



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

May

To know Christ and to make Him known

2018

The major renovations of our historic church are on a schedule to be completed soon. Would it interest you to know the St. Matthew's family fashions its worship and community life on land that was originally a forest inhabited by Native Americans and then became a farm? If you walk the entire 65-acre property, you are looking at second and third growth trees since most of the land surrounding the church, which was not a graveyard, was a part of the glebe farm. The word "glebe" originally comes from the Latin "soil." The farm and Rectory were provided as a "benefice" assigned to support the priest and his family before there were grocery stores. It cannot be spiritually underestimated what this legacy of a glebe setting contributes to the faith of this church.

Things were grown here to provide nourishment. In addition, glebes were frequently the church's first outpost for mission since beggars were known to frequent Rectories for food and refreshment. In the school of architecture at Yale I learned how buildings are our teachers. To enter and leave them, and upon their adjoining grounds, they become our mentors. This reverses the wisdom of the nursery rhyme we all grew up reciting: "A church is not a building ... it is the people."

Both matter. We build our buildings and they "build" us. They establish a powerful sense of belonging. We stroll these grounds and their spaciousness is both centering and uplifting. They are a spiritual endowment feeding us still. The sheer natural beauty of our glebe church draws the soul into an experience where an elegant order prevails. This offers a lovely tranquility that delights and satisfies the soul. All you have to do is notice it. Take a deep breath and thank your Creator for such an enduring gift.

Peter Klement

Introducing the Thirteenth Rector of St. Matthew's Church (video)

The Reverend John A. Zahl

After ten months of discernment by our parish, and thanks to the extensive work of our Search Committee, the Vestry has unanimously elected the Reverend Canon John Arthur Zahl to be the thirteenth Rector of St. Matthew's. John comes to us from Charleston, SC where he has served as an Associate Priest and Canon Missioner at Grace Church Cathedral for the past five years. He is a man of deep spiritual faith; a wonderful sense of humor and he is a very gifted preacher. John, and his wife Deirdre, a jewelry designer, their six-year-old daughter Daphne and their standard poodle, Birthday, plan to arrive in Bedford in August, settling into the Rectory to be ready to officially join us on Sept. 4.



About our new Rector:

John is a man of many talents with a true comfort in who he is, and he has a remarkable ability to connect with people young and old. He has led standing room only Bible classes, authored two books, serves as Associate Priest, Canon Missioner of the Cathedral and also Chaplain to the Cathedral nursery school.



He and Deirdre both have roots here in Westchester. John lived in Scarborough where his father was Rector at St. Mary's Church in the early 1980s. Deirdre grew up in Tarrytown and attended the Hackley School. John is a graduate of Kenyon College and holds a Master of Divinity degree from Oxford University. He is presently pursuing a Doctor of Divinity degree at Sewanee.

The Vestry is sure that you will all enthusiastically welcome the Zahls when they arrive. John, Deirdre and Daphne are truly excited to be able to join us and further the St. Matthew's story.

Mark Your Calendars

Flowering of the Cross, May 13

Bring beautiful blooms to church on May 13 for the wonderful Flowering of the Cross tradition – on Mother's Day, too! If you don't have anything to bring from your garden, additional flowers are provided by the Keller and Vincent families.



Confirmation, June 3

Don't miss this year's Confirmation, on June 3, when Bishop Mary D. Glasspool will be with us once again to confirm our confirmands and to visit with us all. Bishop Glasspool is a wonderful preacher and a great pastor of our Diocesan flock.



All Parish Church Picnic, June 10

Can you smell the hamburgers cooking? Hear the music in the background? Sense the feeling of fellowship everywhere? Yes, on June 10, we will have our Annual Church Picnic. Put that date on your calendar now – this is a party not to be missed!



Bedford Chamber Concert, May 9 —All Beethoven

The gala spring concert will feature chamber versions of some of Beethoven's best known and loved works, "Kreutzer" Sonata for Violin and Piano, Op.47 and Symphony No.3 in E-flat major, Op.55—better known as the "Eroica Symphony." Of Beethoven's 10 violin sonatas, the "Kreutzer" remains the most popular. It stands out as a thoroughly emblematic embodiment of his dramatic and stormy minor-key works.

Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony is "heroic" both as a monumental piece in length, complexity, and harmonic daring and in being dedicated to Napoleon. However, once Napoleon proclaimed himself emperor, Beethoven ripped out the dedication, and left it composed merely "to the memory of a famous man." This version was arranged for piano quartet by Beethoven's student, Ferdinand Ries.

The musicians for this concert are Renée Jolles, violin; Danielle Farina, viola; and Alexis Gerlach, cello—and, of course, Anthony Newman, piano.

Tickets for the gala concert (\$45.00) 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—starting at 6 p.m.—for free. The concert starts at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. Delicious treats are provided by the Music Committee at intermission.

Gospel Pentecost Eucharist, May 20



This month at the 5 p.m. service in the Children's Chapel we will celebrate for the third year running our joyful and uplifting Gospel Pentecost Eucharist on Sun. May 20, the Day of Pentecost. Mark Weigel and his band of happy musicians from within the parish will join with singers from Antioch Baptist Church from Bedford Hills for a musical and liturgical extravaganza that will suitably celebrate the gift of the Spirit for God's people. Come join us, come give thanks for the gift of the Holy Wind – our Animator and our Hope - and leave with smiles on your faces and with gratitude in your hearts!

Rik

Restoration Update

As we get ready to commence with the restoration of our church building, I want to provide an update on the upcoming asbestos abatement project for the basement and the roof. First and foremost, all work will be performed by NYS-licensed asbestos abatement workers. All work will be done in conjunction with the appropriate third-party testing companies to certify that all asbestos is being safely removed and that all necessary procedures are being followed. Access to the basement will be limited during the asbestos removal in the basement. The work will begin the week of April 30 and is to be completed within the week so that the church will be open for Sunday services. In compliance with NYS law, the floor vents inside the church will be sealed with 3 layers of protective plastic. There will also be air monitoring performed throughout the duration of the work to test air quality.

Once the work in the basement is complete, the asbestos company will begin removal of the cement-asbestos tiles on the roof. As the roof is removed, it will be discarded into a dumpster located in the driveway. Please take precaution when entering the driveway as traffic will be reduced to one lane while the dumpster is in place. The roof abatement will take two weeks to complete, but services will not be disrupted. The dumpster will also not be left in place over the weekend, so the traffic pattern will return to normal.

During the roof abatement, all pedestrians must remain at least 25 feet away from the ongoing work. At the end of removal each day, a third-party inspector will inspect the site and sign off that it is safe for the crew installing the new roofing to take control of the site.

In summary, the work will take approximately three weeks in total, depending on the weather. The church will not be closed for any services during that time.

Notifications will be posted on all doors of the church ten days prior to the official start of work.

Dan deMenocal

Last chance: June Newburgh Trip !

Don't forget the June Mission Trip, open this year to all members of the parish, which will return to Newburgh across the Hudson for three mornings, Tues., June 26 through Thurs., June 28. Those 16 and over will work with the fantastic folks at Habitat Newburgh, while the under-16s will work at the Downing Park Urban Farm. We will then each day gather together for a delicious lunch by the river, before heading home to Bedford. Please do register your interest with Rik ASAP, as space is limited!

A Superb Spring Antiques Show

The 2018 Bedford Spring Antiques Show was a resounding success thanks to the efforts of many. For the 6th year, the Antiques Show was hosted by The Harvey School and featured a variety of events. Festivities began on Friday evening with a Mexican-themed Preview Fiesta including food, drink, brand new silent auction items, a first time "wine pull," and music from Mark Weigel's ever popular band, DogBone.



The show continued over the weekend with strong attendance. Kathy Abbott once again did a spectacular

job of curating a wonderful variety of antique dealers who came from near and far. On Sunday after church, the show culminated in "Bloodies and Bubbles," a lovely reception with hors d'oeuvres, Bloody Marys, and champagne.

