

February 11, 2018



The Episcopal Church of Bangor in Caernarvon



Founded in 1722
2099 Main Street
Churchtown, Narvon, Pennsylvania 17555
The Rt. Reverend Audrey Scanlan, Bishop
The Reverend Canon Mark A. Scheneman
Priest in Charge

Historic Bangor Episcopal Church, the mother church of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, seeks to be a community in Christ Jesus celebrating our heritage, vibrant in our worship, and engaged in ministry and mission as we approach the 300th anniversary of our founding.

This Sunday at Bangor Church

February 11, 2018

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

10:00 AM **HOLY EUCHARIST**

11:10 AM Fellowship Hour (Church House)



This is the final Sunday before the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday this year falls on February 14. On this Sunday, the lectionary always features the account of the Transfiguration of Jesus. Taking his closest disciples with him, He climbs a mountain to pray and has a mystical experience, becoming transfigured in light. This transitional event in the story sets the stage for His journey to Jerusalem and the cross and provides for our passage into Lent.

Please join us for our time of refreshment and fellowship in the Church House following the service.



From Fr. Mark: The Power of Sacrificial Love

Last Saturday, February 3, was the anniversary of the sinking of the USS Dorchester in 1943. The Dorchester was a troop ship, transporting American soldiers to Europe. Early that cold February morning, it was hit by a torpedo from a German U-boat in the Labrador Sea. The Dorchester sank in about 20 minutes with her crew and soldiers numbering 904.

There were other such maritime tragedies in the Second World War. But this one was memorable because of the sacrificial example of four military chaplains on board. Each gave up his life preserver, insisting that it be used by a soldier or sailor. As the ship went down, the four chaplains, a Methodist pastor, a Reformed Church in America pastor, a

Catholic priest, and a Jewish rabbi huddled together and offered one another prayer and comfort. Of the 904 men who were on board, 675 lost their lives, including the four chaplains who went down with the ship.

It's story of heroism and valor. It's a story of sacrifice. To quote our Lord, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13) The four chaplains, representing different faith communities and beliefs shared one common value - the power of sacrificial love.



We are living in an era of considerable public tension and mistrust. We don't all share the same vision for our world, nation, and communities. Nor do we agree on many of the central issues of the day. We are a divided people. But, as we find ourselves divided on issues, we can find unity in shared values.

Whether a Protestant, Catholic, Jew, or a Muslim, Buddhist, or even atheist, we can agree on the common values of the protection and dignity of life; of justice and opportunity; of freedom and sacrificial service. The four chaplains found unity and strength in one another in a moment of supreme trial. In a postage stamp issued years later, an inscription declared, "they died to save men of all faiths."

We are about to enter into our annual season of penitence and renewal. At the heart of the Christian story is the example of Christ taking up the cross. He willingly took the cross, when he could certainly have retreated away from Jerusalem and found refuge and safety back in Galilee. The four chaplains could have chosen to cling to life with their life preservers. But they knew that love is eternal and trusted in the mercy and promise of God. Their sacrifice still inspires us.

May the season of Lent be a time for us to consider the power of sacrificial love. And may we each find, in the moment of decision, the

strength of will and depth of spirit to joyfully give of ourselves, following the example of our Lord, and such men as the four chaplains.

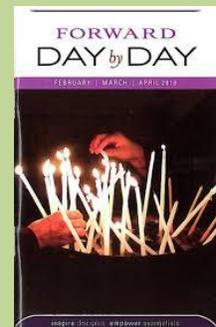
Mark+

Coming Events

Ash Wednesday, Liturgy 7:00 PM	February 14
Vestry	February 18
First Wednesday Lenten meal and program	February 21
St. David Sunday	March 4
Mid - Lent: Bring a Friend Sunday	March 11
Easter Sunday	April 1
Rogation Sunday	May 6

Announcements

+The new edition of **“Forward, Day by Day”** is now available in the literature rack in the entrance Narthex of the church. This edition covers February-April. Please take one. You might find that it is a helpful companion for Lent this year.



+ The Prayer Shawl Ministry will gather at Marge Dailey’s home on Friday, February 9 at 9:30 AM. All are welcome to attend, non-knitters too! For more information, please contact Marge.

+Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14. We will have our evening **Ash Wednesday service in the church at 7:00**. During Lent, we will continue our pattern of **Lenten Wednesday meals and programs, beginning February 21** with a soup dinner at 6:00, followed by a program. The Lenten series this year will be “Bible Basics.”

Wednesday, February 21: 6:00 Dinner, 6:30 program- **“The challenge of text; the choice of translations.”**

Wednesday, February 28: noon Luncheon, 12:30 program - **“The Torah/Law.”**

Wednesday, March 7: 6:00 Dinner, 6:30 program- **“The Prophets and Writings.”**

Wednesday, March 14: noon Luncheon, 12:30 program- **“The Gospels and Book of Acts.”**

Wednesday, March 21: 6:00 Dinner, 6:30 program- **“The Epistles and witness of the Apostles”**

Our gatherings will either begin with a Lenten soup dinner or lunch. The soup will be provided, and you are invited to bring something to share. Also bring a bible! The programs will all feature some group participation. **If you need a ride or can provide a ride**, Maurine Van Dyke has volunteered to organize transportation - phone her at 717 445-7978.

+Our prayers have been asked for Kathy Weaver, Mavis Pacchioli, Dyls Glew, Jim Chubb, Eleanor Hertzog, Shirley Smith, Lynn Schneider Schauer, Carol Greenfield, Paul Jones (husband of Dean Kathy Jones of Bangor Cathedral), Irene and Bill Gundlah, Lois Benedix, Stan Imboden, Fred Stevenson, Bob Dailey, and Susan Hill.