



the NATIVITY Scene

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

April 2023
Volume 27, Issue 4

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE 2023



- Apr 2** **Palm Sunday** (*service begins in the courtyard*)
8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite One
9:15 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two with Children's Chapel
 (also live-streamed on Facebook)
- Apr 3-5** **Morning Prayer** at 7:30 am
Join us in the church Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning for Morning Prayer. A great way to start your day during Holy Week.
- Apr 5** **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.
- Apr 6** **Maundy Thursday Service** at 6:00 pm
(also live-streamed on Facebook)
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.
- Apr 7** **Good Friday** Service at 12 noon (also live-streamed on Facebook)
This is a solemn service to recall Christ's crucifixion. Communion will be offered from reserved sacrament.
- Apr 9** **Easter Sunday**
8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite One
9:15 am Easter Brunch (Bring your favorite Easter Brunch Dish!)
9:30 am Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two (Live on Facebook)

**Join us for the
Steak and Bake to
benefit Wilmer Hall!
April 30, 2023
Sunday at 5:00 pm**



Hot-off-the-grill hand-cut steaks, baked potatoes, and fixin's that you'd expect. Come on out to benefit a great cause, enjoy a great meal, and spend some quality time with your family and friends.

Sign up sheets are on the Welcome Table.

Cost is only \$25/adult and \$10/child's meal; checks payable to HNEC (note on your check "Wilmer Hall Steak and Bake"). You can also pay online through our website, www.holy-nativity.org. Click the "other" tab and note it's for the Steak and Bake.

The deadline to sign-up is Sunday, April 16!!

CORONATION CELEBRATION TEA



On May 6, 2023, please join us in Battin Hall for Holy Nativity Episcopal Church's "Coronation Celebration Tea." We will be celebrating the royal coronation of British King Charles III (Windsor-Mountbatten) which will take place at Westminster Abbey in London. Although the viewing time is not yet available, our tea is planned for 2 pm. Join us for tea, light food and sweets while celebrating the new king and head of the Church of England.

We are looking for twelve table-hosts and volunteers to provide tea sandwiches, scones, and sweets. Tea will be provided. Table Hosts will be responsible for decorating their table along with being the table host and will need to pay \$20. The sign up sheets are in the church foyer. Look for the Coronation Tea table.

Reservations are \$20.00 per seat with 12-tables and seven-seats-per-table. All proceeds will go to charity. The deadline for payment is April 23rd. There are 3 ways you can make a payment.

Write a check and note "Coronation Tea" on your check.

Pay cash and note on your envelope "Coronation Tea"

Pay online through our website, www.holy-nativity.org. After clicking the online giving tab, click on "other" or scan this QR code to take you there.



For additional info, contact Nancy Roupp at cavaliergirls@gmail.com or 850-693-5825.

Children's Ministry

April 2023

By Beverly McDaniel



It is a joy to see the children at Holy Nativity preparing for Easter during Lent this year. Liz Ward is teaching Godly Play, and Leigh Gladden has selected great Easter music and is encouraging even the youngest children to sing. The Palm Sunday service opens in the courtyard at 10:30 so please have the children in Battin Hall at 10:00 so that we can practice with the percussion instruments and distribute palm fronds to wave. Following the worship service, please plan to stay for sprucing up for Easter. We need help in the nursery and Kids' Kingdom. Bring cleaning cloths, and we'll order pizza for lunch. Also remember to bring the pre-filled eggs or bags of candy (no gum or peanuts) for the hunt on Easter Sunday. We will be asking some of you (assigning?) to help the children show kindness, respect, and love for one another. We are celebrating the resurrection of the one who gave us that rule. Thanks Be to God!

For Holy Week, the nursery will be staffed for Stations of the Cross, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday services. Please call me (850-832-8324) with your questions or to volunteer. You may leave messages on this phone. Thank you for making this a meaningful and memorable time for our children to join in celebrating our Risen Lord. He is Risen indeed!

