

The Piper

March 2019



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Fellow Parishioners:

March is here and Ash Wednesday is next week. Make sure to join us for the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper and then the Lenten Soup Suppers on Thursday nights each week up until Holy Week. I will provide a soup offering each week and invite others to bring some simple fare to share such as bread of cheese. The idea is to offer a modest repast with fellowship and sharing. I hope to see you there. Feel free to let me know of your intention to attend so that I might have an idea as to how much soup to prepare. The evenings will start on Thursday March 7th and go through April 11th at 6:00 PM in the Church Hall.

What is Love asking us to do? This is our theme coming out of Epiphany and it is a good theme to carrying us into Lent. Lent traditionally is about giving something up – chocolate or coffee for example. Well this Lent let's try something different. This Lent let us strive to display or act out one overt act of loving kindness outside of our normal routine each week. Lest you think this is something trivial or simple it is not. It would mean that you would need to reflect upon the normally kind or loving things you do and then come up with something not normal for you. Maybe this week it is making dinner for a friend or family member and delivering it to them, or paying for the groceries for a stranger. I don't know what it might mean for you but for Lent let us make an effort to increase our acts of kindness rather than deny ourselves something. What is Love asking you to do?

This coming month in addition to our Lenten Suppers we will have a St. Patrick's day dinner on the 16th, a Saturday and the following Sunday a week later the 24th we will be receiving a visitation from our Bishop. As I mentioned in the announcements we will be having only one service that day for the whole congregation and I hope you all can attend to help us worship and say farewell to our beloved Bishop Mary.

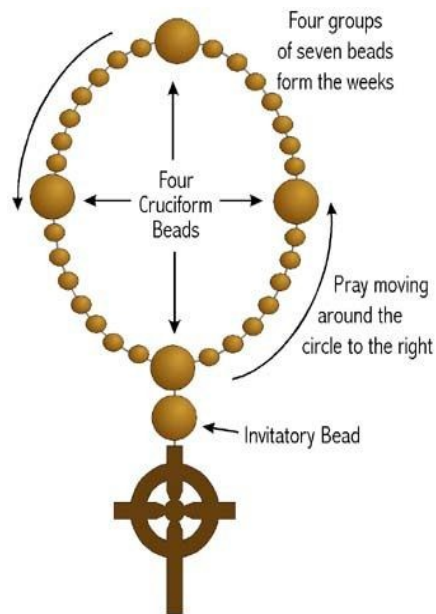
That's all for now. Drop me a line at the rector's email starector@sbcglobal.net to make appointments to see me, have a safe and spiritual beginning to the Lenten Season. Keep your fellow parishioners in your prayers.

Blessings, I am happy to be and remain:
Yours in Christ
Rob+

Anglican Prayer Beads (aka Anglican Rosary)

At our recent Vestry retreat, the topic of using an Anglican Rosary came up. Several of us were unfamiliar with this Rosary, although we were all familiar with Catholic's use of rosary beads. Catholics use a 59 bead rosary. Anglicans and other Protestants use a 33 bead rosary. A quick Google search followed by a glimpse on Wikipedia revealed a couple of websites that provide in-depth information on the history and use of Anglican Prayer Beads. Here's one link that gives a brief historical advent of the Anglican Rosary <http://www.franciscan.org.au/Anglican-rosary/>. In addition, there are several sites that describe "how to use" using different prayers. This link has a couple of prayers that can be printed out in a booklet format <http://www.holytrinitygmv.org/media/18376/Anglican-Rosary-Prayers-Rubric.pdf>. Anglican Rosaries can be purchased online at sites such as Amazon, (use Amazon Smile and St. Andrew's receives 0.5% of the price) Etsy and eBay.

Who knew?





Snowing in Seattle...

If you look closely, you'll see the footprints of Blaine and MochaJava.

Photo courtesy of Blaine Hammond



Bible Study

Every Thursday morning in the Parish
Hall

10:30 a.m. until 12 noon

All are welcome. Bring a friend.

THOUGHTS ABOUT POTHoles

The weeping prophet. Jeremiah is recognized as a great prophet by Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Indeed, his teachings are both revered and worthy lessons. He said, "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" That is a good question/observation. How do you know that what your heart is telling you is good? Then we get into the age old debate between philosophers – are humans by nature basically good or evil? The answer is . . . I don't know, no one does. It is all speculation.

Jeremiah tells us to look at the tree planted by the water. It gives good fruit, lives, flourishes as it is nourished by the river, soil, and sun. The tree lives and gives. Life is a lot like that. If you make decisions based on your "heart," sometimes the end result turns out bad. Why? Have you ever heard someone say, "I know that intellectually, but emotion takes over and I do the opposite?" Common sense may tell you one thing, but your emotions tell you another. Which part of your mind do you follow, should you follow? Well, if I had the answer to that, I would be a prophet myself and out preaching to the multitude. Alas, I am not. I am a mere human and as such am flawed.

