



GRACE *and* ST. STEPHEN'S
✦ EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✦

Grace Notes ~ March 25, 2026

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Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday, March 29

8:00am Holy Eucharist
10:30am Choral Eucharist*

Holy Monday, March 30

7:00pm Holy Eucharist*

Holy Tuesday, March 31

7:00pm Holy Eucharist*

Holy Wednesday, April 1

7:00pm Holy Eucharist*

Maundy Thursday, April 2

7:00pm Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar*
9:00pm-8:00am Prayer Vigil

Good Friday, April 3

8:00am Stations of the Cross (walking downtown)
12:00pm Prayer Book Liturgy
7:00pm Seven Last Words*
Nursery open 6:30pm-8:00pm

Holy Saturday, April 4

10:00am Prayer Book Liturgy
7:30pm The Great Vigil of Easter (incense)*
Nursery open 7:00pm-10:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 5

8am: Holy Eucharist



9:15am: Breakfast
10:30am: Choral Eucharist*
12pm Easter Egg Hunt
Nursery open 9am-12pm

***Denotes service will be available as a livestream on YouTube and Facebook**

Mockingbird Ministries Article by Fr. Robert

MOCKINGBIRD

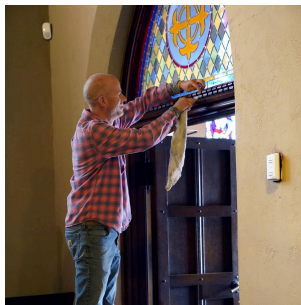


Mockingbird Ministries (a grace-centric ministry) recently published an article that I had been working on for the past several months. I hope that it gives you a sense of peace and sanctuary in God's love. You can read the article online [here](#).

Sexton Position

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we had to terminate our Sexton this past week. We will soon be opening the position for new applicants. In the meantime, we've contracted with a cleaning company to cover basic cleaning and the staff will be pitching in to cover as many gaps as possible. We appreciate your understanding and grace in this unplanned time of transition.

Spring Cleaning for Holy Week



Join us on Saturday, March 28th from 9am-12pm to do some spring cleaning in the church!

As we prepare our hearts for Holy Week, we're also preparing our sacred space. We need volunteers to help clean and freshen the church—dusting pews, tidying the narthex, and making sure every corner reflects the beauty and reverence of this holy season.

Holy Week is one of the most meaningful times in the life of the Church, and caring for our worship space is a simple yet powerful way to serve. Whether you can spare an hour or the whole morning, your help makes a difference and is a wonderful way to enter prayerfully into the journey toward Easter.

The nursery will be open from 9am to 12pm during Spring Cleaning. Parents are welcome to bring their kids. Parents must remain on the church grounds while kiddos are in the nursery.

Fifth Sunday Luncheon

Sunday March 29th, directly after the 10:30 service

We will be featuring Family Promise, an extensive program that exists to help families admitted to their program who were unhoused. Come and hear Tim Close, the executive director, talk about the various and extensive aspects of the program. He'll also answer any questions you may have! A luncheon of soup, bread and desserts will



be provided. We would love to have 2-3 more soups for the luncheon. If you can help by providing a soup, please contact: Robert Mack, (719) 238-0123 or Linda Thompson, (719) 425-6549.

Good Friday Offerings

All contributions received on during the Good Friday service will be sent to the Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. This is a part of the Good Friday Offering collected by churches around The Episcopal Church. You can also give online at iam.ec/goodfridayoffering



Easter Sign Ups

Easter Brunch

We still need a few more food items and lots of help with set-up, serving and clean-up! Can you help for an hour or two on Easter Sunday?

👉 Sign up [here](#).

Holy Hour Watch

We still have a few spots left if you would like to sign up for the [Holy Hour Watch](#).



Easter Memorial & Honor Offerings



*****Gifts must be received by March 27, 2026 in order to be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin.*****

As we prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter, you are invited to make a contribution in memory of someone dear or in honor of someone you cherish. These gifts are a beautiful expression of love, gratitude, and hope, and will be acknowledged in our Easter worship bulletin.

Offerings can be made **online** or by check. Please include memorial or in honor message in the memo field. Thank you!

Altar Flowers to Easter Bouquets

Sharing Easter Joy Through Altar Flowers

This Easter, we have a wonderful opportunity to extend the beauty and joy of our celebration beyond Sunday morning. In years past, we've tried to preserve the altar flower arrangements through the following week, but they haven't always lasted as long as we'd hoped.

