



the NATIVITY *Scene*

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

March 2023
Volume 27, Issue 3

Lenten Program 2023

The Way of Love in Lent

Beginning March 1st

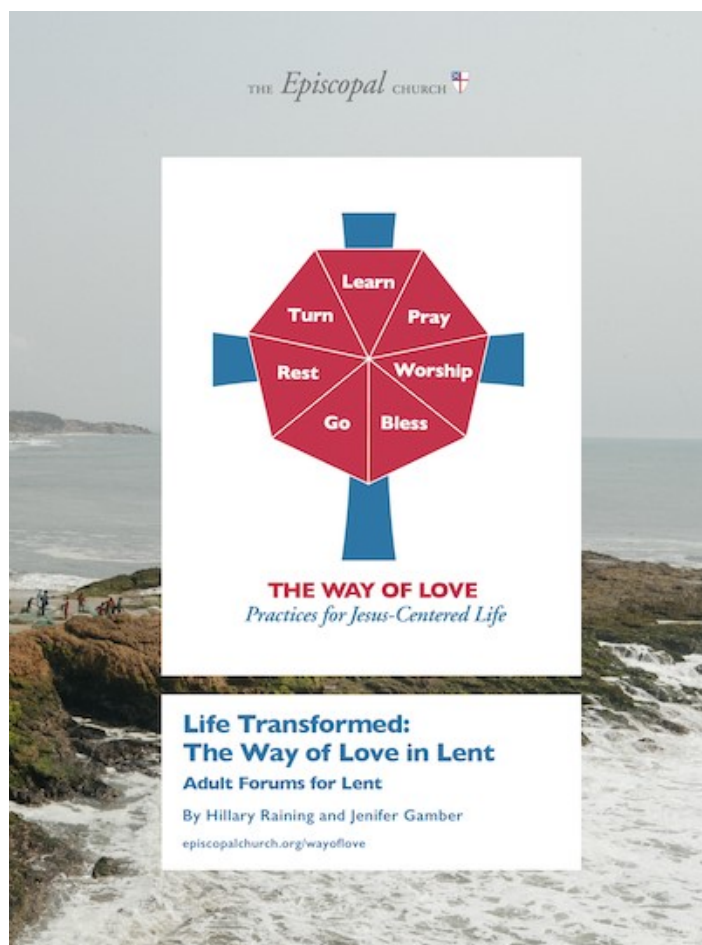
Worship • 5:30

Soup Supper • 6:00

Program • 6:30

This Lent, you are invited to walk with Jesus in his Way of Love and into the experience of transformed life. Utilizing brief videos and discussion questions we will examine the 7 components of the Way of Love program developed by our Presiding Bishop.

Note: There will be no Wednesday program on March 15th due to Spring Break.



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
 (Live 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 (Live 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 (Live 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)
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Children's Ministry

March 2023

By Beverly McDaniel

Thanks go to all of you who voted for your favorite team in the Super Bowl game with cans of soup, or money, or even a check for \$100.00. Thank you very much! Your donations allow the children at our church to participate in and learn about Backpack Buddies, a major service project for Holy Nativity. They can relate to our Souper Bowl on several levels...balloons, competition, and (my favorite) word play. Almost every year someone says, "Oh, I get it".

Parents and other adults usually help the children work into strong support of service to others as clear evidence of following Jesus's examples. This Christmas, Holly and Florencia took Club 456'ers shopping to find gifts for children who would not have much for Christmas this year. They also filled Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes helping Operation Christmas Child provide for children who never have much for Christmas.

In Youth Group, AJ plans activities and community service programs that require effort and participation from the "big kids". Sometimes it is only an attitude or an act of kindness, but the kids are recognizing opportunities for service. It is a joy to see them setting examples for the younger children.

During Lent, Liz Ward is presenting Godly Play's "The Faces of Easter" on Wednesday Evenings and in Children's Church every other Sunday. On the alternate Sundays, Leigh Gladden is singing with the children, teaching them special music for Easter...and of course, "Little Grey Donkey" for Palm Sunday.

Please help us get ready for the Holy Nativity Easter Egg Hunt. Some pretty plastic eggs have arrived already. Please bring candy (no gum please) or trinkets for stuffing the eggs to the church on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings in March, except March 15th, spring break. We will celebrate our Risen Lord, saying, "He is risen...The Lord is risen indeed." Then we can open our Alle...ia cups and say "ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA"!

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 will be available soon!

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!!

The March is on! Cameras, Confirmation classes and Clean-ups!!

As we rapidly move forward through another season, Lent is upon us! At the bottom of this page is a link and QR code to a YouTube video that is guiding the Department of Youth this Lenten season to adopt something rather than give something up. Prayer!

**HELP HELP HELP HELP
LIVESTREAM ASSISTANCE**

I will be training youth to operate the church livestream camera system, so if you want to learn just let me know or visit during Wednesday night or Sunday 10:30 services.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Youth Confirmation Classes start the April 16th, 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: Classes will be Sunday at 9:30 am
April 16th and 30th with a makeup class on May 7th.

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!

UNO tournament fun and competition! Thank-you to all those who participated in the first HNEC UNO Tournament. We will be hosting more game nights so keep a look out for the flyers.

1st Place Caleb Jeffery
2nd Place Will Melzer
3rd Place Everybody else

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

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.

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 Wednesdays.

[The Daily Replay](#)

A.J. Jeffery, Youth Director
850-319-1953/ aussie_aj@holy-nativity.org



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 they 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+

BACKPACK BUDDY NEWS

March is a great time to add a little something extra to your donation or check for Backpack Buddies! In addition to our regular weekend bags, we will be packing an additional bag for Spring Break week. These bags will include items like a pound jar of peanut butter and a box of graham crackers as well as other items to provide for the week that they are not at school.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? More information? Contact us at backpackbuddieshnes@gmail.com



Birthdays

Mar. 5 Inge Churchill, Jerry Darnell
 Mar. 8 Terrell Hartzog
 Mar. 9 Cassie Casady, Alexander Lovchuk
 Mar. 10 Andrew Collier, Cole Jansenius, William Lark
 Mar. 12 Oliver Provencher
 Mar. 14 Russell Brock, Noah Patterson
 Mar. 19 Boyd Faison
 Mar. 21 Laney Lee
 Mar. 23 Ryan Cox
 Mar. 24 Nancy Breland, Georgie Hartzog, Scarlett Jernigan
 Mar. 25 Michael Hauser
 Mar. 26 Teresa Durgan
 Mar. 27 Anda Gagnet, Paul Hunt, Nicolas Pereira
 Mar. 28 George McInnis

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



Anniversaries

Mar. 4 David and Natasha Lithway
 Mar. 8 Jerry and Catherine Shores
 Mar. 11 Nathan and Bethany Nowak
 Mar. 15 Jimmy and Sue White
 Mar. 22 Gene and Kathleen Wicker
 Mar. 23 Brent and Lori Faison
 Mar. 27 Bob and Lisa McLendon

Reflections on a Ministry: Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Join us for this special ecumenical event featuring the life and ministry of Archbishop Desmond Tutu on Sunday, March 26, at 4pm in the First Methodist Church Community Life Center.

Dinner will be provided so registration is a must! Participating congregations are Family of God Baptist Church, First Methodist, Holy Nativity Episcopal Church, and Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.

Sign up is no later than Monday, March 20th. Call the church office, 747-4000 to make reservations.



Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for March 2023

March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
Altar Guild: Joanne MacPhee, Joyce Dannecker, Melanie Cox	Altar Guild: Gene and Kathleen Wicker, Kaew Sumpton, Alice Allen	Altar Guild: Rhonda Miller, Victoria Williams, Nancy Breland, Boopie McInnis	Altar Guild: Tim and Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga and David Burris, Katy Bradford
Ushers 8:00 am: Jim Hixson and Parker McClellan 10:30 am: John Hutt and Trey Hutt	Ushers 8:00 am: Bert Churchill and Jerry Darnell 10:30 am: Ian Crelling and Daniel Melzer	Ushers 8:00 am: Tim Phillips and Tim Pride 10:30 am: John Thompson and Chris Mills	Ushers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Charles and Mary Bonham
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
Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Theresa Townsend and Joanne MacPhee 10:30 am: Brian Leebrick and Joyce Dannecker	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Gene and Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: Scott Clemons and Kelly Roberson	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Nancy Breland and Ian Crelling	Chalice Bearers 8:00 am: Gene and Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: George McInnis and Joe Ciccarelli
Acolytes for 10:30 Kate Leebrick, Bailey and Will Melzer, Scarlet Jernigan	Acolytes for 10:30 Brody Fuller, John, Alex, and Tom Moore	Acolytes for 10:30 Tyler Shores, Isaac and Evan Ward, Wyatt Syfrett	Acolytes for 10:30 Ashtyn Williams, Grady and Finn Oenbrink, Charlotte Eberhard
Lector at 10:30 am Daniel Melzer	Lector at 10:30 am Ivan Periera	Lector at 10:30 am Michael Lovchuk	Lector at 10:30 am Tom Ledman

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church
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(850) 747-4000



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
Joanne MacPhee 2023
Ivan Pereira 2022
Karen Shores 2023
Madge Smith - Clerk
John Thompson 2024
Gene Wicker 2023

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

<i>Sunday 8:00 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite I</i>
<i>9:15 a.m. -</i>	<i>Adult Sunday School</i>
<i>10:30 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite II with</i>
	<i>Children's Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday 5:30 pm -</i>	<i>(Sept.-May) five-thirty casual</i>
	<i>service followed by supper and</i>
	<i>programs</i>