



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

May

To know Christ and to make Him known

2017

It's About People

Dear Friends,

As Nancy and I get ready to leave St. Matthew's, I know that of all the things I'll miss, what I'll miss most is all of you.

The Bible tells us the church is people. "Living stones," are the exact words. That means us, all of us who make up the family of St. Matthew's.

If a hurricane were to wipe out every one of our beautiful and beloved buildings, St. Matthew's would not cease to exist. Because vitally important though these buildings are to us and to our lives together as a Christian community, we the people are the human St. Matthew's God has called together in this place, in this particular time in history, to carry out His plan for our church in the world NOW.

Looking back on my years as your rector, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude at the privilege I've had to serve you and God all these years. What a unique and remarkable privilege it has been to be with you in times of joy and sorrow. What a privilege to have been close to people in times of intimacy rarely given to a person other than one of us clergy. It's a unique calling to be a shepherd. It's a unique gift for me to have shared my life with you--the beloved of the Lord--who in these years have made up this uniquely dynamic, committed, loving and fun living church we know and love as our St. Matthew's.

Thank you for letting me be myself. Thank you for being you. Thank you, Lord, for bringing us together.

See you in church,

Celebrating 23 Years with Terry and Nancy



Saturday, June 3

A Dinner Dance in their honor

Pentecost Sunday, June 4

8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services - Guest Preacher Susan Wyper

5 p.m. service - Terry preaching

Sunday, June 11

8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services

Terry's Final Sermon at St. Matthew's

followed by a special Coffee Hour

5 p.m. All Parish Picnic

Wardens' Update on Transition: May

This is the first of a monthly series of updates to the parish on our upcoming transition period following Terry's retirement at the end of June. These updates will address the Search process and the status of the restoration of the church building once that commences this summer. Please consult the website from time-to-time for additional information related to the Search process and Church Restoration. If you should have any questions along the way, please feel free to contact any of us on the Vestry and we will try to address them.

Where are we now?

The Vestry is in the process of electing the Search Committee Co-Chairs and formulating the Charge to the Search Committee. The Co-Chairs will select members to serve on the Search Committee from a list of prospective candidates chosen by the Vestry. This list was developed to ensure that the many constituencies of St. Matthew's are represented. The Committee will number 13, including the two Chairs and two Vestry members. We will announce the members of the Search Committee as soon as the list has been finalized.

May Key Dates

Wed., May 3	8 p.m.
Bedford Chamber Concerts: Tribute to Terry	
Sun., May 7	5 p.m.
Celtic Evensong & Eucharist	
Mon., May 8	7:30 p.m.
Distinguished Speaker Series: Dyllan McGee	
Sun., May 14	10 a.m.
Flowering of the Cross and Mother's Day Coffee Hour	
Sat., May 20	7:30 a.m.
Men's Breakfast Meeting	
Sun., May 21	10 a.m.
Confirmation Class Led Service	
	11:15 a.m.
Newcomers' Orientation	

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A Musical Tribute to Terry

Bedford Chamber Concert: Tribute to Terry, May 3

Since the inaugural season of the Bedford Chamber Concerts some 17 years ago, performances have been held in our acoustically excellent Fellowship Room. With the support and encouragement of Terry Elsberry, St. Matthew's Music Director Tony Newman has shepherded the series, popular throughout the Bedford area and beyond, from its inception.

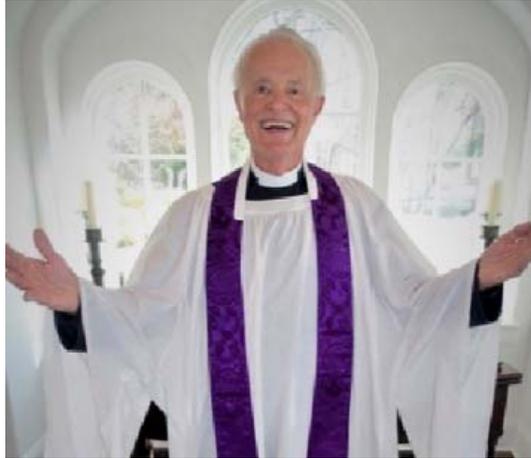
So, it seemed fitting that the gala concert of the 2016–2017 season be a tribute to Terry for his many years at St. Matthew's and his enthusiastic endorsement of the music program. In his honor, the Vestry commissioned Tony to set Psalm 27, one of Terry's favorites, to music. For his work of Psalm 27, Tony combines the 14 verses into eight choruses described below and opens with a trumpet tune.

