

The Courier

Christ the King Episcopal Church
1224 North Jefferson Street
Huntington, Indiana 46750

APRIL, 2023

A Few Words from Fr. Ted – A STRANGE AND WONDERFUL WORD

One of the Lenten traditions of the church is refraining from saying or singing “Alleluia” during this time. Children’s Sunday schools often make this point by having the children make posters or cutouts of Alleluias and then bury them or hide them securely away just before Ash Wednesday to be brought out on Easter. Each year on the first Sunday in Lent, it is amusing to see the difficulty many of us have not saying alleluia after the “Christ our Passover...” proclamation following the Breaking of the Bread. I would say that this year we have all done pretty well.

I came across an essay on the word, Alleluia, written by Balthasar Fischer which was reprinted in *An Easter Sourcebook: The Fifty Days* published by Liturgy Training Publications. (1988, Archdiocese of Chicago). In it he says, “It is an unusual word that is not native to the English or even the Latin liturgical vocabulary: the word “Alleluia.” As a matter of fact, it sounds less like a meaningful word than the babbling of child...” It is, of course, a word and it does have a meaning. If I asked you, could you say what it means? The dictionary will tell you that it means Hallelujah. A little more digging will show that this word which is found often in the Psalms means simply “Praise the Lord.” It is an interjection; Fischer calls it “a cry of jubilation.” It is a strange word that doesn’t always flow easily from the tongue, yet the church has chosen to continue to use it without translation especially in the Easter acclamations. Why?

Fischer explains it this way:

“I think the church meant to say: “In the presence of the mystery that we celebrate on Easter, the mystery of our redemption, our usual intelligible vocabulary is inadequate; when faced with the superabundant mercy of God we can only stammer in amazement like children.

That is how it is with Christians: As we gaze at the Sun that has risen high over the darkness and cold of our Good Friday, all well-chosen words are useless. We can only stammer our Alleluia of wonder and jubilation.”

We do not refrain from saying Alleluia during Lent because we don’t praise God at this time. We continue to offer our worship of praise and thanksgiving. By withholding our Alleluias during this time, we make them more meaningful when we again cry out at the Easter Vigil. “Alleluia, Christ is Risen. The Lord is Risen, indeed. Alleluia!”



It is difficult to express the mystery of Easter in words. It shouldn't be, but it is. I think I now know why. It is because the story of Easter is too wonderful for words. It is the wonder of God's love beyond our imagination or comprehension. We are loved that much! We are forgiven that much! Jesus died and rose for us! The only possible response is Alleluia! As we gather at Easter and hear of God's saving grace in the resurrection of Jesus, let us resurrect our Alleluias and praise God singing, "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! "

Fr. Ted+



HOLY WEEK 2023

at Christ the King

Sunday, April 2, 2023 @ 9:00 AM

Palm (Passion) Sunday with the Blessing of Palms and the Passion According to Matthew

Thursday, April 6, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Foot Washing and Agape Meal

Friday, April 7, 2023 @ 12:10 PM

Good Friday Service with The Passion According to John and the Veneration of the Cross

Saturday, April 8, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

The Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, April 9, 2023

The Resurrection Mass

EASTER FLOWERS

We will again enhance our worship on Easter by decorating the church with live flowers. Envelopes will be available in the service bulletins, on the back table in the church, or you can send a check with "Easter Flowers" written in the memo line for your support of the purchase of these flowers. You may make this gift either in memory of loved ones who have died or in thanksgiving for specific blessings in your life.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will continue our discussion of the various stations of the Stations of the Cross into the Easter season. When we have completed all fourteen stations, we will begin a series on some of the less familiar women of the Bible.



GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING



As we do each year, in response to a request from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, the offering on Good Friday will be designated for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Bishop Curry has this to say:

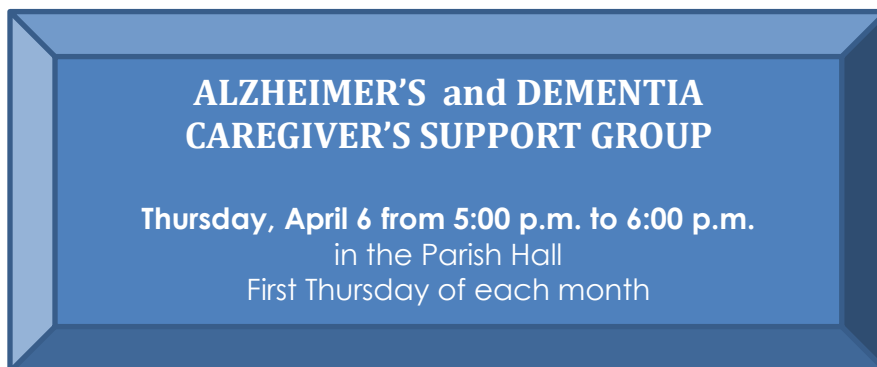
“By walking the way of the cross, Jesus of Nazareth showed us what a life of sacrificial love is all about and left behind footsteps that we are called to follow. The selfless way of the cross enables us to live Christian lives. This coming Good Friday, I invite you into that selfless way of living through your part in the Good Friday Offering.”

- Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

If you are unable to attend the Good Friday service, a gift designated for this purpose may be placed in the alms basin anytime through Easter Sunday.

NEW LIFE MINISTRIES ADDS LUNCH TO THEIR MEAL MINISTRY

New Life Ministries has added daily lunch to their meal ministry offered downtown. They are in need of volunteers to help serve. You may add your name to their volunteer roster by texting the Meal Ministry Director at 260-519-3637 or completing the form on their website at: <https://www.newlifeministries-indiana.com/volunteer/>.



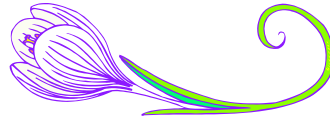
For questions, call Nancy Heasley at 260-450-7077, Fr. Ted, or Meg Moss.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Les Graham
- 5 Diann Parker
- 10 Deanie Garber
- 15 Beth Ebersole
- 19 Kelly Beasey

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

30 Stan & Susan Rice



Remember to send updates to Sue Jepsen at sljepsen@yahoo.com). Thank you!



Rejoice Now: The Exsultet

At the Easter Vigil, you will hear the singing of the Exsultet, the "Easter Proclamation." It is sung in chant form and is among the most ancient parts of the Christian liturgy. Since the fourth century, the Exsultet has called Christians from the darkness and "gloom of sin" into the light of Christ that dawns on Easter morning. Listen carefully throughout for the many references to the triumph of light. The Exsultet is first and foremost a blessing of the paschal candle, which symbolizes the risen Christ and which will burn at the altar until Pentecost.

"Exsultet" means "rejoice." The chant commands all of heaven and earth to rejoice at Christ's victory over death and at the joyful reconciliation of heaven with earth, of the Old Covenant with the New, and of God with God's people.

On a personal note, I'd like to add that, for me, the singing of the Exsultet is a transcendent experience. It connects me, and I hope you, with nearly 2,000 years of tradition and with millions of worshipers around the world in our own time. I suspect that its rich and powerful strains will echo long into the future.

Meg Moss

Here is the text of the Exsultet:

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,
and let your trumpets shout Salvation
for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth,
bright with a glorious splendor,
for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church,
and let your holy courts, in radiant light,
resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame,
pray with me to God the Almighty
for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light;
through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord,
who lives and reigns with him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

We have changed choir practice time to 4:30 on Thursday afternoons. We always welcome new members! The choir will be singing a piece by our own Marlene Schleiffer during the Easter Vigil.

