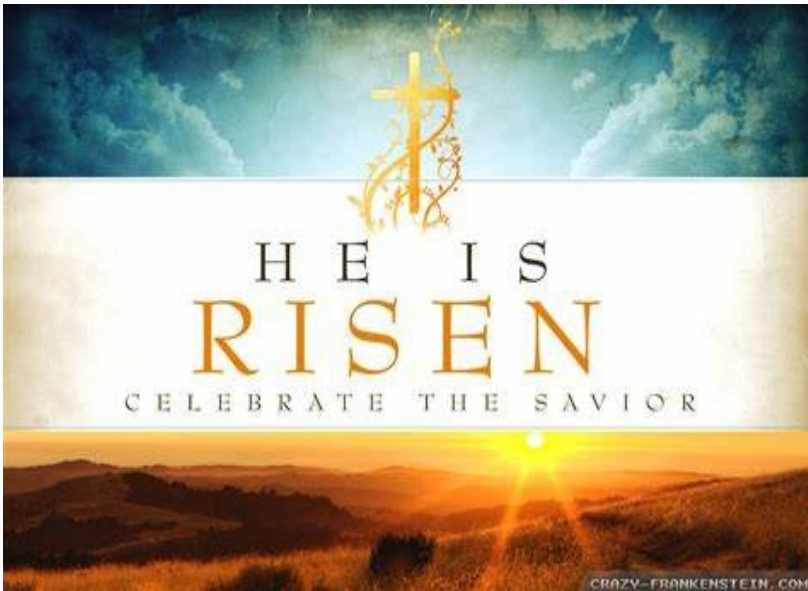




MAY 2025



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

*The mission of the Church of the Epiphany is to offer a home to all
those who are seeking God's unconditional love.*



From the Vicar

The Lord has risen!

We are in the midst of the Great Fifty Days of Easter. Beginning with Easter and continuing through the Day of Pentecost, this seven-week-plus-one-day season marks our remembrance of the Resurrection of Christ Jesus and includes the remembrance of

his Ascension into heaven on the fortieth day (which this year falls on May 29).

The Day of Pentecost is observed on the fiftieth day of the season. (The word Pentecost is based upon the Greek word for fiftieth.) It is remembered for the fulfillment of the promise Jesus made to the disciples prior to his Ascension that he would send the Holy Spirit to guide them (Acts 1:4-5). This occurred ten days later when the Holy Spirit came down from Heaven “like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them (Acts 2:2).” It is the one day of the year that congregations are encouraged to wear red.

However, the question arises as to what Jesus did during those forty days starting with Easter and ending with his Ascension?

The Gospel According to John records that Jesus appeared to ten of the disciples in a locked room during the afternoon of his Resurrection, but Thomas was absent. Jesus returned a week later after Thomas had rejoined the others in the locked room (John 20:24-29). Later (No time frame is reported), Jesus appeared to seven of the disciples on the shore of Lake Tiberias (John 21).

Appearances of Jesus on the day of his Resurrection can also be found in the Gospel According to Luke. First, when he encountered two travelers on the Road to Emmaus, then later in the day in a scene reminiscent of his appearance in the locked room recorded in John (Luke 23:44-49). Luke also records the Ascension of Jesus as witnessed by the disciples (Luke 23:50-52).

The Gospel According to Matthew only records the appearance of Jesus to Mary Magdalene and the other women at the tomb on the day of his Ascension (Matthew 28:9-10). Jesus instructs the women to tell the eleven disciples to meet him in Galilee. Later, the eleven men meet him at the designated site, a mountain in Galilee (Matthew 28:16-20). The site was possibly the same mountain where Jesus gave his Sermon on the Mount.

Matthew does not record when this took place, neither does this gospel mention the Ascension.

The most controversial record of post-Resurrection appearances by Jesus comes in the Gospel According Mark. Some of the earliest extant copies of this gospel do not even include Mark 16:9-19, which offers a much shorter version of the appearance of Jesus to the two travelers, as well as an appearance to the remaining Apostles as they sat around a table and his Ascension. Many Bible scholars question whether these verses were part of the original text of Mark, which is considered the first gospel to be written (circa 50-60 CE).

Interestingly, both the Mark and Luke accounts of the Ascension of Jesus appear to have it occur the same day he first appeared to the disciples. Only in the Book of Acts is there any mention of Jesus spending forty days with the disciples before he ascended into heaven. It is also only here that we find any references to what Jesus did during this time.

“After his death, he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. ‘This,’ he said, ‘is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’” (Acts 1:3-5)

What “convincing proofs” did Jesus offer during these forty days? What did Jesus say about the Kingdom of God that differed from his other references to that concept found in the gospels? No one other than disciples could answer these questions, and they did not record their recollections of these events anywhere that we have knowledge.

So, what do you think? What did Jesus show and tell the disciples? We can only speculate.

However, we do not need to know anything other than what the disciples did and said after receiving of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The lives they lived reflected their experience with Jesus and his teaching. This was handed down through the ages to us via the gospels and other passages in the New Testament. It is now up to us to spread it during our time, how we live our lives, by our words and actions.

The Lord has risen indeed!

Father David+

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS





 THE CITY OF CRESTVIEW PRESENTS
 SECOND ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
 DOWNTOWN CRESTVIEW
 2PM-7PM | SAT., MAY 3
 CULTURAL DRESS, PERFORMANCES,
 FOOD, MUSIC AND MORE!
 FOOD VENDOR & BOOTHS PERFORMERS
 SCAN TO REGISTER

**Saturday, May 3, 2025,
from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

In Downtown Crestview

A celebration of the vibrant cultures.

Indulge in a delicious variety of cultural foods, each bite telling a story of heritage and history.

Enjoy mesmerizing performances and live music that will transport you to different corners of the world.





 CITY OF CRESTVIEW PRESENTS
THE MARKET
 ESTD 2024
 DOWNTOWN
 CRESTVIEW, FL
 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Main Street, Courthouse Terrace
 EVERY LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
 MARKET VENDOR Sign Up
 FOOD TRUCK VENDOR Sign Up
 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CRESTVIEW MAIN STREET MERCHANTS



For more detailed information, visit our event site at
<https://nwfl-encounters-faith-fa-jghnns4.gamma.site/>

EVERY SWING MAKES A DIFFERENCE! YOUR PARTICIPATION HELPS PEOPLE ENCOUNTER JESUS & EXPERIENCE LIFE TRANSFORMATION!



 NWFL ENCOUNTERS
FAITH & FAIRWAYS
 GOLF CLASSIC

JUNE 7, 2025 - 7:30A REG | 9A START
BLACKSTONE GOLF COURSE
\$75 PER PLAYER | \$300 PER TEAM

TOURNAMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- 4-MAN SCRAMBLE
- CONTESTS & PRIZES
- MULLIGAN BAGS FOR EXTRA PERKS (+\$25)
- FELLOWSHIP, LUNCH, & AWARDS

REGISTER NOW


www.nwflencounters.com

Faith and Fairways Golf Classic

Every swing makes a difference!
Helps people encounter Jesus and experience life transformation!

For more detailed information, visit the event site at:

[Nwfl-encounters-faith-fa-jghnns4.gamma.site](https://nwfl-encounters-faith-fa-jghnns4.gamma.site)



News from Around the Diocese



Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event Saturday, May 17, 9:30 a.m. to noon

Episcopal Day School, 223 N Palafox St, Pensacola

The Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast is partnering with **Rise Against Hunger** to pack **20,000 meals** that will go to help people facing hunger across the globe. Registration and full details are coming soon, but in the meantime, spread the news and gather your teams!

SAVE THE DATE—EASTER RETREAT

Living in View of the Resurrection: a retreat at Chapel of Divine Creation at Saloom Properties, Saturday, May 17, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., led by The Rev. Marshall Carver and Dr. Salem Saloom

The Doctrine of the Resurrection is a core tenet of the Christian faith but: what do we really mean when we say that we believe in the resurrection, and what difference does such belief make in how we live out this life, is there a way in which our belief in the resurrection can grow and deepen? Come and join us as we explore these questions and more! By viewing the resurrection through the eyes of Thomas, who needed to know for himself that Jesus was alive, and Peter, who had breakfast with the risen Lord on the shore of Galilee, and Mary, who standing by the tomb thought he was the gardener, we will have our own fresh encounters with the Risen Christ! Come and be surprised by the realness of the Paschal Mystery in your "ordinary" day-to-day life!

Retreat Schedule:

- 8:00-9:30- Together
- 9:30-11:00-Session I - The Paschal Mystery!
- 11:00-11:15- Break
- 11:15-12:00-Session II - Our New Life in Christ!
- 12:00-12:45-Lunch PROVIDED
- 12:45-2:00-Session III - Living Christ in Creation/personal time!
- 2:00 - 3:00- Session IV - Letting Go, Dying, Surrendering!
- 3:00-3:15-Break
- 3:15-4:00-Session V - Belonging to believe!

Please register early as limited space is available. The retreat cost is \$20/person, payable to Saloom Properties, LLC, and noted in the memo "Chapel of Divine Creation". Address: 2835 Bookers Mill Rd, Evergreen, Alabama 36401. Contact for questions and registration: Dr. Salem Saloom; (251)363-4778; sawhzn@saloom.net.

Easter Retreat

Living in View of the Resurrection

Saturday, May 17, 9:30 am to 4 pm
At the Chapel of Devine Creation
On Saloom Properties.

Led by The Rev. Marshall Carver and Dr. Salem Saloom

See the bulletin board
for further details

Episcopal Night!
at the ballpark

Sunday, May 25, at 4 p.m.
Pensacola Blue Wahoos
vs Birmingham Barons

Blue Wahoos Stadium Pensacola
Winn-Dixie Party Deck



Property Report for Month

The building and property maintenance continues to be ongoing.

Several projects that we have been working on for some time have been completed and some are still in work. We are also working on some new projects.

Completed

- ◆ All the walkways, the patio, handicapped pad, the entryways and steps, and the brickwork around the sign have all been nicely pressure washed in time for Easter. Thank you goes to Jacob Warren and Mike Mazzerat for a job well done.
- ◆ Kelly our lawn maintenance person has begun cutting our lawn and trimming, again in time for Easter.
- ◆ Thank you again to Michael Mazzerat for cleaning up the flower bed in the sign in front of the church and planting new flowers, beautiful.
- ◆ With the service from Cox Communications going out week before last we had the repair person out who advised we must have had a lightning strike as no signal would go through the cable and needs to be replaced. He got us up and running and last week we had a new cable buried and are back to normal.

In Work

- ◆ We still need to clean and install three window screens for the church building.
- ◆ In the process of removing items form the small shed in anticipation of moving it.
- ◆ Still looking for someone who might want the metal folding chairs in the Garage shed that we never use. We can deliver them.
- ◆ We have scheduled to have the small shed moved on April 29.

New Projects

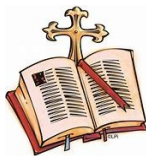
- ◆ We are now looking in replacing the handrails on the handicap ramp and front steps with new proper sturdier handrails.

Maurice Phillips, Junior Warden



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- May 4 — Third Sunday of Easter
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch
- May 11 — Fourth Sunday of Easter
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Vestry Meeting
- May 18 — Fifth Sunday of Easter
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing Service
- May 25 — Sixth Sunday of Easter
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- June 1 — Seventh Sunday of Easter
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch



LECTOR SCHEDULE

- May 4 — Third Sunday of Easter
1st Reading - Tracy Kueczynski
2nd Reading - Cathy Clothier
- May 11 — Fourth Sunday of Easter
1st Reading - Ginny Bauer
2nd Reading -
- May 18 — Fifth Sunday of Easter
1st Reading -
2nd Reading -
- May 25 — Sixth Sunday of Easter
1st Reading - Tracy Kueczynski
2nd Reading -

Easter

The feast of Christ's resurrection. According to Bede, the word derives from the Anglo-Saxon spring goddess Eostre. Christians in England applied the word to the principal festival of the church year, both day and season.

Easter Day is the annual feast of the resurrection, the pascha or Christian Passover, and the eighth day of cosmic creation. Faith in Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday or third day following his crucifixion is at the heart of Christian belief. Easter sets the experience of springtime next to the ancient stories of deliverance and the proclamation of the risen Christ.

In the west, Easter occurs on the first Sunday after the full moon on or after the vernal equinox. Easter always falls between Mar. 22 and Apr. 25 inclusive. Following Jewish custom, the feast begins at sunset on Easter Eve with the Great Vigil of Easter.

The Eastern Orthodox Church celebrates Easter on the first Sunday after the Jewish pesach or Passover (which follows the spring full moon). Although the two dates sometimes coincide, the eastern date is often one or more weeks later.

The Easter Season or the Great Fifty Days

The feast of Easter is a season of fifty days, from Easter Eve through the Day of Pentecost. During this season there is no fasting.

The Council of Nicaea in the year 325 AD directed that Christians are to pray standing. The word "alleluia" (praise the Lord) is said or sung repeatedly, which contrasts sharply with the season of Lent when the alleluia is omitted.

The color of liturgical vestments and hangings is white or gold. In the Episcopal Church, Easter is white because it symbolizes the greatest work of God in the world, specifically His incarnation into this world at Christmas, and His triumph over death and evil at Easter.

The BCP notes that it is customary for the Paschal candle to burn at all services of the Easter season. The "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to the dismissals and their responses during the Great Fifty Days. The

traditional Christian Easter greeting (see Lk 24:34) serves as the opening acclamation at the eucharist during the Easter season.

Paschal Candle

The Paschal Candle is a large candle that symbolizes the risen Christ. It is often decorated with a cross, symbols of the resurrection, the Greek letters Alpha and Omega, and the year. The term “Paschal” concerns Easter or Passover.

At the Easter Vigil, the Paschal candle is lit from the new fire. The fire that is kindled at the opening of the Easter Vigil service. This rite typically begins in darkness. The lighting of the new fire often takes place outdoors for reasons of safety. The new fire is kindled before anything is said. The historic practice of kindling the new fire from a kindling stone or steel has been continued by some. The celebrant may then say a prayer of blessing over the new fire before it is used to light the Paschal candle (BCP, p. 285). As fire is a source of warmth and light, the new fire of the Easter Vigil represents the victory in Christ of light and life over darkness and death. The Paschal candle, lighted with the new fire, symbolizes the risen Christ.

It is carried by a deacon, who pauses three times and sings or says, “The light of Christ,” and the people respond, “Thanks be to God.” The Paschal candle is carried by the celebrant if there is no deacon. After it is carried to the chancel, its flame may be used to light candles held by members of the congregation. This symbolizes the spreading of the light of Christ into the congregation and the world. The Exsultet is sung or said after the Paschal candle is placed in its stand. It is customary for the Paschal candle to burn at all services from Easter through Pentecost (BCP, pp. 285-287).

After the Easter season, the Paschal candle is typically placed near the font. It should burn at baptisms, representing the new life in Christ that we share in baptism. The newly baptized person may be given a small baptismal candle that is lit from the Paschal candle. It may also be carried in procession at burials and placed near the coffin as a symbol of resurrection life.

www.episcopalchurch.org

EPIPHANY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

James Lundy May 9th
Katherine McCallum May 28th
Patricia Jackson May 29th
Michele Dennis May 30th



Janice & Rick Tyler May 10th
Jessie and Joy Warren May 28th



Parish News

Holy Week At Epiphany

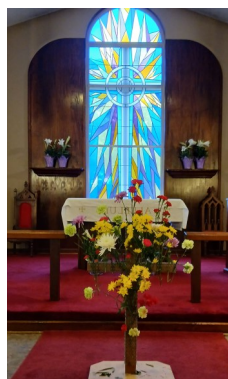
The week starting April 13th, Holy Week, was a busy week at the Church of the Epiphany. It started with Palm Sunday, Christ's victorious entry into Jerusalem, celebrated by forty joyous people in the congregation.

Then on Maundy Thursday, April 17th, seven parishioners attended the service commemorating the institution of the eucharist by Jesus on the night he was betrayed as well as the act of the washing of the feet instituted by Jesus as he washed the disciple's feet, a lesson in servitude. The altar was then stripped of all furnishings by the Altar guild symbolizing Jesus' abandonment by disciples before the crucifixion.

On Good Friday, April 18th, there were two services held at Epiphany. First, at noon, a service of communion was celebrated by fourteen congregants from the reserved sacrament from the previous day.

Then at 6 pm on Good Friday a service of the stations of the cross was attended by fourteen worshipers. A devotion to the Passion of Christ which recalls a series of events at the end of Jesus' life from his condemnation to his burial.

Finally culminating on Easter Sunday, April 20th, thirty-eight joyful people celebrated Christ's triumphant resurrection.



EPIPHANY'S FAVORITE RECIPES

Creamy Italian Sausage Soup *by Melanie East*

Ingredients:

- 1 pound Italian sausage, casings removed
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- ½ teaspoon ground fennel (optional)
- ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes (optional)
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can petite diced tomatoes
- 8 ounces pasta (such as ditalini;
use gluten-free pasta for a gluten-free version)
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- ½ cup heavy cream
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley (optional)



Directions:

1. In a large saucepan over medium heat, cook the Italian sausage and diced onion until the sausage is browned and onion is tender. Break the sausage into small pieces as it cooks. Drain excess fat from pan.
2. Add the chopped garlic, ground fennel, and red pepper flakes to the sausage and onion mixture and cook for about a minute until garlic becomes fragrant.
3. Add the chicken broth, diced tomatoes, pasta, and Italian seasoning. Bring to a boil, then reduce to simmer for about 6 to 8 minutes until pasta is al dente.
4. Stir in the grated Parmesan cheese, softened cream cheese, and heavy cream stirring occasionally allowing the cheeses to melt into the soup, about 3 to 5 minutes creating a creamy rich broth.
5. Season the soup with salt and pepper to taste. For a extra burst of color stir in the chopped parsley.
6. Ladle the soup into bowls and serve warm with crusty bread for dipping.

Note: You can use any small pasta like elbow macaroni, rotini, etc. to suit your preference.

Please remember in your prayers:

Addice Thomas, Addison Hendrix, Adley Hipwell,
Amanda Spradlin, Amy & Anthony Lehatto, Barbara Murrell,
Betty Schwartzkopf, Bill Jones, Brenda Faulkner, Buni O'Brien,
Carol McCartney, Rev. David Knight, Dawn Shew, Debra Evans,
Dennis Jackson, Donna Andrews, Felica Hearn, Florie Angelini,
Herselie Hendrix, Janice Tyler, Jeff Evans, Judy Tinsley, Julie Hill,
Karen Traggorth, Kei'Mari Martin, Kim Sung Ki, Lester Taylor,
Linn Lukert, Lynn Smith, Mary Meehan, Maureen Marcotte,
Melanie East, Michael Mazzerat, Marilyn "Missy" Jones,
Nancy Delierre, Nikole Webb, Phyllis Alles, Rocky Robinson,
Sandy Menzic, Sharon Lundy, Sybil King, Tara Colondres,
Terry Algood, Ward Hendrix, and Yisrael Goldman

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

424 Garden Street

Crestview, Florida 32536