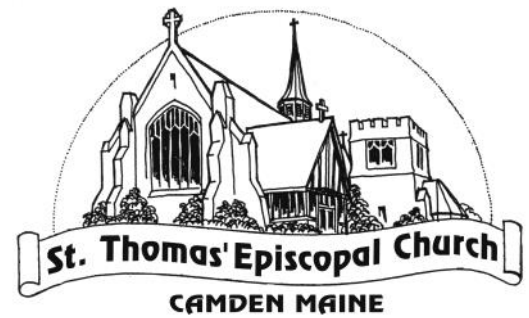


S T . T H O M A S'

Tidings

Sunday, February 18, 2018:
The First Sunday in Lent

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. May this place be like home to you! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar. Members of our prayer ministry are available in the Chapel during Holy Communion to pray with you about any need or thanksgiving.



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We're in Lent —what's changed?

The “office” candles are gone. Office candles are the six candles against the high altar. Traditionally they were lit only for morning and evening prayer, and the candles on the altar were lit for Eucharist, but we light office candles for the 9:30 Eucharist, weddings, and funerals when there is no Eucharist. They are removed during Lent to remind us that we are renewing our inner light even while the outer light is disappearing for the season.

The flowers are gone. In Lent we take away all the “trappings” that keep us from our inner work. So— during Lent, pay attention to the carving on both of our altars, as well as the carved apostles and saints that surround the high altar. I just found out that they aren't permanently affixed—they are removable!

There are no alleluias during Lent. If you miss them, think how much you will enjoy them again at Easter! The music has also changed. I especially like the new Fraction anthem we sing after the breaking of the bread. No chanting (after the Great Litany) for Lent, I'll chant again at Easter.

We are using the Penitential opening for the service during Lent which places the Confession at the beginning of the service. Remember that, people who used the 1928 BCP? A little history: before the 1979 BCP the confession be-

gan every service.

We've changed to purple vestments: altar, stole and chasuble. Purple is the color of penitence. Lent is a time of prayer, and study and introspection as we try to emulate Christ more and more in our own lives.

Enjoy the rich season of Lent. And prepare for Holy Week, and Easter, the

most dramatic services of the church year. *Lisa+*

About today's liturgy

This morning we will be saying (at 7:30) and singing (at 9:30) the Great Litany. It is often chanted in a procession, which many choirs call the “holy pretzel.” This Litany includes various petitions that are sung by the priest, with responses sung by the congregation. It was used as early as the fifth century. The Great Litany invokes the Trinity and includes prayers for deliverance from evil, spiritual harm, and natural calamities; and concludes with prayers of general intercession. The Great Litany replaces the Prayers of the People.

Today's Forum

Today during the Forum time we will meet to have an open conversation about discernment process for a new Bishop. The responses we provide will be used in creating a profile that describes our diocese to potential candidates for Bishop.

You may have received a survey from the Diocese but this is something different, and the Diocese's open-ended questions will aid our discussion. Your input is vital. Please join us for a fun conversation as we assist in the Diocese's discernment process.

Noon Music in Lent

Our Noon Music in Lent program takes place in the Church and Parish Hall each Friday throughout Lent. Come and hear members of our community perform a half hour of music, then enjoy fellowship and a lunch of soup and bread in the Parish Hall. The free-will offering benefits the Camden Area Christian Food Pantry.

February 23

Brian McFarland, organ

March 2

Nancy Riesgo and Paulette Ulmschneider, sopranos with Michelle Terry on hammered dulcimer

March 9

John Mehrmann, piano

March 16

Millie Crocker, harp

March 23

Jane Schroeder and Suzanne Scott, piano

2018 Parish Directory

Copies of the new 2018 Parish Directory are now available in the Sun Room. Look for booklets with a blue cover! Please report missing or incorrect information to George in the Parish Office.

