

Wednesday Information - March 17, 2021

The Easter Triduum

This coming Sunday will be the Fifth Sunday in Lent. The following Sunday (March 28) is Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday, when we will process with palms into the church and hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the evangelist Mark. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, during which you are invited to journey with Christ, from the Garden of Gethsemane, to the Cross of Calvary, and beyond to the day of Resurrection, which we celebrate every year on Easter Day. .

On Maundy Thursday (April 1), the church will have reached a three-day period known as the "Triduum." Derived from the Latin for "three days", the Triduum sets the three holy days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day apart from the rest of Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday at 7 pm commemorates the institution of the Lord's Supper and remembers Christ's example of loving service (due to Covid, there will be no foot washing this year). After the Eucharist is given, the altar is stripped and the church is darkened, reminding us that Jesus is forsaken even by those closest to him. Also known as the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the liturgy concludes with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the "altar of repose", (at the back of the church), where the consecrated host is kept until Good Friday. After the church is stripped, members of the congregation are invited to remain in church before the altar of repose, which is adorned with flowers and candles, and spend time with Jesus in prayer. A prayer vigil is kept until midnight.

On **Good Friday**, the Church enters the painful darkness of Christ crucified. Our solemn liturgy includes a reading of the Passion Gospel and powerful prayers for the Church and for the world. We will commemorate the events of Good Friday on April 2 at 3 pm.

Holy Saturday is a time of emptiness. We face a world where God is dead, and all hope is extinguished. The forces of evil have won, and we are left to stew in our sin, mortal and unredeemed.

At dawn on **Easter Day**, (April 4) we will gather for the **Great Vigil of Easter** at 6:00 am outside the church (weather permitting), just as Mary Magdalene came to the tomb while it was still dark. We will light the Easter fire and the Paschal candle and we will be led into the darkened church by the lit candle. We will tell the story of our salvation to one another. We will renew our baptismal vows, recalling that we have died to sin and been raised to newness of life. Finally, we will celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter, commemorating Christ's victory over death. This

celebration of Christ's resurrection will conclude with a champagne breakfast in the Parish Hall.

On **Easter Day** there will be two more services of the Holy Eucharist, at 9 am and 11 am. (Due to expected demand, if you wish to attend the 9 am service, please register with Jaclyn at the office. On the day, your name will be checked from our register).

The liturgies of the **Triduum** flow inexorably towards the **Easter** celebration. After the opening greeting of the Maundy Thursday liturgy, there is no final blessing until the Great Vigil and the first Eucharist of Easter. In this sense, the Triduum is more than a mere commemoration of Jesus' death and resurrection. It is a time when we are called to be fully present to God's work of redemption. To paraphrase the words of the *Exsultet*, the ancient hymn traditionally sung by the deacon at the Easter Vigil, the Triduum is the moment when earth and heaven are joined and we are reconciled to God.

You are invited to participate in the whole drama of these three sacred days and experience Christ's journey from death to life.

With every blessing,

Father David

Join us as we worship together in person.

*Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 21, 2021
9:00 am - Holy Eucharist*

If you are unable to worship in person, please join us as we livestream.

To view the livestreamed service please click the Youtube link below.





Singing in Church

With effect from Sunday, March 21, Bishop Brown has authorized *gentle* congregational singing during the service. Congregants must continue to wear masks.

Father David



SUNDAY MARCH 28 PALM SUNDAY	8 am	Blessing of the Palms and Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Blessing of the Palms and Procession of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem and Holy Eucharist
THURSDAY APRIL 1 MAUNDY THURSDAY	7:00 pm	Holy Eucharist and Solemn Watch before the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight
FRIDAY APRIL 2 GOOD FRIDAY	3 pm	Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday
SUNDAY APRIL 4 EASTER DAY	6 am	GREAT EASTER VIGIL Lighting of the Paschal Candle and First Holy Communion of Easter
	9:00 am	Holy Eucharist (entrance by ticket only)
	11:00 am	Holy Eucharist with Easter Egg Hunt

UPCOMING EVENTS

God and Us

Today, Wednesday, March 17 at 7 pm. “**God and Us**” comprises six online sessions and explores our relationship with God. There will be an opportunity to discuss the course material and the session will end with prayer.

Session Four: **The Psalms**

A link to the course material is [HERE](#)

Contact the office for the zoom link.

Life Before Death

We conclude with the final session on **Saturday March 20** at 10:00am. This session will be given by Kathleen De Lacy, Esquire and John Robbert, Esquire. The program can be viewed on St. Martha’s YouTube channel or in person in the church. If attending in person, please arrive by 9:45.

Anyone having a general question to be answered during the session can send it to Nancy Rojewski at rojoreid@gmail.com. Deadline is 10:00 am Friday, March 19.

Week Five - Making and Conveying Legal Decisions

- * Organizing essential information
- * Choosing a Executor
- * Delaware Law
- * Estate Planning- What does that mean? (Wills, Trusts, etc.)
- * Estate Administration (What happens after I die?)

To view, go to the St Martha’s YouTube channel. Click [HERE](#)

In Person Bible Study

Tuesday, **March 23** at 1 pm.

A study of the Book of Numbers, Chapters 35 & 36. Led by Dianne Burlew. Meet in the Parish Hall. Masks and physical distancing required. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jaclyn Hickman by email at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org or by telephone on 302-539-7444.

Movie Night

We begin a series of regular movie nights in the Church Hall, starting Tuesday, **March 23** at 6:30 pm. Our first movie will be the documentary **What Killed Michael Brown?** a visual essay written and narrated by the race scholar Shelby Steele, which examines the effects of social policies on black communities. This will be followed by a discussion.

Ministerium Prayer Service

A Prayer Service will be held in the Parking Lot of St. George's United Methodist Church on Wednesday, **March 31** @ 12 noon
led by Ocean View Presbyterian Church
(Sound system available, so you may stay in your car. As in past, a free will offering will be accepted to support the less fortunate that Ministerium provides for).



Outreach

Outreach is having our **Diaper Drive** during the month of March. Donations of diapers (pull-ups size 4 girls, pull-ups size 5 and larger boys) can be dropped off at St. Martha's or at Wincy Jackson's home: 18 Morgans Turn, Ocean View.

Monetary donations for diapers are also welcome. Checks can be made out to St. Martha's with diapers in the memo line.

Community Food Pantry, located at Salem United Methodist Church, is looking for volunteers to help with their monthly Friday food preparation and Saturday drive thru distribution. If you can help March 19th or 20th, please contact Joyce Dennis (302-732-6565) or Myra Bare (302-732-940).



Camp Arrowhead is opening at 50% this summer. Some scholarships are still available. To apply, please contact Jaclyn Hickman at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org to receive a copy of the scholarship form. When form is completed, please send to Josie Legeer at Jlegeer@comcast.net or mail to Josie Legeer 36310 Charleston Dr., Selbyville, DE 19975.

[Camp Arrowhead](#)

Flower Guild

Many thanks to all of you who have donated for Easter Flowers and have designated a person or event you would like to have remembered on that day. Donations will be accepted until Palm Sunday, March 28. Please call or write Jaclyn at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org, or at 302-539-7444.

There are still two Sundays in the near future that do not have designations of remembrance - Palm Sunday, March 28th and April 18th. The Palm Sunday arrangement will be beautiful palms, but without flowers.

Prayer List

Bev and Jack Shubert, Marie Hogsten, Robert Hicks, Christine Mains, Carolyn Clarke, Jim Lucas, Jane Robbert, Cathy Jordan, Aiden Custance, Robin Weaver, Sue Mantegna, Maria LaValle, Al Davidson, Ivette, Clari Hernandez, Paul Tarr and Diane

For our serving military: Quinn Barber, HM3 Kevin Murphy, Conner Warlow, Daniel Olnick

Prayer LIST – If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List please contact the office at (302) 539-7444 or email admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org. The

Prayer List is a way to ask for prayer from the whole congregation for a loved one who is dealing with a stressful issue such as chronic illness, job problem, or other personal problem. Only the person's name is listed. Names stay on the list for one month unless and until renewed.

Prayer CIRCLE – These volunteer prayer warriors pray for a person who has asked for urgently needed short-term prayer for a specific purpose like surgery or an upcoming medical test. These requests are confidential. You can email prayercircle@stmarthasbethanybeach.org for Prayer Circle intercessions. You can also contact Jaclyn at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org or 539-7444. Voicemail messages are being monitored and you will receive a return call during normal office hours (Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm).

Pastoral CARE –If you have a pastoral care need, please call Elsa or Carol at (732) 216-6875 or contact the office using the email address or phone number listed above.

Pastoral Care EMERGENCY – Please contact Father David Beresford at (302) 468 9062.

Please give by mail or website donate button

Please continue to support our mission work by submitting your pledge to St. Martha's Episcopal Church, PO Box 1478, Bethany Beach DE 19930 or give via the donate button on the website where there is a box to note your contribution purpose: <https://www.stmarthasbethanybeach.org/make-donation-or-pledge/>.

*God of mercy, swift to help us,
as our lips pour forth your praise,
fill our hearts with the peace you give
to those who wait for your salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Have a wonderful week!

The Rev. David Beresford, 302-468-9062, davidberesford@gmail.com
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