

L E N T

GETTING TO THE HEART OF THINGS "ASHES TO ASHES"

Ashes can be a symbol of bad things and good things. The ashes of "Ash" Wednesday are connected with sorrow and regret. It is the kind of regret, though, that can lead to better things. Today is a good time to reflect upon all that ashes can signify.

Ashes # 1: Ashes can be what remains after a forest fire. Only ashes are left, where living trees had been, a great loss. In our faith tradition, ashes reflect sinfulness, the loss of life's goodness, which has robbed us of our nobler calling. Ashes say, "Stop going in a destructive way; repent and find a better, more constructive life." Ash Wednesday calls us to mend our ways.

Ashes # 2: Ashes, under other circumstances, can be a good sign. They may remind us of a campfire, where we shared a joyful evening with friends. They speak of life's goodness and vitality, its great value. Some things in our lives may perish, but the warmth can be found another day in other ways.

The season of Lent calls us to look at all of these ashes and remember - perhaps discover - what lies at the heart of life. We start with due humility, admitting our failures and limitations. A hymn describes this part of our reality:

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

We remember, in this season, that even Jesus' life came to an end, but his life had eternal significance. Our lives, too, have lasting significance, despite our fallibility and faults. None of us is perfect or "all important", but each of us has true value. Today, as Lent begins, is a time for rising from the ashes and finding our God-given worth. Then, as Lent moves along, seek the treasure that lies at the heart of life.

OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE will be held on
Wednesday, March 1st at 6:00 PM.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held each Friday during Lent at 6:15 PM.

Church Chat

The Episcopal Church of St. Clement & St. Peter

165 Hanover Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Mailing Address: 70 Lockhart Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 8702

Telephone: 570-822-8043

February/March, 2017

Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM

Sunday School at 9:00 AM

Website: stclementstpeter.org

Email: stclementstpeter@verizon.net

From your Senior Warden

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have managed to get through 2016 and have financially closed it out on a good note. Likewise we rang in the New Year developing a sound and realistic budget ready to face the challenges that will be presented before us.

Sadly we started out the New Year with the passing of our brother in Christ, Henry Johnson, at the tender age of 98. Henry was a tremendous influence towards the improvement and sustainment of our church. His presence among us will be missed. Henry set a great example for us all to follow.

Our annual meeting is the most important meeting to attend as it provides the snapshot of where we were in the past year and provides an indication of what the new year might hold. Thank You to all that attended our Annual meeting and many thanks to Maureen for providing the treats for consumption during the meeting. Our Vestry composition has changed. After six years on Vestry as our Junior Warden Rich Honeychurch has taken a much needed break. Thank You Richard for your service. With a Vestry opening available, Betty Leo has graciously stepped forward to serve, Thank You Betty. The new make-up of the Vestry is as follows: I will continue as your Senior Warden, Gerry Williams will be our Junior Warden and Betty Leo will serve as the Clerk of the Vestry, The remaining Vestry members are Clive Halstead and Dorrance Daniels. We are very fortunate to have these individuals accept these positions. Please make it a point to express your appreciation of their willingness to serve. Note, the terms for both Clive and Dorrance will expire at the end of 2017. Therefore, there will be 2 Vestry openings available for 2018. During the course of this year I ask that you consider assuming one of these openings. Should you have any questions in that regard do not hesitate to ask.

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I further suggest that you come to a monthly meeting for an appreciation of the expectations as a member of the Vestry. Our monthly Vestry meetings are open to the congregation.

As always, I continue to pursue volunteers to serve our church, not just Vestry. There are many ways which you can serve. Ask God, trust in God to provide you direction and simply let go of any apprehension — get involved, your Church needs you!


GODS's Peace + + +

Tom Jamieson

Senior Warden


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PRAYER CONCERNS



OUR SHUT-INS: Robert Heller, Jr.;

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS: Molly Franks; Todd Holbrook; Walter Reddington; Carl Organek; Bill Everett; Ben Walker; Lorrie Pomanek; Lynee Zalewski; Bella Brown; Judy Heller; Alethea; Dan; Bernie; Kate; Irene; George; Patricia; Vince.



Each month we collect a designated item to benefit the 'Loaves and Fishes' program at the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen. The item for February is **sugar & sweeteners**; the item for March is **coffee**.



FEBRUARY

Mara Ryan	February 10
Suzu Kaminski	February 16
Alexis McGrady	February 24
Ben Walker	February 28

MARCH

Allison Williams	March 1
William Everett Jr.	March 5
Andrew Hossage	March 9
Lindsey Ripa	March 13
Gloria Engelhardt	March 18
David Williams	March 19
Thomas Jamieson	March 25
Dorrance Daniels	March 29
Gerry Dooley	March 30



Steve & Donna Meck, February 13, 35 yrs.



CONFIRMATION CLASSES

for young people 12 years of age and up will be held beginning Sunday, February 26th. Classes will be held every other Sunday from 6:00 to 7:00 PM in the office building. Class dates are February 26th, March 12th, March 26th, April 9th, April 23rd and May 7th.

If there are any adults interested in confirmation or reception, please contact the Parish Office. Classes will be offered in the near future.



Since our last mailing, donations to our Memorial Fund have been received in memory of **Henry Johnson** from Margaret Ann & Robbie Heller; Lois Monka; Liz Hossage; Francis Carrozza; Mary G. Sampson; Lillian Smith; Pam Bird; Wilbur Worlinsky; Barbara Sepko; Malcom & Sara Long; Brooks Estates Residents Association; Luzerne Bank; The Rev. Canon Clifford B. Carr; Walt & Nancy Land; Betty Porzuczek; Charles & Vera Long & Family; Carol James & Jane Pardue; Tom & Liz Jamieson; Lindsey & Chuck Ripa; Marsha, Jessica, John & Lora Stanish; Elizabeth, Doreen & Andrew Hossage; Lisa, Mark, Joshua & Justin Philips; in memory of **Mary Prim** from Liz Hossage; and in memory of **Donald H. Klimchak** from Margaret Ann & Robbie Heller.

Donations to our General Fund have been received in memory of **Marilynn Amory** and **Mary Prim** from John Amory.

A donation to our Sunday School was received in memory of **Joan & Ernie Messimer** and **Joseph Meck** from Steve & Donna Meck.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR AUCTION



If you have an item in your house that is on its way to the Thrift Shop, please consider donating it to the church. We are looking for lamps, end tables, coffee tables, fans, chairs and other larger items. Items will be put on display in the Parish Hall with a silent auction bid. A bidder will put his name and highest bid on the sheet provided. The items will be displayed on the stage for a 2 week period, after which the winner will be determined by the highest bid. **Please** do not send in anything that is broken, cracked, or useless, but rather items you are tired of and wish to replace. Please check with Lindsey Ripa for more details. Donator is responsible for item brought in and put on stage. High bidder must pick up the winning item. No delivery either way will be provided by the church.

EASTER MEMORIALS

If you wish to have an Easter Memorial for a departed loved one, please fill out the form below. If your memorial will be the same as Christmas, simply write "same" on the form. If you have changes or a new memorial, please list all names. The deadline for having your memorial printed in the Easter bulletin is Sunday, April 2nd. **Donations in any amount are accepted.** Phone Lindsey Ripa at 570-779-2765 or the Parish Office at 570-822-8043 with any questions.

In memory of:

Given by:

Please make checks payable and send to:

St. Clement & St. Peter's Church
70 Lockhart Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702



February

2017

March

2017