An Update from the Mary Martha Circle

2022 was a busy and rewarding year for the Mary Martha Ministry! The group, which meets monthly for fellowship and prayer, selected the Woman's Mission as its community outreach project this past year, and each quarter the ladies personally donated various supplies to the Mission, based on their specific needs. Some months it was cleaning supplies, others personal hygienic products and treats. In December, with input from Mission staff, each member undertook to buy gifts for the 13 children living at the Home over the holidays.

Closer to home, the Circle continued as a team, to serve the Backpack Buddy Ministry, and in November took on the task of decorating the Church Christmas tree.

But the biggest news of all in 2022 was the initiation of a new member!! We are delighted to welcome Cheryl Duffey (nee Laughter) to the Ministry. Cheryl has already begun her journey as 'an inquirer', studying the teachings of the 'St. Benedict's Toolbox'. And we look forward to celebrating Cheryl's installation with the broader Church congregation later this summer.

The Mary Martha Circle is the local chapter of the The Episcopal Community - a group of Episcopal women who are committed to living out our baptismal covenants. Using the Rule of St. Benedict as a guide, we nurture and support each other as we walk our spiritual journeys. We are a welcoming, loving fellowship which offers Episcopal women a unique opportunity for personal spiritual growth while serving our church and all of God's people.

EASTER IS NEARLY HERE!!

If you haven't been or it has been awhile since you attended a Wednesday night please come along. Youth Group is a space where students can meet and chat with others from different school and friend groups. This is a great opportunity for networks outside of school friends.



LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE A STUDENT INTERESTED IN COMING TO YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Youth Confirmation Classes start the 6th March, this will be an informal information session and provide some insight into the process. Just let myself or the church office know if you want to attend.

Dates: April 16th and 30th and the makeup class will be May 7th.

Classes Sunday 9:30 am

Instructed Eucharist with Fr Steve, DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

Palm Sunday Spring Spruce-up

Stay after the 10:30am Palm Sunday Service to help spruce-up the church grounds for Easter!! Flyers will be posted and all helpers are appreciated!

Trivia Night: We are planning a church wide trivia night and other fun events hosted by the youth group.

Blessing of the Car Keys! Do you have a new driver in your family? As a church we would like to offer a blessing of the car keys to protect new drivers and all who travel with them. Please let the church office know.

Livestream Assistant

Everyone enjoys the livestream services, but help is needed maybe once a month. Training provided and recognition in the weekly bulletin!

Ideas for youth ministry?

Do you have an idea for youth ministry or a passion to lead an activity? Let us know.

Hope to see you over the next few weeks!

A.J. Jeffery, Youth Director

850-319-1953/ aussie_aj@holy-nativity.org

PALM SUNDAY SPRUCE UP!

11:30 – 2:00 Sunday, April 2nd

HELP TO TIDY AND BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH GROUNDS
READY FOR EASTER!

Window Cleaning, Pine Straw, Pressure Washing,
Flower Planting, Playground Clean-Up

Refreshments Provided!



Father Tom - - the Bishop is coming, the Bishop is coming!

“Episcopal” is a New Testament Greek word that means overseer or “bishop” and we are called The Episcopal Church because the chief pastoral and administrative leadership in our church is through clergy ordained as bishops, who head geographical areas called “dioceses”. Holy Nativity Episcopal Church is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, with the bishop’s headquarters office in Pensacola. It’s the custom of the church for the bishop to come to each parish congregation each year for an annual pastoral visit, which includes time with the congregation, checking over official records including the attendance record book and the Parish Register of members and services, and meeting with clergy and vestry. The main event of this “Episcopal visit” is usually a worship service that includes the Rite of Confirmation. Here’s what the Catechism says about that:

Q. What is Confirmation?

A. Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.

Q. What is required of those to be confirmed?

A. It is required of those to be confirmed that they have been baptized, are sufficiently instructed in the Christian Faith, are penitent for their sins, and are ready to affirm their confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

On our parish calendar for 2023, coming up this Spring on Sunday, May 21st, Holy Nativity will have our annual episcopal visit, with service of Confirmation for members who would like to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church by the bishop. Each year before the bishop comes, we have an “Inquirers’ Class” or “Confirmation Class” (which we like to call Episcopal-101), to offer instruction in the Christian Faith, and about Holy Nativity and the Episcopal Church as our branch of the Body of Christ.

The class is offered by Father Tom during the hour between services, 9:15 to 10:15. This year we plan two one-hour sessions, Sunday April 16 and Sunday April 30, with a “makeup session” available on Sunday May 7 for anyone who misses one of the two sessions. This is our first announcement and invitation for anyone considering being confirmed to list your interest with Madge Smith in the parish office (850-747-4000 or madge@holy-nativity.org).

Everyone is invited, by the way! Not only folks interested in being confirmed, but anyone who would like to know more, or enjoy a refresher course, about the Episcopal Church.

Tom Weller+

Save the Date!

Mother’s Day is May 14th!
Along with celebrating our mothers, we will honor our graduates and our acolytes.
Look for more information soon.

Bishop’s Visit on May 21st

Bishop George Young will be visiting us on May 21st (Bishop Russell Kendrick will be on sabbatical) for our yearly visit. We will celebrate his visit and our confirmands with a brunch at 9:15 am. Please bring your favorite brunch food!

Birthdays

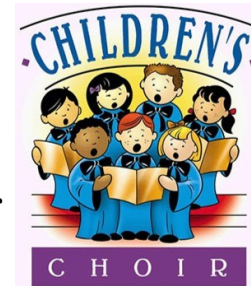
Apr. 2 Duncan Scott, Chris Stamps
 Apr. 3 Avery Wattenbarger
 Apr. 4 Alyssa Shores
 Apr. 5 Mac Bonham, Mason Wattenbarger
 Apr. 9 Anna McCord
 Apr. 10 Sarah Dick
 Apr. 11 Dean Gailfoil
 Apr. 13 Parker McClellan
 Apr. 16 Rich Doran, Wylie Roupp
 Apr. 19 Bethany Nowak, Esteban Pereira
 Apr. 20 Ben Lee
 Apr. 21 Patrick Casady, Bowen Steiner
 Apr. 22 Henry Breland, Steve McClain,
 Joseph Parell, Stephanie Pettis,
 Joseph Thompson, James
 Thompson
 Apr. 23 Lilly Grace Casady, Mandy Lark,
 Wyatt Syfrett
 Apr. 25 Ella Cole, Robert Dozar
 Apr. 26 Adam Cantrell
 Apr. 27 Faith Smith
 Apr. 28 Abram Jeffery
 Apr. 29 Bailey Melzer, Madge Smith
 Apr. 30 Alvin Peters

The Church Calendar is always
 on the homepage of the
 church's website.
www.holy-nativity.org

Anniversaries

Apr. 8 Joseph and Cristina Jansenius
 Apr. 9 David and Madge Smith
 Apr. 16 Max and Joyce Dannecker
 Paul and Phyllis Hunt
 Apr. 17 Chad and Sunny Barton
 Apr. 20 Jim and Kelly Roberson
 Apr. 21 Chris and Kathy Mills
 Hercules and Mary Ellen Pettis
 Apr. 22 Dan and Laura Johnson
 Apr. 30 Jeff and Kate Watson

The Children's
 Choir will be
 signing Easter
 morning and if
 you would like for
 your child to
 participate, they
 need to come to
 rehearsal during Children's
 Church on April 2nd.



Thank you,
 Leigh Gladden
 Children's Choir Director

BACKPACK BUDDIES NEWS

Wow! The school year is winding down
 quickly! We will have one more major stock-
 ing event (date to be announced) along with-
 out regular weekly packing and then a well
 deserved break for summer.

Consider joining us for one or more of these
 events! Is fun, it's quick and most of all it is
 service to our Buddies.

