

# St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford

## February 19, 2026 EBlast



### A Light in our darkness ...my candle ministry

There are many citations in the Bible with regard to 'light' both in the New and Old Testaments. These are in the Gospel according to Saint John.

In chapter 1 v. 1-5 we read:

*1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. NRSVA*

And in chapter 8 v.12 we read of Jesus speaking about Himself:

*12 Again Jesus spoke to them (Pharisees and scribes... DAS ), saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' NRSVA*

Is that pic a candle of sorts you may ask, wandering off the point a bit! And what has it to do with Jesus, the Light of the world and indeed our lives? This is a St George's candle! Maybe you have seen it, but of course you have well kind of, every time you come to the Sanctuary. It is the Sanctuary Light which if you look to the left of the Altar and up the wall higher than the Aumbry, there is a red glass light in which a candle burns constantly. This is the 8 day candle which is diligently changed every week that is every 7 days, on Sunday.

The candle is in a clear plastic casing which is quite unique having two larger crosses embellished one on either side near the top and eight smaller crosses arranged about an inch up from the base. As the candle burns, the wax drapes itself over the inside of the plastic holder creating a translucency which spreads the light from the flame and is fascinating to look at. How do I know this? Well, it seemed 'not the right thing' to do to 'pitch' the candles after changing, hence I took one home as it still had a 'day's worth' to burn.

Two years ago, one very grey morning when there was much stuff to do and I felt 'pushed', I lit this candle for the first time and placed it on my study desk. The small crosses at the base were gently illuminated by the flame and it seemed to me to resonate John 8: v12... the flickering flame behind the crosses reminded me Jesus said that following Him meant never walking in darkness (whatever that might mean for each of us) but having the light of life. Jesus Christ, God the Son, always with us even when we do not want to admit or know it.

Hence here is my "**Candle Ministry.**" I light a Sanctuary Light 'one day to go' candle before I livestream the Daily Office and in that quiet moment I can be grounded and still. In fact, one of these candles is burning now as I type; it is quietly beautiful, the small crosses outlined by the flame whose 'light' flickers gently as it burns.

Rev. Michelle wrote about our Lenten season in last week's Eblast (Feb 19). She commented '...All our music will be drawn from Taize chant. We will have more time for silence and reflection. We will sit and listen and pray together. We will take time in the wilderness and hopefully come back refreshed and transformed...' reflecting that in a world that makes constant and unceasing demands on our time and attention, this Lent will be a time to take a step back and just be, to give the Holy Spirit time to work in us and transform us, so we can live more fully in the love of God and our neighbor...'

How about one of those special 'almost burned' candles to light when prayer is absolutely what must be or when a stillness is needed? And let that unique flickering translucent light bring you closer to the Spirit of God.

Maybe join my 'candle ministry,' take one or two!! Those 'one day to go' candles are waiting...stillness, peace...

Deb Sawyer

Verger & Worship Leader

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### Sunday March 1

8:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I Celebrant: Rev. Michelle  
In the Church

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II Celebrant: Rev. Michelle  
In the church & livestreamed

11:30am - 'Chosen' Season 4 Episode 5

### Wednesday March 4

1:00pm Crochet for a Cause

### Sunday March 8

Easter Basket Items Due Back

### Tuesday March 10

11:00am ECW

### Sunday March 15

11:30am Easter Basket Assembly

### Wednesday March 18

11:00pm Crochet for a Cause

6:30pm Men's Group

### Sunday March 29

Palm Sunday

### Sunday April 5

Easter Sunday

## 'The Chosen' Season 4

The Chosen tv series continues at St George's. This week we will watch Season 4 Episode 5: Sitting, Serving, Scheming <https://watch.thechosen.tv/video/184683596187> We will eat lunch and watch the episode, and then have a discussion after. Please sign-up so we know how much food to order. Suggested donation for lunch (Wraps, Chips, sweet Treat, Tea Coffee Juice etc ) \$7.

## Sign-up to Bring items for the Easter Basket Drive:

Sign-up to donate items for the Foster Closet Baskets on our sign-up genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E44A8AD2EABF58-62321793-2026> We are committed to making 20 kid baskets. Many items are low cost so feel free to sign-up for a bunch of the same item. Please return items to the marked blue tub at church by March 8. We will assemble the baskets on March 15 after the 10:15 service.

## Lenten Madness:

Lenten Madness begins on February 19. Visit <https://www.lentmadness.org/> to fill out an online bracket and subscribe for daily emails to vote for your favorite saints.

## Lenten Mite Box for the Church at Crossroads

We will be collecting alms for the church at Crossroads once again this year.

If you are wondering how your Lenten Alms will be used, you can subscribe to the wonderful newsletter published quarterly by The Church at Crossroads. It is heartwarming to see the amazing difference you are helping to make!

Newsletter: <https://www.churchatcrossroads.org/newsletters>

The Church at Crossroads Website: <https://www.churchatcrossroads.org/>

You can make your own mite box from this template [bit.ly/4akxhi5](http://bit.ly/4akxhi5) or pick one up here at the Church. As you remember God's blessings in your life, you can pray for their ministry and accumulate your donations. Please return your donations at the end of Lent.

## Diocesan Estate Planning Workshops

(ZOOM) Planned Giving 101 – How anyone can leave a lasting legacy

**Thursday, Feb 26 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Planned Giving can feel intimidating, but at its core it's simply a way to remember the people and ministries you care about in your estate plan. You don't need to be wealthy to leave a legacy, and you don't need financial planners or attorneys to take meaningful steps. In this webinar, Tom Post CFP will walk us through a range of strategies—from the most straightforward options, like naming your church as a beneficiary of your IRA, to more advanced tools such as Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts. We'll also explore how you can "endow" your current annual parish pledge so that your generosity continues to make an impact long after your lifetime.

## Ongoing Outreach Activities

Below is a list of things we are currently collecting for our ongoing outreach ministries. Check back often to see what we are up to

**Dress and other nice clothing** - Grace Centers of Hope Resale Shop - Middle of Hallway - through Feb

**Small Toiletries** - FedUp - Hallway Closest to Office - Ongoing

**Non-perishable food** - Community Sharing - Green bin in Narthex - Ongoing

**Used Grocery Bags** - Crochet for a Cause - Bins outside by plastic box or in back classroom - Ongoing

## Ongoing Ministries in Action:

### -Braver Angels

Monthly meetings have now been moved to the last Wednesday of the month working on depolarization. All are welcome. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm, skills practice at 7:00, and planning at 7:30, finishing at 8:00 pm. **The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 25th in the fellowship hall. See you then.**

## **-Coffee Fellowship**

Coffee fellowship is on Pause during the Chosen. However we always need people to set-up & clean-up for lunch. We also welcome a sweet treat, fruit or veggies to go with the wraps if anyone feels inclined.

## **-Crochet for a Cause**

Making mats for those in need out of plastic grocery bags. 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. We have a great time! **Next Meetings are March 4 & 18.**

## **- Cookie Ministry - Supporting the AA groups that meet at our church**

All four weeks of cookie donations for this month have been covered for the AA groups that meet at our church twice a week. Many thanks to the Darcys, Mike Fanfair Sr., Linda Gillespie, and the Vestry for their support.

If you would like to provide cookies for this ministry during one of the weeks in March, please see Dot. You can either bake or purchase approximately 50 cookies and drop them off by Friday of your scheduled week.

## **-ECW (Episcopal Church Women)**

ECW will continue to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. The **next Meeting is Tuesday March 10 at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall.**

St. George's ECW is a small group of women committed to supporting the many activities of this church. All women members of the church are members of ECW and are encouraged to attend the meetings. Do come along and join us.

## **- Healing Prayer**

Provides laying on of hands and anointing for healing after worship at 8:30 & during communion at 10:15 service. The next Healing Prayers will be on **March 1 & 22.** Healing Prayer can be offered at all other services by request.

## **- LOK - Ladies of the Knight**

**2026 Tentative Schedule.** Keeping check throughout the year for updates and more info.

March - Janine Cole - Henry Ford Museum Da Vinci Exhibit

April - Judith Jambor - Tour of DIA

May - Joyce Spletzer - Farmington Players "Hello Dolly"

June - Laura Frost & Deb Shomoch - Detroit River Cruise

Deb Lesnew & Beck Sheridan - Recycled Rockettes

July 18 - Ann Gatland - Summer Party

Sandy Scott - St Sabba's Orthodox Monastery

August 25-26 - Joyce Spletzer - Stratford Trip - see info above

September - Caroline Liebau - Mariners Church

October 4 - Deb Lesnew - Dio Dinner Theatre

November - Dot Vangel - Ford Rouge Tour

December 5 - Joyce Spletzer - Annual Christmas Party

## **- Mens' Group**

The Men's Group normally meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. All Men are invited to attend.

The **next meeting** is on **Wednesday March 18 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

Please see Mike F. Sr's upcoming email for more information.

## Keeping Your Faith Strong

### -Those in Our Prayers

It is time for our periodic review of our prayer list, those who have been on the list for a long time will automatically come off, if you would like someone added back on, please let Rev. Michelle know or add it to the prayer request sheet in the Narthex.

Please pray for our members, community members and friends in search of health, healing, wholeness and solace: Annie F., Art, Barry, Brett & Megan & Joshua, Carol R., Caroline, Cheryl, Dan, Denise, Dot V., Eric, Fred K., Helen, Joan B., John E., Jeanne, Jim, Judi V., Katie M., Karen S., Kim, Leon, Lisa D., Lisa S., Liz, MaryLou, Matt, Michelle M., Michelle R., Nancy B., Olivia S., Randy H., Rebecca, Randy, Rick & Debbie, Rick, the Sera Family, Sharon A., Sue H., Theresa A., Tara.

Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: accept our prayers, and to those who seek healing, grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned into joy; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.* (Book of Occasional Services pg217)

### - Online Daily Office Schedule

Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Fridays, 4 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sundays, 7 p.m. Compline

Do you join our Sunday worship online? A reliable and quick way to find our YouTube services (live or recorded) is from our website's "Watch" page, accessed from the top of the home page by clicking the word "Watch." [Here's a direct link.](#) Want to participate in our Daily Office online? Those are on Facebook. [Here's the link.](#)

### -Sermon Blog

Ever hear something in worship and think, I wish I could look at that again or send it to a friend? Well now you can. Now St George's has a Sermon Blog. Weekly sermons and reflections will be posted here from now on. Rev. Michelle's sermons will appear on Sunday morning, Morning Prayer reflections will usually be up within a couple of days. Feel free to share! [St George's Sermon Blog](#)

### -When to contact the Priest:

Please be in touch. I can only pray, help or connect you with resources if I know what is happening. Examples of when to contact the Priest: Birth, Death, Illness, Hospitalization, Difficulty in the Family, You would like to receive sacraments or a Pastoral visit, You have an idea or ministry you would like to discuss. I am usually in the office Wed and either Tues or Thurs 9:30-3. If you see my car in the lot, feel free to pop in. If I don't answer the phone make sure to leave a message or send a text and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

How to contact Rev. Michelle: **Phone/Text:** (734) 646-4064 or **Email:** [priest@stgmilford.com](mailto:priest@stgmilford.com)

### -Forward Day by Day Devotions

The February-April Booklets are available now to pick up in the Narthex. Let us know if you need one mailed/delivered to your house. The cost is \$2.00 for each booklet. Please reimburse us as you are able in the donation box nearby. I recommend a read! 

## Community Events