



The Hillside Messenger

A Message from the Rector: Preparing for Lent

The 1928 Prayer Book makes provision for a season called Pre-Lent before the actual beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. This season consists of three weeks, the weeks of Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima, these names being Latin words for seventieth, sixtieth, and fiftieth. These names were chosen by analogy with Quadragesima, the first Sunday in Lent, or the “fortieth day” (approximately) before Easter. Quinquagesima is exactly fifty days before Easter, while Sexagesima and Septuagesima represent approximations of the sixtieth and seventieth days before Easter Day. These three Pre-Lenten Sundays were instituted in the Roman rite in the late sixth century soon after the Lombards invaded Italy in AD 568; their propers continued to be used in the medieval Missals and

afterwards were adopted in the English prayer books (p. 118, Massey Hamilton Shepherd, Jr.: *The Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1950. Fifth printing, 1955)

Now why is it that this emphasis on Lent is so important in our liturgical tradition? The Collects for the Pre-Lenten

sixth century. What is the need for an extension of Lent by adding a Pre-Lenten season? My reply to this is that the faithful always need to be aware of their call “to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God” (*Micah 6:8*, NKJV). No matter how people may be prospering financially, in this modern world adversity is

ever present, and we all need to deepen our trust in God and our dependence on Him and to recognize that we always need God’s mercy and protection.

The psalmist reminds us:

“Great plagues remain for the ungodly; but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD, mercy embraceth him on every side” (*Psalm 32:11*, p. 378, *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1928).

The tone of this liturgical season is set by the Collect for Septuagesima Sunday:

(Continues on page 2)



Sundays reflect the dangerous circumstances in Italy in the late sixth century, including not only the devastation by barbarians, but pestilences, famines, and earthquakes. Today someone might ask why these three Sundays of the liturgical year should still be observed, since their origin lies in the adversities faced by the Roman Church in the

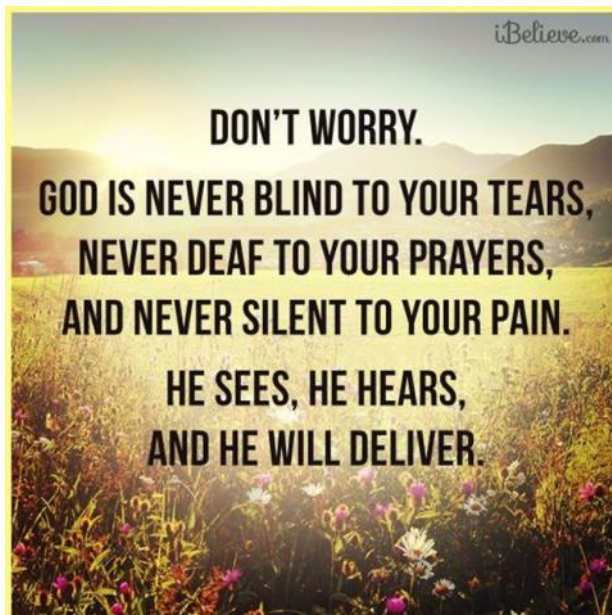
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Preparing for Lent

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O LORD, we beseech Thee favourably to hear the prayers of Thy people; that we, who are justly punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by Thy goodness, for the glory of Thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Sav-



our, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end.
Amen.

p. 118, *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1928

Admittedly, the word *afflicted* in this Collect might have been a better translation of the Latin word *affligimur* than pun-

ished, since the Latin word *affligo* means “knock down” or “dash down”. The Collect asks God to mercifully hear the prayers of His people, who are being justly afflicted for their sins, and to deliver them by His goodness from these afflictions.

