

WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

SUNDAYS:

10:00 AM EUCHARIST

10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

A MESSAGE FROM FR. MATHEW

Dear People of God,

I bring you greetings in the blessed name of Christ Jesus! As we are about to step into a different season in terms of our liturgical calendar; we are not at all exiting the Easter experience. It is indeed the experience of the risen Christ that has laid the foundation of our faith. As St. Paul the apostle teaches us, our faith is futile without the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15: 17). The gospel proclaims to us the good news of God who loves us and God who reaches out to us. This good news is rooted in the birth, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus marked by his ascension into heaven. However, the mystery is yet to be unfolded. The Holy Spirit prepares us with the hope and the faith that Christ will come again.

Recently, my family had to go through the loss of a dear family member. This family member is my beloved uncle George. As I grieve his passing away; the experience of the risen Christ brings hope that I can always face my tomorrows with certainty even in the midst of the uncertainty that the world offers. I wish to say a word of thanks to my parish family for your messages of condolences and comfort.

The other day, my dad asked me a question, "Which is more important, the death of Christ on the Cross or the resurrection of Christ from the tomb?" I think both are equally important pieces of the puzzle in our faith. But yet of equal importance is the third sentence of our proclamation of faith on Sunday services, "Christ will come again." I strongly believe in that expectation and that expectation is more than mere wishful thinking. The good news of the gospel powerfully proclaims to us that God will never be done with us and that we are always surrounded by God's eternal love that nothing can separate (Romans 8: 38-39). Let us internalize the wounds of Christ but at the same time allow Christ to rise within us.

The wounds and sufferings of the society that surround us represent the wounded Christ. Recently we have experienced those wounds in the tragedy of the mass shooting that happened in Buffalo, New York. And more recently in Texas; the terrible pain of the second deadliest school shooting in our history that claimed so many beautiful lives taken away too soon has surrounded us. We are called not only to read and proclaim but live and practice the gospel of God's love. We are called to be the voice for the voiceless to advocate effective psychological, spiritual, and legislative measures to put a stop to such violence and evil acts repeating itself. Let us internalize the risen Christ who embraces us as God's child. But before that, Christ should be born in us. And let us internalize the expectation of Christ's coming to us in the most mysterious ways. May the power of the Holy Spirit, the heavenly advocate, empower our lives to be advocates of peace, justice and above all advocates of God's love.

In Christ's Love,

Varghese+

The Rev. Dr. Varghese Mathew

JUNE 5 OUTREACH: EPISCOPAL CHARITIES

Episcopal Charities provides funding and support to a broad range of community-based human service programs throughout the Diocese of New York. These programs, sponsored by Episcopal parishes, serve disadvantaged individuals, youth and families on a non-sectarian basis.

The programs address a wide range of needs in our communities and involve children's academic enrichment, children's arts, community kitchens, food pantries, health and wellness programs, skills rebuilding programs for adults, summer recreation and Superstorm Sandy rebuilding. Episcopal Charities Sunday is June 5th, and we hope everyone will make a contribution to these worthy programs sponsored by our Diocese. **Please use the special envelopes provided, and make checks payable to "Episcopal Charities."**



MIDNIGHT RUN: JUNE 17

For the Midnight Run in May, we were joined by two cars and six people from Noroton Presbyterian Church in Darien, CT. Another member came earlier in the week to help us sort clothes.



We are truly blessed to have this wonderful partnership with Noroton Church to help us in St. Barnabas' most active outreach activity.

A TEST OF OUR PATIENCE: THE INCREASE IN COVID INFECTIONS

As you may know, Westchester County is currently experiencing a high rate of transmission of Covid. Please see the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Based on this guidance, we are asking that during church services parishioners maintain six feet of distance or wear a mask. This is for your safety and the safety of others. Ushers are asked to please remind anyone who is not following these guidelines.

We have also made the decision to maintain coffee hour, but ask that if you are experiencing any Covid or Covid-like symptoms, you do not attend.

Given the number of people we expect at the service for Doris Brown on April 18th at 1 PM, masks will be mandatory for this service.

