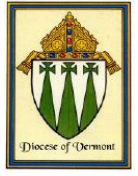


St. Paul's Epistle



MARCH 2020

Interim Pastor's Lenten Message

Lenten spiritual practices! How will you make a “holy Lent”? Lent is an invitation to practice, in a new way, the adoration of God, neighbor and planet. We do so by prayerfully clothing ourselves in the all-inclusive love, forgiveness and mercy of God in preparation for what Barbara Brown Taylor defines as “Forty days to cleanse the system and open the eyes to what remains when all comfort is gone. Forty days to remember what it is like to live by the grace of God alone and not by what we can supply ourselves.” You alone can choose to accept this invitation.

We often talk about what to “give up” for Lent and I certainly know in my past, this has typically meant for 40 days only. That’s it. Then I go back to eating or doing or not doing whatever it is that I’ve given up. Perhaps instead of “giving up” something we might consider “letting go.”

While Jesus travelled into the wilderness, he responded to Satan’s temptations not by giving up as much as letting go. He let go of the “lure of power and control,” as one author puts it. He let go of the fear that he would be deprived. Jesus let go of comfort and faced significant challenges. Only in letting go did Jesus then have room to receive God’s grace and guidance. By letting go, Jesus had room to grow into his new ministry.

As a beginner potter, I was constantly reminded to loosen my grip around the clay as I slowly pulled it up from the spinning wheel. Whenever I tried to control the clay versus work with it patiently, the whole thing turned into a wet mass of flop! So, this Lent, won’t you join me in a prayer for God’s help in letting go, to be open and unattached so that God can do God’s always unexpected work for us, within us and through us. No doubt we’ll flop around a bit. By God’s abiding grace, we pick up and try, try again.

This is a Lenten discipline I hope to nurture not only for 40 days but also well beyond Lent. That is the hope of Easter. When God breaks through and fills the space we make for New Life, Love Divine. Easter happens...over and over again. God is always with us, in the wilderness and everywhere in between. Let go and Live!

Faithfully with Love,

Sherry
Interim Pastor

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday April 5th

8 am- Holy Eucharist Rite 2, with Palms Liturgy

10 am- Holy Eucharist Rite 2, with Palms Liturgy

Monday, April 6th

7 pm- Taizé Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral, Burlington

Thursday, April 9,

7:00 pm-Maundy Thursday w/ Foot washing and Stripping of the altar

Friday, April 10

4:00 pm- Ecumenical Good Friday Service @ Vergennes Congregational Church

Friday, April 10

7:00 pm- Good Friday Service @ St Paul's

Sunday, April 12

8:00 am- Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

10:00 am- Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

St. Paul's is now on Instagram! You can find us @saintpaulsvergennes

For those of you that aren't very familiar with Instagram, it is a social media platform that has become a great way to connect and "follow" what other churches are doing (neighboring and around the world) and to share what we're doing.

Let me know if any of you want to discuss further or have any particular church photos you want to share on Instagram or want to be involved in any of the admin for this. The account will also be linked on our website.

Thanks!

Rebecca Chauvin

Senior Warden



Vergennes Community Food Shelf

Tuesday 1:30 -4:00 PM

Thursday 2:00 -4:00PM

Saturday 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Remember last year's Monopoly promotion? Shaw's will be doing it again starting in February. If you don't use the tickets, I would appreciate it if you would leave them in the envelope on the bulletin board. And if you save them please donate any free tickets for things you don't eat (last year we got lots and lots of free donuts along with more nutritious food).

Birthdays



15th John Beauregard

26th Alan Kittelson

22nd Patrick Knauss

26th Zander Earle

24th Bert Smith

29th Jeanne Wisner

25th Marcie Means

29th Kristi Jennings

25th Margaret Raymond

31st Josephine Chauvin

25th Riley Coffey

Interim Pastor: Rev. Sherry Osborn
revsherryo@gmail.com

Deacon: Rev. Lucy Pellegrini

Sr. Warden: Rebecca Chauvin 578-7312

Jr. Warden: Chris Hale 877-1059

Clerk of the Vestry: Steve Lowe 877-3783

VESTRY MEMBERS:

Class of 2021:

Rebecca Chauvin 877-1370

Nan Guilmette 453-8515

Kim Hatgen 877-6947

Class of 2022:

David Merrill 475-2160

Bo Price 877-2031

Class of 2023:

Chris Hale 877-1059

Jeff Mangini 453-2144

Church Committee Chairs:

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Liturgy: