

The Abbeville Anglican



The Newsletter of Historic Trinity Church

Volume 18

MARCH 2024

Number 3

High Lent

For the entire month of March we are immersed in the season of Lent. Our churches are dark, our altars have no flowers and our mood is somber. Visitors to our church are often stricken by the sight of the crosses under dark veils; and even in our beautiful stained glass the ambiance is darker. Many Christians, (probably most) do not attempt to observe the season by prayer, fasting, self-examination, self-denial and contemplation that is expected of Episcopalians by our Church. Some of our major theologians throughout the years have written that the somberness of the Lenten season should help us mystically and psychologically to spend some time with Jesus in the wilderness and to stand (or kneel) on Good Friday at the foot of the cross and attempt to feel some of the emotion of those cataclysmic events which were necessary for the Salvation of mankind. This is an excellent time of the year for the Stations of the Cross which lead us dramatically through the events from the Seat of Pilate down the *Via Dolorosa* to the cross. Lent is often a difficult time for those Episcopalians who are truly able to immerse themselves into its nature and essence; but leads to a time of great joy with the promises of the Resurrection!

Pancakes and Fellowship

On Shrove Tuesday, Trinity members and friends enjoyed a delightful supper of pancakes, sausage and fresh fruit. The old tradition of Anglican parishes serving pancakes of Shrove Tuesday is observed all over the world where the English Church exists. The pancakes were better than ever and the society most congenial. As usual we had a large number of visitors and friends from the community who seemed to very much enjoy participating in this old and much loved Anglican Tradition. (God save and preserve our Mother Church (the Church of England)). A special thank you to

all of you who worked so hard to make the supper such a success. And especially to our good friends at the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, who allowed us to use their parish hall which will accommodate twice the number of visitors than ours.

Ash Wednesday

As always, our Lenten season was initiated by a beautiful service on Ash Wednesday, with the Liturgy for the day, Imposition of the Ashes and the Eucharist. Father Tucker presented a beautiful service and a meaningful way for our members and visitors to enter the most somber season of the year, Lent.

Concerning the Service of the Church

The Holy Eucharist, the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day and other major feasts, and Daily Morning and Evening Prayer, as set forth in the *Book of Common Prayer*, are the regular services appointed for public worship in the Episcopal Church. In all services, the entire Christian assembly participates in such a way that the members of each order within the Church, lay persons, bishops, priests and deacons fulfill the functions proper to their respective orders, as set forth in the rubrical orders for each service. The leader of worship in a Christian assembly is normally a bishop or priest. Deacons by virtue of their order do not exercise a presiding function; but, like lay persons, may officiate at the Liturgy of the Word, whether in the form provided in the Daily Offices, or (when a bishop or priest is not present) in the form appointed at the Eucharist. Under exceptional circumstances, when the services of a priest cannot be obtained, the bishop may, at his discretion, authorize a deacon to preside, also subject to the limitations described in the directions for each service. In any of the Proper Liturgies for Special Days, and in other services con-

tained in the BCP celebrated in the context of a Rite I service, the contemporary idiom may be conformed to traditional language. Where rubrics indicate that a part of a service is to be "said," it must be understood to include "or sung," or vice versa. When it is desired to use music composed for them, previously authorized liturgical texts may be used in place of the corresponding texts in the BCP. Scriptural citations in the BCP, except for the Psalms, follow the numeration of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Hymns referred to in the rubrics of the BCP are to be understood as those authorized by the Episcopal Church. The words of anthems are to be from Holy Scripture, or from the BCP, or from texts congruent with them. (BCP, pp. 13-14). Presently, at Trinity we are extremely pleased to be having many visitors and several persons in personal discernment about becoming members of our congregation which is the reason for this article. We, of course, hope all these folks will decide that they want to make Trinity their church home. If you have any procedural questions, feel free to consult the Senior Warden or members of the Vestry and we will be happy to answer any and all of your questions. Whether a new member or a frequent visitor here, please know that want you to feel welcome, comfortable and "at home" at Trinity. Jesus said: *Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.* (Matthew 11:28). Trinity is a wonderful place for a quiet and peaceful rest.

The Labyrinth

Now that Spring and Holy Week approach, we hope many of you will bring your friends for prayer and meditation at our popular labyrinth. The labyrinth is a wonderful place just to relax and spend some quiet time with Jesus. See related article on page four and see you at the labyrinth!

