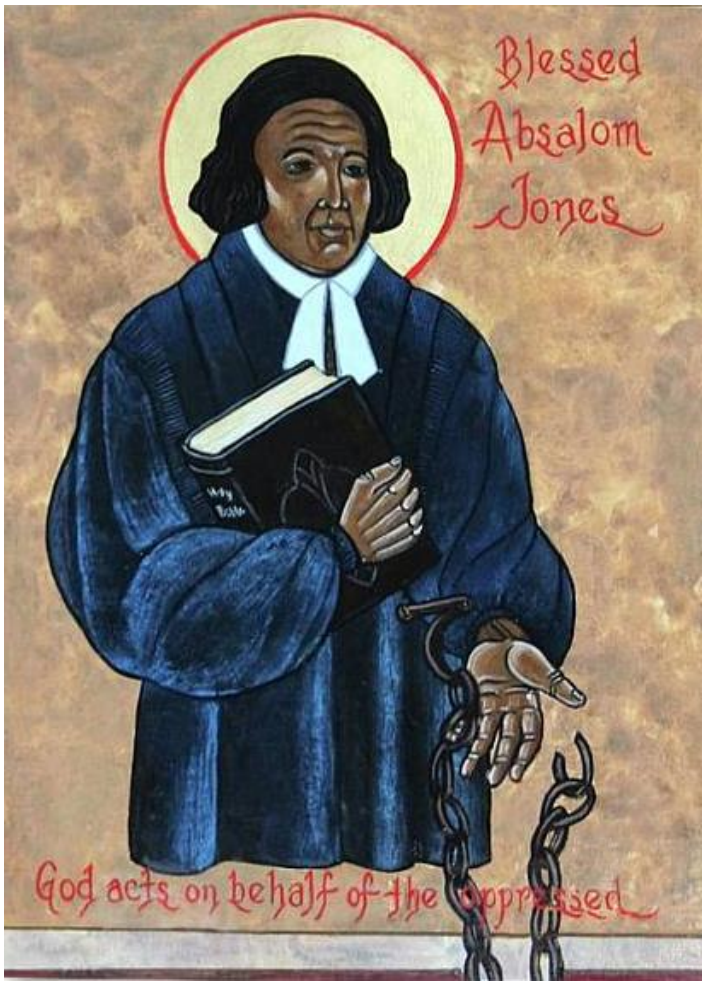
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Canton, Ohio



Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

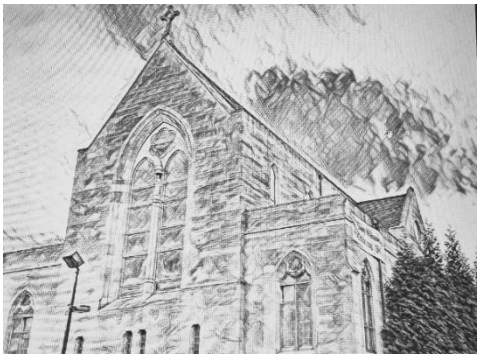
Sunday, February 12, 2023

Commemoration of the Blessed Absalom Jones

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Welcome to St. Paul's

Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
425 Cleveland Ave SW
Canton OH 44702
(330) 455-0286

Website: www.stpaulscanton.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton
e-mail: stpaulsoffice@att.net
We're on YouTube: StPaulsCanton

Our mission

St. Paul's is a radically welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, called by God's Love to minister to the world.

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Readings and Psalm
First Lesson: Isaiah 42:5-9
Psalm: Psalm 126
Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:1-6
Gospel: John 15:12-15

Prelude: *When the Roll is Called Up Yonder* by Hugh Livingston Jr.

The Word of God

ENTRANCE HYMN: ***"Blessed Absalom" (LEVAS 44)***

5. Founded he Saint Thomas' church for
Afric's sons and daughters blest;
Full-fledged members of Christ's Body,
They no longer were oppressed.
Blessed Abs'lom, pray that we may
Be the church at Christ's behest.

6. Blessed Abs'lom Jones, first priest of
Afric's stock within our fold;
May we, inspired by your witness
Raise up priests with hearts of gold!
Blessed Abs'lom, pioneer, prophet
May your story long be told!

7. Praise to Christ the Liberator;
Praise Creator ever blest;
Praise the Spirit, Source of comfort,
North to south, and east to west:
Blessed Abs'lom, priest, exemplar,
In God's bosom now at rest.

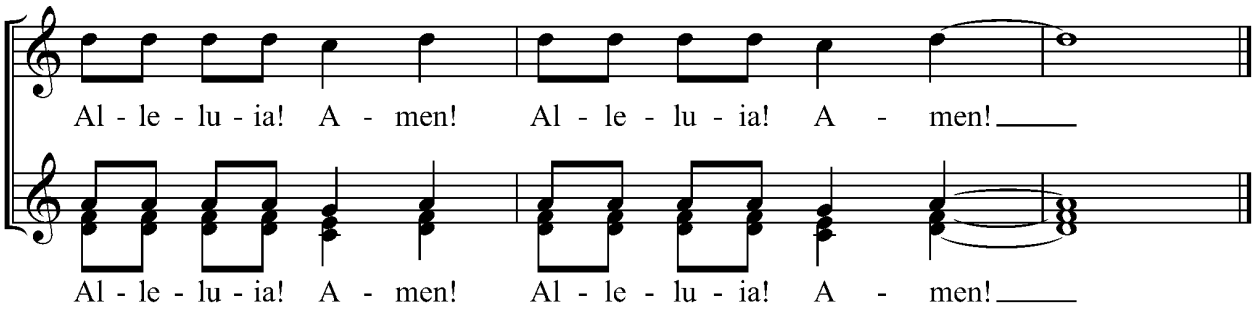
OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: "*Glory to God" (Canticle 20) (Peruvian)* (MHSO 11)



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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:5-9

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

5 Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
6 I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
7 to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
8 I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

[9]See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 126

Remain seated.

[1]When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
[2]Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."
[3]The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
[4]Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
[5]May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
[6]Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:1-6

Remain seated.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Ephesus.

[1]I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, [2]with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, [3]making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. [4]There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, [5]one Lord, one faith, one baptism, [6]one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN: *"Brother, Sister, Let Me Serve You"* (VF #124)

All stand.

Capo 2, play D

Words and Music: Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham © 1977 Scripture in Song (admin. Integrity Music/ASCAP, c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GOSPEL: John 15:12-15

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[12]This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [13]No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. [14]You are my friends if you do what I command you. [15]I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: ***Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry, Deacon-in-Charge***

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed

THE CREED

All stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers of the People - Adapted from "A Litany of Thanksgiving for Absalom Jones" written by the Reverend Jemonde Taylor.

Deacon: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Leader: God of freedom and justice: We celebrate today your servant, Absalom Jones, the first person of African ancestry ordained in The Episcopal Church. Empower your Church, O God, and the Diocese of Ohio, its people, and its clergy. Teach us how to continue the ministries of reconciliation and peace and to grow Absalom Jones' ministry of racial justice. God of power and goodness: ***hear our prayer.***

God who hears, you put the tears of our forbearers into your bottle, recording them in your book: Help the nations of the world hear their citizens' concerns by responding to injustice, war, and slavery with actions that lead to peace. God of power and goodness: ***hear our prayer.***

God who creates, Blessed Absalom reminded us that sacrifices must be accompanied by action: Guide our feet to run the race without getting weary. Keep us focused on the fight for equality. God of power and goodness: ***hear our prayer.***

Healing God, deliver those who call upon your name as we intercede for the sick, the unhoused, the hungry, and those suffering for lack of justice. We also intercede for Corrina, Jeff Nowlin, Ron Neidig, Anthony Wilson, Desiree Smith, MaryAnn, David, Lynn, Ron, Lee, Lynsee Hoisington, Jessica, Kelly, Laurie, Holly, Mary Lou, Rosie, Stephan Campian, Andy, David Swope, and Ron Campian. You inspire our hearts with hope as we offer prayers of thanksgiving for Demetrius Carrothers, Nancy Suba, Valerie Frear, and Deborah Findlay, who are celebrating birthdays. Continue to grow from strength to strength those who know you more fully, as we pray for the departed, especially Mark. God of power and goodness: ***hear our prayer.***

God of compassion, you hear your people's cries and prayers in heaven: accept our intercessions and petitions as part of our worship of you. Help us remember that we stand on the prayers of our ancestors. We pray for current and future generations. God of power and goodness: ***hear our prayer.***

Deacon: Almighty God, you created all people and blessed us by making us in a wondrous variety. As you were with Blessed Absalom, be with us as we seek to make "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Support each of us as we work to do your will, that together we may make a difference. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN
The People sit, stand or kneel.

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

The people greet each other in the name of the Lord

Church Announcements

Today's loose plate offerings are being donated to support the two remaining Episcopal-affiliated Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs): St. Augustine's University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE
Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY HYMN: ***"Done Made My Vow"*** by Evelyn Davidson White

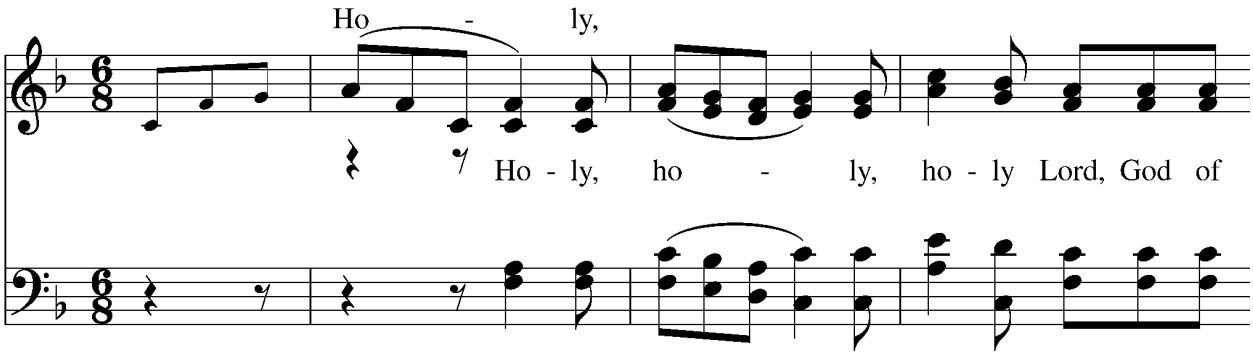
The Great Thanksgiving

(Please remain standing)

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS: ***"Holy, Holy, Holy" WLP 857 (Pulkingham) (Freedom Mass) (BCP p. 367)***



Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

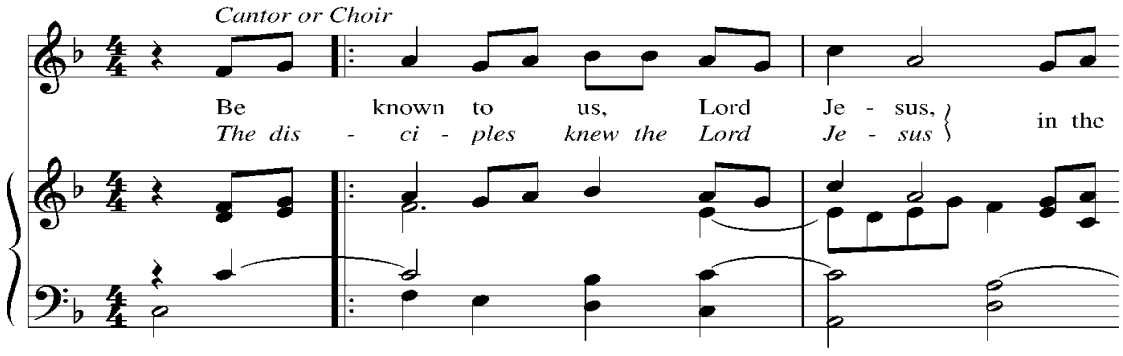
THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM: "Be Known to Us" WLP #875



1. Congregation
2. Cantor or Choir
break - ing of the bread. Be bread. The
The dis -
bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, Is the com -
Congregation
mun - ion of the bod - y of Christ. Be
The dis -
known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the
ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the clergy if you need gluten-free bread. If you come to the communion station for a blessing instead, please cross your arms on your chest. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the Deacon of the parish.

COMMUNION HYMN: ***"There is a Balm in Gilead" (LEVAS 203)***

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (EOW p. 70)
Let us pray together

Loving God,
we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING (BCP p. 366)
The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: ***"I Must Tell Jesus" (LEVAS 66)***

DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Melody* by Samuel Coleridge Taylor

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S LITURGY:

Deacon-in-Charge:	The Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry
Guest Priest:	The Rev. Christopher Hofer
Director of Music:	Edward T. Grimes
Lector:	Carol Sutek
Eucharistic Minister:	Karl Roshong
Crucifer:	Karl Roshong
Greeter:	Beth Paynter
Camera/Audio:	David Lewis, David Rotthoff
Altar Guild:	Barb Anderson, Shirley Brown
Counters:	Carol Sutek, Cara Warren

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Wednesday Small Group Study
Come join us at 10:00 a.m. in the library as we follow the revelation of Jesus through the Gospels for the Season of Epiphany.

Thursday Choir Rehearsal
Choir rehearsal is held on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. Consider "making a joyful noise unto the Lord" and join our great choir!! All are welcome!

Communications Committee Meeting
The Communications Committee will meet via Zoom on Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. Meeting materials and Zoom info will be emailed prior to the meeting.

Shrove Tuesday Dinner & Courageous Conversations on Race Relations (CCORR)
Our Shrove Tuesday celebration has returned! This year, we will be celebrating our time in conjunction with CCORR over a traditional Pancake Supper. The gathering will be held in the Guild Hall on Tuesday, February 21st, at 6:00 p.m. After the meal, we will enter into a time of discussion regarding an Introduction to Redlining. Don't forget to wear your beads!!!

Social Justice Book Club
The next book to be read is "All the White Friends I Couldn't Keep" by Andre Henry. Books are now available for pickup at StarkFresh. Meetings will now be held once a month on the 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The next gathering is on February 28th. You can join us either here in the Guild Hall or via Zoom.

Upcoming Commemorations

Charles Freer Andrews: Priest and "Friend of the Poor" in India, 1940
Sunday, February 12, 2023

Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818
Monday, February 13, 2023

Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries, 869 and 885
Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Thomas Bray, Priest and Missionary, 1730
Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Charles Todd Quintard: Bishop of Tennessee, 1898
Thursday, February 16, 2023

Janani Luwum, Archbishop and Martyr, 1977
Friday, February 17, 2023

Martin Luther, Pastor and Church Reformer, 1546
Saturday, February 18, 2023

Special Worship Service Schedule

Wednesday, February 22nd, Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00p
Sunday, April 2nd, Palm Sunday Service, 10:30a
Thursday, April 6th, Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00p
Friday, April 7th, Good Friday Service, 7:00p
Sunday, April 9th, Easter Sunday Service, 10:30a

Vestry Retreat will be held on Saturday, February 18th, 9a-3p

The Vestry Retreat is coming and so much is at stake in those few hours that have been carved into busy schedules to talk in an intentional and focused way about the business of the church.

It will be a time of discernment for the future of the church and formation as church leaders. Elections for officers will also take place.

Pray that God's Spirit will lead and guide us in our time together.

Save the Date: Ordination and Consecration of the Rev. Anne B. Jolly

Please mark your calendars for the Ordination and Consecration of The Rev. Anne B. Jolly as Bishop Coadjutor with the right of succession to become the 12th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio.

The service and celebration following will be held on Saturday, **April 29, 2023**, at 11:00 a.m. at Public Auditorium in Cleveland. Contact the Transition Committee at Transitioncommittee@dohio.org with any questions.