Sue Nunemaker



BOOK CLUB



We'll meet on April 3 at Sue Jepsen's home to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus, which is on the best seller list. Nancy Heasley will lead the discussion. An Amazon review reads: "Regarding *Lessons in Chemistry*, . . . I loved it because it's laugh-out-loud funny, smart, fanciful, and heartbreaking. "The lessons are about life," someone says near the end of the book. They sure are."

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. Join us if you can!

LITTLE BLESSINGS NEWS

It's hard to believe that we are already into spring. Everyone downstairs is happy for that, because it means more outside recess. This past week was spring break and we had a wonderful and exciting time learning what Easter is about, along with learning what happens when spring arrives and how everything comes back to life.

Little Blessings continues to have a waitlist for children of parents wanting to utilize our services. I am also pleased to announce our Inspection in January with our State of Indiana inspector was excellent; we received 100 percent. Just a little info on what an Inspection entails: the State inspector comes twice a year unannounced. When she comes, she is checking that we are following



all the licensing procedures required by the State, such as that the building is clean and safe, the staff and children's files are up-to-date, food is being prepared at the right temps and served promptly, etc. As you can see, it takes great teamwork by all of us to make this happen.

I have had several people reach out to me on how you can help Little Blessings. We would gladly like to have a guest reader once a week for anyone who can spare 30 minutes of their time one day a week. If you would like to do this, please call Shallie at the daycare.

The following supplies are always needed :

Glue Sticks	Paper egg cartons	Bibs
Liquid glue	Coffee filters	Play Doh
Finger-paints	Old newspapers/magazines	Paint brushes

I also would like to send a thank you to all of you for thoughts and prayers for myself and my family during the last couple months while my mom was in the hospital. It was greatly appreciated by myself and my family.

Thanks!

Shallie Brown, Director
260-359-1161

SERVICE ROSTER APRIL, 2023

	2-Apr	9-Apr	16-Apr	23-Apr	30-Apr
		Love INC Ingathering			Little Blessings Ingathering
	PALM SUNDAY	EASTER			
Reader	Marguerite Wire	Dick Wire	Meg Moss	George Goedesky	Sue Jepsen
Intercessor	Liz Snively	Marguerite Wire	Bill Oswalt	Dick Wire	
Server 1		Carmen Oswalt	Dixie Harrold		Dixie Harrold
Server 2	Paul Wilson	Paul Wilson	Jeff Roberts	Meg Moss	Jeff Roberts
Crucifer			Jeff Roberts		Jeff Roberts
Oblations					
2 Counters:					
Vestry member	Sue Jepsen		Sue Jepsen		
Non-vestry					
Altar Guild	Carmen Oswalt	Linda Beatty	Marguerite Wire		Sue Jepsen
Transport Marlene & Shirley	Wire	Wire	Jepsen	Beatty	Jepsen
Coffee Hour	Liz Snively	Wire	Heasley	Jepsen	Neidlinger

REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR NEXT MONTH !



Christ the King Episcopal Church
1224 North Jefferson Street
Huntington IN 46750
APRIL, 2023

VESTRY

Britina Boxell 2023
Sue Nunemaker 2023
Linda Beatty 2024
Marguerite Wire 2024
Sue Jepsen 2025
Nancy Heasley 2025

PHONE NUMBERS

Church:
260-356- 3570
Sr. Warden:
260-359-0746
Little Blessings Childcare:
260-359-1161

SERVICES at CHRIST the KING

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.: Holy Communion
Thursday, 9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.: Evening Prayer

WEB PAGE:

www.episcopalchurch-huntington.org

EMAILS :

Treasurer:
markpark823@gmail.com
Newsletter: sljepsen@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Fr. Ted, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Thursdays

PERSONNEL

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Theodore Neidlinger
Bishop/Rector: The Rt. Rev. Douglas Sparks
Sr. Warden: Gary Beatty
Jr. Warden: John Jepsen
Treasurer: Mark Parker
Music Director: Sue Nunemaker

