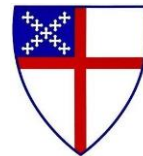


# Grace to You and Peace

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Volume 13 | Issue 23

March 2022

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### WELCOME BACK, PAM!!

We are glad to announce that Pam Rhea will be working as our Christian Education Director. Her first day is March 1, and her office is in the Murray Bullock Room. She will be coordinating Christian Education programs at the church, as well as teaching classes throughout the year. Look for more from Pam in next month's newsletter!

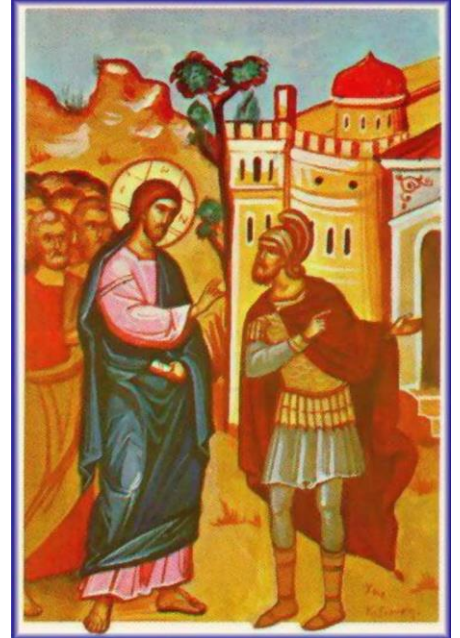
***Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
Amen.***

***The Book of Common Prayer, page 816***

## A Prayer for Peace

*God of Mercy,  
We pray for Ukraine.  
For all of humanity distorted by war.  
For all the lives lost, homes seized, and peace broken.  
May the Spirit of comfort and compassion envelop all who dwell  
in fear.  
May the Spirit of wisdom and humility enliven our global  
leaders.  
May we affirm the dignity and rights of all.  
May we seek peace.  
Amen.*

From Salve Regina University



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## How Can We Help?

Our March Outreach is **Care Packages for Our Troops**. The USO sends Care Packages to troops overseas year-round, so we would like to partner with them for our outreach. We can participate through two options: one is to simply give a monetary donation to the USO through their website; a second option is to purchase a care package through the USO Wishbook on their website. Care packages are assembled by USO staff members and sent to troops serving overseas.

For information about the care packages, go to this link: <https://usowishbook.uso.org/all-gifts>



# Lenten Offerings

- **March 1 – Shrove Tuesday**

Service of reconciliation (confession of a penitent) at 5:30 in the Chapel; pancake supper in the Parish Hall at 6:00.

- **March 2 – Ash Wednesday**

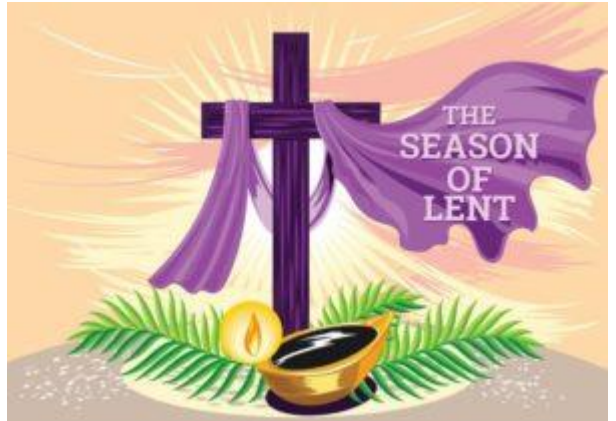
7:05 a.m. - Imposition of Ashes, in the chapel  
12:05 p.m. - Imposition of Ashes, in the chapel  
5:30 p.m. - Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist, in the church

- **March 6 - April 10 – Sunday 9:15 - 10:00 a.m.**

All Confirmed people are invited to study the CS Lewis classic, *The Great Divorce*. The study, taught by Father Jason, will meet in the Earline Robertson Room.