This year, we're trying something new...instead of keeping them on the Altar, we're sharing them with others. On the Monday following Easter, April 6, we would love if you could join us in Parish Hall at 12:30pm, as we create smaller bouquets to share with members of our community who are homebound, hospitalized, or otherwise unable to join us in person.

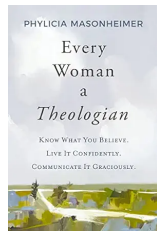


To make this effort a success, we're looking for:

- Donations of small vases, jars, or containers to hold the arrangements - **cleaned and ready to fill!**
- Volunteers to help assemble bouquets on the day after Easter
- Volunteers to deliver flowers and brighten someone's day with a personal visit

This is a beautiful way to carry the spirit of Easter into the wider community and remind others that they are loved and remembered. If you are able to help in any way, please keep contact Amily by **email** or by calling (719) 792-3465.

Women's Book Group



Starting next Tuesday, March 31st

'Every Woman a Theologian: Know What You Believe. Live It Confidently. Communicate It Graciously.' by Phyllicia Masonheimer.

Through engaging stories and compelling truths, 'Every Woman a Theologian' will help you:

- Identify your existing beliefs about God, salvation, and the Christian life
- Learn how to lovingly communicate Christian truths to those who disagree
- Understand theological concepts without feeling overwhelmed or inadequate
- Grow closer to the heart of God

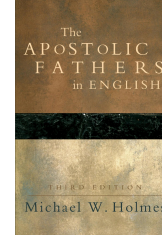
Join us on Tuesday mornings at 10am in Blaik Library for great discussion and fellowship each week! Please contact **Denise** if you have any questions!

Men's Book Club

Apostolic Fathers

Wednesdays at 6pm, April 15 to June 3
Weir Conference Rm

As a complement to Men's Bible Study (which meets 1st and 3rd Saturdays), we are pleased to offer an eight-week Men's Book Club on Wednesdays. We will focus on Apostolic Fathers of the 1st and 2nd centuries AD. The Fathers either personally knew the first Apostles or their immediate successors and include Pope Saint Clement I, Saint Ignatius of Antioch, and Saint Polycarp of Smyrna. All provide essential insights into early Christianity. Many of us will read in English, but if inspired by Father Robert's Lenten exhortation to "friction max," you are most welcome to read in Greek.



To join and receive details on the specific book we are reading, please contact [Phil Hensel](#) or [Josh Vandiver](#) by April 8.

Adult Formation

We have some thought provoking Adult Formation offerings coming up in the next few months!

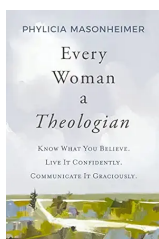
Wednesday Nights, 6-7pm

- April 15: Easter Iconography
- April 22: Military Chaplaincy and Just War
- April 29, May 6, 13 & 20: Exploring the Sunday Liturgy

Sunday Mornings, 9:15-10:15am

- April 12 & 19: Environmental Spirituality
 - April 26: How the Church can support Individuals & Families with Special Needs
 - May 3, 10 & 17: Anglican Identity
-

April Southwest Social Group



April Southwest Social Group Monday, April 13th at 6pm

We will be having our April Southwest Group gathering at the home of Lisa Jenks. Please contact [Anne Cook](#) for location and with any questions!

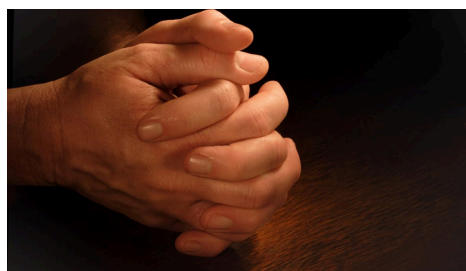
For the evening, we will be having spaghetti. To add to our yummy dinner please plan to bring a salad, dessert and/or wine. Please RSVP by Thursday, April 9th so I can let Lisa know how many people to plan for on that evening. Thank you!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Quarterly Prayer Workshop Gathering

Saturday, April 11, 2026, 1-4 PM
Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,
Room 211

Are you called to pray with parishioners on Sunday morning? You may have noticed, or even stopped to pray with, a member of the Sunday Prayer Team in the St. Stephen Chapel, or by the Tower Door on your way back from taking communion. Praying with parishioners on Sunday during Communion is part of Pastoral Care at Grace and St. Stephen's. It's a ministry of the congregation, and you are invited to prayerfully consider joining us.



