

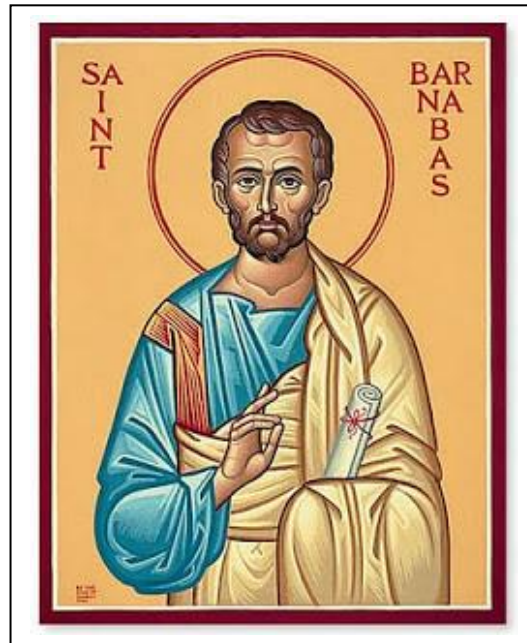
The Encourager

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 2022



Some FatherLee thoughts . . .

“Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (John 20:22-23)

The Easter Season Scripture readings seem to have more meaning to me this year. As we are rising to new life from the pandemic, I see incredible wisdom around those early followers of Jesus after the Resurrection of our Savior. In this passage from John, Jesus is telling the apostles to receive the Holy Spirit, who is our guide to live a better and more holy life on earth. Notice how forgiveness is woven into the direction.

A big part of our guide to more abundant life is forgiveness. While forgiveness can be hard to receive, it can be even more difficult to give. Our hurts can be deep, and often our tendency is to retaliate or to hold a grudge.

Christ teaches, “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them.” That does not mean that we are choosing to ignore a terrible thing that happened, quite the contrary. We are acknowledging and naming that something terrible was done. It was not OK, now let’s all make sure it doesn’t happen again. We may or may not maintain a close relationship with that person, but they have the knowledge of their wrong and the freedom to do better in the future.

To me, that is the message of forgiveness. Understanding the wrong, naming it, then setting free the person who committed that wrong to move forward, hopefully never to do that again. We will probably carry scars from whatever happened, but scars are actually a sign of healing. There is no more open wound, only the reminder of the pain that is now large healed. Think of the wounds of our Savior. Those scars are reminders of something terrible that happened, but they are signs of healing through forgiveness.

As if that wasn’t hard enough, now comes the really tricky part, “if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Who retains the sins if I fail to forgive? Who is hurt most if I chose to hold a grudge? Me, right? I don’t hurt the other person by refusing to forgive them.

They may be completely oblivious to the hurt they caused. They may not even care. Forgiving someone is designed to not only set that person free to do better in the future, it also sets me free. Because, when I hold a grudge, I let their sins continue to harm me. I am held captive to what they did wrong to me. I am not able to emerge from pain into the freedom and love God wants for me.

In all likelihood, I will not let someone who really hurt me close enough to harm me in that way again, but I my life is better if I strive to forgive them. I can know freedom and hope and joy and love if I let go of their wrongs, so they no longer have any influence on my life. That is one of the many ways that our God leads us toward more abundant life on earth, while we wait in joyful expectation of eternal life with those we love.

Therefore, I encourage you to name those instances when you have been harmed. It is probably best to avoid confronting the person who did the harm. In your prayers, ask God to help you forgive that person. Let Christ's grace surround you. Like a gentle spring rain, let grace seep into your heart. May you be set free from your wrongs and free from the wrongs of others, so that you rise to more abundant life.

Join me this Easter Season as we claim the Resurrected life together.

Faithfully,
Fr. Scott

May Day Potluck Brunch



A Potluck Brunch will be held on Sunday, May 1st, following the 10 a.m. service. All are welcome! A sign-up sheet for potluck items is on the back table, please sign up if you are able to bring a dish. An attendance sheet is also available; please sign up so that we can plan accordingly. Any questions, please contact Sr. Warden Heather Rodrigues. Please call Robin in the office for her contact information.

