



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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ADULT FORUM - Did you know that April is National Humor month? (I didn't.) But it's the truth. It was founded in 1976 by comedian and best-selling author Larry Wilde, Director of the Carmel Institute of Humor. It is designed to heighten public awareness of the joy and therapeutic value of laughter. For many years, we have heard that humor and laughter are good for us and that humor promotes healing. Norman Cousins promoted the idea that humor had a positive influence on the return to wellness in his amazing book *Anatomy of an Illness*. The Reverend James Martin, S.J., says that humor and laughter are at the heart of our spiritual life (*Between Heaven and Mirth*). He reminds us of St. Augustine who famously prayed, "Lord give me chastity...but not yet." What in the world has this got to do with the Adult Forum? Well, the group has decided that this Sunday, and perhaps next, we will be discussing humor in our spiritual life, in the Bible, and in particular, Jesus' use of humor. Why? Because - "There is a time to weep and a time to laugh." Hey, did you hear the joke about the priest and the rabbi? Oops, better keep that for the Forum. (9—9:45 am). Ken Gorman



This week at St. Mary's, April 15, 2018

TODAY 9 AM Adult Forum

MON 11 AM Eucharist at The Branches
7 PM Vestry Meeting

TUES 8 PM AA meeting

WEDS 5 PM Choir

FRI 10 am Alanon

SUN 9 am Adult Forum



Saint Mary's is launching a brand-new idea. It's called *conTEXTS*. What that word means - *The content of the news meets the texts of our faith*. Church folks often bring up some current event that has caught their attention and want to discuss it as a faith issue. Up until now, we haven't had a place or time to do that. That has changed. We are offering a weekly gathering of parishioners and friends to discuss a current event alongside resources of our faith (e.g., biblical, church resources). We would meet each week on Thursday (excluding Senior Lunch days). For more details: see the flyer on the information table in the narthex entrance. If this sounds interesting to you, what I would like to know is: what time on Thursdays would be convenient for you to have such a discussion (noon, later in day ... say, 5 o'clock)? You can email me (see the top of this bulletin) or tell Julie. If at all possible, we would like to start in May. Your response would be helpful. Thanks. kg

SWEEP—The SWEEP group met this past Wednesday evening. There were so many that the group had to move from the chapel to the parish hall. The agenda offered many topics from our parish activities, to which everyone had the opportunity to voice their comments and opinions. For example, Sandra Lockhart updated the group on an upcoming Branches' benefit concert and the donations from local businesses; Holy Week services elicited positive comments and some suggestions about gaining consensus regarding timing of services next year; the group even suggested *The Herald* be asked to organize Holy Week services-ads according to denominations(!); offering a Saturday service generated a lot of discussion as to whom the service would appeal and when to start (maybe June, then to the beach); the Lent Lunch program was reviewed with praise as was the Senior luncheons; how to celebrate Pentecost next month was met with interesting suggestions; the group liked "conTEXTS," a proposed new weekly event about which the parish will soon be hearing more; David Condo suggested an Advent musical program and announced the possibility of recitals during the summer. With fourteen people all engaging in Service, Worship, Education, Evangelism, Pastoral Care you can imagine that these few words cannot do justice to all their contributions. My thanks to them. Next meeting: May 9th at 6:30 pm. You're invited. kg



News from The Branches
(in case you missed last Sunday)

We have been very excited because one of our guests got a job! This gentleman has been living in the woods all winter, keeping warm with sterno. He updated his resume at our computer station and has been faithfully applying for jobs for months. He began work on April 5th and we at The Branches are thrilled beyond words.

At Easter, one of our volunteers and her yoga group made and delivered 24 Easter baskets to the children at The Beach House Motel. What an excited bunch of kids!

We now have four volunteers acting as advocates for our guests. They help with Social Services, housing issues and job placement to mention a few of the many issues they tackle.

We are blessed with wonderful, dedicated volunteers. Father Peter does Bible study on Monday. Recently two of our guests were baptized. On Tuesday, we have a volunteer chiropractor and on Thursday a yoga instructor leads a group. We also have two volunteer hair stylists who come each month. Stop in and pay us a visit at Branches. Join us for lunch. Meet our guests. Follow us on Facebook. Lots of good things are happening!

HELP WANTED!



NURSERY CARE - We would like to provide nursery care for children on Sundays.

USHERS—Like to be an usher? We have openings available for men and women.

Let the church office know if you can help.



BACH'S LUNCH You are invited to come to the Carriage House Café & Tearoom located on the beautiful grounds of the Emlen Physick Estate, for Bach's Lunch and mini-concert by members of the Bay Atlantic Symphony, where you can enjoy an elegant Tea Luncheon and intimate afternoon concert.

DATE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13TH

WHERE: CARRIAGE HOUSE CAFÉ & TEAROOM AT THE EMLÉN PHYSICK ESTATE
1048 WASHINGTON ST., CAPE MAY

TIME: 12 NOON—2 PM

COST: \$30 PER PERSON

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

12—12:30 ~ WINE TASTING BY CAPE MAY WINERY

12:30—1:30 LUNCH ~ THREE COURSE MEAL WITH SALAD, THREE TEA SANDWICHES, DESSERT & BEVERAGE - ICED TEA OR LEMONADE

1:30 CONCLUSION ~ MINI CONCERT BY BAY ATLANTIC SYMPHONY

Only 15 places are still available. Deadline to sign up Sunday, April 22, 2018. Sign up sheet on the parish hall bulletin board. After this date, we will either be sold out or we have to release reserved spaces to the general public. Payment is not due until May 10, 2018 - checks payable to St. Mary's Church. Payments should be given to Matt Dowling or the Church office. Transportation can be coordinated by car pool to be organized at a later date. Questions: please contact Matt or Sue Dowling 463-4807



ANGELUS CONCERT—On Sunday, May 6th, The Angelus Chorus will be performing at The Middle Township Performing Arts Center at 4 PM. The proceeds will be donated to The Branches. Tickets are only \$5 and can be purchased at The Branches or through the church office. If you would like to reserve tickets, please call: 609-886-5091.

We are very grateful that The Branches has been chosen to be the recipient of this wonderful event! Thank you Angelus Chorus!



St. Mary's This n' That Thrift Shop will be holding a

yard sale in their parking lot on Saturday, April 28th from 10 to 3 pm to benefit The Branches. Food and Fun for all ages!



Baked goods will be sold by The Branches at the thrift shop Yard Sale. Please help out by baking something for us to sell. You may bring your dessert to The Branches or to the kitchen at St. Mary's by Saturday, April 28th. Thank you!!

Happy Birthday!



Birthday Blessings to Lawrence Ziemba today, Lynne Schmidt on April 16th, and Barbara DeLorey on April

FAREWELL DEACON SUE—St. Barnabas is saying farewell to Deacon Sue as she retires on Saturday, April 28th, at the Castaways on Bayshore Rd. in the Villas. Come and say goodbye.

ST. BARNABAS CONCERT SERIES continues today at 3 pm with John Curtis, piano and Judy Ann Curtis, soprano.