

# Parish of the Good Shepherd



## Entering Experiences Beyond Words: The Services of Holy Week

As we prepare for our last Sunday in Lent, Palm Sunday, and the Triduum this year, we are caught by the brokenness and the Grace, the goodness and the evils, of life. The Boston Marathon Trials, featured in the news frequently these days, remind us of the cruel terrorist act, the victims, and the brave heroes of the Boston Marathon Bombing of 2013. Almost two years ago, many of us were hunkered down in our homes because of a “sheltering-in-place” request from our MA government, and one terrorist was still at large. The overlap of the trail with Palm Sunday and Holy Week bring back an odd conflation of events. We will re-experience Jesus’ final act- a willingness to die on the cross for the salvation of the world - while the unfolding trial swirls in our newspapers and televisions.

The violence of the attacks, and the bold media coverage of the trial, remind us of the goodness and bravery of many people who faced down their own fears to serve and support the wounded. They make Christ’s gift to us more tangible, but they also make the need for Christ’s self-offering more tangible as well. As our retired Bishop, Barbara Harris likes to remind us, we Christians are “Easter people living in a Good Friday world.” The hope, the love, the rejoicing is real, but so is the cruelty and the suffering.

As Christians, we believe that we can’t get to Easter without Good Friday. We also believe in the eloquent words of St. John’s Gospel: “The light shown in the darkness, and the darkness could not overcome it.” No matter how bleak Good Friday, Easter’s power is greater.

Please review our schedule of services, listed below, and join us for a faithful walk through Holy Week. Every year we choose to enter the sacred services of Holy Week, we have the opportunity to experience more deeply the power of God’s love to overcome evil, and the promise of everlasting life.

Blessings to each of us as we engage the Holy Week Journey,

*Margaret*

### † Holy Week

#### **Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday – 3/29**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms, Procession and Sung Eucharist

#### **Maundy Thursday – 4/2**

7:30 p.m. Sung Eucharist

9:00 p.m.–12 a.m. Watch Before the Blessed Sacrament

#### **Good Friday – 4/3**

12 noon Stations of the Cross

7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy and Mass

#### **Easter Eve – 4/4**

7:30 p.m. Great Vigil and First Mass of Easter

#### **Easter Day – 4/5**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Solemn High Mass

# PARISH NEWS – March 18, 2015

## Sign-Up for the Watch Before the Blessed Sacrament

From 9pm - Midnight, our church will hold vigil before the sacrament on Maundy-Thursdays, April 2nd. Please sign up for 1/2 hour slots. Our Confirmation Class will join the adults who sign up for the first two 1/2 hour shifts. The sign-up sheet is at the back of the church.

- Margaret

## Preacher on March 22nd

The Reverend Louise Conant, a leader of our Tuesday Evening Bible Study, and an active POGS member, will be our preacher on March 22nd.

- Margaret

## Noah's Ordination and First Parish

Ordination for Noah on June 6<sup>th</sup> "is a go!" Equally wonderful, Noah has been called to be a Curate at St. John's, Hingham starting in June. More info in Eastertide.

- Margaret

## Emails for Newsletter/Updates

If you would like to receive our newsletter and updates as emails, please sign up on our website at:

[www.goodshepherdnewton.org](http://www.goodshepherdnewton.org)

- Jim Nauen

## Tom and Rogers Olverson Fund

This winter, the new Head of Rivers School, Ned Parsons, announced that a scholarship fund has been established to honor Tom and Rogers Olverson's dedication. The Olverson Fund will ensure that talented Epiphany School students will attend The Rivers School. POGS celebrates with the Olversons and Epiphany, and we are thankful.

- Margaret

## Adult Forum during Lent: "Who do you say that I am?"

This Lent we welcome all of you to a very special series of Forums in which we will explore within the Christian tradition the true nature of Jesus as reflected by those who knew him best. In these Forums we will look at the ways Jesus is known to us: Word, Lamb, Shepherd, Lord, Rabbi, Son of God. In the process, we will put together a true composite picture of our Lord.

~ Charles Foster

## Outreach

The Outreach Committee is organizing groups to cook a hearty snack once per month for the St Stephen's Youth Program (SSYP) site at St Augustine's & St Martin's. This month Outreach volunteers will meet in the church kitchen on Tuesday the 24th from 11:30th 1:30. Remaining months groups will meet on a designated Sunday after church to cook. Youth in April. A men's group in May? Food will be delivered during the week. If you aren't available to cook, volunteer to bring ingredients. A Sign-up Genius will be on the church website soon! Email Pia with questions [p.bertelli@comcast.net](mailto:p.bertelli@comcast.net)

From the Director of Education and Programs: *Nursery is available every Sunday at 9:45 AM for infants through Pre-K. Children age 3-6 are welcome to the Atrium after attending an orientation (scheduled separately). Please speak with (or email) Mary Ann Stewart with any questions about our Christian Education Program: [ce@goodshepherdnewton.org](mailto:ce@goodshepherdnewton.org)*

## **March 22: The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

9:00 AM: Atrium

9:45 AM: Church School

## **March 29: The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**

8:45 AM: Confirmands in church for dress rehearsal of the dramatic reading of the Passion (*see below*)

9:50 AM: Church School and Atrium - meet in the

Common Room for Blessing of the Palms and

Procession into church; Confirmands' offer Dramatic

Reading of the Passion during the ten o'clock

service

*No Atrium or Church School classes*

## **April 2: Maundy Thursday**

7:30 PM Liturgy followed by Nightwatch before the

Blessed Sacrament

*Confirmands will take the first hour - all parishioners,*

*including children and youth 5th grade and up, are*

*welcome to join them; Nightwatch continues in the*

*church until midnight*

## **April 3: Good Friday**

10:00-11:30 AM Good Friday Observance for

children K-5th grade (Loring Room)

## **April 5: The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day**

9:45 AM: Atrium - special celebration for Easter Day;

we join the congregation at The Peace

*No Church School Classes - children in church with families*

*Nursery available for children through age 4*

## **Thank you to our teachers this Block:**

High School sophomore, **Madison Mixer**, is teaching the 3rd through 5th

grade class, with supervision from **Jessie and Geoff**

**Gilmartin**. Madison was confirmed last May and we are

thrilled that she chose to share her love and enthusiasm for

teaching with this group of children. **Jennifer Manthei** is

teaching the 1st and 2nd grade class and **Christin Gillooly**

teaches middle school 6th and 7th graders; **Barbara Bower**

will substitute for Christin this Block. The last Teaching Block

begins on The Second Sunday of Easter, April 12. Please

speak to any of the teachers, Mary Ann Stewart, Christin

Gillooly, or Alison Corkery if you would like to know more

about what's involved in teaching a class.

**Confirmands' Palm Sunday offering:** In preparation for the

dramatic reading of the Passion according to Mark,

Confirmands are asked to be at the church by 8:45 AM for a

dress rehearsal on Sunday, March 29. The reading will be

offered in lieu of the Gospel reading during the ten o'clock

service.

**"Christian Ed" is on facebook:** On facebook, "Christian

Ed" is the pseudonym for the Director of Education and

Programs for Children, Youth, and Families at the Parish of

the Good Shepherd in Waban, Massachusetts. Please friend

and follow! There are several entries with the "Christian Ed"

name, so be sure you friend the correct one!

*Blessings as we approach Holy Week,*

*Mary Ann.*