1. The Lord Is My Light is a chorus expressing the joy of this statement.
2. Though An Army, the following chorus, is unquestionably the fiercest one in the collection, with a brilliant piano throughout and massive interjections by the singers.
3. One Thing I Ask is gentle and quiet, almost like a pop song, filled with simple harmonies.
4. To Behold the Fair Beauty of the Lord is a duet for tenor and soprano, lyrical throughout and completely melodic. A trumpet fanfare interrupts the vocal series with triumph and joy.
5. Even Now has the most brilliant piano part in the collection, and can be played as a solo. Like all the choruses thus far, it is filled with joy.
6. Hearken to My Voice is most unusual in that it is built on the harmonic bass that Bach used for his famous Goldberg Variations. It is quiet and rather simple in the beginning but becomes stormy.
7. You Have Been My Helper is the only movement in a minor key—a duet for bass and tenor. It is like a patter song in texture, with very quickly sung words. And Though War Should Rise Against is a brief interlude based on an adagio of Bach, from his Organ toccata in C Major. It is slow and solemn.
8. The final chorus, Wait for the Lord, is the largest of all the choruses and is completely joyful and rhapsodic throughout, with many trumpet calls and grand melodies. The most unusual point is that the final section repeats the opening of the psalm but in four different languages simultaneously: German, French, Spanish, and Italian, ending with a rapture-filled conclusion.

The second half of the concert will be Part III of Handel's great oratorio *The Messiah*. We often hear choruses and solos from all three parts of *The Messiah* during the year, including the great final chorus on Easter, and the entire first part at Christmastime. Mary Jane Newman will be conducting.

The singers will be: Julie Dolphin and Catherine Webber (soprano); Sarah Bleasdale and Angela Leson (alto); Chance O'Toole and Ryan Brideau (tenor); and Thomas West and Ben Niemczyk (bass). The Bedford Chamber Ensemble — Renée Jolles and Emily Daggett Smith (violin), Danielle Farina (viola), Alexis Gerlach (cello), and Stephen Sas (bass) — will be joined by trumpeters David Glukh, Sam Jones, and Brandon Bergeron.

Tickets (\$45) can be reserved by phone at 914-522-5150 and paid for at the door, or ordered online at <http://bedfordchamberconcerts.org>. Student tickets, which can only be purchased at the door, cost \$10. Children and their parents are



welcome to attend the rehearsal, from 6 to 7 p.m., for free! The concert starts at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. Sumptuous treats are provided by the Chamber Concert Committee at intermission.

Bedford Chamber Concerts: A Brief History

In the mid-1990's a few interested parishioners, recognizing the extraordinary talent of Tony Newman, then our Organist and Choir Master, promoted and sponsored the earliest St. Matthew's chamber music concerts. These events, performed on Sunday afternoons in the Parish House, provided very high quality music. Unfortunately,

given the "competition" with sports and other family weekend activities, they did not draw the size of audience necessary to cover expenses and provide for longer term stability.

The solution was to move the concerts to Wednesday evenings. With enthusiastic support and encouragement from our Rector, Terry Elsberry, and approval from the Vestry, the "Bedford Chamber Concerts" series was born. The event was sufficiently successful

that a full season of music was started the following autumn. Each season since has offered six performances on Wednesday evenings from October through May.

Bedford Chamber Concerts are, first and foremost, chamber music of the highest quality performed by master musicians, led by Tony, in the warmth and wonderful acoustics of the Fellowship Room. The performers have recently included such internationally recognized musicians as Misha and Cipa Dichter, and Vladimir Feltsman and a number of international award-winning young artists trained at The Juilliard School and other venues here and abroad. Moreover, to the great enjoyment of both patrons and providers, these evenings are accompanied by intermissions with wine, snacks and sweets of great variety — including on more than one occasion "Kaffee mit Schlag" in honor of Johann Sebastian Bach and his German contemporaries.

Over the years the Bedford Chamber Concerts have become a major artistic feature in Northern Westchester. The audiences typically number over 120 and have been as large as 180, up to half of whom are not parishioners of St. Matthew's Church. Terry, with few exceptions, opens each concert welcoming guests and almost always comments on how wonderful it is for St. Matthew's to offer to both our own members and the greater Northern Westchester community "the Performance Standards of Lincoln Center in the Heart of Bedford."

The Music Committee of St. Matthew's has always been made up of parishioners and friends of St. Matthew's. But the real leader for 20 years has always been Tony Newman, our brilliant Director of Music, without whom it is hard to even imagine a Bedford Chamber Concerts series. Its existence and longevity, however, are due to Terry Elsberry's longstanding support, encouragement and love of classical music.



Had Talbot

St. Matthew's Distinguished Speaker Series

Dyllan McGee

Award-winning Filmmaker

“Rewriting Women into History”

Mon., May 8 at 7:30 p.m.



Dyllan is a two-time Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and Founder and Executive Producer of Makers and of McGee Media, a documentary film company dedicated to producing content that inspires a more fair and equitable world.

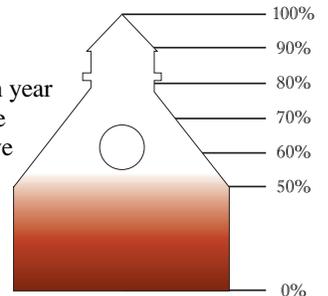
A Special Lady!

On a beautiful Holy Saturday, in front of excited children and parents, Terry thanked Connie Combes: “Connie is one of those many St. Matthew’s parishioners who gives, and keeps giving, year after year to our church. Most remarkable is that this marks the thirty-third year she has given us the most spectacular of Easter Egg Hunts. We could not be more grateful and out of that well of gratitude I’ve awarded Connie The Bedford Cross”.



It’s Up to All of Us!

We are approaching our transition year and even after being asked to fund the church’s capital project, our supportive parishioners have warmly responded to the annual fund drive (EMC). The Annual Fund covers our operating expenses – clergy and staff salaries, maintenance of buildings and grounds, religious programs and music, church events, diocesan contribution and help to local not-for-profits who help our neighbors in need. We have over 50% pledging and the Vestry has endorsed the goal of pursuing 100% participation toward our annual fund drive. The spirit of St. Matthew’s is up to all of us to nurture. Please help us make this happen today, as you know a pledge is not a contract but your financial intention to help our church for the 2017 budget.



Welcome, Newcomers, May 21

Join members of the Welcome Commission, Clergy and Vestry to learn more about St. Matthew’s at a Newcomers’ Orientation on May 21, after the 10 a.m. service. Pick up a cup of coffee and a treat and come to the Parish House Conference Room. For more information, please contact Janet Schloat.



Holy Week and Easter at St. Matthew’s



Church School

Lessons:

- May 7: The Story of Peter
- May 14: Mary, the mother of Jesus
- May 21: Stephen, the first Christian Martyr



With just five children's services left this school year, we are focusing on the early Christian ministry. The children will be learning who some of these early leaders were, spreading the Word of Jesus, and leading by example through their commitment to God and suffering for their faith.

On Mother's Day, May 14, all children will participate in the Flowering of the Cross before continuing to their own service. Children always enjoy paying homage to their mothers and this is a special and fun day for them to be with their parents. New this year, we are organizing a Mother's Day food drive to benefit the Mt. Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry. Parishioners are asked to please donate pasta and sauce, as well as any associated non-perishable foods, outside the Church School director's office by May 14. Every six weeks, Missy Renwick organizes St. Matthew's parishioners to volunteer in distributing food to needy recipients.

Third graders have now "graduated" and will be joining their families in service before class rather than beginning in the Children's Chapel. They will also now serve as junior crucifers, which means they will assist the ushers in greeting parishioners at the door and helping to distribute bulletins, as well as carrying the cross during the second hymn when the older children leave the church for Sunday School.

