



THE CANTERBURY CROSS

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church, Morgantown, WV

March 2018

Holy Week and Easter Service Schedule

March 25 - Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Holy Eucharist - 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

March 29 - Maundy Thursday

Holy Eucharist and
Maundy Thursday liturgy - 7:00 p.m.
Followed by the Stripping of the Altar

March 30 - Good Friday

Stations of the Cross - 12:00 noon
Good Friday Liturgy - 7:00 p.m.

March 31 - Holy Saturday

The Great Vigil of Easter 7:30 p.m.

April 1 - Easter Day

Holy Eucharist - 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:30 a.m. service!



Good Friday at Trinity Episcopal Church

Seven Last Words of Christ
(Also known as Three Hours' Service)
Noon to 3:00 p.m. (Enter and leave at your convenience.)

Youth Church Plans New Projects

by Angela Carver

Plans are being developed by Youth Church for new activities this year. The middle and high school students of St. Thomas are excited to begin raising funds for several projects that are near to their hearts. First, they want to donate video games, books, and crafts to the WVU Children's Hospital.

Second, they want to volunteer at Animal Friends—hopefully, at the group's thrift shop and at its sanctuary.

And lastly, the kids want to create a place in the woods above the church so we can host some evening social events where kids could invite their friends for s'mores and have an outdoor worship space.

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Rock Forge Food Pantry Needs Labor

by Grace Ayscue, Outreach Committee Chair

For the past decade, two women struggled to run a food pantry at the Rock Forge Presbyterian Church. Now one is carrying on alone, and she needs help.

The food pantry, an Empty Bowls fund recipient, serves more than 60 families (about 200 individuals). It is the only food pantry in the east part of Monongalia County. Clients come by appointment once a month on a Monday to receive canned food, laundry and dishwashing soap, pet food, and (when available) fresh fruits and vegetables.

For the past year, a small group from St. Thomas à Becket Church has been helping out with heavy lifting, especially unloading supplies from vehicles and recycling cardboard boxes. Because funds from Empty Bowls can only be used for food, our church has also been providing financial support to help purchase laundry detergent, dish soap and to keep the lights on.

Unfortunately, due to her spouse's failing health, one of the keepers of the pantry is not currently able to work there, and her spouse is no longer able to drive his truck to pick up loads of canned food. Brenda Hailes, the remaining "pantry lady," is now singlehandedly ordering food and supplies and scheduling clients. Another member of the Rock Forge congregation is assisting her with organizing the pantry and with Monday food distribution, but Brenda is feeling the strain of the extra work and organizing. She very much appreciates the help St. Thomas à Becket folks have been providing, but she needs more assistance.

We would like our congregation to step up our efforts to help in several ways. In particular, we are looking for:

- One or two people who have a truck or large van and are willing to pick up a large load of canned goods from Save-a-Lot in Sabraton, deliver it to the pantry, and help unload. (Save-a-Lot staff will load the vehicle.) This needs to be done about once every four to five weeks. Tim Pahl has graciously offered his truck and time, but it would help to have at least one backup or someone who could rotate with him.
- Several additional volunteers to help unload canned goods from the truck on Saturday mornings about once a month (exact dates and times time to be scheduled) and/or to unload cartons of detergent and other supplies on Monday mornings at about 8:30 every two to three weeks.
- Volunteers to stay after unloading on Mondays to break down cardboard boxes, which we can recycle at the Dominion Post warehouse.

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Youth Church

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Tim Pahl and I assessed the area so a plan can be developed. We know we need an arborist to prune dead branches off a large oak and professionals to take down a very large white ash, which is dead.

So, look for some fundraisers in the near future.



Samantha Carver (left) and her sister, Madelyn, admire bowls painted by the Youth Church and Sunday School for Empty Bowls in February. One of the bowls (pictured above on the right) sums the meaning of their efforts.

