

HOLY HAPPENINGS

Volume 27 Issue 4

April, 2019

GETTING TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY

As we continue to move toward the days of Holy Week and Easter, it is essential for us to be reminded that Holy Week and Easter are both parts of the same event: the saving work of God in Jesus Christ. There could be no Easter without Holy Week and Holy Week without Easter would be just one more human tragedy. Together, they constitute the climatic event of human salvation. In the Church Calendar, the two weeks are distinguished separately only to focus better on the meaning of our Savior's life.

In our liturgical calendar, Holy Week begins with Jesus' last entry into Jerusalem along the road. He travels to Golgotha - the "Via Dolorosa," or "sorrowful way."

So we see that Holy Week "speaks for itself." Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday), expresses the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, but it is quickly (as soon as we leave the church building!) relegated to a position subordinate to Jesus' passion. Palm Sunday is only the "curtain-raiser," so to speak.

The "Easter Triduum" of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil or Holy Saturday



CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Holy Eucharist
Sunday - 8 & 10 a.m.
Most Tuesdays - 11:30

OFFICE HOURS
Mon. thru Fri.
9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Parish Office 781-335-2030
Rector 781-974-7392

E- Mail:
office@holynativityweymouth.org

WEBSITE:
www.holynativityweymouth.org

The Rev. Harold G. Birkenhead, Rector
The Rev. Brad Hultman, Asst. Priest
Casey Hannan, Organist & Choirmaster
Maryann Gurney, Director of Christian Ed
Peg Driscoll, Secretary
Keith Green, Sexton
Ron Russo, Warden
Steve Williams, Warden

are parts of a single feast that has been divided into three celebrations and each of these three days has its distinctive colors, (white, black (red) and white) as expressed by the different ways in which the Eucharist is celebrated

Holy (Maundy) Thursday is a brief outburst of joy. The altar is dressed in white, as are the celebrant's vestments. When the Eucharist concludes with the stripping of the sanctuary and the darkening of the church, the shortness of this "outburst" is dramatically emphasized.

Good Friday begins with the color red or a stripped altar of black, the color of Jesus' Passion. The celebrant's vestments are just a black cassock to recall our Lord's trial and scourging - the whips and lashing, the crown of thorns, the nails. Good Friday communion is usually distributed for the ciborium, reserved from the Maundy Thursday Eucharist,

Holy Saturday and the Easter Vigil, if celebrated, is a time when many converts and young people are baptized into the Christian Faith, so the color reverts back to white, the Easter color. The color is symbolizing Christ's purity and His new and risen life. At the Easter Vigil, the great point about the service is that it marks a transition from darkness into light, from sorrow to joy, from bondage to freedom, from death to life.

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Lenten Journey continued

Thus far, during these “Forty Days,” we will try (with varying degrees of success) to walk with Christ during his temptation and his subsequent journey towards Jerusalem. Now, as we begin the last days of our “Via Dolorosa”, I want to suggest that we all should continue as if the walk with Christ is our own; which in some ways - it is. It is the only way we can all arrive together because we all know something about pain and sorrow, sickness and heartbreak, death and dying and being born again, and rising from the “pits” and finding “new life.

Blessings during Lent,
Fr. Harry

Tuesday Morning Eucharist and Luncheon

Please join us on Tuesdays at 11:30. This quiet service has become a favorite with many people, even if they are only able to attend occasionally. There’s always lively conversation and fellowship to go with luncheon.

Wardens’ Report

Well Spring is here, at least that’s what the calendar says, temperature’s seemed to be rising a bit, and soon we will see some color instead of a constant grey. Spring also starts the Lenten season and it already has started, thanks to Ed Muller Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was great success. Monday’s Lenten program is also under way and well attended. Thank you Fr Harry and Fr Brad for your spiritual guidance.

The vestry met for the first time with our new members Bill Butler, Rick Lang and George Ward. The vestry is a very important part of our parish that deals with all aspects off operations here at the Church of the Holy Nativity. We thank all who serve on the vestry for this important ministry. Having a strong and dedicated vestry helps keep things moving here and ensuring that things are planned and done in due course.

We have a new sexton, Keith Green. Congratulations Keith.

Thanks to Jim Kimball the corn beef dinner was fantastic, it was a long cooking day for Jim, and the non-talent folks did a great job as well. Thank you also to Patrick Demore for his assistance in the kitchen for the dinner.

As we do every year the wardens have compiled a list of projects that will need to be funded, and executed, some of the projects

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Wardens’ Report continued

Will not need as much funding as others but we will need to have these projects done. They will keep our parish on track, and in some cases upgrade some of the areas of the church, hall and classrooms, more to come on this subject. We are assembling a comprehensive list of projects that will look into the future as well, as we feel we need to continue to be as pro-active as possible when looking at the future.