- **Wednesdays in Lent (after Ash Wednesday) – 12:05 p.m.**

Holy Eucharist in the Chapel



## THE HEART OF THE MATTER Lenten Bible Study

Led by The Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea, March 9, 16, 23,30; April 6, 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the Earline Robertson Room.

“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.” (Psalm 51:10)

What does a clean heart look like to God? This Lent we will look at The Heart of the Matter by looking at matters of the heart in a six-week teaching series.

During our time together we will explore the following through scripture, tradition, and culture:

The physical heart

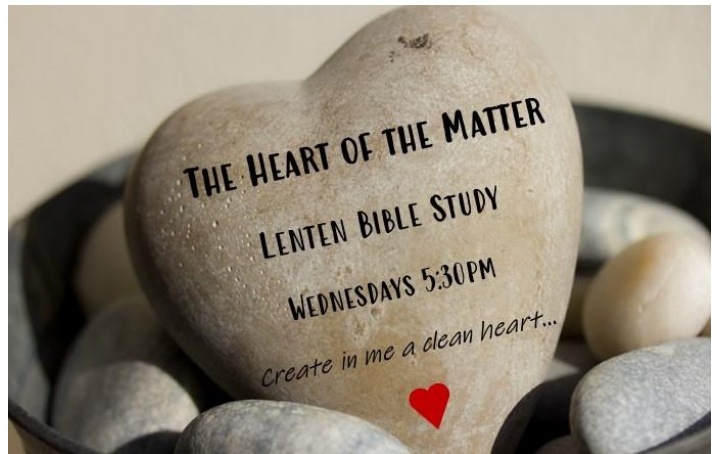
The compassionate heart

The grateful heart

The healing heart

The servant’s heart

The faithful heart



## Reflection from Father Jason

Lent begins on March 2, with the observance of Ash Wednesday. During the course of the service, we acknowledge to God our wretchedness, admit to a series of sins committed by most modern Christians, and ask God to give us true repentance and a clean heart. For years I have downplayed the admission of our wretchedness, and the borderline, self-flagellation that often accompanies it. But in doing this, I have weakened the argument for our need to repent. Where there's no sin, there's no need for repentance. Because of our hard-heartedness, sometimes the only way for us to recognize our sinfulness is to have it shoved in our face. We are amazingly good at justifying our sins and pardoning ourselves. But this flies in the face of Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us," (1 John 1:8-10). Lent isn't a time for

bemoaning our fallen state, as though we have no choice in how we live- it is a time to shine the light on the darkness of our lives, to bring before God all those things that have no place in His kingdom, and leave them there at the foot of the cross. If we can do this - if we can bring before God our sins, and leave them at the cross, when we get to Good Friday the impact of what Christ did for us will drop us to our knees. Lent is about drawing closer to God, and removing those things in our lives that separate us from the love of God. It is about sacrifice, but what we sacrifice is that which is destroying us: our pride, hypocrisy, impatience, self-indulgent appetites, exploitation of other people, envy of those more fortunate than ourselves, false judgments, our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, and our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors (BCP 268). God isn't asking us to sacrifice chocolate or fast food; God is calling us to sacrifice those things that keep us out of the kingdom - the one that's here and the one to come.



This year for Lent we are offering several different ways to come closer to God. On Sundays from 9:15-10:00, Father Jason will lead a study of [The Great Divorce](#) by C.S. Lewis. It is an allegorical work about what we can bring into the Kingdom of God, and what we must leave behind. On Wednesdays at 12:05 there will be Holy Eucharist in the chapel, and at 5:30 Pam Rhea will lead a class about what it means to have a clean heart (create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me, Psalm 51:11). We will also be reintroducing acolytes and the choir to the Sunday service, and beginning on Ash Wednesday, return to the altar rail for communion (though we are still mandated by the diocese to limit the cup to intinction). My prayer for this Lent is two-fold: one, that it not be interrupted by Covid, and two, that we prayerfully and intentionally examine our souls, and rid ourselves of those things that separate us from the love of Christ.

