



The MESSAGE

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church

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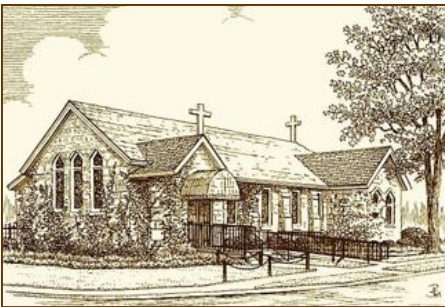
WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays: Holy Eucharist

8:00 am: Traditional Rite I without music
 10:30 am: Contemporary Rite II with music
 (sung Eucharist on the first Sunday)

Wednesdays

12:05 pm: Holy Eucharist & healing prayers
 3:20 pm: Atrium



CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Don E. Johnson,
Bishop of West Tennessee

The Rev. Gary Meade, *Rector*
 Dr. Scott Roberts, *Organist*

Mrs. Melissa McLaughlin, *Parish Secretary*

VESTRY AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Dudley Davis, *Senior Warden*

Bob Dean, *Junior Warden*

Tommy Hopper, *Treasurer*

Brooke Emery

Tiffani Glass

Judi Grunert

Bobbie Milligan

John Reed

Bubba Smith

Anita Toth

A Message from

The Rev. Gary Meade, Rector

"He is not here."

— *Matthew 28:6a*

Dawn's first light is breaking as two women approach a tomb. Inside they expect they would find the body of their teacher and leader, dead these three days. Perhaps they have words to offer before the stone barring the entrance to the tomb — words that perhaps they hadn't said when their friend was still alive. Perhaps words of love, loss, regret, and pain.

Yet when they arrive the ground before them trembles, and in a flash a man dressed in dazzling white appears and rolls the stone back from the tomb. Men who had been standing guard were so amazed and afraid by the sight they fall down in a dead faint. The two women (both named Mary), however, cling to each other in their terror and astonishment, their eyes remaining wide open.

The messenger from heaven tells them not to fear and that he knows they have come looking for Jesus who was crucified. Then he gives them news they cannot at first understand: "He is not here; for he has been raised."

"He is not here." How crushing that must have been at first. We can well imagine the women's questions: how could their master *not* be there? What could it all mean? Where could he have gone? What was happening here?

"He is not here." How often have we searched for Jesus not to find him where we expect him? The women named Mary did not find him among the dead, for he was once more among the living. We, too, should not seek Christ among that which is past and dead but rather among that which is present and alive. Will we find Jesus in dusty memories and remembrances of days past? Should we not instead see the living Lord in world of the living? Can we not see Christ revealed in the life around us: the life we see in blooming flowers, in singing birds, and — not least of all — in each other?

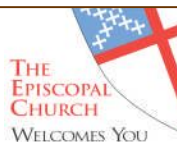
In Easter we approach a cross and then a tomb and find them both empty. Jesus is not there. Where will you find our Savior as Lent concludes and as we prepare to celebrate his glorious resurrection? What words of praise and glory will you offer Christ who died and rose again?

Yours in Christ's service,

Gary+

Father Gary

The Episcopal Church:
 home to thoughtful
 Christians since 1785



Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday

Saint Mary's will celebrate **Palm Sunday, April 17** at our usual two services, **8 am** and **10:30 am**. Both will include the Blessing of the Palms. For the latter service we will gather, weather permitting, in the garden outside the Wheeler Room for the blessing and to then walk into the church bearing our palms in procession.

Community Holy Week Service

Congregations, choirs, and pastors from throughout the community will gather at First United Methodist Church on **Palm Sunday, April 17 at 6:00 pm**, for a special Holy Week service. In addition to special music the service will remember that as he hung on the cross Jesus spoke seven last times. These final statements — known as the Seven Last Words — will each be remembered in a brief meditation offered by seven different local pastors including Fr. Gary.

An offering will taken up to support the ministries of Matthew 25:40 and the Union Mission. All participants are also invited to bring finger food to share at a reception following the service.

Maundy Thursday

Remember the institution of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, **April 21** with a service at **6:00 pm**. On that night Jesus washed his disciples' feet as he gave them a new commandment, or, in Latin, *mandatum novum*, from which we get the name for this day. Remembering how we are called to servant ministry, foot-washing will again be offered this evening.

Good Friday — Stations of the Cross

The journey of Christ from conviction to cross to burial will be remembered during the Stations of the Cross, offered this Good Friday, **April 22 at noon** at Holy Angels Catholic Church. Come and walk with Jesus on this sacred day during this moving remembrance.

Good Friday Service

Good Friday will be observed with a service on **Friday, April 22 at 6:00 pm** that includes hearing once more the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ from the Gospel of John, solemn prayers, the Adoration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.

The Great Vigil of Easter

This year we are celebrating the Great Vigil of Easter on **Saturday, April 23 at 7:30 pm**. The service unfolds in four parts. First is the Service of Light during which the Paschal Candle is lit to remind us that Christ's light in the world cannot be extinguished. The Exsultet, a glorious and traditional prayer, is offered to sing the praises of God's light on this holy night. Second is the Service of Lessons during which we "hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past" (BCP, 288). Third is the Renewal of Baptismal Vows during which we renew our commitment to the risen Christ. Finally we celebrate the first Holy Eucharist of Easter.

Easter Sunday

We will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with **one service on Sunday, April 24 at 10:30 am**. This will be a festival Eucharist, and incense will be used. If you or a family member desires to be baptized, this would be a perfect day. Please let Fr. Gary know as soon as possible.

Welcome, Bishop Johnson!

