

This Week: April 7-13

Today 9am **Between-Services Bible Study** Room #2
 Monday 10am 2nd **Monday Book Group** Sanctuary
 (*The Reason I Jump* by Naoki Higashada)
 Wednesday 10:30am **Faith Leaders** Sanctuary
 Thursday 5pm **Food Pantry** Narthex
 Thurs. **Transition Meeting with Search Consultant** Sanctuary
 Friday 11am **Meditation** Sanctuary
 Saturday 5 pm **FCS Overnight Guests** Parish Hall etc.
 (April 13, **FCS Dinner made by Katrina Steiner**)

Save the Date

April 14 **Youth Ministry Event** at St. Philip's
 April 14 & 15 **St. Philip's serves Winter Shelter dinner**
 April 18 **Maundy Thursday Banquet**
 April 25 **Vestry Meeting**
 April 27 **Art Class**
 May 2 **National Day of Prayer** (Parks & Rec, Skypark)
 May 3 **Brookdale Bible Study** Brookdale Senior Living
 May 4 **Parish Work Day**
 May 11 **Garden Tour & English Tea Luncheon**
 May 18 **AFC Dinner Fundraiser**
 May 21 **Town Hall Meeting with Bishop Mary, 6-8pm**
 *** **June 30 Unified Service at 9am** ***
 July 20 **Blood Drive**
 Aug 25 **Pastor Mary's last Sunday**
 Sep 20-22 **Diocesan Youth Camping Retreat**
 Dec 7 & 8 **No Room at the Inn**



Pastor Mary celebrated her 65th birthday last week, and in celebration provided the Sunday coffee hour refreshments, wearing her birthday gift apron to cut the cake. The colorful design could have been perfectly chosen to disguise any of the equally colorful frosting which might land on it!

HOLY WEEK: LAST DAYS

April 14, 8 & 10am: **Procession of the Palms**
 April 18, 6pm: **Maundy Thursday Foot Washing & Meal***
 April 19, 12pm: **Good Friday Stations of the Cross**, at St. Philip's Church
 April 19, 6pm: **Good Friday Service**, at St. Philip's with Community Covenant Church
 April 20, 5pm: **Healing Service and Prayer Vigil**
 April 21, 8 & 10am: **Feast of the Resurrection**. Music at both services

Easter Egg Hunt and **Potluck Lunch** after the 10 AM service.
 Invite your friends!!

***Maundy Thursday Sign-Up Sheet is in the Foyer: Set-up, bring food, Clean-up.**

Servers Needed

Want to serve during our special Holy Week Services? Please look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer of the Church.

Pastor's Message

"Leave Mary alone. She bought the nard so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me." (John 12:8)

Dear people of St. Philip's, Jesus and his best friends in Bethany — Mary, Martha and Lazarus — enjoyed a sacred moment of expectation just one week before his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem before his final Passover. Mary of Bethany knows that "the writing is on the wall", Jesus will surely be arrested when he enters the Holy City. He is marching straight into danger ... so, first, she anoints his feet with the expensive oils which are usually reserved to anoint the dead. It is a gesture of love, and gesture of support and encouragement which I imagine helped to bring Jesus strength in his most challenging hour.

This Sunday, April 7, we will explore more of this story told by the Gospel of John, as we begin what the early church called "Passiontide" — the last TWO WEEKS of Lent. Sunday Lent 5 will begin the sacred focus toward Jesus' last, sad days on earth ... We will learn more about this as the weeks unfold.

May our Lenten remembrances and reconciliation be holy and sacred.

*Peace to you in Christ,
Pastor Mary and Jim Blessing*



Crosses are veiled for Passiontide



Palm Crosses

Come join us in making palm crosses this Saturday, April 13, from 9-10am in the sanctuary. Learn how, have fun and enjoy fellowship.

More Volunteers Needed for Serving at Winter Shelter?

St. Philip's will be serving on **April 14th and 15th**, 2019.

Lori Kintz is taking the lead both nights and each team needs five more volunteers. Please sign up at www.stphilip-sv.net/Signup.

We can bring appetizers or dessert if we want, and we also need to bring four (4) gallons of milk for dinner/breakfast.

If you have any questions, contact Lori Kintz at lori@kintz.net or 828-551-6660.



BISHOP MARY'S VISITATION

"Town Hall Meeting"

Tuesday, May 21, 5:30-7:30pm

All Ages!

"Everything you always wanted to ask a Bishop and were afraid/unable to ask!"



