

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Lent - March, 2017

March Highlights

March 1 - Ash Wednesday - Holy Eucharist I and Imposition of Ashes, noon, Grace Episcopal Church, Waverly. This is a joint service.

March 11 - Daylight Savings Time begins.

March 19 - Vestry meets. Time tba.

Some thoughts on Lent

Growing up in Appalachia in a free Protestant tradition, I scarcely knew the word, Lent. Certainly the understanding of fifty days before Easter to prepare for the Lord's Resurrection Feast was not in my family's understanding of doing things. Ash Wednesday was when the "Catholics" walked around school with (what looked like) dirty foreheads. Certainly we would not be caught dead showing our Christianity in such a public and penitential way. It would be embarrassing and maybe a little too showy for my more austere tradition-of-origin. Preparing for Easter (for us) meant coloring eggs, buying chocolate bunnies and maybe observing Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Of

course my family ALWAYS attended Church on Easter Sunday.

When I became an Episcopalian in college I thought Lent was so cool, a LONG time to show God just how worthy you were! At first I understood it as a time to give something up as a sacrifice to God for all Jesus had done on the cross. After all, if Christ could suffer and die, the least I could do was give up alcohol, sodas or chocolate for 5 weeks. But, for me, giving something up was much more a study in my own will-power than a spiritual exercise. I tried thinking of Jesus and his passion whenever I would crave a Three Musketeers Bar or wanted to go out for a beer with my pals. It was less-than-edifying for a twenty year old college Sophomore. But as I grew in my faith I realized that mine is not a personality that does well with giving things up. Instead of deeper spiritual life at the end of Lent I was smug and proud of myself for hanging in there and performing my Lenten sacrifice. A little judgmental of all those people gathered with me in church who I had suspected had fudged on their Len-

ten sacrifice. Hrrumphh! No, it takes a good spiritual director and constant vigilance to turn a sacrifice into a spiritual exercise rather than yet another exercise in "look what will-power I can muster!" I deserve a Resurrected Messiah! well, ummm.....

So I took to taking things on. To reading a book of a spiritual topic, or putting in some extra sessions of therapy to get at why I act a certain way or respond to things in a way which depletes me, or maybe even exercising on a more consistent basis -understanding that even this can turn into post-consumer content works righteousness. But taking care of my body, mind and spirit are things I need to have a yearly reminder of. That Christ died so that I may have abundant life begs the question of "How can I live more abundantly?" How can I experience myself as the one Christ loved enough to die for? That's what Lent is for me now, and maybe that will also change in a few years - I hope so.

(The Rev. T. Scott Allen, Rector, St. Andrew's, Allentown/Bethlehem)

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March at Trinity

To seek and serve Christ in all people



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Lent

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Trinity Cycle of Prayer</i> 3/5 David, Chela, Brandon and Sean Bubniak. 3/12 Marie Bubniak, Tom and Shannon Bubniak, Rick Bubniak. 3/19 Joe, Laura, Rachel (Daniel, Cole), Tim (Jennifer, Lily) Cama. 3/26 Barbara and Alan Caum, Nate Schwartzberg.		February 28 Pancake Supper! 6 p.m., Parish Hall	1 Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Noon, Grace, Waverly AA 7:30 pm	2 AA 8:00 pm	3	4 AA Intergroup 6:30 <i>Greg Lake</i>
5 Lent 1 9:00 - Holy Eucharist I 10:00 - Coffee Hour <i>Trula Hollywood</i>	6 AA 8:00 pm <i>Evelyn Johnson</i>	7	8 AA 7:30 pm <i>Bonnie Bailey</i>	9 AA 8:00 pm	10 <i>Jan Beck, Jack Forbes</i> <i>Gage Streeter</i>	11 Spring Forward  <i>Set your clocks forward one hour</i>
12 Lent 2 9:00 - Holy Eucharist I 10:00 - Coffee Hour	13 AA 8:00 pm <i>Keith Hollywood</i> <i>Barbara Caum</i>	14	15 AA 7:30 pm	16 AA 8:00 pm	17 St. Patrick	18 <i>Judy Phillips</i>
19 Lent 3 9:00 - Holy Eucharist I 10:00 - Coffee Hour 11:45 - Vestry Meets	20 St. Joseph AA 8:00 pm	21 Clergy Bible Study 8, 3:00, Christ Church <i>Rick Bubniak</i>	22 AA 7:30 pm	23 AA 8:00 pm	24	25 The Annunciation <i>Jeff Johnson</i>
26 Lent 4 9:00 - Holy Eucharist I 10:00 - Coffee Hour	27 AA 8:00 pm <i>Mary Ann Burke</i>	28 <i>Mary Beth Paul</i> <i>Becky Fiorello</i>	29 AA 7:30 pm <i>Joe & Laura Cama</i>	30 AA 8:00 pm	31	<i>Kajo Keji: 3/5 St. Peter, Leikor. 3/12 Wojira Parish. 3/19 St. John Lukura. 3/26 Kajo Keji Christian College; St. James' Wudu Parish</i>
<i>Anglicans Around the World</i> 3/5 Marathwada (North India) Bishop Madhukar Kasab. 3/12 Maseno South (Kenya) Bishop Francis Abiero; Maseno West (Kenya) Bishop Joseph Wasonga. 3/19 Mbale (Uganda) Bishop Patrick Gidudu. 3/26 Mexico -Bishop Carlos Touche-Porter.		<i>Diocesan Cycle of Prayer</i> 3/5 Epiphany, Clarks Summit, The Rev. Graham Cliff. The Stewardship Commission. 3/12 St. Clement & St. Peter's, Wilkes-Barre. 3/19 St. Gabriel's, Douglassville, The Rev. David Green, Deacon Sally Bosler. Trinity, West Pittston, The Rev. John Major. 3/26 St. James', Drifton, The Rev. Elizabeth Haynes. St. Peter's, Hazleton, Deacon Marion Meiss, George Roskos, SW.			Holy Week begins April 9th Easter is April 16	