We would like to thank our outstanding Preview Fiesta co-chairs for their creativity, hard work and donations: Christina Bresani, Anne Citrin, and Charlene Ryan. Job well done! And special thanks to Kathy Abbott, Holly Brown, Missy Renwick, Kelley Johnston, Susan Carlson, Whitney Brown, Libby and Cutler Whitman, Hadley Scully,



Mark Weigel, David Cameron, Nancy Vincent, Tina Foster, Katie

Durfee, Suzanne Bowers, June Blanc, Mary Farley, Kelly Napolitano, Margot and Jerry Bogert, and the many volunteers who helped with the show café, dealer luncheon and welcome table.



And finally we would like to thank all our parishioners who attended the Antiques Show, who participated in our fundraising efforts, and who always give so generously to support St. Matthew's.

Meredith Pakman

Hour Children Comes to St. Matthew's, May 20

As we continue to develop and deepen our outreach efforts to the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility and our well-established working relationship with Hour Children, we are delighted to announce that the founder of Hour Children, Sister Tesa Fitzgerald, CSJ, and a mother who benefited from the Nursery program at Bedford Hills will be joining us in the Vestry Room on May 20 immediately after the 10 a.m. service to tell us more about their programs and share how St. Matthew's parishioners have supported the organization over the years. Believing that a strong family connection maximizes a child's stability and a woman's chances of success upon reentry, Hour Children's Centers including the one here in Bedford work to nurture happy, healthy, and caring relationships between incarcerated mothers and their children. (See hourchildren.org) Please come join us and hear about this very good work!



Rik

Every Sunday, the flowers that decorate the altar and the church are spectacular, but they are so, so special at Easter time. The amount of work put in by the hard working flower committee over Easter is amazing, and here is a list of some of the people who should get credit:

The Palm Sunday fronds were stripped by Jenny Convery, Kirk Ferguson and Nancy Wise. Jani Brown decorated the main Church and Children's Chapel.

The Easter decorations were done by Jani Brown, Kirk Ferguson, Anita Stockbridge, Laurie Sturz and Adele Talty. The Children's Garden was done by Poppy Cummings and special mention must go to Robert Cummings, Ursula LaMotte and John Stockbridge. Not forgetting-Sam!

And, of course, the Committee has a great leader – the talented Connie Lindsay-Stewart – always around, always helping – a huge reason our church is always so beautiful.

There is a constant need for donations for the flowers – stop in the Parish Office to make a contribution. Also remember that there are no memorial flowers in the Children's Chapel, so they gratefully receive donations and flowers throughout the year.



Easter Sunday, at the 11:15 service, when Pierce got in the pulpit to give his sermon, he admitted that he did not have a sermon and needed help from "previously." Suddenly a drone rose up from the audience, bringing a paper to the Rector. It was all in good fun (it was April 1 after all), and many thanks to Christian Kim, the owner and pilot of the drone.



May Church School

- May 6 Philip Baptizes an Ethiopian Man, All-School Communion
- May 13 Mary, Mother of Jesus
- May 20 Pentecost

After Easter, the Church School curriculum focuses on the stories of Jesus' followers and the first Christians. The children continue to learn stories in the Bible supported with craft activities for the younger ones and group discussion for the older children. Grades 4-7 use the youth version of Weaving God's Promises and are encouraged to apply stories to modern life and their experiences in the world.

The mite boxes were returned at the end of April and funds raised will support Hour Children, an organization providing support to inmates and their families at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, which is described above. This is an organization long supported by St. Matthew's and April Foley serves as the church liaison.

For the second year, we will have a Mother's Day Food Drive on May 13 to support the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry. Parishioners are asked to please donate pasta and sauce, which can be left outside the Director's office throughout the week beforehand. St. Matthew's has also had a long involvement with the Food Pantry. Information can be found at: www.mountkiscofoodpantry.org Missy Renwick is helping lead this effort this year and several St. Matthew's parishioners have served on the Board. Additionally, every six weeks, parishioners volunteer in distributing food to needy recipients. Children also participate by providing gifts to neighborhood organizations which nurtures their empathy and compassion.