Feast Days in March:

Saint Joseph

On March 19th, we celebrate the *Feast of Saint Joseph*, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the step-father of Jesus. It has the rank of a solemnity in the Roman Church where it is celebrated as a first class feast. It also is an important feast of commemoration in all the provinces of the Anglican Communion, and a feast in the Lutheran Church. In many parts of the world the Saint Joseph tables (altars) are elaborate and are decorated with flowers, images and many food items. This has presented a major challenge for cooks through the ages as this feast day always falls during Lent, and traditionally is a day of abstinence. The Saint Joseph table is always covered with meatless dishes. Every thing we know about Saint Joseph comes from Scripture. We know that he was a carpenter and a working man. He was not wealthy because when he took Jesus to the temple to be circumcised and Saint Mary to be purified, he offered the sacrifice of two turtle doves of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb. Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage. Luke and Matthew disagreed somewhat about the details of his genealogy, but both mark his descent from King David. Since Saint Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, his death or Resurrection, many historians believe that he died before Jesus entered his public ministry. Saint Joseph was a caring and compassionate man who followed all of God's commands for the care of the Blessed Mother and the Messiah. We are told that he took his family every year to Jerusalem for Passover, something that could not have been easy for a working man. Saint Joseph has always been revered and loved by Christians for the great care and protection he provided to the *Theotokos* (Mother of God) and to the Redeemer. Saint Joseph is the patron saint of the universal church, fathers, carpenters and social justice.

Saint Joseph

O God, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. BCP p.239.

Laetare Sunday

Laetare Sunday (March 30) so called from the incipit of the Introit

at Mass, Laetare Jerusalem ("O be joyful Jerusalem") (Isaiah 66:10) is a name often used to denote the fourth Sunday of Lent. This Sunday also known as *Mothering Sunday*, *Refreshment Sunday*, *Mid-Lent Sunday* (in French Midcrament) and *Rose Sunday* (because of the golden rose sent by the popes to the Catholic sovereigns on the thrones of Europe were blessed on this date each year). This Sunday also known as the "Sunday of the Five Loaves" from the traditional Gospel reading for the day, the story of the miracle of the loaves and fishes, which was, before the adoption of the common lectionaries, the reading for this Sunday in the Anglican, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Old Catholic Churches. This is the only day in Lent when the Lenten rigours are relaxed with flowers at the High Altars and the full musical compliment to the Mass; a day of hope and relaxation and joy with Easter, at last, within sight.

Palm Sunday (Sunday of the Passion)

This is the sixth Sunday in Lent and the first day of Holy Week. Palm fronds are used to decorate the High Altar and small crosses made from palm fronds are given to the members of the congregation as they enter the church. These palm implements commemorate the entry of Christ into Jerusalem, when people bearing branches of palm trees accompanied him in a triumphal procession. Remember that your crosses have been blessed by the priest and should never be disposed in a trash can. Many people use them for book marks in their Bible or Prayer Book. If you do not wish to keep your cross, you may place in the basket provided in the narthex where they will be collected and burned to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday. This year's Palm Sunday service will begin with special readings in the garden which will be followed by the traditional procession into the church singing the principal hymn for Palm Sunday—*all glory laud and honor to thee Redeemer King*.

Holy Week

Holy Week recalls the events of our Lord's last days before the crucifixion. It is a time of solemn preparation for his glorious triumph through his suffering, death and Resurrection. This church will observe all of the High Holy Days of Holy Week and your presence and participation are desired. The following programs and dates of the events are listed and described as they will be presented during the Easter Season.

Tenebrae

The word *Tenebrae* comes from the Latin and means darkness of shadows. *Tenebrae* will be observed on the Wednesday of Holy Week. This is not a popular service in the American Church due to its sad and somber nature. The church is dimly lit by candles which are extinguished one by one following each of the readings. The final candle is removed and the church is left in darkness which recalls that the world was left in darkness while Jesus was in the grave. In the darkness we actually hear depicted the fierce thunder that occurred when the veil was rent in the temple in Jerusalem. We are then allowed to feel an element of joy at the end of the service when the lone candle returns symbolizing that Jesus is again with us and that he will remain with us forevermore. All the readings at this service are based on the seven last words of Jesus from the cross. At the end of the service, the people depart in complete silence.

Maundy Thursday

The word Maundy comes from the Latin, *mandere*, meaning to command. It refers to the two commandments given by Jesus on the first Maundy Thursday: *Do this in remembrance of me, and love one another as I have loved you*. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of the Lord with his disciples, when he instituted the Holy and Blessed Eucharist. The Holy Communion is always celebrated on this important day. Following the Mass on Maundy Thursday, the Blessed Sacrament which has not been consumed is removed to the *Altar of Repose* (the Lady Chapel) an unbroken vigil is kept by the faithful in prayer and meditation until Good Friday. The stripping of the High Altar follows the departure of the Blessed Sacrament. The priest will then symbolically wash the High Altar (or sprinkle with Holy Water) which will remain bare for the events of Good Friday.


Good Friday

Good Friday is the most somber day of Holy Week as it commemorates our Lord's death on the cross. It is the day of deepest sorrow and mourning in the church year. Because of the character of the day, there is no consecration of the elements. Where there is a Eucharist the Sacrament is provided from the Hosts which were consecrated on Maundy Thursday and have been residing on the Altar of Repose.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MARCH 2024

For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Amen. From the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Eucharistic Lectionary Year B Office Lectionary Year 2	NOTE: The red of Holy Week, called Passiontide red, is a dark color, often with black orphreys	NOTE: Daylight Saving Time resumes Sunday, March 10 th at 2:00 am. Spring forward one hour. Don't be late for Mass.	 <i>A bright new sun rose over an empty tomb and the world was forever changed.</i>	Our Service Books: BCP—Book of Common Prayer BOS—Book of Occasional Services LFF—Lesser Feasts and Fasts The Hymnal 1982	1	2
3 3 rd Lent 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 4 th Lent 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 Noon Vestry Meets	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 5 th Lent 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	18	19 Saint Joseph (Altar: White)	20	21	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	25 Monday in Holy Week	26 Tuesday in Holy Week	27 Wednesday in Holy Week Tebebrae 6:00 pm	28 Maundy Thursday Mass 6:00 pm (Altar: White)	29 Good Friday Fast Mass 6:00 pm (Altar: Red) Stations of the Cross 12:00 Noon	30 Holy Saturday (Altar: White)
31 EASTER See Service Guide						

March 3, 2024 (3rd Lent)
 Celebrant: Father Renegar
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Dick
 Acolyte: Mike
 Altar Guild: Michele
 Altar Color: Violet
 1st Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17
 Psalm: 19 Caeli enarrant
 The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
 The Gospel: John 2:13-22

March 10, 2024 (4th Lent)
 Celebrant: Father Renegar
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Charleen
 Acolyte: Mike
 Altar Guild: Lewis
 Altar Color: Rose or Violet
 1st Lesson: Numbers 21:4-9
 Psalm: 107:1-3, 17-22, 12-22
 The Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10
 The Gospel: John 3:14-21

March 17, 2024 (5th Lent)
 Celebrant: Father Renegar
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Ruth
 Acolyte: Mike
 Altar Guild: Michele
 Altar Color: Violet
 1st Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm: 51:1-14 Miserere mei
 The Epistle: Hebrews 5:5-10
 The Gospel: John 12:20-23

March 24, 2024 (Palm Sunday)
 Celebrant: Father Renegar
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Dick
 Acolytes: Andrew
 Altar Guild: Lewis
 Altar Color: Red
 1st Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm: 118:1,2,19-29
 The Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11
 The Gospel: Mark 11:1-11

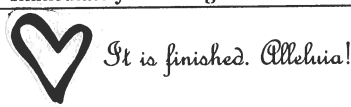
March 31, 2024 (Easter Sunday)
 Celebrant: Father Renegar
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Mary Anne
 Acolyte: Mike
 Altar Guild: Lewis
 1st Lesson: Acts 10:34-43
 Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24
 The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 The Gospel: John 20:1-18

NOTES: The Seasonal Blessing for Easter is found in the BOS, p. 14. For the Blessing Over Food at Easter, see the BOS, P. 111. A form for a Blessing in Homes at Easter is found in the BOS, p. 212.

PRIVATE CONFESSION:
 Persons wishing or needing to make a private Confession during Lent or Holy Week will be accommodated. To protect your privacy, you are requested to make your own appointment with the priest. For assistance consult the Senior Warden. For procedure, see the *Reconciliation of a Penitent*, BCP, pp 447-452.

VESTRY MEETS, Sunday, March 10th Immediately following Mass.

Excellent Bible Study with Hank every Sunday, 10:00 am, parish house. Great lessons and discussion. You are invited!



Trinity Episcopal Church

Post Office Box 911
200 Church Street
Abbeville, South Carolina 29620
www.trinityabbeville.org

Our Mission Statement:

Joyfully proclaiming the love of Christ in worship, outreach, welcome and care.

Our Bishop

The Right Reverend Daniel Paul Richards
The IX Bishop

Our Vicar:

The Vicariate is currently vacant.

The Vestry:

Lewis Ashley, Senior Warden (24)
Hank Baggett, Junior Warden (26)
Mary Lynn Lyle (24)
Charleen Clark (25)
Dick Haldeman (25)
Michael Clary (26)
Charles Thomas Horton (26)

Parish Administrator and Registrar:

Dick Haldeman

Treasurer:

Ilona Anderson

Musicians:

John Pullin, Organist & Choirmaster
Lewis Ashley, Assistant Organist
Mary Anne Campbell, Cantor
Ruth Freeman, Cantor

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dick Haldeman
Lewis Ashley

Worship Leaders:

Dick Haldeman
Lewis Ashley
Cynthia Jefferies
Hank Baggett
Jennie Leverich

Altar Guild:

Michele Wells, Chairman
Myra Keith
Ruth Freeman
Lewis Ashley
Susanne Bender Heinzerling

Lectors (Lay Readers):

Dick Haldeman
Ruth Freeman
Mary Anne Campbell
Jennie Leverich
Charleen Clark

Acolytes:

Lewis Ashley
Andrew Hartsfield
Charles Thomas Horton
Shane Horton
Michael Clary
Ilona Anderson

Eucharistic Visitors:

Lewis Ashley
Hank Baggett
Cynthia Jefferies
Jennie Leverich

Greeters/Ushers

Ilona Anderson
Hank Baggett

Children's Programs:

Jan Haldeman

Bulletins, Special Projects:

John Pullin

Sexton (Buildings & Grounds):

Buddy Wells

Diocesan Convention Delegation:

Cynthia Jefferies (Voting)
Dick Haldeman (Voting)
Lewis Ashley (Alternate)
Michael Clary (Alternate)

Thurifer (Censor):

Michael Clary

Newsletters:

Lewis Ashley

Sunday School/Bible Study:

Hank Baggett

For all who faithfully support this mission congregation, we give God thanks and praise

Stations of the Cross

At Trinity, the *Stations of the Cross* are always recited beginning at noon on Good Friday. We will move through the fourteen stations directly and omit the long meditation periods between the Stations. The service will be over in about an hour to accommodate those persons who need to return to work. A different person will read at each station. Once again this year, the member churches of the local Ministerial Association will be invited to join us for this service. We hope you will plan to be with us also.

Watch by the Cross

The Watch by the Cross will follow the Stations. This ancient tradition is observed by the English Church all over the world. The faithful often sit in their parish churches during the hours that Jesus was on the cross, often kneeling for the whole time. A communicant once said to Father Clippard, the Vicar, "all this kneeling is rough on the knees." The old priest responded: "Your Blessed Lord was not all that comfortable on that cross either." We will open the doors to the garden for those who require a brief respite. After the Stations, quiet music will follow during the watch and will consist of those well-loved hymns about the cross. We are often joined by members from other congregations on these Good Friday afternoons who like to sit quietly and enjoy the play of the light in the stained glass. You can make this a most holy day in your own life and spend some time at Trinity during this time..

Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday, or Easter Even, is the day marked for the blessing of

the new fire and the lighting of the Pascal Candle. Symbolizing the Risen Christ, the Pascal Candle stands at the High Altar and burns on all the forty days of Eastertide until Pentecost. As we do not have access to a priest on this day, we will not have a service at Trinity on Holy Saturday. We have been invited to join the congregation at the Church of the Resurrection for their service which is at 10:30 am which will be conducted by their Rector, the Rev. Mary Balfour. The Holy Saturday service in the BCP is a very long and complicated service and may take a long as two hours.

Easter and Eastertide

Easter is the highest and most sacred festival of the church year. It must be honored by the most beautiful setting which can be provided. The date is movable. Coming on the first Sunday after the full moon following the vernal equinox, the date of Easter controls the Christian Year from Septuagesima through Trinitytide. The Octave of Easter is called Low Sunday. The Season of Trinitytide lasts until Ascension Eve vespers. Easter Sunday at Trinity will feature a High Festal Eucharist will all the "bells and whistles" to celebrate the special importance of the highest festival of the church. This is a good day to invite visitors who will not otherwise be in church. Those of you who have expressed an interest in contributing to Easter and memorial flowers may do so. Please give your money to the Chairman of the Altar Guild no later than Palm Sunday.

Great New Read

Walking the Church Year is a new book by Dr. Robert Elsner, former Head, Department of Psychology, Erskine College and long time member and friend of Trinity Church. The book is a personal devotional book for prayer and practice at a labyrinth. Dr. Elsner and his family were the primary architects for Trinity's labyrinth which has been very successful and is frequently used for prayer and meditation. Dr. Elsner is the son of an Episcopal priest and brought many memorable sermons to Trinity. His young son, Sam, is also a graduate of Erskine Theological Seminary. Dr. Elsner is now Lecturer and Professor of Psychology at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. Interested persons may acquire a copy of the book from Barnes and Noble. This new book is an excellent guide of prayers and devotions to be used at labyrinths all over the world. Bring yourselves and your friends to visit the Elsner Labyrinth at Trinity.