



the NATIVITY Scene

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

October 2020
Volume 24, Issue 10



The Blessing of the Pets

October 7, 2020 at 6 pm
Church Pavilion

Bring your pets to our annual
St. Francis of Assisi Blessing of the Pets!
If your pet can attend, you can bring a photo!
Afterwards we will serve Pizza and hear a Preview of
what we will offer on Wednesday nights.
(This service will also be streaming live on Facebook.)

Children's Ministry October 2020
by *Beverly McDaniel*

Welcome back to our children who are ready to resume Children's Time with Fr. Steve or Father Tom at the beginning of the 10:30 service, who want to attend Children's Church, who are eager to come for Wonderful Wednesdays with Club 456, some Godly Play, and the cleanest nursery ever. It is apparent to everyone who worships with us, our parishioners and our visitors as well, that Holy Nativity is a church that welcomes and cherishes our children. We take very seriously our responsibility to protect our children and their families, therefore we have adjusted the Children's Ministry programs according to the counsel of the Bay County Health Department and the Florida Department of Health, both of which recommended following the protocol published by the CDC. Please help us and the children adhere to these safeguards.

For children attending school, wearing masks seems to be routine. They will need to wear them on Sunday when they go up for Children's Time and also for Children's Church which will be held in the Godly Play room or spread into Battin Hall if necessary for social distancing. The children, 3rd grade and below, will gather, masked, in Kids' Kingdom for stories and activities drawn from the lectionary using the Children's Bulletins you may have seen that match the gospel that is read in church. See if you can make a connection with what you heard and your child's lesson.

Kaew Sumpton and I have been worried about the nursery staffing and training in protocol standards for our wonderful nursery volunteers, then I received a phone call and an answered prayer for Kaew and me. Emily Brock, known to most of you from growing up in this church and also working in the nursery while in high school, has graduated early from college and is back at home beginning graduate school with on-line classes. She is great for this job in this situation. But do not go anywhere, beloved volunteers Sandy Ciccarelli, Kathy Brust, Katie Wattenbarger, and Teresa Durgan,

we will need you soon.

Sign-in for the nursery will be at the door closer to Kids' Kingdom to avoid congestion and with some screening questions and possibly non-contact temp checks. You can be confident that your little one will be in good hands which have been sanitizing toys, sorting toys for weekly rotation, moving out furniture, minimizing soft surfaces, and scrubbing rubber floor mats. To keep this space as hygienic as possible, we cannot let the older children come in the nursery to play anymore, at least while we are under the pandemic threat. Please explain to them that only little children, three and under, are allowed in the nursery for now.

Wonderful Wednesdays will reopen with The Blessing of the Pets at 6:00, October 7th in the Smith Pavilion with masks and social distancing for humans. There will not be programs for children or adults that evening, but the nursery will be open for infants and toddlers only. We do invite you to peep in; just please don't touch the toys. Children's programs resume on the following Wednesday from 6:30 – 7:30 after the 5:30 service and dinner. The nursery will be open for infants and toddlers. Holly Melzer will again lead the now expanded Club 456, who will meet, wearing their masks, in the two-story building in the room upstairs that they were working to decorate but never got to enjoy. Kindergarten and elementary programs are being designed and implemented according to attendance numbers and CDC recommendations. We are hoping to be able to offer Godly Play on Wednesdays at least twice a month. I will be calling on many of you to teach or assist or substitute or just stand-by to ensure we can adhere to proper procedures. This may be tedious, but we will grow accustomed to it, just as the children and their teachers are doing at school. Over everything, we love our children, and we will do whatever it takes to protect them and their families so that we can be together again at our church.

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, please call or text (850-832-8324), or email me (bmcdaniel@holy-nativity.org). I welcome and appreciate your ideas.

Adult Christian Education - Father Tom

Friends and neighbors! Every day, every step is blazing the new and unexplored, and everything is subject to trial and improvement. Our adult Sunday School class will start on Sunday, October 4, at 9:15, between services, in the parish Library. Again: down the yellowing brick road to the single story building, the double doors. Honoring covid19 guidelines, our room will be rearranged slightly, with chairs set for social distancing. There will be a Keurig coffee machine and some sort of sweet snack!

Calling on precedent, let's plan for our study to center on the lectionary Bible lessons for the Sunday. We'll have new handouts each week, usually the day's worship bulletin. Bring your Bible if you want to, a study bible is helpful.

I have already invited folks on our Sunday School email list to let me know by email twellerpc@gmail.com if they do plan to come to our first session, so that we'll have the right number of chairs set up and handouts ready. Currently it looks as if we may begin with half a dozen or so in our new class! Down from twenty or so in the old season, but we are planning also to stream the class live, and Madge will have info about that elsewhere in this newsletter. Anyone who's not on the class email list is invited to email me if you'd like to come. Our class has always been fun and a great experience.

Please plan to wear a facemask as the new routine. We'll have extra masks there.

For anyone who doesn't have a study Bible, you are welcome to take one from our bookcase, they haven't been touched since last winter, and you may make it your own, take it home or mark it with your name and keep it in the classroom.

As I say, the way is uncharted, but it will be wonderful to have class again. Love to all!

Tom+

Not ready to return to Adult Sunday School?

We will be live streaming Fr. Tom's Sunday School Class on Facebook at 9:15 am.
Go directly to Holy Nativity's Facebook page or you can go to www.holy-nativity.org/echurch and click on the "view services" tab.

“In person” Worship!
8:00 am: Holy Eucharist Rite One
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.

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

Masks are required entering and exiting the church and coming forward for communion. Masks are also required for children during Children's Time and Children's Chapel.

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.



**Making our Church
Safe for All**

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hurricane Fund: If you would like to donate toward helping the victims of Hurricane Laura and our fellow churches in our diocese effected by Hurricane Sally, please make your check out to Holy Nativity Episcopal Church and note it's for the Hurricane fund.

Check out our Lay Ministry displays! Sign up for a ministry! Soon we hope that all ministries will be active again.

Food Bank Donations: There are so many families on 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.

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 Offerings:

Sunday 9:15 am Adult Sunday School

Sunday 10:30 am service

Wednesday 5:30 pm service (Pet Blessing is at 6 pm)

You can go directly to our Facebook page or go to www.holy-nativity.org/echurch and click on the "view live services" tab. Look for reminder's in your email and on Facebook.



- Oct. 1 Edwin Stewart
- Oct. 2 Ina Joy Conrad
- Oct. 4 Tom Moore, Alex Moore
- Oct. 6 Robert Davis
- Oct. 8 Ursula Hixson, Lydia San Juan
- Oct. 10 Sherry Davis
- Oct. 11 Ashley Ice, Chris Mills, Edward San Juan, Julian Scott
- Oct. 13 Lance Sheffield, Jeff Watson, Michael Watts
- Oct. 14 Candace Leebrick, Jani Smith
- Oct. 16 Katy Bradford, Gigi Carroll, Emmarie Duncan, Elizabet Stamps
- Oct. 18 Beverly McDaniel, Wayland Patterson
- Oct. 19 Krissy Oenbrink, Matthew Ward
- Oct. 21 Matthew Bruhn, Mary-Elise Morrow, Margaret Young
- Oct. 22 Alice Allen, Mary Shepard Bonham, Sharon Carroll
- Oct. 25 Ben Bradford, Gerry Clemons, Jennifer Josten
- Oct. 26 Matheson Crelling, Hamilton Henneberg, Joshua Ice
- Oct. 27 Diego Pereira, Tyler Shores
- Oct. 28 Abigail Russell
- Oct. 29 Dan Finley, Katherine McClain, Theresa Townsend
- Oct. 30 Emily Brock, Mark Godwin, Chuck Knowles
- Oct. 31 Lydia Lathrop, Jack Thompson

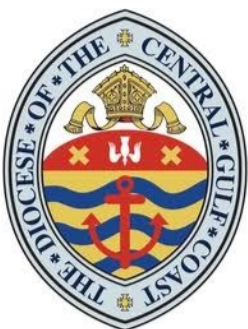


- Oct. 7 Matthew and Liz Ward
- Oct. 8 Michael and Cynthia Fuller
- Oct. 9 Tommy and Jewell Harding
Austin and Janae Syfrett
- Oct. 13 Matt and Casey Cole
- Oct. 14 Jimmy and Carol Calton
- Oct. 15 Bill and Katy Bradford
- Oct. 20 Scott and Katie Wattenbarger
- Oct. 24 Carol and Anne Harris
- Oct. 25 Conway and Nancy Reeder

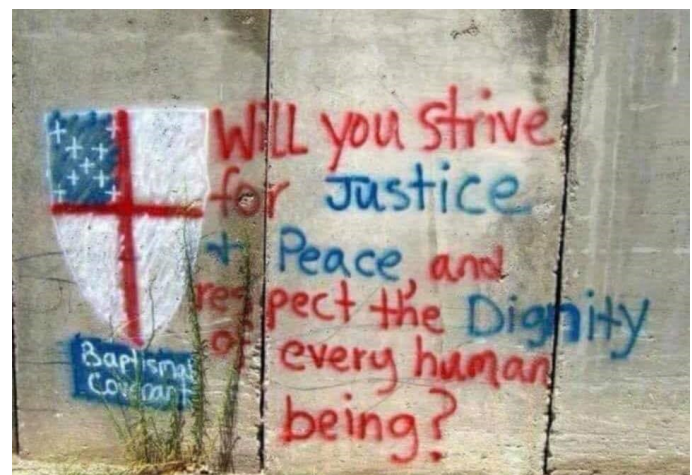
There are so many families in our community struggling with hunger during this time.



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



Go to www.diocgc.org to find out what's happening in the our diocese!



Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for October 2020

Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	Oct. 25
Altar Guild: Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles, Inge Churchill	Altar Guild: Tim and Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga, David Burris	Altar Guild: Nancy Connolly and Inge Churchill	Altar Guild: Max and Joyce Dannecker, Gene and Kathleen Wicker
Ushers 8:00 am: Jim Hixson and Parker McClellan 10:30 am: Linda Weller and Lori Bates	Ushers 8:00 am: Bert Churchill and Jerry Darnell 10:30 am: Russell and Beth Brock	Ushers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: John Hutt and Wes Eberhard	Ushers 8:00 am: Tim Phillips and Dawn Johnson 10:30 am: Max and Joyce Dannecker
Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters
NOT ACTIVE DURING PANDEMIC			
Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Gene Wicker 10:30 am: Joyce Dannecker	Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: Scott Clemons	Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Dan Johnson 10:30 am: Kelly Roberson	Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Lisa McLendon
Acolytes for 10:30 Ginny Leebrick	Acolytes for 10:30 Kate Leebrick	Acolytes for 10:30 Beka Leebrick	Acolytes for 10:30 Lauren Berry
Lector at 10:30 am Mike Harding	Lector at 10:30 am Holly Melzer	Lector at 10:30 am Tom Ledman	Lector at 10:30 am Michael Lovchuk
Tablecloth Ministry:	Tablecloth Ministry:	Tablecloth Ministry:	Tablecloth Ministry:
NOT ACTIVE DURING PANDEMIC			

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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
Ian Crelling 16-20
Tiffany Ennis 16-20
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 16-20
Gene Wicker 20-23

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite I
9:15 a.m. - Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Wednesday 5:30 pm - five-thirty casual service followed by supper and programs
