



the NATIVITY Scene

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

February 2020
Volume 24, Issue 2



February 2, 2020
Bring your canned soup
and wear your team
colors!!
Cheer for the Chiefs or
the 49ers and fill your
teams side with canned
soup!



**Holy Nativity's
Annual Meeting**

**February 2, 2020
9:15 am
Battin Hall**

**The Church Staff will be
providing breakfast!**



**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER!
FEBRUARY 25, 2020
5:30 PM**

Join us as we feast on pancakes, sausages, and
applesauce before the beginning of Lent!
Find the "baby" in the King's Cake and you will win
reserved seating and parking on Easter Sunday!
Adults/Youth: \$5 Children: \$3 Family: \$15



Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020

*7:30 am and 6:00 pm with imposition of ashes
(No Wednesday Night Program)*

*The baby is here and we are excited as can be
please join us for a*

Sip N See

February 2, 2020
After the 10:30 am service
Battin Hall

All are invited after the 10:30 am service to meet Ansley Weber. She is the daughter of Betsy McLendon and David Weber and granddaughter of Bob and Lisa McLendon. Ansley will also be baptized at the 10:30 am service.

Thank You!

Lori and I would like to thank everyone for all the expressions of kindness and love over the holidays. We were especially humbled by the generous monetary gift we received from the parish and want you all to know how much it was appreciated. As we begin our 15th year together, I remained honored and thankful to be your rector and look forward with great hope for what is to come in our lives together. I know without a doubt that what happens in this wonderful place makes a difference for all of us and especially for the world around us. Thank you for your graciousness and for being who you are.

*With much love,
Steve*

Backpack Buddies

To paraphrase Christopher Lloyd, "Marty, we're going Back(pack) to the Future!" You'll notice that shelves have disappeared from Battin and the food is gone. The two-story building is back in shape, so we've moved back to our old home. We've also got some former volunteers re-joining us. We can always use help, particularly in the following areas: 1) Delivery: Load up your vehicle either in the evening after packing, or on Friday morning, and deliver the food parcels to the school. 2) Packing: Join a packing crew to pack the bags for delivery to the kids. Some groups pack on Wednesday nights and some on Thursday nights, and it usually doesn't take us much more than a half hour or so to finish up. It's easy, and there will be veterans to help you along. So, if you can give us just a bit of your time once a month, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that you are directly responsible for feeding hungry kids.

In addition to your time and your prayers, we can always use donations, as well. Checks in the plate noted for 'backpack buddies' are always appreciated, or you can add a few extra items to your cart on your next grocery run. We always need ravioli, soups, juice pouches, and snacks, so if you prefer a direct donation of food, trust me, we'll put it to good use. If you have any questions or think you want to get involved, email me at trey@huttinsurance.com or call me at 769-4888.

Thanks, Trey Hutt



Adult Christian Education: Fr Tom

Sunday School. 9:15 to 10:15 Sunday mornings in Mary Stuart Poole Library, at the end of the yellowing brick road adjoining the two-story building. Our table in the library has been full, so we have added a table or two and more chairs so everyone gets to sit at the table instead of in the background! Most Sundays we start by looking at the lectionary readings for the day and then branch out as questions and discussions go. Recently, for example, a session identifying but not quite exploring the four Servant Songs in Isaiah. For this Year A, most of our readings are from the Gospel according to Matthew, though a few from John are sprinkled in, and when that happens we like to wander off into John and his uniqueness. Sometimes folks bring questions that lead us down a different path, and that's always fun. As always, everyone is welcome and invited, come early, come on time, or come late as most people do.

Confirmation Class. Next month, four Sundays of March, we'll expand Sunday School to encompass Father Tom's version of Episcopal-101 in which Bible reading and discussion will still be our center, to experience that in the Episcopal Church and also a bit about Holy Nativity Parish, our connection to the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, the Episcopal Church at large, and the worldwide Anglican Communion as part of Christianity, the Jesus Movement. A little church history, a little theology. Open questions and discussion. Folks interested in being confirmed when Bishop Russell Kendrick comes in May will be welcomed into our regular adult Sunday School class.

Special Choir for Easter!

We are seeking some volunteer singers to help out with the Easter Sunday 10:30 Service. All that would be required is to attend several short rehearsals on Wednesday evenings after dinner (around 6:30). The rehearsals will last about 30 to 45 minutes, and will begin on Wednesday February 19th. Volunteer singers and regular choristers will make up the choir for the Easter Service. You do not need to be able to read music. All that is necessary is your willingness to attend the rehearsals, and be with us on Easter morning.

If you have any questions about being a part of this singing opportunity please do not hesitate to call, test, or email me.

J Durgan
Ph: 229-393-3336
jrdurgan@gmail.com

I know the congregation will be very appreciative of your donation of time and talent.

John Durgan
Director of Music



Confirmation Classes Scheduled

Bishop Russell will be at Holy Nativity on May 10th (Mother's Day) for confirmations.

If you or the youth in your family would like to be confirmed into the Episcopal Church, please join us for our confirmation classes, March 8, 15, 22, 29 at 9:15 am.

Fr. Tom will be expanding his Adult Sunday School for everyone and A.J. Jeffery, our Youth Director, will be leading the youth.

For more information, please call the church office at 747-4000.

**Your February Google Church
Calendar can be found at
our website -
www.holy-nativity.org**

YOUTH GROUP NEWS!

Dear everyone of Holy Nativity,

Your generosity and lovingkindness in the year end financial gift at Christmas is appreciated more than you could ever imagine. It helps in so many ways, including the sense of being valued and appreciated. In my ministry as a parish priest, I've worked many places as rector, vicar, interim, supply and associate; and have never been happier or felt more welcome than working in retirement as Father Steve's helper at Holy Nativity, church home of my heart since 1955. Thank you so much. I pray to serve and work with you as long as possible, and I will love you forever.

Gratefully,
Tom+

Thank-you from us! To everyone who thought and prayed for Eliza and our family during our planned and unplanned adventures, THANK-YOU. A trip of a lifetime followed by an event hopefully once in a lifetime.

As we return to our "normal" I will be gladly back on Wednesday Nights.

Please remember Happening is coming up, Beckwith registrations for summer camp have been opened and there is a youth lock-in during convention.

In the coming months we will be participating in the Jubilee celebrations and holding our confirmation classes leading into May.

Ah it's good to be back!
A.J. Jeffery, Youth Director
319-1953
aussie_aj@holy-nativity.org

Children's Ministry February 2020 *by Beverly McDaniel*

In the Episcopal Church, our faith is founded on the Trinity: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We can also use a three-legged stool to help us understand how we have come to practice our faith. When teaching confirmation classes, we made use of alphabet memory minders: **Q**uestions? **R**eason, **S**cripture, and **T**radition.

In Children's Ministry, these concepts are applied in our Christian Education lessons and actions. Although not always obvious, they are imbedded in what we want our children to understand and to live throughout their lives.

Godly Play is a perfect example of using reasoning to understand our faith. The "I Wonder" in each story asks us to consider what is right; what would we do? We must use reasoning to think things through.

Scripture is the Bible, the Word of God. From it we learn how God tells us to live and it gives us the foundation on which to base our decisions. We teach, "Let's look in the Bible to see about that".

Tradition is the compilation of practices that have developed over time that have become a part of the culture of The Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church and are recognized by most Christians throughout the world (Christmas, Easter, etc.). Also held dear are those formed in individual churches. At Holy Nativity, our children look forward to (and expect) certain traditions at our own church – Shell Island Sunday, Rally Day/ Blessing of the Backpacks, Pajama Sunday, the Christmas Pageant, and more, including the upcoming, Souper Bowl Sunday. It is an event for us when on February 2nd, we get to wear clothes or hats or colors for our favorite athletic teams and we bring cans of soup to vote for the team we hope will win the Super Bowl. It is fun to see our choices and of course all that soup goes to our Backpack Ministry. Go 49's or Go Chiefs? Which basket has more cans of soup? We will see.

As always, your questions, comments, and suggestions are welcome by cell/text (850-832-8324) or email (bmcdaniel00@aol.com).

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of the CENTRAL GULF COAST



This year, the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast is celebrating its 50th Jubilee Anniversary. Each month of 2020, we have chosen a particular focus that honors our life in Christ in very special ways and highlights our theme of *Remember, Reorient, Renew*.

A team of people from across our diocese has worked together to create and curate materials and resources you can use as a congregation or as individuals. We've even commissioned a hymn for congregations! All the materials were compiled into a Jubilee Toolkit (shown below) given to clergy at their annual conference earlier this month. We hope you will use these tools to support our collaborative efforts to celebrate in a unified way across our communities.

Everything you need to know is available on our website at www.diocgc.org/jubilee-celebration. Plus, we will be sending out a monthly digital newsletter.

Collect for Our Jubilee Year

Lord God of all creation, full us with your grace as we remember your kindness and goodness towards us, through providence and through struggle; and let the trumpets proclaim the year of Jubilee, a year of the Lord's favor, as we dedicate ourselves to reorient our mission efforts to renew your Gospel in our midst. May your Spirit inspire us, we pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remember

These months are a time to remember events and decisions that formed our identity as a diocese.

January: Welcome to Our Jubilee

February: Our History

March: Storms

April: Our Agencies

Reorient

These months are a time to explore critical issues affecting our current life as the people of God.

May: Creation Stewardship

June: Liturgy and Worship

July: Our Selves, Our Souls, Our Bodies

August: Justice and Reconciliation

Renew

These months are a time to renew our efforts in essential aspects of ministry.

September: Discipleship and Discernment

October: Evangelism

November: Generosity and Giving

December: Celebrate!

Options for Participation

Check out the monthly resources on our website for ways your can participate. Reach out to your Clergy and Sr. Warden if you would like to help your church implement any of the activities!

The theme for February is called *Our History*. Taking time to remember the beginnings of our diocese provides insights into the innovative work and leadership involved in bringing together two groups of churches located in two different states. Using a historical perspective enables us to identify and consider major events and social changes reciprocally impacting our churches, our dioceses and The Episcopal Church across five decades.



Feb. 1 John Morrow
 Feb. 2 Monica Phillips
 Feb. 3 Lenka Doran
 Feb. 4 Shani Lee, Daniel Melzer
 Feb. 5 Liz Ciccarelli, Mary Mittiga
 Feb. 6 Isaac Ward
 Feb. 7 Dana Ledman
 Feb. 9 Samantha Smith
 Feb. 10 Monica Cramer, Michelle Kraut, Brian Leebrick
 Feb. 11 Hannah Davis, Gene Miller, Susan Nelson, Hercules Pettis, Jeannette Tremaine
 Feb. 12 Sarah Davis
 Feb. 13 Levi Barton, Scott Clemons, Krista Nizioi
 Feb. 15 Connie McClellan
 Feb. 16 Ella Smith
 Feb. 17 Arthur Kraut
 Feb. 19 Ben Lee
 Feb. 21 Martin Brust, Bert Churchill, Edward San Juan
 Feb. 22 Steve Dick, Allen Nease, Mario San Juan, Lauren Stewart
 Feb. 23 Suzanne Grossman
 Feb. 24 Hansson Henneberg
 Feb. 25 Lori Faison, Nancy Pride, Kevin Wattenbarger, Sue White
 Feb. 26 Edyth Brown, David Burris
 Feb. 27 David Lithway
 Feb. 28 Ashley Doran



Feb. 5 Ted and Ina Joy Conrad
 Feb. 16 Martin and Kathy Brust
 Feb. 19 Wayland and Glenda Patterson
 Feb. 24 Dunkin and Edwina McLane

Wonderful
Wednesdays!



4:45 pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal

5:30 pm: Casual Eucharist

followed by dinner

6:30 pm: Godly Play, Club 45, Youth Group, and Adult Choir Rehearsal

The Most Fun Night Of The Week!

Help Rebuild the Playground!

One of our youth, Tyler Shores, is working on his Eagle Scout Project! He is rebuilding the playground equipment that was destroyed during Hurricane Michael, for the Kids Kingdom programs.

He is planning on weeding the current area, fixing the current outline, laying mulch, and building a new playset. The entire project is estimated to cost \$5,000. Every donation helps no matter the amount.

Donations should be made out to Holy Nativity Episcopal Church and note in the memo line, Playground Donation.

LENTEN Soup Suppers

Join us Wednesday nights in Lent beginning in March for our Soup Suppers and our Lenten program!

More information will be out soon!

Look for the sign up sheet on the Welcome Table.

Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for February 2020

Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16	Feb. 23
Altar Guild: Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles, Marla Churchill	Altar Guild: Tim and Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga, David Burris	Altar Guild: Nancy Hebert and Inge Churchill	Altar Guild: Max and Joyce Dannecker, Gene and Kathleen Wicker
Ushers 8:00 am: Bert Churchill and Jerry Darnell 10:30 am: Alan and Jeannette Tremaine	Ushers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Max and Joyce Dannecker	Ushers 8:00 am: Terry Jangula and Tim Pride 10:30 am: John Thompson and Chris Mills	Ushers 8:00 am: Tim Phillips and Dawn Johnson 10:30 am: Linda Weller and Lori Bates
Greeters 8:00 am: Marla Churchill 10:30 am: Mary Ellen Pettis	Greeters 8:00 am: Phyllis Walker 10:30 am: Ian Crelling	Greeters 8:00 am: Donna Jangula 10:30 am: Ken and Hannah Davis	Greeters 8:00 am: Monica Phillips 10:30 am: Sandy Ciccarelli and Michael Fuller
Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Inge Churchill and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: George McInnis and Lisa McLendon	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Gene and Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: Brian Leebrick and Kelly Roberson	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Theresa Townsend and Don Johnson 10:30 am: Nancy Breland and Joyce Dannecker	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Inge Churchill and Joanne McPhee 10:30 am: Scott Clemons and Joe Ciccarelli
Acolytes 10:30 am: James Thompson, Lauren Berry Carson Berry, Finn Oenbrink	Acolytes 10:30 am: Shelby and Stevens Roberson, Brody Fuller, Emma Crelling	Acolytes 10:30 am: Ashtyn Williams, Bailey Melzer, will Melzer, Jeffrey Ice	Acolytes 10:30 am: Beka Leebrick-John Moore, Alex Moore, Tom Moore
Lector at 10:30 am Holly Melzer	Lector at 10:30 am Ivan Pereira	Lector at 10:30 am Tom Ledman	Lector at 10:30 am Michael Lovchuk
Tablecloth Ministry: Mary Bonham	Tablecloth Ministry: Teresa Durgan	Tablecloth Ministry: Chris Stamps	Tablecloth Ministry: Robin Finley

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The Nativity Scene is the newsletter of Holy Nativity Episcopal Church. The deadline for announcements and articles is the 15th each month prior to publication .

DIOCESE OF THE CENTRAL GULF COAST

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick - Bishop
The Rev. Steven B. Bates - Rector
The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate

CHURCH STAFF

Youth Director - Andrew Jeffery
Director of Music - John Durgan
Administrative Assistant - Madge Smith
Children's CE Director - Beverly McDaniel
Church Bookkeeper – Kathy Mills
Sexton - Deana Gailfoil
Nursery Attendant - Kaew Sumpton

THE VESTRY

Fr. Steve Bates - Rector
Tricia Berry - 18-21
Beth Brock- 16-19
Ian Crelling 16-19
Tiffany Ennis 16-19
Mark Godwin - Treasurer
Mike Harding 17-20
Tom Ledman 17-20 Jr. Warden

Brian Leebrick 18-21
George McInnis 17-20 Sr. Warden
Ivan Pereira 18-21
Mary Ellen Pettis-18-21
Kelly Roberson 17-20
Madge Smith - Clerk
Joy Thompson 16-19

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

*Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite I **
9:15 a.m. - Adult and Youth CE, Children's
Sunday School (Sept. - May)
*10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II***
*Wednesday 5:30 pm - five-thirty Eucharist **
and programs

**Nursery Provided*

***Children's Church and Nursery Provided*
