



St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry
February 7, 2018



New & Notable

Thoughts from Lori



As you know, the date of Easter is not a fixed date, but one based on an ancient formula related to the spring equinox and the cycle of the moon. (Yes, I'm serious.) If you're interested in the full explanation, it can be found on page 880 of the Book of Common Prayer. (Trust me: it's easier to just rely on a published calendar or Google it.) Once the date of Easter is established, the dates for Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, and the season of Lent are set. This year, they are as follows:

Shrove Tuesday	February 13
Ash Wednesday	February 14 (yes, Valentine's Day this year)
First Sunday of Lent	February 18

So Lent is soon upon us. Shrove Tuesday, from the Old English word *shriven*, was the traditional day when all the fats and sugars were used up in anticipation of the Lenten fasting when such things were forbidden. This is also where Mardi Gras comes from, and it's where we get the tradition of churches doing pancake suppers on Shrove Tuesday. Others opt for New Orleans related suppers such as red beans and rice. For several years, we here at St. Paul's have opted for what we call **Taco Tuesday** as an alternative to pancakes.

Make plans to come Tuesday, February 13th - that's next Tuesday - for tacos and all the trimmings. It's free, but we sure would appreciate a little donation (say, \$3 each, no more than \$10 for a family). Most of the arrangements have been made, but if you'd like to help, contact Marilyn Bell at marilyn_s_bell@yahoo.com.

The next day, of course, is **Ash Wednesday**. We in The Episcopal Church don't usually put much emphasis on *days of obligation*, but if we did, this would be one. We will offer the Holy Eucharist and Imposition Ashes at noon and 7pm that day (the 14th). Then Lent begins. As has been our tradition, the Eucharist on Sundays during Lent will be Rite One, a more penitential expression of the Mass.

At Coffee & Conversation this Sunday, we will discuss plans for Lenten and Easter studies. Our presiding bishop, Michael Curry, has suggested reading Genesis during Lent and Luke during Eastertide. Meanwhile, I hope to see you Tuesday night and at one of the services on Ash Wednesday.

Faithfully,
Loritt

P.S. SIGN-UP!!! Sign-up for Ducks-in-a-Row (see below) and/or for one of the SMALL GROUPS to discuss our future as a parish. If you haven't signed up for a Small Group by Sunday the 11th, we'll be calling you about which date you'd like to attend. Don't make us call you!



Shrove Tuesday

Taco Dinner here at St. Paul's!

February 13th, 6-8 pm

Remember - "Feed ourselves, feed others!"

When donating to our grocery cart, please check the expiration dates! Also, we cannot accept opened packages.

Not quite new but still notable....



Ducks in a Row Planning Workshop
Saturday, March 17th
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

This workshop isn't just for those of us who are older; who, as the saying goes, have fewer days ahead of us than days behind us. It's for singles and couples, and for parents and grandparents. We'll talk about things like:

- What are the norms for Episcopal funeral services?
- Who is a funeral for?
- What does your family need to know?
- What are some of the legal issues my family will have to face and what can I do to simplify those issues?

I promise you that this won't be grim or maudlin. We request a \$5 donation to cover the cost of materials, including a notebook, refreshments, and honorariums for one or more of our guest speakers. **In order for the event to be held, a minimum of eight (8) couples and/or individuals will be required.** The sign-up sheet is on a clip board on the narthex table.

Consider this workshop both the fulfillment of our Christian responsibility and a prayer as found in The Great Litany (BCP, p. 149):
[Spare us, Good Lord] From...dying suddenly and unprepared....



Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed!

Please consider volunteering for Sunday Morning Coffee Hour. This is a very easy way to serve the church on an occasional basis. There's a sign up sheet in the parish hall, and most everything is supplied for the morning. Questions? Call the church office Tues-Fri 9-1. Thank you!

Children's Chapel

"Who does Jesus say he is?"

Children are invited to attend the Children's Chapel following the service to hear a story, have a snack, and enjoy an activity. This week's leaders are Kim Morris and Bobbi Fiali.



BSA Troop 455 24th Annual Pig Roast and Silent Auction Sunday, February 11, 2018

11am - 3pm

Carry out or Dine in all-you-can-eat

Adults - \$12.00 Seniors(65+) - \$10.00 Children(4-10) - \$7.00

Johnsburg Community Club

2315 W. Church St., Johnsburg

www.troop455pigroast.org

Every year Boy Scout Troop 455 in Johnsburg hosts a Pig Roast Dinner/Silent Auction as a fundraiser for our scouts. This year will be the 24th Annual Pig Roast. Many of our scouts reside in Johnsburg, Wonder Lake, Woodstock, Richmond, McHenry, Fox Lake and Lakemoor areas. Without this fundraiser, many scouts could not afford summer camp and the troop could not afford many programs such as Leadership Training.

