A Grace Note from the Rector March 10, 2022

Dear Ones,

In almost every conversation I've had over the past two weeks, people are asking how to help the people of the Ukraine. I think the first thing is **fervent, unceasing prayer** that God will make wars to cease in all the world (Psalm 46:9). The next urgent action is to send **financial support**. Every agency that I've looked at says the same thing: attempting to send food, clothes, or medicine is impractical. The need is money, and there are many groups engaged in this work. Here's the link to Episcopal Relief and Development's effort. May God bless your help to the people of the Ukraine.

https://support.episcopalrelief.org/ukraineresponse?ID=220301DP0DS0100&utm\_medium=web&utm\_ca\_mpaign=fy22ukraine&utm\_source=220301DP0DS0100

#### LOOKING FORWARD

Sunday, March 13 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

The Second Sunday in Lent: Holy Eucharist: Rite One

(9:30am – In-Person & Zoom)

Wednesday, March 16 Eucharist (noon)

Wednesday Lenten Book Study (7pm, Zoom)

Thursday, March 17 Vestry (6:30)

Sunday, March 20 The Third Sunday in Lent: Liturgy of the Word: Rite One

Mike Ashley will preside, Jamie-Sue Ferrell will preach

(9:30am – In-Person & Zoom)

Sunday, April 24 Mark your calendars for Kay Gillespie's Celebration of Life

North Church Venue, 1-4pm

## A BETTER WAY: MARCH NEEDS

Shampoo, Body Wash, Toothpaste, Colored Pencils, Sketchbooks and Watercolor Paints.

Each new client receives a bag filled with hygiene items upon arrival. At present, they are extremely low on these items. The art supplies are used for therapeutic purposes to encourage self-expression and healing through art. Thank you for your donations!

#### LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Not that I'm counting, but Grace made a strong showing for last night's Lent Book Study. It was great to see so many of you there. I hope your conversations were fruitful. Next week's discussion will cover the chapter on Bible. It's not too late to join, and I still have a few books left. I'll email the link over the weekend.

**"Brother, Give Us a Word"** a daily devotional from the Brothers of The Society of Saint John the Evangelist (SSJE). Subscribe now at <u>SSJE.org/word</u>.

Grace Village is bringing back the **Virtual Community Bible Study**! Tuesday afternoons at 4pm on Zoom. The topics will be Prophets and Saints. For the Zoom link, mail Amy O'Neal in the office (gracechurchparish@gmail.com).

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

If I missed you, please email me to let me know.

# Barbara Wills (March 12) Eric Kelly (March 16)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I leave you with another take on last Sunday's Gospel. Brother Eckhart (Chip Camden) is a novice in the Order of Saint Benedict, Community of Saint John Cassian. He is a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Palo Alto.

# **Temptations**

Creature comforts
And why not?
All you have to do is
Give up a few rocks
These sun-baked stones
That burn your hands and cut your feet
Could soon become a desert treat!
Stop being so hard on yourself!

Fame

All yours for the taking
All you have to do is
Leave this lonely wilderness
Head right to the center of the noisy crowd
Drop in your branding clear and loud
Start showing what you've got!

Power

Not as easy, but well within your reach All you have to do is Want it more than anything Make it your top priority Your one and only deity Instead of your strange, silly God Of Suffering Solitude And Silence

God bless you as we walk through these days together,

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