



74 South Common St., Lynn, MA 01902 T: (781)599-4220 ♦ F: (781)586-0156 ♦ www.StStephensLynn.org

March, 2019

From the Interim Priest -

Why is Lent beginning so late this year?

Ash Wednesday is on March 6th and Easter is not until April 21st!

The reason is that "Easter Day is always the Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox on March 21...Easter Day cannot be earlier than March 22 or later than April 25" (*The Book of Common Prayer*, page 880.) The moon will be full on Friday, April 19th so Easter is on Sunday April 21st. There is a table on pages 882 -883 in the Prayer Book for the dates of Easter from 1900 to 2089. Easter will not be this late again until 2030.

What this really means is that there is a chance that tulips will have bloomed by Easter, or at least I am hoping there will not be any snow on the ground.

Lent is the season of repentance and renewal. It is an invitation for us to slow down, simplify our lives and trust more fully in the grace and love of God. Our worship on Sundays will be quieter and more reflective. We will be offering a special Lenten Study Class on Wednesdays. It is also a good time of year to think about others and make offering to relieve the suffering of the poor and needy. You may want to fast and or take on special spiritual practices.

Whatever you may do, I invite you to have a holy and blessed Lent. And then, may we all celebrate a glorious and festive Easter on April 21.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Barrington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rev. Tom Barrington

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES
MARCH 6TH

- **7:30 am** Ashes & Prayers in chapel
- **Noon** Ashes & Eucharistic in Church
- **2:30pm** Ashes & Prayer Eucharistic at St. Stephen's Towers
- **7:00pm** Ashes & Eucharistic in Church

A WORD FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

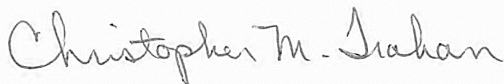
Thank you everyone who attended our Annual Meeting in February. We heard reports on the status of the parish particularly around the Search Process, the building and finances. We thanked outgoing Vestry members and elected new members to the Vestry. There is one vacant three-year seat on the Vestry that was not filled at the Annual Meeting. The Vestry will need to appoint a person to fill this seat.

This coming year will indeed be a busy year for St. Stephen's. First, this year marks our parish's 175th Anniversary. Our 175th Anniversary Committee is busy planning events throughout the year, including a growing historic exhibition, stained glass windows tours, an organ concert, hosting the Diocesan Parish Historian's Society annual meeting, a catered 175th Anniversary dinner, then culminating with a Festival Eucharist with Bishop Gates on Sunday, September 22nd. Whether you are at St. Stephen's every week, occasionally or sporadically, we hope that you will find yourself at many of these events throughout the year, especially on Sunday, September 22nd.

Meanwhile, our Search Committee has been busy drafting, writing and editing the parish profile and preparing it for the Vestry to review, edit and vote. After Easter, it will be presented to the parish for input and feedback. When the parish is finished with the profile, it will then be sent off to the diocese and the Episcopal Church Center in New York. It will then be posted on the Episcopal Church's website for broad national access.

So as 2019 continues to unfold, it shall be a fun and exciting time in the life of our parish. Please continue to hold the parish, the Search Committee, its elected leaders and clergy in your prayers.

Sincerely,



Chris Trahan

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

ST. STEPHEN'S CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, April 13th, the day before Palm Sunday

- There will be crews working mornings, mid-day and afternoon
- Deep cleaning of the church
- Raking and fixing up of the grounds
- Sorting out clutter
- Repairs and maintenance

ANNUAL MEETING. The Parish heard reports from the wardens regarding the on going construction work in the pantry. An update from the Search Committee on completing a profile of the Church. The treasurer presented end of year financials and the 2019 budget to those present. Financial picture looks promising. The new vestry is listed below.

VESTRY SUMMARY FEBRUARY. The 2019 vestry meet for the first time on February 24, 2019. Chris Trahan, Senior Warden welcomed all and talked about excitement and challenges ahead and each Vestry member discussed their hopes for the future. Building repairs and update, communications, fundraising, church school, and Search Committee discussed.

New Vestry:

Name	Email	Phone
Chris Trahan, Sr. Warden	nahartc@hotmail.com	781-233-2913
Harry Jackson, Jr. Warden		781-598-2072
Heather Collis-Puro	treasurer@ststephenslynn.org	781-775-3942
Carolyn Hoy	Camallie219@gmail.com	781-738-3395
Pam Alleyne	Palleyne01@gmail.com	781-581-9005
Charlotte Brown-Breckenridge	Charley10@msn.com	978-531-6886
Jay Poppe	jameswpoppe@gmail.com	781-913-5190
Dorothy Post	dorfp@aol.com	617-527-1862
Tim Potter	Timothypotter1@yahoo.com	781-592-0859
Carolyn Edwards	Cedwards158@connectedliving.net	781-477-7902
Paul Whitcomb	Paulwhitcomb10@gmail.com	781-593-3887
Sandy Wittrup	s.wittrup@verizon.net	781-599-1943

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

**Lenten Study
The Jesus Movement
Wednesdays in Lent,
March 13th to April 17th
6:30 – 8:00 PM**

**LOVING
LIBERATING
LIFE  GIVING**
the Jesus Movement

The Jesus Movement is the ongoing community of people who center their lives on Jesus and following him into

loving, liberating and life-giving relationship with God, each other and creation. When Michael Curry became the Archbishop of the Episcopal Church 3 years ago, he began talking about the importance of the Episcopal Church seeing itself as a part of the Jesus Movement. Our Lenten Study will use videos of Archbishop Curry to look at our faith and how we love, liberate and give life as individuals and as St. Stephen's Church.

Archbishop Curry will be visiting Boston the weekend after Easter and we hope to hear him speak on Saturday, April 27th.

TUESDAY'S PRAYING WITH THE MONKS FOR LENT. Back by popular demand. Beginning on March 5th and running through the Season of Lent. All are invited to go to the Monastery of the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE), 980 Memorial Dr, Cambridge. On Tuesday at 5:30 PM Eucharist followed by a soup and bread supper. SSJE is an Episcopal monastic order that offer prayerful and beautiful worship. It is a great way to observe a Holy Lent. Please sign up on the sheet in the Galihad Area or contact the office if you are interested and if you are able to provide rides. We will be leaving St. Stephen's at 4:00 PM.

WOMEN'S GROUP, MARCH 3rd 12:00. All women are invited to share in an afternoon of food, fellowship and fun. This month's meeting will be led by St. Andrew's of Marblehead. Please bring a dish to share.

BELOVED COMMUNITY TEAM MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 7 TO 9PM. The BCT team continues to meet monthly to discuss issues of racism and whiteness, providing a safe space for these difficult conversations.

DOES SNOW OR SICKNESS HAVE YOU HOMEBOUND? We know that winter can be long and lonely. Please call (781)-599-4220 or email (ststephens@ststephenslynn.org) the Parish Office if you would welcome a visit from the Clergy or our Pastoral Care Team. We do hold monthly communion services at St. Stephen's Towers. The service will be on March 19, at 2:30pm. All are welcome.

PASTORAL CARE & HEALING PRAYER TEAMS GATHER MARCH 7th. The PCT & HPT will meet on Thursday, March 7 to organize visits, check in. If you are interested in joining the ministries please speak with Rev. Tom Barrington, tbarrington@ststephenslynn.org.

EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday, April 14, 8:00am & 10:00am

Maundy Thursday, April 18

Noon - Healing Service & Holy Eucharist

7:00pm - Commemoration of the Last Supper & Foot Washing

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 20

7:00pm on Lynn Commons with St. Mary's

7:30pm Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday, April 21

8:00am & 10:30am Festival Eucharist with Choir in English

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

MARTI GRAS CELEBRATION SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND, 4PM WITH FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN.

This event is geared towards families with young children however, ALL ARE WELCOME.

- Prepare and participate in a Marti Gras parade
- Making ashes for Ash Wednesday
- Pancake Supper
- Child Centered Worship – Preparing for Lent

OASIS MEETS FRIDAYS, MARCH 8 AND 22 6:30-9. The OASIS Community Youth Group is open to all high school students who are looking for a safe space to hang out, share a meal and have conversation about what matters to them. We will begin to plan the Fourth Annual Youth Pride Event, which will be the first Saturday in June! If you want to help with this Pride Event, please reach out to Jason Cruz at iflows@gmail.com for more information please.

KIDS IN COMMUNITY(KIC). Will begin registration in May for our 2019 Summer program. We are looking for youth mentors to join our team in assisting in our day to day activities. The Summer program will run 4 weeks beginning the second week of July into August. Please contact Shannon Morrissey Program Director at Smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org to complete an application.

DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

KEEP OUR PANTRY SHELVES FULL. The food pantry restoration project is nearing completion and we would like to thank all of the congregation and community donors for their patience and support during this major project. Beginning in March we will be giving a bimonthly report on the food pantry operation and what we need for products and expanded opportunities for volunteers! The pantry began over 24 plus years as a simple idea of meeting the needs of food insecurity with the community, to a ministry that also distributed free books and on occasion giving clean and useful clothing.

If all goes well we will be having an open house for all to view the new setup sometime in the late spring. We continued to serve the community during the construction, it wasn't easy at times but with dedicated volunteers a great job was done. We assisted 2474 households comprising 2455 children, 956 seniors, and 1763 adults with over 37.6 tons of food on 39 Fridays. So far this year, we have distributed 2.24 tons of food to 320 households within a short period of time just 5 Fridays. The amount of food was a little less because we had less food on hand due to storage capacity. Beginning this month we will be increasing our inventory and giving more.

Suggested donations:

Reusable cloth or Heavy plastic shopping bags	Individual Juice drinks
Various toiletry items	Snack Bars
Assorted Individual Fruit Cups	Small canned meats
Single-Serving Cereals, including oatmeal	Individual servings, stews & chilis

Whatever you can contribute will help immensely. Also anyone interested in volunteering in the pantry is greatly appreciated. You can contact the church office (781) 599-4220 and someone will be in touch with you promptly!

Bless all of you and thank you for your continued support. Neil O'Donnell Pantry Director

ECCO MARCH MONTHLY MEETING AND POTLUCK

When: Thursday, March 21st, 6pm Potluck dinner, 7-9pm Meeting

Where: St. Stephen's Church

What: Join us for food, fellowship, and meeting to move forward on our work for justice! Please bring a potluck dish to share.

ECCO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

1) Housing assistance - Salem or close by.

One of ECCO's immigrant leaders, a single woman, will soon need to leave the place she is living and is seeking a room in Salem- can be in a family's apartment or home if there is an empty room available. She is not currently able to pay rent and so we are looking for folks who are able to share their home with someone rent-free for the time being. Seeking a somewhat long-term opportunity so that she will not need to go through the stresses of frequent moves. If you think you or someone you know may be a good fit, Aviva can provide more details.

2) English Language Learning - Lynn.

ECCO immigrant leaders are seeking instructors to teach regular English language lessons so that they can improve their skills and prepare to run the workers' co-op they are dreaming of! Instructors needed on Tuesday, Thursday, and/or Saturday evenings for 2 months beginning near the end of February or start of March. Training and curriculum will be provided, but there is a preference for those who have experience teaching ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages). Please respond and let us know your background in English teaching, if any, and your availability.

With blessings,

Aviva Herr-Welber / Community Organizer
aviva@eccoaction.org / (415)-419-6250

Episcopal City Mission Immigrant Justice Bond Fund

The Immigration Justice Bond Fund, a partnership between ECM and San Lucas, Chelsea, Chelsea Collaborative, St. Stephen's, Lynn, and Essex County Community Organization (ECCO) has bonded out five people who have been unjustly detained. Episcopalians have accompanied these neighbors through the process of posting bond, re-uniting with family and community, and receiving legal advice on the path to permanent residency. In one case, Episcopalians bonded out a neighbor in New Orleans and hosted him until he could fly home to Lynn, MA. We are grateful for the support from individuals and the following parishes: the Rev. Marya deCarlen and All Saints, North Shore; the Rev. Deborah Warner and Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole; the Rev. Scott Ciosek and the parishes of St. Peter's, Dartmouth and St. Martin's, New Bedford; and the Rev. Nathan Ives and St. Peter's Salem for their generous parish contributions to the Fund. We are also grateful to the Very Rev. Amy McCreath, Dean of Cathedral Church of St. Paul, and the Rev. Michael Kinman, Rector of All Saints Pasadena in the Diocese of Los Angeles, for a friendly World Series wager resulting in contributions for the bond fund.

For more information about how to be involved in accompaniment of individuals in this challenging time for our immigrant neighbors and siblings contact

Carly@episcopalcitymission.org or click on the link for more information about [donating to the fund](#).

BISHOP BARBARA C. HARRIS



Greeting from Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris upon the 30th anniversary of her consecration on February 11, 1989 --the day Harris became the first female bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion.

On February 11, 2019 she issued the following message to the community of the Diocese of Massachusetts, where she served as bishop suffragan until her retirement in 2002.

Feb. 11 marks the 30th year of my consecration and the 30th anniversary of becoming bishop suffragan of this diocese.

I look back over these three decades and am mindful of the paraphrased words of the apostle Paul spoken in the consecration sermon: God chooses the foolish things of the

world to confound the wise. Similarly I am immeasurably grateful to the people of this great diocese for putting their trust in me to fulfill the role and office to which I was elected.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve and to continue to be helpful on occasion in retirement when called upon here and in other areas of the church.

At age 88 I can only humbly say, thank you for your continued prayers and support, and thanks be to God.

*The Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris
Bishop Suffragan, Retired*

Photo -DAVID ZADIG

Bishop Barbara C. Harris, pictured with her mother, Beatrice, at the 1989 consecration service.

POEM FOR THE MONTH

Nobody Walks Alone

Of times when the highway of life seems rough
And all of your dreams have flown,
Just remember, wherever your road may go,
Nobody Walks Alone

When everyone else has let you down
And under your sins you groan,
Just keep reminding your burdened heart,
Nobody Walks Alone

Then suddenly you'll feel His hand in yours,
And His eyes lifing upo your own,
And you'll hear His gentle, forgiving voice:
"Nobody Walks Alone"

By: Nick Kenny

If anyone would like to offer a Poem for the Month for future newsletter please send it to ststephens@ststephenslynn.org or speak to Rev. Tom.

St. Stephen's Events

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 4:00pm Marti Gras/Pancake Supper
3 Last Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:30 am Search Committee Meeting	4 8:00 pm AA	5 4:00 pm Praying w/ Monks 7:00 pm NA	6 Ash Wednesday	7 10:30 am Healing Prayer & Pastoral Care Team Meeting 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	8 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Oasis	9 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10 First Sunday in Lent Daylight Saving Time starts 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 12:00 pm Women's Group	11 8:00 pm AA	12 7:00 pm NA	13 8:30 am Lynn Police Community Conversations 6:00 pm North Shore Deanery Assembly 6:30 pm Lenten Study	14 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 7:00 pm Beloved Community Team	15 3:00 pm Food Pantry	16 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
17 Second Sunday in Lent St. Patrick's Day 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:30 am Vestry Meeting	18 6:30 pm Search Committee Meeting 8:00 pm AA	19 2:30 pm Communion at the Towers 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Stewardship Ministry Team	20 6:30 pm Lenten Study	21 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 5:00 pm ECCO Monthly Meeting	22 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS	23 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
24 Third Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	25 8:00 pm AA	26 7:00 pm NA	27 6:30 pm Lenten Study	28 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	29 3:00 pm Food Pantry	30 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
31 Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation						