The heart and mind are two very different things and no one knows what is in both of them. Most of the time we can see the results or consequences of our actions and learn from experience how to balance our thinking and feeling versus our actions. Over and over we are told to love our neighbors. Sometimes we succeed and other times we fail. Who are our neighbors? Good question! They are everyone around us. They are the poor, the unloved, the needy, our friends, people of other beliefs and races, those who are like us and those who are not like us. I was going to say enemies. But if we truly love our neighbors, we have no enemies. So what's the problem? It may be too simple. What about those who would seek to destroy us even though we pose no threat? That's a hard one. Can you truly be a Christian in a war-torn situation? Can you just stand there, not defend yourself, and let yourself be slaughtered because you are practicing loving others? That's another hard question that I have no answer for. All religions have answered that in different ways, some sent knights to the crusades, other groups practiced genocide, others burned crosses, and still others tried to legislate beliefs with

penalties for disobedience. None of these solutions were shining examples of the essence of Christianity. I think the idea is that if we get rid of all the others not like us, then it's easy to love one another. Everyone knows that if there were only Christians in the world, then there would be no conflict, only love. Right?

We come back to loving your neighbor. The tree planted by the water according to Jeremiah will bear good fruit. Matthew tells us . . . by their deeds you shall know them. I think cynically, someone needs to tell those on the other side of the fence those things so our loving our neighbors will bear good results. Ephesians tells us to put on the "whole armor of God" as a defense and then love your neighbors. It has to start somewhere. Maybe with us right now? Sometimes we ask too much of God, sometimes we hear . . . oh, you expect me to do something about it? I think you already know the answer.

The world will never be comprised of all the same people, believing the same thing at the same time with a predisposition to do good to others. We were given free will and each of us uses that in different ways – some good and some not so good. We are all human, and as humans we make mistakes and then some ask for forgiveness. We focus on the material rather than the spiritual. What good does it do to worry about the potholes in the parking lot when we neglect our brothers and sisters inside and outside the church? Potholes are tangible, easy to recognize, good point to ponder about, suggest solutions, discuss and argue about them, and then realize that all that effort was useless since we can't afford it anyway. Our mission statement says, "we are a diverse and welcoming family . . . loving one another and reaching out to our community in service." That project we can afford -- we can do something about. I think the message and assignment we have been given is to raise (all) people to personhood, to lift each other up, respect each other, to care for each other, and to show kindness to all the souls at St. Andrew's and elsewhere. The parking lot may or may not get fixed, but improving our relationships with each other can if we chose to do that. Let us lift up each other, spread that care and concern to all people, but let it begin here with us in all ways possible! Steve LaFever

Respect

peoples feelings.

Even if it doesn't
mean anything to
you, it could mean
everything to them.



fruit salad

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Ben Lomond
Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6 p.m.



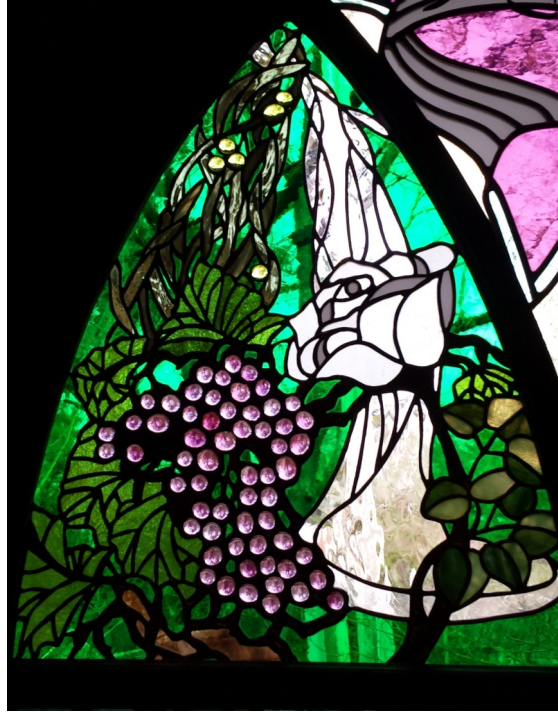
Bring your camera for the photo booth

Hosted by STA Altar Guild
Donations accepted

March Birthdays

2	Gary Smith	13	Celestine Glover
4	Gina Carling	16	Jerry Fishel
5	John Brough	16	Nia Woolliscroft
6	Sabrina ValldeRuten	24	Tom Spring
7	Clark McPherson	24	Gary McCormick
8	Aiden LeRoux	27	Steve LaFever
9	Elizabeth Forbes	30	Cecelia Kerns