May Baskets



During the pot luck brunch there will be May Baskets filled with special treats for sale. All proceeds will go towards the refurbishing of our Sanctuary Candle.

Healing Prayers May 1st



You have the opportunity to participate in prayers for healing, the laying on of hands, and anointing with Holy Oil. At the end of the service, simply move to the front of the church. After Fr. Scott greets those leaving church he will join you as we pray for ourselves and those in need. If you ever need prayers for healing please speak to Fr. Scott, you do not need to wait until the first Sunday of the month.

Mid-week Eucharist & Bible Study



On Wednesdays, there is another opportunity for worship and study. At 10:00 a.m. there will be a Rite I Eucharist in the Guild Room immediately followed by a Bible study. We are currently studying the Parables of Jesus All are welcome!

Morning Prayer



On Tuesdays & Thursdays mornings at 10:00 a.m. Fr. Scott holds a short Morning Prayer Service. This gives us another chance to pray for this world, this nation, our church, our friends, family and even our enemies.

Happy Birthday



We would like to wish those celebrating birthdays in the month of May a very Happy Birthday!

Benjamin Carignan
Chrystal Tyson
Dave Hartley
David Butziger
Dianne Whitehead
Emily McMahan
Helen Becker
John Wright
James Lindopp

Alexis Nickerson
Jessica Iozzi
Julie Mixner
Heather McLaughlin
Kelley Holmänder
Carolyn Smith
Bill Gray
Elizabeth Pashkovsky
Sheryl Nichols

Stephen Hinger
Tammy Salisbury
Therese Beauregard
Wanda Michaelson
Joan Schofield
Pruet Beaureard
Helena Dexter
James Bernardino

Prayer Chain



Our prayer chain is organized to meet the prayer needs of our parish family as well as those in our community of family, friends and neighbors. It functions as a rapid response to anyone in need of prayers. Because prayer requests are communicated by e-mail, the Prayer Chain is available 24/7. Robin Beckwith, our coordinator keeps a list of voluntary prayer intercessors, and we always welcome new volunteers! Please contact Robin Beckwith our prayer chain coordinator if you have a prayer request or would like to volunteer. Please call the parish office for her contact information.

Flowers & Sanctuary Candle



If you would like to have flowers on the Altar or the Sanctuary Candle lit in memory of someone special or in celebration of a special event, there is a calendar with envelopes located in the back of the church. Please complete and drop in the collection plate or you may hand to an usher.

WestBay Community Action



Thank you to those who continue to donate to the Food Bank during these difficult times. They are much appreciated and help local residents in need. You can bring them to church on Sunday mornings; there is a donation bin at the back of the church or to the parish office during office hours. Thank you to Richard Carr who has volunteered to bring the donations to Westbay.

Social Media



If you haven't already, please like our Facebook page (St Barnabas Episcopal Church, Warwick, RI) and our Instagram page (stbarnabaswarwick). With everything going on you won't miss out on any parish news.

Happy Mother's Day, May 8, 2022



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

Coffee Hour



Thank you to those who volunteer, we are in need of more of you to help for this fellowship to continue. There is a sign-up sheet available in the kitchen during coffee hour for you to donate your time & talents. Please join us!

Memorial Day



The parish office will be closed on Monday, May 30th in observance of Memorial Day.

Invitation for Fellowship



The family of Paul Tetreault is inviting everyone from St. Barnabas to a coalition at The Bay Pointe Club, 19 Bay Pointe Dr., Buzzards Bay, MA. This will be in the afternoon of Monday, May 16, 2022 following his funeral. (details forthcoming) If you would like to attend please RSVP. Please call Robin in the parish office and she will provide you the phone# or email address that you will need to respond to.