On April 30, the mite boxes were presented to Ibrahim Faltas, who is the Advisor to the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Executive Director of the Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children. The money raised through children's collections and at the Easter Egg Hunt is being donated to the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ) to benefit the Diocese. St. Matthew's began a relationship with the Diocese and AFEDJ by a Bedell grant to the Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children for the renovation of their dining room. Further information about the AFEDJ can be found at www.afedj.org

St. Mary's Services Begin May 21

St. Mary's will have a great speaker for their May 21 at 5:30 p.m. service – Philip Kunhardt, a recognized authority on Abraham Lincoln and American history. He will speak on "Teaching Transformative Lives."



Kunhardt has spent the last twenty years exploring the lives and accomplishments of pivotal figures from American history. As an author and a producer for PBS and other networks, he has helped create stirring historical documentaries and written companion books to accompany them.

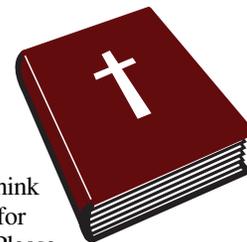
He is co-founder of the Meserve Kunhardt Foundation, whose massive collection of photographs from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries has been deemed an "American Treasure" by the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. A gifted and inspiring public speaker, Kunhardt uses pictures and words to bring history alive and show why it matters today.

Kunhardt has co-authored two books on Abraham Lincoln—a best-selling biography and an extensive look at his legacy—and in the Lincoln bicentennial year, he is currently working on a third. As a Bard Center Fellow in Annandale, New York, he is teaching on Lincoln in American Memory, and on the life and times of Frederick Douglass.

All are welcome at St. Mary's, built by farmers in the nineteenth century, located at 197 Hickory Kingdom Road in Bedford.

Bibles for Inmates

Many of the inmates at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility turn to God to help them through their darkness. But many lack a Bible. If you have a clean, gently used Bible, with no writing or notes in it, please think about donating it. A basket marked "Bibles for Inmates" is in the entry area of the church. Please call me with questions. Thank you.



April Foley

2017 Bedford Spring Antiques Show

So much to see, enjoy and buy! The Preview Party was a smashing success with a wide variety of artwork, jewelry, furnishings, furniture and so much more.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who made the Bedford Spring Antiques Show such a fabulous and successful event, especially Hadley Scully, Leslie Henshaw and the entire Antiques Show and Preview Party committees. We couldn't have done it without your help!

Suzanne Bowers and Kathy Abbott



Outreach: Caring for Our Neighbors – A-Home

It was, he said, “prime real estate,” located on the north side of the iconic lion statue standing guard at the main NY Public Library. He would wheel his belongings — his world, to the 4’ cement bench where he would spend his nights under the watchful gaze of the lion, though he never felt safe. His name is Stephen. (All are real people but their names have been changed.)

She also claimed a piece of precious real estate. She lived in Bedford, in a box, under the overpass of I-684. Her name is Susan.

Hers was an ordinary, middle-class, happy life. She lived in a nice house, was happily married, had a job, and a beautiful daughter. Then, without warning, her husband died. Her daughter became very ill, so she quit her job to care for her. Medical bills followed, and with that, her happy, middle-class life, vanished — along with her home. Her name is Sylvia.

It is not about fault or blame. It is about being tripped up by life — a life where the mightiest attempts to right oneself are often futile, because the fall is just too devastating. This is where grace enters in.

Stephen, Susan, and Sylvia are all now living safely and happily in various A-HOME houses.

A-HOME manages eighteen properties throughout northern Westchester, providing not only housing to seniors, single parents and children, but case managers who provide critical assistance to enable the residents to live independently.

Stephen is one of the most interesting men I know. Susan began taking the medication she needs and has reconnected with her family. She and Sylvia live in one of the women’s A-HOME houses where Sylvia said she feels happiness that she never thought she would feel again. She and Susan are “like family.”

Years ago, a resident said, “Not only did A-HOME give me a roof over my head and a bed to sleep in, they gave me a pillow to dream on.” Amen.

