



Stay safe!

In this flu, cold and virus season, consider a fist bump instead of a handshake at the peace. If your neighbor offers to shake and you're OK with that, by all means shake. But a fist bump might be a wee bit safer. A foot bump is safer yet, except for folks with balance problems.

A non-contact greeting you may want to try is the posture that accompanies "namaste," an Indian greeting often used in this country by teachers of yoga. It looks like this:



Fr. Tom has a lot more to say about this subject, on Page 2.

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Children on the altar

It's been many years since youth graced our worship service, so it's great to see Brooke-Lynn, left, granddaughter of Jack LaRose, and Hailee Moon, granddaughter of Gary and Paulette and great-granddaughter of Evelyn Dickerson with Fr. Tom and Deacon Mary at the March 1 service.

Reconnecting with St. Matt's

By Barbara Metcalfe

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothing. I was sick and you took care of me.

Matthew 25:35-36

In the history of our parish we have made efforts to live generously, as Jesus would have us do. We bring food and other goods each week, which Sarah and Ralph Lawrence take to St. Matthew's House, and many make donations to this cause. But our parish has a history of involvement that is a tradition we need to recall and continue.



The Rev. Dr. John Lindell, former assistant rector of St. Paul's, knows the history well. He and a couple other ministers of the Gospel started St. Matthew's House. A plaque across from the restrooms in Serson Hall marks where there was a small food pantry for hungry homeless.

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Fear not; stay safe

(Editor's note: This is an excerpt, focusing principally on safe practices when passing the peace and taking communion. If you'd like to read Fr. Tom's full treatment of this issue, see our website,

<https://www.SaintPaulsNaples.org>)

By Fr. Tom Thoeni

Flu season is always a concern, especially for those who are most at risk: those with health problems, the very young and the elderly. Any infection can be troublesome and problematic with these populations.

Masks are reasonably effective in reducing spread of a virus if you are infected. They are not effective in preventing the contracting of the virus.

Shaking hands can be quite infectious. Many are practicing fist bumps instead. Frankly, even that can be infectious when you consider that the top of your hands often are in contact with your face. I have heard

of elbow shakes being common now. The most creative, and in my mind, least infectious way of greeting is being practiced in Iran: foot shaking. People are tapping their feet together as a way of greeting. Perhaps a warm greeting and hospitable nod is enough.

Keep your distance, cover your coughs and sneezes with the crook of your inner elbow, not hands.

Hand sanitizer is effective IF the alcohol is at least 60% but hand washing is the best practice. Avoid touching your face.

Many people worry about the common cup at Communion. Over the years many studies have shown that the risk of infection from a common Communion cup is insignificant. Intinction, or the dipping of the wafer into the cup, surprisingly is the least safe way to receive Communion for you or others. If receiving Communion from a common cup is worrisome please know that

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Reconnecting with St. Matt's *(Continued from front page)*

People once huddled in a makeshift camps around the county. Members of St. Paul's and some other churches brought blankets and food to these people, but at one time the county, not welcoming the unsightly encampments, burned them down.

In response, Fr. John established a refuge on County Barn Road—they called it "Angel City Tramp Camp!" It, too, suffered devastation; this time from a hurricane on the Monday of Thanksgiving week in 1988.

Somehow the people of St. Paul's put together a turkey dinner for those in need—the dinner was featured on a television broadcast that brought, perhaps for the first time, widespread public interest in the homeless problem in wealthy Collier County.

The old firehouse that is now part of St. Matthew's was available for rent at \$3,000 per month, and miraculously, Fr. Lindell was able to raise this amount—they cleared out as much of what was stored in it and prepared it for the homeless.

These were the early days of a charity that is now
2 sheltering 120 people—families, single men and



Sara and Ralph Lawrence gather donated diapers to deliver to St. Matthews' House

women—and feeding countless chronically homeless, isolated, and hungry people.

We can continue to connect to St. Matthew's House with our weekly donations. They're especially in need of protein foods and hygiene kit items. It's easy to find cans of chicken or tuna, hearty soups, and health items like toothpaste, soap and shampoo. A couple of these per week per parishioner or family will make a life changing difference for those St. Matthew's gospel is

talking about.

"St Matthew's has grown from very humble beginnings within our parish to a major provider of services to people experiencing myriad troubles and turmoils. They are helping others and, therefore, helping us. In our neighborhood and being rooted in St Paul's history, it only makes sense that we should support the work of St Matthew's," says Fr. Tom, our rector.

Representatives of St. Matthew's also say they are in need of volunteers. Tours of St. Matthew's are given on Tuesdays or Thursdays—let Barbara Metcalfe know if you're interested. We have many ways to live as the writer of Matthew would have us live.

