



March 2014
Volume 18, Issue 2

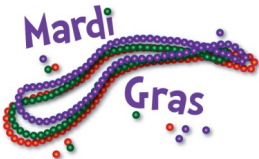
the NATIVITY *Scene*

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

**SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE SUPPER
MARCH 4, 2014
5:00 PM**



THIS IS ALWAYS A FUN TIME WHERE WE EAT
PANCAKES, SAUSAGES, AND APPLE SAUCE BEFORE
THE BEGINNING OF LENT!
FIND THE "COIN" IN THE KING'S CAKE AND YOU WIN
RESERVED SEATING AND PARKING ON EASTER
SUNDAY!



**ADULTS/YOUTH: \$5,
CHILDREN: \$3, FAMILY: \$15**

**Ash
Wednesday
March 5, 2014**



Services will be
7:30 am
11:30 am
(followed with lunch and Bible Study)
6:00 pm
(No Wednesday Night program)



Lenten Soup Suppers and Program

Begins March 12, 2014

5:30 pm: five thirty service

6:00 pm: Soup Supper

(sign up on the welcome table to bring soup or bread)

6:30 pm: Program: "The Robe"

(See the article in this newsletter for more information!)

Searching for the Fourth Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

The search for the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast has begun! As you may know, I am a member of the Search Committee and I'm very excited about the possibilities before us in the coming year. This time is an excellent opportunity for all of us to have our voices heard! The schedule for electing our next Bishop is as follows:

Bishop Search Surveys and Focus Groups – taking place through March

Development of Diocesan Profile – April

Accepting Names and Interviews – Summer/Fall of 2014

Announcement of Candidates – December 2014

Candidate Walkabouts – January 2015

Election of our New Bishop – February 2015

We are using an online survey and Focus Groups to develop a Diocesan Profile. To take the online survey, go to The Bishop Search website <http://www.bishopsearch.diocgc.com/> and click on the image that says "Have your voice Heard...". This will take you to the survey. Be aware the survey could take you up to 20 minutes. The survey will be available until March 16th. Paper copies of the survey are available by contacting the Church office.

We would also like your input via one of the area Focus Groups. Holy Nativity hosted the first Diocesan Focus Group as part of our regular Wednesday evening programs on February 26. However, there are other Focus Groups scheduled across the Diocese. You can find the complete schedule by going to The Bishop Search website and clicking on the Search tab.

This is an exciting time in the life of our Diocese. We determine our future together. Feel free to ask me questions about the Search Process.

Steve+

Bishop Appeal by Mike Harding

The search is underway for our new Bishop, who will be elected next year at the Diocesan Conference. The search process is lengthy and inclusive. It also costs money--about \$125,000 to successfully complete and ensure the "right" person has been called. While this seems to be a high number, we are assured this is typical for any bishop's search.

We, as a diocese, have not budgeted money over the years to find Bishop Duncan's successor, so the chair of the Standing Committee and Bishop have met with larger parishes in the diocese and asked them to undertake a special campaign to fund the search. Holy Nativity is being asked to raise \$7,000.

What we raise will be pooled with other parishes in the diocese to, first, fund the search for the new bishop. Any remaining funds will be used to replenish the diocesan congregational fund which funded the previous search.

The Vestry has approved a special fund and invites you to help financially make possible the search for our new bishop. Your designated contribution can be made by simply dropping it in the collection plate. No amount is too small or too large! Be sure to memo the contribution for "Bishop Search Fund."

Convention Report by Brian Leebrick

Several of us had the honor of representing Holy Nativity as delegates to the 43rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast in late February. The Convention is the “legislative authority” of the Diocese. At the Convention, the delegates select members of the Standing Committee; adopt a budget; establish or modify policy; and consider changes to canons.

There were several factors that made this Convention a particularly grueling one. The Episcopal Church’s General Convention is next year, so in addition to the Standing Committee elections we also elected delegates to that triennial meeting. The Bishop recently announced his retirement, which meant we heard reports from Standing Committee, the Bishop Search Committee, and the Transition Committee on their respective efforts to find and install the 4th Bishop of the Diocese.