Lindsay Keller

Fellow parishioner Lindsay Keller has been involved with A-HOME for 25 years serving on the board and now on the Admissions Committee. She writes, “I have taken Girl Scout troops, members of St. Mary’s, St. Matthew’s, Chappaqua, Bedford Village, and Rippowam – to paint, garden, sing, clean up and restore. For ten years, Peter and I hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for the residents. (And of course, the members of St. Matthew’s participate in the Wish Tree at Christmas.) But certainly, and most importantly, I have gotten to know many of the residents through the years, heard their stories, and have been profoundly touched by them.”

Note: Most deservedly, Lindsay and Peter will be honored at the A-Home fundraiser on May 12. For more information:

<http://a-homehousing.org/westchester-ny-affordable-housing/news-and-events/>

Wardens’ Update on Transition: May

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Once the Committee commences the Search process in July, its initial work will focus on: 1) developing a Search budget; 2) preparing a preliminary timeline and document checklist; 3) meeting with the Diocese’s Canon for Transition Ministry; and 4) preparing and distributing the Parish Questionnaire. As we return from our summer vacations, the Committee will be busy analyzing the questionnaire results to prepare a Parish Profile that will help us understand who we are as a parish and guide us in our search for our next Rector. As for the projected schedule, it is too early to say with any certainty when we will expect to call our next Rector. Suffice it to say that we will expect the Committee to be thorough, diligent and discerning in its search. We want to be sure we have found the “right” candidate and no timetable can dictate when that will happen. The Search process is outlined on our website under the Communications tab.

The Interim Pastor

We are in the early stages of exploring prospective candidates for

Celtic Evensong & Eucharist, May 7

In the evening of Sun., May 7 in the Children’s Chapel at 5 p.m., we will hold the final Celtic Evensong of the parish year. Whether it’s Mark Weigel’s musical offerings, the Reflection by a parishioner instead of a more traditional sermon, or the space we find together in the liturgy for silent contemplation and meditation, the Celtic Evensong & Eucharist service has proved a popular new addition here at St. Matthew’s since first being introduced a year ago. We encourage any and all parishioners who have yet to experience this new approach to worship at St. Matthew’s to come join us in the early evening light within the wonderful worship space that is the Children’s Chapel before the parish year is out. We look forward to having you with us!



High School Mission Trip to Newburgh, June 27-29

Following on from our June 2016 High School Mission Trip working with A-Home in Scotts Corners, we are happy to confirm we have finalized plans for this year’s High School Mission Trip. We will be spending three days (Tues., June 27 to Thurs., June 29) working in Newburgh with Habitat for Humanity (<http://habitatnewburgh.org/>). The plan will enable eight students 16 years and older to help build housing in Newburgh — one of the most impoverished and underserved cities in the country.

Habitat is a well-organized machine in Newburgh and we will be very well looked after. Each of those three mornings, we will gather first for Morning Prayer at St. Matthew’s around 7:45 a.m. before leaving for Newburgh. We’ll spend the morning working with Habitat, enjoy a lunch together at 1 p.m., and then return to St. Matthew’s each day by 3 p.m. It should prove to be a great three days of ministry, fellowship and faith-building – with some good laughter thrown in for good measure. Please do contact Rik if you would like to hear more, or to sign your teen up for some good work!



an interim pastor with the Diocese. We expect that the interim will begin in mid-July, allowing Rik to have a well-deserved vacation in August. Following Rik’s return from vacation, he and the interim will lead our worship services and manage the pastoral duties.

The Church Restoration

Patrick Brennan and Dan de Menocal have met with the architect and the engineers to be sure that the scope of the project agrees with our original objectives and, as of this date they have finalized the plans and specs. We are now ready to put the job out to bid. We hope to be able to begin staging the work in July, but we will not have a firm timeline until we have selected a contractor for the job, which will hopefully be in May or early June. Once we have the contractor on board, we will have a better idea of what to expect and we will keep the parish informed.

We plan to conduct Q&A sessions over the course of the next couple of months and, in the meantime hope that you will not hesitate to reach out to us or any member of the Vestry should you have any questions or concerns especially during this time of transition for our Parish.

Dan de Menocal and Suzanne Bowers, Wardens

May Church Calendar



Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 7

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Ms. Getz
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Reeder
Lay Reader: Mr. Stockbridge
Lector: Mr. Vincent
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I and All School Communion**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Cummings, Fooshee, Gaynor and Kent
Lay Reader: Ms. Wood
Lector: Drew Gregory
Acolytes: Ethan & Reed Gatfield
- 5:00 p.m. Celtic Evensong and Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Lay Assistant: Lucy McGinnis

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 14

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Reed and Whitman
Ushers: Messrs. Reed and Boe
Lay Reader: Mr. Heath
Lector: Thomas Bolen
Acolytes: Ben & Brayton Howard
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Flowering of the Cross**
Ushers: Messrs. Akinla, Belknap, Borner and Brown
Lay Reader: Mr. Jackson
Acolytes: Max Weigel and Brandon Neeck
- No 5:00 p.m. Service**

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 21

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Fagan and Tilt
Ushers: Messrs. Bolen and MacDonald
Lay Reader: Ms. Getz
Lector: Mr. Bogert
Acolytes: Harry Whitman & Charlie Gaynor
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Confirmation-led Youth Service**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Burdick, de Menocal, Inglis and Maybank
Lay Reader: Confirmation Class
Acolytes: Robbie Villani and Graham Agee
- 5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Lay Assistant: Charlie Lewis

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 28

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Meyer and Scott
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Fagan
Lay Reader: Mrs. Reeder
Lector: Mrs. Tilt
Acolytes: Lars & Gunnar Carlson
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer**
Ushers: Messrs. Ketchum, Oden, Robinson and Struble
Lay Reader: Mrs. Thompson
Acolytes: Rory Fleming and Gus Carlson
- No 5:00 p.m. Service**

The Day of Pentecost, Whitsunday, June 4

- *8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Ms. Getz
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Reeder
Lay Reader: Mr. Claude
Lector: Mr. Freeman
Acolytes: Trip Brown & Chase Mockridge
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. S. Brown, Garten, Hancock and Kim
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Mr. Firth
Acolytes: Max Weigel, Pearse O'Brien, Jack & Alex Foote
- 5:00 p.m. Gospel Pentecost Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Lay Assistant: Hale Brown

*Weather permitting, the 8:00 service will take place in the Chapel-in-the-Woods

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners:

Mr. & Mrs. Frederic Allat
44 Clifffield Road
Bedford, New York 10506

Holy Baptism

Received into Christ's Holy Church

Theodore Channing Cox – April 8, 2017
Beatrice Olive Grand – April 9, 2017

In Memoriam

In sure and certain hope

Buffam Lovell – April 1, 2017
Jeffrey R. Grandy – April 13, 2017

Confirmation Activities in May: A Retreat, and the Confirmation-Led Service

As part of this year's Confirmation Class activities, Rik, along with Holly Brown and three other chaperones, will be taking the confirmands off to Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY, just over the river from the Vanderbilt Mansion, for an overnight retreat on the weekend of May 6-7. The Class will spend Saturday worshipping with the community, running around in the spectacular grounds, and meeting with one of the Brothers to discuss prayer and developing our relationship with the Divine. On Sunday, we will again worship with the community and meet to discuss the structure of the church parish year and review the Eucharist and its centrality to our faith.

On Sun., May 21, the Confirmands will complete their year of learning by leading us in worship. They will run the show by leading the full Morning Prayer liturgy at the 10 a.m. service. We will also have three Confirmands deliver the sermons at the 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. services that day. Leading the 10 a.m. service and delivering the sermons that day offer a wonderful highlight to their Confirmation year and will suitably round out their year-long commitment with us all.



THE KEY

The Key is the monthly publication of St. Matthew's Church, Bedford. Parishioners are encouraged to submit ideas for articles or photographs of Parish events. Articles and photographs should be e-mailed to KeyArticles@aol.com by the second Tuesday of the month.

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www.stmatthewsbedford.org