



THE FEBRUARY DOVETALE

St. David's Episcopal Church

2021

Invitation to a Holy Lent

This year, Lent begins on February 17. To kick off the Lenten season, we'll livestream our Ash Wednesday service that day at 5:00 pm. And through the magic of the internet, I will invite you at that service, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent.

Lent is one of the most important seasons of the Christian year. It is a time of preparation that gets us ready to acknowledge the brutal events of Holy Week, particularly Christ's death on the cross, and then to celebrate the incredible good news of Easter, that Christ is raised.

Those events stand at the very heart of our faith. And yet they can become so familiar that they cease to shock and amaze us. We begin to take them for granted. Lent is the antidote for this attitude.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to gather in person this Lent. I will miss the camaraderie and the support as I again try to give up sweets! But there is a silver lining. Important as gathering for worship is, Lent is mostly a season that you observe at home.

One of the duties of Lent is self-examination and repentance. We pause to acknowledge the ways we have turned away from God, and to commit ourselves to turning back. The Ash Wednesday service is a good way to begin that process, but it should continue throughout the season.

A second duty is fasting and self-denial. What that means in practice will vary from person to person, but all of us should give something up or take something on. The point is not suffering for its own sake. The point is to act in such a way that our attention is drawn back to God. So, for example, I will once again give up sweets and Sudoku. (Another pandemic silver lining: you won't have to hear my complaints. Just say a prayer for patience for poor Carrie.) Ideally, every time I crave sweets or think about completing a Sudoku, I will pause to remember what Christ has done for me. Then, come Easter, I can eat sweets again, return to my puzzles, and generally celebrate God's abundance with renewed gratitude!

A third duty is reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. Join us in reading the Gospel of Mark. Join one of our Zoom Bible studies or contemplative prayer. Participate in one of our Lent formation programs. Say Morning Prayer (a form is available in the narthex) or use of our Lenten devotionals. Again, the point is to take some time to come to know God better.

If you take Lent seriously, if you strive to have a Holy Lent, you will not enjoy every minute of it. But you will grow a little closer to God. You will know a little more joy. You will experience a little bit of new life. And that is a very good reason to give it a try!!

In the name of the One who lived and died among us,

Fr. Harvey



Giving From The Heart (by Ted Zern)

As the new year dawns, we are indeed full of hope. With COVID vaccines in play, there is renewed enthusiasm that we will soon return to in person worship and celebrate this remarkable community of faith at St. David's. In the meantime, we are reminded of those pesky "new year's resolutions." You know, the ones which we have every good intention of keeping but somehow fail to maintain. We make these with a wish of accomplishment. So, for 2021, let's consider a different kind of resolution, one made in prayer, a resolution to use our time and talent as called by God. On **Sunday**, February 14, St. David's offers a chance to give thanks for the blessings of time granted, and the blessings of talents bestowed. On that date, stewardship turns from consideration of financial gifts to one of spiritual gifts, i.e. **our time and talent**, gifts from the heart.

What is Stewardship of Time and Talent?

It is the wise and responsible use of the gifts God has entrusted to each of us. It is believing that God has created each of us with unique abilities and attributes which make us who we are. Consider these gifts those of the heart so it seems fitting that the commitment date for this phase of stewardship coincides with Valentine's Day.

Why is This Important?

Our lives have real meaning only when we use our gifts in accordance with God's will. As we grow in stewardship, we grow in our relationship with God by inviting Him to live in our hearts.

How Can I Be a Good Steward of My Time?

We are given opportunities each day to be good stewards. No gift is greater than time, and yet, nothing is so easy to waste. Time spent in prayer, nurturing relationships or just enjoying the world's beauty is time well spent.

What are My Talents?

We often hold back from recognizing our gifts because of a narrow definition of "talent." We think "talented people" are extraordinary achievers or have easily identifiable gifts, such as music or art. Yet, talent also includes being a good listener, being able to organize people, relating well to children or teens, and being patient with others. As Christians, we recognize that our gifts are meant to be cultivated and shared with others through family and friends, church, community and with the world.

How Can I Be a Good Steward of My Talents?

Begin by recognizing the talents you have been given. Be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Let go of preconceived ideas about yourself. Be still and listen with the "ear of the heart."

An Invitation to Action-A Few Suggestions

Do something for yourself and your relationship with God. Consider answering the challenge to read the New Testament.

Join a Bible study or small group, or consider attending contemplative prayer sessions.

Get involved with fellowship events at church; get to know your church family. This seems particularly important this year.

Regularly worship and get to know the people around you, pray often and sing loudly.

Seek out ways you can share your gifts with the various ministries of the congregation.

Offer your time and talent on Sunday, February 14 by completing a declaration form (spoiler alert) which will be found in the next issue of the Dovetale.

Our Building is Still Closed, Fr. Harvey

With great regret, the vestry and I decided that we need to keep our building closed through February and, unless the numbers get better, March as well. That means no in-person service on Ash Wednesday or for Lent. Sigh.... I look forward to the day when this pandemic is behind us!

Communion During a Pandemic

Even though we aren't worshipping together in person at this point, we want to make sure that people have access to Holy Communion. With the Bishop's permission, we make consecrated wafers available before and after services.

Immediately following the 9:00 Sunday service, we leave consecrated wafers on a table in the narthex for at least thirty minutes for people to pick up. You can also pick up consecrated wafers during the week on Wednesdays from 11:00 to 1:00, Thursdays from 11:00 to 12:30, and Fridays from 11:00 to 3:00. It is a good idea to call before you come, just to be on the safe side.

Yet another option is to have someone drop the consecrated hosts off at your house on Wednesdays or Fridays. If you would like that, please contact the office or let Fr. Harvey know.

Finally, we will continue to say the Prayer for Spiritual Communion during the livestreamed services for those who are not able to have a physical wafer.

Our suggestion is that you consume the sacrament as close to the worship service as possible. So, if you pick it up immediately following the service, consume it right away. If you pick it up during the week, wait until the next service and then consume it just after the prayer of consecration.

One last suggestion: if possible, have someone else give you the host while saying the words, "The body of Christ; the bread of heaven." Ideally Communion is something we all give to each other.

Wine-Making Ministry

This ministry/fund raiser continues! If you would like a bottle of homemade wine, please contact Mary Moore. The suggested donation is \$10, and the varieties available (while supplies last!) are: Cabernet Sauvignon; Chardonnay; Malbec; Blueberry; and dry and sweet meads. All proceeds go to support our mission and ministries. Thanks to Mary for leading this effort, with occasional help from a wine-making crew!

Virtual Pastoral Care

During the cold weather, when we all spend more time inside, it is more important than ever that we be sensitive to each other's needs. Isolation can be as harmful as the covid-19 virus, and it is likely to increase as the winter wears on. Please stay in touch with your brothers and sisters at Saint David's. Reach out by phone or e-mail or in whatever other way seems appropriate. And if you are struggling, emotionally, financially, or logistically, please let Fr. Harvey know. He should be able to connect you with parishioners who are ready to help.

Prayer Shawls

This is a great time to make, use, or give someone a prayer shawl. If you have one to be dedicated, let Father Harvey know, and he can include a prayer of dedication as part of our Sunday service. If you would like to pick one up from the Church, please let the office know, and we'll try to make appropriate arrangements. Prayer shawls can be a great comfort to people who need a little boost, and that is a lot of us these days! Thanks to everyone who participates in this wonderful ministry!!!

Technology Update, by Fr. Harvey

We have gotten serious about tech upgrades. We hired a consultant to recommend what new equipment would give us the most improvement bang for the buck. The vestry approved virtually everything on his list that we didn't already have. That decision was easier than it might have been since the Diocese will reimburse us for much of the expense. Hopefully by the time you read this, we will already have made the purchases. The only hold-up is me figuring out how to order online and still get credit as a tax-exempt organization. Our consultant has agreed to come back to Saint David's to do the installation. I am hoping it should all be done by Ash Wednesday. May it be so!

Daily Prayer

We (Saint David's) continue to offer Morning Prayer every weekday at 8:00. Deacon Terry leads it on Mondays and Fridays, and Father Harvey leads it on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Saint Mark's offers Compline or something similar at 8:00 every weekday evening except Wednesdays. Please take advantage of these services as you are able. And please spread the word!

Sunday School at Home

Our children still can't gather at the Church for Sunday School classes, and most families seem to be about zoomed out. But we want to continue to support our children's Christian formation. Wonderful Ellen Scott is therefore mailing helpful materials to every family that requests it. In Lent, that includes a Lenten devotional for children and families. If you are not receiving those materials and would like to do so, please contact the Church office. And a BIG thanks to Ellen for making this important part of our common life happen!!!



Annual Meeting, by Fr. Harvey

I missed being in person. I especially missed the excellent food! But we had a good annual meeting. Thanks to everyone who joined us, with special thanks to Jo Joubert for compiling the Annual Report booklet and to my wife Carrie Baker for handling all the technology.

The meeting was on Zoom, with result that I did virtually all the talking. Everyone was very patient! We had over thirty people present, which is not much different from past years. (We are normally between 30 and 40.)

We elected a new vestry as well as representatives to Diocesan Convention. Penny Miller will be the parish delegate to Diocesan Convention, with Kathy Glista as alternate. She will join Carol Fabrycki as the vestry delegate or Linda Seabury as the vestry alternate. (More on the vestry in a separate article.)

On finances, we looked briefly at the 2020 financial statements, which happily report a \$12000 surplus for last year, a remarkable testimony to the faithfulness of our people. The budget for this year doesn't look as good. We anticipate about a \$9000 deficit. But our estimates are loose since so much remains undetermined. Also making things better is the fact that we received a \$10,000 bequest from wonderful and faithful Jane Nunn in January, so that will cover the projected deficit. But the fact is, we need to find additional sources of revenue going forward.

Looking ahead, I highlighted two things. One is an expansion to our small vegetable garden. This is something the Diocese is pushing, and we have applied for a \$2000 grant to cover any expenses associated with it. The other is technology upgrades to improve our livestreaming. The vestry has approved purchases totaling roughly \$3000, of which \$2000 will be reimbursed by the Diocese. Another good thing along the same lines is, we expect to get our services on the Agawam television station in the next few weeks.

We ended with expressions of appreciation for the hard work and dedication of three people: John O'Hare; Ellen Rendrick; and Ellen Scott. All three contribute a LOT to our parish. Thanks, John and the two Ellens!

One last thought. The good spirit on display at the annual meeting was another example of the resilience and faithfulness of the people of our parish. Thanks to all of you for that!

Annual Reports

I e-mailed an electronic version of the Annual Report booklet to everyone on my e-mail list. We also have hard copies at the Church in the narthex, which you can pick up anytime the office is open. If you would like us to mail a hard copy to you, please contact the Church office to let us know. Thanks to Jo Joubert for putting the book together. It's a lot of work!

The 2021 Vestry

We are fortunate indeed in our vestry at Saint David's! At Annual Meeting, we always elect five one-year positions: the two wardens, the treasurer and assistant treasurer, and the clerk. Thankfully most of them agreed to continue another year. Carol Fabrycki is our senior warden. Bob Rendrick is Junior Warden. Jude O'Hare is Treasurer, with Denise Noyes as Assistant Treasurer. Mary Moore steps in as our new Clerk.

Renee Sprinthall joins the vestry and Linda Seabury was re-elected to serve three-year terms. Linda Paquette will complete the two years remaining of Mary's term since Mary has become Clerk. And Jim Sheilds was re-elected to serve the remaining year of Anne Berry's term. Thanks to all of them for agreeing to serve, as well as to outgoing members Cherie McCurdy and Anne Berry!

Rector's Discretionary Fund, by Father Harvey

This is my regular reminder that I have a small discretionary fund which is intended to give people a little financial boost when necessary. If you get in a bind, please talk to me. I should add that our conversation and any help from my discretionary fund will be fully confidential.

Reimbursements

Across from the office are forms for receiving reimbursements for expenses people incur on behalf of Saint David's, as well as a list of which vestry member is in charge of which budget line. You can also see who is in charge of which budget area on our webpage at <https://www.stdavidsagawam.org/leadership.html>. Please note that the budget line assignments will change in a few weeks as the new vestry settles in. If you need to spend the Church's money, please either complete the form yourself or be in touch with Father Harvey or Treasurer Jude O'Hare so they can fill out the form for you. Please first make sure to get approval from the relevant vestry person. Thanks!!

Friday Bible Study at 1:00

The Friday Bible Study continues to meet on Zoom each week at 1:00, with one exception in February—we won't meet on the fifth. We are now into Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, which turns out to be remarkably relevant to us today. Please join us! And spread the word!

Contemplative Prayer and Lectio Divina

"Lectio Divina" is a prayerful reading of a Bible passage, interspersed with short periods of silence. The basic question we ask ourselves is, what is God saying to me through this passage? At least as long as our building remains closed, we plan to offer contemplative prayer on Zoom every Friday at 2:30 except for February 5. Please join us!

Beloved Community: Bending Towards Justice, by Fr. Harvey

On behalf of the Diocese, the Social Justice Commission and the Beloved Community Commission jointly sponsored a Zoom event on the Saturday after MLK Day (January 23) called "Bending Towards Justice." The day began with short prayers led by our Bishop. We then broke into groups to discuss Beloved Community; Creation Care; the Poor People's Campaign; Immigration and Refugees; and Gun Violence. Those conversations lasted an hour, and I can say that the conversation about Beloved Community was lively and helpful. Everyone reconvened for a plenary session with the Reverend Stephanie Spellars, one of the Canons for Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. She was FABULOUS. We ended with more prayers. It was good to come together with people from around the Diocese to talk together about how we can help transform the world from the nightmare it is for so many into the dream that God has for it!

Reading The Gospel Of Mark

Instead of reading the entire New Testament as have done in recent years, this year we are focusing just on the Gospel of Mark, which is the source for most of our Sunday Gospel readings. To help us, we'll use a kind of commentary by Michael Casey called *Fully Human, Fully Divine*, which is available on Amazon starting as low as \$2.99. Our next gathering to discuss chapter two of Casey's book will be Tuesday, March 2 at 4:15. If you are interested in being part of this journey through Mark, please let Father Harvey know, and tell him if you will get the book on your own or if you would like his help. All are welcome!!

Mission Statement

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to love God and community, committing ourselves to lives of joyful worship, prayer, and the teaching of scripture.

Online Directory

We plan to produce a new and updated Book of Names this year. But this is a reminder that the most up-to-date address information we have on parishioners is in a password-protected directory on our webpage. We don't want to print the password, but please contact Father Harvey if you would like it. If you have a chance to use the new directory, please take a moment to check your listing. If you need to make a correction, please contact Father Harvey or Laurie Littlefield. And thanks again to Laurie for making this happen!

Springfield Church Without Walls

Since we can't do our normal Church without walls worship service, we plan to join the Springfield Church without Walls crew at Court Square. They, too, are unable to hold anything like a full service, but they continue to offer free lunches, with a prayer and short message. Our plan is to join with others on the first Sunday of the month, every other month, beginning on January 3. Deacon Terry and I went to that one; anyone is welcome to join us next time, which will be March 7. Our contribution is fifty snacks. Other Churches will provide the rest of the meal. You can contribute snacks by dropping them off in the tub we set out for the Parish Cupboard, labelling them CWW. If you are interested in helping to provide the snacks, please be in touch with Deacon Terry. And a big thanks to Terry for his leadership in this new ministry!

Prayer Cycles

We have put out updated versions of our two monthly prayer cycles, both of which are available in the narthex and on our homepage under the "Worship" tab. One lists all the nations of the world, and the other lists the people and the ministries of Saint David's. Please take a look particularly at the list of our people and ministries. We want to make sure to include everyone!

As of Sunday, January 24, we began using the Parish Prayer Cycle in our services. We include the people for the day in the Prayers of the People on Sundays. During the week, Deacon Terry and I use them in Morning Prayer as well. That way we pray for each person or family by name each month.

Please give the prayer cycles a try if you are not already doing so. It takes just a few minutes each day, and over the course of a month, you pray by name for every nation in the world, and every member and ministry here at Saint David's. We could all use more prayers these days!

Creation Walk

Our last two Creation Walks in Robinson State Park were really wonderful, so we've decided to try a winter walk and also to expand our horizons. After the 9:00 service on Sunday, February 21, (about 10:30), we'll head over to Fannie Stebbins Conservation Area in Longmeadow for a walk. This is, of course, as long as weather permits. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jim Shields or Mary Moore.

“In Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through Him and for Him.” (Colossians 1:16)

Prayer Requests

Back in the good old days, by which I mean eleven months ago(!), we listed prayer requests in the bulletin each week. We can't do that now. If you would like us to include a prayer request in the prayers of the people on Sundays or in Morning Prayer during the week, please let Fr. Harvey know. We also have an online prayer chain. To put out a prayer request on it, please contact Father Harvey. Do the same if you'd like to receive the prayer requests. If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself, please confirm that the person would like to be on the list. And don't forget thanksgivings. It's good to offer those, too!!

The Book of Common Prayer and The Daily Office

One the great, and often neglected, resources of our tradition is the Prayerbook. Now more than ever we all need to be cultivating a regular practice of prayer at home, and the Prayerbook can help. Our livestreamed services (Morning Prayer; and Compline with Saint Mark's) come from the Prayerbook and are intended at least partly as an opportunity for folks to use these prayer services themselves. We have also put in the narthex copies of a specifically Lent version of Morning Prayer, along with the schedule of readings for February. We can mail them to anyone on request. Just call the office or send Fr. Harvey an e-mail.

There are lots of other options in the Prayerbook as well. The Prayerbook has a quick service for Noonday (which we were livestreaming this summer), and a slightly longer one for Evening Prayer (a lot like Morning Prayer and with the same readings). If those are still too much, there are shorter and easier "Daily Devotions" (beginning on page 137), and helpful prayers and thanksgivings at the back of the book (beginning on page 810). The result is something that will work for even the busiest people.

If you need a Prayerbook, let Fr. Harvey know and we can arrange a time for you to pick one up at the Church. You can also order one for yourself, of course. An easy-to-navigate online version is available here: [Online BCP](#).

Prayers in the Church Building, by Fr. Harvey

One of the things the Bishop allows (indeed encourages!) us to do is open our building for times of private prayer. We can't simply open up the building because we don't want people to unintentionally gather. But if you are interested in some private time in the sanctuary, let me know. One easy option is Fridays between 11:00 and 3:00, when I am there anyway, the Church is unlocked, and nothing is happening in the sanctuary. Other times are possible, too. But please don't just come unannounced. Let me know in advance what time (s) you would like so that I can make sure you have the sanctuary to yourself.

Bement/Waterfield Educational Grants

Our Diocese offers a small College Scholarship for students who are active in an Episcopal Church in the Diocese. If you know someone who is qualified, please make them aware of this excellent opportunity. For more information, see <https://www.diocesewma.org/grant-opportunities/bement-grants-bement-waterfield-educational-grants/>.

Lent Begins

As the title says, Lent begins this month! But it's going to be a different kind of Lent this year. Normally on Ash Wednesday Eve (aka Shrove Tuesday—February 16), we would have a parish pancake supper. That can't happen this year, but I intend to have a plate of pancakes that evening; I invite others to do the same.

Our Ash Wednesday Service (February 17) will be livestreamed at 5:00 in the evening. Please note the changed time. We'll offer a drive-by imposition of ashes immediately afterwards.

A silver lining of the pandemic-driven closure of Church buildings is that we can team up with other parishes for formation sessions. We are planning two series. A series on Evil will take place on Wednesdays at 5:30. A second series called Episcopal 101 will meet on Sundays at 4:00. It will qualify people to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, but is also intended for Episcopal long-timers who might like a refresher.

Ash Wednesday Service

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be livestreamed at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 17. I strongly encourage everyone to join in or else watch it later. Ash Wednesday is one of the most solemn and holy services of the entire Christian year, and the best way to kick off a holy Lent.