## Lenten Musings

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### "The Peace of Wild Things"

By Wendell Berry

When despair for the world grows in me  
and I wake in the night at the least sound  
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,  
I go and lie down where the wood drake  
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.  
I come into the peace of wild things  
who do not tax their lives with forethought  
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.  
And I feel above me the day-blind stars  
waiting with their light. For a time  
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

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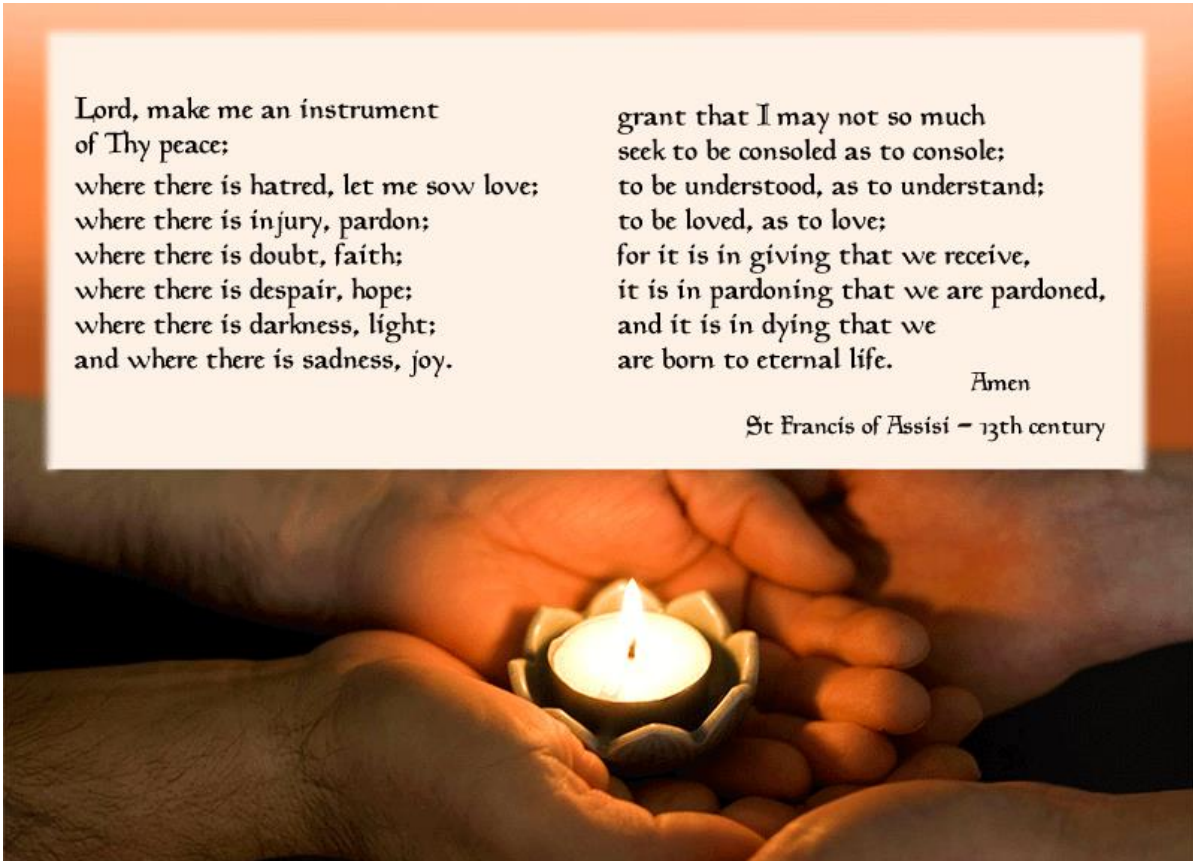
### Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument  
of Thy peace;  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.

grant that I may not so much  
seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we  
are born to eternal life.

Amen

St Francis of Assisi - 13th century



## Sunday Offerings

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### For Our Children

#### LEGO Sunday School!



For children ages 4 – 11, this class meets at 9:15 a.m. in the St. Nicholas room. Bible stories and lessons are learned through LEGO play.

Pictured is an example of learning about Moses and the burning bush.

#### Children's Chapel

Children's Chapel provides early Christian education during regular church services to young parishioners ages 5-11. Offered during the 10:30 a.m. service, Children's Church offers a child-friendly, interactive experience based on the lessons covered in the sermon of the day.

Children's Church leaders include Lindsay Clemons, Vickie Cockerham, Becky Scott, Macaulay Whitaker and a number of additional volunteers. Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Please contact any of the women above to sign up to volunteer with the wonderful children of St. Paul's.

## SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

8:00 am—Eucharist

10:30 pm— Eucharist

All services are recorded and may be found online at

<https://stpaulscolumbus.dioms.org/Sermons/sermons.html>

### Office Hours

8:00—4:30 M—F

### Office Phone

662.328.6673

### Church Staff

**The Rev. Jason Shelby, Rector**

[frjason@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:frjason@stpaulscolumbus.com)

**Lori Mitchell, Office Administrator**

[officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com)

**Ellen Hawkins, Organist**

[music@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:music@stpaulscolumbus.com)

**Ronnie Clayton, Sexton**

[ronnieclayton@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:ronnieclayton@stpaulscolumbus.com)

**Liza Robert, Preschool Director**

[schdir@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:schdir@stpaulscolumbus.com)

### Website

[stpaulscolumbus.com](http://stpaulscolumbus.com)

## New Worship Opportunity - Deacon's Mass

The Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea will lead a deacon's mass on the second Sunday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel. This is meant to be a "come as you are" service. This doesn't just mean there is no pressure to dress up; our hope is that people will be comfortable enough to be honest about how they feel and how they are doing, and that this will allow people to be themselves.

The next mass is **March 13**.

## Loaves and Fishes

Loaves and Fishes needs 20 - 25 packages of Bear Creek Soup to serve one meal. Please donate packages of vegetable beef, potato, and tortilla soup along with individual serving sizes of applesauce and fruit cups. Your assistance is needed as we continue our mission to help feed those in need.

St. Paul's serving days are **March 9 and 14**.  
St. Paul's served **176** lunches during February.



## Sunday School for Adults

Come study the C.S. Lewis classic *The Great Divorce* with Father Jason each Sunday during Lent. The class meets in the Earline Robertson Room at 9:15.

## St. Paul's Monthly Breakfast

Our next parish breakfast will be held **Sunday, March 6**. There is a sign-up sheet in the loggia.

## Men's Club

The first quarter meeting of the St. Paul's Men's Club was held on February 23 at Huck's. The meeting was hosted by John Davis and George Hazard. The second quarter meeting will be held in April and will be hosted by John Brady and James Hazard. More information will be sent out in April.

## Preschool News

Our preschool is looking for volunteers! If you would like to help in either the baby room or the toddler rooms, please contact Liza Robert at 662.328.6801 or email her at [schdir@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:schdir@stpaulscolumbus.com).

Our teacher spotlight this month is Miss Iris Betts.

## April Newsletter

The deadline for submissions for the April edition of the newsletter is **March 25, 2022**. Please email your information to [officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com).

# March Observances

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## *Birthdays*

- 1 The Rev. Jason Shelby
- 4 Bernice Kindred  
Gina Swartz
- 6 Annis Cox  
Chad Bell
- 10 Sandra Wikerson
- 11 Emma Hardy  
Hanna Hardy
- 12 Hutch Clemons
- 13 Michael Duckworth  
Taylor Phillips
- 15 Emily Roberts
- 17 Michael Kerby, Jr.  
Josh Clemons  
Rachel Shelby
- 18 Eulalie Davis
- 20 Jerry Hodson  
Rhodes Lipsey
- 22 Karoyl McCain
- 23 Don Callaway  
David Thompson
- 29 Evans Dawson  
Allison Whitaker
- 30 Lindsey Clemons
- 31 Britt Wilson

## *Anniversaries*

- 1 Eric and Evans Dawson
- 2 Doug and Rose Crowe
- 9 Cleatus and Harriet Doyel  
Billy and Jean Floore
- 16 John and Jennifer Brady
- 23 Scott and Helen Pridmore
- 27 Jeff and Sheri Lipsey





# Intercessions

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Richard Bretz

Katherine Kerby and family

The Kemp Family

Gregg

Quint

Peggy Gentry

Richard Thomas

Loren Cox

John David Hardy

Bob Drake

Ramona Jones

Eugene Cummings

Katherine Horton

Jacob Davis

Gale Holland

Jan Ballard

Beth Rice

Samantha Turner

Paulette Frank

Linda Horn

Kevin Alexander

Peter Huggins

Linda G.

Julie Ratley

Tammie Damron Dolan family

Lynn Nelson

Catherine Penick

Faye Tabor

Betty Lou Jones

Mollie Hamblin

Valerie Gonzolaes

Deb Grund

Dudley and Eddie Davis

Carole Knie

Kevin Hogan

Sandra Mims

Myra Rowzee

Marcia Summers

Marquita Kirk and Yvonne Sanders

Frances Benton

Vernon Gregory

Steele Family

Jean and Bill Floore

Teen Stallworth deRoode

Harrison

John Simpson

Matt and Alice Parker

Rusty Holleman

Patsy McDaniel

Bruce Howell

Juanita Trimuel

Billy Buck Stagers

Wink Wright

Cathy Hatch

George Richards

Kim Sanders

Maria Pintado

Nancy Smith

Mallory Caissie

Allison Whitaker

Dot Breland

Eddie Mauck

Emily Hayden

Eugene Blaine and Family

B.J. Montgomery

Charlotte Sanders

Pat Herndon

Jamie McCollum

Martha

James and Ann Masinelli

Jesse Sparkman

Sharon Hunt

Jeana L. Whitacre

John Barron

Kathleen Atkins

Lee Ann Dorn

The Rev. Don Chancellor

Tina Louise

Ann Nietzsche

Mark Lewis

Brenda Caradine

## **Nursing Home Residents:**

Trey Atkins

## *More Volunteer Opportunities*

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The Columbus-Lowndes office of Habitat for Humanity has asked for our help. Volunteers are needed at the ReStore to help with a variety of tasks including assisting with donation pick-ups, preparing donated items for sale, and assisting customers during shopping hours. Please contact Billye Asherbranner, volunteer coordinator, at [habitatvolunteers@currently.com](mailto:habitatvolunteers@currently.com) or 662.329.2501.

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### **Why volunteer with Columbus-Lowndes Habitat for Humanity?**

- 1. Make a difference in your community**
- 2. Learn new skills**
- 3. Make new friends**
- 4. Feel valued and be part of a team**
- 5. Have fun!**

To learn more about opportunities, contact Columbus-Lowndes Habitat for Humanity at [habitatvolunteers@currently.com](mailto:habitatvolunteers@currently.com) or 662.329.2501.

# St. Paul's Episcopal School Teacher Spotlight

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*There is nothing that impacts student outcomes more than a loving and effective teacher.*

## Miss Iris Betts

**Miss Iris leads the 3- and 4-year-old classroom in the afternoons. She is a dedicated teacher who pushes her kiddos to learn their letters, numbers, and good manners. You can often find her class enjoying the outdoors or engaged in creative play.**

Q: How long have you been working at SPES?

A: *5 1/2 years*

Q: What is the best part of your job?

A: *Teaching the kids and watching them learn.*

Q: Who or what is the greatest love of your life?

A: *God and my children.*

Q: What quality do you most value in your friends?

A: *Trust*

Q: What is the best advice you were ever given?

A: *Do right and right will follow you!!*

Q: Where are you happiest/most at peace?

A: *In the presence of the Lord.*



