



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Regular Worship Services

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Sunday School (K-Grade 6)

(No class on 3/11)

YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday 3/11 10:00 AM Worship

Daylight Saving Time Begins 3/11 –

Set your clock forward!



Calendar of Events for March 2012 ~



- Thursday, 3/1 Ecumenical Lent Worship, St. James Methodist, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 3/4 **Lent 2**
Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM
Sunday School, **Lent Craft**, 10 AM
Girl Scout Interfaith Worship, 2 PM
- Tuesday, 3/6 Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 1 PM
Worship & Music Committee, 7:30 PM
- Wednesday, 3/7 Choir, 7:30 PM
Confirmation, 7:30 PM
- Thursday, 3/8 Ecumenical Lent Worship, Bethany Cong., 7:30 PM
Sunday, 3/11 **Lent 3**
Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM
YOUTH SUNDAY, 10 AM worship
Daylight Saving Time Begins – Spring Forward
- Tuesday, 3/13 Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 1 PM
Council, 8 PM
- Wednesday, 3/14 Choir, 7:30 PM
Confirmation, 7:30 PM
- Thursday, 3/15 Ecumenical Lent Worship, **St. John's**, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 3/18 **Lent 4**
Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM
Sunday School (*Holy Week Lesson*), 10 AM
- Tuesday, 3/20 Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 1 PM
Mock Baby Shower for LSS, 7:30 PM
- Wednesday, 3/21 Choir, 7:30 PM
Confirmation, 7:30 PM
- Thursday, 3/22 Ecumenical Lent Worship, Christ Episcopal, 7:30 PM
Saturday, 3/24 Wedding, 4 PM
Sunday, 3/25 **Lent 5**
Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM
Sunday School, (*Holy Week Lesson*), 10 AM
- Tuesday, 3/27 Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 1 PM
Evangelism & Social Ministry Committee, 7:30 PM
- Wednesday, 3/28 Choir, 7:30 PM
SW Nassau Lutheran Conference Worship,
Bethlehem, Baldwin, 8 PM
- Thursday, 3/29 Ecumenical Lent Worship, St. Raymond's 7:30 PM

Looking Ahead to April

- Sunday, April 1 **Holy Week Begins with Palm Sunday**
Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM
- Thursday, April 5 **Maundy Thursday Worship**, 7:30 PM
- Friday, April 6 **Good Friday Worship**, 7:30 PM
- Sunday, April 8 **Easter Sunday Worship**, 8:30 & 10 AM

Pastor's Reflection~

Spring, my senior year in college, I found out that one of my favorite bands (Indigo Girls) was on tour and would be playing in a little theater in Erie, PA, near my hometown. Tickets were reasonable, and even better, the concert was on a Saturday night, meaning I could make the four-hour trip up home for the show without missing any classes – not that I would ever skip! ;) A whole bunch of us decided to go. Tickets were purchased, and only then did I realize there was a problem. The concert was during Holy Week, Holy Saturday, to be precise.

Now, for most college kids, that wouldn't have been an issue. They would have gone home on Good Friday, gone to the concert on Saturday, (maybe) gone to church at their home congregation on Sunday, and then gone back to school on Sunday afternoon. But by that point, I didn't really have a "home" congregation (I was a post-confirmation church drop-out, remember), and my parents had not been involved in church for a long time. My church roots were deeply established in the soil of my campus ministry congregation, and I couldn't imagine not being with them on two of the most important days of the church year (Good Friday and Easter) just so I could go to a concert.

So, I stayed at school for our evening Good Friday worship, picked up my friends Saturday morning, and headed home. We went to the concert (which was AWESOME), dropped my little sister and her friends off at my parents' house, and at about midnight or 12:30 got back on the road to return to State College. We arrived sometime after 4 AM, bleary-eyed and exhausted, but happy that we had gone, just as happy to be back. And at 10 AM Easter Sunday, I was back with my worshipping community to celebrate Christ's resurrection..

I hope that you have had that same experience, here at St. John's or somewhere else, of knowing that Holy Week worship is something you just *can't* miss, no matter what, of being willing to give up sleep or something else so that you can be in *your* church during the central week of the Christian year.

Holy Week, starting Palm Sunday and ending on Easter Sunday (April 1-8 this year), is at the heart of the Christian faith. We hear all year about the ways that God reveals God's love for us in Jesus, but it is during Holy Week that we see and experience that most clearly. We enter Jerusalem triumphantly with Jesus as the week begins, only to see it all turn sour and scary as Jesus is betrayed, arrested, and executed on Good Friday. It is only by going to the cross with Jesus on Friday that we can experience the joy of his rising again on Sunday. As the old children's chant goes, "you can't go over it, you can't go around it – you have to go through it." **Just so, we have to go *through* the event of the cross on Good Friday in order to really "get" the significance of Easter.**

This year, we're doing something different during Holy Week. Usually, we observe what is known as Palm/Passion Sunday, where we start with the story of Jesus coming into Jerusalem as we gather and then read the Passion Narrative together as a congregation in the middle of worship. We then hear stories from John's gospel on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (the passion again), before going back to the year's assigned gospel (Mark, this year) to hear the resurrection story on Sunday. This year, though, we've decided to change this just a bit. Palm Sunday will primarily focus on Palm Sunday. We won't have the reading of the Passion story on Sunday morning – we'll hold off until Good Friday. We'll hear from Mark's gospel on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, so we'll get his version of Holy Week uninterrupted. Worship will look a little different on Thursday and Friday as well. Sometimes we get stuck in a worship rut, but if ever we should try to break out of the rut and experience the story anew, it's during Holy Week!

What this means for you is that you really *need* to come to worship during Holy Week. It won't be enough simply to come on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, if you want to experience the depth and drama of this pivotal event in the life of the church and the world. What happens in Holy Week changes *everything*! But you won't be able to feel that in all its fullness unless you come. My hope and prayer for you this Lent and Holy Week is that you will find that there's no place else you'd rather be, and you'll do whatever it takes to be here (although I don't recommend driving through the middle night!).

Walking the road to Jerusalem with you,

Pn. Beckley

Youth group news

Next Youth Group meeting: We will continue meeting each Sunday through March 11th to rehearse and prepare for Youth Sunday. All Youth Group members please come and meet us at 10 am in the auditorium. Additional rehearsals may be required, so please watch for emails with more information. Musicians will meet each Sunday after church; please bring your instruments.

Youth Sunday will take place on Sunday, March 11th. All Youth Group members should be in church no later than 9:45 am. Musicians may need to come earlier for a last minute rehearsal; please watch emails for special instructions. Everyone should come wearing church attire (no jeans, sweats or sneakers).

A **group bowling** activity is scheduled for Sunday, March 25th at 11:30 am. We will meet immediately after church at Rockville Lanes in Rockville Centre (please note change in venue from last year). This is open to all St. John's members, and their family and friends. A sign up sheet will be in the narthex. Come join us for a fun afternoon!

Lori Fernez & Janet Powell

INTRODUCING THE 2012 CHURCH COUNCIL

President	Pauline Feltkamp
Vice-President	Kim Carlstrom
Secretary	Dennis Fernez
Financial Rec. Secretary	Joan Pirrone
Treasurer	Bruce Feltkamp
Council Members	Dotty Criscuolo
	Kevin Hanson
	Daniel Gonzalez
	Ursula Lipitz
	Jill Pace
	Janet Pescatore
	Cora Sarver

Joseph Richetti will continue as our Financial Secretary

Thank you for your service!



Sunday School News

March 4 – Lent Craft

Bring your kids to Sunday School – they'll make a craft that will help them explore the season and themes of Lent and look toward Easter.

March 11 – Youth Sunday

No Sunday School. Our older kids will lead worship during the 10 AM worship this day, and our Sunday School kids will also participate by singing some special music with them. Your family will NOT want to miss this day!

March 18 & 25 – Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday

On these two Sundays, Sunday School will discover and learn the stories of what happened during the first Holy Week, from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his betrayal, arrest, and death on Good Friday to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. These stories (taken from Luke 19:28-40, 22:14-23:56, & 24:1-12) are at the center of the Christian faith & will help our children understand why we celebrate Easter. (It's not all about bunnies and chocolate, after all.)

And looking ahead to April...

Please bring your children to worship during Holy Week. Palm Sunday kicks it off on April 1, followed by Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services at 7:30 PM on April 5 & 6, and culminating on Easter Sunday at 10 AM (worship at 8:30 or 10 AM). Help them to hear and experience the heart of the Christian faith by coming to as many of these services as you can.



1912 ~ 2012

MEMORIES

To The Glory of God and In Loving Memory of
Marie Obst
A Gift to The Roof Appeal of St. John's Church
has been made by

Jan Arena
Carol Clemente
Dotty Criscuolo
Frank & Pauline Feltkamp
Dennis & Lori Fernez
Flinch & Bruns Funeral Home
Carol Flood & Joan Pirrone
Marjorie A. Gorr
Eleanor Haslett & Julia Schramm
Paul & Christel Hild
Bob Kaempf
Elaine Kriz
Judith & David Opatow
Jill & Joseph Pace
The Richetti Family
Cora & Don Sarver
Gary & Diane Schmaltz
Andrea Sommella
Gerda Weber
WELCA
Ruth Williamson
Ruth Wuerth

Our Young People at Work at St. John's

- 1912 - St. John's Sunday School was started
- 1921 - St. John's First Confirmation Class
- 1933 - There were approximately 300 children in St. John's Sunday School.
- 2004 - The church nursery was renovated with Erica Lipitz painting it with children-friendly animal pictures.
- 2005- The St. John's Youth Chime Choir was introduced.
- 2010- Carrie Feltkamp created the St. John's Church website.
- 2010- The St. John's Players, our youth musicians, started playing music for special church worship programs.
- 2011- St. John's first Bridal Dress Review and Spaghetti Dinner was hosted by Tori DeStefano

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

To St. John's Church,

I am writing this letter in sincere thanks for the flowers my mother Caroline E. Roberts received at the Rockville Nursing Center in Rockville Centre this past Sunday. Please thank the person who delivered the flowers and to all who think of my mother with your kindness and caring. It made her day.

Again thank you,
Paul John Simchock (son)
And
Caroline E. Roberts (mother)

FLOWERS FOR EASTER

If you would like to contribute toward the flowers that will be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please place your donation in a holiday flower envelope (found in the pew racks at church) and put it in the offering plate, or send it to the church with the name of the person/s they are in memory or in honor of, so that we can recognize your gift. Thanks!

WELCA NEWS

~ Save these Dates ~



WELCA “MOCK” BABY SHOWER TUESDAY, MARCH 20th 7:30 PM

St. John's annual Baby Shower supporting the New LIFE Center will be held at 7:30 on Tuesday, March 20th, in the Knotty Pine Room. We invite everyone in the congregation to join us and support this so that we may have an abundance of baby things to bring to the Center. You may bring anything that a baby might use, from clothes, diapers, baby bottles, and bath supplies. They also appreciate small baby-friendly Bibles or board books with a “God loves you” kind of story.

Please join us. Refreshments will be served as we enjoy looking at all the cute things that babies use and wear, and hearing from the Center staff about how lives are changed by our gifts.

Thanks for putting this on your calendar.

SCHOLARSHIP DINNER & AUCTION FRIDAY, APRIL 27TH, 6:30 PM

This June St. John's will have 4 graduating high school seniors who are eligible to receive a scholarship from the Barbara Semmig Scholarship Fund. (Seniors who apply and are approved receive a scholarship of \$500 to help them with their college expenses.)

At 6:30 PM on Friday, April 27th, a Chinese Dinner and Auction will be held in the Auditorium to help raise money for this Scholarship Fund. We are looking for *new* gifts and items to enhance the auction. If you have an extra Christmas gift you bought or received and would like to donate it, please bring it to church and give to Pastor Becky or Cora Sarver.

Plan to come to the dinner at 6:30 pm on Friday April 27 and enjoy a fun evening of good food and fellowship, knowing that your presence and support will make a big difference in the lives of our young adults as they head off to college in the fall!
See you then!



Seasonal Choir Begins March 7

Like to sing? Thought about joining the choir, but can't commit to coming all year-round? Here's your chance to share your gift of music on a short-term basis!

Come Wednesday nights at 8 PM, beginning on March 7, to prepare to help lead the congregation in song during worship on Palm Sunday (April 1) and Easter Sunday (April 8). Everyone – male & female; young adult & “senior”; soprano, alto, tenor, or bass – is welcome.

Have questions? Talk with Allison Koehler, choir director.



Cookie Tins For Seafarers

Share the love of God by baking cookies!
Pick up a cookie tin (complete with instructions) on 3/11 or 3/18, and return it filled with home-baked goodness no later than 3/25. They'll then be distributed to men who are far from home this Lent & Easter season.

Ecumenical Lent Worship Beginning March 1

Worship with your Lynbrook and East Rockaway neighbors this Lent. Each Thursday at 7:30 PM, a different church hosts our community worship, followed by a time of food and fellowship.

The schedule this year is:

March 1	St. James United Methodist Church, Lynbrook
March 8	Bethany Congregational Church, East Rockaway
March 15	Here at St. John's
March 22	Christ Episcopal, Lynbrook
March 29	St. Raymond's, East Rockaway

Hope to see you there!

SERVERS FOR MARCH 2012

DATE	ACOLYTES		ASSISTING MINISTERS		LECTORS	
3/4	8:30 AM	Lily Mata	8:30 AM	Dorothy Richetti	8:30 AM	Arlene Moglia
Lent 2	10:00 AM	Kaitlyn Gavin	10:00 AM	Debby Lindman	10:00 AM	Christopher Powell
3/11	8:30 AM	Jessica Muck	8:30 AM	Roger Vargas	8:30 AM	Roger Vargas
Youth Sunday	10:00 AM	YOUTH	10:00 AM	SUNDAY	10:00 AM	
Daylight Sav. Time						
3/18	8:30 AM	Victoria Dunn	8:30 AM	Andrew Dunn	8:30 AM	Andrew Dunn
Lent 4	10:00 AM	Jesse Pace	10:00 AM	Hank Lenz	10:00 AM	Hank Lenz
3/25	8:30 AM	Jennifer Dalton	8:30 AM	Dorothy Criscuolo	8:30 AM	Bill Benson
Lent 5	10:00 AM	Carrie Feltkamp	10:00 AM	Susan Masciello	10:00 AM	Susan Masciello

If you cannot serve on a day you are scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the church office and the appropriate coordinator:

Bob Koehler: Assisting Ministers and Crucifers/Gospel bearers- 678-6623

Claire Lenz: Lectors - 872-2063

Jill Pace: Acolytes and Torch bearers- 599-8896



Easter Baskets

Easter is a joyous and glorious time for us as we celebrate our Lord's Resurrection. For many, that joy is overshadowed by a feeling of hunger.

It is our purpose, at the **New LIFE Center – Long Island**, to care for and uplift our neighbors and we invite you to participate in building up the body of Christ.

We are asking for your help in providing Easter Food Baskets for the hungry. These baskets are much more than food. They are a visible sign that carries the message of Christ's love and concern.

Please help by donating any of these suggested items for the baskets:

*Bring your donations
to St. John's
and we'll make sure
they get delivered
by the April 2 deadline.
Thanks for your help!*

Cake Mix & Frosting
Candy
Canned Fruit
Canned Ham/Fresh Ham*
Canned Vegetables
Coffee/ Tea / Hot chocolate
Cookies/Crackers
Juice
Olives / Pickles / Salad dressing
Pie Crust Mix & Filling
Pudding/Jello
Soup

**Fresh hams are accepted as refrigeration is available at NLC

Store Gift Certificates may be purchased in lieu of ham and brought to the New LIFE Center distribution Office

FOOD BASKETS/FOOD STUFFS MUST BE DELIVERED TO NEW LIFE CENTER NO LATER THAN MONDAY APRIL 2nd

Lutheran Social Services of New York
New LIFE Center – Long Island
516-483-3240
www.lssny.org