If we think that we do not need to pray along these lines because there are no afflictions that we face, we must think again. At any time, we may suddenly face adversity or affliction from which we shall need God’s merciful deliverance. Is any of us exempt from this? True enough, not every trial or affliction is a result of particular sins of our own, but we must always be ready to acknowledge that our own sins have consequences and may possibly result in afflictions. Yet we know that any afflictions we do suffer are far less than those we would have deserved as sinners if we had not been justified, or set in a right relationship with God, by God’s grace at work in the atoning death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross and by our faith in Him. Anglican piety, as reflected in the historic prayer books, always acknowledges human sinfulness and responsibility for sin but expresses trust in the grace of God for forgiveness and holds out the hope that He will turn away from us the evils we have deserved, as is shown in the concluding

prayer of the Litany:

WE humbly beseech Thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of Thy Name, turn from us all those evils that we most justly have deserved; and grant, that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in Thy mercy, and evermore serve Thee in holiness and pureness of living, to Thy honour and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

p.59, *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1928

The main point is to turn from sin, to trust in God and in His mercy, and to live humbly before God. This point is taken up by the second Collect of the Pre-Lenten season, the Collect for Sexagesima Sunday:

O LORD God, who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do; mercifully grant that by Thy power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus

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Preparing for Lent

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Christ our Lord.
Amen.

p.120, *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1928

The first part of this Collect acknowledges God as seeing that the faithful do not put any trust in anything that they do. It is a discarding of pride. The petition of the Collect is a prayer for God's defense against all adversity. It is only by God's power that we can be defended from adversity. Of course, this does not mean that we shall be saved from facing adversity; rather, we will be strengthened in facing it so that it may not overwhelm us completely. We all need to draw close to God and find our rest in Him, as Isaiah prophesied to the Israelites:

For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.

Isaiah 30:15,
KJV

We should take warning from those words at the end of *Isaiah 30:15*, "And ye would not." The warning is that we must not fall into the same sin of refusing to come to God

and trust in Him.

The third Collect of the Pre-Lenten season, the Collect for Quinquagesima, is one that Archbishop Thomas Cranmer probably composed for the 1549 Prayer Book. Based on the Epistle for the day, *I Corinthians 13*, it replaced the old Latin Collect which was another prayer for God to defend the faithful against adversity. Here is the Collect for Quinquagesima Sunday:

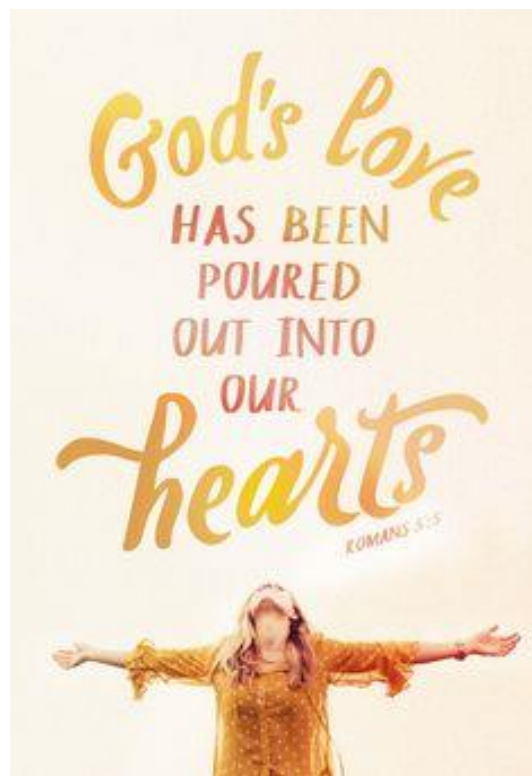
O LORD, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; send Thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before Thee. Grant this for Thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

p.122, *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1928

What new element does this Collect bring to the Pre-Lenten season?

Firstly, it brings the insight of the love of God as transforming the value of all we do; secondly, it petitions God to send His Holy Ghost and pour into our hearts the most excellent gift of charity. With-

out that gift, whoever lives is counted dead before God. What a wonderful realignment takes place here! Instead of the emphasis on God's mercy to sinners, we encounter in this Collect the prayer that God will breathe life into us through His Holy Spirit and give us the gift of charity, or divine love, so that we may be



alive, not dead, in God's presence. This key to life in God's sight is just what all of us need as we begin Lent.

How will you realign your life to God's purposes and love as you walk with the Lord in your daily life?

— *The Reverend Christopher Parrish*

Our Chapel Family Prayer List

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that Thou wouldest be pleased to make Thy ways known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for Thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by Thy good Spirit, that all

who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to Thy fatherly goodness:

Archbishop
Foley Beach;

Bishop
Bill Ilgenfritz;

Canon
Michael Penfield;
Father Chris Parrish;

Deacon Peter Vogel; and
Deacon Linda Bracken;

also all those who serve as Thy ministers in governing our nation and state, particularly:

President
Donald Trump; and

Governor
Gavin Newsom;

as well as all those who

are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; especially those for whom our prayers are desired:

the soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, police officers, firefighters, and pilots who protect us every day;

our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters throughout the world;

all refugees;

Jim and Edna Davis;

Estelle Wilson;

Joya de Rossett;

Debbie;

Scott;

Brittany;

James and Tanya Theiler;

Dale Quinn;

Brian Quinn;

Lisa;

Ben;

Marion;

Flo;

Max;

Dan and Kendra Pack;

Ernst Hernandez;

the Stanko family;

Yoshihiko and Hideko Ikegami;

Elizabeth Ann and her husband;

Stephen;

Lori Anderson;

Ali Hemphill;

Lori Hemphill;

Pennel Magaw;

Tracy Magaw;

Mary Frances Reeves;

Maryanne Sanchez;

Kaitlyn Lindstedt;

Brenda Terry;

Elise;

Thomas and MaryAlice Dunbar;

Mrs. Kitt;

Jon Carter;

Marilyn;

Frank Capone;

the family of
John Jerrehian;

Dave Joines;

Rose Handwerker;

Ann and Frank MacVoy;

Libby Codd;

Bishop Ilgenfritz;

Karen and her family;

Darren Norman;

Deacon Peter Vogel; and

for all those
who are in our hearts,

that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Please note: This prayer list was current as of January 26th, and the people of St. Luke's will pray for each need until we are notified that it has been met. Please contact Father Parrish to add or remove names. Thank you!

because
HE BENDS DOWN TO
LISTEN
I WILL PRAY AS LONG AS I HAVE
breath

PSALM 116:2

A Prayer for Our Congregation

O GOD,
Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,
visit, we pray Thee,
the Congregation of St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills
with Thy love and favour;
enlighten our minds more and more
with the light of the everlasting Gospel;
graft in our hearts a love of the truth;
increase in us true religion;
nourish us with all goodness;
and of Thy great mercy keep us in the same,
O blessed Spirit,
whom, with the Father and the Son together,
we worship and glorify as one God,
world without end.
Amen.



Why You Should Attend the Annual Meeting

It's true— you have been sent a proxy form which allows you to appoint another parish member to vote on your behalf at the Annual Meeting; But why appoint a proxy when your personal attendance is so important to the health and maintenance of our Chapel family?

Annual Meetings offer every member of the

parish an opportunity to hear reports from our Rector, our Vestry, and selected ministerial chairpersons. They also have the right to review, discuss, and vote upon the Proposed 2020 Operating Budget and to elect Vestry members. This year, the Vestry has proposed amendments to our parish By-Laws, and we will all discuss the proposed changes and then vote to either approve or reject

these changes. Your input is needed! Finally, this year's Annual Meeting will also feature a potluck luncheon, and no one wants to miss that.

The 2020 Annual Meeting of St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills is Sunday, February 16th, right after Holy Communion at 10:00 AM. Please join us!

— *Kim Vogel*



Parish Postings

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 16th**. The Vestry has recommended amendments to our By-Laws. Copies of these amended By-Laws are available in McNeely Hall, and we will vote on the proposed amendments at the Annual Meeting. Parishioners who have questions about the amendments may ask any member of the Vestry.

To celebrate this special time together as a family, we will begin the Annual Meeting with a **potluck luncheon**. Please bring something to



share!

St. Luke's will have its annual **Pancake Luncheon** on **Sunday, February 23rd**, immediately following a 10:00 AM Holy Communion service. *Please note:* There will be only one worship service on this Third Sun-



day.

Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, is **February 26th**. The Reverend Christopher Parrish

will celebrate Holy Communion with a Penitential Office and Imposition of



Ashes at 7:00 PM .