February 2023 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 12 10:30 am Service Rev. Christopher Hofer	Feb 13 6 pm Communications Zoom	Feb 14 	Feb 15 10 am Small Group Library	Feb 16 7 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA (Blue Room)	Feb 17	Feb 18 9a-3p Vestry Retreat 7 pm AA (Library) 7:30 pm NA (Cmty Rm)
		SHROVE TUESDAY	ASH WEDNESDAY			
Feb 19 10:30 am Service Rev. Joyce Penfield	Feb 20 6 pm Vestry Mtg	Feb 21 6:00 pm Pancake Supper & Courageous Conversations	Feb 22 9a Ashes2Go 7 pm Ash Wednesday Service	Feb 23 7 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA (Blue Room)	Feb 24	Feb 25 11 am HOT Lunch 7 pm AA (Library) 7:30 pm NA (Cmty Rm)
Feb 26 Lent 1 10:30 am Service Rev. Brad Purdom	Feb 27	Feb 28 7:00 pm Social Justice Book Group	Mar 1 10 am Small Group Library	Mar 2 7 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA (Blue Room)	Mar 3	Mar 4 7 pm AA (Library) 7:30 pm NA (Cmty Rm)

February Birthdays

8th- Demetrius Carrothers

14th- Nancy Suba

14th- Valerie Frear

18th- Deborah Findlay

19th- Olivia Johnson

Happy Anniversary

Rick Senften & M.L. Schultze: 5th

William & Linda Kendrick: 22nd

Mike & Beth Paynter: 29th

CONDENSED HISTORY OF THE BLACK EPISCOPALIAN (part 1)
By Joyce Crittenden

In the early days of the Republic, the majority of Black Christians in America were Anglicans. The Church of England the "Mother Church" was the established church of many of the landowners. The landowners, settlers, and planters were not interested in the conversion of African slaves; however, the "Mother Church" was.

The story of the Black Episcopalians begins around 1624 when large groups of English missionaries were sent to America under the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (S.P.G.) to Christianize the Blacks and Indians. These baptized black slaves were the forebears of the Black Church of the Christian Gospel via the Anglican Church, later to be called the Episcopal Church. The response of the slaves and the eagerness of the missionaries was the basis for the survival of the Black Church.

An early example of the conversation effort is dated in 1695 under Samuel Thomas at Goose Creek Parish, South Carolina. By 1743 the S.P.G. had established a school in Charleston, South Carolina to train blacks for missionary work. Slaves were Christianized and baptized but they had no church. They were not able to worship in the white Anglican Church.

After the American Revolution in 1783, slaves and free sought to establish themselves as a newly organized Anglican now the Episcopal Church.

The story of Richard Allen (1780-1831) and Absalom Jones (1746-1818) represents the beginning of the Black Church providing the Northern Black after the Revolution the setting for his own religious development.

2023 Lenten Formation Series

"Preparing to Become the Beloved Community"

February 26th-March 29th, Wednesday & Sunday Sessions
(See schedule below)

WELCOME

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. —Mark 1:9-12

This Lent, the Diocesan Community is invited into a journey to commit in new ways to becoming Beloved Community and growing loving, liberating, life-giving relationships across the human family of God. We make the journey not only as individual Christians and congregations but as a whole church.

We are excited about the St. Paul's family and friends joining together on this journey.

For your convenience, every session will be provided each week on both Wednesdays @ 10a, and Sundays @ 9a in the Meeting Room on the Lower Level. Please join us!

Session One: Lent 1 – Becoming the Beloved Community

Session Two: Lent 2 – Repairing the Breach in Institutions and Society

Session Three: Lent 3 – Proclaiming the Dream of Beloved Community

Session Four: Lent 4 – Telling the Truth about Our Churches and Race

Session Five: Lent 5 – Practicing the Way of Love in the Pattern of Jesus

◊ Clips from the video series called "The Chosen" will be incorporated into the study.

◊ Handouts will be provided.

For more information, please see Deacon Robin, or call the Church Office, at 330-455-0286.
All are welcome!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Bishop
The Right Reverend Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.

Deacon-in-Charge
The Reverend Dr. Robin Woodberry

Officiating Clergy
The Reverend Cristopher Hofer

Staff
Edward T. Grimes, Director of Music

Peggy Neidig, Office Manager

Paul Schmucker, Sexton

Music Begins at 10:25 am. The services are also live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

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IN-HOME ASHES 2 GO
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
9A-11A

If you are homebound and would like to receive Imposition of Ashes, please fill out the request form below and mail it back to the church. You can also call the Church Office at 330-455-0286 to submit your request.

Name:
Address:
Phone: