

This Week at St. John's

February 17, 2008

About the Readings

Genesis 12:1-4a

This tells of one of the significant decisions which has changed the course of human history. Abram obeyed the divine prompting, moved to a strange land, and became patriarch of the Hebrew people. The Bible's whole story, and the influence of Christianity on subsequent history, are the result.

Psalm 121

The quiet confidence of this psalm needs to lie behind all our relations with God. "From where is my help to come? . . . from the Lord." A person with this deep conviction is persistent in prayer.

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In Paul's elaborate argument, he builds upon the religious insight of Abraham. Abraham lived by faith; he is an example to believers in the risen Lord.

John 3:1-17

Like Abraham of old, Nicodemus, in his encounter with Jesus, was called upon to make a significant decision regarding his own salvation history.

(Commentary from *Sunday's Scriptures: An Interpretation* by William Sydnor)

Announcements

Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to worship with us at St. John's this morning, and invite you to enjoy coffee and fellowship in the parish hall after the service.

Child care is provided from 9:15 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. An usher will assist you.

"Emmaus Mite Boxes" Are available on the table at the entrance of the parish Hall. Fill them with your loose change, thank offerings, Lenten penance. . . whatever way you'd like. The proceeds will be gathered in April and sent to the Diocese for projects that fulfill the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). Any questions—ask an Outreach Ministry Group member.

Special Rector's Forum Next Sunday: On Sunday, February 24, the Rector's Forum will be about gangs in the Springfield area. In order to facilitate this presentation, Father Miller has invited a senior Social Work student from Evangel University to lead a discussion about identifying, preventing, and decreasing gang activity around churches. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. Plan now to attend.

About the Episcopal Church

Reredos: pronounced (RARE.eh.doss). Any decoration put above and behind an altar, usually a carved stone or ornamental wood structure behind the high altar in traditional church architecture.

Intercessions This Week

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Canada, and for the Most Rev. Frederick J. Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Trinity Church, Independence; the Rev. Sam Mason, Rector; and for the Diocesan Surviving Spouses: Mrs. Regine Anderson, Mrs. Nancy Cavanaugh, Mrs. Gayle Finnell, Mrs. Betty Greenall, Mrs. Maxine Hoppe, Mrs. Margaret Jackson, Mrs. Judy Kauffman, Mrs. Beverly Kemper, Mrs. Judy Lembcke, Mrs. Elaine Martin, Dr. Barbara Mason, Mrs. Penny Oathout, Mrs. Virginia Reynolds, Mrs. Jeanne Rutenbar, Mrs. Mary Snyder, Mrs. Katherine Sturtevant, Mrs. Ferne Malcolm Welles, Mrs. Allene Westover, Mrs. Norma Williams.

Birthdays

Feb. 13 Elizabeth Robinson
 Feb. 19 Ann Mason
 Feb. 20 Michael Booth
 Thomas Whitlock
 Feb. 21 Philip Becker
 Carol Rolufs
 Feb. 22 Gregory Iott
 Carol Ireland
 Riley Mays
 Feb. 23 Debra Abel

Anniversaries

Feb. 17 Greg & Mary Neal
 Feb. 19 Bob & Oney Armstrong
 Feb. 23 Jim & Carol Lersch

Faithful Departed

Feb. 17 Alfred M. Ollis
 Jesse Seaton
 Feb. 18 Theodore L. Achord
 Feb. 19 Ina Morgan
 Rush Wilhoit
 Feb. 20 William I. Fendlason
 Fred Haszelbart
 Tonie Leigh
 Gordon Robertson
 Feb. 21 Earl Bowman
 Gordon F. Lines
 Gladys Tegarden
 Feb. 22 James Costello
 Bea Wadley

Prayer Requests

Terri	Maxine
Gladys	Dee
Ruth	Rachel
Ken	Lauretta
Dixie	Jerry
Ron	Mona
Kathy	Douglas
Eddie	Becky
Ron	Tanya
Alberta	Don
Larry	Gene
Margi	Kathi
Louis	Josh
Francis	Clara
Stacey	Dana
Laurie	

Names submitted by parishioners will remain on the parish intercession list for 30 days. After 30 days, the names will be removed, unless they are resubmitted. There is no limit on how many times a prayer request can be renewed. This policy will allow the clergy to better manage the official prayer list of the parish. If you have any questions, please contact Father Miller.

Calendar

Sunday February 17 (2 Lent)

8:00 a.m.
 9:30 a.m.

 10:15 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.
 12:15 p.m.
 5:30 p.m.
 6:00 p.m.
 6:30 p.m.

Mass— Rite I
 Rector's Forum
 Youth Class
 Church School
Mass— Rite I (sung)
 Endowment/Legacy Committee
 Evensong
 Potluck Supper
 Lenten Class

Monday February 18 (Lenten Feria)

9:00 a.m.
 5:30 p.m.
 6:00 p.m.
 6:30 p.m.

Morning Prayer
 Evening Prayer
Mass
 Vestry

Tuesday February 19 (Lenten Feria)

9:00 a.m.
 5:30 p.m.
 6:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer
 Evening Prayer
Mass

Wednesday February 20 (Lenten Feria)

9:00 a.m.
 9:30 a.m.
 5:30 p.m.
 6:00 p.m.
 6:30 p.m.
 7:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer
Mass
 Evening Prayer
 Stations of the Cross
 Dinner
 Choir
 Adult Bible Study

Thursday February 21 (Lenten Feria)

9:00 a.m.
 10:00 a.m.
 12:00 a.m.
 5:30 p.m.

Morning Prayer
 St. Clare's Crafters
Mass and anointing
 Evening Prayer

Friday February 22 (Lenten Feria)

Saturday February 23 (Lenten Feria)

Sunday February 24 (3 Lent)

8:00 a.m.
 9:30 a.m.

 10:15 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.
 5:30 p.m.
 6:00 p.m.
 6:30 p.m.

Mass— Rite I
 Rector's Forum (Gang Presentation) Parish Hall
 Youth Class
 Church School
Mass— Rite I (sung)
 Evensong
 Potluck Supper
 Lenten Class

First Corinthians 15 has been called the resurrection chapter of the Bible. It rings with the promises of God concerning our victory through Christ over death and our eternal life in heaven with him. It ends with the command to stand firm in the Lord and to use our mortal lives in his service. As St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58). This is our stewardship response to God who has given us all we are and have.

What is your legacy to God's Church?