10:30 AM Svc
.....Youth Group @ 6:30 PM, Missioner content due
March 21 & 22 Morning Prayer @ 9:30 AM
March 23Eucharist @ 9:30 AM, Tenebrae @ 7 PM
March 24Agape Meal @ 6 PM
.....Garden Watch & Reconciliation @ 8 PM
March 25Garden Watch Ends @ 8 AM
.....Veneration of the Cross @ 7 PM
March 26Liturgy & Prayer @ 12 PM
.....Easter Vigil at 10:30 PM
March 27Easter Sunday Eucharist @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM

Staff

The Rev. R. Matthew Humm, *Priest*
Kyndel Trejo, *Director of Music*
Jill Crisman, *Church Secretary*
Leona Davies & Art Pesavento, *Wardens*
Carolyn Hall, *Clerk*
Art Pesavento, *Acting Treasurer*
Guy Alton, *Assistant Treasurer*

Bishop Committee Members

Steve Masters, 2017	Scott Ruphard, 2018
Peggy McCarthy, 2017	Wendy Stewart, 2018
Doug Tierney, 2017	Janet Lindstrand, 2019
Tom Boyle, 2018	Tom Moore, 2019

Fr. R. Matthew Humm, *Christian Education*
Rob Brennan, *Marketing*
Lee Moarn, RN,BSN,FCN, *Health Ministry*
Wendy Stewart, *Daughters of the King*
Lillian Hensley, *Hospitality*
Julia Matile, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
Formation (2nd & 4th Sunday)

WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist
7:00 PM Worship & Formation

Mission Statement of
St. John the Evangelist Church

"The mission of St. John the Evangelist Church is to incarnate our Baptismal Covenant as we worship and praise God through the Sacraments of the Church, proclaim the Gospel in word and action, promote Christian fellowship and spiritual growth, and encourage all members to live their **lives for the benefit of all God's people."**



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