Where will you be on Easter?

By Dan Fisher

This Lenten season our faith community is reading *Living The Way of Love* (Mary Bea Sullivan). It is a 40-day devotional based on the Jesus-inspired practices set forth by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

In our preparatory meeting before Ash Wednesday Fr. Tom asked, "Where do you want to be on Easter Sunday?" This raised the memory of other pastors from years gone by. One charged us with using Lent to become fully human. The goal he set was to engage all that God made us to be as a unique and intended being. Could we cooperate with God's plan in creating us, fully human, fully alive?

Still another preacher I will always remember spoke on Easter Sunday with an analogy of Lent having us all in cocoons and on Easter Sunday we emerge as magnificent butterflies, the intent-



ful and joyous creations God made each of us to be.

Where do I want to be on Easter Sunday morning and how will these seven Biblical practices help me? Which ones speak to me in joy and which, if any, represent a stumbling block or a challenge. An intriguing aspect of any journey where the destination is not known is a certain amount of fear.

Am I willing to listen and respond to what God is asking of me? Will the transformation from cozy cocoon to butterfly paralyze me? Am I so comfortable now that I will not take the leap of faith or exercise the will needed to change and grow?

What I want to be is a more fully alive and activated person in relation to my Creator. Beyond that, God only knows. I do know that the crux of the situation involves all that I have already learned, setting aside time each day specifically listening and some form of practice or prayer.

I may not know the end of journey for this Lent. The caterpillar has no idea that it will be a butterfly. What I do know is that this Lent I will be attentive to the journey and I will strive to respond to God's call without fear and with complete openness to whatever form of butterfly God intends for me.

Stay safe this virus season (Continued from Page 2)

receiving the bread is considered full Communion. I have been a priest for 25 years. Before that I worked as a teller. To the best of my knowledge I have never gotten sick from the chalice. But the first year I was a teller I was sick four times handling money. I became very attentive to washing my hands.

What about the priests' hands?

In preparing for the Eucharist there is a ceremonial washing of the hands. Instead of water we'll use isopropyl alcohol to not only cere-

monially cleanse my hands but effectively clean my hands of germs. I have also made effort to place effective hand sanitizers around the parish.

There is an outside possibility that this may turn into a significant disruption in our daily lives. Panic is never a good response. Careful preparation always is. I suggest we approach this as if we are facing a storm. Now, while things are normal, consider buying some staples and supplies that will allow

you to "hunker down" for a period of time should you choose to stay at home. I have also begun considering how we might stay in touch electronically, and even exploring the possibility of streaming services if needed. I am hopeful that such efforts will not be needed but I am seeking to be able to respond rather than react.

Take a deep breath and be of good cheer.

Consider the words that Paul wrote to Timothy: for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. As in most things, common sense, confidence in God, and simple actions will likely be our best practices.

*A meaningful lent will yield a
Glorious Easter*

A day at the market

By Lee Barron

Last Saturday, I took a short recess from our Hospitality Center where we offer free coffee and hot dogs, to walk through our Farmers' Market (for the first time this season).


I was captivated to just stand and watch all the hustle and bustle friendly atmosphere around me as I made my way through the two "avenues." I ran into Peter Lund in the "Club Car" (a golf cart in which he

can quickly make his way to wherever the need may be) and asked him how he thought the Farmers' Market was doing this year. Peter is the coordinator.

He implied it was going quite well, with several new vendors who seemed happy with their experience to date, and it seemed more people started attending earlier this year. He mentioned the area in which we church members need the most help is in volunteers to help park cars. (Do you have even just an hour or

Farm Produce	Hispanic Specialty Food
T-Shirts/Hoodies	Pollo Plata
Poured Art by Lori	★ Foto's Meditr'n
Fresh Pineapples	★ Market Olive
Pretty Neat Sports Jewelry	★ Golden R Farms
Farm Produce	Organic Foods
Jewelry/handbags	★ Antiques & Vintage Jewelry
Fresh Naples Honey	Artificial Flowers
Santiago Fresh Produce	Socks, Battery Replcmnt, Sunglasses
Lopez Cut Flowers	Sea, Sand & Resort Wear
Wisdom Chiropractor	Capt'n Ken Seafood
Sunglasses/Clip-ons	The Pickle Patch Pickles
Grahame's Kettle Corn	-----
Yim Thai Teas/Coffees	★ Right Turn Coffee & Pastry
Breast Cancer Pillows/Throws	Ramirez Farm Produce
Halo House Watch	★ Various Musicians
Smits' Fresh Citrus	Miracles in Action Beaded Jewelry
Naples News & WSJ	Benitez Farm Produce

ST. PAUL'S FARMERS' MARKET
Saturdays 8:00 - Noon
(Mid-November to Mid-April)



MEET & GREET CENTER
(at the main entrance lawn)
Come join us for free coffee, hot dogs, and good conversation!

★ = New Vendors for 2020 Fall-Spring

Vendors subject to change at any time.

We apologize for any errors or omissions...

Jerry Produce/Herbs/Ugly Tomatoes

Hankie & Linen Gifts

Potted & Fresh Plants/Flowers

Leathergoods

Jewelry

Books/Magazines

★ Fresh Fruit

★ Bags/Belts/Sunglasses/Jewelry

★ Tamales

★ Handmade Ice Cream

★ Hemp oil Products

Guacamole

Produce

Woodworking items

★ Spicy Salsa & Jams

★ Tanzanian Baskets

Knifesharpening	
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so to lend a hand? It sure would help us all, and we laugh while doing it--sometimes we look like a scene straight out of *Candid Camera*--it truly is fun!

The many varied vendors were busy selling their wares while the visitors were having a grand time perusing the different items, stocking up on weekly fruits and veggies, buying flowers for loved ones, sampling goodies, and chatting with both vendors and others in what a good time they were experiencing.

In the background, a British guitar player (from Liverpool--Beatles, anyone?!) serenaded us with pop songs, taking requests (although no Led Zeppelin, unfortunately...). I was delightfully envious of visitors' wonderful purchases as they passed me by as well as the time they had to shop, and I grew hungrier by the minute by all of the wonderful aromas of coffee, fresh flowers and citrus, kettle popcorn, and freshly baked items.

I then spotted Father Tom in the distance strolling among the crowd, in his dignified cassock, with an informal sign around his neck indicating it was not too late for holy ashes if one hadn't attended services on Ash Wednesday. I watched with tears in my eyes as he solemnly administered them to several couples, reminding me of what a noble offering from him for folks of all faiths on a day of such light-heartedness -- God IS with us at ALL times.

I realized I needed to get back to help Ken Eastlack

and Jack LaRose to attend to the hotdogs, which was fine as "Miss Piggy" now desired one of those yummy Saugy's hotdogs on the grill that we offer, but I stood back one more minute, watched and felt all of the friendliness, good humor, and exchange of good will among one another--all here on church grounds--isn't that what it's all about?

If you haven't been to our market, please do come and enjoy your Saturday mornings with us, there is so much to do and see. For your convenience, I've put together a little map so you can find your own favorite goodies and vendors to discover and return to week after week, along with new ones. In future issues, we'll report on specific vendors -- you'll be surprised to learn about each one and their experiences in their ventures. And don't forget to stop by to say hello to us at the coffee-hot dog Hospitality Center for a place to rest, laugh, or even receive a hug if you need it! Happy Hot Dogs!!!



Have you met...?

At a recent coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service I witnessed a rush on one particular item at the snack buffet table; not that I was necessarily a part of it (well, truth be told, I was). Few could resist the chocolate cream pie that had become one the regulars provided by its creator over the past year or so. I know that many of us have savored her baked goods, but have you met... **Laurie Harvey?**

Laurie, and ultimately her chocolate cream pie, began their journey to St. Paul's buffet snack table in Norwich, Conn., where she was born and resided until age 11 when her parents, George and Barbara Pearce, moved to rural Plainfield.

"Lots of cows and horses and other animals..." but I didn't like it claims Laurie "I was a city girl." She and her family, Mom, Dad and sister Sherry, remained there until Laurie had graduated from Plainfield High. The Pearce family next moved to Naples and the teen-aged Laurie got her first job at the original Publix. At the same time she and a girlfriend who joined her from Plainfield got their first apartment on Hawaii Blvd. A co-worker introduced Laurie to her future husband, Dale.

The couple were wed in 1981 and a year later they were blessed with a son, Justin. Dale had his own business as a window treatment installer and Laurie spent the next couple of years as a stay at home mom.

Our baker of cream pies returned to the work force as a secretary for a medical facility but the long hours demanded of her became too stressful for her and she left after two years. Dale had been encouraging his wife to turn to creating and making window treatments that she could then refer to him for installation. Following a brief mentorship from a woman in the business, Laurie discovered she was well suited to the task and started her own company, Custom Window Coverings. She marketed her product both retail and wholesale and was very successful.

Sadly, Dale's drug addiction led to a divorce.

6 Eventually Laurie decided to give up her business-



and relocate to Newbury Port, Mass. There she bought and rented out a condo to supplement her income, but after five years the cold winters convinced her to return to Naples.

