



the NATIVITY *Scene*

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

August 2020
Volume 24, Issue 8



Please Join Us for a
Blessing of the
Backpacks
Parade!

Sunday, August 16th • 11:15 a.m.

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church

The South parking lot will be reserved for the parade staging area.
(the grassy lot)

While Covid restrictions might prevent us from celebrating this event as we've done in years past, they will not prevent us from celebrating, blessing and praying for our children, their parents, teachers and school staff as they begin a school year unlike any other.

So, on August 16th we will have a blessing of the backpacks parade. Prayers for each grade will take place in the staging area and after a brief (around the block) parade we'll have a closing prayer and send-off. Feel free to decorate your cars/golf carts/etc. Children will receive a gift bag and a backpack blessing tag but most importantly, will see an outward and visible sign that we are remembering them and praying for them and their teachers.

Please practice social distancing and wear a mask when that is not possible. The service and parade will be live streamed. Look for additional details as they become available or call the church office (747-4000) with questions.

Adult Christian Education - Father Tom

Along with the rest of the nation, our Sunday School class has been in recess since what? March? February or March? Did we last meet in April? I don't remember. Although I've been sort of trying to fill in and stay in touch with the class by email and blogpost and Facebook, nothing is satisfying but our camaraderie, laughter, and the buzz of conversation in the Library. Sad to say, there's no telling about the future of our regular in-person meetings! **But here's a tentative thought:** that I will be in the library at 9:15 on Sunday morning, August 23rd (the Sunday after Backpack Sunday), ready to resume our adult Sunday School class. If anyone feels comfortably safe in coming, that will be me wearing the facemask! I'll invite class members also to wear facemasks, and I'll have the chairs and tables spaced to comply with social distancing guidelines.

As I say, this is tentative. Age-wise, most of us in the class are in the highest risk group regarding covid19, and as I write, the virus continues to spread like wildfire; so if nobody is ready to come back, that'll be perfectly acceptable, we'll continue to wait and just keep on "meeting" by email. There's no use trying ZOOM meetings or telephone conversations, at least for me, because at this age my hearing is frustrating to deal with even with hearing aids! Anyway, shortly before August 23rd, I'll email the class roster email list asking what you think, not asking you to commit but asking you to tell me what you think about the idea of resuming classes, and I'll let everyone know the results of that.

In the meantime, if anyone who's not on our Sunday School class email roster would like to be added, you may email me at twellerpc@gmail.com asking and I'll put you on the list so you can see what's going on. Basically, class members receive an email with link to my blogpost +Time that I use for communication, on Sunday, sometimes Monday, and Wednesday mornings. Not always, but generally on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday I have some sort of Bible study or commentary or other lesson to share. There's no requirement for anyone to respond to those emails, although a few do and it's appreciated!

Hurricanes, recovering, protests, pandemics, and sheltering in place: our new reality. But God is love and so is our class.

Tom+

Children's Ministry August 2020

By Beverly McDaniel

During these “adventurous” times, our peace of mind must come from putting our trust in God to take care of us, and we must respond to his call to us to take care of one another. At Holy Nativity, our children are blessed to have families and friends and teachers who care about them; they also have a church which cares about them. We at the church had been so pleased that after Michael we were able to adapt and go ahead with our parish events. I was amazed at the resilience and willingness to work despite discomfort and inconvenience, and our children saw that also. However, this pandemic appears to present an even greater challenge. Our children need to know that we cannot “make it go away” with our own strength and will power as we did before. But we are indeed certain that God loves them, and that we love them. God will protect them, and by God’s grace, we will protect them every way we can.

To that end, although we realize that we cannot have the big dinner, the water slide, the postponed Egg Hunt, and all the hoopla that accompanies Rally Day and the Blessing of the Backpacks, we do not want to give up the Backpack Blessing. Holy Nativity Episcopal Church indeed cares about our children and this blessing offers a spiritual connotation for the children throughout the schoolyear and I think they feel that connection and like it. We certainly want to do everything possible to help them feel “safe and secure from all alarms”. We also want them to have some fun and a few surprises. Please call, text, or email me with ideas for things they can enjoy within the safety of your car or from a safe distance in your golf cart after their backpacks have been blessed. We are working on plans now so get your suggestions and opinions to me soon. I will be calling several, or more, of you to help. Details will be sent as they develop.

If your family is back at church on Sundays or when your family is ready to come, we want the children to feel welcome and engaged. While we are not yet able to hold Children’s Church, we are providing Children’s Bulletins that are aligned with the Gospel lesson from the lectionary each week. They have puzzles, word searches, dot to dot, etc. are designed with two editions, one for primary and one for upper elementary and even middle school (and me). They are available for pick-up in the foyer while the church is unlocked on Sunday mornings. Again, I am asking for your opinions and suggestions for safely resuming Wednesday Evenings/Sunday School, and Children’s Church. I would love for you to call me on the phone so I can hear how you feel about your child’s Christian education and spiritual development. Please let me know 850-832-8324.





The youth are out there! Please stay tuned for events and resources for youth. To help reach-out and connect during the upcoming uncertain year.

Do you want to learn how we live stream our church service? Volunteers needed to learn our new media system.

Remember we are on social media or contact AJ via aussie_aj@holy-nativity.org

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

On August 16th we will return to our regular schedule with services at 8 am and 10:30 am.

Wonderful Wednesdays: **Tentatively** Mark your calendars for September 9th at 5:30! We are planning to resume our Wednesday Night service and dinner. The details are still being worked out, but we will soon be back together.

Altar Flower Chart: If you would like to donate toward the Altar Flowers on a certain Sunday, please sign up on the foyer bulletin board or email Madge at madge@holy-nativity.org. Please include the reason for the donation and the cost is \$25. Your donation information will be listed in the bulletin for that Sunday.

Online Giving: This is another option to giving to the church. Go to our website and click the online donation tab. The first time you will need to set up your account information.

Online Services: We will continue our online Facebook Live 10:30 am service and Wednesday Midweek Manna with Fr. Steve at 6 pm. You can go to our website under the E-Church tab and you will be directed to the church's Facebook page. Look for reminder's in your email and on Facebook.

Prayer Requests: You can email your prayer requests for the bulletin to Madge at madge@holy-nativity.org, or fill out the prayer request card in the back of the pew. Always get the person's approval before you submit it.

We have resumed our “in person” worship!

8:00 am: Holy Eucharist Rite One

9:15 am: Holy Eucharist Rite Two in the Pavilion (last one on Aug. 9th)

10:30 am: Holy Eucharist Rite Two

In order to create a safe environment during the Covid-19 pandemic, the following policies have been put into effect, as of May 31st. Please check your email and all church communication for changes in these policies. Thank you for your cooperation and your consideration for your fellow worshippers.

Services are limited to 50 people. Overflow can access the live feed and receive communion in Battin Hall.

Social distancing (6'+) is required (Family groups can sit together)

Masks are required entering and exiting the church and coming forward for communion.



**Making our Church
Safe for All**

Don't feel comfortable coming to church yet? That is perfectly fine! We will continue our online Facebook Live 10:30 am service. You can go to our website (www.holy-nativity.org) under the E-Church tab and click the tab to view the service on the church's Facebook page. Look for reminders in your email and on Facebook.



Tune in to Fr. Steve online on Facebook Live every Wednesday at 6 pm for a devotional and Compline service.

You can join through Holy Nativity's Facebook page, or just go to our website and click on E-Church.



Aug. 1

Kathy Brust

- Aug. 3 Sunny Barton, Ian Crelling, Mary Ellen Pettis
 Aug. 4 Gregory Faison, Johnny Moore
 Aug. 5 Joyce Dannecker, Holly Melzer, Joan Morrow
 Aug. 6 Penny Hutt
 Aug. 7 Steve Bates
 Aug. 8 Ivan Pereira, Nancy Reeder
 Aug. 9 Lily Bradford, Laura McClain
 Aug. 10 Rita Boston
 Aug. 11 Max Dannecker
 Aug. 12 Elizabeth Moore, Ashlee Phillips
 Aug. 13 Mary Sittman
 Aug. 15 Grace Cole, Bruce McLawhorn, Cecile Scoon, Andrew Wattenbarger
 Aug. 16 Harold Akst, Lori Bates
 Aug. 19 Greg Kinsey
 Aug. 20 Seth Patterson, Caroline Smith
 Aug. 21 Michael Gailfoil, Philip Stewart,
 Aug. 22 Jenna Rahn, Maggie Smith
 Aug. 23 Sean Lathrop, Brian McClain
 Aug. 24 Kathy Dick
 Aug. 26 Anji Dunlap
 Aug. 27 John Hutt, Chucky Knowles, Aaron Shores
 Aug. 28 Lee Scott
 Aug. 29 Phyllis McLawhorn, James Oenbrink, Jonah Reeder
 Aug. 30 Georgia Dake
 Aug. 31 Gregory Miller

Aug. 1
and Jo Bruhn

Richard

- Aug. 3 Brian and Candace Leebrick
 Aug. 7 Allen and Pat Nease
 Aug. 10 Greg and Marie Presser
 Aug. 12 David and Suzanne Grossman
 Aug. 21 Ted and Anda Gagnet
 Chris and Elizabeth Stamps
 Aug. 22 Jim and Ursula Hixson
 Aug. 24 Tim and Nancy Pride



There are so many families in our community struggling with hunger during this time.



Please bring your non-perishable food items and place them in the cart in the church foyer.

July 24, 2020
Charlotte Battin's Funeral Service

Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for August 2020

Aug. 2	Aug. 9	Aug. 16	Aug. 23	Aug. 30
Altar Guild: Nancy Breland, Victoria Williams, Rhonda Miller	Altar Guild: Mary Bonham, Lisa McLendon, Marla Churchill	Altar Guild: Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles, Marla Churchill	Altar Guild: Tim and Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga, David Burris	Altar Guild: Nancy Connolly, Gene and Kathleen Wicker
Ushers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Max and Joyce Dannecker	Ushers 8:00 am: Jim Hixson and Parker McClellan 10:30 am: John Thompson and Chris	Ushers 8:00 am: Bert Churchill and Jerry Darnell 10:30 am: Charles and Mary Bonham	Ushers 8:00 am: Tim Phillips and Dawn Johnson 10:30 am: Linda Weller and Lori	Ushers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Russell and Beth Brock
Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters
NOT ACTIVE DURING PANDEMIC				
Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Gene and Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: Scott Clemons	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Theresa Townsend and Inge Churchill 10:30 am: Joyce Dannecker	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Theresa Townsend and Joanne MacPhee 10:30 am: Lisa McLendon	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Brian Leebrick	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Theresa Townsend and Inge Churchill 10:30 am: Edyth Brown
Acolytes	Acolytes	Acolytes	Acolytes	Acolytes
NOT ACTIVE DURING PANDEMIC				
Lector at 10:30 am Jenny Collier	Lector at 10:30 am Rich Doran	Lector at 10:30 am Mike Harding	Lector at 10:30 am Beverly McDaniel	Lector at 10:30 am Ivan Pereira
Tablecloth Ministry:	Tablecloth Ministry:	Tablecloth Ministry:	Tablecloth Ministry:	Tablecloth Ministry:
NOT ACTIVE DURING PANDEMIC				

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



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

Summer 2020 during Pandemic

<i>Sunday 8:00 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite I</i>
<i>9:15 a.m. -</i>	<i>Casual Holy Eucharist - Rite II</i>
<i>10:30 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite II</i>
<i>Wednesday 6:00 pm -</i>	<i>Mid-Week Manna online only</i>