

The Encourager

The Mission of St. Barnabas Church is to live and spread the Gospel of Christ as disciples making disciples.

Saint Barnabas Church
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May 2017

Some FatherLee thoughts . . .

*“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for Thou art with me . . . Thou preparest a table before me . . .
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.”* From Psalm 23 (KJV)

Heaven is that place where death is no more. Where there is no sorrow, nor pain, neither sighing, but life everlasting. Eternity is our greatest hope. However, we are not in heaven yet. We remain here on earth where there is death, we know sorrow, and we do experience pain. We, therefore, are citizens of two worlds: eternity in heaven and this temporary residence on earth, and we strive to live a life balanced between the two. We must deal with the pain and sorrow here and confront the reality of death, but we must also hold on tightly to the hope of what is eternal.

Psalm 23 comes to us as we wrestle with this dual citizenship. It is a very popular reading at funerals, and for good reason! It speaks both to the notion that we will, eventually, dwell in the house of the Lord forever, and comforts us in our struggles here on earth. The shadow of death can cast a large shadow. The walls of that valley can be so tall and narrow that it can seem as though the light of hope cannot reach us. It becomes easy to succumb to sorrow and fall into depression. In times like that, it is natural to ask, “Where is God?” And Psalm 23 answers that question with the words, “Thou art with me.”

We are not alone in our despair. God is always with us, leading us towards peace. And, in the midst of our sorrow and pain and fear, our Lord prepares a table for us. This should bring to mind the table we gather around for Holy Communion. Looking around the table the Lord prepares, we see others who are also struggling with the same dual citizenship of heaven and earth, eternal and temporary. Also, we join our voices with the all the company of heaven, meaning that those who have died are also present at the table, because in that moment we are all feasting on the abundance of God’s grace and love. It is my deepest belief that the best way to live with the struggles on earth while still looking towards heaven is to gather around the table the Lord prepares for us each and every Sunday. I look forward to gathering with you soon.

Faithfully,
Fr. Scott Lee

Healing Prayers on May 7th



If you feel you are in need of healing prayers and the laying on of hands and anointing, we give you this opportunity on the first Sunday of the month. At the end of each service simply move to the front pews of the church. After the priest greets those leaving church he will go to the altar rail and invite you forward for prayers and anointing.

Monthly Youth Sunday on May 7th



Kids, our monthly Youth Sunday will take place on May 7th. Kids will be greeters, take the offering, bring the gifts to the altar and have a special talk with Fr.Scott. We hope all the children will be in church on this Sunday!

May Breakfast on May 7th



On May 7th we will have our annual breakfast after both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. Last year many of you shared your favorite breakfast recipes and we loved them all! I thought it would be fun to have a similar buffet this year. Please see me if you would like to bring something delicious to share or help in the serving/cleanup. You may call me in the evenings at 401-739-6214. There is a sign-up sheet for reservations on the table in the back also. Please sign up to ensure enough food for all. We'll have a wonderful meal together!

Thank you!

Bonne Simonian

Happy Mother's Day May 14, 2017



We would like to wish a Happy & Blessed Mother's Day to all Mom's here at St. Barnabas.

House of Hope – Helping Our Homeless

Thank You!

House of Hope would like to thank everyone for their generous donations of socks, mittens, hats and gloves that we collected and donated in December for individuals in need. Your generosity allows House of Hope to provide housing and supportive services to those in need throughout Rhode Island.

**The Annual Spring Ingathering of the
United Thank Offering and Luncheon**



Saturday, May 6, 2017

St. Barnabas Church

3257 Post Road, Warwick, RI

11:00 Service of Thanksgiving, with Eucharist

The Rev. Dennis Bucco, Guest Preacher

Presentation of Parish United Thank Offerings

Luncheon to follow

Prior to the service, coffee will be served during registration beginning at 10:30 a.m. **Fr. Bucco, founder of the Rhythms of Grace Church at Church of the Advent, Coventry** will be speaking about **“Evangelism through the Eyes of Autism.”** It is an opportunity to learn more about this wonderful ministry that serves to strengthen the faith of the autistic community. During lunch, there will be additional information available about this program. We look forward to seeing you!! Thank You!!