Our Chapel needs Lay Readers. Any confirmed member of the congregation may serve in this ministry. No experience is necessary— training will be provided. Please let Father Parrish know as soon as possible if you feel God is calling you to



this ministry. Thank you! **This** newsletter functions best when its pages contain many voices, so your editor is asking for your help in supplying content. There are many ways you can contribute, a few of which are listed below. Please prayerfully consider submitting something— even twenty words can make an article! Submissions are welcome at any time and are

subject to approval by Father Parrish.

- Photos of parish events (single snapshots or photo essays)
- News items of general interest for the *Parish Postings* column
- Notes on parish ministries (Do you need volunteers or donations? Are you doing something new? Tell your Chapel family!)
- Write a *Parishioner Profile* — Has God revealed Himself to you in a new way during your quiet time? Are you applying a lesson from Scripture to your life with unexpected blessings as a result? Share your story with us!
- Do you have a favorite Bible passage, prayer, or hymn? Tell us why it means so much to you!



Please bring canned and dry grocery goods on any Sunday for distribution to the Downtown Palo Alto Emergency Food Closet.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 2nd

The Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Bible Study: Isaiah

9:15 AM

Holy Communion with Healing Service

10:00 AM

Sunday, February 9th

Septuagesima, *or* the Third Sunday before Lent

Bible Study: Isaiah

9:15 AM

Office of Morning Prayer

10:00 AM

Holy Communion

12:00 PM

Sunday, February 16th

Sexagesima, *or* the Second Sunday before Lent

Bible Study: Isaiah

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Annual Parish Meeting with Potluck Luncheon
immediately following the worship service

Sunday, February 23rd

Quinquagesima, *or* the First Sunday before Lent

Bible Study: Isaiah

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Pancake Luncheon
immediately following the worship service

Wednesday, February 26th

Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion with a Penitential Office and Imposition of Ashes

7:00 PM

Saturday, February 29th

Leap Day

Sunday, March 1st

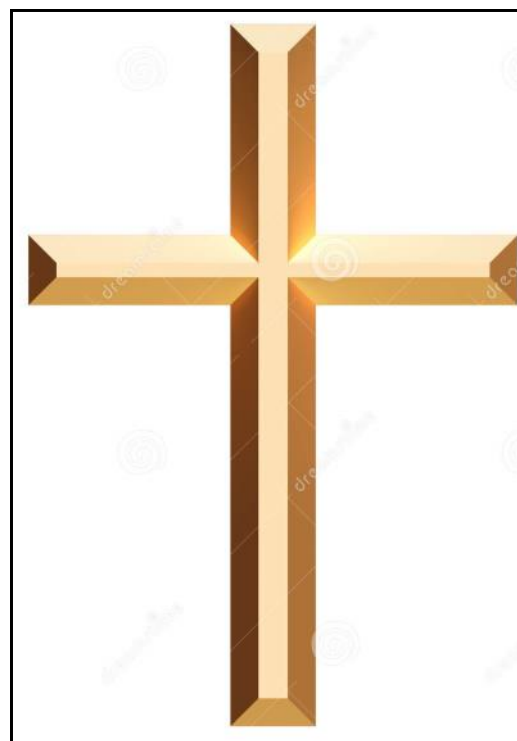
The First Sunday in Lent

Bible Study: Isaiah

9:15 AM

Holy Communion with Healing Service

10:00 AM





The Hillside Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF
ST. LUKE'S CHAPEL IN THE HILLS
ANGLICAN CHURCH

A PARISH OF
THE CONVOCATION OF THE WEST,
PART OF THE
MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF
ALL SAINTS IN
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

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Worship Schedule

St.

Luke's Chapel in the Hills is a traditional Anglican parish which uses the 1928 edition *Book of Common Prayer*. We invite you to join us for worship soon!

***"A place
where the Bible is taught."***



*Biblical in teaching.
Liturgical in worship.
Loving in practice.*

First, third, and fifth Sundays of each month

Holy Communion
(with Healing Service on First Sunday)
10:00 AM

Second and fourth Sundays each month

Office of Daily Morning Prayer
10:00 AM

Said Holy Communion
noon

Please note that both services on Feast Days occurring on these Sundays will be Holy Communion.