Thank you for your support,

Julie Luedke

Troop 455 Pig Roast Publicity Chair

(815)-701-8338

pigroastpublicity@gmail.com

The usual fare...

A Word from the Rev. William P. McLemore

Cornelius the Centurion

Today is the Feast Day of Cornelius the Centurion. He was the first Gentile who was converted to the Christian faith, along with his household (Acts 10-11). A centurion was the commander of a company of one hundred men in the Roman Army, responsible for their discipline, both on the field of battle and in camp. A centurion was a Roman citizen, a military career man, well-paid, and

generally noted for courage and competence. Some centurions, such as Cornelius, and those whom we know about from the Gospels, were men of deep piety.



The author of Acts considered Cornelius' conversion very momentous for the future of Christianity. He attributes it to the preaching of Peter, the chief apostle who set an atmosphere of God's love and forgiveness. This conversion not only touched Cornelius, but his family as well. The conversion of Cornelius was a pivotal event for the early church, and at a gathering of the apostles in Jerusalem a few years later, caused them to admit Gentiles to the faith with full and equal membership in the Christian Church.

According to tradition, Cornelius became the second Bishop of Caesarea, in what became the Diocese of Palestine. What we learn from Cornelius is best expressed in the collect (prayer) for his day: "Grant to your Church such a ready will to go where you send and to do what you command, that under your guidance it may welcome all who turn to you in love and faith."

Lessons and Hymns for this Sunday, February 11, 2018
(Last Sunday after Epiphany - Year B)
by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

First Lesson: II Kings 5:1-14. The prophet Elisha heals the commander of the army of Aram, Naaman, by having him wash seven times in the Jordan. **The Psalm:** Psalm 30. This Psalm is in the form of a personal plea to God for mercy along with thanksgiving for having been healed. **Second Lesson:** I Corinthians 9:24-27. Paul uses an athletic image to talk about living in faith with God. **The Gospel:** Mark 1:40-45. Jesus heals a leper and tells him not to proclaim it but the leper does and many more people press on Jesus for healing.

THE HYMNS:

Processional: No. 423. "Immortal, invisible, God only wise." The writer of this hymn, William Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), may have been inspired by I Timothy 1:17, "To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever." He was an ordained minister in the Free Scottish Church reputed to be a man of catholic tastes with a keen and cultured mind. The tune, "St. Denio" is based upon a number of Welsh ballads later adapted by John Roberts (1822-1877).

Sequence: No. 635. "If thou but trust in God to guide thee." This hymn is new to the Episcopal 1982 Hymnal (though almost four centuries old). It was written and composed by Georg Neumark (16 March 1621 - 8 July 1681), a German poet and composer of hymns. In 1640 he began law studies, but fearing the tumult of war, he took a position as tutor instead. This particular hymn was written for himself as much as anyone else as he feared war so much, "God will give thee strength whate'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days."

Presentation: No. 546, "Awake my soul." This hymn which first appeared in Philip Doddridge's *Hymns 1755* is based on Philippians 3:14, "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Jesus Christ." The first line of the hymn: "Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve, and press with vigor on; a heavenly race demands thy zeal." The words of this hymn are very appropriate for beginning worship as they inspire us to open our hearts to all of God's redemption in Jesus Christ. The tune, from Handel's opera 'Siroe', is best sung as a personal affirmation of faith and commitment.

Communion: "In the Lord I'll be forever thankful." This hymn was written and set to music by Jacques Breathier for the Taize religious community in France. 1991. It is based on Philippians 4:4-6.

Recessional: No. 544. "Jesus shall reign." There are about a dozen hymns in our hymnal that are my favorite and this one is close to the top of the list. Isaac Watts (1674-1748) created this happy and joyful song based on Psalm 72. The imagery of the risen Christ is certainly found in the words of this hymn, especially the 4th verse, "the prisoners leap to lose their chains." The tune "Duke Street," composed by John Hatton (d. 1793) is easy to sing and reflects the joy of Easter in its melody.

Servants for February 11th

Terry Jaworski, Don Jaworski - *Ushers*
Rick Carlstedt - *Lector*
Judy Robel - *Intercessor*
Pam Dietmeyer, Charles Sterbis - *Eucharistic Ministers*
Carol Toft, Bill Lang- *Vestry Persons of the Day*
Cassidy Obermeyer - *Children's Crucifer*
Beth Lukas, Nan Patnaude - *Altar Guild, Flower Guild*

On the Calendar...

Mid-Week Eucharist - Wednesdays at 12:15 pm

Shrove Tuesday Taco Dinner - February 13, 6-8 pm

Ash Wednesday Services - February 14, noon and 7:00 pm

Vestry - February 21, 7:00 pm

From the cartoons created by
The Rev. William P. McLemore



**“Leaving your husband is not exactly
what I had in mind when I suggested giving up a
bad habit for Lent!”**

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Mailing List**

Quick Links and Info

[St. Paul's Website](#)

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Vestry Minutes


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