Prayer for Peace Among the Nations



Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

(BCP 818)

Sunflowers for Ukraine Fundraiser



Thank you to all who contributed to our Episcopal Relief and Development Appeal for the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Together, we raised \$3500.00 for ERD!!! Our donation has been sent to aid in the relief efforts for basic human needs as Ukrainians flee their homeland into neighboring countries. Your heartfelt generosity reflects your compassion and hope as we strive to embody God's word with this unselfish action. Do continue to keep Ukraine in your prayers. Again, my sincere thanks for your kindness and generosity.

Joan Schofield



Heather's Highlights



Hello All & Welcome May!

I would like to take this moment to say THANK YOU to our wonderful and generous parishioners. During the past month we have had several outreach opportunities to assist aid for those in need, and our amazing parishioners of St. Barnabas Church contributed tenfold! First, an unbelievable fundraising event for those affected in Ukraine (Sunflowers for Ukraine) raised an incredibly generous amount.

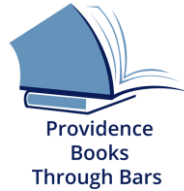
We had an astonishing response to the House of Hope Outreach event. Over 20 "full to the top" Easter meal boxes were donated; along with grocery store gift cards. We donated 20 Easter baskets full of Easter goodies for deserving children. Thank you to the organizers of these events. The humbling response to those in need filled my heart.

Our volunteers in our congregation deserve a shout out as well! Our ushers and readers, our tellers and altar guild are all volunteers on a regularly scheduled basis. Our coffee hour volunteers also deserve a big thank you! Coffee hour has always been a welcomed opportunity to gather with our church family, and it would not be possible without our volunteer bakers and coffee brewers. If anyone is interested in joining any of these ministries, or would like more information on volunteering; please see Father Scott or myself.

I am very grateful and am always impressed by the generosity of time, kindness, and generosity of our parishioners. THANK YOU ALL!

Heather Rodrigues Sr. Warden

Books through Bars



Have you noticed the bookcases downstairs and wondered what they were for? We welcome Books through Bars to St. Barnabas.

WHO WE ARE

Providence Books through Bars is a non-denominational, all volunteer, prison book program. Our mission is to serve and support men and women in prison by sending them free books and reading material. We were founded in 2003 and have remained active since then. We received our 501c3 status in 2012, with an established board of directors.

WHAT WE DO

As a prison book program, we receive letters directly from inmates around the country requesting books that are of interest to them. We work to collect donated, gently used books and organize them on bookshelves by topic. Our volunteers read the letters from the incarcerated people, choose books that best match the requested books and then package them up to be mailed directly to the incarcerated individual.

St. Barnabas welcomes this group into our space. Their presence helps us “respect the dignity of every human being.” (BCP 305)

You will have the opportunity to donate books, but not yet. Please give them time to get settled. They will give us a list of books that are most helpful to their cause, and some of you might volunteer to help them.

Easter Flowers Decorating the Church on Easter Sunday Were Given to the Glory of God and

In Loving Memory of:

Paula Doeg, Helen & Louis Doeg, Nathan Medeiros by Jeff & Susan Federico.

Gus MacLeod, John McLaughlin, Steve Springer, Jun Lee by Heather McLaughlin

Alberico Suppappola, Domenico & Speranza Suppappola, Fortunata, Suppappola, Albert & Annie Jones, William & Norma Briggs, Lawrence Jones, Herbert Jones, Richard Jones, Marcia Bowers, Eleanor Seddon, Rita Rose, Shoris Papandreou by Heidi Seddon.

Stanley W. Schofield Sr., Dorothy I. Schofield, Leslie Gomes, George & Gertrude Schofield, Robert & Eleanor DeAvilla, William & Gertrude Colburn, John & Susan Slaven, John & Elizabeth Slaven, Frederick T.R. Smith Jr., Janice Sullivan, Frederick Smith Sr., & Florence Smith, David Schofield, Barbara Bowker-Myers, by Stan & Joan Schofield.

William F. Nicholson, Barbara R. Watson Nicholson, Louis A. Watson, Doris E. Redman Watson, Everett R. Jones, Beverly A. Watson Jones, William L. Smith III, Barbara Pendell Smith, Helen & Elwin Pendell, Helen & Elliott Healey, Jerry L. Marcus, Ruth & Mel Cohen, Elinor & Albert Conde, Barbara & Ralph R Matteson, Jr, Harriett & Mark H. Tripp, Debbie & Mark Tripp, Victoria & Frank Amalfetano, Artur Aguiar, Robert Swenson, Steve Boler, Rose & Ed McQueeney, Virginia & Joseph Gilmartin, June & Orazio E Nicolace, Betty & Rev. Howard C. Olsen, Christopher Lombardo, David L DeAngelis Jr., and Adam Trombino by Beverly Nicholson Smith.

Richard C. Spinney by Carolyn Spinney.

Paul & Bernadette Tetreault.

Mary & Raymond Coutcher by Michele Carignan.

Lillian, Joe & Jimmy by Dianne Whitehead.

John O'Neill, Mae & Robert Collibee by Kathleen O'Neill.

David A. Cannon, Larry Bayles, John & Phyllis Simonian, Vahan & Santook Simonian, Abraham & Betty Simonian, John & Helen Kirkman, Rev. Bjarne & Florence Erickson, Alan & Muriel McCoy, David & Lois Macaulay, Robert Macaulay, Edgar & Mable Pierce, Donald Shaw, Myra & Donald E. Shaw, Florence & Edwin Jenkins, Paul Mikowski, John Mikowski, Peter Patrick Cannon, Carrie & Henry Maksymowicz, Genevieve Jones, Jeff Thomas, Ed "Poppy" Babine, Louis Sanchez, Joan-Sandra McKnight, Cooper, Kingston, Oreo, Missy, and Sophie by Eric & Bonne Simonian.

Alphonse & Anna Fontaine and Ernest & Helen Pappas by Pete Fontaine.

Alfred & Janice VanPatten, Johann & Maria B. Greim, Maria Greim, Janet E. Shuster, Edward & Shirley Bouclin, Joseph & Johanna Zampini, Lewis & Lois Royal, Lillian, Joan & Alfred Villatico, Peter Donohue by Bea VanPatten.

Skip Smith, Ana & Armando Rodrigues, Louise Macomber, Frederick Sr. & Florence Smith, Wilbur & Barbara Bridge, Carol Bridge, Muriel Gardiner, Walfred & Elizabeth Nyman, Charolette Rodrigues, Scott Francis, Sean Eagan, Gerald Habershaw, Spunky & Tinker by Joe & Heather Rodrigues.

Morrison Jr., Morrison & Agnes Horridge, Mark Horridge, John & Leah Carmen, Marcia Fahey, Cheryl Leiber by Jane Horridge.

Derek Andersen, Nick Zingarelli, Ruth Curtis, George Banno by Margaret Andersen.

Hannah & Harold Hayes, Marion & Elia Centracchio, Don A. Centracchio, Esther & Lewis Carpenter, Alan H. Carpenter, Mabel & Howard Wheelock, Everett & Dorothy Hudson, Paula Hudson by Marcia & Donald Carpenter.

Lee Gilbert, Jeanette & Norma Paterson, Dottie & Ralph Gilbert by Michelle Gilbert.

Jack & Alice Lederman, Bob & Wendy Nelson, Dominic Malveto, Orlando & Virginia Malveto by Alice Marie Malveto.

Rosalind Wallace Green, Albert Ernest Green, Edna Myers Butziger, Edwin Lewis Butziger By Arnold & Rosalind Butziger.

Lowell Totten, Dorothy Totten, Ray Heroux, George McIntyre, Rose McIntyre, Debra McIntyre, Richard McIntyre by Dave & Audrey McIntyre.

Erma Turner, Teresa Turner, Jerry Turner, Ada & Joseph Turner, Ollie & Joseph Sheets, Sara Orr, Al Grant by Jim Turner.

Joseph Costa, Edith Costa, Arthur Gravelin, Jeannette Gravelin, Marguerite Costa by George & Carol Gravelin.

