

June 21, 2020

St. Thomas's Episcopal Parish
276 S. College Ave Newark, DE
302.368.4644

weekly newsletter

The Carpenter's Helper

This Week..we are thinking and praying about Civil Rights

EVERY THURSDAY AT 7PM, JOIN DEACON CECILY FOR A SPECIAL AND SPIRITUAL CLOSE TO THE DAY.
THIS IS A ZOOM MEETING- CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR YOUR LINK.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

In your mercy, Lord,
dispel the darkness of this night.
Let your household so sleep in peace
that at the dawn of a new day
they may, with joy, waken in your name.
Through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

COMPLINE PRAYER

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A SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER

During the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Thomas's is alive and well. We are worshipping via live streaming on YouTube (See our YouTube Channel and hit Subscribe!). The full-text bulletins for our services can be found on our website, and by email request.

We also continue to respond to the needs of the Newark Community through our collaboration with the Newark Empowerment Center and others. Those who would like to support our work may do so by going to our "Giving to St Thomas's" page.

Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them, and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times. May God bless you and keep you, now and always. For more, see the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware COVID-19 site.



THE BLESSING OF A LIFE-LONG RELATIONSHIP

the Rev. Elizabeth Masterson



the Rev. Charles Cloughen

WILL TAKE PLACE AT 9 AM, SUNDAY, JUNE 28,
AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE INCARNATION

IT WILL BE LIVESTREAMED.

Curry: "It's Time to Speak Up"

In an interview with Axios on HBO which aired earlier this week, the Presiding Bishop says that it is time to speak up about racism and the need for police reform.

"I believe in this country and what it stands for: freedom, justice, equality," the Most Rev. Michael Curry said in the interview. "Those are ideals worth standing for. And when they are challenged, we must speak up."

..."There have been dramatic changes in American society," Curry says. "I can assure you that in the late 1960s, Michael Curry wouldn't have been presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church." Since then, he said, Barack Obama has served as president.

"But this law enforcement and excessive brutality on the part of police and the structures that have and continue that, that has not changed dramatically and significantly.

"Most cops are good cops. They're good people who get up and go to work and most of them want to do good. But there are a few who are a problem. But the systemic issue is, the few are often protected and allowed to continue. And there needs to be real accountability built in."

The full episode, including this interview, is available to watch on HBO's streaming platforms.

Episcopal leaders hail Supreme Court ruling barring LGBTQ workplace discrimination

Episcopalians and church leaders are cheering the U.S. Supreme Court's June 15 ruling that protects gay and transgender Americans from workplace discrimination, a groundbreaking decision that follows decades of church advocacy for greater LGBTQ rights.

"The Supreme Court has spoken again for the equality of all God's children," Presiding Bishop Michael Curry said on June 16, praising the court's 6-3 decision in remarks to church employees at the start of their two-day annual staff meeting.

In July 2019, Curry and the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, president of the House of Deputies, signed a friend of the court brief supporting the plaintiffs in the case.

Speaking to employees via Zoom, Curry put yesterday's ruling in the context of the court's June 2015 ruling that upheld same-sex marriage nationwide. That earlier decision was handed down just as The Episcopal Church's General Convention was getting underway in Salt Lake City, Utah, spurring bishops and deputies to approve trial-use marriage rites for same-sex couples.

Jennings posted the news on Facebook, quoting from a July 2019 statement she made when she and Curry filed their legal brief on behalf of more than 700 interfaith leaders.

"As Christians, we bear a particular responsibility to speak out, because attempts to deny LGBTQ people their dignity and humanity as children of God are too often made in the name of God," Jennings said. "This way of fear is not the way of Jesus Christ, who teaches us to cast out fear."

...When General Convention met in Austin in July 2018, it passed a resolution reaffirming its support for transgender rights and pledged to support "legislative, educational, pastoral, liturgical, and broader communal efforts" to oppose violence and discrimination against transgender people.

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