



Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, March 31, 2023

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

My Baptist cousin and Holy Week

My second cousin, Ellen, lived down the street from us in our California suburb. She was a dedicated and devout member of a Southern Baptist church. When she asked one year what our family was doing around Easter, my parents told her we would be in church on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Well, they might as well have been speaking in Mandarin Chinese. Ellen was utterly baffled by this response.

Her experience of church was this: every Sunday focused on a new theme created by the minister. There was a Christmas Eve service and an Easter Day service: and that was it. No Advent, No Epiphany, No Shrove Tuesday, No Ash Wednesday, No Palm Sunday, No Good Friday ... What this created was a “happy church” in which there was no communal experience of the last days of Jesus: no last supper, no betrayal, no crucifixion and its inevitable death at the hands of empire: only resurrection, only sunshine.

Our keeping of the Three Great Days is the center of Christian faith and life: in all its honesty about fear of death, anxiety, lost relationships, friendships that are tested but remain solid, and the importance of community - of being with others - as we navigate life’s wonderful and not so wonderful passages.

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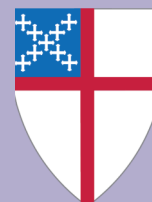
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Upcoming Events

- Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday Rehearsal, April 1
- Palm Sunday, April 2
Easter Vigil Rehearsal
- CSLT Meeting, April 3
- Choir Rehearsal, April 4
- Maundy Thursday, April 6
- Good Friday, April 7
- Holy Saturday, April 8
- Easter, April 9
- Secular Book Club, Choir Rehearsal, April 13
- Vestry Meeting, April 18



SCAN ME



We strongly encourage masking during worship, mindful that we worship among people who need added protection. Masking not only protects us but also our neighbors.

NEED HELP??

To add to our prayer list, email the Parish Administrator. If submitting a name other than your own, please ask permission from that person first. Names remain on the list for **four weeks**, unless renewed by the one who submitted them.

In a **pastoral emergency**, please contact Fr. Torvend.

Parish Help Team: Errands run, groceries, meals provided, medication pickup, vaccination transportation, etc., contact Deacon Gen Grewell or call her cellphone at 360.280.5593. You may speak with a deacon on Sunday at the **10:30am Holy Eucharist**.

Christ Church Prayer List

Our baptismal commitment calls us to pray for the world and the needs of our community, including those who are experiencing any sort of trouble, illness, or grief.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Members and Friends of our Community:

Betsy Buck; Al Buck; Liz Heath; Robert Reeves; Miri Hinds; Christina Amos; Dick Gregory; Bill Garriott; Stephen Behr; Christinna Olsson; Melissa Glick, Ginny Peterson; and Jim Pierson.

Those who have died in Christ, who holds us in life and death, and all who grieve for them: Morrie Stafford; and Jason Schroedel.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Christ Church, Anacortes • St. Paul, Bellingham

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma *Weekly* Newsletter

The Rev. Samuel Torvend, Priest for Worship, Adult Formation, and Pastoral Care

Deborah Hope Breneman, Editor/Design and Layout

The *Weekly* is a publication of Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma.

Please visit our website at Christchurchtacoma.org to connect to newsletter links and previous editions.

Christ Church Calendar

To submit an article to the *Christ Church Weekly*, contact the Parish Administrator.

Articles must be submitted by Tuesdays to be included in the Friday edition, and may be edited.

We never share your information outside the church family.

Land Acknowledgement We gather at 310 North K Street. Let us give thanks to the Creator for the Puyallup and Nisqually people on whose ancestral land this church and many of our homes stand. Their descendants live among us still. For their wise stewardship of the creation, we offer our gratitude. May we never forget that their land was taken by force and broken treaty.

Episcopal News Service • Episcopal Church on Facebook • Diocese of Olympia Bishop Rickel's Blog



Worship and Formation

Continued from page 1.

I studied with a professor who would frequently say, a bit tongue in cheek, “No cross, no crown.” What he meant by that was this: Christians who keep the Three Days in shared rituals enter a transformative experience as they allow the words, gestures, and rituals to enter their souls. This is a core spiritual practice. I encourage you to join us on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday as we celebrate our passover with the wounded and risen Christ, and as we welcome a new Christian into our midst through Holy Baptism.

this past Advent. It is an incredible joy to witness such a momentous thing in a culture that seems ambivalent if not skeptical concerning any kind of affiliation with spiritual community. Might you consider being present to welcome Savannah into this parish and its common life?



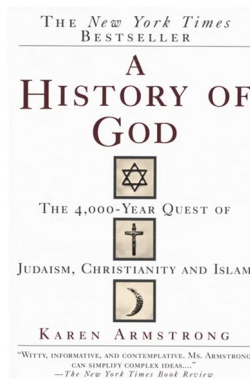
Worship 101

Third Annual Psalm-A-Rama Saturday, April 8

9:00am in the Chapel

Join members of the parish in the time-honored practice of holding vigil by praying the psalter. We begin in the Chapel following morning prayer at 9:00 AM. There is a 10-minute break every hour. Lunch is from 12:00-1:00 in Trinity Library. We anticipate being finished in the sanctuary around 4:00PM. Lunch and snacks provided. You are welcome to stay for a few minutes or for the entire transformative experience.

