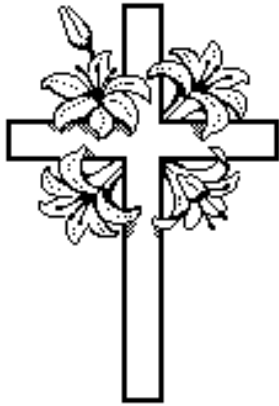


March, 2020



**From the Interim Priest,**

**AN INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT**

In the Ash Wednesday service there is an invitation to the observance of a Holy Lent:

*By self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.*

My experience is that it is always easier to live out such observances together rather than alone. A number of years ago I tried to take on the practice of fasting from sunrise to sunset as Muslims do during their penitential season of Ramadan. I was not very successful. Reflecting upon this experience, I realize that the big difference was that I was trying to fast alone and in isolation. The Muslim practice is most often done as a community. They eat before sunrise with their families and often gather in the evening to pray and break fasting together. It still requires personal discipline, but it is a fuller experience done as part of a community.

Here at St. Stephen's we are offering a number of ways to gather together for the observance of a Holy Lent. I invite and encourage you to take advantage of them.

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Mondays:</b>    | Spanish classes beginning March 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM  |
| <b>Tuesdays:</b>   | Praying with the Monks of SSJE in Cambridge at 5:30 PM (We will carpool, leaving St. Stephen's at 4:00 PM) |
| <b>Wednesdays:</b> | Lenten Series: <i>Meeting God through Art</i> - 6:00 -7:30 PM  |
| <b>Thursdays:</b>  | Healing Service and Holy Communion - Noon  |
| <b>Fridays:</b>    | Stations of the Cross - 12:30 PM<br>Helping with the Food Pantry 2:30 -4:00 PM                             |
| <b>Sundays:</b>    | Holy Eucharist - 8:00 and 10:00 AM<br>Centering Prayer - 9:00 AM   |

I pray that that we may grow in faith this Lent and be fully prepared to rejoice as we celebrate the Resurrection on Easter.

In peace,

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

The Rev. Tom Barrington

## **UPDATE ON THE SEARCH PROCESS**

In late January the Search Committee reported to the vestry that they were not able to reach a consensus on a candidate for Rector and handed the search process back to the Vestry. The Vestry met with the Rev. Canon Martha Hubbard, on February 13<sup>th</sup> to explore our options moving forward. After discussing forming a new Search Committee or requesting the Bishop to appoint a Priest-in-Charge, the Vestry decided to ask Bishop Gate's to find us a Priest-in-Charge. The candidate will have to be approved by the Vestry. The Priest-in-Charge will come with a three year contract with the option of becoming the Rector in the third year.

We are currently waiting for the Bishop to recommend a candidate.

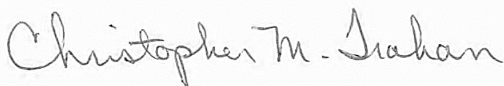
### **Excerpts from the Senior Warden to the Vestry, January 29, 2020**

The Search Committee met tonight to discuss and decide upon their final candidate to recommend to the Vestry for consideration of the position of Rector. This evening, Steve Switzer, co-chair of the Search Committee, called me with all the committee members present, to notify me that regrettably the Search Committee was unable to arrive at a consensus to make a final recommendation. I thanked the whole committee for their hard and diligent work through this whole process affirming that they had a difficult job.....

The members of Search Committee deserve our heartfelt gratitude for all of their countless hours over nearly two years spent on discerning the life of our parish, our parish's needs, our parish's aspirations and the qualifications and gifts that each of the candidates possess whom have applied for this position. Their decision was not reached lightly.

Please continue to hold the parish, the candidates and everyone who has worked tirelessly on this process in your prayers. We know that with God's help, the right candidate we become known to St. Stephen's!

In Peace,



Chris Trahan

**Thoughts about the search from Helen Patmon and Steve Switzer,  
Co-Chairs of the Search Committee**

February 1, 2020

Hello All,

We thought we should gather some thoughts ....regarding the search outcome and process.

The following thoughts were compiled with suggestions by Emily Sherwood and some thoughts from the two of us.

