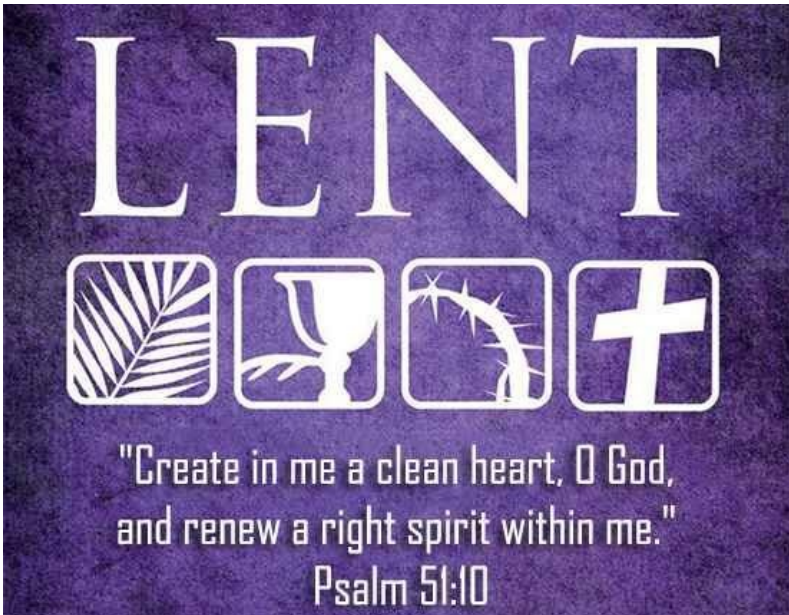




MARCH 2025



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

We are living in a time of our nation and the world in which there is much discord and distress. I don't have to tell you this. If you watch the news on television, regardless of your choice in news network, or get your news from the Internet, radio or newspaper, you already know that.

As I was driving to the church this morning, the news was just as disheartening as ever. One news story really hit me hard. Hamas had released the bodies of four hostages as part of its peace deal with Israel. Three of these bodies were a mother and two of her children, aged four years and nine months at the time of their abduction.

It seemed to encapsulate much of the concern people have about what is happening around the world. However significant this particular tragedy is, it is just one small piece of this madness occurring in Gaza and many other places in the world, including our own part of the world.

Wars in Gaza, Ukraine, Africa and elsewhere. Children dying of malnutrition in Third World countries and even in the United States. Immigrants risking their lives seeking to escape conditions in their countries we would never tolerate here. Drugs, both illegal and legal, killing thousands, with many who haven't died suffering, nevertheless. Crime committed both by those breaking the law and by those in authority who are skirting the law. Diseases and other ailments seem to plague all of us in one way or another. The list goes on and on.

As a student of history, I know that the times in which we now live are not much different than any other time since the dawn of humankind. All we have to do is read Genesis 4:8, when one brother killed another brother out of jealousy. The difference for us today is the 24-hour news media reports all the evil and hurt in the world for each of us to see every minute of the day.

I am writing this on Thursday morning, February 20. The annual diocesan convention will begin this evening. There will be business meetings, time for fellowship with fellow Episcopalians I may only see once a year but still feel like family, worship services, and workshops to help us meet the needs of our congregations and our communities.

I'm sure the latest bad news will be discussed during the convention, in

the hallways, over lunch and other occasions. Some may come up in the sermons, workshops and even the keynote address at the convention. We Episcopalians tend to follow the news. That may not always be a good thing, but we cannot close our eyes and ears, as much as one might want to ignore the evil and suffering. That is not what Christ teaches us.

Our bishop is keenly aware of both what is happening around the world and how it is affecting many in our diocese. He has communicated his concerns to the clergy and addressed issues that affect many by way of videos on both the diocesan website and Facebook page. We are very fortunate to have Russell Kendrick as our diocesan shepherd.

As I write this, I am also in the midst of preparing my sermon for the Seventh Sunday after The Epiphany. (It might surprise you that I usually start this preparation when we get home after church on Sunday and usually spend some time each day on it until the final touches are completed by the end of the week.) My sermons are almost always based on that week's readings from Holy Scripture. This week, Luke quotes Jesus saying, "Love your enemies," while the Psalm includes the words, "Put your trust in the Lord and do good..."

That brings me back to the news item I heard on the radio this morning; the one about the mother and her two children. Sectarian conflict has existed in the land now occupied by Israel and Palestine for thousands of years. Like many disputes that have lasted for generations, each side blames the other for starting it.

What Holy Scripture should teach us (and Jesus definitely teaches us) is that it doesn't really matter who started it or even what the cause was. What matters is that we treat one another with the love God shows us through Christ. As Jesus told his disciples, "Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Let us pray, Almighty God, cleanse our minds of all evil thoughts and earthly desires, let our lips speak your words, our hands do your work, our feet follow your path, and our hearts be filled with your ever present and overflowing love, that by our life and actions, we might be beacons through which your light shines upon the world. Amen.

Father David+

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



Saturday March 1 11am to 1pm
2499 S. Ferdon in front of Ashley Furniture.

Registration 9 to 11

Peoples choice Judging: vote with donations on vehicle of the your choice.

All vehicles welcome trophies for the top 5.

50/50 Raffle, gift raffles, giveaways, and more

4927 Antioch Rd., Crestview
Shop Local Artisans and enjoy all things Plants!!! Eagle's Nest will be serving up craft beers and signature drinks while you shop for your next plant baby.

Bring the family, friends or a wagon to stock up on your plant addiction. Don't have a green thumb? Don't worry!!! We have amazing vendors that will be happy to guide you on your newfound plant journey.

Spring
Beer & Garden
Festival

MARCH 9TH | 10AM - 3PM

Eagle's Nest at Blackwater

- 🌿 Beer
- 🌿 Plants
- 🌿 Vendors
- 🌿 Bounce House

The Crestview Market
TheCrestviewMarket.com



We're thrilled to announce the return of our beloved BBQ competition, where top backyard pitmasters will face off to serve up the best smoky, savory creations.

A day packed with mouthwatering BBQ,

soulful blues, refreshing brews, unique vendors, and fun for the whole family.



News from Around the Diocese

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

GULF BREEZE, FL
PRESENTS

TAIZÉ' IN THE ATRIUM

SATURDAYS DURING LENT 2022
MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26, and
APRIL 2, and 9
5:00 PM

FEATURING
THE ST. FRANCIS TAIZÉ' ENSEMBLE
AND MUSICAL GUESTS

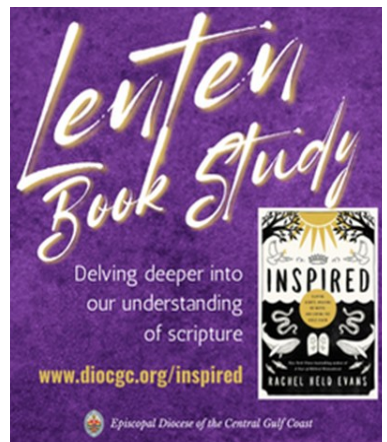
CONTACT JOHN GRIFFING FOR DETAILS
850 450 5126

Please join St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church in Gulf Breeze, FL on Saturday evenings during Lent at 5:00 p.m. for Taizé in the Atrium. Typically, the Taizé program is 30-minutes in length. Taizé Services are quiet and contemplative services with music and meditation interspersed throughout.

Lenten Book Study - Rachel Held Evans' "Inspired"

Bishop Kendrick has issued an invitation for our diocese to undertake a special book study through the season of Lent, reading Rachel Held Evans' "Inspired." The purpose for this study is three-fold:

- To enhance the bonds that make us one Body in Christ by sharing and studying together.
- To provide a poignant guide to assist us in naming and claiming our stories.
- To better discern our roles as disciples as shaped by the intersection of biblical stories and our own.



Lent



We are in the midst of the season of Lent in The Episcopal Church. But why do we celebrate Lent? We are opening our hearts and minds for Jesus as we remember his death on the cross.

Lent is the 46-day period between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. Sundays are typically omitted from the count, so we are left with 40 days of Lent.

During the 40 days of Lent, we remember the time Jesus spent in the wilderness before facing temptation from the devil. The accounts of Jesus' temptation can be found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

Lent is a quiet and solemn time in our church. We change around what services we use, simplify the altar, and sing different hymns.

During the week before Easter, called Holy Week, we remember Jesus' last few days before he died for our sins.

epi.wla.org/article/the-traditions-of-lent

The journey through Lent into Easter is a journey with Jesus. We are baptized into his life, self-giving, and death; then, we rise in hope to life transformed. This Lent, communities are invited to walk with Jesus in his Way of Love and into the experience of transformed life.

www.episcopalchurch.org/life-transformed-the-way-of-love-in-lent

Early Christians observed “a season of penitence and fasting” in preparation for the Paschal feast, or Pascha (BCP, pp. 264-265). The season now known as Lent (from an Old English word meaning “spring,” the time of lengthening days) has a long history.

Originally, in places where Pascha was celebrated on a Sunday, the Paschal feast followed a fast of up to two days. In the third century this fast was lengthened to six days. Eventually this fast became attached to, or overlapped, another fast of forty days, in imitation of Christ's fasting in the wilderness. The forty-day fast was especially important for converts to the faith who were preparing for baptism, and for those guilty of notorious sins who were being restored to the Christian assembly.

In the western church the forty days of Lent extend from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, omitting Sundays. The last three days of Lent are the sacred Triduum of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Today Lent has reacquired its significance as the final preparation of adult candidates for baptism. Joining with them, all Christians are invited “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word” (BCP, p. 265).

www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/lent

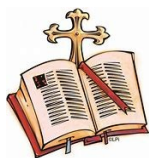
We welcome you to join us during this Lent.

Live
Lent
with Love



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- March 2 — Last Sunday after Epiphany
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch
- March 5 — Ash Wednesday
5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer
- March 9 — First Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Vestry Meeting
- March 16 — Second Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing Service
- March 23 — Third Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- March 30 — Fourth Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- April 6 — Fifth Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch



LECTOR SCHEDULE

- March 2 — Last Sunday after Epiphany
1st Reading - Tracy Kueczynski
2nd Reading - Ginny Bauer
- March 5 — Ash Wednesday
1st Reading - Missy Jones
2nd Reading -
- March 9 — First Sunday in Lent
1st Reading - Ginny Bauer
2nd Reading - Cathy Clothier
- March 16 — Second Sunday in Lent
1st Reading -
2nd Reading - Ginny Bauer
- March 23 — Third Sunday in Lent
1st Reading -
2nd Reading -
- March 30 — Fourth Sunday in Lent
1st Reading - Tracy Kueczynski
2nd Reading - Cathy Clothier



Property Report for February

Maintenance of our property and buildings is ongoing. Several projects that we have been working on for some time are now completed and some are still in work. We are also working on some new projects.

Completed

- ◆ The door on the south side of St. Joseph's Hall (office entrance) has been replaced.
- ◆ The holes in all the doors from the replacing of hardware have been filled with blanks.
- ◆ The closet doors in the parish hall have had the hardware replaced and have been re-hung.
- ◆ The Crape Myrtles have been trimmed.
- ◆ Some holes in the driveway have been filled.
- ◆ The pressure washing of the walkway between the church and St. Joseph's Hall, the north side of the church building and the brick under the sign has been completed.
- ◆ The utility closet on the back of St Joseph's Hall has been cleaned out.

In Work

- ◆ Still need to clean and install some window screens for the church building.
- ◆ More pressure washing of walkways needs to be done.

New Projects

- ◆ One of the toilets in the men's room in the parish hall (the non-handicapped) needs to be replaced. Seeking a quote.
- ◆ Seeking a quote to move the small shed next to the garage shed. After moved will build ramp to put riding lawn mower in it.
- ◆ The blind in the nursery needs to be replaced.

If you would like to assist me on a project, or know of something else that needs attention, please let me know.

- *Maurice Phillips, Junior Warden*

EPIPHANY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Nikole Webb Mar 7th
Debbie Evans Mar 12th
Tracy Kuczynski Mar 13th
David Clothier Mar 20th
Mark Broadhead Mar 28th



No Anniversaries this month



Lenten Schedule

March 4 5:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 5 5:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Evening Prayer

March 9 First Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

March 12 5:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper and Speaker in the Parish Hall
Speaker TBD

March 16 Second Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing service

March 19 5:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper and Speaker in the Parish Hall
Speaker TBD

March 23 Third Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

March 26 5:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper and Speaker in the Parish Hall
Speaker TBD

March 30 Fourth Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

April 2 5:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper and Speaker in the Parish Hall
Speaker TBD

April 6 Fifth Sunday in Lent
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Luncheon

April 9 6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper and Speaker in the Parish Hall
Speaker TBD

April 13 Palm Sunday
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

April 17 Maundy Thursday
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and foot washing

April 18 Good Friday
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

April 18 Good Friday
5:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

EPIPHANY'S FAVORITE RECIPES

Baked Cinnamon French Toast *by Ginny Bauer*

From Pillsbury Bake-off 2004

Ingredients:

2 Cans Pillsbury Cinnamon Rolls
(I use the Cinnabon pkg)

6 Eggs

¼ Cup (half a stick) Butter

½ Cup Whipping Cream

2 tsp Cinnamon & 2 tsp Vanilla

(I used 1 tbsp each)

1 Cup Pecans, Chopped

1 Cup Maple Syrup, + extra for individual topping

Powered Sugar (Optional)

13" x 9" Baking Pan



Directions:

1. Pre-heat oven to 375°.
2. Melt butter in baking pan, be careful not to burn the butter.
3. Separate the cans of dough into rounds, then slice into 4 pieces.
4. Place the pieces over the melted butter in the pan.
5. Beat the eggs together well add the cream, vanilla and cinnamon, beat until just blended.
6. Gently pour the cream and egg mixture evenly over the rolls.
7. Sprinkle with the pecans and drizzle with 1 cup of the maple syrup.
8. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes until golden brown and puffy. (I did the toothpick test).
9. Let cool for 15 minutes.
10. Heat the icing for 10 to 15 seconds in the microwave and drizzle over the top.
11. Sprinkle with powdered sugar, and service warm with warmed syrup.

Please remember in your prayers:

Addice Thomas, Addison Hendrix, Adley Hipwell,
Amanda & Jacob White, Amanda Spradlin, Amy & Anthony Lehatto,
Barbara Murrell, Betty Schwartzkopf, Bill Jones, Brenda Faulkner,
Buni & Steve O'Brien, Charlotte Boutwell, Rev. David Knight,
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,
Linn Luckert, Lynn Smith, Mary Meehan, Maureen Marcotte,
Melanie East, Michael Mazzerat, Marilyn "Missy" Jones, Nancy Delierre,
Phyllis Alles, Rocky Robinson, Sandy Menziec, 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