Please plan on coming to St. Philip's on Tuesday evening, May 21, 5:30-7:30, for a casual evening of sharing with Bishop Mary Gray-Greeves. She will be here to answer questions you may have about the 'state of the church', The Episcopal Church/Anglican Communion, or Diocese of El Camino Real, or about Bishop Mary's hopes for her new ministry when she moves out of being our diocesan bishop. We would also like to offer

her our thanks for being an inspiring visionary bishop to our diocese in a challenging time in church history. We'd like to have children/teens in attendance to add their questions from the young point of view, and will provide whatever is needed to have them join us.

If anyone wishes to have a special evening bishop's confirmation or affirmation of faith or reception into the episcopal church this evening, please let me know, as that can be added to her time with us.

Mark your calendar now, and when we get closer to the date we will have a sign-up sheet to have an idea of how many will come.



Help Fill the Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt

Please take some plastic Easter eggs from the tubful provided in the narthex and bring them back filled with small items or candy for the Easter Egg Hunt after the 10am service.

Easter Flower Donations Being Accepted



Donations are being gratefully accepted by the Altar Guild between now and Easter for the floral beautification of our worship space. Look for the pink insert in the worship leaflet and return by Palm Sunday, April 14, if you would like a dedication published in the Easter Sunday leaflet.



Feedback Sought on 5th Sunday Unified Service

The Vestry decided that we would have a year's trial of making the 5th Sunday a single service at 9am, bringing the "eight-o'clockers" and "ten-o'clockers" together to worship, as started with the Bishop's visit last June. So now we want to hear from you about whether or not we should continue the practice. Tell us what you liked or didn't, or if you didn't attend any of them because of the time, or even if you don't care one way or the other! Email your comments to the [Office Manager](#) or write her a note.



The Garden Tour Planning Team has been busy preparing for our major annual fundraiser. Gardens are being visited, postcards are being prepared for mailing and distribution, menu planning is under way, information is going up on the website, advertising is being prepared and the selection of the non-profit to receive 10% of the proceeds has been selected – the [Teen Kitchen Project](#). This is a major event for us, as a part of the community and as a financial support for our ministries. We need **every** St. Philip's member to help. Every one of you can help publicize the event, by inviting your friends, and by taking postcards or a flyer to the places you frequent. Consider giving the gift of tickets to a friend or someone you want to recognize – they make great Teacher Appreciation gifts! Other ways to help:

- 📌 Solicit or donate items for the drawing
- 📌 Come help at the May 4 workday to clean up outside and in
- 📌 Help with setup on Friday, May 10
- 📌 Volunteer to help at the event – as garden docent, in the kitchen, as wait-staff etc.
- 📌 Buy tickets for yourself and your family or friends and come enjoy the event

Lent-in-a-Bag
Lenten Meditation/Reflection Activity

Week 5: **Looking ahead to Holy Week**
In the bag – A nail

Through Lent we have remembered that we are called to follow Jesus even through the wilderness: to walk “in the dust of the rabbi.”

Over past weeks we have been reminded of some simple “Rules of Life” that might help us to do that, both individually and together: following Jesus closely, prayer, The Eucharist (Holy Communion) and remembering the sign of the Cross.

This week, as we approach Holy Week, we remember that we are asked to follow Jesus even to that cross.

That’s a difficult and somber thought!

For most of us, that doesn’t mean dying on the cross. But it might mean sacrificing something, going without-denying ourselves-or experiencing a time of suffering or difficulty: a time “in the wilderness.”

Put the nail on the table in front of you.

Take turns to rake the nail in your hand...roll it around and feel the weight and sharpness of it (But take care!)

What does the nail make you think about what happened to Jesus on the cross?

Does it make you feel Sad? Angry? Confused?

What does it make you think about the sad and difficult things that happen in your life?

That nail also says something about a very great *love*.

Think about and talk about the nail as a sign of love.

How might understanding the nail as a symbol of God’s love help you to live and walk in the wilderness places of your life?

Finally... Reflect on the last five weeks of Lent.

Which one thing that you’ve thought about or talked about from “Lent in a Bag” might help you as you approach Holy Week?

Pray: Loving Father, as I follow Jesus into Holy Week remind me of all you have taught me throughout Lent. Amen.

Read: John19: 18-22



Regional Youth Ministry Event
**“Reflections on Reconciliation:
Our Journey Through the Wilderness to Easter Glory”**

Sunday, April 14, 5-7pm
St. Philip’s is hosting
For youth, 6th-12th grade



TRANSITION

- Apr 6** Announcement regarding Transition & Search Teams
- Apr 11** Vestry, Search & Transition Teams meet with our search consultant
- Apr** St Philip’s commissions the Search and Transition Teams
- Apr-Aug** Transition Team canvasses church community and creates parish profile