Lent Madness

Based loosely on the NCAA basketball tournament, this online devotion pits saints against one another in a bracket as voters choose their favorites throughout the penitential season of Lent. Here's how to participate: on the weekdays of Lent, beginning on February 18, information is posted at www.lentmadness.org about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. If you're looking for a Lenten discipline that is fun, educational, occasionally goofy, and always joyful, join the Lent Madness journey. Lent needn't be all doom and gloom. After all, what could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to get closer to Jesus Christ?

Lent Prayer Partners

This is our third year to have Prayer Partners, and I can say from experience that it is a really wonderful practice. Unfortunately, getting started is a little more complicated than usual. If you would like to participate, send me a request anytime between now and Shrove Tuesday (February 16). It should include your name, address, and (if you like) a specific prayer request. On Shrove Tuesday, I'll put all the names in a hat and draw names on everyone's behalf. I'll contact all participants that day with the information about their prayer partner. You then pray for your partner every day during Lent. Finally, on Easter, send an Easter Card to your prayer partner offering God's blessings on that person. This is a great way to support each other as a community of faith especially when we can't be together. Please join us!

Complaint-Free Lent

This was a wonderful discipline brought to us a few years ago by Penny Miller. The basic idea is to wear a purple bracelet that reminds us not to complain. Every time we do complain despite the reminder, we put aside a little money. At the end of Lent, we donate the collected money to a good cause. Those who have participated in past years will remember how helpful this practice can be. But I warn anyone who hasn't participated before: don't commit to putting aside much money for each complaint. It can really add up!! The purple bracelets will be available in the narthex beginning in February and throughout Lent (while supplies last). We can also mail one to you. Please join the "fun"!

Creation Care Kids Corner - Winter Scavenger Hunt by Mary Moore

Here's a fun scavenger to try when you go outside. You might not find everything in one day, so you may want to write down the list and check things off as you find them. Ideas are in parentheses for some of the items.

1. Something an animal can eat (berries & acorns work)
2. Green leaves (pine needles are leaves!)
3. A stream or river (Be on the lookout if you are riding in a car. There is a river right in town.)
4. Small animal tracks (bird & squirrel are examples)
5. Human tracks
6. Frozen water
7. A bird
8. Something a squirrel might eat (check a bird feeder, squirrels love some kinds of bird food)
9. Something in nature that is gray (cars don't count!)

Winter home (squirrels nest high in a tree, a hollow in a tree trunk or branch)

Good luck, and have fun!

SHROVE TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, observed in many Christian countries through participating in confession and absolution, the ritual burning of the previous year's Holy Week palms, finalizing one's Lenten sacrifice, as well as eating pancakes and other sweets.

Shrove Tuesday is also known as Pancake Day. When the tradition spread throughout Europe, people in France followed the trend. They made waffles, crepes and a dessert many know as **king cake** to utilize their dairy products. They called it Mardi Gras.

In countries such as England and other locations, Shrove Tuesday is also called Pancake Day because it has been a tradition to eat rich foods like pancakes on this particular day. Before they engage in Lenten practices, they prepare themselves by conducting such festivities.

Shrove Tuesday is a reminder that Christians are entering a season of penance and was originally a solemn day. But over the centuries, in anticipation of the Lenten fast that would begin the next day, Shrove Tuesday took on a festive nature. That is why Shrove Tuesday is also known as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras (which is simply French for Fat Tuesday).

Two Poems by Saint John of the Cross

“The Living Flame of Love”
How gently and lovingly
You wake in my heart,
Where in secret You dwell alone;
And by Your sweet breathing,
Filled with good and glory,
How tenderly You swell my heart with love!

“Of The Divine Word”
The Virgin, weighed
With the Word of God,
Comes down the road;
If only you’ll shelter her.



HAPPY VALENTINES DAY 2/14/21

History of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, is a time to exchange greeting cards and gifts with loved ones. Possible origins, and some history:

Lupercalia festival

■ Feb. 15 festival celebrated coming of spring in Roman calendar; several rites connected to fertility; festival transformed, spread to France, Britain.

Christian martyr

■ Early Christian church had at least two saints named Valentine; one, who secretly married young couples, was executed on Feb. 14, about 269 A.D.