Another factor was the Diocese’s continuing financial problems. We considered a budget of just over \$1,250,000. (By way of comparison, in 2003 the Diocese’s budget was over \$1,800,000.) Pledges from parishes and missions continue to fall (although actual income rose slightly), and the Diocese is having to make difficult decisions to make ends meet. One of those decisions was to use money from nonrecurring trust accounts to fund recurring expenses—never a sign of a healthy organization. Still, the Diocese was able to fund a Coordinator for Youth Ministry this year, and to give the Bishop a healthy (and probably overdue raise), so priorities are being managed. (One important note—the Diocesan budget did not take into account the estimated \$100,000 to \$120,000 expense of finding and installing a new Bishop. Churches like ours are being asked to help raise funds for that expense outside of the normal pledge. (Stay tuned.)

Finally, the Convention was asked to consider the work of the “We Dream” Committee, a group created at the last convention to recommend changes to enable the Diocese to carry out its mission more effectively. The “We Dream” Committee recommended six changes to the canons of the Diocese and another 12 changes to the policies of the Diocese. Ultimately these were reduced to three main ideas- the formation of a Diocesan Council that would take some responsibilities from the current Finance Committee and the Standing Committee; the division of the Diocese into five regional convocations to help promote ministry opportunities and implement Diocesan initiatives; and the addition of a “young person” delegate for each church which can convince someone between 16 and 25 to attend these meetings. After a debate that proved Sayre’s Law right (look it up!) and parliamentary maneuvers that would have made General Robert proud, the whole thing was deferred to a “special convention” that is supposed to be held sometime between now and the next regular convention.

Despite the imperfect nature of being the Church, it is the unique nature of having voices heard and being able to disagree that make us who we are. It is that diversity that makes our Church such a joy. If you agree, please consider making yourself available to be a delegate next year-- just mark “Convention Delegate” on your Time & Talent sheet in the Fall.

Oh my gosh, it's almost time for our campout! Saturday, March 1st, we will leave from the church in the afternoon and spend the night at the Marianna Caverns State Park. You will have to miss church on Sunday, but don't worry, we will have Sunday School around the campfire. If you haven't told me yet that you are coming, do it today. I wouldn't want you to be hungry and cold, with no tent and no hot dogs . . .

On Ash Wednesday, March 5th, there will not be a program in the upstairs room. I will miss you all terribly if I don't see you at the service.

The next Wednesday, March 12th, starts our soup suppers and special Lent programs. I am cooking up a special treat just for you guys, so you don't want to miss this first one.

Come to think of it, you don't want to miss the next one, on March 19th, either. Or the program on March 26th.

We are making slow and steady progress towards renovating the upstairs room. Dick Hebert cleaned our deck and is working on making the outside lights work. Look for updates on the youth group bulletin board.

See you in the upstairs room!

Judy
judydickey@gmail.com



Children's Ministry Schedule March 2014

Mar.	Sun. 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.
2	Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"What is Lent?" Casey Cole 319-4376 Beverly McDaniel	Sandy Ciccarelli 265-9276
9	Beverly McDaniel	Kathy Brust 814-8014 Karen Shores 867-1084	Kaew Sumpton 872-3782
16	Beverly McDaniel	"The Widow's Mite" Jenny Collier 215-6554 Sharon Carroll 960-5510	Katy Bradford 819-6277
23 Spring Break	Beverly McDaniel	Casey Cole 319-4376 Floencia Pereira 319-4870	Teresa Durgan 913-3471
30	Beverly McDaniel	Trey Hutt 814-7934 Holly Melzer 896-0428	Kathy Brust 814-8014



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, Madi Wilkins
Mar. 10	Andrew Collier
Mar. 12	Ashley Metzler
Mar. 14	Russell Brock, Noah Patterson
Mar. 17	Sarah Austin
Mar. 18	William Cramer
Mar. 19	Nicholas Stuart
Mar. 20	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, Nicolas Pereira
Mar. 28	George McInnis, Alex Russell
Mar. 30	Kendall Lovchuk
Mar. 31	Grace Smith



March 4	David and Natasha Lithway
March 8	Jerry and Catherine Shores
March 15	Jimmy and Sue White
March 22	Gene and Kathleen Wicker
March 27	Bob and Lisa McLendon

CURSILLO WEEKEND MARCH 13-16, 2014

Cursillo is a three-day weekend that introduces people to simple methods for nurturing and growing their relationships with Christ. It provides an experience of living in a Christian community centered in worship, prayer, study of scripture and interaction with other Christians.

It's mission is to build up our parish churches by encouraging and empowering its members to prepare for doing the work of the church-the spreading of the Gospel.

David and Madge Smith and Stacey Holliday will be serving on the Cursillo staff. Cursillo is truly a wonderful gift in our diocese.

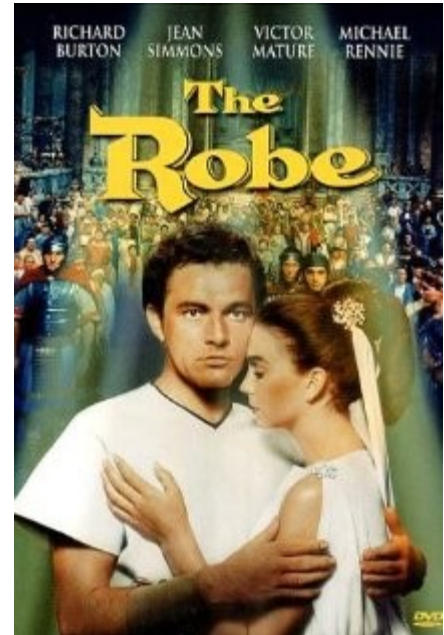
If you are interested in learning more, contact the Smiths at 588-8320/
madgejsmith@gmail.com
or Stacey at
864-525-5095/sholliday@hnes.us



Sunday, March 9, 2014 at 2:00 am
DON'T MISS CHURCH!

LENT: MOVIE TIME! *THE ROBE* STARRING RICHARD BURTON

Our Lenten Wednesday program both for the 11:30 Noon Healing Eucharist with Lunch **and** for the 5:30 PM Evening Eucharist with Soup Supper, will be viewing the film *The Robe*. From the Lloyd C. Douglas novel, this 1953 Bible epic addresses the question, “whatever happened to the Roman officer commanding the military unit that crucified Jesus?” The film being just over two hours long, we will divide it into four Wednesday viewing segments of about 30 minutes each -- with each segment being followed by a half hour for questions, discussion, condemnation(?) and speculation led by the priests. This will be fun and you won't want to miss! Richard Burton, Jean Simmons, Victor Mature, Michael Rennie, with Dean Jagger, Jay Robinson, Richard Boone, and Jeff Morrow. .



Adult Christian Education: Father Tom

Adult Sunday School, 9:15 AM Sunday mornings in the Mary Stuart Poole Library, at the east end of the sidewalk. A good time of Bible study in which no two people ever agree on anything, and this being the Episcopal Church, we don't *have to* agree! All are invited and welcome. Our Bible study usually homes in on one or more of the readings for the Sunday. Come enjoy!

Wednesdays at 11:30 we have Holy Eucharist. Between 11:15 and 11:30 the opportunity is offered for anyone who wants to come to the Altar for Anointing with Oil and Laying On of Hands with Prayer for Healing, a standard Episcopal liturgical event. Eucharist is followed by everyone coming into Battin Hall for a light lunch with Bible study. Always a tasty lunch, always free, always a good Bible study session. All are invited and welcome!! The four Wednesday noons of Lent, our Bible study will feature the movie *The Robe* starring Richard Burton, with discussion and disagreement about this character in our salvation history who officiated over the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

OTHER MARCH EVENTS!

MARCH 4: Mary Martha Circle will meet at 12:00 pm.

MARCH 6: Cursillo Reunion Group will meet at 6:30 pm in the Parish House.

MARCH 11: EfM Alumni Group Dinner will meet at 6:00 pm in Battin Hall.

MARCH 24: Book Club will meet at 5:30 pm at Panera Bread on 23rd Street and then 6:30 pm in the Parish House.

The music program at Holy Nativity was able to enjoy a little respite from all of the hectic, and sometimes stressful, preparations of Advent and Christmas and greatly appreciated the season of Epiphany. We always have to work ahead of time so music for confirmation with The Bishop, Ash Wednesday (March 5th), Lent, Easter, and Pentecost has been in our folders for weeks now. Spring will be busy and additional voices would really be welcomed.

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 Choir sang on Feb. 16th, our Sunday with the Bishop. Look for them again in March but the exact date is not settled, however, Easter Sunday morning they will again sing for the early service. 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, as well as music for Holy Week and Easter in April.. 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 – 5:10 PM in the choir office. These young voices continue to grow and amaze me. They sang twice in February and are looking

ahead to Palm Sunday, when they will sing outside at the beginning of the service and lead the congregation with their procession of palms. It is not too late for your child to sing with us.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these rehearsals:

The Chancel Choir

Thursday evenings in the church from 6:30 – 8:30 PM
and

Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:15 AM

The Rite One Choir

Thursday evenings in the church from 5:30 – 6:30 PM

The Children's Choir

Wednesday afternoons in the Choir Office from 4:00 – 5:10 PM

Do You Play A Musical Instrument?

Do you play a musical instrument? Are you 12 – 92 years old?? If you play a musical instrument, we want to hear from you! Share your musical gifts with us and be a part of the music program at Holy Nativity.

Musicians are frequently needed for Sunday mornings as well as for special services. Remember, middle school and high school students welcome. Please Contact Marqua Brunette at 769-9034.



Wine, Women, and Backpacks!

The last Thursday of March is the 27th, so that is when we will get together to stuff backpacks! Please join us at 5pm at the two-story building behind the church. We will talk, laugh, drink wine . . . oh, and fill 95 backpacks for hungry kids. We always have a great time, and I think you will, too. Afterwards, we will go somewhere fun to eat together. See you then!





HOLY NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Website: www.holy-nativity.org



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

THE VESTRY

<i>Fr. Steve Bates - Rector</i>	<i>Mike Harding 13-16</i>
<i>Henry Breland 13-16</i>	<i>Betty Grammer 12-15</i>
<i>Edyth Brown 12-15</i>	<i>Brian Leebrick 14-17</i>
<i>Joe Ciccarelli 13-16 Jr. Warden</i>	<i>Chris Mills 13-16</i>
<i>Carolyn Cramer 12-15</i>	<i>Hercules Pettis 14-17</i>
<i>Mark Godwin - Treasurer</i>	<i>Madge Smith - Clerk</i>
<i>Michele Hahn 12-15 Sr. Warden</i>	<i>Stewart Sumpton 14-17</i>
	<i>Todd Williams 14-17</i>

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite I *</i>
	<i>9:15 a.m. - Adult and Youth CE, Children's</i>
	<i>Sunday School (Sept. - May)</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II**</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>11:30 am - Healing Eucharist</i>
	<i>5:30 pm - five-thirty Eucharist *</i>
	<i>and programs</i>

**Nursery Provided*

***Children's Church and Nursery Provided*



2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 YOUTH GROUP CAMP OUT WEEKEND!
2 The Last Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel 5:00 pm-Steak and Bake	3 Back to School!	4 11:30 am-Mary Martha Circle Meeting 5:00 pm-Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 	5 7:30 am - Ash Wednesday Service 11:30 am - Ash Wednesday Service, Lunch, Bible Study 4:00 pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm - EfM 6:00 pm - Youth Group 6:00 pm - Ash Wednesday Service	6 5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chan- cel Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-Cursillo Reunion Group	7	8
9 The 1st Sunday in Lent 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel 	10	11 6:00 pm-EfM Alumni Dinner	12 11:30 am - Healing, Eucharist, Lunch, Bible Study 4:00 pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm - EfM 5:30 pm - Youth Group 5:30 pm - LENTEN SOUP SUPPER AND PROGRAM	13 2:00 pm - 8:30 pm Supper at Grace volunteer work 5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chan- cel Choir Rehearsal	14	15
				Cursillo Weekend!		
16 The 2nd Sunday in Lent 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - Sunday School 9:15 am - Vestry Meeting 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel	17	18	19 11:30 am - Healing, Eucharist, Lunch, Bible Study 4:00 pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm - EfM 5:30 pm - Youth Group 5:30 pm - LENTEN SOUP SUPPER AND PROGRAM	20 5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chan- cel Choir Rehearsal	21	22
23 The 3rd Sunday in Lent 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel	24 Book Club 5:30 pm-Book Club at Panera Bread 6:30 pm-Book Club at the Parish House	25	26	27 5:00 pm - Wine, Women and Backpacks 5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chan- cel Choir Rehearsal	28	29
	Spring Break!					
30 The 4th Sunday in Lent 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel	31					

Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for March 2014

Mar. 2, 2014	Mar. 9, 2014	Mar. 16, 2014	Mar. 23, 2014	Mar. 30, 2014
Altar Guild: Mary Bonham, Lisa McLendon, Marla Churchill	Altar Guild: Amy Russell, Joe Ciccarelli, Barbara Knowles, Inge Churchill	Altar Guild: Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga, David Burris	Altar Guild: Nancy Hebert and Inge Churchill	Altar Guild: Max and Joyce Dannecker, Gene and Kathleen Wicker
Greeters 8:00 am: Dorbre McMullen and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Charlie and Cassie Commander	Greeters 8:00 am: Dawn Johnson 10:30 am: Sandy Ciccarelli and John Hutt	Greeters 8:00 am: Betty Heminway 10:30 am: TBA	Greeters 8:00 am: Ursula Hixson 10:30 am: Sue White	Greeters 8:00 am: Dorbre McMullen and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Joe and Peggy Ferrante
Ushers 8:00 am: Dan Johnson and Parker McClellan 10:30 am: Charles and Mary Bonham	Ushers 8:00 am: Terry Jan-gula and Tim Pride 10:30 am: Steve Dick and Bill Bradford	Ushers 8:00 am: Susan Nelson and Jerry Darnell 10:30 am: Max and Joyce Dannecker	Ushers 8:00 am: Tim Phillips and Jim Hixson 10:30 am: John Thompson and Chris Mills	Ushers 8:00 am: Dan Johnson and Parker McClellan 10:30 am: Russell and Beth Brock
Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Suzanne Grossman and Theresa Townsend 10:30 am: Joyce Dan-necker and Mike Dickey	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Inge and Lou Churchill 10:30 am: Scott Clemons and Stewart Sumpton	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Karen Tucker and Byron Matthews 10:30 am: Todd Williams and Joe Ciccarelli	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Gayle Ahrens and Gene Wicker 10:30 am: Brian Leebrick and Jane Burkett	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Suzanne Grossman and Theresa Townsend 10:30 am: Edyth Brown and Scott Clemons
Acolytes 8:00 am: Eric and Lauren Stewart 10:30 am: Drew and Sean Dickey, Beka and Kate Leebrick, Camryn Commander	Acolytes 8:00 am: Wes McClellan and Madelyn Reeder 10:30 am: Kyle and Claire Fisher, Shelby and Stevens Roberson, Katie Marie Hutt, Ginny Leebrick	Acolytes 8:00 am: Eric and Lauren Stewart 10:30 am: Trevor Madden, Morgan and Ashytn Williams, Hannah Hickman, Ryan Nelson	Acolytes 8:00 am: Wes McClellan and Madelyn Reeder 10:30 am: Jack, James, Joseph Thompson, Michael Watts, Paul Brust Jacob Brock	Acolytes 8:00 am: Eric and Lauren Stewart 10:30 am: Ben Bradford, Katie Marie Hutt, Camryn Commander, Hannah Hickman
Lector at 10:30 am Lisa McLendon	Lector at 10:30 am Daniel Melzer	Lector at 10:30 am Holly Melzer	Lector at 10:30 am Beverly McDaniel	Lector at 10:30 am Mary Ellen Pettis
Tablecloth Ministry: Barbara Knowles	Tablecloth Ministry: Natasha Lithway	Tablecloth Ministry: Nancy Hebert	Tablecloth Ministry: Edyth Brown	Tablecloth Ministry: Candace Leebrick

ASH WEDNESDAY (MARCH 5TH AT 6:00 PM): JACK THOMPSON, AND GINNY, KATE, BEKA LEEBRICK