We want to thank you for you participation in all of the parish events.

Peace and Happy Spring,

Ron Russo and Steve Williams,
Co-Wardens



Home Communion

If you or a loved one is unable to get to church to celebrate the Eucharist at any time during the year, please call the office at 781-335-2030 to schedule a Home Communion with Fr. Harry or Fr. Brad. The visit will be arranged at your convenience.



Sunday School

Thank you for all of your cereal donations. We have quite a few boxes of whole wheat cereal to donate to The Pine Street Inn. We are also putting together 14 Easter Baskets for the families of the Weymouth Youth & Family Services. We have purchased small gifts for each of the baskets with money raised at our bake sale, but could use donations of Easter candy such as jelly beans, peeps, chocolate wrapped eggs, etc.

During the month of March we were learning a little about the life of Jesus. We learned about John the Baptist baptizing Him, the Holy Trinity and we learned about the feeding of the five thousand. And with all of your support, we had a very successful bake sale and served at coffee hour.

There will be no Sunday school on Easter Sunday, but there will be an Easter egg hunt on the church lawn after the 10:00 service.

Vestry Meeting

The next Vestry meeting will be Wednesday, April 17 at 7:30 in the Asher Stoddard Hall, following a service of compline at 7pm in the Sanctuary



**Relax, Feel Great,
Sleep Soundly using
Self-Hypnosis**

**Date: April 9
6:30-8:00
Common Room**

Learn the benefits of self-hypnosis to help yourself develop positive new patterns of sleep and deep relaxation.

Enjoy a group hypnosis session.

Free hypnosis CD (\$20 value)

Facilitated by Kathryn McGlynn, certified hypnotist.

Contact Kathryn at 781-340-2146 to reserve your spot.

Tickets \$35.00 or early bird for \$30.00 (payment by 4/4/19)



**Food First
Sunday**

Food First Sunday is April 7. The Weymouth Food Pantry would appreciate donations of whole grain cereals.



**As a Parish,
We pray for:**

- Anders Eriksson
- Anne
- Brooke & family
- Carly
- Carol
- Corinne
- Denise
- Dennis Clifford
- Devin
- Dot
- Eleanor
- Ewen
- Frank
- Ginny Blanchett
- Hank
- Hazel Brunelle
- Helen Holbrook
- Jazz
- Jim Murphy
- Joan
- John & Billie Greene & family
- John Anderson
- John Brown
- John Murphy
- June Sutcliffe
- Marcia
- Maureen
- Myrtle Perkins
- Nancy Mermet
- Nate
- Paige
- Ray Thorne
- Ricardo
- Rick
- Rocky
- Sophia
- Tim
- Tommy Chadbourne
- Treasa



Recipe Corner

From Favorite Recipes Cookbook

STEAMED ASPARAGUS WITH OR- ANGE BUTTER

- 3 lb. asparagus
- 1 orange
- 1 tbsp. Grand Marnier
- 1 tbsp. champagne or white wine vinegar
- 8 tbsp. (1 stick) cold unsalted butter

Trim and peel asparagus. Peel stems if thick. Steam just until tender, about 4 to 5 minutes.

Squeeze orange and strain juice. Reserve both pulp and juice.

In saucepan combine orange juice, Grand Marnier and vinegar. Over medium heat, reduce to 2 tablespoons. Remove from heat and whisk the butter into liquid, 1 tablespoon at a time, until well incorporated and mixture is thick and creamy. Do not reheat or butter will melt.

If mixture becomes too thick, or butter refuses to soften, hold pan over simmering water to warm slightly. Stir in pulp and spoon the butter over hot asparagus.

Submitted by Terry Asher

Ireland 2020

It is time to think about traveling again and this time, we are off to Ireland at the end of May/beginning of June 2020 with Grand Circle Travel. While the exact date, price and itinerary are not yet finalized, here are the details so far: For more information, go to <http://www.oattravel.com/EID19>

Anticipated dates:

Depart May 30, 2020

Return June 16, 2020

Approximate charge: **\$3445.00**

Air fare from Boston: **\$1300.00**

There are 5 single rooms available for the same price if you prefer not to share a hotel room. Act quickly if you want one of these rooms!

If you would like to preregister for the trip:

1. Please call **Grand Circle Foundation** Reservations at 800.221.2610.
2. Advise the travel counselor that you want to pre-register for **Ireland in Depth** in June, 2020.
3. Mention **Group Code G0-27691/Group Leader Judy Leamy**.
4. Deposit is **\$350** per person. **This deposit is 100% refundable until dates and prices are finalized.**

I am happy to answer any question and can be reached at usleamys@gmail.com or 617.633.5787.

