

Some FatherLee thoughts . . .

Thomas said to him, 'How can we know the way?'

John 14:5

By the time we get to this point in John's Gospel, the cross is in sight for Jesus. The end is near. To bring comfort to the disciples, Christ tells them, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places . . . I go to prepare a place for you . . . and you know the way." Thomas replies, "How can we know the way?"

If you are familiar with this passage, you know that Jesus responds, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," For a long time, this response didn't feel like an answer to the question Thomas asked. Thomas asked a straight forward, direct question, but Jesus responds with what seems like a vague and abstract answer. The reality, however, is that Jesus wasn't dodging the question, only answering more than was asked. Christ is leading us through the uncertainty about the Way, to remind us of that promise of Life in eternal dwelling places that are being prepared for us.

Every Friday during Lent, we are offering Stations of the Cross, which is often called the Way of the Cross. One of the first prayers of that service is, "Almighty God . . . grant that we, walking the way of the Cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace." As a church, we are now at the midpoint of Lent. The cross of Good Friday is visible to us in the distance. Like the disciples in the Gospel of John, most of us are in need of comfort, struggling to navigate through this life toward that promised dwelling place in eternity. Like Thomas, we may be asking, "How can we know the way?" I encourage you to follow the example of Thomas. Even in his doubt, he watched as Christ endured the Way of the Cross, and by doing so, he found it to truly be the way of life.

Faithfully,
Fr. Scott Lee

Monthly Youth Sunday on March 4th



Kids, our monthly Youth Sunday will take place on March 4th. 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 March 4th



We give you the opportunity on the first Sunday of the month for healing prayers and laying on of hands and anointing. At the end of each service simply move to the front pews of the church. After Fr. Scott greets those leaving church he will join you at the altar rail for prayers and anointing.

Youth Group



All middle school and high school students are invited every week for free food, great fun, and meaningful conversations about faith. We gather in Schweitzer Hall on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and are finished between 7:30 p.m./8:00 p.m. depending on the topic of conversation.

Stations of the Cross



Stations of the Cross will be held on Fridays during Lent at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. The service itself is only about 20-25 minutes. Following the 7:00 service there will be a short time of study and reflection. The Stations of the Cross have been a part of Lenten devotion for centuries, and I invite you to make it a part of your preparation for Easter this year.

All Saints Episcopal Church located at 111 Greenwich Ave. will be holding Stations of the Cross on Wednesday evenings in Lent at 6:00 p.m.

Also a Jewish Rabbi will be with us to celebrate a Seder meal on Sunday, March 18th at 4:30 p.m. We are still working out the details, so watch for more information. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for those who plan on joining us.

House of Hope

Thank you to all who donated money and food to our Souper Bowl of Caring food drive. We donated 52 nonperishable food items and \$200 to the RI Community Food Bank.

Episcopal Charities Sunday is March 11th. Please welcome Kathy Yorston on this day from the House of Hope at our 10 o'clock service. The House of Hope was a grant recipient last year and the House of Hope that Kathy runs is the residence where we provide meals once a month.

This year everyone who donated in the past will be receiving their pledge card in the mail with a letter from the bishop. Please prayerfully consider donating to this worthwhile cause. 100% of the money you donate goes out in grant money to many of the agencies in RI doing God's work. If you did not get your pledge card in the mail please see Julie Mixner for a blank one. I will be in the back of the church on the 11th with information on Episcopal Charities as well as with pledge information. Last year our parish donated over \$5500!! Let's beat last year's total :)



Palm Sunday (March 25th)

Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m. (Rite I)

10:00 a.m. (Rite II)

We will meet in Schweitzer Hall at 10:00 a.m. for the blessing of the palms, and then we will proceed together up to church. You are more than welcome to go directly to church if you choose not to be in the procession.

Maundy Thursday (March 29th)

Holy Eucharist

7:00 p.m.

Good Friday (March 30th)

Holy Eucharist

12:00 noon

7:00 p.m.

Good Friday liturgies with Communion from Reserve.

Easter Vigil (March 31st):

Holy Eucharist,

7:00 p.m.

Easter (April 1st)

8:00 a.m., Rite I

10:00 a.m., Rite II



Daylight Saving Time



Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 11th. Don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday evening or you may be arriving at church just as the service is ending.

Donate Pull Tabs for Recycling:



Collecting tab tops is the easiest way to support children in need!!! It costs no money to put aside the pull tab from a can of soda, soup, pet food or a beer. You can do it at home, provide a container for your place of work or recreation and tell folks about it. Tabs collected at St. Barnabas will be delivered to the Shriner's facility in Cranston. From there, the tabs are delivered to the Shriner's Burn Hospital in Boston where volunteers sort the tabs; weigh and sell the tabs as scrap aluminum to fund programs for hospitalized children, helping kids in all aspects of care and recovery. Amazingly, there is never a charge for children treated at a Shriner's Hospital. So, whenever you pop a top, say a prayer for the children, and bring your tops to our collection center! Keep those tab tops coming and transform them into blessings instead of sending them to the landfill. Just another small way you can make a difference!!! Thank You!!!

Food Donations



During these hard economic times, hunger is on the rise. Thanks to your ongoing support, the Community Food Bank has made a difference in the lives of many Warwick residents! Donations of non-perishable foods are gratefully accepted at St. Barnabas Church on Sunday mornings. You may hand your donation to one of our ushers or place it in the Food Basket at the back of the church. All of the food collected is then brought to the West Bay Community Food Bank in Buttonwoods. Many thanks to Dave Hartley who delivers these food items to the Food Bank on our behalf!

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

The Sanctuary will be decorated at Easter with beautiful plants and spring flowers given in memory and thanksgiving of loved ones. If you would like to donate towards these decorations, a \$25.00 gift is typical, but any amount is acceptable. Please print the names of those you would like to remember and submit no later than Palm Sunday, March 25th.

In Memory of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

Easter Memorials & Thanksgivings Given By:

Name _____

Telephone _____ Pledge Number _____

Please make check payable to St. Barnabas Church and note "Easter Memorial" on memo line.