At the Easter Vigil on **Saturday, April 8, Savannah McClellan** will be baptized and anointed as one of Christ's own. Her sponsor is David Pierce who was confirmed by Bishop Melissa Skelton



Sunday, April 30

Monthly Reading Group

Meet at the home of King and Dee Schoenfeld to discuss chapters 7-11 of *A History of God* by Karen Armstrong. Newcomers are welcome!

Questions? Contact

[Don Johnson.](#)

Godly Play, our Children's Formation, is now every

Sunday through mid-June. Meet in the Narthex at 10:30 am to travel to Wells Hall together on Sundays.



The Three Days

The Three Great Days at Christ Church Parish

April 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday | The Institution of the Lord's Supper

The Holy Eucharist with foot washing, Holy Communion, and procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose in Trinity Chapel

Alexandre Guilmant, "Adoro devote" ("Humbly I Adore Thee")
Ola Gjeilo, "Ubi caritas" ("Where charity and love are found")
Anonymous, "A New Commandment"
Thomas Aquinas, "Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling"

April 7

Good Friday, Stations of the Cross in the church at 12:30 p.m.

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 7:30 p.m.

Sung Passion gospel, the Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion

Ormond Platter, "The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John,"
sung by the Christ Church Choral Scholars
Quirino Gasparini, "Adoramus te, Christe"
Venantius Fortunatus, "Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle"
Pal Gerhardt, "O sacred head, sore wounded"

April 8 at 8:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday | The Great Vigil of Easter

The Lighting of the New Fire, Blessing of the Paschal Candle, the Word of God,
Holy Baptism, and the First Holy Communion of Easter

Anonymous, The Exsultet | The Easter Proclamation
The Song of Moses, Anglican chant
John Arthur, "This is the feast of victory for our God"
Vidi Aquam, "I saw water flowing from the temple"
Jean Tisserand, "O sons and daughters, let us sing!"
Percy Dearmer, "Draw us in the Spirit's tether"
Cyril Alington, "Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!"
Jacques Lemmens, "Fanfare"

This month's dinner for the veteran residents at FOB Hope was a HUGE success. We decided to do a Mexican feast – I can still smell the aromas! The menu was King Ranch Chicken Casserole, Mexican street corn, refried beans with bacon and chorizo and Mexican cheese topping.

We cooked in our church kitchen after services on the 26th. It was a bit of holy chaos, preparing multiple recipes and sharing the space with the Coffee Hour crew (thank you!). We had new folks helping out, and others asking about future meals. Kitchens are such a wonderful place to congregate, laugh, and prepare food. Joy!

Then on Monday we delivered the meal. Since it is now still light out, and it is not so cold, we stayed around for a bit to socialize with the residents. They LOVED the dinner, especially the



Ciara Aylsworth, Nancy Gow Knudsen, Hector Arellano, Caroline Huckaby, and Ronn Johanson—just some of our wonderful kitchen crew!

Mexican street corn. And the beans (thanks to Hector!), and the casserole. Really, all of it. And we had plenty of choices for desserts. Thanks to all who provided bread, cookies, and pies.

Do you want to be part of our effort to feed these veterans in the future? There are many ways to help. Each month, we can use: 1 person to plan the meal and line up volunteers; 2-3 people to help cook. Sometimes the cooking is done at

home, and sometimes we cook in the church kitchen after services; or sometimes a bit of both; 2-4 people to deliver the meal to the Village and lay it out. In warmer weather, we'll stay around, serve the food and chat with the residents. In the colder weather when few people are hanging out in the mess tent, we just set up the food buffet style, chat for a bit, and leave.

In all cases, there are the awesome volunteers on our core team that you will work alongside. If you'd like to be involved, but none of these opportunities sound like a fit for you, then each month we will be asking for donations of desserts. Desserts should feed 6-8 people.

Each month there will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex, so you can join us once to try it out or become part of our core team. Up to you! ~**Deacon Donna Arellano**

Service

How many Episcopalians does it take to change a lightbulb?* Whatever the answer is, we are hoping for some help with changing a particularly **important** bulb—the one over the font in the church. If you have a few free moments and are unafraid of heights, please let us know! {We hope to do this asap, thank you!}



Looking for some fun exercise? Want to meet some new church neighbors? We have just the thing for you. We need to get the word out about our upcoming Easter Egg Hunt, and are hoping for some help handing out flyers this week and/or next. Just let us know if you are available, and thank you.



Come join us this Sunday in Wells Hall as we stuff Easter Eggs with goodies during the coffee hour. This goes quickly with just a few helpful folks and is loads of fun!



Tuesday, April 4, is the last day to turn in Easter Flowers Memorials and Thanksgiving requests. You can print out a form here, or just email the Parish Office. Extra forms will be in the Narthex on Sunday.



*It takes three: One to call an electrician, one to mix the drinks, and one to talk about how much they liked the old one.

Community

LENT + MADNESS

At the time of this writing, we are through the Sainly 16, and the Elate 8 have been determined. I'd like to offer an insight I learned about those saints who did not make it through to the Elate 8. By the time you are reading this, the Faithful 4 will have been determined, but I will write about them

next week! Oh, and now that we are in the Elate 8, there will be "Sainly Kitsch" offered for each of our remaining contenders. Go online and see what is there!

Augustine of Hippo: Augustine's Confessions is considered by many to be the first Christian autobiography ever written.

Enmegahbowh: Enmegahbowh was the first Indigenous deacon and then the first Indigenous priest in the Episcopal Church; he translated many hymns to the Ojibwe language.

Edmund: Edmunds remains traveled more than the king himself – being moved from East Anglia to London to Bury St. Edmunds to Saint-Sernin to West Sussex to Berkshire. We think.

Richard Hooker: In Hooker's first sermon at the Temple in London, he asked that since God saves us entirely through his grace and not because of our merit, then shouldn't God save Roman Catholics too if he so desired?

Brendan of Clonfert: Brendan never listened to music, stuffing balls of wax in his ears to prevent hearing music. Not because he hated music, on the contrary, because it made him long painfully for heaven.

Josephine Bakhita: Josephine remained a slave in the Sudan and in Italy even though slavery was outlawed in both places. No one thought enough of her as a human being to notice she was enslaved, until she asked nuns for help.

John Donne: Donne offered the entirety of his life and words to the glory of God – the love, loss, passion, mistakes, poverty, riches, and redemption. He left nothing out.

Leoba: Through Leoba, we learn about the evangelism of women, often through poetry written in Latin, by other women.

~Deacon Donna Arellano



Community



One of our parishioners came up with a great idea—why not cut out these mini posters, and use them to invite a friend! We will have extra mini posters in the Narthex on Sunday. Please take as many as you like and give to friends and neighbors.



Community



A person between the ages of 90 and 99 is referred to as a “nonagenarian.” There are already some of you in the congregation and others who have or are going to join this exclusive club in 2023. Parish Life would love to celebrate you young folks at the next Christ Church Potluck on **Sunday, April 30, in Wells Hall**, following the 10:30 service. If you or someone you know in our congregation is in the club, please let the office know so we may include you/them in the celebration. ~**Parish Life Committee**



I would like to extend my thanks, and thanks for my family and all who came to honor Debbie Oakman last Saturday [or March 25], to the staff and people of Christ Church — for such a lovely service and beautiful reception afterward. Thanks to Father Samuel and Deacon Donna, to those who served at the altar, to Paul Tegels and Rae Hyra for the special music, to those who provided flowers and made the light reception lunch. While I will live with a broken heart for some time to come, the service that tied Debbie and all of us who survive her to the ancestors of faith, who placed their confidence in God and now intercede along with Christ for us, brought a deep comfort to me, to us, and kindled a renewed hope. Biblical faith, after all, is “the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1), and the faith of the faithful community carries us when we are struggling in grief to believe. May each of us look to the day when we will join Debbie and all those saints in light, as the recessional music promised!

~ **Douglas Oakman**



Community

Wednesday, March 29, was the final Lenten Evening Prayer and Soup Supper gathering of this season. Attendees of these past few weeks have enjoyed these gatherings and will be continuing with a once-a-month Soup Supper and Evening Prayer service, beginning **Wednesday, May 3**. More information in future Weekly news.



Tacoma Opera's performance of *Tacoma Method* takes place tonight through Sunday.
Visit Tacomaopera.org for tickets.



Community

Wells Hall Renovation Updates this week...



Above: The Ladies Room dividers as they are installed, and the completed bathroom.



Above: Nancy Gow Knudsen shows off the accessible bathroom door handle, which has a "vacant" or "in use" lock.



Above: The Green Room remodel is complete, with new heating, new walls, new moulding, new paint, new lighting fixture, and refinished floors. Furniture will return as soon as possible. (Note: it really is greener than this photo shows.)

Daily Office at Christ Church

◇ Monday 9:00am*
Morning Prayer

◇ Tuesday 7:30am*
Lectio Divina

◇ Thursday 7:30am*
Morning Prayer

◇ Saturday 9:00am
Morning Prayer

*zoom link available at
[christchurchtacoma.org/
calendar](https://christchurchtacoma.org/calendar)

Worship at Christ Church

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church and



Bulletin for 10:30am

Visit [Christchurchtacoma.org/calendar](https://christchurchtacoma.org/calendar) for weekday Morning Prayer, Lectio Divina, and Conversation & Compline Service Schedule

Online Daily/Weekly Devotion information:

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christchurchtacoma.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

