



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

February

To know Christ and to make Him known

2018

Dear Friends,

Cesare Pavese, the Italian writer, penned words worthy to ponder for a congregation, early in the new year, searching for a Rector: "The only joy in the world is to begin." We can all worry whether the perfect match will be found or we can trust and pray with a sense of adventure that there are 50 remarkable candidates out there the Vestry will have to choose from. Being in the "neutral zone" between Rectors normally brings its share of uncertainty. Yet this "wilderness time," biblically understood, is the incubator for St. Matthew's to prepare for a new beginning once the Vestry announces to whom God has led them to tender a call. That is when the even more important work of welcoming the new Rector and family starts with strategic and spiritual commitment. It is also a time to consider giving a wide berth for when we begin to listen to where God will be leading the union of this new priest and people.

A new beginning ratifies the ending. Sad as it is to let go of the things we have cherished, that finality is paradoxically also the source of excitement because it signals a clean and sacred break from things we need to let go of and have a compelling chance to, as scripture promises, become a new creation. It is always a bit of a gamble. Many new beginnings abort because they were not preceded by well-managed endings. Thank goodness that was navigated with aplomb here at St. Matthew's and legacies have been preserved as a treasury to learn from and compass for our future.

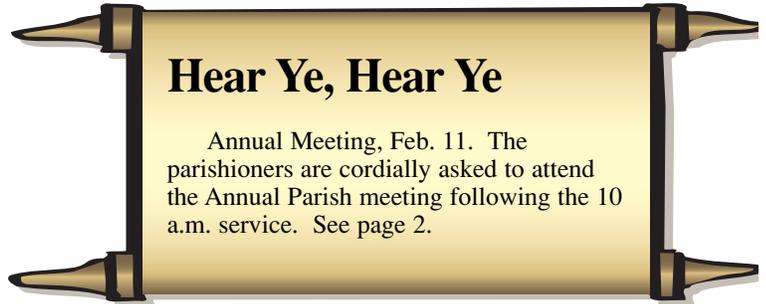
Transition coaches speak of the Four P's: the purpose, a picture, the plan, and a part to play. Sometimes only one or two of these predominate at any given time. Yet I can assure you the Search Committee and Vestry are alert to these transition attributes and they will be communicating with us as things unfold and we approach the "joy of something new."

Mardi Gras – Sun. Feb. 11

The feast before the fast!
Don some beads, add some feathers, have fun making up a costume and join us in the Fellowship Room at 6 p.m. on Sun., Feb. 11 for a rockin', fun Mardi Gras celebration – the last gasp before the solemnity of Ash Wednesday and Lent. We will dine on St. Matthew's Best Chefs' delicious southern fare and dance to a Dixieland jazz band and Cajun favorites. A King and Queen of Carnival will be chosen and there will be special Mardi Gras crafts for the children.

Please sign up in the Parish House or online at <https://www.cognitofirms.com/StMatthewsEpiscopalChurch1/StMatthewsMardiGrasParty> and bring a dish to share.

All ages are invited and friends are welcome!



Hear Ye, Hear Ye

Annual Meeting, Feb. 11. The parishioners are cordially asked to attend the Annual Parish meeting following the 10 a.m. service. See page 2.

A Little Homily for Lent

Written by Mr. Ketchum in 1955, the words of our legendary Rector bear repeating:

Lent comes again. 'It is late,' we say, or it is early.' But always when the icicles on the maples say the sap has begun to mount, when some mild morning we almost listen for the first robin's call, and when the hills put on a softer color in the later dusk it comes. And it is Lent again. 'Lent again,' we say whether it means much or little to us, whether it will make any difference to our way of thinking or is merely a phrase. Lent: this little season within a season, with a calendar all its own, with a climate, too, which disregards all weather bulletins, a special sky perhaps.

The question of the practical, the pragmatic is, what are you going to do with it? Maybe a better query would be, what are you going to let it do to you? This being Christian is a practical matter, after all, and has to do with such immediate issues as time and conduct and the affairs of ordinary life. Not for nothing did its Founder make as a part of its necessary speech a petition to give us 'daily bread.' Most of us know that it is a prayer for more than the hunger of the body. Most of us know that there are other hungers, too: hunger of the mind and heart and soul. What if Lent might come to show us how they might be fed? God has seed enough to plant for the harvest of that immortal food. What might it be, for us, to make this Lent His planting time? 'Behold a sower went out to sow.'

