



The Vine...

Connecting the Body of Christ one to another

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Essex, 1131 Mace Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21221
(410) 687-5531 www.holytrinityessex.org March 2021

The
Season
of
Lent



Photo from January 2017 ~ This is from my first full day in Israel during a seminary pilgrimage to the Holy Land. I was so struck by the vast expanse and its barren beauty that I audibly gasped. I cannot imagine being alone in this wilderness now let alone in the first century for forty days (or a very, very long time).

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I invite you to the observance of a holy Lent. As I preached this past Ash Wednesday, Lent may not be the season of the church year that we are most looking forward to. And yet, Lent happens.

With the anniversary of one year in this pandemic coming soon and roughly 2.5 million of our siblings dead world-wide (500,000 of that here in America - that's 1 in 5 deaths recorded being American citizens), this is a Lent that might just be happening to us through prayer and reflection in mirroring our Lord's time in the Judean wilderness.

This Judean wilderness still exists, and it is as wild and perilous as it ever was. What has not and will never change is this: God is present in wilderness journeys, Lenten journeys, and all the journeys of our lives. God is always with us. Just as God sent messengers to assist Jesus, we have that same Holy Spirit to assist us still.

May you especially encounter the Holy Spirit in your Lenten journey this year, and may it bring your God's love and comfort in this season of penitence and reflection.

Yours in Christ,
Mother Lisa+

HOW DO I CONTACT MOTHER LISA?

I can be reached via cell phone number: **443-605-6398**, and via email at hsexsex.rector@gmail.com I am available by call or text 8am-8pm, and for pastoral emergencies 24hrs a day. If I miss your call, please leave a message as that will help me to get back to you. Also note that Mondays are my sabbath rest, and I ask calls on Mondays to be for pastoral emergencies - thank you for your consideration.

Our regular church office hours will still be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-12pm. I encourage you to call the church phone - 410-687-5531 - during those hours.



FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

Greetings All,

We have now entered Lent: a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving (giving to others, whether it is food, money, or goods). It is a 40-day period from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It is a period of penitential preparation. Though Lent is not mentioned in the Bible, Lent is connected with the 40 day fast that Jesus undergoes in the desert, as told in Matthew, Luke and Mark.

On Ash Wednesday, persons are to fast until Sundown (unless there is a medical reason) and on Good Friday persons are to fast until 3pm. Then every Friday we are supposed to abstain from eating meat. Fasting is an integral part of the Lenten season, and often we “give up” something we really like, such as chocolate, sodas, or ice cream. I think it is important to remember that it doesn’t have to be food. Maybe you could give up something that might allow you to spend more time in relation with God. What if you gave up a TV show (you could record it!) and spend that time in prayer with God, or doing a mediation, or reading scripture. Almsgiving: this is an especially important part of Lent, especially this year when there are so many people in need. There are plenty of opportunities to help others.

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are an important part of our preparation for Easter.

Yours in Christ,
Cindy+

PS: if you do give up food or drink remember.... “Whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites do, for they neglect their appearance so that they will be noticed by men when they are fasting. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face so that fasting will not be noticed by men, but by your Father who is in secret; your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.” *Matthew 6.*

Church News

STAYING CONNECTED, STAYING CHURCH

(from Mother Lisa)

COVID restrictions continue. This is how we are continuing to love our neighbors and ourselves.

What can you do in the midst of this uncertainty?

1. Read the email updates that keep you in touch with what’s happening at Holy Trinity.
2. Worship regularly, whether in person or on line.

3. Keep up your pledge. Our mailbox is locked, so your mail-in contributions are safe.
4. Stay in touch. Call or email each other. Call or email Mtr. Annette or Dcn. Cindy. Keep each other in prayer.
5. Pray for Holy Trinity, for the Vestry, and for Mother Lisa.

If you have been sending in your pledge regularly, *thank you!*

When sending contributions, please be sure to distinguish between your pledge and any other donations, such as for outreach. Use separate checks. If you send only one check, it will be recorded as pledge.

Again thank you to all who continue to support Holy Trinity. Your pledges and other contributions are essential for ministry at Holy Trinity.

COVID VACCINE INFORMATION

The Maryland Department of Health has launched a phone line where seniors can call for COVID-19 vaccine appointments. It is designed for people without Internet access. The telephone number for this new COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center is 1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829).

