

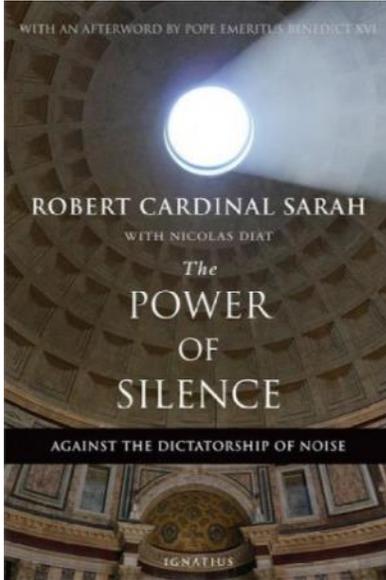


THE CANTERBURY CROSS

March 2019

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church | Morgantown, WV

THE RECTOR'S CORNER



If you Google Robert Cardinal Sarah you might wonder why a book of his has been selected for our upcoming Lenten book study here at St Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church. He is a Cardinal and powerful member of the Roman Curia in the Catholic Church. He is also a strong voice of conservatism in his denomination and, at times, a forceful antagonist to Pope Francis. So why read what he has to say?

Living in a fallen world and out of our human desire to find safety, we are drawn into tribalism. We find those near us and like us to place our trust in and communicate with. Sometimes this is a wise choice of self-preservation, which is understandable; other times it is wholly ignoble. However, at all times, when we do so we often shut our hearts and minds to those who we see as the other, including those we call sisters and brothers in Christ. Although we profess a belief in One Faith, One Lord, One Baptism, time and again Christians have allowed and been victim of this tribalism infecting our shared Body of Christ.

In many ways, Cardinal Sarah is the other. He belongs to another denomination. He may hold a different set of values. He comes from another part of the world. At times this otherness will cause the book to be problematic for us; for instance, in a few places he talks on issues which only matter to members of the Roman Catholic Church. In other ways, his otherness becomes an asset for us; most notably his origin. Cardinal Sarah comes from Guinea and he broadly represents the voice of African Christianity, where the Church is growing and growing. How can we hope to be one Church in the future unless we open ourselves to the voices of Africans, Asians, and the rest of the Global South where 3/5 of the world's Christians live?

Most importantly, especially during this Lenten season, Cardinal Sarah offers an insightful and meaningful reflection about our relationship with God as Christians in the modern era. How do we engage with the Divine presence in a world that is full of distractions (both of our making and our

surroundings)? I hope you will join in reading this book and gathering to discuss it.

In Christ,

Fr Tony

Dates

- Sunday, March 17 | 9:15 - 10:00 am
- Sunday, March 24 | 9:15 - 10:00 am
- Sunday, March 31 | 9:15 - 10:00 am
- Sunday, April 7 | 9:15 - 10:00 am

The Power of Silence by Robert Cardinal Sarah is available from Amazon: \$14.95 new
Ignatius Press: \$16.11 new
Barnes & Noble \$17.57 new

ANNUAL PANCAKE DINNER

All are welcome to attend the annual pancake dinner put on by Episcopal Church Men (ECM) on Tuesday, March 5 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. The cost per person is \$6.00, regardless of age. Funds from the supper are used to provide scholarships to Peterkin's summer camps.

All men in our parish are invited to join in and help! If you are interested, please contact Bob Acciavatti at auriebob@comcast.net.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH MEN'S ANNUAL

pancake dinner

MARCH 5 (SHROVE TUESDAY)

5:30 - 7:00 PM

ST. THOMAS A BECKET PARISH HALL

THE ART OF ICON WRITING

Join us this Lenten season for five weeks of icon writing in the parish hall. For more information on this spiritual practice, see the article, “The Art of Icon Writing” by Algerina Purna in *The Baltimore Sun*. There is a sign-up sheet on the narthex table; sign up by March 10.

Dates & Times

Tuesday, March 19, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, March 26, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, April 2, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, April 16, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Location in the church: parish hall.

Questions: fathersetley@gmail.com

“Icon writing is not just an art, but a spiritual discipline and a form of prayer.”

“[The icon is] a reflection of God, which came through the inner spirit of the icon writer.”



LISTENING HEARTS, OPEN MINDS RETREAT THIS MAY

Listening Hearts Open Minds

An Overnight
Retreat
for the
Diocese of WV

May 10-11

- Friday, May 10— Saturday, May 11
- Bishop Hodges Retreat Center in Huttonsville, WV
- Cost: \$75 per person (includes meals and lodging)
- Check-in: 3:00—6:00 pm on Friday
- Retreat will finish by 4:00 pm Saturday
- Flyers are available on the narthex table
- Hand forms in to the office by Palm Sunday, April 14

On a spiritual level, people are crying out to connect with the Holy, and the church has not always been very effective in hearing that cry. That’s why the art of listening is vital and essential in all our relationships. We cannot begin to listen to our soul until we first listen to God. Only then may God enable us to listen to ourselves, our neighbors, and the world. Come and hear how to deepen your relationship with God which enables you to listen to the very soul of another.

- Learn how to engage in holy listening.
- Increase your ability to discern and hear God in your own soul.
- Create a plan for listening as intentionality, obedience, intimacy, and habit.
- Share this deep sense of God’s presence with your family, work, community.

This year’s retreat is based on *Listening for the Soul* by Jean Stairs and will be led by the Rev. Brian Shoda, priest at Zion Church in Hedgesville and St. Marks in Berkely Springs.

OUTREACH NOTES

By Grace Ayscue

- A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the Empty Bowls Luncheon, whether organizing, advertising, selling tickets, helping with event set-up, serving, cleaning up, attending the luncheon, or making a direct monetary contribution! The people who run and receive from more than twenty local organizations that address hunger and food insecurity are most grateful.



- In the coming month, Aurie Acciavatti will be again be gathering goods to provide Easter dinner baskets to three families through Scott's Run Settlement House, and the Sunday School will be making four Easter Baskets for SRSB children.
- Have you been wondering how you can be more involved with Outreach? There are three bulletin boards in the hall with information, dates, and people to contact for Outreach at our church and in the community. Be on the lookout for a new updated poster listing Outreach events and ongoing activities and collections to which you can contribute!
- The Outreach Committee wants your ideas and participation! As part of a forthcoming larger parish survey, we will be asking two kinds of questions. First, we'd like to have your thoughts and suggestions about Outreach ministries that STaB is already supporting or engaged in – and any suggestions for new or different ministries that you would like to help us support. Second, we'd like to learn what ministries parishioners are engaged in beyond STaB – and whether there's a way that the church might support your endeavors. We could post a list, so that folks already involved in a ministry or service project could be a resource others who might want to join and help out.
- The Outreach Committee is seeking new members and always welcomes input from parishioners. We meet at 9:15 am on third Sundays in the Parish Hall.

MARCH BECKET ARTS

By John Beall

On Sunday, March 31, the Becket Arts Series will present vocalist Michaela Woodbrey. You may have seen her recently perform as Second Lady in WVU's production of *The Magic Flute*, or in the opera scenes program as Mimi from Puccini's *La boheme*. She is a senior Bachelor of Music Vocal Performance



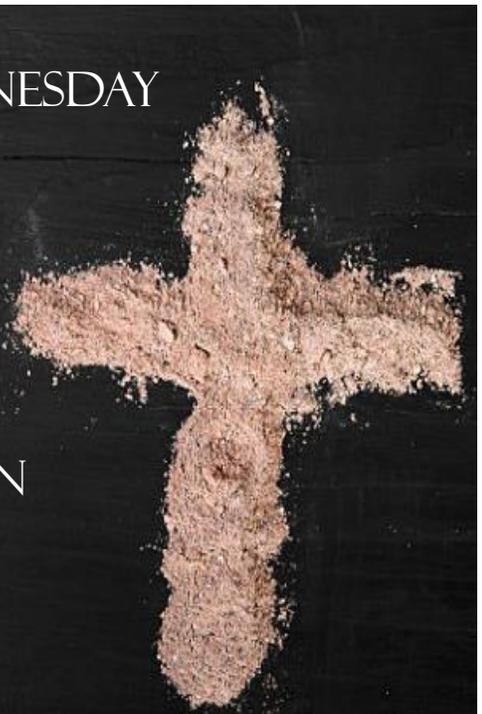
student at WVU, from Shepherdstown, WV, and is finishing up her last semester. Michaela hopes to continue her education by enrolling in graduate school for the fall. She looks forward to sharing her love of music with the community through Becket Arts. She will perform pieces from composers such as Duparc, Argento, Rachmaninoff, and more. The concert begins at 3:00 pm. Tickets are available at the door. General adult admission is \$8.00, seniors \$6.00, and all students are free. Those holding season tickets may bring up to 10 guests for free.

ASH WEDNESDAY
SERVICES

MARCH 6

12:00 NOON

7:00 PM



Our Worship Schedule

The Rev. Tony Setley, Interim Rector
The Rev. Al Prichard, Deacon



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.

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

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www.thomasabecket.org

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