Submitted by John Stockbridge

February Key Dates

Sun., Feb. 4	11:15 a.m.	Super Bowl Bake Sale
Wed., Feb. 7	7 p.m.	Film on Bethlehem
Sun., Feb. 11	Following 10 a.m. Service 6 – 9 p.m.	Annual Meeting Family Mardi Gras Party
Wed., Feb. 14	10 a.m. 11 a.m. 8 p.m.	Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes Lenten Bible Study – Thomas Merton Bedford Chamber Concert – Misha & Cepa Dichter
Sat., Feb. 17, 24	7:30 a.m.	Men's Lenten Breakfasts
Sun., Feb. 25	5 p.m.	Lenten Evensong, Children's Chapel

Annual Parish Meeting

The St. Matthew's Church Annual Meeting will be held immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service in the church on Sun., Feb. 11. The Wardens and Treasurer will report on the past year's parish results and will propose the following slate of Vestry candidates to be voted on by the attending parishioners:

Suzanne Bowers- 2nd 2-year term as Junior Warden
Alison Gregory- 2nd 3-year term as vestry member
Bonnie Tisi- 2nd 3-year term as vestry member
June Blanc- 1st 3-year term as vestry member
Scott Brown - 1st 3-year term as vestry member

June Blanc has been a very active volunteer in Westchester County. She has served on the boards of the Junior League of Northern Westchester, Northern Westchester Hospital, Hope's Door, the Vestry of St. Mary's the Virgin, Chappaqua and Teatown Lake Reservation. Trained as an urban planner, she used her expertise serving on the New Castle Zoning and Planning Boards. She currently serves on the board of the United Way of Westchester and Putnam and chairs the President's Council of Northern Westchester Hospital. At St. Matthew's, June is chair of the Communications Committee. She served as co-editor of the Key for 15 years, co-chair of the Distinguished Speaker Series and co-chair of the Bedell Committee. Her husband, Roger, is a member of the choir and the Music Commission.



Scott Brown is currently completing the few remaining months of Patrick Brennan's term, and is now standing for election to his own term. Scott has been a parishioner at St. Matthew's since 1994. Scott was married and confirmed at St. Matthew's. All three of his children were baptized at St. Matthew's by their grandfather, Terry Elsberry. In the past, Scott headed the usher corps and was a member of The Bedell Committee. He currently serves as a lay minister in both the main church and children's services. Professionally, Scott is a senior private banker with J.P. Morgan. He lives in New Canaan with his wife Holly and three children; Madeline (17), Trip (14) and Kingsley (11).



The Vestry would like to thank Jerry Bogert and Patrick Brennan for their contributions over the years

Super Bowl Bake Sale

Join us at Coffee Hour on Feb. 4 for a fabulous spread of baked goods to enjoy while you're cheering on your favorite team.

The proceeds from the sale benefit Hour Children. Hour Children's mission is to help incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children successfully rejoin the community, reunify with their families, and build healthy, independent, and secure lives. To accomplish this, Hour Children provides compassionate and comprehensive services and encourages all to live and interact with dignity and respect. Hour Children does wonderful work supporting the children of inmates at Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities.

Connie Combes will be contributing one of her unbelievable, spectacular cakes for auction. There will be a dazzling array of cookies, cakes, cheese straws and assorted munchies. If you enjoy cooking, please do drop off a contribution to the Fellowship Room before church on Sunday to be included in the sale.



Lenten Evensong at the 5 p.m.

On Sun., Feb. 25, we will hold a Lenten Evensong (with Eucharist) in the Children's Chapel at 5 p.m. as we mark the arrival of the season of Lent. The service, with musical accompaniment provided by Mark Weigel and cellist Chloe Carozza, will provide some quiet time to contemplate what this traditionally penitent season can mean for us and our inner lives. How can we live into this season, and how can we constructively engage with a Lenten practice that offers us positivity and hope? Come along on Feb. 25, and we will try to answer some of these questions together in that wonderful liturgical space we call the Children's Chapel. See you there!

