



Advent

This Week at St. Brendan's

Sunday	(12-8)	8:00 a.m.	Worship
		9:00 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
		10:00 a.m.	Worship
		10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
		11:30 a.m.	Hospitality Hour
Monday	(12-9)	11:00 a.m.	Be a Modern Episcopalian
		1:30 p.m.	International Bible Study
		7:00 p.m.	Vestry meeting
Tuesday	(12-10)	7:00 a.m.	AA meeting
		10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
		10:30 a.m.	Bible Conversations
Wednesday	(12-11)	7:00 p.m.	Worship
		7:00 p.m.	Holiday Show meeting
		7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
		7:00 p.m.	Conversation Friends
		7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Thursday	(12-12)	10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
		7:00 p.m.	Sticks & Strings
Saturday	(12-14)	9:00 a.m.	Sacristans

Serving Sunday, December 8, 2019

Celebrant:		The Rev. Regis Smolko
Lay Reader:	8 a.m.	Ruth Getz
	10 a.m.	Tony Turo
Acolyte:		Acolyte team
Prayers:		Nate Boyd
Chalice Bearers:		Janice Moore Darrell Johnson
Altar Guild:		Joan Klinefelter Shari Tarrant
Sunday School Lambs:		Meghan Karn
Fish:		Sylvia Affleck
Door:		TBD
Nursery:		Stephanie Illsley Silvia Bertucci
Ushers:		Chris Fleissner Eric Helmsen
Vestry:		Tom Waseleski
Hospitality:		Julie Smith & Colette Satler
LEM:		Richard Gordon
Steward:		Rob Latta

The Priest's Corner

Regis read Debbie's beautiful reflection and thought this would be a fitting Priest's Corner substitute this week.

Dear St. Brendan's,

I just want to thank everyone for the wonderful luncheon last Sunday and for all of your support over the years. I have been fortunate to have worked with five rectors, three administrative assistants and in two different sanctuaries. When I was first asked to consider stepping in to this position all those years ago I was a little hesitant, but after attending a week-long conference and taking monthly classes for two years I learned that I loved liturgy and realized what a blessing it was to combine that with my love of singing and my love of music, especially some place special like St. Brendan's. Over the last few weeks I have had so many memories flash through my mind. Some early ones like introducing the idea of processing and sitting together as a choir, not an easy transition. Or building our chime choir to include our youth like Michael, Drew and Matthew standing side by side with our older members like Bob Affleck, a tradition that continues on to this day as we watched Zoe chime next to Larry. I look back on all the children that I have been able to watch grow up as we sang, chimed and worked on all those pageants. I remember the beauty of our Candlelight Advent Lessons and Carols sung in the round in the sanctuary, one of my favorite services.

Three particular services stand out in my memories. In the spring of 2001 our sanctuary was a shell of outside walls and a roof. It was time for the Easter Vigil, and we began the first part of the service out in the new sanctuary. It was cold and dark, since there were no windows and we sat on stacks of dry wall holding candles. We listened to the readings telling the story of our journey as Christians. As we sang our traditional "First Song of Isaiah" everyone seemed to be singing with extra emotion and as we ended the last notes, you could hear them echo up through the open rafters and then there was this awed silence as we all felt that we were part of something special, we knew that we were building something special. Another service that stands out is the consecration of the new sanctuary. Liturgically, it is a beautiful service, and everyone wanted to be a part of it. We had some members who had moved away come back to sing with us, it was a day of music, filled with children's voices, chimers chiming and the adult choir singing from their heart and offering their praise and creating that moment – the moment when you feel that God is with us, surrounding us, blessing us, blessing St. Brendan's. Another more current memory that stands out is the Baptism, Confirmation/Reception that we had last spring. It was another one of those heart bursting moments of feeling the Holy Spirit surrounding you as your voice is joined in singing with those all around you. What a special day.

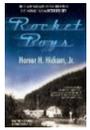
I have been blessed to have so many memories of wonderful worship experiences at St. Brendan's but it is the choir who is the pillar of our worship service. St. Brendan's has been lucky to have such dedicated and talented people over the years who offer up their gifts. Week after week we have practiced together, laughed together, prayed together, sung together. You truly are my family and I will greatly miss you.

Blessings on you, St. Brendan's, and many, many more years of singing your praise and thanksgiving. **Debbie Wunsche**

Announcements

As you saw last week in The Little Log and heard in church, we are experimenting with **streamlining our announcements during** liturgy. Ken Parsons will gather all announcements you'd like emphasized on Sunday. His e-mail is cleankrp1@aol.com. Please send Tim your announcement in writing by Saturday at 5 pm. If you miss doing this electronically, Tim will be available in the narthex before the 10:00 liturgy, please give him your written announcement. Please don't expect him to simply memorize it. On Sunday morning, HE NEEDS YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT WRITTEN OUT.

Pledged to St. Brendan's. Sixty-two households have pledged support for St. Brendan's in 2020. If you've been meaning to send in your pledge card, there's still time to help us reach our goal of 80 pledges! Just place your card in the Sunday collection plate, the pledge box in the narthex or the office. Remember, we are ... St. Brendan's only because of you.



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 **TONIGHT 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 pkarrcarl@gmail.com.

Seeking vestry candidates. Three new vestry members will be elected to three-year terms at St. Brendan's Annual Meeting on Jan. 26. Would you like to nominate someone or volunteer yourself as a candidate? The vestry is the nine-member board that works closely with the priest and represents the congregation in managing parish finances, property and policy. The vestry meets monthly and each member is responsible for an area of oversight within the parish such as education, finance, worship, fundraising, etc. If you'd like to suggest someone as a candidate for vestry, please contact one of these members of the Nominating Committee: Karen Dennis, Joe Macklin, Dan Moore, Chris Botti, Kevin Boyd or Tom Waseleski.

Once again, we will be bringing Christmas gifts to the **residents of Concordia of Wexford**. If you'd like to purchase a gift, please stop by the social hall and take an ornament from the Angel Tree. Each ornament has the name and wish list of a resident. Please place wrapped gifts under the tree with the ornament attached as the name tag. All gifts should be brought to the church by Sunday, December 22.

All are welcome to help gather and deliver the gifts and sing carols with the residents on December 22. Just meet in the social hall after the 10 am service. The residents are always so grateful for being thought of by St. Brendan's at this time of year. Call or email Mary Bertucci with any questions.

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 www.stbrendans.org linked to our fundraising page. <https://www.stbrendans.org/amazonsmile>. Please tell family, friends, coworkers and neighbors to join us.

No one should spend Christmas alone. Invite your friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to celebrate Christmas Eve with St. Brendan's! How? Grab a flyer to post in your favorite coffee shop. Send a post card to a neighbor and include a short personal note. Share a Facebook post with a friend. Look for printed flyers and post cards in the narthex, on the table to the right when you enter the church, and take some to share.

Scarves for Seamen. St. Brendan's women, under the sponsorship of Sticks & Strings, have been knitting for the Seaman's Ministry. We have recently mailed 21 scarves and 3 hats with neck warmers to help them ward off the winter cold. Many thanks to our tireless knitters.



Sticks & Strings. Last meeting of 2019 and getting ready for the holidays! Bring your knitting, (or any needlework) and meet with us at **7pm Thursday, 12/12**. We meet in the library. See you then. --Joni.

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 North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition, a local organization that works to promote and celebrate racial, cultural and religious diversity in the North Hills.

The next meeting will be **Sunday, December 15**. All are welcome.



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!



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.



Thank you to the Discipleship Group members Darrell Johnson, Ginny Volponi, Nancy Snyder, Chris (and Nicholas) Fleissner as well as Ellen Groves and Saundy Waseleski for preparing a Thanksgiving feast for the women at Miryam's Group home.

A second shout out to Sticks & Strings members Rev. Julie Smith, Janet Fesq, Joni Reis, and Sylvia Affleck for preparing a meatloaf dinner for Miryam's members that was delivered by The Rev. Rodge and Rosie Wood.



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.



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.



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: <https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/>

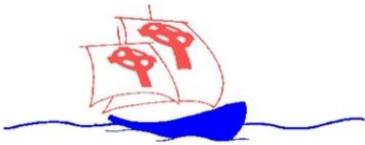
Recommend us on Nextdoor: <https://nextdoor.com/pages/st-brendans-episcopal-church-sewickley-pa/recommend/>



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 st 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 Illsley 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 nd 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 rd 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 Illsley 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 th 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 Illsley Sarika Sethia	Brad Thompson Larry Toler	Annemarie Malbon	Andrea Dickerson Stacey Coyle

Hospitality Hour Hosts/Hostesses

October 2019  September 2020

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

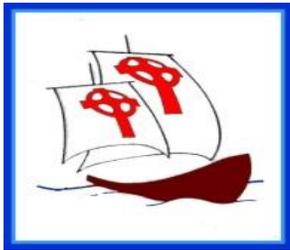
- 5 Marilyn Mulvihill and Tim Michael
- 12 Jean Pett-Ridge and Isaac Mondelus
- 19 Trish & Neil Galone
- 26 Joni Reis and Thaddeus Popovich

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



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.

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

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

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 ~ st3phy2011@gmail.com