Father Robert describes this ministry as “a call and a gift”. Ask anyone on the team and they will tell you that it is a joy to pray with and for others, and we are mutually blessed. We would like to offer this prayer ministry every Sunday during communion. Members of The Community of Hope, our pastoral care training & support program, are hosting a prayer workshop on **Saturday, April 11th from 1-4pm**. This is an opportunity to gather, learn more about this ministry, learn a bit about spontaneous prayer, and to discern if this is a ministry to which you are called. We'll have light snacks, drinks and fellowship. Please let us know if you will be joining us – even if you are not entirely sure that this is for you. We'd love to spend some time with you.

Please RSVP so that we can plan for refreshments, and also contact you in case of cancellation by emailing: [Cindy Page](#).

Prayer List



Those in crisis of health or circumstance: Ted Arnn, Judy Couchman, Melissa Dunigan, Conni Eggers, Eunice Ferguson, Staci Fox, Barb Good, Annika Johnson, Maggi Johnson, Sheilah Johnson, Fr. Rich Munsell, Br. William Marion Page, Mary Paul, Kitty Taylor, Henry Velandia, Piper

Those who have died and those who grieve: Joe Tindall, family member of Chuck & Rebecca Theobald

Those in need of ongoing prayer: The Rev. Canon Jon Anderson, Laura Bayless, Nick H., John Hough, Dorothy Kipp, Devon Mack, John McVicker, Debra Millsap, Elizabeth Phillips, Ed Quinn, Edie Reichert, Carol Townsley, Jill Wasinger, Susan Willet, Alice, Jennifer, Nancy, Oliver & Family, Wes

Those in harm's way: Mark Jaskot, Frederich Jones, Bill Mack, Rachel Pearson, Adam Tahyar, Thomas Ward, Nicholas Wolf

This Week's Happenings

Wednesday 3/25

- **Graceful Conversations**, 12pm, Blaik Library
- **Holy Eucharist**, 5pm, St. Stephen's Chapel
- **Communal Supper & Lenten Study: The Fix**, 5:30pm, Parish Hall
- **No St. Nicholas Choir**, Enjoy Spring Break!
- **Wednesday Night Children's Lenten Series**, 6pm, Children's Chapel (**Upon Request**)



Thursday 3/26

- **Iconography Class**, 9am, Rm 211
- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Centering Prayer**, 11am, Weir Conference Room

Friday 3/27

- **Iconography Class**, 9am, Rm 211
- **Chanted Noonday Prayer**, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel

Saturday 3/28

- **Iconography Class**, 9am, Rm 211
- **Church Clean-Up Day**, 9am, Nave - Nursery Available!

Sunday 3/29 - Palm Sunday

- **Rite I Holy Eucharist**, 8am, Nave
- **Nursery Available**, 9am -12pm

- **Sunday School**, 10:15am, Lower Level
- **Rite I Choral Eucharist**, 10:30am, Nave
- **Fifth Sunday Luncheon**, 12:00pm, Parish Hall

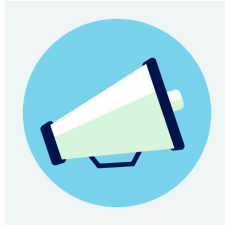
Monday 3/30

- **Noonday Prayer with the Anglican Rosary**, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel
- **Holy Monday**, 7pm, Nave

Tuesday 3/31

- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Women's Book Club**, 10am, Blaik Library
- **Holy Tuesday**, 7pm, Nave

Have Something to Share?



Grace Notes, our weekly parish newsletter, is one of the ways we stay connected, share stories, and celebrate the life of Grace & St. Stephen's—and we'd love your help shaping it.

If you have something on your heart or a story you'd like to share, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Submissions of all kinds are welcome, whether polished or still taking shape. Please send your contributions to our [newsletter email](#) by 5pm on Tuesday for inclusion in the newsletter the following day. Thank you for being part of what makes this parish so vibrant and alive!

Ways to Give

Grace and St. Stephen's offers several easy ways to contribute.

- The ushers pass the plate at each service for your convenience.
- You can also donate on the website [here](#).
- **Text GSS to 73256**, followed by your gift amount, e.g. GSS 25 (e.g. to give \$25). You will receive a return link from the system. Follow the instructions from there.

Thank you for your financial support of Grace and St. Stephen's -- every gift makes it possible for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

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