Judy Leamy

Broadway in Weymouth

**Saturday, April 27, 2019
3:00 P. M.**

Lisa Correnti, soprano, and Bradley Pennington, piano, perform some of your favorite Broadway musical show tunes. Lisa has performed with local theater companies including Quincy Community Theater, Gas Light Players, Mill River Dinner Theater, and Pawtucket Players. She has played title roles in productions of Cinderella, Little Shop of Horrors, and Some Enchanted Evening. Ms. Correnti was the founder and director of an all-women's a cappella group, Purely Vocals, while a member of Braintree Choral Society. Currently, she performs and co-manages Serenade, a musical trio providing American musical theater and operetta concerts for senior citizens around the greater Boston area.

Versatile Bradley Pennington is an award-winning voice teacher, piano soloist, accompanist, and vocal coach. He has taught on the faculties of Boston Conservatory and Northeastern University, and is the Founder and Director of Boston Bel Canto Opera Company.

Please join us on Saturday, April 27th at 3 p.m. to hear some stand-out tunes from the Great White Way. Light refreshments to follow.

Donations gratefully accepted. Partially funded by the Weymouth Cultural Council, a state agency of the MA Cultural Council.



Visit with Presiding Bishop Curry

Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry will be making a visitation in the Diocese of Massachusetts, Friday-Monday, April 26-29. In addition to several ministry visits and meetings with designated groups that Bishop Curry will be making around the diocese over the course of the weekend, there will be public gatherings with him on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28 to which all are welcome.

Saturday, April 27

•**“PB & J”: Youth Jamboree with the PB, 1:30-3 p.m.** Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. Pizza and special conversation program with Bishop Curry for middle and high school youth and their adult mentors.

•**Ministry Fair, 3-4:30 p.m.** Leading up to the “Way of Love” Rally at 5 p.m., the Cathedral Church of St. Paul will host community gathering space and a Ministry Fair showcasing the good work of ministry programs across the diocese,

•**“Way of Love” Rally, 5-6 p.m.** Boston Common. Gather and be inspired, challenged and blessed as Bishop Curry proclaims the transforming power of walking the “Way of Love” with Jesus. Everyone is welcome.

Continued next column

A Note from our Organist

I think it's wonderful that people at Holy Nativity are happy to see one another.

I carefully select the prelude music to help us all become more contemplative in preparation for the day's celebration and a transition toward worship, but this is best achieved in quiet, so I ask that conversations throughout the Sanctuary cease at that time, especially with the acoustics. I promise I won't make the preludes overly long.

I appreciate your help on this. Lent is a particularly appropriate time to commit to this

Thanks everyone!

Casey.

Bishop's Visit continued

Saturday, April 2

• **“Our Episcopal ‘Big Tent’: How Big Is It?” 3-4 p.m..** Grace Church (133 School Street) in New Bedford

How well does the Episcopal Church measure up to its “big tent” ideal? Come for a provocative panel discussion with Bishop Curry, Bishop Barbara C. Harris and House of Deputies Vice President Byron Rushing. Seating will be first come, first served. Reception follows.

For more information go to <https://www.diomass.org/pb-visit>



**April 14
Palm Sunday**

**April 17
10am Wednesday Morning
Prayer & Meditation**

**April 18 Maundy Thursday
service at 7pm**

**April 19
Good Friday
12:15 Service
7pm Services and
Stations of the Cross**

**April 21
Easter Sunday
Holy Eucharist with Choir
8:00 and 10:00**

**Newsletter
Deadline**

The deadline for MAY Holy Happenings will be **Thursday, April 18**. Articles may be submitted via snail mail, dropped off in the bin on the office door or sent by email to the church office.

HOLY HAPPENINGS

Church of the Holy Nativity
8 Nevin Road
South Weymouth, MA 02190

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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MAILED
April 1, 2019

Important Dates

- April 13**
Weymouth Garden Club
- April 14**
Palm Sunday
- April 15**
Patriots Day—Office Closed
- April 18**
Maundy Thursday
- April 18**
Holy Happenings articles due

Mission Statement

The family of the Church of the Holy Nativity is called to be a caring community, committed to spiritual development; encouraging growth in each member's personal relationship with God, through Christ; by providing educational opportunities for youth and adults as well as Christian Formation for all, going forth to share God's message of love and forgiveness.



Important Dates

- April 19**
Good Friday
- April 21**
Easter Sunday
- April 27**
Broad Concert
- April 28**
Book Sale