In the event of a pastoral emergency, contact Fr. Mathew at 914-572-1568

Newsletter Staff:

Editor: Pat Breinin

Designer: Kathy Wolf

REMEMBERING DORIS BROWN: JUNE 18, 1 PM



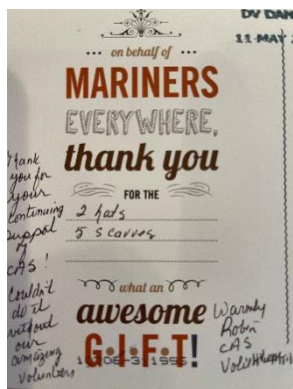
Please join us on June 18 for a celebration of the life of Doris Brown, followed by a reception in the Undercroft. As we are all learning in our efforts to fill her shoes, Doris will always be with us and it is our privilege to say thanks and celebrate a life well lived and a life of service to St Barnabas.

KNITTING FOR MARINERS!

Years ago at the Episcopal Convention, Kathy Wolf visited an exhibitor's table hosted by The Seamen's Church Institute, an organization founded in 1934 in New York City with its roots in the Episcopal Church. Started as the Young Men's Missionary Society, a floating church was built and docked at the foot of Pike Street on the East River to provide a place of worship where seafarers could feel comfortable and welcome. In the almost 90 years since



then, the Institute has grown immensely, hosting a variety of programs that advocate for the personal, professional, and spiritual well-being of merchant mariners around the world.



The program that caught Kathy's eye was **Christmas at Sea**, the oldest and longest continuously-running charter knitting program in the U.S. Volunteers knit hats, scarves, and sweaters year round, which are delivered to ships and boats from the Tuesday before Thanksgiving through Epiphany in January. Kathy recently sent a package of 5 scarves and 2 hats that she had knitted, and received a cheery thank you postcard, shown here. The organization has a

fascinating history and important mission to an important group of dedicated workers. If you are a knitter and would like to make scarves and hats for merchant mariners please check out the program at www.seamenschurch.org.

JUNE 12: LAST DAY OF CHOIR

It has been wonderful having our choir back this year and returning to a more normal church service. Our thanks to our singers and to our organist and choirmaster Larry Wolf for another year of beautiful anthems and the music that is such an important part of our worship. We look forward to the choir's return in the fall.

TAKE CARE!

In the light of the recent carnage in Buffalo and Uvalde it is fitting to be reminded that we have been put upon this earth to love and care for one another. On Sunday May 15 our choir performed an anthem written in the tradition of a gospel song by our own baritone, Russell Ashley. Since moving to New York from Arizona over 30 years ago, Russell has been a familiar figure to audiences in the tri-state area. In addition to appearing as a guest soloist with the Gregg Smith Singers, he has been a featured soloist at Madeleine and Chartres Cathedrals in France as well as the Madeira-Bach Festival. He has been a chorister-soloist with the National Chorale for 30 years, and was a member of The Metropolitan Opera extra-chorus for over 25 years. He has also performed frequently with New Jersey State Opera and National Grand Opera, as well as the Robert DeCormier Singers and Musica Sacra. He has been the bass-baritone soloist at West Center Congregational Church in Bronxville and Riverdale Temple. He has been with the St. Barnabas choir since January of 2022.

It is our fervent prayer that everyone who believes in this message will take heart and continue to "take care" in the face of the hatred and divisiveness being exhibited in our country today.



LYRICS TO TAKE CARE: (Sorry there's no sound!)

In a world of greed, what can we do?
We must help the helpless,
It's up to me and you,
Well, we gotta take care.

Care of the world around us,
And lend a hand to those in need
We gotta stand up for the weak and the helpless
And resist hatred and greed.

Yeah, we gotta take care,
We gotta take care,
Because the Good Book tells it so!
Take care, take care, take care.

We gotta take care of this ol' planet,
Ev'ry creature great and small,
We gotta take care of the little children,
Because the Good Lord loves them all

Because that's what it's all about! Oh Yeah!
You know the whole wide world is waiting.
And time is running out!
Take care, take care, take care.