Today's Music

We approach the First Sunday in Lent reciting/chanting **The Great Litany**, first published in English in 1544, five years *before* The Book of Common Prayer! Think on that as we recite/chant it: how many of the faithful have sung this over the past **473 years!**

The prelude is based on an early 17th century German chorale which uses the text from Psalm 38:4 as a starting point:

For my iniquities overwhelm me; like a heavy burden they are too much for me to bear.

Sobering words to start our Lenten journey. Organist Johann Gottfried Walther (German, 1684-1748) befriended his cousin, Johann Sebastian Bach while they were both in Erfurt; all the while composing church music and compiling a music dictionary in 1732. Our sequence hymn is from a tenth century Latin text, and is very possibly earlier than that; paired with a Reformation chorale based on a twelfth-century plainsong tune. During communion we sing an even older text by Synesius of Cyrene (375-414) using a tune, *Southwell* (pronounced "suth-'ll" and probably by William Damon (or DeMan or Demaunde) (1540-1591) in a collection of Psalm tunes. Benjamin Britten used this text and music in his church opera, *Noye's Fludde*. These texts and tunes have certainly endured for many, many generations!

The Choir sings a text from today's appointed Psalm 25 by Jacques Arcadelt (1505-1568) Flemish composer of sacred music as well as secular madrigals and chansons. Going forth into the world we sing a *relatively younger* hymn with a 19th century text (we sing only five of the original nine stanzas) using a 17th century tune harmonized by a 19th century composer. These hymns cer-

tainly do get around! To conclude I play one of Johannes Brahms' (German, 1833-1897) chorale preludes for organ, *Herzlich tut mich verlangen*. We refer to this as the *Passion Chorale* (see Hymns 168/169). Brahms wrote these at the end of his composing career (published in 1896) and to me they represent the culmination of all his work, encapsulated in these brief gems.

Go forth with ancient tunes and chants as well as more recent gems.

—Jane Schroeder, Minister of Music

Prayer List

Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: Terry Bunger, Marya Allen, Ron, Jean Harper, Joanne Scott, Nancy Soderberg, Missie Stone, Tiffany Andrews, Stormy Bok, Seana Roubinek, Carolyn Morris, Roxanna, Brian Fitzpatrick, Cara, Risa, Chris, Janan Vaughn, Ann Foster, Trish.

Next Sunday

February 25, 2018:

The Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:22-30

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38

7:30 am: Celebrant: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Preacher:** The Rev. Abby Pettee; **Eucharistic Minister:** Pam Barndon; **Lectors:** JoAnne Ryan, Pat Ayers; **Prayers of the People:** Jane Schroeder; **Usher:** Edmund Hartt.

9:30 am: Celebrant: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Preacher:** The Rev. Abby Pettee; **Crucifer:** Kristian Kibler; **Eucharistic Minister:** Kristian Kibler; **Lectors:** Anna Black, Jane Schroeder; **Prayers of the People:** Roy Gilley; **Acolytes:** Kingston Kibler, Kavan Kibler; **Ushers:** Philip Groman.

Calendar

Sunday, February 18

The First Sunday of Lent

7:30 am—Holy Eucharist Rite I

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Monday, February 19

9:30 am—Holy Eucharist Rite II

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Tuesday, February 20

9:00 am—Xi Gong—Green Room

6:30 pm—OA meeting—Library

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Wednesday, February 21

9:30 am—Service of Healing and Holy Eucharist

10:00 am—Fellowship Hour—Sun Room

11:00 am—Bible Study—Sun Room

4:00 pm—EFM Conference Room

6:00 pm—VoXX Rehearsal—Parish Hall, Green Room

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Thursday, February 22

5:00 pm—Choir Rehearsal

—Green Room

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Friday, February 23

Noon Music in Lent

—Church, Parish Hall

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Saturday, February 24

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Sunday, February 25

The Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 am—Holy Eucharist Rite I

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

1:30 pm—Service at Quarry Hill

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement