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Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem
(Alexander Gibbs, mid-19th century)

From Randy DiPentima, Senior Warden

Last Saturday the vestry gathered at Camp Washington in Morris for a near day long retreat. It was an opportunity for us to 1) get to know each other by spending time together away from our customary routines and 2) to identify the issues facing this vestry this year.

As we journeyed to discern God's call for this vestry and this parish, we considered the effects of the COVID pandemic, along with the retirement of our longtime rector less than 6 months before the onset of COVID. We noted how some of us in the parish have not returned to worship in the church, although lately it seems more fill the pews. Because this is the time the congregation sees one another, Sundays are the days the vestry can communicate and collaborate with the congregation about the ministry of St. Andrew's parish. Please do approach a vestry member with your questions and concerns.

I treasure the time in the pews, either in silence, in prayer, in song, or

preparing to share in the Eucharist with all those around me, known and unknown. The Book of Common Prayer speaks clearly about worshipping together:

“And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all the others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.” BCP p. 336

My best wishes to all for a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

This Week at St Andrew's

Friday, 08 April	Prayer & Meditation	5:30 pm
Saturday, 09 April	Choir Rehearsal	9:30 am
Sunday, 10 April	NO Holy Eucharist	8:30 am
Sunday, 10 April	Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am
Sunday, 10 April	Palm Sunday Procession (gather on the green across from Foreign Cargo)	10:00 am
Sunday, 10 April	Holy Eucharist: <i>The Sunday of the Passion (in person and live-streamed)</i>	10:30 am
Sunday, 10 April	Adult Forum: <i>An Introduction to the Liturgies of Holy Week, Part 2</i>	12:00 noon
Monday, 11 April	Bible Study: <i>The Gospel of Luke</i>	11:00 am
Monday, 11 April	Holy Eucharist: <i>Monday of Holy Week (in person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
Tuesday, 12 April	Holy Eucharist: <i>Tuesday of Holy Week (in person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 13 April	Rite of Reconciliation (private Confession)	5:00 pm
Wednesday, 13 April	<i>The Way of the Cross</i>	5:00 pm
Wednesday, 13 April	<i>A Service of Tenebrae (in</i>	5:30 pm

Wednesday, 13 April	<i>person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
	A.A. for Women (<i>Zoom meeting; email us for info</i>)	
Wednesday, 13 April	A.A. Meeting (<i>Parish House</i>)	7:00 pm
Thursday, 07 April	Parish Potluck	7:30 am
Thursday, 14 April	<i>The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday (in person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
Thursday, 07 April		7:30 pm
	Al-Anon Meeting	
Thursday, 07 April		7:00 pm

Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

Details about each of these events can be found later in this issue of the *Epistle*

Saturday, 16 April	Family Egg-dyeing and Pizza Party	11:00 am
Sunday, 17 April	Grand Coffee Hour and Family Egg Hunt	11:45 am
Sunday, 17 April	Evening Prayer and Benediction (every Sunday in Eastertide)	4:30 pm

See the full worship and event schedule for Holy Week and Easter Week, below

On Maundy Thursday: The Parish Potluck Returns



The Maundy Thursday Parish Potluck returns on 14 April at 6:00 pm! Everyone is invited to this beautiful celebration of *agape* love, which recalls the Last Supper Jesus shared with His disciples on this night. Please do come and bring a dish to share, either savory or sweet.

For Maundy Thursday: The Sneaker Collection Returns!



Many of you will recall that during Lent last year, we collected more than 130 pairs of new sneakers and bushels of new socks to donate to Abraham House, a community in the South Bronx that offers extensive services—and hope—to many in that neighborhood who are living at the very margins of society. We were introduced to Abraham House by Sr Mary Lanning just before she died, unexpectedly, a year ago.

We've been in touch with Abraham House, and they will only too gladly welcome another sneaker drive this year. Althea Brooks, their executive director, recently told us that the shoes, sneakers and socks we sent them last Eastertide, "went to those in need in our community, many who were beaming as they tried them on. In fact, we were able to share this blessing by donating I believe seven pairs of shoes/sneakers and some socks to a women's shelter in the Grand Central area of NYC, that I was introduced to through Catholic Charities."

So, once again, **we are now collecting new shoes, sneakers and socks, for women, men and children.** Before we donate them, we will **bless and ritually 'wash' them, during our Maundy Thursday liturgy** ... a symbolic act of our washing the feet of those who are poor, hungry and without a home. The wisdom Sr Mary shared with us last year still applies: "SNEAKERS (colorful, diverse, sparkling new) are much more needed than business or dress shoes, although a 'lending library of dress shoes' would indeed be welcome for special occasions such as job interviews. Most of our people are not yet equipped to apply for jobs where shoes are a prerequisite; clean dress sneakers and trousers with a crease in them are the mark of readiness."

Please bring your donations with you to worship on **any Sunday between now and 10 April**, or you can drop them off in the Parish Office or the breezeway behind the rectory before **5:00 pm on Maundy Thursday, 14 April**. If you would like to place a short message of hope or love or happiness or inspiration in the shoes or socks you give, it will make your gift that much more personal. And feel free to spread the word to any family members, friends and neighbors who might wish to donate, too. Together we can top last year's bumper crop!

Continues This Sunday: Adult Forums on the Liturgies of Holy Week



Have you ever suffered liturgical whiplash on Palm Sunday, as we experience both Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the Passion narrative on a single day? Do you find Maundy Thursday's ritual foot washing off-putting? Is visual veneration of the Cross on Good Friday a new experience for you? And have you ever wondered what, exactly, takes place at the Great Vigil on the evening before Easter Day?

Holy Week offers the richest, most textured and nuanced liturgies of the entire Church year. While they echo, to a degree, the pattern of the Holy Eucharist we're all accustomed to, they have additional rites and ceremonies (and omit others) that we experience only once-a-year. This celebration of the great Paschal Mystery—of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection—is the summit of the Christian calendar, and yet it can feel unfamiliar (perhaps even a little uncomfortable) to some.

If this is true for you, please plan to attend our **Adult Forums on Sunday, 03 April (*Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday*), and Sunday, 10 April (*Good Friday and the Great Vigil*)**. Father Douglas will give a brief overview and explanation of these liturgies and answer all (hopefully!) of your questions. Both sessions will be at 12:00 noon, following coffee hour.

**Easter Flower Donations:
Final Week**



If you would like to make a donation toward our wonderful Easter flowers and arrangements, either in memory or in honor of a loved one or friend, please contact the Parish Office by no later than **Wednesday, 13 April**. (A donation of \$50 is suggested.)

St Andrew's Holy Week and Easter Week Worship Schedule



Sunday, 10 April

**Palm Procession (beginning
at the green across from
Foreign Cargo)**

10:00 am

Sunday, 10 April

**Holy Eucharist: Palm/
Passion Sunday**

10:30 am (no

		8:30 service this week)
	Holy Week Daily Eucharist	
Monday, 11 April		6:00 pm
	Holy Week Daily Eucharist	
Tuesday, 12 April		6:00 pm
	Rite of Reconciliation (Confession)	5:00 pm
Wednesday, 13 April		
	The Way of the Cross	5:30 pm
Wednesday, 13 April		
	Service of Tenebrae	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 13 April		
	Maundy Thursday Parish Potluck	6:00 pm
Thursday, 14 April		
	Maundy Thursday Liturgy (& Stripping of the Altar)	7:30 pm
Thursday, 14 April		
	Good Friday Liturgy	7:30 pm
Friday, 15 April		
	Holy Saturday Liturgy	11:00 am
Saturday, 16 April		
	The Great Vigil of Easter	7:30 pm
Saturday, 16 April		
	Holy Eucharist: Easter Day (with hymns)	8:30 am
Sunday, 17 April		
	Holy Eucharist: Easter Day (with hymns and choir)	10:30 am
Sunday, 17 April		
	Family Easter Egg Hunt and Grand Coffee Hour	11:40 am
Sunday, 17 April		
	Eastertide Evening Prayer and Benediction	4:30 pm
Sunday, 17 April		
	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Monday, 18 April		
	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Tuesday, 19 April		
	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Tuesday, 19 April		
	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 20 April		
	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 20 April		
	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Thursday, 21 April		
	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Thursday, 21 April		
	Holy Eucharist: <i>Easter 2</i>	9:00 am
Friday, 22 April		
	Eastertide Evening Prayer and Benediction	9:00 am
Friday, 22 April		
	Eastertide Evening Prayer and Benediction	9:00 am
Saturday, 23 April		

Sunday, 24 April

8:30 & 10:30 am

Sunday, 24 April

4:30 pm

Start Spreading the Word: The Great Family Easter Egg Hunt Is Back!



Spread the word to friends, neighbors, grandchildren, etc: Once again, St Andrew's will be having a **Great Family Easter Egg Hunt**. Parents and children will gather in the Parish House at **11:00 on Saturday** to **dye dozens of eggs and feast on pizza**. And then, on **Easter Day**, following the **10:30 Eucharist on Easter Day**, they'll search the parish yard to find where the **Easter Bunny(ies)** have hidden them. There will *also* be a wonderful **Easter Coffee Hour** for those who may be a little past the age (or the spryness) to hunt for colored eggs under bushes and in flower beds.

This is a great way to help introduce families to St Andrew's, as we prepare to open our church school in June!

Easter Week: Fr Douglas Will Be Making Visitations



During Easter Week, Fr Douglas will be visiting with and bringing Communion to those who cannot worship with us in-person on Easter Day, with Bread and Wine that were consecrated at St Andrew's that day—so all may eat the same meal from the same table.

If you would like Fr Douglas to visit you ... or would like to suggest someone who would like a visit ... please just let him know.

Coffee Hour: Hosts Needed!



Do you enjoy Coffee Hour? It's even more fun when you host! Please sign-up now to host a Sunday in May or June!!

The War in Ukraine: An Ecumenical Prayer Service & Fund-raiser



Thank you to everyone who came to our Prayer Service for Ukraine, held jointly with the First Congregational Church last Sunday. More than 30 were there, and we raised over \$2,000, all of which will be donated directly to ongoing relief efforts in Ukraine and for refugees in surrounding countries. Thank you, especially, to **George-Ann Gowan** and **George Potts** for arranging a fabulous fund-raising reception!

St Andrew's Current COVID Status

THE PARISH IS OPEN.

We have now resumed all of our usual pre-COVID practices except the sharing of the Common Cup; we distribute the Wine in individual portions.

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our mid-week services.

Worship During Lent: Wednesday Evenings



On **Wednesday evenings during Lent**, our customary 6:00 pm Eucharist will be preceded by an opportunity for the Rite of Reconciliation (more popularly known as "Confession"; *Book of Common Prayer*, p 447), in private, at 5:00 pm; and, at 5:30 pm, by the *Way of the Cross*, a liturgy of 14 very short lessons that lead us to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice and death ... and our need of the forgiveness He's already given us. (You may come for one, two or all three of these offerings. They are separate rites, and you needn't be present for all of them.)

If you have never attended a mid-week Eucharist ... or if you're interested in exploring Confession or the Way of the Cross ... Lent is an excellent time to 'try on' one of these new liturgical practices and reflect on how it draws you closer to God. Please come!

A Pastoral Letter from the House of Bishops: Jerusalem

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



The Episcopal Church's House of Bishops issued a Pastoral Letter during their 15 – 21 March meeting at Camp Allen in Navasota, Texas. This was in response to [resolution 2018-B003](#) which was passed by the 79th General Convention. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the letter.

The Afghan Refugee Family Has Arrived!



The St Andrew's Refugee Resettlement Team is pleased to share this wonderful news:

They are here! We've met the family, and they were all great, very gracious. They seemed pleased with the house and the town (New Milford), fairly well rested and the children relaxed and at ease.

Two of us went on a shopping trip last week, to Zantuna Market in Danbury, and we secured a mountain of dried lentils and spices to stock the house as well as 12 pounds of Halal meats and a car load of rice and veggies from Costco.

We've also given them a tour of their house and showed them the house mechanicals and appliances. They're sure to have more questions down the road.

It was so moving to finally go over to meet them. It's a very good thing we have undertaken. Thank you all so much for your help and support.

Election of Next Bishop: Candidates Announced



The Episcopal Church in Connecticut will be holding a special convention in May to elect its next bishop diocesan. The slate of candidates has now been made public. You may read all about them, [here](#).

Help Support the Kent Food Bank



Please help our parish family continue to support of the Kent Food Bank by sending a check in any amount to:

Kent Community Fund
P O Box 262
Kent, CT 06757
memo: Food Bank

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of Kent's Social Services Director. In addition, it is useful for the Director to have IGA gift cards to give to families who are in need. Please consider purchasing a card, for \$25 or \$50, and taking it to Town Hall or dropping it in the donations basket in the Narthex. (You can also place it in the offering plate, marked for the Food Bank.)

The Kent Food Bank also accepts food donations. They are especially in need of staples such as **beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna**. Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past! Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

You may drop off food items on Fridays from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon in the

back of the Community House on Main Street. You may also place donations in the basket in the church Narthex or in the bin in the breezeway at the rear of the Rectory.

Lections for this Week

Palm Sunday

Year C

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14-23:56



Past Services and Homilies

Please click on the link below in order to view past services on YouTube and to read homilies from previous Sundays located on our website.

[Homilies and Past Services](#)

Worship Services

-Sunday-

Holy Eucharist

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.
Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays;
Healing Service at 8.30,
Third Sunday
In person
8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.
(10.30 a.m. available live
stream on YouTube)



-Wednesday-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.

-Friday-

Prayer & Meditation

5.30 p.m.

-Holy Days-
Holy Eucharist
6.00 p.m.



12 Step Meetings

Mondays
LGBTQ+ A.A. - **new**
(Parish House)

Wednesdays
A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.
Zoom meeting
email us for info.

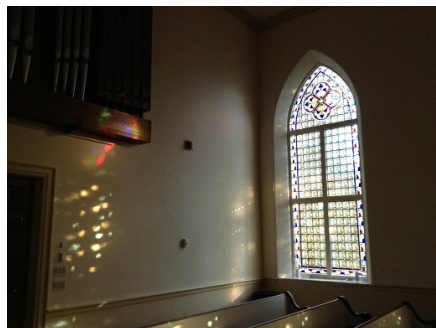
Thursdays
A.A. at 7.30 a.m.
(Parish House)
resumed
Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.
(Old Vestry Room)
A.A. at 7:00 pm - **new**
(Parish House)

Fridays
A.A. at 8 p.m.
(Great Room)
temporarily until First Church opens
resumed



Parish Staff

The Rev Douglas S
Worthington,
Priest in Charge
frdouglas.sak@gmail.com
860-592-0171



Susan Guse
Organist & Director of Choirs

KC Compton,
Parish Administrator

Joan I Cassel
Financial Secretary

Randy Osolin,
Verger



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Parish office open everyday except Friday from 10 am- 5 pm
(2 pm on Thursdays)

Visit St Andrew's website at
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The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.ctepiscopal.org

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