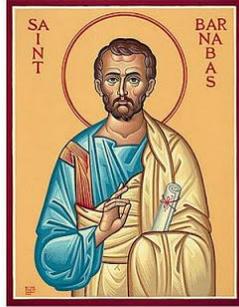


The Encourager

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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www.stbarnabaswarwick.org

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August 2017

Some FatherLee thoughts . . .

“Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good for us to be here’”

Matthew 17:4

These words are spoken immediately after Peter, James, and John witnessed what we call the “Transfiguration,” which is when Christ shone like the sun with clothes that were dazzling white. “It is good for us to be here,” Peter says. Then a voice from a bright cloud says, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”

By faithfully following Jesus, Peter witnessed the glory and majesty of our Savior. Part of him wanted to remain on that mountain top, hoping for the chance to see Christ transfigured again, but there was work to be done, so they returned to the world. However, the experience gave Peter, James, John, and Jesus the strength to do the work they needed to do.

I want to witness something magical, where the veil of this world is pulled back to reveal the truth of eternity. While it has never been as magnificent as the Transfiguration, there have been moments when I caught a glimpse of heaven. By singing songs together with other people of faith, through words spoken, and in the way one person looked with compassion towards another person, I have witnessed the eternal in a particular moment. My body responds to those moments with tingles, a physical reaction that tells me that this is what is right, what is good, and what is eternally true.

It may come as no surprise that these experiences for me are most common at church. Gathering together in worship is our best opportunity to see the glory of God revealed in our midst. Some people have had incredible visions, others, like me, have experienced smaller reminders of what is on the other side of this life. Like Peter, we know, “It is good for us to be here.” We also know we cannot stay and hope for the miracle to repeat, we have to return to the world, a place that is yearning to know more than apathy and melancholy.

Those miraculous moments that we occasionally have surrounding worship give us strength to share the majesty and hope that is so desperately needed by all people. I look forward to seeing you in church very soon, and I pray that you will have one of those experiences, and you will say, “It is good for us to be here,” then you will be given courage to share what you have found to be eternally true.

Faithfully,
Fr. Scott Lee

Youth Group



Youth group is going strong! Sunday evenings in Schweitzer Hall all middle and high school students are invited for food, fun and conversations about faith. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. and end between 7:30 p.m./8:00 p.m., depending on the topic of conversation. Contact Fr. Scott if you have any questions or **if you would like to provide a meal** for the budding Youth program.

Monthly Youth Sunday on August 6th



Kids, our monthly Youth Sunday will take place on August 6th. 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!

Healing Prayers on August 6th



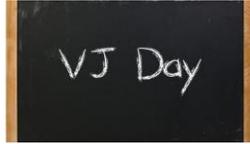
If you feel you are in need of healing prayers and the laying on of hands and anointing, we give you this opportunity on the first Sunday of the month. At the end of each service simply move to the front pews of the church. After the priest greets those leaving church he will go to the altar rail and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

Coffee Hour



Please join us each Sunday after the 10:00 a.m. service. We meet downstairs in Stevens Hall for coffee and conversation.

Parish Office Closed



The Parish office will be closed on Monday, August 14th in observance of VJ Day.

Annual Holiday Bazaar



This year's Holiday Bazaar is going to be held on Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. I'm excited to take on the challenge of chairing our annual holiday bazaar! I plan to have our first organizational meeting on Sunday, August 27th following the 10:00 am service. I know some of you have already gotten a jump on items for your tables, which is awesome! I encourage EVERYONE who wants to participate to attend the meeting and bring your ideas. If you have any questions or would like more information don't hesitate to contact Emily Seddon: (401) 499- 9994 / ehopes88@gmail.com.

St. Mary's Day Brunch



On Sunday, August 20th we will honor Mother Mary. It is always appropriate to remember the Virgin Mary, but since the parish of St. Mary's joined St. Barnabas several years ago it is particularly important for us to remember our combined history. We will celebrate her at both services, followed by a brunch in Schweitzer Hall following the 10:00 a.m. service. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church, please let us know if you will be joining us and if you would like bring something to share. Any questions you may contact Richard Budlong or Ronald Bonenfant at 827-6352.

Looking Ahead to Sunday School

Children's Sunday School



We want everyone to gather together for church, including children of all ages. Therefore, we are changing the way we do Sunday school. We are putting together a new Sunday school program which will take place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month during coffee hour. If you would like to volunteer, or if you have questions or suggestions, please contact Fr. Scott or Bonne Simonian.

August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	2 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	3 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary	4	5
6 The Transfiguration 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Youth Sunday Laying on of hands and anointing for healing will follow each service. 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	7 7:30 pm AA Meeting	8 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	9 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	10 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary	11	12
13 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. - Rite I 10:00 a.m. - Rite II 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	14 7:30 pm AA Meeting VJ Day Parish Office closed	15 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	16	17 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary	18	19
20 St. Mary's Day Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 a.m. Rite II Brunch following 10:00 service 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	21 7:30 pm AA Meeting	22 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	23 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	24 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary	25	26
27 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 a.m. Rite I 10:00 a.m. Rite II 11:15 a.m. Bazaar Organizational Meeting 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	28 7:30 pm AA Meeting	29 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	30 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study	31 10: 00 a.m. Mornings with Mary		