Sophie Kernan

Holy Saturday and the Great Easter Egg Hunt

Once again Connie and deRaismes Combes staged the magnificent St. Matthew's Easter Egg Hunt, a true gift of love to our children. The Hunt was preceded by a Children's service with Rik telling the story of the Resurrection to our little ones gathered around him.



Midweek Holy Eucharist and
Bible Study on Wednesday at
10 a.m.

May Church Calendar



St. Matthew's Church
Pierce Klemmt, Interim Rector
382 Cantitoe Street P.O. Box 293
Bedford, N.Y. 10506
(914) 234-9636
www.stmatthewsbedford.org

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 6

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Altar Guild: Ms. Getz and Ms. Morella
Ushers: Messrs. Boe and Bolen
Lay Reader: Mrs. Reeder
Lector: Mr. Bogert

Acolytes: Will & Evan O'Brien

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Cummings, Fooshee, Gaynor and Kent
Lay Reader: Mrs. Tisi
Lector: Mrs. Finn

Acolytes: Clara and Sam Pakman

5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel

Lay Assistant: Ella Miller

5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel

Lay Assistant: James Hancock

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 13

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Altar Guild: Mesdames MacDonald and Reed
Ushers: Messrs. MacDonald and Reed
Lay Reader: Mr. Stockbridge
Lector: Mr. Freeman

Acolytes: Emily & Matthew Hutchings

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Flowering of the Cross

Ushers: Messrs. Borner, Burdick, de Menocal and Inglis
Lay Reader: Mrs. Thompson
Acolyte: Brady Johnston

No 5:00 p.m. Service

The Day of Pentecost, Whitsunday, May 20

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Altar Guild: Mesdames Fagan and Tilt
Ushers: Messrs. Vincent and Joyce
Lay Reader: Mr. Brown
Lector: Philip Bolen
Acolyte: Emma Soderberg

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Garten, McKenna, Mockridge and Robinson
Lay Reader: Mr. Heath
Lector: Elizabeth Deeks
Acolytes: Ben & Brayton Howard, Harry Whitman and Mason Santomero

5:00 p.m. Gospel Pentecost Eucharist, Children's Chapel

Lay Assistant: George Marcogliese

First Sunday after Pentecost, May 27

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Altar Guild: Mesdames Meyer and Scott
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Fagan
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Mr. Firth
Acolyte: Henry Weigel

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Ushers: Messrs. Akinla, Belknap, Eshoo and Kim
Lay Reader: Mrs. Brenner
Acolyte: Trip Brown

No 5:00 p.m. Service

Second Sunday after Pentecost, June 3

*8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Ms. Getz
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Reeder
Lay Reader: Mr. Stickney
Lector: Mr. Vincent
Acolytes: Will & Evan O'Brien

10:00 a.m. Confirmation and Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: S. Brown Jr., Hancock, LaMotte and Lange
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Mr. Gale
Acolytes: John Gregory and Sophia Soderberg

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners

Michael Cady
67 Byram Shore Rd/
Greenwich, CT 06830

Change of Address

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Atkins
Box 10
Salt Point, NY 12578

Holy Baptism

Received into Christ's Holy Church
Theodore Leibold Foley – March 31, 2018

In Memoriam

In sure and certain hope

Mina Edmonston (Ketchum Society) – March 20, 2018
Robert E. Furman – April 29, 2018
Betty Wamsley – April 19, 2018

Many thanks for all the hardy
parishioners who showed up for our
annual Spring Clean-up.



St. Mary's

Our sister church in the woods will have an outstanding speaker on May 20 at 5:30 p.m. – Paul Alcorn, Pastor at Bedford Presbyterian Church in Bedford Village. Besides his responsibilities as Pastor, and with the full support and encouragement of the congregation, Alcorn has been instrumental in starting three community based programs: The Emergency Shelter Partnership which provides a safe place to sleep during the winter for those who would otherwise be sleeping outside; The Westchester Youth Alliance, an interfaith program for high school students; and The Rewarding Potential Scholarship, a scholarship which supports Fox Lane High School students who have the grades, the resume and the dream to go to college, but who lack the financial resources. Make the trip into the woods for this interesting speaker!