See Peterkin Summer Camp Opportunities

Camp Registrations

Summer Camp registration forms and camp descriptions for Peterkin 2018 are available on the Peterkin website. If you have any questions, contact the Peterkin office at [304-822-4519](tel:304-822-4519). Printable forms can be found at <http://www.peterkin.org/pages/camps.html>

Counselor Applications

Applications for new counselors are available on the website and are due February 28. If you have any questions, please contact the Rev. Jordan Trumble at Peterkin or by email at jordan.trumble@gmail.com. The application form is an online form and can be found at https://wvdiocese.formstack.com/forms/peterkin_job_application_1

Spring College and Young Adult Retreat

Peterkin is hosting the Diocesan Spring College and Young Adult Retreat March 9-11. This Lenten event is open to all high school graduates ages 18 to 30, and the cost is \$50 (with scholarships available for those who need them). For more information, please contact the Rev. Mike Hadaway or the Rev. Jordan Trumble. The registration form can be found at <https://wvdiocese.formstack.com/forms/collegeretreat>

Spring Work Weekend

Peterkin's annual Spring Work Weekend will be held May 18-20, and the cost is \$75. Work Weekend helps prepare Peterkin for the summer camping season ahead and offers time for fellowship and worship. This event is open to those who are 21 years old or older. To register, go to <https://wvdiocese.formstack.com/forms/workweekend18>

Rock Forge

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Because storage at the pantry is limited, Brenda will decide the timing of food deliveries based on supplies on hand and the number of appointments scheduled for the upcoming weeks. She will try to give at least a five-day notice for when she will need volunteers. As of now, Brenda picks up the non-food items in her car and just needs help unloading them. Because heavy lifting is involved, this work isn't suitable for most children younger than high-school age; but energetic teenagers would be welcome.

If you are interested in helping in any of these ways, please email Grace Ayscue at grace.ayscue@gmail.com (subject line: "help at Rock Forge"), or sign up in the Narthex.

Thank you!

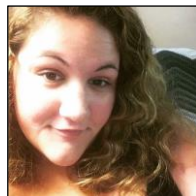
Mark Conner Scholarship Sunday

On Sunday, March 11, the loose offering as well as any checks designated for the Mark Conner Memorial Scholarship will go to the support of this effort.

Scholarship applications will be available April 1 and are to be returned to Marian Conner by May 15.

Introducing Michaela

By Beth Royall



The Becket Choir is very pleased to welcome Michaela Woodbrey to the soprano section. Michaela is a junior vocal performance major at West Virginia University.

She began private voice lessons in middle school and loved singing so much she continued her music studies in college. Classical and opera are her favorites.

In her hometown of Shepherdstown, she was raised in the Lutheran church—which makes her very comfortable with our Episcopal liturgy. In her free time, she likes watching movies, hiking, and quilting.

HUNT FOR EGGS ON EASTER!



All children are invited to join in our annual Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, April 1.

Episcopal Bishops Issue Call to Action

NOTE: *Following the recent gun violence at the high school in Parkland, FL, the Episcopal Bishops United Against Gun Violence issued this call to action to the nation (www.bishopsagainstgunviolence.org/).*

The heart of our nation has been broken yet again by another mass shooting at an American school.

We offer our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who were murdered at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. We mourn with particular sorrow Carmen Schentrup, a 16-year-old student at the school and leader in the youth group at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in Coral Springs, who died at the hands of the gunman. We pledge to work with the Episcopal Diocese of Southeast Florida to lend whatever material and spiritual comfort we can to all those who have suffered such a devastating loss.

The phrase “thoughts and prayers” has been devalued by politicians whose prayers seem never to move them to act against their self-interests or the interests of the National Rifle Association. Yet, as Christians, we believe deeply in the power of prayer to console, to sustain and to heal, but also to make evident the work that God is calling us to do. We pray that all who have been touched by this violent act receive God’s healing and solace.

In the wake of this massacre, we believe God is calling us to understand that we must not simply identify the social and political impediments to ending these lethal spasms of violence in our country. We must reflect on and acknowledge our own complicity in the unjust systems that facilitate so many deaths, and, in accordance with the keeping of a holy Lent, repent and make reparations.

Specifically, we ask you, members of our church and those who ally yourselves with us, to:

***Contact your elected representatives and ask them to support legislation banning assault weapons such as the AR-15, which is the gun used in most of the recent mass shootings in our country; high-capacity magazines; and bump stocks, the equipment used by the killer in the Las Vegas massacre that allows semiautomatic weapons to fire dozens of rounds in seconds.**

We understand that mass shootings account for a small percentage of the victims of gun violence; that far more people are killed by handguns than by any kind of rifle; that poverty, misogyny and racism contribute mightily to the violence in our society and that soaring rates of suicide remain a great unaddressed social challenge. And yet, the problem of gun violence is complex, and we must sometimes address it in small pieces if it is not to overwhelm us. So, please, call your members of Congress and insist that your voice be heard above those of the National Rifle Association’s lobbyists.

***Participate in a service of a lamentation for the victims of the Parkland shooting and all victims of lethal gun**

violence. We will be announcing a schedule of such services at churches around the country in the near future. To keep up with these plans, please follow our Facebook page Episcopalians Against Gun Violence.

***Enter into a period of discernment with us about how, through prayer, advocacy and action, we can make clear to our elected representatives that they must vote in the interests of all Americans, including law-abiding gun owners, in passing life-saving, common sense gun policies.**

Visit our website to learn more about our work and how to reach us. And if you plan to attend this summer’s General Convention in Austin, Texas, plan to join us each morning for prayer outside the convention hall and to attend the Bishops United Against Gun Violence public witness on Sunday, July 8, at 9 a.m.

Two years after the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary that took the life of Ben Wheeler, an active young member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Newtown, Connecticut, his father, David, asked parents to look at their children and then ask themselves: “Am I doing everything I can to keep them safe? Because the answer to that question, if we all answer honestly, clearly is ‘no.’”

In memory of Carmen and Ben and all of God’s children lost to senseless gun violence, may God give us grace and fortitude in our witness so that we can, at last, answer “yes.”

Bishops Ask Us to Speak and Act Via ...

public liturgy including processions, vigils and prayers services to commemorate the dead and inspire the living

spiritual support for those living with gunshot wounds, with grief, with fear and with the temptation of hopelessness, and advocacy for broader and easier access to mental health services for those at risk of suicide

sound teaching for those yearning to bring an ethic of Christian compassion and concern for the common good to bear on debates regarding unjust economic and legal structures, public safety, individual rights and our responsibilities to one another as children of God

persistent advocacy for common sense gun safety measures that enjoy the support of gun owners and non-gun owners alike, such as

- handgun purchaser licensing
- background checks on all gun purchasers
- restrictions on gun ownership by domestic abusers
- classification of gun trafficking as a federal crime
- encouragement for the development of “smart gun” technology
- federal funding for research into gun violence prevention strategies
- safe storage of firearm

Our Worship Schedule

The Rev. Dn. Al Prichard



Sunday

8:00 a.m. (Rite I, spoken)

10:30 a.m. (Rite II, with music)

Nursery care and Sunday School with children's worship are offered during the 10:30 a.m. service.

Please contact us at

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

75 Old Cheat Road

Morgantown, WV 26508

304-296-0270

thomasabecket.wv@gmail.com

www.thomasabecket.org



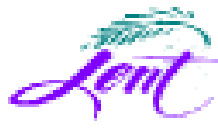
St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

75 Old Cheat Road

Morgantown, WV

26508





March 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Don't forget to spring forward! Turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 10.</p> 				1	2	3
<p>4 3 Lent Rev. Tony Setley 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch.</p>	5	6	7	8 Vestry Mtg. 7 p.m.	9	10 Centering Prayer 9 a.m. Altar Guild Training 10:30 a.m.
<p>11 4 Lent Conner Scholarship Sunday Rev. Dn Al Prichard (Morning Prayer w/communion) 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir Outreach Comm. Mtg. 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch.</p> <p><i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i></p>	<p>12 Parish Hall RSVD - Spears</p>	13	<p>14 Backpack Feeding Program at SRSH 12:30 p.m.</p>	15	16	17
<p>18 5 Lent Rev. Tony Setley 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. Finance Comm. Mtg</p>	19	20	21	22 Newsletter Articles Deadline	23	24 Centering Prayer 9 a.m.
<p>25 Palm Sunday Rev. Tony Setley 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. (NO YOUTH CHURCH)</p>	26	27	28	<p>29 <i>Maunder Thursday</i> Service at 7 p.m.</p>	<p>30 <i>Good Friday</i> Stations of the Cross at noon Service at 7 p.m.</p>	<p>31 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Great Vigil of Easter Service at 7:30 p.m.</p>