

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church-Severn Parish

Crownsville, Maryland



MONTHLY UPDATES AND REMINDERS - JUNE 2018

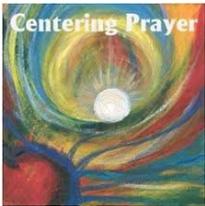
Long time member, Mary Brown, passed away on May 25.

Our hearts go out to her friends and family.

She and her good humor will be sorely missed.

Her funeral service was celebrated on June 1.

CENTERING PRAYER GROUP



1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month
Woodward Hall
7:30 p.m.
Begins June 5th

For more information,
contact Marjorie Centofanti

A WORD FROM FATHER HAILEY

Regarding: Posture during worship

In our Mutual Ministry Review, that you the congregation of St. Stephen's, participated in several weeks ago, a few people asked me to address whether we should stand or kneel after we sing the *Sanctus* (Holy, holy, holy) in our celebration of the Eucharist.

In our Book of Common Prayer, the rubrics (those directions in italics) always list the preferential option first. So, in the Rite I service, you'll notice that the rubrics after the *Sanctus* says, "The people kneel or stand." (BCP p.334) So the preference is for the congregation to kneel. This is in line with the theology of the Rite I serve, one of humility and our need for forgiveness.

In Rite II, the focus shifts from one of asking for forgiveness to offering God "our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving" (BCP p.369). In Eucharistic prayer B: "in him (Christ) you have delivered us from evil and made us worth **to stand** before you." (BCP p.368) We are encouraged to stand, to celebrate in the Good News of Christ!

All that being said, I have no preference as to whether the congregation stands or kneels during the Eucharistic Prayer at our 10:00 liturgy. Both are permissible, and I am just thrilled that we are all worshipping God together! As a professor of mine in seminary said: "our physical posture during worship is not a matter of salvation!" But please take this as an opportunity to think about what you do during worship and perhaps give the other a try. And always know, whether you stand or kneel, that God is delighted that we are

offering our thanks, and coming to the altar to share in Christ's Body and Blood.

Regarding: Prayers of the People

You may notice in the coming weeks that our Prayers of the People will be a little different. In this season of Pentecost, a season of opening ourselves up to God's Spirit in new ways, our Prayers of the People will take on a different form each week, one that will reflect our prayers for the community and also reflect the themes of our weekly Scripture passages. The congregation responses for each week will be printed in bold in the bulletin. I hope that this new form of prayer will enable us to express our concerns and celebrations and connect with God in a new way.

VACATION



Father Victor and family will be on vacation from June 4 until June 18.

Father Alistair So will again serve as supply clergy on June 10 and 17.

SUMMER FUN AT CLAGGETT

Check out the camp schedule for youth at: www.claggettcenter.org

ICED TEA AND LEMONADE TAKE OVER COFFEE HOUR

Starting June 3, our regular Coffee Hour moves outside to the courtyard for a summertime treat. Sign up sheet is posted in the narthex if you would like to host a Sunday.



THANKS



Thanks to all for the kind outpouring of support and prayers received upon the death of my husband. The flowers were beautiful. You made an unbearable time, bearable. God's blessings to you all!

~Irene McEntee, Parish Secretary