The new stained glass window near the pulpit was donated by Rick and Cindy Garay in honor of their parents Moe and Rose Garay and Bob and Mickey Browne. The window was designed by Virginia Fordice (who has designed and made many of the beautiful windows in our church) and built by Bobbie Faulk and installed by Bobbie's husband, Jerry. The religious symbols in the window are the white rose, symbolizing the Virgin Mary; grapes and



grape leaves representing Christ and Christian faith (the miracle of turning water into wine); the olive branch representing peace and the earth coming back to life after the great flood; and the waterfall representing the Holy Spirit, cleansing and salvation. (John 7:38 - "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.")

These symbols and their meanings describe our parents and their relationships with each other and their faith. They genuinely liked each other and became friends who got together even without Rick and I. They lived close together and often had each other over for dinner. The grapes and the olives symbolize sharing food and wine and that was always a big part of any get-together. Our dads loved to go fishing together and they both enjoyed growing vegetables. The waterfall and olives symbolize those two things. The rose is for both our moms, as it was Mickey's middle name and Rose's name. All of our parents believed in God and practiced their faith in different ways and they all loved coming to St. Andrews and worshipping in our beautiful little church.

To get information about donating a stain glass window please contact either Michael Freeman, Cathy Newfield.



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Saturday-March 16th at 6pm

Corned Beef & Cabbage, Mac'n Cheese

Salad, Wine, Beer, Soda

FOOD, FUN, FELLOWSHIP



Split the Pot Raffle

Celtic Music with Nicki Kerns

Suggested Donation:

\$12 - Adults-includes one drink

\$8 Children

\$35 Maximum per family

Drink tickets—\$1

Sign ups are posted outside the office.

Contact Sharon Fishel for more information.





Angel in the Kitchen
Feel'n good when cook'n
Sharing the love of God
through your love of cooking



DEREK'S IRISH SODA BREAD

from the kitchen of CATHE LIEB

4 c. all-purpose flour 1 c. currants or raisins

1 tsp. Baking soda 1 T. caraway seeds

1 tsp. Salt 1 1/3 c. buttermilk

1 c. sugar 1 egg yolk

3/4 c. butter



Sift flour, soda, salt and sugar into mixing

bowl. Cut butter into this mixture. Add currants (raisins) and caraway seeds. Toss it well to blend. Gradually add buttermilk to make a rather soft dough. Before taking mixture out, lightly flour breadboard. Place the dough on the breadboard. Knead the dough briefly (about 10-15 times).

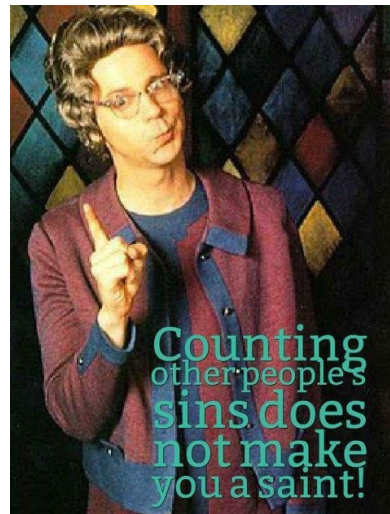
Cut the dough into 2 equal pieces. Shape each piece into a round loaf. Put loaves on a buttered baking sheet and flatten them a little. Pat down.

Brush the dough lightly with the mixture of egg yolk and a little water.

Cut a cross on the top of each loaf (about 1/4 inch in depth). Bake at 350 degrees in a pre-heated oven for 1 hour or until bread is nicely brown.

16) What's the best way to settle church disputes?

With canons.



Calendar Events

- Sundays:** 8am-Holy Eucharist/Rite I
 9:15am-Choir Practice
 10am-Holy Eucharist/Rite II
***March 24th-Bishop Mary's Visit-10am
 (one service only)**
- Mondays:** 6:30pm-AA meeting upstairs Parish Hall
- Tuesday:** 6:00pm-Shrove Tuesday Dinner, March 5th
- Wednesdays:** Ash Wednesday Service at noon on March 6th
 5:15pm-Evening Prayer
 7:00pm-Girl Scouts-Parish Hall (3/13 and 3/27)
- Thursdays:** Rev. Rob's Office Hours
 10:30am-12pm-Bible Study-Parish Hall
 6:00pm-Lenten Soup Supper
 6:45pm-Vestry Meeting, March 23rd
- Saturdays:** Rev. Rob's Office Hours
 9:00am-Men's Breakfast at Rocky's on March 9th-
 on the second Saturday every month
 6:00pm-St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 16th





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Where God is worshiped and the people are fed