If you do have Internet access, you can go to the following website for more information as well:

<https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryland-Departments-of-Health-and-Aging-collaborate-on-vaccine-outreach-for-vulnerable-populations.aspx>

DIOCESE OF MARYLAND YOUTH EVENTS

Join diocesan Youth Missioner, Kate Riley, for the Sunday Brunch Bunch, Sundays from 12:30 - 2:30 PM. This time of fun, fellowship and formation is open to all students and youth workers with guest speakers, special prayer practices, and games to play.

Sign up for a weekly reminder here:
<https://www.remind.com/join/cd96b2>

Use this link to join:
<http://bit.ly/sundaybrunchmd>

Use the following link for the Calendar of Diocesan events:
<https://episcopalmaryland.org/events/>

OUTREACH MINISTRIES



Backpack Ministry

If you would like to help, please do not bring food to Holy Trinity! We can accept donations (cash or check) to purchase items. Due to COVID restrictions, we are not using the parish hall.

Ongoing Programs:

We hope that you have been collecting aluminum pull tabs at home for the **Ronald McDonald House**. Please keep them at home until we are able to collect them again.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO) is still operating. Please see details below under the “Local Food Pantries” section.



LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO)

Please see new contact information for EIO below!

Contact: 410-406-2288 OR 211

Donations: Make your check payable to “Eastern Interfaith Outreach” and mail it to:
Eastern Interfaith Outreach
P.O. Box 18122
Middle River, MD 21220

Special Monthly Food Distribution:

Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Time: 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m. (or until the food supplies run out!)

Location: 99 Stemmers Run Road (parking lot)

St. Clare Catholic Church Food Pantry

Location: 714 Myrth Avenue in Essex

Hours: Tuesdays from 9 a.m. – 12 noon



Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland offers nutritious, fresh, prepared meals delivered to your home. Eat better with Meals on Wheels!

For those unable to cook or grocery shop for themselves – due to age, disability or illness, look to Meals on Wheels for dependable, friendly service.

To learn more, call 410-558-0923 or apply online at:
mealsonwheelsmd.org/client-application

Alexis Pomraning – 3/21
 Terri Hett – 3/23
 Dianna Reitz – 3/30
 Tyrone Jackson – 3/31



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Joe and Laura Znovena – 3/6

ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS, SEE LEAH



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Juliana Marin-Giordano – 3/3
 Stanley Krenzer – 3/4
 Maggie Giordano – 3/7
 Cindy Christopher -3/8
 Mary Dombrowski – 3/9
 Somo Bishop – 3/11
 Joan Anderson – 3/15
 Pat Morgan – 3/18
 Jim Kinard – 3/20
 Noah Rodriguez-Hobbs – 3/20



O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servants, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that, their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary Bogert
Alice Martin
Shanan Gelver (Alice's family)
Athena Gelver (Alice's family)
Ellen Wallace
Joan Anderson
Bill and Diane Anderson (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)
Bunky and Pam Anderson (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)
Chris and Patty Anderson (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)
Ruth Anthony
Joanne Piper
Margaret Oduor
Gladys Agandi
Valerie Mehl
John Morris
Jeannie Morris
Judy Harle
Bob Metz
Ratajczak family
Jesse Fields (Tim's son)
Deb Pirog
Julianne Salamone (Teresa's granddaughter)
Somo Bishop
Jackie Spence
Maranda Powell
Patty and Rich Rubin (Mary Anne's family)
Crosby family (Lynne Clementoni)
Melissa Tubman (Lynne Clementoni's niece)
Patti Ballwanz
Wally Hossbach
Dina Munford
Sandy and John O'Donnell (Mary Anne's cousins)
Derek Schavelin (Alice's nephew)
James Rice (Arlene's grandson)
Ginny Floyd
Sharon Goslin
Milan and Linda Sanders (Sam's family)
Larry Eastman
Ryan Perry (Helen's grandson)
Debbie McCall (Helen's daughter)
Lorraine Pick

Elizabeth Patterson (Millie's sister)
Donna Wrightson (Millie's niece)

PLEASE ADVISE LEAH OF ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

PRAY FOR OUR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Please pray for members of our congregation who work in health care settings:

Laura Nielsen, Cindy Christopher+, Pam Gatchell, Denise Thatcher, Josh Rodriguez-Hobbs+, Don Alves, Mary Acly, Tamara Dishon, Jody Leonard, Joey Reichert, Lisa Balderson.



VESTRY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Officers (elected by the vestry for one-year terms; can be re-elected; do not have to be an elected vestry member to be elected as an officer):

Senior Warden – Chris Kinard
Junior Warden – Wes Thatcher
Registrar – Arielle Juberg
Treasurer – Ellen Reilley
Financial Secretary – Jean Bowen

Elected vestry members and date their terms end (initially elected by the congregation; if a position becomes vacant, the vestry elects a replacement to fill the rest of the term):

Chris Kinard	2021
Wes Thatcher	2021
Arielle Juberg	2021
John Morris	2022
Laura Nielsen	2022
Chris Acly	2022
Scott Rodriguez-Hobbs	2023
Theresa Ridgeway	2023
Loretta Gischel	2023

The parish clergy are also ex officio members of the vestry and the rector is the presiding officer.

HOW DO I CONTACT MOTHER LISA?

Please see below for contact information for Mother Lisa:

Cell phone number: 443-605-6398
(available by call or text 8am-8pm, and for pastoral emergencies 24hrs a day). If no answer, please leave a message for a return call.

E-mail address: htessex.rector@gmail.com

Please note that Mondays are Mother Lisa's sabbath rest/day off. Please no calls on Mondays unless for pastoral emergencies - thank you for your consideration!

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Sign Up Genius Instructions

We are using a computer program to assist us with keeping track of who signs up for each church service. This is necessary because we can only have a limited occupancy in the church at any one time.

Please note that, going forward, sign-ups will be weekly. (We were signing up for a month at a time previously.) **SO, please plan to sign up each week no later than Wednesday for the upcoming Sunday.**

To sign up by computer:

1. Type the following address into your Internet browser:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/findasignup>
2. Under “Search for a sign up” type the following email address:
HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com
3. Click the “Search” button
4. Click on the “HT Church Services _____ 2021” item (choose correct month)
5. Choose either the 8:00 or 10:00 service by clicking on the appropriate blue “Sign Up” button.
6. Click the blue “Submit and Sign Up” button at the bottom of the page.
7. Type your name(s) in the “Comment” line and the number of people in your immediate family who will be coming, including yourself.
8. Follow all of the remaining prompts until you are notified that you have successfully signed up for the service time that you want.

Please note: The software will not let you sign up if all of the spaces have been taken at that time. If this happens, call the church office on Tuesday or Thursday between 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon to notify Leah. We want to know if there are any parishioners who have not been able to sign up so we know if we need to consider adding a third service.

If you cannot sign up via the Internet:

Call Leah during church office hours only! The church office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The church telephone number is 410-687-5531. You must speak to Leah directly. Messages left on the answering machine will not get you signed up for the service. Please do not call Leah at home; she cannot sign you up from her house.

REGULAR REMINDERS



COFFEE HOUR

There will be no coffee hour so long as we are in Phase Orange. When we are ready to enter Phase Yellow, there will be specific instructions about coffee hour.

PARISH HALL RENTAL

NO HALL RENTALS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



FLOWER MEMORIALS/ THANKSGIVINGS

If you would like to offer flower memorials or thanksgivings, please complete a form with your instructions, along with a check for \$30.00, and return them to Teresa Schutte-Regester in person or mail them to the church address listed on the form.

The 2021 forms are available from Leah in the church office. Memorials are on a per Sunday basis, not per name. More than one person may donate on any given Sunday.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

Please continue to follow the COVID instructions for sanitizing the pews and the restrooms.

MAILING LIST UPDATES

For changes to your home address or phone number, call the parish office at 410-687-5531 on Tuesday or Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon.



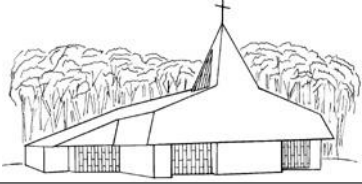
MESSAGES

Anne Knott maintains the primary list of e-mail information. However, if you change your email address and you don't give the change to Anne, it is not possible for her to notify you of situations impacting the parish. Anne can be reached at anneews@verizon.net.



FINAL WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Items for the April Newsletter are due by March 15.



March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	3	4 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	5	6
7 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)	8	9 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i> 7 pm – Vestry Meeting (Zoom meeting)	10	11 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	12	13
14 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)	15	16 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	17	18 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	19	20
21 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)	22	23 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	24	25 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	26	27
28 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)	29	30 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	31			