



March 2013
Volume 17, Issue 2

the NATIVITY Scene

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida



March 24 **Palm Sunday**

(The service begins in the Courtyard.)

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite One

9:15 am Christian Education for all ages

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two

For questions on
these services,
please call the
church office at
747-4000.

March 25-27 **Morning Prayer** at 7:30 am

March 27 **Stations of the Cross** at 6:00 pm

A devotion consisting of prayers and meditations observing the final hours and events of the Passion of Jesus.

March 28 **Maundy Thursday** Service at 6:00 pm

This service of Holy Eucharist will commemorate the last supper that Jesus shared with His disciples. The service ends with the stripping of the altar.

March 29 **Good Friday** Service at 12 noon

This is a solemn service to recall Christ's crucifixion. Communion will be offered from reserved sacrament.

March 31 **Easter Sunday**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite One

9:00 am Easter Brunch **(Bring a dish to share)**

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

(By March 25, please bring to the church office wrapped candy *no gum please* and plastic eggs)

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Amazing Grace A Vocabulary of Faith

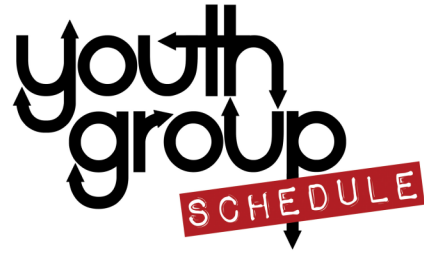
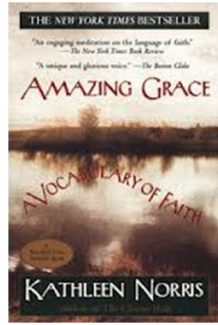
LENTEN PROGRAMS 2013

Join us on Wednesdays during Lent for a discussion of Kathleen Norris' acclaimed book, "Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith." We will be discussing words and terms from our faith and what they mean for us in the twenty-first century.

Soup Suppers begin at 5:30 pm
(Sign up to bring soup or bread in the foyer)

Worship at 6:15 pm
Programs begin at 6:30 pm

March 6 – Heresy/Apostasy
March 13 – Grace and Orthodoxy
March 20 – Creeds



Hello Youth!

During March, we will continue our Lenten programs with the younger kids. Please join us for the soup supper at 5:30 followed by fun at 6:30. We finish when the grown-ups finish, which is usually about 7:30.

There will be no youth group meeting on Wednesday, March 27. If you are in town during Spring Break, please join us for Stations of the Cross at 6 PM that night.

I'll see you in the courtyard!

Judy
248-6624
judydickey@gmail.com

Backpack and Food Bank News

The Backpack Buddies program continues its ministry by supplying food-filled backpacks to ninety-three elementary school kids each week. We've added some new friends from among you, and some more who do not even attend HNEC (yet!). If you would like to participate, we still have room for you and much to do as we head down the stretch toward the end of the academic year. If you would prefer to give behind the scenes, anything you can offer would be a great benefit to the kids.

Speaking of giving behind the scenes, a couple of weeks ago Family Services cleaned out just about everything on the shelves of the Food Bank. We may even be out of canned green beans! It sounds like the need for food among Bay County's poor is as acute as when we started, so please consider bringing a nonperishable food item for us to share with those families. I am told they do not need breakfast cereal, but everything else is gratefully accepted.

Questions about either program? Call or email Mike Dickey at 867.2550 or mdickey@barronredding.com.

Financial Peace University Coming to Holy Nativity!

Millions of people have gone through Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU). They've worked a plan, rewritten their stories, and changed their futures. This class meets for nine weeks, one night a week.

It incorporates small-group discussions that help encourage accountability and discipleship. FPU teaches members how to handle money God's ways, and His ways work! On average, FPU graduates pay off \$5,300 in debt and save \$2,700 in only the first 90 days.

The \$89 tuition (plus shipping \$6 = \$95) includes seminar attendance, audio CDs, workbooks and budgeting forms, and a copy of Dave Ramsey's "The Complete Guide to Money."

Classes start as part of our Wednesday evening programs, April 3rd here at HNEC, and will end just in time for the last week of school. These classes are open to the community so invited your neighbors, friends, and family! Look for materials regarding FPU in the parish hall or the church foyer over the next few weeks.

Contact David Smith at 774-6475/johndavidsmith56@gmail.com or Mike Dickey at 867.2550/mdickey@barronredding.com if you have any questions.

To sign up:

1. Go to daveramsey.com
2. At the top of the page, click on "classes".
3. Then click "Find a class" under the Financial Peace University area.
4. There you can click on Holy Nativity Episcopal Church.
5. There you can view a preview of the class, sign up and order your materials.

Or http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/44281/class/228035/atid/I_mi

Dinner will begin at 5:30 pm and childcare will be provided.



Adult Christian Education

Fr. Tom

The azaleas are finished; but beautiful from my upstairs front porch, the dogwood tree is heading into full bloom.

And so are our Bible studies! Weekday Bible Seminars are deep into Luke's book *The Acts of the Apostles*. We'll wrap it up before Holy Week and break for that week, leaving St. Paul under arrest in Rome as the gospel continues to spread to all nations. Soon after Easter we'll convene a new study series and begin digging into *The Revelation to John*. *Revelation* (not *Revelations*) always at first looms fearsome and intimidating then turns into an enlightening study and we're not as doomed as we thought! Everyone is always invited and welcome. Tuesday mornings 10:00 AM in town, Wednesday afternoons 1:00 PM at the Beach.

Adult Sunday School is in full bloom too. We've been working with the lectionary-appointed Bible readings for each Sunday. But for the Easter Season, our Sunday School class also will begin a study of *Revelation*. Every Sunday morning (not Easter Day though), in the Mary Stuart Poole Library, 9:15 to 10:15. We have sixteen chairs around the table, and there are always vacancies. Invited! Welcome! Come!

Fr. Tom+



It's time to sign up for Summer Camp!
Go to www.beckwithal.com to sign up!
Your kids will love it!

*"Going to Beckwith every summer when I was younger helped me to learn about community, God, and all kinds of awesome activities with kids my age and an awesome staff. From Arts and Crafts to sailing at Waterfront to the Ropes Course, there was always something different to do. It was the highlight of my summers!" Anna Smith
(Daughter of David and Madge Smith)*

GIVE UP THE NATIVITY SCENE NEWSLETTER FOR LENT!

Your next Nativity Scene newsletter will be sent to members and friends electronically. This will save the Church a tremendous amount of time and money as we strive to be good stewards of what we've been given. The newsletter will be linked through our website, email and the weekly "What's Happening." Hard copies of will be available at the Church and will be mailed to your homes by request. Here's how you can help.

- ⇒ Contact the Church Office or signup in the foyer if you'd like to continue receiving the newsletter by mail.
- ⇒ Contact the Church Office if you know of a friend who would like to receive the newsletter by mail.
- ⇒ Please update your directory information at the table found in the foyer.
- ⇒ Please include email addresses for all in your family who need to receive the newsletter.

Thanks for your help!

Children's Ministry March 2013

March	Sunday School 9:15 In our Chapel Room in the two-story building	Children's Church 10:30 In Kids' Kingdom after the children's sermon at the beginning of the worship service. They return to "big church" for communion.	Nursery 10:15 Younger children enjoy being in the nursery with Callie Mills and our wonderfully faithful nursery Volunteer.
3	Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"Jacob Gets The Blessing" Beverly McDaniel 265-8033 Judy Bennett 215-1579	Sandy Ciccarelli 265-9276
10	Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"Jacob's Dream" Candace Leebrick 522-9240 Charlie Commander 819-5850	Kathy Brust 265-3172
17	Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"Jacob Gets Married" Casey Cole 319-4376 Lenka Doran 874-1048	Mary Bonham 527-0984
24 Palm Sunday	Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	(Children enter church with palms) "Joseph's Beautiful Coat" Sharon Carroll 960-5510 Jenny Collier 215-6554	Theresa Durgan 913-3471
31 Easter	Easter Sunday Brunch followed by Easter Egg Hunt	Children stay in church for Easter Service	Pat Spangler 215-5247

Should Wednesday Evenings in Lent be this much fun? We get to have soup supper, a short evening prayer service, and then our program with Miss Judy (Dickey) and the youth group. They are always fun. We have already built wooden planters and planted our mustard seeds. We hope to have little mustard plants by Easter. Bring your children to join us, and you can join the adults discussing the vocabulary of our faith with Fr. Steve and Fr. Tom. Callie Mills will be in the nursery for the little ones

With our beautifully renovated facilities, we will be adapting our Palm Sunday and Easter traditions to fit the re-configured spaces. On Palm Sunday, the children should come to Kids' Kingdom to get their palm branches and prepare for the processional from the courtyard into church. Please bring candy-filled plastic eggs or bags of candy to fill the plastic eggs to church any Sunday through the 24th, or drop them by the church office through March 27th.

On Easter Sunday, we will enjoy and appreciate having our new kitchen for the Easter Breakfast at 9:15 followed by the egg hunt at 10:00. I will be asking many of you to help on Easter morning with the hunt, bringing flowers, the processional, and Flowering the Cross.

Please remind your children to bring their Easter Baskets, mite boxes, and flowers, and we will take lots of pictures. The older I get the more I understand the importance of making our faith celebrations memorable and meaningful for our children, and I am glad you want that for your children. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, I welcome your calls.

Beverly McDaniel

The Rite One Choir will be singing on March 17th and March 31st, Easter Sunday. New voices are always welcome. Weekly rehearsals are on Thursday from 5:30 – 6:30 PM and we generally sing once a month in church for the 8:00 service.

The Chancel Choir sings every Sunday for the 10:30 service and will rehearse in March for Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Rehearsals are weekly on Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 PM and Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:15. All are invited to join our song.

The Children's Choir rehearses every Wednesday afternoon during the school season from 4:00 – 5:00 PM in the choir office. These young voices continue to grow and amaze me. It is not too late for your child to sing with us. Traditionally, the Children's Choir sings for Palm Sunday, but this year it coincides with Spring Break, so we will not be singing. I promise that their songs will be heard again before long.

Episcopal Diocesan Convention Music Wrap-Up
BRAVO! BRAVO! BRAVO! To each and every voice and volunteer who assisted in making the convention worship services filled with the sounds of music. While many voices were there to sing, there were also many people behind the scenes assisting with the children. Volunteers brought the kids dinner, helped with their robes, 'brought' their robes to the convention, and entertained them until it was time for them to sing again. It would be next to impossible to name everyone who sang or helped, so I won't even begin to try. All I can do is to say "Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!"

several additional members of our congregation to make a choir of 23 voices. There was only one volunteer from another area church who shared his bass voice with us. He had such fun that he's seriously thinking of joining us next Fall when we rehearse for Lessons and Carols!

The adults rehearsed for weeks on an anthem that was quite challenging but oh, so beautiful. Practice worked and it was a glorious sound for the opening service. Having John Durgan's organ accompaniment truly enhanced our sound. The Children's Choir was outstanding and led the entire congregation in our favorite sung version of "The Lord's Prayer" before finishing the service with "Jesus Fed the Hungry Thousands." Those lyrics were perfect for the convention theme.

The entire opening service was a wonderful experience for each of our choirs. Our music was very well received and people were still talking about it when Stacey Holliday and I returned on Saturday morning to sing for the closing service. I think it is safe to say that the music offered by Holy Nativity left a positive impression on those in attendance as well as having a positive effect on each of us! Perhaps you might be inspired enough to consider joining us too.

Choosing music is not about 'pretty' but about scripture and lessons, and helping you 'feel' something. It is an extension of the message and feeling is part of that too. May all of our music of this season reach you on many levels, not just with your ears but with your hearts.

The Rite One and Chancel Choirs joined forces, along with

Diocesan Convention

(more photos on the website and Facebook!)



What is the Mary-Martha Circle?

You may have noticed a banner, or two, at the Font when a baptism is taking place. This is to honor the baptismal candidate so everyone will know who he/she is.

You may have also noticed bookmarks with ribbons to mark numerous pages in the hymnal or prayer book.

And, who are the crazy women who stuffed over two-hundred muffins with Epiphany charms?

Those "crazies" are the ladies who belong to the Mary-Martha Circle of The Episcopal Community of Holy Nativity. The Circle studies the life of St. Benedict and uses his teaching to try to live out the promises made at Baptism. We are a service and prayer organization that presently has five members, but would love to include more ladies.

If you are a confirmed Episcopalian, and would be interested in joining a group that is dedicated to prayer, and helping others live out their baptismal vows, please contact Gayle Ahrens, Edyth Brown, Anne Harris, Donna Jangula, or Laura Johnson. We meet for lunch the first Tuesday of the month, then have our meeting, or do whatever project we have undertaken. This just might be the niche in your church life that you did not know was missing.



THIS MONTH'S birthdays

- Mar. 4 Shirley Batteiger, Justin Rahn**
- Mar. 5 Inge Churchill, Jerry Darnell, David Grossman, Molly McLendon, Nelson Scott**
- Mar. 6 Catherine Churchill**
- Mar. 8 Brianna Fisher, Terrell Hartzog**
- Mar. 9 Cassie Commander, Alexander Lovchuk, Samuel McLane**
- Mar. 10 Andrew Collier**
- Mar. 12 Ashley Metzler**
- Mar. 14 Noah Patterson**
- Mar. 17 Sarah Austin**
- Mar. 18 William Cramer**
- Mar. 19 Nicholas Stuart**
- Mar. 20 Alva Davis, Dana Dye**
- Mar. 22 Tommy Harding, Kay Young**
- Mar. 24 Nancy Breland, Georgie Hartzog**
- Mar. 25 Dorothy Allen**
- Mar. 26 Teresa Durgan**
- Mar. 27 Anda Gagnet, Paul Hunt**
- Mar. 28 George McInnis, Alex Russell**
- Mar. 30 Kendall Lovchuk**
- Mar. 31 Grace Smith**



March 10, 2013 at 2:00 AM!
Don't miss church!



THIS MONTH'S anniversaries

- Mar. 4 David and Natasha Lithway**
- Mar. 8 Jerry and Catherine Shores**
- Mar. 15 Jimmy and Sue White**
- Mar. 16 Jeff and Margie Mahalak**
- Mar. 22 Gene and Kathleen Wicker**
- Mar. 27 Bob and Lisa McLendon**



HOLY NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

222 North Bonita Avenue
Panama City, FL 32401

(850) 747-4000

E-mail: info@holy-nativity.org

Website: www.holy-nativity.org



NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PANAMA CITY FL
PERMIT NO 340

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*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. Philip M. Duncan II - Bishop

The Rev. Steven B. Bates - Rector

The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate

CHURCH STAFF

Youth Director - Judy Dickey

Children's CE Director - Beverly McDaniel

Administrative Assistant - Madge Smith

Director of Choirs - Marqua Brunette

Church Organist - John Durgan

Church Bookkeeper - Kathy Mills

Sexton - Lawrence Long

Weekend Sexton - James Rahn

Nursery Attendant - Callie Mills and Callie Pettis

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

*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***

**Nursery Provided*

***Children's Church and Nursery Provided*