
PRAYER CONCERNS FOR ST. JOHN'S

For the sick: Lynn Hansen, Muriel DiGiorgio, Cheryl Hairr, Liz Scott, John Morowski, Regina Warnock, Louise Spellman, Don Nidrie, Phillip Wulfken, Jim Evans, Irene Evans, Arthur Goldbaum, Janet Campbell, Howard, Caroline, Bill, Amy, Kate, Catherine Perry, Theresa, John, Artie, Benjamin Owusu, Mark Bellisemo, Roger Giacomini, Jean Giacomini, Tom, Joseph Canga, George Nelson, Ian, Jen, Lucy, Ana Rodrigues, Laura, Giovanna LaPaglia, Lorainne, Justin, Daniel, David, Sue, Don McInnis, Thomasina Burnett, Merida Rivera, Dana, Tom, Pepe, Richard Walsh, Derick Bennett, Jennifer Cahoy, Joyce Glicker, Caroline S., Beverly, Alex G

Altar Flowers are given this week in loving memory our mother and grandmother, Josephine V. Sneden for her birthday by the Sneden Family – Kerri, Michael, Taylor, Katie, Ryan, Olga, Jon, Krystal and Erin.

The Perpetual Light is given this week in loving memory of Bertha & Frank Lasek by Dave and Nelly Lasek.

We pray and give thanksgiving for all those celebrating a birthday this week: Madison Brice and Mackenzie Ahearn

We pray for all those affected by the opioid epidemic.

We pray for all our men and women serving in the armed services and all first responders. May God keep them safe and return them home to their loved ones.

To add someone to the **birthday** or **prayer list**, please email cfreas@stjohnshuntington.org.

Last Sunday's Attendance: 90

SUNDAY SERVICE

	February 25th		March 4th	
	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
MC	Ken Quinn	Al Szigethy	Ken Quinn	Earl Matchett
LEM	Robert Boise	Denise Hernandez	Nancy Feustel	Leslie Valentine
Acolytes	Tony Chamorro	Wade Holden Pete Minichello James Conolly Stephanie Wickey Reiko Mastriciano Akiko Mastriciano	Tony Chamorro	James Conolly Chloe Findlay Timmy Kusterbeck Walter Kusterbeck Jacob Goldbaum Anna Wickey
Lector I	Karen Quinn	Sue Hartman	Jim Murray	Rob Wheeler
Lector II	Tony Marshall	Stephanie Wickey	Crystal Roberts	Chloe Findlay

THE CHALICE

The weekly Sunday Bulletin of St. John's Episcopal Church

February 25, 2018

In this week's Bible Study, we will read Romans 4:1-25 and discuss the commentary from Timothy Keller's, "Romans For You." Keller asks, "Suppose that you were to die tonight and stand before God, and God were to say to you, *Why should I let you into heaven?*" What would you say?

1. *Because I have tried my best to be a good Christian.*
2. *Because I believe in God and try to do God's will.*
3. *Because I believe in God with all my heart.*
4. *Because I put my trust in God's promise to save."*

Paul's finest letter, in my opinion, is his letter to the Romans. Written at about 57 BCE, Paul writes to the church in Rome to establish them in the true Gospel. The theme of the book is the righteousness of God. Righteousness (*dikaiosisune* in Greek) is given by the mercy of God through faith. In this week's lessons, we observe that Abraham was given the free gift of righteousness long before God gave the law to Moses through the Ten Commandments. Abraham did not earn the righteousness of God through trying to do God's will, by his faith, because he was a good Jew, or by any action on his part. Salvation comes through the mercy and love of God simply because we are God's beloved. When we were baptized, we were sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. We were all created in God's likeness and image.

The answer to Keller's quiz is the last answer. We need to have faith in God's ability to save us. God's grace is unearned. We cannot earn salvation through any work of our own. All of us have committed sins, but because God loves us, God gave Jesus Christ, God's only Son, to die on a cross for our sins. Many people worry about sins that we have committed. Those sins were washed away like the ocean washes away a sand castle at high tide. We are asked to repent or turn to God in Lent.

Our response to the love, mercy, and grace of God is to give God praise, develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, and to follow God's will through the Holy Spirit. Answers one, two, and three are all very good, but they are a response to God's love, mercy, and grace. This Lent is a perfect time to accept the free gift that God offers every single one of us. In today's Gospel Jesus asks, "Who do they say I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah" (Mark 8:27-27). The Messiah by definition is the Savior of the people. Christian's believe that Christ is the anointed Messiah, who came to save us. I ask you to put your trust in God. Have faith that your sins are forgiven and respond by listening to God, loving God and loving your neighbor. The Hebrew word *Shema* means to listen, but also to obey God's will for our lives. We are children of Abraham because he modeled what *Shema* means. God makes a covenant that "I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you" (Genesis 17:7).

Here I am, a servant of the Lord, may it be according to your Word,

Rev. Duncan Burns

VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS WELCOME!

We welcome you to **St. John's Episcopal Church**. Established in 1745, this historic church opens its doors to all who seek to deepen their faith and provides warm hospitality to all. We are blessed by your presence and invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card on the back table of the church.

MORNING PRAYER

Start your morning in prayer each weekday, Monday-Friday, at 9:00 AM. Please join us!

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for Bible Study on Tuesdays at 11:00 AM. We will be studying Paul's letter to the Romans.

TAIZÉ SERVICE

Taizé chants or 'short songs' have a meditative character as they are repeated again and again." "Silence makes us ready for a new meeting with God." Join us in prayer, short song and silence as we find our way to an inner unity with God.

Our next Taizé Service will be on, Sunday, March 4th at 5:30 PM.

THRIFT SHOP

On Thursday, March 1st, the Thrift shop will be meeting at 7:15 PM to review current status of the shop and future plans to grow. All are welcome to join our meeting and help the thrift shop. Any questions, please contact Nancy Feustel at n.feustel@verizon.net.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild will be holding a business meeting Saturday March 3rd at 10:00 AM for all members. If you wish to join the Altar Guild team, please come join us! If you have any questions, please contact Co-Directors, Barbara Hinton or Nancy Feustel.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is always looking for new members. No experience necessary. We are even looking for people to just make tags. Another way to participate is to donate money for yarn and supplies. Please Call Lindsey Kertland for more info at (631) 651-2787. Blessings!

WINE TASTING

There will be a "Wine Tasting" hosted by the ECW on Saturday March 10th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Come and taste an assortment of delicious wines! Pick your favorite and have a glass. Appetizers will be served as well. Come join the fun! \$10 per person.

Please contact Fran Gorman, gormport@aol.com, for more information.

ECW MEETING

The next ECW Meeting will be on Sunday, March 18th at 11:30 am in the Guild Room.

BREAKFAST—BAGELS—BRAINS: FIVE SUNDAYS IN LENT

Please see this week's *insert* for the quotes for next week's Breakfast – Bagels – Brains or on our website under Fr. John's picture. Meet Fr. John in the Canterbury Corner between Sunday services in Lent to discuss.

HIHI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Friday, March 2nd. Youth Service Day. Youth volunteers are needed beginning at 4:30 PM in St. John's kitchen. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM at St. John's.

Friday, March 9th. Volunteers are needed to help in St. John's kitchen at 4:30 PM to cook. Dinner will be served at the United Methodist Church, 180 West Neck Rd, Huntington at 6:30 PM.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be on **April 21st at 4:00 PM** at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City. Please see Fr. Duncan or contact the Parish Office with any questions.

Our next Confirmation class is this Sunday, February 25th at 5:30 PM in the Guild Room.

Confirmands please bring your Bibles and a copy of *The Magician's Nephew* with you.

Also, each Confirmand is required to do two service projects. HIHI offers several opportunities in the coming weeks to complete this requirement: March 2nd and March 9th. Please meet at 4:30 PM in the kitchen.

LENTEN SERIES

What Does It Mean to Be Made in the Image and Likeness of God? We explore this question in our Lenten Series. Each Tuesday in Lent join us at 5:30 PM for Stations of the Cross, 6:00 PM for Meditation & Evening Prayer, 6:30 PM for Supper, 7:15 PM for the Program with Q&A, and 8:15 PM for Closing Prayer. Each week we will have a different speaker. Please see our flyer at the back of the Church or our website for details.

Tuesday, February 27th Lenten Program with Fr. Rick Simpson of Saint Mark's, Islip: *"Implications of the Incarnation: We Are Family."*

LENTEN RETREAT

St. John's Spirituality Group will present a Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 17th. We will begin with Breakfast at 9:00 AM, followed by the Program, "Turning Towards the Son: Conversion of Life As a Path Towards Wholeness," led by Rev. Charles "Charlie" McCarron. We will conclude with a Celtic Service at 12 NOON.

TODAY'S HYMNS

Processional Hymn 401	The God of Abraham praise	<i>Leoni</i>
Psalm 22 Insert		
Sequence Hymn 439	What wondrous love is this	<i>Wondrous Love</i>
Communion Hymn LEVAS 154	Taste and See	<i>James E. Moore, Jr.</i>
Recessional Hymn LEVAS 144	Where He Leads Me	<i>John S. Norris</i>