- Everyone on the Search Committee worked hard and diligently over the past two years.
- Everyone on the Search Committee prayed and searched their heart and conscious about who they thought would be best for the St. Stephen's community.
- Each of the candidates brought different skills and talents and visions of the future for St. Stephen's.
- We sought and received consultation from the Diocese to help us resolve the impasse, held another round of final interviews, but were still unable to come to a consensus on making a recommendation to the Vestry and so the search process has ended without a call.
- Martha reminds us that "Much was discerned in the process that will lead the parish forward--so the search did not fail--it just did not reach the hoped for result of a consensus recommendation."
- We have reported this to the Vestry. For more information on next steps you should consult with the Vestry.
- The candidates shared very personal information with us so we still need to adhere to a strict sense of confidentiality regarding the candidates.

So those are our thoughts. If you have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Steve Switzer and Helen Patmon

## STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

### ST. STEPHEN'S CLEAN UP DAY

**Saturday, April 4th, 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.** Election results are below for the Vestry and Diocesan and Deanery Representation. The 2019 Annual Report can be found on the website [www.ststephenslynn.org](http://www.ststephenslynn.org).

### New Vestry:

Name	Email	Phone
Chris Trahan, Sr. Warden	<a href="mailto:nahartc@hotmail.com">nahartc@hotmail.com</a>	781-233-2913
Harry Jackson, Jr. Warden		781-598-2072
<b>Treasurer -Vacant</b>		
Carolyn Hoy	<a href="mailto:Camallie219@gmail.com">Camallie219@gmail.com</a>	781-738-3395
Pam Alleyne	<a href="mailto:Palleyne01@gmail.com">Palleyne01@gmail.com</a>	781-581-9005
Charlotte Brown-Breckenridge	<a href="mailto:Charley10@msn.com">Charley10@msn.com</a>	978-531-6886
Jay Poppe	<a href="mailto:jameswpoppe@gmail.com">jameswpoppe@gmail.com</a>	781-913-5190
Albertina "Tina" Robillard	<a href="mailto:albertinar@aol.com">albertinar@aol.com</a>	781- 593-8362
Tim Potter	<a href="mailto:Timothypotter1@yahoo.com">Timothypotter1@yahoo.com</a>	781-592-0859
Emily Sherwood	<a href="mailto:emily.sherwood5@gmail.com">emily.sherwood5@gmail.com</a>	617- 947-8231
Robert "Bob" Tucker	<a href="mailto:robert295ns@gmail.com">robert295ns@gmail.com</a>	781 -454-8595
Joyce Wallace	<a href="mailto:jwallace52@comcast.net">jwallace52@comcast.net</a>	781- 248-1157

### Delegates to Diocesan Convention and Deanery Representatives:

Name	Email	Phone
Steve Switzer	<a href="mailto:switz70@gmail.com">switz70@gmail.com</a>	781-783-1674
Susan Rosevear	<a href="mailto:sgrosevear@icloud.com">sgrosevear@icloud.com</a>	781- 856-3131
Con Squires-Alternate Delegate	<a href="mailto:csquires978@gmail.com">csquires978@gmail.com</a>	781-715-7383

### Deanery Representatives:

Name	Email	Phone
Bonnie Bishop	<a href="mailto:bishopbw@gmail.com">bishopbw@gmail.com</a>	781-771-4979
Joyce Wallace	<a href="mailto:jwallace52@comcast.net">jwallace52@comcast.net</a>	781- 248.1157

## **NURTURING THE CONGREGATION**

### **Baptism during the Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 11, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

Anyone one interested in Baptism, please contact Rev. Tom and fill out a baptism application form.

**HERE'S THE SCOOP ON "CENTERING PRAYER" AT ST. STEPHEN'S:** About 9:15 several parishioners sit quietly at the left front of the church. Their hands are folded in their laps, their eyes are closed. What's going on? Centering prayer. Everybody who'd like to try a new prayer experience is welcome.

Here's what happens. First a bronze pot is struck. The people grow still. Main idea is to clear your head. When you think something (everyone does) you repeat a key word until the mind quiets down again. This helps us find peace and prepare for worship. It is easy to do and works well. You are welcome to join us!

### **SPANISH CLASSES BEGINNING MONDAY, MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>, 6:30 to 8:00 PM**

St. Stephen's has received a Congregational Development grant to teach Spanish to our parishioners and staff. A lot of our outreach and social justice work involves working with those for whom Spanish is there first language. The neighborhood around the church is increasingly Spanish speaking. We are offering these classes to help teach some basic Spanish as well as a way to better understand the lives of our neighbors. Please sign up on the sheet in the Galahad area. The classes are free but we do ask the participant to commit to the 10 week program.

**LENTEN FORUM-MEETING GOD THROUGH ART:** Using images to encounter God's presence. Wednesdays in Lent: March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1 6:00pm soup and dinner 6:30-8:00 program. During Lent as we take time to understand our Lord a little deeper, so that Good Friday and Easter become an opportunity to receive all God has to offer. One way to do this is by exploring new prayer practices. Terri Kay will be presenting Visio Divina on Wednesday evenings through Lent. Visio Divina, Latin for divine seeing, is a contemplative prayer practice which uses images to help one encounter God's presence in what we see. It invites us to see and explore an image and be surprised by God. All are welcome

**TUESDAY'S PRAYING WITH THE MONKS FOR LENT.** Back by popular demand. Beginning on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 8th 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. This gathering will center around the current exhibit in our Cloister Art Gallery. Art Exhibit @ the Cloister Gallery at St. Andrew's Church

The Cloister Gallery will feature a new show entitled "Black Lives Matter: A Struggle for Justice and Equality" which is an exhibition of small art quilts related to civil rights history and justice reform. Viewers will see images of civil rights leaders and heroes like Harriet Tubman, Shirley Chisholm, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, and President Obama, interwoven with brightly colored fabrics and embellishments. Pete Seeger and his banjo appear on one quilt, which also includes Norman Rockwell's iconic image of a small girl walking to school accompanied by two federal marshals. Titled "Together We Learn to Read and Write," the quilt echoes Seeger's song imaging children learning together in peace and friendship. It commemorates the Supreme Court ruling that racially segregated education is inherently unequal and violates the Constitution. Ms. Earsy, a retired lawyer, began making art quilts in 2006. Her first one celebrated Peace Day, with purple felt praying hands and tiny Tibetan prayer flags. Since then, she's created over 100 art quilts, many of them focused on civil rights. She finds that the practice of designing and sewing small quilts fosters mindfulness and restores her spirits.

Please consider stepping in to lead the Women's Group. Joyce Wallace and Charlotte Breckenridge have been doing such a great job, but as you know, it is time for others to step up into this role to make sure the Women's group continues to thrive and grow.

**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](mailto: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 APRIL 2ND.** The PCT & HPT will meet on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> to organize visits, check in. If you are interested in joining the ministries please speak with Rev. Tom Barrington, [tbarrington@ststephenslynn.org](mailto:tbarrington@ststephenslynn.org).

**THE NORTH SHORE DEANERY'S LIBERATING OURSELVES FROM RACISM (LOFR)** training will meet on four consecutive Saturday mornings from 9 am to 12 noon starting on April 25th.

LOFR is a program offered by the Mission Institute that engages communities and congregations through a powerful four-part adult education series geared towards inviting them into the critical work of examining racism internally, interpersonally and systemically. Instead of being a lecture series or cookie cutter experience, each series is created with, tailored to, and facilitated in such a way that is contextual to each community. To sign up please speak to Rev. Tom or Helen Patmon

## **EASTER SERVICES**

**Palm Sunday, April 5, 8:00am & 10:00am**

**Maundy Thursday, April 9**

Noon - Healing Service & Holy Eucharist

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

**Good Friday, April 10, 7:00pm**

**Easter Vigil Saturday, April 11**

7:00pm Great Vigil of Easter & Baptism

**Easter Sunday, April 12**

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

11:00am Kenyan Congregation

## **HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS**

**KIDS IN COMMUNITY(KIC).** Has begin registration for our 2020 Summer program. The deadline is June 6, 2020. 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 July 13<sup>th</sup>- August 7<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Shannon Morrissey Program Director at [Smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org](mailto:Smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org) to complete an application.

**ST. STEPHEN'S DANCE TEAM:** Nnkesia Brock is beginning a St. Stephen's Dance Team. They will have rehearsal after the 10:00 am service. All Youth and children are welcome

## **DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT**

### **MARCH ECCO COMMUNITY MEETING**

**When:** Thursday, March 19th, 6pm potluck dinner, 6:30pm meeting

**Where:** St. Stephen's Episcopal Upper Hall, 74 S. Common St., Lynn, MA

How does racism show up in our economy, and what can we do about it? Join us at our next ECCO Community Meeting on March 19th for a deep dive into the economic histories and realities that shape our lives. We will come together to deepen our relationships and continue our shared learning around racial justice, asking ourselves: "How did our economy come to be the way it is, and why is racism so deeply embedded in it? What might a just economy look like, and what action can we take to get there?" We look forward to being with you as we dream big about what a truly liberating economy could look like for all of us.

**KENYAN CONGREGATION FUNDRAISER: Please see all the details below.**

# ENEZA INJILI

invites you, our friend and partner,

to a **Worship Encounter** and  
**Official Launch of Mission to Mivumoni  
Church in Mombasa**

When: Sun, March 15th, 2020

Where: St. Stephen's  
Lynn  
74 South Common St,  
Lynn Ma

**BRING FRIENDS  
AND FAMILY**

Time: 3pm - 5:30pm

*Come have a good time  
for worship,  
meditation, and  
fellowship*



**A Quality time for  
Prayers and Music**



**POEM FOR THE MONTH**

***EASTER WINGS***

*Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,  
Though foolishly he lost the same,  
Decaying more and more,  
Till he became  
Most poore:  
With thee  
O let me rise  
As larks, harmoniously,  
And sing this day thy victories:  
Then shall the fall further the flight in me.*

*My tender age in sorrow did beginne  
And still with sicknesses and shame.  
Thou didst so punish sinne,  
That I became  
Most thinne.  
With thee  
Let me combine,  
And feel thy victorie:  
For, if I imp my wing on thine,  
Affliction shall advance the flight in me.*

*By George Herbert*

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



## EASTER LILIES

### IN MEMORY OR THANKSGIVING FOR THOSE YOU LOVE

It is time once again to remember your loved ones with a contribution to our Easter Memorial Flowers. Please use this form to list the name(s) to be printed in our Easter Celebration of Life booklet. Please print clearly! We ask for a donation of \$25 so that we can purchase Easter flowers to decorate the church at Easter. Your names must be submitted no later than **April 1, 2020**.

**Do Not Detach**

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In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

The flowers donated by members of the parish decorate the altar gloriously for our Easter services. After services, we deliver the lilies to our homebound members. We need volunteers with a little time and a lot of Easter joy to deliver them during the week of **Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**. Flower delivery isn't hard and won't take long but it will make a difference in another person's life.

All you have to do is take a lily and an addressed card, and then deliver them to your fellow parishioner. Receiving the lilies and an Easter Alleluia from you will make their day! Please call the church office at 781-599-4220 if you can help.

*Please return this sheet to the parish office with your donation.*

# St. Stephen's Events

# March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> First Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Centered Prayer Group 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	<b>2</b> 8:00 pm AA	<b>3</b> Super Tuesday 7:00 pm NA	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Lynn Public School-Food Pantry Set-up 10:30 am Healing Prayer & Pastoral Care Team Meeting 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 7:00 pm ECCO Meeting	<b>6</b> 12:30 pm Stations of the Cross	<b>7</b> 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
<b>8</b> Second Sunday in Lent Daylight Saving Time starts 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Centered Prayer Group 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan	<b>9</b> 8:00 pm AA	<b>10</b> 2:30 pm Communion at the Towers 7:00 pm NA	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Lynn Public School-Food Pantry Set-up 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 7:00 pm Beloved Community Team	<b>13</b> 12:30 pm Stations of the Cross 3:00 pm Food Pantry	<b>14</b> 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
<b>15</b> Third Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Centered Prayer Group 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	<b>16</b> 8:00 pm AA	<b>17</b> St. Patrick's Day 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Stewardship Ministry Team	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm 8th Annual My Brother's Table 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>19</b> St Joseph 9:00 am Lynn Public School-Food Pantry Set-up 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 6:00 pm ECCO Community Meeting	<b>20</b> 12:30 pm Stations of the Cross 3:00 pm Food Pantry	<b>21</b> 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
<b>22</b> Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Centered Prayer Group 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	<b>23</b> 6:30 Spanish Classes 8:00 pm AA	<b>24</b> 7:00 pm NA	<b>25</b> The Annunciation 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Lynn Public School-Food Pantry Set-up 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	<b>27</b> 12:30 pm Stations of the Cross 3:00 pm Food Pantry	<b>28</b> 9:00 am Warden's Day 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
<b>29</b> Fifth Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Centered Prayer Group 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	<b>30</b> 6:30 Spanish Classes 8:00 pm AA	<b>31</b> 7:00 pm NA				