Here she worked for a couple of years as the manager of the Drapery Workroom, but when informed that she had reached the maximum salary she could expect, and following a brief stint in the same field at another company, Laurie decided to return to school to study medical office administration. This led to her current position as an admin assistant.

Justin graduated from Lely high school in 2001 and earned a degree at Central Florida University in Mechanical Engineering, but didn't really like it as a career. He took a position with Disney World and has since moved into management. There he met his wife, Meghan, an artist at Disney.

Laurie's earliest religious experience was with an Episcopal Church in Norwich, where their mom took them regularly. She recalls the church having Sunday

A Pathway Feature

By

**Ken
Eastlack**



(Continued next page)

Welcomers in transition

We're going to miss Bill Kling (and Barbra). He's the best welcomer of visitors in history. It's going to take a whole squad to replace him, and guess what: That squad is ready for the transition.

The fact is Bill has had a great support team all along, comprised of Judy Allen, Katie Judnich, Sarah Lawrence, Carolyn Hale and Deb Avery, plus newcomer Ferb Tracy.

For the last couple of months several of parishioners have been reading about best practices in a book *Inviting, Welcoming and Connecting* (with newcomers). That group is ready to merge with the team that Bill put together—the folks who write letters, make phone calls, and do the followup after someone has filled out a

newcomer card.

Gail Cooper, Carol Tracy, Rich Shea, Tom and Charlene Connolly were the readers who tried to judge with Fr. Tom what we're doing well and where we need to improve. Watch this space for details.

Assignments were made at a meeting March 3. Judy Allen will take the leadership role and we'll see a couple of folks asking visitors to identify themselves. One important point: All parishioners have a duty to invite, welcome and connect with others, especially at coffee, where it's all too easy to join cliques and ignore visitors. It drives Bill crazy to see newcomers standing by themselves at coffee.

Bill and Barb are moving to South Carolina in a few weeks.



Let there be...

Gary Dickerson rented a bucket hoist to change bulbs to improve the altar lighting. It's quite a way up there! Have you noticed the improvement?

Have you met...?

school and a very broad youth ministry, and being involved in many activities. However when the family moved to Plainfield church attendance ceased.

Laurie found her way back to church and chocolate cream pies found their way to our coffee hour about two years ago. This came about when she and her mother, Barbara, were driving by St. Paul's at Christmas time and the latter suggested that they attend Christmas Eve mass. They did, and enjoyed the warm aura they felt so much that they began attending regularly.

Also at the time Laurie was motivated, "By a need to regain faith." She further explained that she experienced and still struggles with a need to resolve the tension between "facts" and "faith."

When asked what impressed her most about St. Paul's, Laurie replied that she likes the worship services because they are bible

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centered. "I like that we are read to from the bible and the service is centered on scripture." She also enjoys the the social opportunities where she can share spiritual interests with people who have their faith in common.

Laurie added that she really enjoys baking for the coffee hour

snack table and people who appreciate her efforts... and do we ever appreciate her chocolate cream pies.

Now that you have met her, please be sure to give Laurie the opportunity to meet you if you haven't already done so.

Lagniappe

Diane Kane, our noted watercolor artist and teacher, was a member of the Nutmeg Curling Club which held weekly competitions in Darien, Connecticut, and traveled around New York and New England for bonspiels (curling tournaments) with other curling clubs.

Bill Kling and "his beautiful **Barbara**" have been married for over 63 years, because when they were in college Bill's fraternity brothers locked him in a phone booth. He had been too bashful to call Barb for a first date. They let him out, after he called her.

Tom Thoeni began tap dancing lessons, when he was 3½ years old. His mother was trying to expend her hyperactive son's energy. When he was in his teens, Tom was so good that he could have applied to a school for the arts in New York City. Glad he didn't.

— Carol Tracy

Choral Concert March 17

The 20-voice college chamber choir from Franklin and Marshall, Lancaster, Pa., will present a program at St. Paul's at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 17 in the church.

Most of the group's music is of a sacred nature, from a variety of styles. And, since it's St. Patrick's Day, we'll hear some Irish selections, too.

A free-will offering will be collected and a reception will follow in Trinity Hall.



A full, dramatic house
Paul Todd and his friends, Billy Dean and Dawn, drew a full house, the best turnout to date for the church, at concert on Monday, Feb. 24. Our unique cross pops in this photo taken during one of many lighting color changes.

Never too late for ashes

Fr Tom walked around the Farmers' Market wearing a sign inviting folks who weren't able to get ashes on Ash Wednesday to be reminded that we are all dust and shall return to dust. He said a goodly number of shoppers took advantage of the offer, including Marion James (background) and her daughter, Danielle.

Our parish prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of St. Paul's truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen