

WARDEN'S WORLD

March has arrived and with it the opportunity for spiritual renewal and reflection: Lent is upon us and the time to prepare for Easter. Might I suggest that you try to add the Monday Morning Contemptlative Prayer that Rev. Eileen conducts at 9:15 via zoom. It lasts about 20 minutes and is a great start to the week.

Then during Lent, you could include Compline held in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday evening. Again, this is a 20 to 25 minutes service. Palm Sunday will be held on March 24 at our usual Sunday time of 10:30. The next day, Monday evening, will be the Passion Liturgy with Communion at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday of Holy Week is Compline in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday the Service of Tenebrae will be held also at 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday will begin with the Agape Meal in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m. and Rev. Eileen will read Scripture just like last year (a meal in silence). Food will be provided by the Worship Committee and be an assortment of Mediterranean dishes. Maudy Thursday Service will start at 7:00 p.m. without foot washing.

Good Friday will have two services conducted by Rev. Eileen, noon and seven p.m. There will not be a service on Saturday, with the Easter Sunday Liturgy held at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Please plan on attending as many of these offerings as possible. It will make your Easter much more meaningful.

Be Safe, Be Well, We Love You



One Step Closer With Rev. Eileen

Anam Cara

In everyone's life, there is great need for an anam cara, a soul friend. In this love, you are understood as you are without mask or pretension. The superficial and functional lies and half-truths of social acquaintance fall away, you can be as you really are.

Love allows understanding to dawn, and understanding is precious. Where you are understood, you are at home. When you really feel understood,

Consequently, love is anything but sentimental. In fact, it is the most real and creative form of human presence. Love is the threshold where divine and human presence ebb and flow into each other.

John O'Donohue, Excerpt from his book, Anam Cara

Anger and Grief

Mirabai Starr writes of powerful emotions, including anger, that are part of losing someone we love:

If grief is a natural response to loss ... then anger, as a common attribute of grief, is also natural. The power of our anger often correlates with the depth of our love. Anger takes many forms on the grief journey. Sometimes it manifests as a low-level irritability and other times as roaring fire, often unleashing itself on inappropriate targets. Sometimes it is directed at an individual we deem responsible for our loss....

Sometimes the anger is directed at God: "What kind of God could allow such suffering?" or "I was taught to believe God loved me. Apparently, that was wrong."... While it is tempting to reduce this experience to a crisis of faith, such an easy explanation might obscure the rich spiritual transformation that is unfolding, as John of the Cross (1542–1591) might say, in the darkness of our own souls. Everything we thought we knew feels like it is unraveling and we have nowhere to turn but into the center of radical unknowing. Grief shatters our foundation and triggers a wholesale reorientation of meaning. Before we rush off to reconfigure the shards, we may choose to sit in the wreckage and allow ourselves to simply be broken.

From that place of devastation, we come face-to-face with our own groundlessness. We also get to see the extreme poverty of our previous conception of God. The box in which we had always confined the sacred has been demolished by the violence of our loss. The God we fabricated (with the help of society, our family, the church) has fled. No wonder we feel abandoned. No wonder we are angry. But that god was not *the* God. Our souls know that now.... Grief is an opportunity to reclaim an authentic connection with Mystery.

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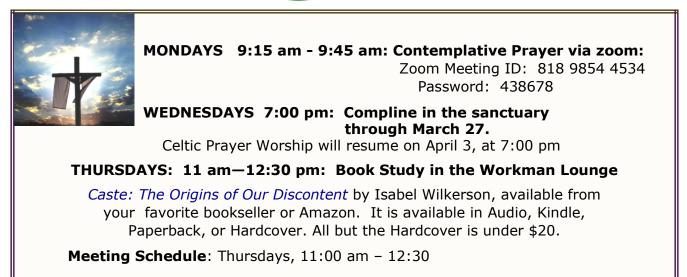
One Step Closer With Rev. Eileen

Anglican theologian Maggie Ross writes about tears as an opportunity to "cleanse" our anger and pain:

Most of the time our anger is due to unwillingness to face the hurt we feel and the real reasons behind it. To learn to weep in order to be free of anger and know "rest" does not obviate selfrespect and is not related to putting oneself down.

On the contrary, if we are struggling to seek God single-heartedly, to learn to weep the anger out of ourselves is a matter of self-respect.

The idea of tears washing anger from us is alien to the mores of power-oriented Western society. We are conditioned to justify our anger, to find the right place to put blame, and to always feel good about ourselves. Most of us associate anger and tears with tears that spring from anger, not tears that cleanse us from anger. But ... tears of anger are themselves ... a sign of choice, of potential change.



 Meeting Dates:
 March 7, 14, 21, No meeting 3/28

 April 4,22,18,25, May 2, 9, 16 (Last meeting).



Palm Sunday: March 24 at 10:30 am Tuesday: Compline, March 26 at 7:00 pm

Wednesday: Service of Tenebrae, March 27 at 7:00 pmMaundy Thursday, March 28 begins at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall with the Agape Meal, (which is *eaten in silence*).

The Maundy Thursday Service in the Sanctuary follows the Agape Meal with the Passion Liturgy and Eucharist. (*No footwashing*)
 Friday, March 29: 12 noon & 7:00 pm: Good Friday Services
 Sunday, March 31: 10:30 am Easter Sunday - Hallelujah

News to Know



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS MARCH 10



MEMORIAL GARDEN



The Memorial Placque has been put in its permanent place in the garden.

Phase 2 will begin soon.

The Garden still needs the gold dust placed surrounding the triangle.

A section of fence needs installed west of the memorial plaque. Soft Plantings that include all herbaceous plantings. We are currently investigating cost-effective alternatives for lighting and water.

Lawn & limestone benches will be added. A proposed water feature has been deleted due to budget constraints.

Also This Month



HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED ON THE DAYS OF THE SALE!

Contact Millie if you can volunteer.



If you are aware of someone in our parish who could use pastoral care: a visit, a phone call, support, please call either the church office (335-7747) and leave a message with Char, or call our pastoral care members: Dave and Carole Cobb (937-698-4708).

If this is an emergency, call Rev. Eileen: 513-373-5888 (emergencies only)

ON THE CALENDAR IN MARCH

Buildings and Grounds Meeting:	10:00 am	March 4 in the Parish Hall
Fellowship Committee Meeting	1:00 pm	March 7 in the Parish Hall
Vestry Meeting	7:00 pm	March 11 Workman Lounge
Outreach Committee Meeting	10:00 am	March 23 in the Parish Hall
Worship Committee Meeting	No meeting	in March — Next Meeting April 21

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS AFFECTS SUNDAY MORNING

