

February 25, 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

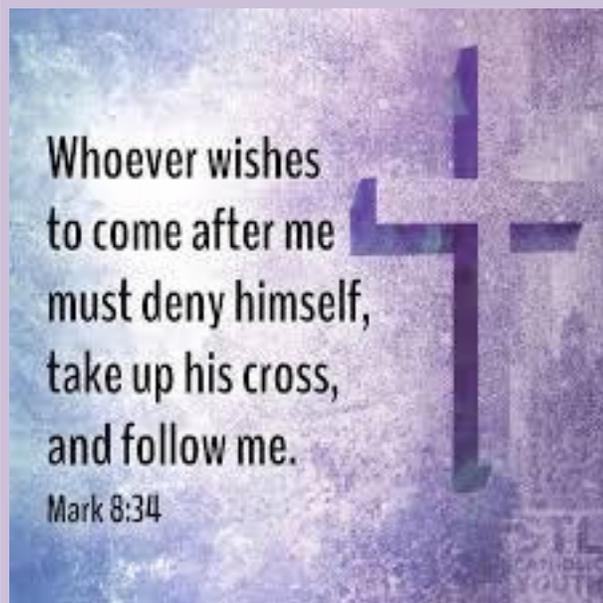
February 25, 2018

The Second Sunday in Lent

10:00 AM **HOLY EUCHARIST**

11:10 AM Fellowship Hour (Church House)

11:15 AM Vestry Meeting (Common Room)



Our lectionary always features on the Second Sunday in Lent stories concerning Abraham, the great patriarch of the Old Testament. Abraham becomes in the New Testament Epistle to the Romans, St. Paul's prime example of faith. In the Gospel, Jesus startles his disciples, declaring that he will be rejected by the Jewish elders and be killed. His words still ring out, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves

and take up their cross and follow me."

Please join us for our time of refreshment and fellowship in the Church House following the service. The Vestry will have its monthly meeting after church in the Common Room.



From Fr. Mark: A Progression of Faithful Witnesses

As we enter the first full week of Lent, I notice that on the church calendar, we have a number of commemorations in the coming days. Our Episcopal Church calendar includes many "saints days," commemorating the faithful lives of notable persons who have gone

before us and left a lasting legacy. This week we honor five: Frederick Douglass, John Henry Newman, Eric Liddell, Polycarp, and St. Matthias.

Ever heard of them?

It is actually quite a diverse list (with apologies that this week we don't have a woman honored -in fact, that's been an issue and the Standing Liturgical Commission of the Episcopal Church has added many women to the calendar in an effort to correct this gender oversight.)

Let's see - we have an apostle mentioned in the Bible; a martyr bishop of the Early Church, an English priest/theologian from the 19th c; an African American abolitionist also from the 19th c; and a Scottish Olympic athlete who became a missionary to China in the early 20th c. Note that not one of them was an Episcopalian and in fact, one left the Church of England to become a Roman Catholic.

Each of their stories is wonderful; each made a special contribution to proclaiming the Kingdom of Christ.

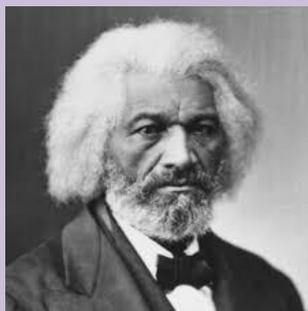
On Saturday, February 24 - St. Matthias, chosen by lot in the Book of Acts to take the place of Judas so that the apostolic band could be restored to twelve, representing the twelve tribes of Israel. We know little else about Matthias, except for the tradition that like the others, he suffered the death of a martyr.

Friday, February 23 - St. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna killed in 156 AD. Accounts of his martyrdom have inspired Christians for centuries, remembering an elderly bishop and pastor who witnessed to his faith with courage and the forgiving spirit of Jesus.



Thursday, February 22- Eric Liddell whose story was told in the popular film, "Chariots of Fire;" a gifted athlete, but more a committed evangelical Christian. He declined to run an Olympic race scheduled on a Sunday, yet went on to compete and win another event on a weekday. Then he became a missionary to China and died in 1945.

Wednesday, February 21- John Henry Newman, Church of England priest and theologian who was a leader of the 19th c. “Oxford Movement,” helping to revitalize the Catholic faith in Anglicanism. Newman later left the Church of England for the Catholic Church and became a Cardinal. He is honored on college campuses by student Catholic centers named for him.



Tuesday, February 20 - Frederick Douglass, former Maryland slave who before the Civil War was able to purchase his freedom and became the “Martin Luther King” of his time, the great leader of African Americans and the conscience of the abolitionist movement before the war and the spokesman for blacks during Reconstruction.

Yes, quite a list this week. Although their stories are very different, they all have one thing in common: they were all inspired by Jesus and sought to serve Christ. They were witnesses to the Christian faith. God did the rest.

In the beloved All Saints children’s hymn, “I sing a song of the saints of God,” each stanza concludes with the chorus, “And I want to be one too.” There are many ways to witness to our faith. The stories of those who have gone before us continue to inspire us - and challenge us.

In Lent we reflect on not just “giving up” something, but also “taking on” something. What are you taking on for Lent? How can you witness to your faith? We will probably not be remembered by future generations with a day on the calendar, but we can still make our contribution. God will do this rest.

Mark+

Coming Events

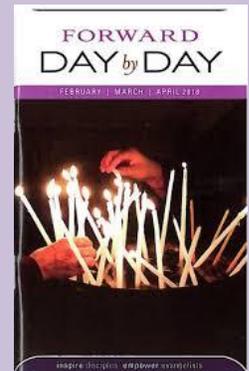
First Wednesday Lenten meal and program	February 21
Vestry (rescheduled)	February 25
St. David Sunday	March 4

Mid-Lent: Bring a Friend Sunday
Easter Sunday
Rogation Sunday

March 11
April 1
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.



+**Seniors Serving Seniors** meet next Tuesday, February 27 at the Churchtown Methodist Church, from 10:00 to 1:00, including lunch. The program will feature Carolyn Crowther on flower arranging.

+Our **first Lenten Wednesday** this week will feature a simple soup dinner at 6:00. If you would like, bring a salad or vegetable to share. And if you can, **bring a bible**. For the 6:30 program, we will be taking a look at various English translations and the challenge of the text.

+**Crossnet Ministries, sponsors of the Food Pantry** serving eastern Lancaster County in New Holland, **have requested the following items this Lenten season:**

Egg noodles, canned fruit, instant mashed potatoes, instant rice, ketchup, mustard, pancake mix and syrup, salad dressing, canned carrots, cereal, canned chicken, canned corn, juice, boxed pasta, peanut butter, boxed potatoes, boxed rice, boxed snacks, stuffing mix, canned tomatoes, tuna, facial tissues, Band-Aids, body wash, conditioner, deodorant, diapers, diaper wipes, dish detergent, disposable razors, feminine hygiene items, laundry detergent, paper towels, shampoo, toilet paper, toothpaste. Donated items may be brought to the Common Room of the Church House. The deadline for receiving donations will be Palm Sunday, March 25.

+Our prayers have been asked for Kathy Weaver, Mavis Pacchioli, Dyls Glew, Jim Chubb, Eleanor Hertzog, Shirley Smith, Lynn Schneider Schauer, Carol Greenfield, Irene Gundlah, Lois Benedix, Stan Imboden, Fred Stevenson, Bob Dailey, and Susan Hill.