Rik Pike

Bible Study: Thomas Merton Lenten Study Series

Starting after our Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 14, our weekly Bible Study, held Wednesdays from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. in the Vestry Room, will focus on the life and writing of Thomas Merton, arguably one of the greatest Christian mystics of the 20th century. The study series will last six weeks through Holy Week, and we will read together excerpts from his much-loved and much-admired book, *New Seeds of Contemplation*. No prior knowledge of Merton is required, and there will be no huge swaths of reading required between our Wednesday meetings! Come along and spend some time this Lent learning about this much-celebrated Trappist monk and his remarkable Christian contemplative worldview.



Rik Pike

Church School

February Lessons:

Feb 4: Never Give Up: Stories of Unceasing Prayer
Children in grades 4-7 attend communion service in Chapel
Feb 11: Come to God's Table: Parables of Invitation & Welcome
Feb 18: No Church School; nursery open
Feb 25: Parable of the Prodigal Son

Mite boxes will be distributed to the children on Feb. 25.

Each year, young parishioners are encouraged to earn and raise funds during the Lenten season. The money raised will be donated to a local organization helping youth. Families are asked to return filled boxes by April 29, and there will be an adult Mite Box in the Parish House entry during Lent.

The Church School and St. Matthew's Preschool have been joining forces to help less fortunate children in our area. Pupils from both schools participated in a toy drive in December to benefit children of inmates at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility.

Sophie Kernan

2018 Stewardship Drive

With gratitude, we acknowledge those families and individuals who have pledged for the 2018 Annual Stewardship Drive.

If you have not yet pledged, pledge cards are available on the entry table in the Parish House and on the table as you enter the church.

A current list of parishioners who have pledged will be printed every other week in the St. Matthew's weekly eblast.

See Bethlehem, Wed., Feb. 7

The vision of Bethlehem envisioned by the words of the Christmas carol is quite different from today's reality of walls and settlements. Come on Wed, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Room to see the sites as recorded by a filmmaker who returned to her hometown in the hope of advancing the peace process.



Bethlehem was 60 per cent Christian in 1990, but today the Christian population is only 15 per cent Christian, and 1,000 Christians leave every year. Both Bethlehem and Jerusalem are models for inter-faith peace, but reports predict that if this trend continues, the Christian community will be unsustainable within one generation. Do we care? Can we do more than just sit by and watch?

The viewing of the 90-minute film will be followed by light refreshments and a Q & A session.

A New Look for St. Matthew's Preschool

We are delighted to introduce our new St. Matthew's Preschool logo, which we feel better reflects the school and the joy, energy and enthusiasm we see in the faces of our students every day. Enrollment for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year is open now.

Please call 914-234-7890 to find out more or to schedule a tour. You can also check us out online at www.stmatthewsschool.org



Bedford Chamber Concerts, Feb. 14—Valentine's Day with Misha and Cipa Dichter

The husband and wife duo of Misha and Cipa Dichter will return to the Bedford Chamber Concerts on Feb. 14—yes, to celebrate Valentine's Day—with their popular concert of four-handed piano, playing Schubert Fantasie in F minor for piano four-hands, D.940. Also on the program will be Copland's El Salón México, transcribed by Bernstein; Scriabin's Études Op. 8, No. 11 and Op. 42, No. 4, and Schubert's Piano Sonata in A major, D. 959.

Pianists Misha and Cipa Dichter met at The Juilliard School as students of the legendary Rosina Lhevinne, and made their first joint appearance at the Hollywood Bowl in 1972, four years after their marriage.

Tickets (\$40.00) can be reserved by phone at 914-522- 5150 and paid for at the door, or ordered online at www.bedfordchamberconcerts.org or as part of a series subscription. Student tickets, which can only be purchased at the door, cost \$10. Families with younger children can attend rehearsals, from 5:30 - 6:30 for free. The concert starts at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. Delicious treats are provided by the Music Committee at intermission.



Men's Lenten Breakfasts

The Men of St. Matthew's will meet on Saturday mornings throughout Lent in the Fellowship Room from 7:30 - 8:45. Each week, the conversation will be led by a different member on a topic consistent with Lent. Coffee and bagels will be served. Consider incorporating this St. Matthew's Lenten tradition into your weekends. Dates are Feb. 17, Feb. 24, Mar. 3, Mar. 10, Mar. 17, Mar. 24 and Mar. 31.

Art Show:Bedford

Historical Hall was filled to capacity for the gala opening of Art Show:Bedford.. Guests enjoyed seeing friends and eating delicious food provided by Happiness Is. DogBone provided great music that added to the festivity. Thank you Laura Blau, and the hardworking committee and artists for another successful event. Art Show:Bedford raises thousands of dollars each year for local charities.



February Church Calendar



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 4

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Ms. Getz
Ushers: Messrs. Bolen and Fagan
Lay Reader: Mrs. Fagan
Lector: Philip Bolen
Acolytes: Emily & Matthew Hutchings
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II and All School Communion**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Foose, Garten, Kent and Kim
Lay Reader: Mrs. Tisi
Lector: Mrs. Finn
Acolyte: Charlie Gaynor

No 5:00 p.m. service

Last Sunday after the Epiphany, February 11

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames MacDonald and Reed
Ushers: Messrs. Reed and B. Reeder
Lay Reader: Mrs. Reeder
Lector: Mr. Firth
Acolyte: Emma Soderberg
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Annual Meeting and Church School**
Ushers: Messrs. Akinla, Borner, Burdick and Sturz
Lay Reader: Mr. Heath
Acolyte: Trip Brown
- 5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
***Lay Assistant: George Marcogliese*

Ash Wednesday, February 14

- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with imposition of Ashes**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Meyer

First Sunday in Lent, February 18

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Fagan and Tilt
Ushers: Messrs. Vincent and Boe
Lay Reader: Mr. Stockbridge
Lector: Philip Bolen
Acolyte: Henry Weigel
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Belknap, S. Brown Jr., Eshoo and Hancock
Lay Reader: Mr. Brown
Lector: Mrs. Ehrlich
Acolytes: Ben & Brayton Howard
***No Children's Service*
- 5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Lay Assistant: James Hancock

Second Sunday in Lent, February 25

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Meyer and Scott
Ushers: Mr. and Mrs. Fagan
Lay Reader: Mr. Heath
Lector: Mrs. Tilt
Acolyte: Luke Breitenecker
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Church School**
Ushers: Messrs. Cummings, de Menocal, Inglis and Kent
Lay Reader: Mr. Kim
Acolytes: Clara & Sam Pakman
- 5:00 p.m. Lenten Evensong and Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Lay Assistant: Maggie Parsons

Third Sunday in Lent, March 4

- 8:00 a. m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Ms. Getz
Ushers: Messrs. Foster and MacDonald
Lay Reader: Mr. Jackson
Lector: Mr. Vincent
Acolyte: Alexandra Griffin

- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II and All School Communion**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. LaMotte, Lange, Robinson and Struble
Lay Reader: Mrs. Tisi
Lector: Mr. Gale
Acolyte: Harry Whitman
- 5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Lay Assistant: Alexandra Paul

**Children's Service

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners

- Mr. & Mrs. Alex Amoriello** **Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Ferlisi**
8 Oak Road 244 Cantitoe Street
Katonah, New York 10536 Bedford Hills, New York 10507
- Mr. & Mrs. Eric Parsons**
6 Linda Lane
Katonah, New York 10536

Change of Address

- Ms. Tina Barrett**
11 Wildwood Road, #7
Katonah, New York 10536

In Memoriam

In sure and certain hope

- Martha L. (Marti) Dinerstein – January 13, 2018
Malcolm McGregor Barnum – January 17, 2018
Mary Seaman – January 18, 2018

Bedford Spring Antiques Show Apr. 14 and 15

Join us on the weekend of Apr. 14 and 15 for the Bedford Spring Antiques Show at the Harvey School. We have some exciting new events, including "Bloodys & Bubbles" on Sunday and fabulous auction items you won't want to miss!

Festivities begin with the Preview Party – a stylish evening of cocktails, music and hors d'oeuvres -- on Fri., Apr. 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Partygoers will have the opportunity to mingle, peruse a wide array of fabulous items and make early purchases before the event opens to the public. For the first time, tickets will be available online: www.stmatthewsbedford.org and are \$125 in advance and \$150 at the door. Stay tuned for more information.

The show continues Sat., Apr. 14 and Sun., Apr. 15. Be sure to stop by on Sunday at 12 noon for a Bloody Mary or a Mimosa! Enjoy a drink, some small bites and browse all the treasure and collectibles just waiting for you to discover.

See you there!