John Pashkovsky, Frank Crowther Jr., Amy Prado, John & Olga Pashkovsky, Edward Charpentier, Helen & George Wells, Barbara Meinel, George Wells Jr., Joseph Coffey, The Rev. William & Marjorie Kite, Jared Coffey, The Rev. John & Carol Wells Barrett, John Crowther, Nicholas Pashkovsky, Frank M., & Ruth Crowther by Betty Pashkovsky.

Robert Frueh, Jean & Bessie Ricci by Gail Frueh.

The Rev. Fred & Ruth Jellison, Josephine, Joe Jr., Linda Swinski by Ivy Swinski & Jane Jellison.

Michael Rocha, Gail Nugent, Carol Walker, Augusto & Maria Rocha, Joseph & Mary Thomas, Warren & Doris Newell, Arthur & Grace Smith, Edward & Hazel Newell by Joan Newell & Christine Lindopp.

The Holmander, Duffy & Baker Families by Kelly Holmander.

Nancy & Richard Urquhart, Bernadine Kirchmeyer by Laurie & John Kirchmeyer.

Rachel Kent, Joyce Jenks, Diane Jencks by Monica Nichols.

Edward F. Fletcher, Phylis M. Taylor, B. Buck Taylor, Florence & Schuyler Taylor Sr., Douglas DeBoer, Hope Thornton, Phyllis & Harry Hall, Jean M. by Sandy Fletcher.

Ann M. Picard by Stephen J. Picard.

Robert D. & Barbara M. Whitaker, James J., James F. & Kathryn A. Hackett, Albert N. & Frieda M. Schmidt, Elmer I. & Mildred Ballou Whitaker, Thomas L. Brigita, Thomas L. Jr., Michael & Donna Bernard, Albert Champlin by Lee R. & C. Martha Whitaker.

Frederick (Skip) Smith Jr., Frederick & Florence Smith Sr., Louise Macomber, Carol Bridge, Walfred & Elizabeth Nyman, Jack & Esther Shaw, Spunky & Tinker by Carolyn Smith.

Alphonse & Emma Bourbeau, Bernice & Charles E. Hays, Fleur-Ange Hurdis, E.B. Hurdis Jr., Wm. Paul Shehan III, Edward Provost, Carol & John Stackow, Charlotte Harding, Janice Caudog, Charles E. Hays Jr., Debra Hays, Father Olsen, Elvis Presley, Robert S. Petrarca, Ted Morgan, Bernard Eaton Jr., Arthur & Claire Gifford, Violet Loftus by Jerome & Patricia Loftus.

George & Carolyn Scott Jr, George III, George & Nellie Scott Sr, Elsie Sheffield, Myrtle Reynolds, Evelyn, Edward & Florence Petrarca, Robert Phelps, Tom Valenti, Morgan Smith, Jean Lavoie, Jack Swanson, Robert Barrie by Linda Petrarca.

Hedwig Kenyon, Ella K. Mitchell, Christopher Mitchell, Tamsion Snow, Alton & Helen Conn, William S. Riley, Agnes Spearman, Mary Garvey by Catherine & Michael Spearman.

In Thanksgiving for:

Our children and grandchildren Jeremy, Jackie, Jack & Grace and Emily, Cory & Remington by Heidi Seddon.

My sons Daniel & Benjamin, husband Dan, My Family by Michele Carignan.

Kevin O'Neill, John O'Neill, Kathleen, Bill by Kathleen O'Neill.

Carolyn Smith, Joseph Rodrigues, Ashley Rodrigues, JR Rodrigues by Heather Rodrigues.

All the gifts God has given me by Gail Frueh.

Elsie Rocha by Joan Newell & Christine Lindopp.

Londan Nancy Hinz, Luca Michael Palumbo by Laurie & John Kirchmeyer.

Heather, Joe, Ashley, & JR. Rodrigues, Stan & Joan Schofield, Paul Schofield, Peter & Carolyn Schofield, Donna Bridge, Robert Nyman by Carolyn Smith.

My children, Rachael, Kerri & Brian, and grandchildren, Robert, Emma & Ethan, my family by Jerome & Patricia Loftus.

Family & Friends by Linda Petrarca.