

THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Episcopal Church of Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 27, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Welcome to the Church of the Epiphany! We are delighted you have come to worship with us today. We are part of the Episcopal Church; if you are unfamiliar with our rituals and customs, just be present with this ancient liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. Thanks for joining us today!

If you are interested in learning more about our church, please fill out the information card and place it in the collection plate; we are excited to meet you and would love to get to know you. Start by joining us for coffee after the service!

In case you need one, Assisted Listening Devices are available from the ushers in the back of the Church.

The Word of God

PRELUDE

Herr, ich habe miβgehandelt "I have sinned and gone astrav"

FRIEDRICH WILHELM MARPURG (B. 1718-1795)

ENTRANCE HYMN

The people stand. Hymn 690

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant

Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People

His mercy endureth for ever.

COLLECT FOR PURITY AND GREAT COMMANDMENTS

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

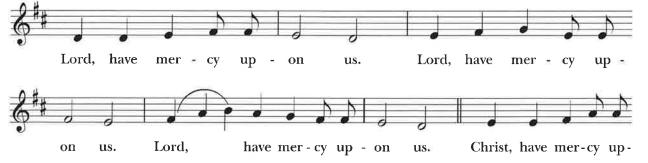
Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

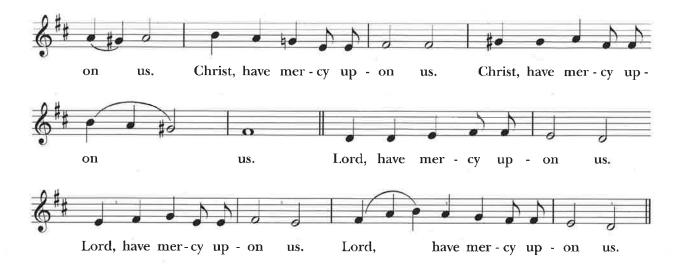
Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE ELEISON S 91 Lord, have mercy upon us

HEALEY WILLAN (1880-1968)

The following is sung, all standing





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 325)

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Joshua.

⁹The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 32

Remain seated.

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, * and whose sin is put away!

²Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, * and in whose spirit there is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, * because of my groaning all day long.

⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; * my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, * and did not conceal my guilt.

⁶I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *

Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; * when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

8You are my hiding-place;

you preserve me from trouble; *

you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁹"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.

¹⁰Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; * who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹¹Great are the tribulations of the wicked; * but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

¹²Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; * shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Corinth.

¹⁶From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN

All stand.

Hymn 693

Just as I am, without one plea

WOODWORTH

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

All stand.

Deacon

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

'Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "15" There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. 13 A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. 14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. 16 He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. 17 But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." 20 So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. 21 Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; 24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Deacon

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Venerable Laura Siriani, Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

THE CREED

All stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Let us pray to God, our loving Father in heaven.

Keep the Church ever open to receive in love all who come with faith to seek the divine mercy . . . As we worship here, shield us from pride and complacency in fulfilling our duty and make us remember that we too are sinners.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world where the love of money tempts many to turn aside from the right way to waste themselves in empty and useless living . . . Bless with a forgiving spirit all who have power to restore or to reject those who have erred and offended.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Grant to us, in our families and in our friendships, grace to remember the mercy we have been given and to remain in harmony and love with any who have offended us . . . Bless all the homes in our community with perfect harmony and love.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Look with compassion on families where there is estrangement . . . Grant that quarrels shall be mended and love renewed . . . Have mercy on all who have left their homes and now seek in want and loneliness the way to return.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the departed who have walked through the temptations of this world and have come home . . . May they rejoice in the fellowship of the redeemed who died and are alive again.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray in the name of Christ, the refuge of sinners who come to him in penitence and faith. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon says
Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.
Silence may be kept.

Minister and People
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

THE PEACE

All stand

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM I will arise

(sung by the Schola)

I will arise and go to my father and will say, "Father, I have sinned against heav'n and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son."

TEXT: LUKE 15: 18-19

MUSIC: ROBERT CREIGHTON (C. 1636-1734)

OFFERTORY HYMN

The people stand.

Hymn 343

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

ST. AGNES

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Celebrant

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

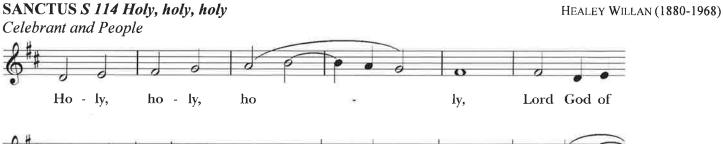
It is meet and right so to do.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

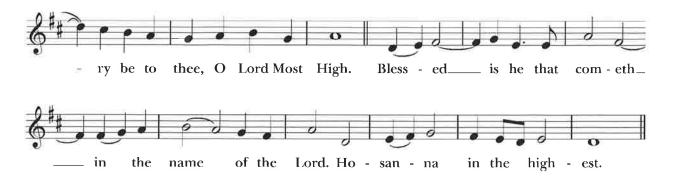
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,





Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full. thy glo - ry.



The people kneel or stand. Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER S 119 The Lord's Prayer

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant



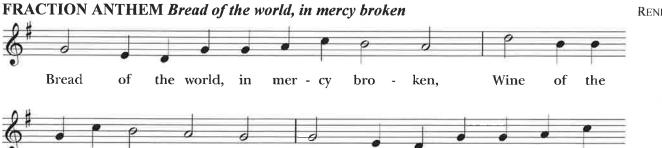
The Breaking of the Bread

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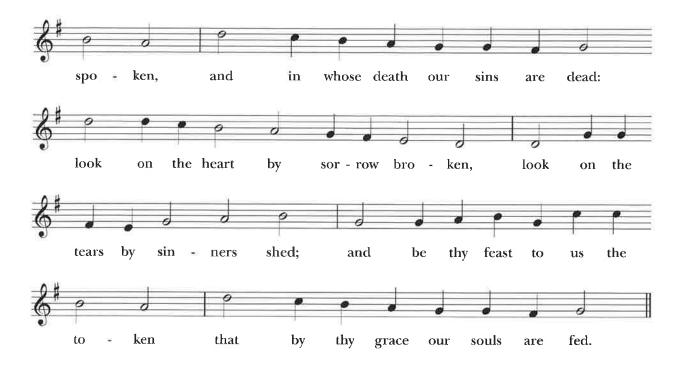
whom the words

life

were

of

RENDEZ À DIEU



The People join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After receiving the elements, the Celebrant says

This is Christ's banquet. It is made ready for those who love God and those who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come, because it is Christ who invites you.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome and encouraged to come forward to receive the holy food of new and everlasting life in Jesus Christ. As you come forward, the bread will be placed in your hand for you to consume. Those who prefer not to receive the Sacrament may receive a blessing or prayer (please cross your arms across your chest). If you would like to receive the Sacrament and mobility is an issue, please let an usher know so that Communion may be brought to you.

COMMUNION HYMN



After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

The People join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen*.

The priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen*.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

The people stand.

Hymn 470

There's a wideness in God's mercy

BEECHER

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

There's a wideness in God's mercy

ALFRED V. FEDAK (B. 1953)

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A MESSAGE FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE: UKRAINE RELIEF

Many are concerned about the people of Ukraine as they are attacked by Russian military. The Outreach Committee of The Church of the Epiphany voted at the March meeting to provide members of our community with a few recommended resources for support. There are three relief organizations listed in alphabetical order below and church members are welcome to write checks to The Church of the Epiphany with the relief organization of their choice on the memo line. Michelle will write a check from the church to the designated charity specifying that the money be used for Ukraine relief. (Please do not include this donation on the same check as your pledge or monthly/weekly donation.) TCOTE will be collecting money for Ukraine relief until Palm Sunday and after April 10th Michelle will write the check(s) to the charities. Thank you for your continuing generosity!

Episcopal Relief and Development

Episcopal Relief & Development is supporting Action by Churches Together (ACT Alliance) as it provides critical assistance to support people affected by violence in Ukraine. Working through ACT member Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) and other local organizations, ACT Alliance is providing emergency assistance such as food, shelter, water and basic supplies to refugees and people displaced within Ukraine.

For more information, visit: https://www.episcopalrelief.org/press-resources/press-releases/2022-press-releases/2022-press-releases/supporting-humanitarian-response-to-the-crisis-in-ukraine/

God's Hidden Treasures

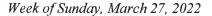
God's Hidden Treasures is a charitable organization in Ukraine started by Nita Hanson, previously of St Patrick's Episcopal Church in T.O. This organization supports disabled adults and orphans in Ukraine. Currently they are transporting disabled individuals over the border with Poland and then bringing food and supplies back to Ukraine. The Conejo Compassion Coalition has supported them with a \$5000 donation. For more information, visit: https://www.godshiddentreasures.org/

World Central Kitchen (WCK)

Since the day after the attack from Russia began, WCK has been serving meals to thousands of families escaping the violence in Ukraine and people still remaining in the country each day. Over two million people have fled—including women, children, and seniors—with the number expected to continue rising.

Providing hot meals across five countries, WCK has met incredible chefs and volunteers who are cooking for people in need.

For more information, visit: https://wck.org/en-us/news/stories-from-ukraine





EPIPHANY CONNECTIONS

THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY

3/27	9:45 a.m. 10:00 å.m.	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Holy Eucharist (In-person and livestreaming@tcote.org)
3/28	7:00 p.m.	Education for Ministry (EfM)
3/30	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Series (Zoom)
3/31	6:30 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	Schola rehearsal Parish Choir rehearsal
4/3	9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Holy Eucharist (In-person and livestreaming@tcote.org)
	11:30 a.m.	Epiphany Youth Group (EYG)

COVID-19 UPDATE

A word from the Diocese on masks and continuing safety

Now that public health officers in each of the six counties within the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles have lifted mask mandates for fully vaccinated persons in indoor public spaces, diocesan congregations may adjust protocols accordingly while still requiring that unvaccinated persons continue to wear masks indoors.

Concurrently, congregations are strongly encouraged to keep in place safety protocols that assure maximum protection for all, especially safeguarding parishioners and clergy age 65 and older. These steps may include continuing to require, on church sites, proof of vaccination, to encourage mask-wearing widely among all who wish to do so, and to maintain careful cleaning and sanitizing procedures.

Current diocesan policy is updated regularly with guidance from Bishop Diocesan John Harvey Taylor together with the Rev. Canon Melissa McCarthy, diocesan canon to the ordinary, and the bishop's council of advice comprising deans active in ministry across the diocese.

JOIN THE WOMEN'S INTERFAITH NETWORK (WIN) IN SUPPORTING JAMES' STOREHOUSE

We are officially announcing Beautiful YOU 2022! Beautiful YOU is a free prom and professional preparation event for girls ages 15-22 years old. All participants will receive a prom gown and shoes, full makeovers, and more! We need prom gowns and shoes, spring dresses, and business casual attire for teen girls and young women. We believe each of every one of these girls are so worthy and loved! The collection will take place from March 1st until March 16th, and the young women will "shop" in April. Please contact Aggie Winston at (805) 807-5001 if you would like to participate. More information at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e48a5af22ab9-beautiful

HOLY WEEK OBSERVANCES

Please join us for our Holy Week services:

4/10 Palm Sunday at 10 am
4/14 Maundy Thursday at 7:30 pm
4/15 Good Friday at noon
4/16 Vigil of the Light and Easter Egg hunt at 4 p.m.
(Atrium)
4/16 Great Vigil of Easter at 8 pm
4/17 Easter Sunday at 10 am

MARCH FOOD IN-GATHERING

Please join us on **Thursday, March 31** from **10:30am** - **12 noon** in supporting Harbor House. The items below help to enhance the lunches they serve as dinner for our hungry brothers and sisters. Thanks!

Vienna sausage, Spam, Beef Jerky, Starkist Lunch to Go, Assorted chips, Individual Granola Bars, Nut packages, trail Mix, fruit snacks, raisins, Individual water bottles and/or fruit drink boxes.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

This Sunday March 27 in the Atrium- City of Jerusalem.

The children will explore the City of Jerusalem model, and identify the places that are highlighted in Jesus' Passion.

CONNECTIONS AND E-BLAST DEADLINE

If you would like to place an announcement in the Connections or our e-blast, please submit the announcement no later than noon on Monday for the next Sunday's bulletin and upcoming e-blast.

EASTER FLOWERS

As in the past, our church will be magnificently decorated for Easter with white flowers of all kinds. We hope all will want to participate. To make a donation to provide Easter flowers in thanksgiving for something or someone in your life or in memory of a loved one, please use the form in the pews.

All donations received by Sunday, April 10th will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin.

PRAYERS



Please pray for those on our Parish Prayer List: Angela Balasis, The Wilson family, Michelle, Mark, Dave, Diane, Steve, Donna, Jackie, Harris, Amanda, and Seth

Please pray for those on our Long-Term Parish Prayer list: Sarah, Maria, Ken, Pam, Neil, Olivia, Jan Barnes, Bob, Meg, and Susan

Please pray for peace and an end to suffering

To add yourself, family, or friends to the prayer list, please fill out a prayer card or submit your prayer request online at www.tcote.org/prayer-request/.

Please note: After two weeks on the Parish Prayer List, the names of those for whom we have prayed are moved to the Long-Term Prayer List for two more months, unless stated otherwise.