

Parish of the Good Shepherd



Holy Week and Easter Unfold

This week, we are each invited to faithfully walk with Jesus into the harshness and the mystery of the Triduum, "one prayer celebrated in three days" * until we find ourselves at Easter Vigil and then, finally, Easter Day itself.

The liturgies we celebrate are some of the oldest ones the Christian community has; the core of these services comes from 3rd and 4th century liturgical texts. When we participate in them, we are reaching back as far as is humanly possible to honor our Lord. We join our spiritual ancestors in reverence, prayer, and liturgy, where we remember acts which are almost beyond words.

Please join us at Good Shepherd as often as your schedule allows.

I look forward to walking the Holy Week journey with you this year.

Blessings to all as the week unfolds,

Margaret

* *I can't locate the source of this beautiful phrase*

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday – April 2

7:30 p.m. Sung Eucharist of the Lord's Supper

Solemn Procession of the Blessed Sacrament and Stripping of the Altar

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

Good Friday – April 3

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Good Friday Observance for Children in K-5th

12 noon Stations of the Cross

7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy and communion from
the Reserved Sacrament

Easter Eve – April 4

7:30 p.m. Lighting of the Pascal Candle:

Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter

Easter Day – April 5

8:00. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Easter Coffee Hour

~ unbury "Alleluias", and join us for delicious food
and an Egg Hunt.

PARISH NEWS – March 31, 2015

Easter Blessings

The Staff of Good Shepherd wish you a blessed Easter. May the 50 days of Easter bring abundant joys to you.

- Margaret, Carl, Mary Ann, Lynette, and Steve

From the office

Our parish office will be closed on Monday, April 6th; we will re-open on April 7th.

Child Care for Easter

The nursery welcomes infants and toddlers (age 3) to the nursery. Mary Ann will also hold Atrium class for ages 3 - 6 at the 10:00 a.m. service on Easter Day.

Coffee Hour on Easter Day

Don't miss the "unburying of the Alleluias" and the Egg Hunt, which will happen during our festive coffee hour after the ten o'clock service.

Epiphany School Collection

The deadline for contributing to the Church School's Lenten project is Good Friday, April 3rd. Please bring notebooks, pens, and paper for The Epiphany School.

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

- Jim Nauen

An Update from The Search Committee

The Search Committee reminds all parishioners to fill out and return their Parish Surveys by April 1. If you are looking at this and April 1 has already passed, we'd still like you to fill out the survey...we'll attempt to accept as many stragglers as we can.

The Parish Discernment Meetings, taking place on Thursday, April 30 at 7pm, and Sunday, May 17 at 11:30am, comprise the next step in the search process. This is a chance for **all parishioners** to take a look at the data derived from the survey, and to discuss and clarify some of the more challenging and salient aspects of our collective identity.

Both the survey and the meetings give you a powerful way to influence the direction of our search, and of our Parish.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the survey or the meetings, please email the search committee directly at search@goodshepherdnewton.org

From the Director of Education and Programs

Maundy Thursday, April 2: Liturgy & Nightwatch Liturgy begins at 7:30 PM in church; Nightwatch immediately follows at the Altar of Repose before the Blessed Sacrament (back of church) and quietly at several prayer stations which will be set up in the church. All are welcome to join Confirmands during the first hour (til 10:00 PM). Prayer stations are suitable for children 5th grade and up.

Good Friday, April 3: Children Kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome to a Good Friday Observance lead by Mary Ann in the Loring Room from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

There will be prayer, Taize chanting and meditation, and activities related to a presentation from the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (a multi-age appropriate presentation).

Holy Saturday, April 4: Liturgy of the Great Vigil of Easter

Interested Confirmands should be at church by 7:00 PM to prepare the sacred new fire of Easter; service begins at 7:30 PM

Easter Day, April 5:

Children in the Atrium will have a special celebration for Easter Day beginning at 9:45 AM; they will join the congregation at The Peace. There will be no other Church School classes this day.

Blessings as we mark our final observances in Lent.
Mary Ann