



SAINT THOMAS TIDINGS

April 2020



Prayers of The People

Pray for anyone who suffers from any kind of grief, trouble or illness especially **Byron, Fr. John, Bill, Jean, Marion, Charline, Dawn, Sheri, Nick, Elanor, Nicholas, Tina, Nancy, Alison, Kaz, Michael, Janna, Krystal, Cindi, Mark, Lily, Robyn and Gad. Deliver them from their distress.**

Pray for those serving in our armed forces especially, **Casey, Nicholas, Jim, Trevor, Aaron, Christine, Alan, Mitchell, Emily, Steven, Chris, Chelsey. the 200th Red Horse Squadron and the 393rd U.S. Air Force Bomb Squadron. Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely when their work is done.**

A Message from Pastor Beverly

Like many of you I feel like I am living in a “Twilight Zone,” waiting for things to return to “normal.” But there is a sense within me that “normal” is gone forever and a new “normal” is about to emerge.

Change is not easy. I don’t like change and I rationalize, that at my age I should not have to change. But change is upon me and I will change, whether I like it or not.

So, in my prayers to God I ask for help and guidance as I navigate a new tomorrow. I remind myself that I am not alone, although I sit in the office alone, and at home alone.

But when I begin to feel lonely, I look up at the cross on my wall and am reminded of how alone Jesus must have felt. There is a psalm that always come to mind at times like this, and I pass it on to you as we share these days of isolation together: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Stay safe and well. Hugs and Blessings
Pastor Beverly

Announcements

Services suspended and office closed

Sunday service with Eucharist has been suspended until Gov. DeWine lists the ban on public gatherings. The church office will also be closed until Monday, April sixth in response to the governor’s directive to “shelter in place.” However, anyone in need of food assistance or help with grocery shopping may call or text Sue at 419-241-9961.

Calling All Sewers

Do you like to sew? Are you looking for something to do during the shelter-in-place order? Then, consider making and donating Protective masks to be used by medical organizations throughout the country and worldwide. A pattern for making protective masks has been included in this newsletter packet. If you would like to see a list of organizations requesting masks, please visit: <https://www.deaconess.com/How-to-make-a-Face-Mask/Mask-Donations> Thank you.

Community Meal Information

At this month’s community meal, we served 124 drive-thru meals at a cost of \$164. We also took in \$136 in donations. The next community meal will be TBA. We will send out information as soon as we receive a direct from the Ohio governor.



Bob Keller passes out drive-thru plates at the March community meal.

Local Volunteer Opportunities

Bistro 163 will be providing dinner time meals Wednesday through Saturday during the shelter in place order. Anyone who would like to help our should call Babs at 419-341-4094 to get on the schedule

Looking for a way to serve Saint Thomas? Consider signing on as a member of the vestry.

Monthly Vestry Meeting Information

The March Vestry meeting was cancelled this month. However, Senior and Junior warden as well as our treasurer are taking bids for repairs to the church roof. In future meetings, the vestry will discuss plans for a 125th anniversary celebration to take place in 2021.

April Birthdays

Bill Wahlers – April 22nd

Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives.

Wedding Anniversaries

David and Debby Barnes – April 1st

John and Sue – April 6th

Send therefore your blessings upon these your servants, that they may so love honor and cherish each other, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace.

Recipe of the Month: Dr. Mike's Hand Sanitizer

Before I present this recipe, Dr. Mike asked me to tell you that handwashing for 20 seconds with soap and water is the best way to reduce the spread of bacteria and viruses. Here is the recipe he sent me from Healthline.com

Ingredients:

-3/4 cup isopropyl or rubbing alcohol 91% or greater

-1/4 cup aloe vera gel (to help keep your hands smooth and counteract the harshness of the alcohol)

-10 drops pf essential oil such as lavender, lemon or orange oil

Directions:

1. Pour ingredients into a bowl with a pour spout.
2. Mix with a spoon and then beat with a whisk to turn mixture into a gel.
3. Pour mixture into bottle and label "hand sanitizer" for easy use.

Meet Catherine of Siena: Patron Saint of Nurses

St. Catherine of Siena was born during the outbreak of the Black Death Plague in Siena, Italy on March 25, 1347. Despite Catherine's religious nature, she did not choose to enter a convent and instead she joined the Third Order of St. Dominic, which allowed her to associate with a religious society while living at home.

When she was 21 she had a mystical experiences which changed her. She was told in a vision that she was to help the poor and sick. She visited hospitals and homes where the poor and sick were found. Her activities quickly attracted followers who helped her in her mission to serve the poor and sick.

She established a monastery for women in 1377 outside of Siena. She is credited with composing over 400 letters and prayers. These works were so influential that she would later be declared a Doctor of the Church. She is one of the most influential and popular saints in the Church.

By 1380, she became ill, possibly because of her habit of extreme fasting. In January of 1380, her illness accelerated and within weeks she was unable to use her legs. She died on April 29, following a stroke just a week prior.

St. Catherine's feast day is April 29, she is the patron saint of nurses.



Image of Catherine of Siena holding her symbol, the lily.



Then Jesus said, "One of you will betray me. One of you will deny me, and because the CDC said to limit public gatherings to less than ten people, three of you need to leave."

Sunday Services with Eucharist: 10:00 AM

All are welcome at our communion table

Contact Information

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