Cupid, also known as Amor (Roman god) or Eros (Greek mythology), is holiday symbol

1415

French duke, imprisoned by British, is first to send love poetry on Valentine's Day



1800s

First commercial cards from England in early 1800s; in 1847, first U.S. manufacturer

1900s

Mass-production of products, marketed to newly emerging middle-class

Source: The World Book Encyclopedia 1998, history channel.com
Graphic: Jutta Scheibe, Eeli Polli

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FROM THE KITCHEN CREW

COOKING RICE;

Rice is super versatile and it is the perfect grain for acting as a main or side dish. However, rice needs a certain texture to taste great and hold up to any sauces, seasonings and hearty ingredients it is used with. It is pretty easy to mess up rice in terms of cooking technique, as different grains require different washing and methods.

WASHING RICE

If you have a long grain rice, like white and brown rice, Jasmine and Basmati, you want to make sure you wash the rice before cooking. Rinsing under cold water through a fine mesh sieve helps remove excess starch and chemicals that were left over after processing. The best way is to always soak the rice for 30 minutes after washing and before cooking. After the rice is soaked the water to rice ratio is less water. (reduced to 800ml)

WASHING SHORT GRAIN RICE

If you are using short grain rice, like the type you would find in sushi rolls or a risotto, you don't want to wash it. When making risotto or sticky rice for sushi, you want to skip the rinse since in short-grain varieties results in a creamy or sticky texture you're looking for in most dishes.

COOKING ON HIGH FLAME

Slow and steady wins the race when it comes to rice. Never try to speed up rice cooking by boiling it over high flame. Low and slow is the way to go with rice since this keeps the grains intact and prevents burning. AND you don't want grains to get stuck together when you're cooking as you will lose that loose, fluffy texture you want.

STIRRING RICE TOO MUCH

While you might need to stir pasta and soup, let the spoon go easy on rice. Most rice does best when left alone while cooking. That means no stirring and lifting of the lid, especially with Basmati or glutinous rice varieties. Also, when it is done cooking don't just start plating and digging in. Allow the rice to sit and rest at least 15 minutes after cooking. This lets it rest and lightly steam to fluffy perfection.

“Take, Eat” (Matthew 26:26)

FEBRUARY 2021

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 Morning prayer 8 7:00 Men's Bible Study Compline 8	2 Morning prayer 8 Ground Hog Day Compline 8	3 Morning Prayer 8	4 Morning Prayer 8 Compline 8	5 Morning Prayer 8 Compline 8	76
7 9:00 Service	8 Morning prayer 8 7:00 Men's Bible Study Compline 8	9 Morning Prayer 8 Mark Conv @ 4 Compline 8	10 Morning Prayer 8 Happy birthday Carrie	11 Morning Prayer 8 Compline 8	12 Morning Prayer 8 Bible Study at 1:00 Lunar New Year Cont Prayer 2:30 Compline 8	13
14 9:00 Service Valentines Day	15 Morning prayer 8 7:00 Men's Bible Presidents Day Compline 8	16 Morning Prayer 8 7: p.m. Vestry SHROVE Tuesday Compline 8	17 Morning Prayer 8 Ash Wednesday Service at 5	18 Morning Prayer 8 Compline 8	19 Morning Prayer 8 Bible Study at 1:00 Cont Prayer 2:30 Compline 8	20
21 9:00 Service Creation Walk 10:30 Episcopal 101@4	22 Morning prayer 8 7:00 Men's Bible Study Compline 8	23 Morning Prayer 8 Compline 8	24 Morning Prayer 8 Evil 5:30	25 Morning Prayer Compline 8	26 Morning Prayer Bible Study at 1:00 Cont Prayer 2:30 Compline 8	27
28 9:00 Service Episcopal 101@4						



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

P.S. Sue Amabile is looking for a “Handy Man” for some work for Her. Pays good .

We all would like to wish our “First Lady” of St. David’s a Very Happy Birthday on February 10th.

Happy Birthday, Carrie Baker !

***St. David’s Episcopal
Church***

**699 SPRINGFIELD STREET
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**WE’RE ON THE WEB @
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Mission Statement

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to love God and community, committing ourselves to lives of joyful worship, prayer, and the teaching of scripture.