

Stewardship: The Vestry and leadership have developed a budget for the coming year that projects a deficit of around \$30,000. They were conservative in their income projections, assuming we will take in less than we did in 2017, particularly in donations. I appreciate this caution. And my response to that caution is to remind you of the faithfulness to which we are called. Olivet's mission is "To restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ." (BCP. 855) ." We aspire to grow in our fidelity to this mission and to move this parish into a season of growth. We must do more than simply hope for this season. We must expect it and plan for it. The season should be marked by increased participation in outreach efforts, the development of Christian Formation opportunities for adults, and opportunities to open our life together to our community with hospitality and evangelism. Our budget is overwhelmingly funded by your gifts. Thank you for them. These aspirations and Olivet are worthy of your continued gifts. I ask you to keep this at the center of your prayers when considering your commitment to Olivet for 2018 – your gifts of your time and talent and your gifts of money. Together, we are building a church, and I trust that you will be generous.

On February 16th & 17th at St. Mark's, the Potomac Region will host *Seeing the Face of God in Each Other*. This is the Antiracism Training model of the Episcopal Church. It is designed to make us all more aware of how society's racist past still haunts us today. Through self-examination and sharing our stories, we come to learn more about how our behavior affects others, and how our society, institutions and churches affect how we think and feel about others. After antiracism training, you will never watch the news the same again! The link to register is <http://www.thediocese.net/forms/anti-racism-workshop>

Lent is right around the corner: We will begin our Lenten observances on Ash Wednesday, February 14th with three worship services in the Chapel at 6:30am, Noon, and 7:30pm.

On Wednesday evenings in Lent, we will join with other churches of the region for "Beloved Community." 2/21 at St Mark's - Telling the Truth about Our Churches and Race; 2/28 at St Aidan's - Proclaiming the Dream of Beloved Community; Church of the Spirit hosts at Olivet -Practicing the Way of Love in the Pattern of Jesus 3/14/18 - Sharon Chapel - Repairing the Breach in Institutions and Society

On Sundays in Lent, we will read and discuss Bible Babel: Making sense of the most talked about book of all time by Kristen Swenson. The book can be found at most bookstores or online. It's ISBN-13 number is 978-0061728266.

LENT MADNESS: This online devotional is a fun way to engage the stories of the saints. Each day two saints are pitted against one another in a tournament of online voting. It can be found at <http://www.lentmadness.org>. We will have an in-house tournament, and see how we compare to the online community.

From Michael:

I have so many "thank you" to make. Thank you for your wonderful welcoming of me into the parish and your embrace of Kate. Thank you for your prayers and support over the past several weeks as Kate and I were wed and she made the move here. Thanks you for all that you did to make our Celebration of New Ministry such a great and warm occasion, for all the preparation, participation, and hospitality. Thank you to Kate for standing in as our musician these past several weeks as we continue to discern the direction and vision for Music Ministry here. Thank you to Scott Caulkins, Barbara Gay, and Diane Spittle as your service on the Vestry comes to an end. Thank you to Jeff Underwood for you conscientious and thorough service as our Treasurer. Thank you to those who served on the Search Committee for your prayerful discernment and deliberation. I am sure that I am forgetting someone, but truly I've been so encouraged by the congregation's determination and care. We have so much to offer our neighborhood, and I'm so glad to be a part of this place. Thank you

Commended for your Prayers

Please remember these persons in your daily devotions.

Bonnie; Memphis; Maha; June; Alex; Joe, Roy; Keven; the students and staff at Franconia Baptist Preschool; Sharon; Pat and Jane; Kathryn and Gena; Peggy and Joe; the parish of San Pedro y San Pablo in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, Nick & Annamaria; DACA & TPS residents, Josephine, Bob, Emily, Pat & Jane

Serving in Worship Sunday, January 28th

If you are scheduled and unable to serve, please find a substitute.

At 9:30 a.m.

Chalicer: Barbara Leigh

Lector: Scott Caulkins

Acolyte: Barbara Leigh

Greeter: John Sanderson

Altar Guild: Ann Caulkins

Tellers: Jim Walton and Diane Spittle

Scripture passages for Sunday, January 28th

From the Hebrew Scripture: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111

From Paul's Epistles: I Corinthians 8:1-13

From the Gospels: Mark 1:21-28

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Rita Botting, Parish Administrator mail.olivet@gmail.com

Therese Chaplin, Prayer Chain Requests and Christian Formation

prayers@olivetepiscopalchurch.org

Weekly Worship and Formation Opportunities

Sunday Mornings: 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist I (Chapel)

9:15 a.m. Christian Formation for all ages

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist II (Nave)

Wednesdays: 12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist I (Chapel)

What's Happening around the Parish

Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections: On Sunday, January 28th, there will be one worship service at 9:30am in the Nave.

Immediately followed by Annual Meeting. If you have a report to be included in the Annual Report, please do submit it to Rita at your earliest convenience. We will also be holding elections for three places on the Vestry. If you are interested in eligibility and the responsibilities of this position, please be in touch with Michael.

Adult Christian Formation: Beginning this morning at 9:15, and continuing through February 11th, we will be taking an in-depth look at the Gospel of Mark. Please join us in the Simpson Room.

From Koinonia: The Food Pantry is looking for the following items: Mac & Cheese, Ramen Noodles/Cup o' Noodles, Tomato and Chicken Noodle Soup, individual Oatmeal & Fruit Cups, Coffee, Salad Dressing, Kleenex, Laundry Detergent, Diapers, Grocery & Dollar Tree Gift Cards. Thanks....