April 3-6 TEAM NINA (Thursday delivery)
 April 10-14 TEAM TREY
 April 17-21 TEAM DEPT OF YOUTH
 April 24-28 TEAM MARY MARTHA CIRCLE
 May 1-5 TEAM NINA
 May 8-12 TEAM SCOTT
 May 15-19 TEAM TREY
 May 22-24 TEAM MARY MARTHA CIRCLE
 (Wednesday delivery)
 Join our e-mail list for information, questions, or
 suggestions! backpackbuddieshne@gmail.com

Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for April 2023

April 2 Palm	April 9 Easter	April 16	April 23	April 30
Altar Guild: Marla Churchill, Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles	Altar Guild: Marla Churchill, Mary Bonham, Lisa McLendon	Altar Guild: Dan and Robin Finley, Joanne MacPhee, Nancy Roupp, Tricia Berry	Altar Guild: Gene and Kathleen Wicker, Joyce Dannecker, Melanie Cox	Altar Guild: Joanne MacPhee, Kaew Sumpton, Alice Allen
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: Joyce Dannecker, Al Tremaine, Russell and Beth Brock	Ushers 8:00 am: Tim Phillips and Tim Pride 10:30 am: John Hutt and Trey Hutt	Ushers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Ian Crelling and Daniel Melzer	Ushers 8:00 am: Jim Hixson and Parker McClellan 10:30 am: John Thompson and Chris Mills
Greeters 8:00 am: Ursula Hixson 10:30 am: Michael Fuller	Greeters 8:00 am: Marla Churchill 10:30 am: Jenny Collier	Greeters 8:00 am: Monica Phillips 10:30 am: Lyn Weick	Greeters 8:00 am: Phyllis Hunt 10:30 am: Jani Smith	Greeters 8:00 am: Ursula Hixson 10:30 am: Michael Fuller
Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Theresa Townsend and Joanne MacPhee 10:30 am: Nancy Breland and Scott Clemons	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Brian Leebrick and Lisa McLendon	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Gene and Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: Lisa McLendon and TBA	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Theresa Townsend and Joanne MacPhee 10:30 am: Joe Cic- carelli and Kelly Roberson	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Nancy Breland and Ian Crelling
Acolytes for 10:30 Kate Leebrick, Grady and Finn Oenbrink, Scarlet Jernigan	Acolytes for 10:30 Brody Fuller, Nico- las and Esteban Pe- reira, Wyatt Syfrett, Tyler Shores	Acolytes for 10:30 Ashtyn Williams, Lauren and Carson Berry, Matheson Crelling	Acolytes for 10:30 Kate Leebrick, Grady and Finn Oenbrink, Charlotte Eberhard	Acolytes for 10:30 Nicolas Pereira, Jackson and Laney Lee, Scarlet Jernigan
Lector at 10:30 am Ivan Pereria	Lector at 10:30 am TBA	Lector at 10:30 am Michael Lovchuk	Lector at 10:30 am Jenny Collier	Lector at 10:30 am Rich Doran

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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/Video Production- AJ Jeffery
Director of Music - John Durgan
Administrative Assistant - Madge Smith
Children's CE Director - Beverly McDaniel
Children's Choir Director - Leigh Gladden
Church Bookkeeper – Kathy Mills
Sexton - Deana Gailfoil
Nursery Attendant - Kaew Sumpton

THE VESTRY

Fr. Steve Bates - Rector
Tricia Berry 2023
Beth Brock 2026
Joe Ciccarelli 2024
Anna Eberhard 2024
Mark Godwin - Treasurer
Jim Hixson 2026
John Hutt 2024

Terry Jangula 2026 Jr. Warden
Joanne MacPhee 2023
Ivan Pereira 2022 Sr. Warden
Karen Shores 2023
Madge Smith - Clerk
John Thompson 2024
Gene Wicker 2023

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 with Children's Chapel

Wednesday 5:30 pm - (Sept.-May) five-thirty casual service followed by supper and programs