Please plan to join us for a special celebration on **Sunday, April 3** as the Rt. Rev. Don Johnson, Bishop of West Tennessee, celebrates and preaches at a single service at **10:30 am** that morning. We have one candidate for baptism, four for confirmation, and one to be received as a member of The Episcopal Church.

Following the service, Carole Smith is coordinating a festive reception to greet our bishop and to celebrate with those being baptized, confirmed, and received that morning. If you would like to help with this reception, please let Carole know.

There will be no 8:00 am service on April 3.



7: Jim Smith. 12: Ava Grace Hudson.
13: Peter Brown. Cheraton Dykes.
14: Peggy Hodges. 19: Agnes Ann Moore. Grant Dykes. 25: Luke Randolph. 26: Judy Burks. 29: Ute Gascho Hudson. 30: Duncan Hudson.



16: David and Sandy Akers
22: Glenn and Lynda Thurman
23: Troy and Jenny Wright



Vestry will meet at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 27. All are welcome to attend!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p>REGULAR WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</p>	<p>Sundays: Holy Eucharist 8:00 am: Traditional Rite I without music 10:30 am: Contemporary Rite II with music (sung Eucharist on the first Sunday)</p> <p>Sundays: Christian Education 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Wednesdays 12:05 pm: Holy Eucharist & healing prayers</p>				1	2	
					12:00 pm: Stations of the Cross		
<p>3 The Fourth Sunday in Lent <i>Bishop Johnson's visitation</i></p> <p>10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Chalice: M. S. David Lector: B. Milligan Prayers: D. Davis Acolytes: A. Hawkins Usher: J. Hawkins E. Glass Vestry: Judi Grunert C. Randolph</p>	4	5	6	7	8	9	
				12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club	5:15 pm: Bible Study- The New Testament	12:00 pm: Stations of the Cross	9:00 am: Parish Workday
<p>10 The Fifth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Chalice: K. Brunson Lector: A. A. Moore Prayers: D. Davis Acolyte: D. Palmer Usher: P. Viar Vestry: D. Davis</p>	11	12	13	14	15	16	
				12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club	5:15 pm: Bible Study- The New Testament	12:00 pm: Stations of the Cross	
<p>17 Palm Sunday</p> <p>8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm: Community Holy Week Service</p> <p>Chalice: B. Milligan Lector: B. Reed Prayers: W. Heathcott Acolyte: S. Emery Usher: J. Emery Vestry: J. Reed</p>	18	19	20	21	22	23	
				6:00 pm: Men's Group	12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club	<i>Mauddy Thursday</i> 5:15 pm: Bible Study- The New Testament 6:00 pm: Holy Eucharist and Foot washing	<i>Good Friday</i> 12:00 pm: Stations of the Cross (at Holy Angels) 7:30 pm: The Great Vigil of Easter
					6:00 pm: Good Friday Liturgy <i>Parish Office Closed</i>		
<p>24 Easter Day</p> <p>10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Chalice: L. Thurman Lector: M. Hudson Prayers: M. S. David Acolytes: T. Hopper Usher: T. Hopper S. Emery Vestry: B. Dean S. Hopper B. Smith</p>	25	26	27	28	29	30	
				12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club 7:00 pm: Vestry Meeting	5:15 pm: Bible Study- The New Testament	6:00 pm: Movie Night	1:00 pm: Vestry Retreat

Extended Liturgical Schedule for April

Palm Sunday – The Passion

Murray Hudson
Bubba Smith
John Reed

Maundy Thursday – 6:00 pm

Chalice: **Donna Palmer**
Lector: **Bubba Smith**
Prayers: **Agnes Ann Moore**
Acolyte: **Taylor Hopper**
Usher: **Tommy Hopper**
Vestry: **Bubba Smith**

Good Friday – 6:00 pm

Chalice: **Murray Hudson**
Lector: **John Reed**
Prayers: **Lynda Thurman**
Acolytes: **Bubba Smith**
Usher: **Pat Viar**
Vestry: **Anita Toth**

The Great Vigil of Easter – 7:30 pm

Chalice: **Mary Stuart David**
Lectors: **Kenny Brunson**
Mary Stuart David
Donna Palmer
Bobbie Milligan
Prayers: **Dudley Davis**
Acolyte: **Emily Glass**
Usher: **Tiffani Glass**
Vestry: **Bobbie Milligan**

Time to Find the Work Gloves

Yes, we have a Parish Word Kay scheduled for **Saturday, April 9**. Every spring we gather under Dudley Davis' watchful eyes to trim, mulch, weed, and otherwise tend to our church grounds. Bring your work gloves and any gardening tools you have. Skill isn't necessary – after all, Dudley even finds Fr. Gary something useful to do!



OUR PRAYER LIST

Aaron Joshua
Adam
Andy
Avery
Bill and Emily Baker
Chloe Bird
Virginia Brunson
Sue Burks King
Jean Butler
Kaitlyn Cash
Steve Crouch
Dianne Donner
Allen Freemont
Johnnie Faye Hawkins
L. D. Gant
Lechia Holbrook
Martha Horn
June Lannom
Teresa Layne
Patti Murphy
Amy Nance
Jamie Owens
Pat Roberts
Steve
Ewell and Margaret Ruth Tucker
Ginger Voss

Names will be removed from our list of immediate needs after one month unless specified otherwise. Names from our list of long-term needs will only be removed upon request. To add yourself or another to this list, please complete a Prayer Request Card in the pew. You may also call or email the office.

FOR ANY PASTORAL CONCERNS

Please call Father Gary at home, 882-4925; or on his cell phone, 589-3370.

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