



Lent 2022

From the Senior Warden

“Parting is such sweet sorrow.” I’m told William Shakespeare was referring to the simultaneous pain of parting and pleasurable anticipation of a future when he wrote this famous phrase. The sentence contains the puzzle produced by its contradiction.....”sweet sorrow.” It’s an oxymoron, one that combines the two contradictory ideas of pleasure and pain. It’s not possible to explain its meaning, except to say that, in our situation, although the parting is sorrowful, there is pleasure and joy in the anticipation of being recharged with a future Priest.

God gifted St. David’s with a priest whose time has come to move on. Mother Mary shared many of the significant moments in all our lives. She shared our joys, administered the sacraments, inspired the Word of God to live and move in us, supported us through tragedies and provided counsel when we faced challenges.

St. David’s, we should not be sorrowful in her leaving, but we should look for the sweetness in her parting.

Think of it this way: By letting her go, you’ll be a good steward. And God’s generosity is never outdone.

I believe we are better off because of the time we had with Mother Mary who is going forward to minister to the sickest children and their parents. That parting, of course, brings about the sorrow Shakespeare wrote about. The sweetness is the knowledge that others are benefactors of the same graces we received. Sweeter still is the knowing that Mother Mary is now doing good work for those especially in need, and we pray for her and her ministry. She made a commitment to God to serve Him, not just our parish.

I’m one of those who truly believe that our priests never really uproot and leave us empty handed; they take up permanent residence in our hearts.

Until then, we are responsible for keeping the fire burning in our parish and in our community by being good stewards of her flame.

Please pray for your Vestry and trust it to do its very best to meet the pastoral needs of the people of this parish.

—*Sharon Kitchens*

For Joy in God's Creation

O heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer



St. David's Episcopal Church

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ST. DAVID'S DAY



1st March is St David's Day: the traditional day of the Welsh. Dewi Sant as Saint David is called in the Welsh language, was a Celtic monk who lived in the sixth century. The Black Flag with yellow cross is the flag of St. David.

Although not that much is known about him, some information is gleaned from a book written by Rhigyfarch called *Buchedd Dewi* (the life of David) in the 11th century. He reached the status of archbishop of Wales, and was one of many early saints who helped to spread Christianity among the pagan Celtic tribes of western Britain. Apparently he lived a frugal life, eating mostly bread and herbs and only ever drank water. Dewi died on 1st March 589AD and was buried at St David's Cathedral in Pembrokeshire which became a place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages.



St David's Day dates back to 1120, when Dewi was canonized by Pope Callactus II, at which time March 1st was added in the Church calendar and today St. David's Day is celebrated by Welsh people all over the world and is a time when the wearing of the national emblems of Wales - a leek or a daffodil - is a must.

Although the leek has been recognized as the emblem of Wales since the 16th century, its association with the Welsh can be traced back to 633 AD when, at the battle of Heathfield, a monk apparently suggested the Welsh soldiers wore leeks in their caps to distinguish them from their Saxon opponents. Not a bad idea all in all - and they won the battle.



The Welsh Tradition

Saint David is a very important figure in Wales, and so 1 March is a day of great celebration there. Each year there is a concert in St. David's Hall, [Cardiff](#), featuring a 1,000-member male voice choir, flown in from all over the world. Children in primary school wear traditional Welsh costumes—the girls don pais a betgwn (a petticoat and overcoat made of Welsh flannel) and a tall beaver hat worn over a white bonnet. The boys wear a flat beaver hat, black breeches, a Welsh flannel waistcoat, and a white shirt with a jabot and wrist frills. Children participate in Welsh dances, folk songs, and poetry. It is custom to eat a bowl of cawl (leek broth) on Saint David's day and wear a leek or daffodil—both national symbols of Wales. In addition, it is tradition to fly the Welsh national flag, Y Ddraig Goch (the red dragon), on houses and public buildings on Saint David's day.

Do the Little Things

It is generally accepted that Saint David died in 589, and many claim he lived over 100 years. His last words were transcribed by Rhigyfarch as "be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed. Do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about. I will walk the path that our father's trod before us." "Do the little things" ("Gwnewch y pethau bychain") has become a well-known saying, and an inspiration to many Welsh people today. Saint David was buried at his monastery, where the cathedral of Saint David stands today.

The Deacon's Corner

From Brother William Morris

A Special Memory of Ash Wednesday

In the Spring of 2019, Bishop Jennifer suggested that I attend an annual conference for Seminarians of Color, sponsored by the national Episcopal Church. Attendees are mostly Episcopal seminary students of African American, Asian, Latino and Native-American heritages, respectively.

Over the course of three days, we attended workshops regarding the different histories and present-day challenges of each group. We heard how various Episcopal programs had been established to fight for social justice, improved literacy, or the expansion of housing and food programs in places around the country, such as Navajo Nation, East Los Angeles, and Chicago, for example. This time was simply awe-inspiring. I felt so honored to spend time with these sisters and brothers, as well as the national “missioners” who provided the training.

While the conference was inspiring and gave me a broader sense of vision in the Episcopal Church, the most inspirational and unforgettable time occurred on the very first afternoon on which all of us met.

As soon as most of us arrived and were gathered together in Miami, we were paired up with a partner and assigned different areas along Miami Beach to offer “Ashes on the Go”. I was paired up with a brother from Utah on the Navajo Nation, Leon Sampson. Leon is a fairly quiet, reserved, and serious individual. We were a good pair!

Interestingly, Leon and I were assigned a place on Miami Beach right in front of ESPN studios, at the *very height* of Spring Vacation. There was a lot of beer, lots of mini-bikinis, and lots of weed wafting in the air. I had made a sign that said, “Ashes Right Here”, and like a barker at a carnival, I also started to proclaim our purpose: “Ashes right here! Ashes right here! Come get Ashes right here!”

Our time on Miami Beach was like a full-blown miracle. Over the course of the next couple hours, we (mostly Leon, who wore a priestly robe) applied ashes on well over 100 people. And we laid hands on them and prayed for them too: prayers for safety, better grades, clearer sense of purpose, even sick pets. More times than not, it was a group of young people on vacation, though many adults receive ashes too. More than once, the young folks asked to take a picture with us (that they could send to their parents as proof that they’d received ashes).

At the end of our time together, Leon and I went down to the water’s edge. Leon had never seen the Atlantic Ocean. He and I knelt by the water. And, as Leon said the Lord’s Prayer in Navajo, a surge of Holy Spirit electricity surged through me. The sound of ocean and wind and Navajo – and the presence of God – made for a Holy moment and the end of an unforgettable Ash Wednesday.

(Note: Later in 2019, my wife, stepson Micah, and I went out to Utah to attend Leon’s ordination into the priesthood: another story for another newsletter).



Brother William and Rev. Leon Sampson



Episcopal Seminarians of Color Conference, Miami FL, 2019

Sustaining the World and its Resources Together with God's Help

Climate care, environment, food insecurity/hunger, and education, continue as focus for ministries in Brown County as St. David's outreach and the Northern Brown County Food Alliance have joined with other community resources to form the Brown County Food and Farm Community Council. Purdue Extension has received a \$10,000 Food to Farm Grant for Rural Food Access. Leading this council is Kara Hammes, Purdue Extension Agent, Annie Eakins, Purdue Extension wellness coordinator, and Katie Fenny, 4H Youth Development Extension Educator. Below is the Grant summary from which the Council is now beginning to establish sub-committee and establish specific goals and plan events. Cori McCabe and Donna Niednagel are representing both St. David's and NBCFA on the B.C. Food to Farm Council.

Brown County Rural Food Access Grant Summary

Motivated and invested community members of Brown County, along with existing charitable organizations, wish to identify past and current charitable food distributors and communicate with them with the goal to create a collaborative food council that will make the Brown County food system more accessible to those who need fresh produce and to farmers who can donate local produce from their farms and orchards. We propose to do this through several different initiatives:

1. Learn about other food councils and create our own structure that will be sustainable and successfully accomplish its goals.
2. Educate the community about available resources, programming and education efforts related to food production, preparation, and preservation - following food from seed to plate. Increase access to locally grown foods, by assisting farmers in their efforts to donate produce from their farms, as well as using grant funding to purchase excess produce from farmers market vendors during the market season and to also supplement funds for doubling SNAP, WIC, and SFMNP dollars at the market.

We are viewing this grant proposal as the beginning of a long term project in Brown County. In 2019 Purdue Extension conducted an Enhancing the Value of Public Spaces analysis for the purpose of providing content for a master plan for Brown County Parks and Recreation. Multiple outcomes surrounding the food system were identified and the majority of them centered around creating a food policy council to organize and manage strategies to enhance and strengthen the food system in the county. Additional items the Food Council would focus on in the future are farm to school initiatives, Plant a Row for the Hungry, continued discounted or free education centered around the food system and work with retail and restaurants to source local food.

Many of you will remember that the St. David's Green Team participated in sponsoring a community wide EARTH DAY CELEBRATION with a parade and several resources booths including: recycling, trees to plant, solar energy, and various demonstration related to conversation and renewal. To address the Public Education and Awareness goals in the grant Cori and Donna have suggested that a duplication of this type of community earth day would be a way to begin the community education for food sustainability and knowledge of current and potential resources and ways to protect and renew our environment.

So—Join in this project—Help us plan and plant---Teach and Learn—Share your expertise in food preserving and gardening.

—Donna Niednagel

The Search for our next Priest

The Vestry has created a Search Committee comprised of a cross-section of St. David's congregants. A March 5 retreat for the Vestry and Search Committee is planned in order to schedule the three Holy Conversation Sundays and the theme of each, in addition to setting out the duties/obligations of the Committee. Many thanks to the following who volunteered for this important job: Gene Niednagel, Ben Woodworth, Ed McCabe, Annie Hawk, Bob Westbrook.

—Sharon Kitchens

Bean Blossom Music Series

SUNDAY
FEB. 27TH
7:00 PM



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Fun



**"MY POINT, ONCE AGAIN IS NOT THAT THOSE
ANCIENT PEOPLE TOLD LITERAL STORIES AND
WE ARE NOW SMART ENOUGH TO TAKE THEM
SYMBOLICALLY, BUT THAT THEY TOLD THEM
SYMBOLICALLY AND WE ARE NOW DUMB ENOUGH
TO TAKE THEM LITERALLY.**

- JOHN DOMINIC CROSSAN (HISTORIAN)

Birthdays and Anniversaries

FEBRUARY

3 Cori McCabe
4 Mike Day
5 Jaden Fish (Niednagel's grandson)
7 Logan Fittz
14 Jane Land
15 Sandy Fittz
27 Linda Lee Gosser

MARCH

5 Bob Westbrook
12 Cynthia Kafoure
12 Angie Aumage
21 Kyle Fittz
28 Laurie Stant
28 Bess Smith (Joan Amati's daughter)
30 Michael Kafoure

APRIL

8 Andrea & Larry Barber - Anniversary
9 Asher Nolan (son of Danielle & Kate Nolan)
11 Jane Savage
12 Sandy Ackerman

15 Bess Smith/Eric Cole - Anniversary
19 Jean Furlong
29 Knox Nolan (son of Danielle & Kate Nolan)

MAY

10 Jan Halladay
16 Michael & Cynthia Kafoure - Anniversary
18 Linda Shackelford
26 Dona Glentzer
27 Jim & Judy Huber - Anniversary
27 Gene & Donna Niednagel - Anniversary
31 Ronald and Jane Herr- Anniversary

JUNE

4 Anne Hawk
6 Ben Smith
7 David Savage
21 Jim Huber
30 Ben Woodworth

Don't see your birthday or anniversary - drop me a line at jane@rjherr.com

Newsletter Submissions?

Please send your news items, stories of spiritual growth, book reviews, jokes, cartoons, recipes, etc. to Jane Herr (812)320-2340 or 4923 Stevens Rd., Nashville, 47448 or (the preferred method!): jane@rjherr.com

Next deadline for submissions:

Pentecost: May 22, 2022

A Thank you from Linda

Dear St David's Family,

Thank you for all the cards and well-wishes during my stay in Hearthstone Health Campus in Bloomington. You lifted my spirits so much. I love you all. I was in the hospital Dec 19 & 20, then moved to Hearthstone Health Campus. I was released Jan 21. I am scheduled for joint replacement surgery on my knee on March 30 at the Orth Indy hospital in Greenwood. I will be dismissed to go home the next day. I am not looking forward to surgery but am looking forward to no more pain, no more falling, and being able to walk again! Thank you for your prayers. Please know that you are dearly loved. I am also looking forward to our being able to see each other again. Please stay well.

Love to you all,
Linda Gosser

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<p>SERVICES</p> <p>Sunday 9:30 AM Morning Prayer</p> <p>Wednesday 5:00 PM Evening Prayer</p>

In-person services may be temporarily suspended when Covid cases increase in Brown County. You can attend our worship services via zoom and/or Facebook. Please contact the church office for more information.

Spring Holidays

Tuesday	March 1	St. David's Day
Tuesday	March 1	Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday	March 2	Ash Wednesday
Thursday	Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Day
Sunday	April 10	Palm Sunday
Thursday	April 14	Maundy Thursday
Friday	April 15	Good Friday
Sunday	April 17	Easter
Sunday	May 8	Mother's Day
Sunday	June 5	Pentecost