



#### This Week at St. Brendan's

Sunday	(12-1)	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Worship Choir rehearsal Worship Sunday School Hospitality Hour
Monday	(12-2)	11:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	Be a Modern Episcopalian International Bible Study
Tuesday	(12-3)	7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	AA meeting Conversation Friends Bible Conversations
Wednesday	(12-4)	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Job, Adult Formation Worship Holiday Show meeting Overeaters Anonymous Conversation Friends Choir rehearsal
Thursday	(12-5)	10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
Saturday	(12-7)	9:00 a.m.	Sacristans

#### Serving Sunday, December 1, 2019

Celebrant: The Rev. Regis Smolko

**Lay Reader:** 8 a.m. George Snyder

10 a.m. Susan Shoemaker Acolyte: Acolyte team

Prayers: Darrell Johnson
Chalice Bearers: Stacey Coyle

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Dean Peters

Altar Guild: Tammy Spoonhoward

Anelisa Tarrant

Sunday School Lambs: Saundra Waseleski

Fish: Allison Kline

**Door:** Mary Bertucci

Nursery: Stephanie Illsley

Mary Haider

**Ushers:** Joyce Donadee

Michael Donadee

Vestry: Larry Toler Hospitality: Choir

LEM: Darrell Johnson

Steward: Tim Austin

## The Priest's Corner

Welcome to Advent—The Start of the New Liturgical Year A. What a Great Time to Renew!

Q: Is it true the 10 o'clock liturgy's climbing up to one and a half hours?

A: "Not in my church! Egads!"

I'm kidding, but, folks, it's true. Our 10 o'clock service recently has been getting close to it. Last Sunday, when we had to place our third and final stewardship sermon within the regular Children's Liturgy due to many factors, it was close to 11:35 a.m. when we ended the last hymn. THAT'S TOO LONG! We have to do something about this to keep the liturgy to under an hour and 15 minutes.

I polled a number of people at our church (20 or so) about a reasonably good amount of time for our 10 a.m. service, and the clear majority gave the time limit of an hour and 15 minutes; one said it didn't matter to her how long, and six said one hour. I asked five of my priest friends. They said not more than an hour and 15 minutes. I did some research on the Internet and this is typically what I found churches to say:

"On Sunday, the early service is about an hour, and the latter one is somewhat longer. Just like at a family meal, our focus isn't on the time, but the company! Some days we have a lot to share with God and each other." <a href="www.cogsdunedin.com/how-long-will-the-service-last">www.cogsdunedin.com/how-long-will-the-service-last</a>.

How about we shoot for the goal of one hour and 15 minutes? (If you have a strong opinion other than this, please let's talk — I want to hear your view.)

Here are two ideas I'd like to start immediately — first, assistance for the priests so that they begin the procession within seconds of 10 a.m. sharp and, second, a new approach to announcements. Here's my idea for starting at 10 a.m. pronto: I'd like to have the chime bell ring three times in the narthex seven minutes before the liturgy begins. This would be like the bell-ring warning at the symphony or a play at Heinz Hall.

What that would do is signal for all that it's seven minutes to liturgy. What it will do for me is give me closure to the conversation I'm usually engaged in as well as permission to leave, go into my office, shut the door and dress for liturgy. You know me – I'm

gregarious and get into conversations. I need a reminder to stop talking and a good way to more comfortably end communications. Some of you can just discipline yourself to do it; I need help.

The second idea is to eliminate spontaneous announcements. I don't know about you, but when I get a mic I can go on and on. It's just natural. Many are like me, and this keeps things going too long. So, the remedy, as I see it, is to have the vestry member of the day be the collector of these announcements and then give them en masse at one of three times during the liturgy. We can decide which time beginning not this Sunday, but next. We need some lead time to make this work.

So those with special announcements for the upcoming Sunday will notice in the Little Log the email address or texting contact for the vestry member of the day. If you have a special announcement to make (Now remember: generally if the announcement is already in the bulletin, there's no need to specially announce it in church.), send it in writing to the vestry members. If you miss the opportunity to send the announcement in before Sunday, the vestry member of the day will clearly be present in the narthex before liturgy. If you can't identify this person by name tag, ask for the person at the Welcome Table. Give your information to this vestry person. We can then experiment with three times for the vestry member to announce these special issues — right before the entrance procession takes place, after the Peace as a way of collecting the group again, or immediately before the dismissal. We can try each Sunday during Advent, then vote the best time to deliver these announcements beginning the first Sunday after Christmas.

There are other areas where we can trim back some time as well. I want to veer away from verses of hymns and the sermon for the time being. I'll share the reasons why next week. I'm open for other suggestions from you. Please let me or a vestry member know your ideas. I'd ask us all to be more mindful of the Peace and the amount of time we spend on it. I generally do a swipe approach, swiping through the sanctuary four different ways each week. For example, I'll go down the far right aisle by the choir, get to the back of the church and greet people as I continue back to the altar now through the middle aisle. I'm going to cut back a bit, just swipe up an aisle and return back to the altar the same way back. After all, I get to greet people after the liturgy and also in the social hall. One other area to cut down on time would be to have lay Eucharistic ministers, instead of the priest, take communion to people who are unable to walk to the front of the church as well as to those in the nursery. The distribution of communion has almost doubled over the last year and a half. This is a beautiful gift. A reality, though, is that it adds over 10 minutes more than we had only a short time ago. Perhaps we can think of ways to shorten the time here as well without cutting back on communicants.

Many of these time additives have to do with our gracious gift of increase and abundance. I would not trade this; we just need to apply stewardship management to it and create better methods in handling our growth.

Regis+

## **Announcements**

We are ... St. Brendan's. And we are because of you! Our trio-of-Sundays stewardship campaign for 2020 is over, but pledge cards are still coming in. Don't be left behind! Please take time to consider prayerfully your commitment to the many wonderful things that happen here. They exist only through your contributions of time, energy and financial support.

The next time you're at church, take a few minutes to scan the photos on the narthex bulletin board. They tell the story of St. Brendan's (and you might even see yourself!). For a more inspirational depiction, check out this video: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hQ9w7PfbdLoAtwUtu-Rfuw3yMKVhdfd7/view?ts=5dd1cc5f">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hQ9w7PfbdLoAtwUtu-Rfuw3yMKVhdfd7/view?ts=5dd1cc5f</a>.

Our goal is 80 pledges for next year, and we're more than halfway there. We can do it because we are ... St. Brendan's!



Beginning **THIS Sunday**, **December 1**, we will be adopting **new procedures designed to make our building safer** during services. A "steward" will be on duty each week to watch what is happening and to alert us to any unexpected situations. She or he will wear a distinctive nametag and generally remain in the narthex throughout the service.

Most importantly, the main door into the church from the parking lot will be locked about five minutes after the 10:00 a.m. service begins; the steward on duty will be available to let in those who are held up and arrive later.

Mission Accomplished! Notice anything different about the social hall? Was it painted? Is there new carpeting? "No" on both counts! After months of fundraising and planning, our acoustic panels have been installed and they look terrific! More importantly, they greatly improve the sound quality of the room by reducing that extraneous noise and those echoes! Thank you, St. Brendan's, for your donations to the BFF fund which made this project become a reality. A special thanks also to Ruth Horton for managing the project! Once again Brendanites pull together to make great things happen. Thank you!



Are you using Amazon Smile when you shop online? Let's get St. Brendan's free money.

Directions are on our website <a href="www.stbrendans.org">www.stbrendans.org</a> linked to our fundraising page. <a href="https://www.stbrendans.org/amazonsmile">https://www.stbrendans.org/amazonsmile</a>. Please tell family, friends, coworkers and neighbors to join us.

If you've been the recipient of our beautiful Altar Flowers, please return the vase. We are running very low.

**CRIES Advocacy.** Christian Response In Emergency Situations meets monthly on the third Sunday in the library after the 10 a.m. service to determine distribution of the parish's outreach tithe each month. Each person present has an equal voice and vote on where the money goes. This week we are praying for the work of Shepherd Wellness Community which serves the needs of persons living with HIV and AIDS and their families. Our donation will fund one of their weekly dinners.

There will be a short wrap-up meeting for everyone who participated in our Holiday Arts & Craft Show and Cookie Walk on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. at the church. Join us as we celebrate our most successful show yet!

Help! Help! That's what we asked for and that's what we got for the Holiday Arts & Craft Show and Cookie Walk! Whether it was baking cookies, assembling cookie boxes, making soup, contributing to Brendan's Boutique, helping with the taking down of the sanctuary, putting it together again, staffing the Cookie Walk, decorating the church, taking care of the music, working in the kitchen, selling entrance tickets at the door, arranging the door prize baskets, selling extra door prize tickets, taking lunch orders for the vendors, organizing the parking, helping the vendors unload and reload, assigning the vendor tables, taking care of the advertising – the list of helpers goes on and on – and what a cleanup crew!! The end result of all these efforts? Our most successful show yet. Thank you, EVERYONE! Here were some of the vendor/customer comments:

- I love coming to this show. Everyone is SO friendly.
- I do eight shows a year, and this one is by far the best.
- There are five other cookie walks today and yours outranks them all.
- What an amazing display of cookies.
- I'm definitely coming back next year.



Hospitalit

Plans are being made for a **book sale fundraiser** at St. Brendan's for **Friday, February 21, and Saturday, February 22, 2020**. Please start saving your books to donate for this sale. Books can be brought to church beginning February 9, so please begin to put aside new or gently used books, CDs, DVDs and audio tapes. No need to save magazines, encyclopedias, textbooks, VHS or music cassette tapes as these items will not be sold at this event. Thanks so much for your support of St. Brendan's!

Several changes have been made to the **Hospitality Hour Schedule**. Please look it over carefully, see below.

We are in need of volunteers for hospitality hour on January 12 and June 21. If you can, please contact Janice Moore at <a href="mailto:chicago@zoominternet.net">chicago@zoominternet.net</a> or call 412-203-1252.

We will be having special Hospitality Hours in some upcoming weeks. With the holidays coming, we all need some new ideas for get-togethers. If you would like to bring something to one of our special Hospitality Hours, please sign up at the narthex table to bring your favorite holiday dish/soup or appetizer. Those dates are: November 24, December 22 and January 26. This will be fun for all.

—Janice Moore <a href="mailto:chicago@zoominternet.net">chicago@zoominternet.net</a>.



North Hills Food Pantry. For the month of December we are asking for donations to help families with their Christmas festivities, such as green-bean casserole ingredients, yams, mac and cheese, etc. Please remember, no glass jars. If you have any questions, contact Larry Toler, ldtoler@aol.com. Thank you for your support.



**Book Club** is reading "Rocket Boys" by Homer H. Hickam this month, a coming-of-age memoir about the author's youth in a hardscrabble West Virginia coal town as Sputnik caught the nation's imagination. Join us for some talk and some fun on **Thursday**, **December 5**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the church library. Copies are available at Northland Library in all formats. For more information, please email Pat Carl at <a href="mailto:pkarrcarl@gmail.com">pkarrcarl@gmail.com</a>.



Brendan's Boots, the parish hiking group, will take a "Christmas Walk" through downtown Pittsburgh on Monday, Dec. 16, after meeting at the church at 9 a.m. Participants will park on the North Shore and take in traditional holiday sights such as the Pittsburgh Creche, the William Penn Hotel lobby, the city Christmas tree, the skating rink at PPG Place and the Holiday Market in Market Square (where the group can do a little shopping and find lunch). Everyone welcome; feel free to bring a friend. For more info, contact Tom Waseleski, twaseleski@comcast.net.



Do you want to help the immigrants who are coming to our **English as a Second Language** classes? The students need volunteers who can babysit their very young children in the nursery while their mothers are in class. The need for babysitters is for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We can help you to get your clearances if you don't have them yet! If you are interested, please call Joyce Donadee at 412-635-2312 or e-mail at jdjdonadee@gmail.com.



**Used ink cartridges.** St. Brendan's benefits from donations of used computer ink cartridges. Please bring them to church and place the cartridge in the box near Katie's office. Thank you.

Please visit our website: http://www.stbrendans.org

Join us on Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/">https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/</a>

Recommend us on Nextdoor: https://nextdoor.com/pages/st-brendans-episcopal-church-sewickley-pa/recommend/



Do you have a special prayer request? You can write one and leave it on the prayer plate by Regis' office. On Sunday those prayers are offered up to God during the 8:00 a.m. service. Each week they are collected by the Community of Hope and added to their daily prayers. You can also email prayer requests to stbrendans.coh@gmail.com. Community of Hope members will include those persons in daily prayers or send out a prayer via text or email to someone if requested. All prayers and requests are kept confidential.

Trinity Cathedral Walk-In Ministry. Every five weeks Brendanites help to staff the Walk-In Ministry at Trinity Cathedral downtown, feeding and clothing 70 to 90 desperately needy people. You can help by donating children's diapers; new, white athletic socks and underwear for women and men; toothpaste, razors and travel size cans of shaving cream. Please leave donations in the wicker basket outside Regis's office. If you might be interested in volunteering at the cathedral in person, please see Linda Schneider, Meg Overby or Tim Austin.

Please scroll to the next few pages for the Hospitality Hour schedule and the December ministry calendar.



# December 2019

## **Ministry calendar**

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Nursery	Usher	Vestry	Hospitality
December 1 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	8 George Snyder L Susan Shoemaker P Darrell Johnson C Stacy Coyle C Dean Peters LEV Darrel Johnson Steward Tim Austin	Tammy Spoonhoward Anelisa Tarrant	Lambs Saundra Waseleski Fish Allison Kline Door Mary Bertucci	Stephanie IIIsley Mary Haider	Joyce & Michael Donadee	Larry Toler	Choir
December 4 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Ellen Groves	Ellen Groves	~	~	~	~	~
December 8 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	8 Ruth Getz L Tony Turo P Nate Boyd C Darrell Johnson C Janice Moore LEV Richard Gordon Steward Rob Latta	Joan Klinefelter Shari Tarrant	Lambs Meghan Karn Fish Sylvia Affleck Door TBD	Stephanie Illsley Silvia Bertucci	Chris Fleissner Eric Helmsen	Tom Waseleski	Julie Smith Colette Satler
December 11 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Alan Schneider	Linda Schneider	~	~	~	~	~
December 15 Sunday 8 &10:00 am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	8 Ruth Horton L Michael Donadee P Alan Schneider C Joyce Donadee C Michael Donadee LEV TBD Steward Dale Bertucci	Terry Dezort Betsy Smith	Lambs TBD Fish Allison Kline Door Meghan Karn	Stephanie IIIsley Pat Carl	Brad Thompson Larry Toler	Janice Moore	Brigid & Jim Christiansen
December 18 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Sylvia Affleck	Sylvia Affleck	~	~	~	~	~
December 22 Sunday 8 &10:00 am 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	8 Ellen Groves L Sheila Bigelow P Dean Peters C Janice Moore C Dean Peters LEV TBD Steward Wesley Bell	Sylvia Affleck Brigid Christenson	Lambs TBD Fish TBD Door TBD	Stephanie Illsley Julia Wick	Chris Fleissner Mike Wick	Chris Botti	Congregation Appetizers
December 24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm Children's Pageant	L Nate Boyd P Susan Shoemaker C Stacy Coyle C Janice Moore Steward Julia/Mike Wick	**All Available	~	~	Joyce & Michael Donadee	~	~
December 24 Christmas Eve 10:00 pm	L Alan Schneider P Darrell Johnson C Dean Peters C Darrell Johnson Steward OPEN	**All Available	~	~	Eric Helmsen	~	~
December 29 Sunday 8 &10:00 am	8 Sylvia Affleck L Annemarie Malbon P Debbie Wunsche C Joyce Donadee C Michael Donadee LEV TBD Steward Eric Helmsen	Chris Botti Janet Fesq	Lambs TBD Fish TBD Door TBD	Stephanie IIIsley Sarika Sethia	Brad Thompson Larry Toler	Annemarie Malbon	Andrea Dickerson Stacey Coyle

# **Hospitality Hour Hosts/Hostesses**

October 2019



#### October 2019

- 6 Melanie & Thaddeus Popovich
- 13 Dottie & Carl Antonucci
- 20 Kinley & Aretz families
- 27 Lauren Chappo and Becca Sands

## **November 2019**

- 3 Brenna Conroy & Kristen Bailey
- 10 Melinda & Wesley Bell
- 17 Sheila Bigelow & Jim Roche
- 24 Church sign up (Appetizers)

## **December 2019**

- 1 Choir
- 8 Julie Smith & Colette Satler
- 15 Brigid & Jim Christenson
- 22 Church sign up (appetizers)
- 29 Stacey Coyle and Andrea Dickerson

## January 2020

- 5 Karen Dennis and Janet Fesq
- 12 Open, volunteer needed
- 19 Joyce & Michael Donadee
- 26 Annual Meeting church sign up (soup)

## February 2020

- 2 Donna Aiello & Sharon Hlawati
- 9 Chris & Rodger Botti
- 16 Gail Gil & Richard Gordon
- 23 Anne Semmler and Cameron Grosh

#### **March 2020**

- 1 Open, volunteer needed
- 8 Kevin & Amy Boyd
- 15 Pete Sweet & Mike Newton
- 22 Kate & Keith Heston
- 29 Meghan & Robert Karn

## **April 2020**

- 5 Cindy & Pete Larson
- 12 Hospitality Committee
- 19 Libby and Phoebe Juel
- 26 Anelisa Tarrant and Eric Helmsen

#### **May 2020**

- 3 The Bertucci family
- 10 Parish Men
- 17 Laureen & Todd Douds
- 24 Sharon & Ron Ladick
- 31 Linda & Jason Konley

#### **June 2020**

- 7 Marian & AJ McKenna
- 14 Annemarie Malbon and Joe Macklin
- 21 Open, volunteer needed
- 28 Parish Picnic

#### **July 2020**

- 5 Marilyn Mulvihill and Tim Michael
- 12 Jean Pett-Ridge and Isaac Mondelus
- 19 Trish & Neil Galone
- 26 Joni Reis and Thaddeus Popovich

## August 2020

- 2 Lauren & Ashwin Ramakrishna
- 9 Arlena & Bill Pugliese
- 16 AJ Turo & Bill Graham
- 23 Saundy & Tom Waseleski
- 30 Rob & George Latta

#### September 2020

- 6 Nancy & George Snyder
- 13 Emmalynne & Michael Waseleski
- 20 Emily & Brad Zupancic
- 27 Janet Fesq and Chris Fleissner

Rev. 11-20-19



#### ST. BRENDAN'S MISSION

Jesus said, "I have come to give life – life in all its fullness." John 10:10.

Our mission is the realization of fullness through:
the worship of God; service to the world;
active concern for each other;
and education to expand mind and spirit.

#### **VESTRY MEMBERS**

Sr. Warden: Tom Waseleski
Jr. Warden & Education: Ruth Horton
Worship & Safety/Security: Tim Austin
Fundraising & Clerk: Chris Botti
Finance & Technology: Kevin Boyd
Communication: Annemarie Malbon
Inreach & Hospitality: Janice Moore

Newcomers: Dean Peters
Outreach: Larry Toler
Treasurer: Ellen Groves

#### **WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS**

Acolytes: Anelisa Tarrant Altar Guild: Tammy Spoonhoward

Community of Hope: Ruth Horton Flower Ministry: Sylvia Affleck

Libby Juel Scheduler: Kelli Cerra

Ushers: Eric Helmsen

#### **PARISH LIFE MINISTRY LEADERS**

Audit: Kevin Boyd Book Club: Pat Carl

Brendan's Boots: Tom Waseleski Dinner Group: Janice Moore Finance Chair: Eric Helmsen Green Thumb Gang: Dan Moore

Historian: Ellen Groves

Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale: Anelisa Tarrant Invite Welcome Connect: Bradford Thompson

Memorial Garden: Dan Moore

Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski

Nursery: Stephanie Illsley

Parish Profile: Kelli Cerra

Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich Rental: Mark Shoemaker Scholarship: Tom Waseleski

Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis

Debbie Jennings

Web Site: Kelli Cerra

#### **OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS**

Adopt-A-Highway: Tom Waseleski CRIES Advocacy: Ellen Groves

English as a Second Language: Tim Austin

Joyce Donadee Linda Schneider

Garden of Hope: Tim Michael

Invite Welcome Connect: TBD

Miryam's: Julia Wick

Rob & George Latta

North Hills Food Bank Ministry: Ruth Horton

Social Justice: Clair Grotevant

Marilyn Mulvihill

Under One Roof: Joyce Donadee

Jim Evanochko

#### ST. BRENDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Corner of Rochester & McAleer Roads 2365 McAleer Road, Sewickley, PA 15143 Phone: 412-364-5974

Office hours ~ Monday thru Friday 8:00-2:00

Web Site ~ http://www.stbrendans.org

Facebook ~ https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/

Nextdoor ~ https://franklinparkpittsburgh.nextdoor.com/pages/st-brendans-episcopal-church-

sewickley-pa/recommend/

Priest, Regis Smolko ~ regisjs@verizon.net

Youth Education Coordinator, Julie Smith ~ jlsphone1@gmail.com Administrative Assistant, Katie Cervone ~ stbrendans@comcast.net

Music Director, Debbie Wunsche ~ dwunsche@yahoo.com

Musician, Erica Lin ~ hylerica@yahoo.com

Nursery Director, Stephanie Illsley ~ st3phyy2011@gmail.com