Reservations for the catered luncheon are required. Cost: \$10.00 per person. If you would like to have lunch and have not sent in your reservation and payment please speak to Joan Schofield.

Diocesan Eastertide Confirmation May 13th



Diocesan Eastertide Confirmation at Emmanuel, Cumberland on May 13, 2017: The Diocesan Eastertide Confirmation will be held at Emmanuel, Cumberland (120 Nate Whipple Hwy, Cumberland, RI 02864) on Saturday, May 13th at 10:00 a.m. Fr. Scott is planning on meeting Sunday April 30th next Sunday (May 7th) at 11:30 a.m. in the Guild Room with those who wish to be Confirmed, Received or who simply would like to support and learn. The information will be an overview of church history, theology, and the Episcopal approach to scripture and worship. If you are able, please plan on attending to support those who are committing themselves to the faith.

Episcopal Conference Center Brochures



Brochures for the summer camping season at ECC are available on the table at the back of the church. There are camps for children as young as entering the 2nd grade in September and as old as entering the 12th grade. There is even a camp for an entire family. Money should never prevent anyone from attending camp. If you need assistance, simply contact Fr. Scott.

Music Notes



It has been over two years since I first came to be the music director and organist at St. Barnabas Church. I quickly discovered that our parish has great possibilities and potential in offering to God the best in praise and worship. We have dedicated individuals, well-gifted in areas of music and singing. We have a vibrant community that loves to sing. We are blessed with children and youth who are drawn to music and the excitement of worship. On top of all of that, our church is a beautiful worship space with a magnificent organ, and our facility is placed within an active city-center enabling our parish to potentially engage in the arts of the community and its schools.

St. Barnabas is truly a parish which is richly blessed for an exciting music ministry. However, I feel that God is calling me to “sing a new song” in a ministry which will cause me to leave St. Barnabas. Therefore, I will be leaving my position as your organist and director of music at the end of May.

As many of you know, I am an ordained Lutheran and a seminary trained musician with gifts and years of experience which enable me to function in many roles of parish life. My new call will provide that opportunity. In my new position, I will be the “Associate for Music and Parish Life” which will not only provide the opportunity to be the organist and music director, but will also give me the opportunity to teach, design spiritual growth programs, workshops, bible studies and be actively engaged in administration and parish life - all areas where my interests, gifts and training provide.

I realize that this comes at a time in which we have been blessed with the arrival of our new rector. Please know that my decision comes after an extensive interview process and in no way reflects Fr. Jim’s departure or Fr. Scott’s arrival. Fr. Scott has my deepest support and admiration. I greatly regret that I will not have the opportunity to work with him to serve the people of St. Barnabas.

Thank you for your support of me and the music ministry of St. Barnabas. I wish you all the very best for the future and the “new song” which God will call you to sing.

Ted Platt

Director of Music

Spring Clean-Up



Our annual Spring Clean-up will take place on Saturday; May 13th. We will meet at church and begin at 9:00 a.m. Please bring rakes, push brooms and gardening tools. The church will supply waste bags.

Office Closed



Parish Office will be closed on Monday
May 29th in observance of
Memorial Day.

May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:30 pm AA Meeting	2 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	3 10 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir	4 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary	5	6 11:00 a.m. Episcopal Church Women's Annual UTO Spring Ingathering Service and Luncheon.
7 Fourth Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 am Rite II May Breakfast after each service	8 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting	9 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	10 10 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir	11 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	12	13 10:00 a.m. Diocesan Eastertide Confirmation Emmanuel, Cumberland
14 Fifth Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 am Rite II Mother's Day	15 7:30 pm AA Meeting	16 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	17 10 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir	18 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	19	20
21 Sixth Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 a.m. Rite II	22 7:30 pm AA Meeting	23 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	24 10 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir	25 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	26	27
28 Seventh Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 a.m. Rite II	29 Memorial Day Office Closed 7:30 pm AA Meeting	30 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	31 10 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir			