

Two-Week Series
10:30 AM - April 25, May 2

The Episcopal Church: Theology & Serving the Children of God

The Church is called to speak to the world with the language of faith. Sometimes, this means taking positions on political or social issues. But it also often means doing what we can to meet the needs of those who have the least. These two missions may seem to have little to do with each other, but in fact they are both expressions of the Gospel. In this short series, we will experiment with a new way of learning. In the first week, we will talk about the policies of the Episcopal Church, and in the second week we will turn to the ways the Church puts faith into action.



Special Events

Sunday, November 1st, 10:30 AM

The History of St Thomas's

Our own Connie Cooper will tell us the story of the Parish and its work in Newark.

Sunday, January 17th, 10:30 AM

Absalom Jones

A special guest will tell us the story of Absalom Jones and of African-Americans in the early days of the United States and of the Episcopal Church in the USA.

Sunday, February 21st, 10:30 AM

Book of Common Prayer

As we approach the next General Convention of the Episcopal Church, we will hear about new ideas for worship and what may be next for the BCP.

Sunday, May 16th, 10:30 AM

The Order of St John

A special guest will tell us about the work of the ancient order of Hospitalers (now called the Order of St John) in providing eye care at hospitals and clinics in the West Bank and Gaza.



**SAINT
THOMAS'S
PARISH**

Offerings for the 2020-2021 Christian Education Season

The Christian life is an adventure. As we go through our lives, there is always something new to learn, something new to discover. This year we will continue to explore our roots, who we are now, and the places where our faith and the world intersect.

Given the need for precautions to keep everyone healthy, we will offer all our programs in person and virtually. Please make plans to attend in whatever format best fits your circumstances.

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www.stthomassparish.org

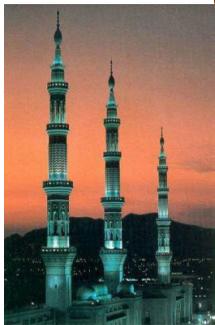
Four-Week Series

10:30 AM - September 27, October 4/11/18

What We Believe, What We Share: A short course in comparing religions



This four-session course will cover the theologies of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism, using a comparison with Christianity as a way of pulling the threads together. Our goal will be to see how the major faith traditions approach the same questions – creation, sin, eternity, and the righteous life. Come learn what we have in common, how we see the world, and maybe even what others can tell us about our own faith.



Three-Week Series

10:30 AM - December 6/13/20

Ordinary Virtues: Spirituality in the Lord of the Rings

Nearly everyone knows something about Middle Earth, the rich fantasy world that emerged from the imagination of JRR Tolkien. Fewer people know that Tolkien was a devout Catholic, and that his stories and characters have much to say about his view of the faithful life.



In this short series, we will be guided through the religious landscape of Middle Earth by Mark Eddy Smith's book **Tolkien's Ordinary Virtues: Exploring the Spiritual Themes of the Lord of the Rings**. Come along for some clips from Peter Jackson's LOTR movies, and stay for some spirited discussion of what Frodo and Gandalf and even Sauron (the villain of the stories) teach us about living and moving and having our being in God.

Three-Week Series

10:30 AM - February 28, March 7/14

The Sacramental Life

The sacraments are intended to tie together our life in the world and our relationship with God. In words and gestures, they represent and embody what we believe. So it is well worth the time to think about what the sacraments are saying to and for us.

In this Lenten series, we will take a look at three elements of Christian practice that are among the most prominent in the lives of the faithful – baptism, Eucharist, and the rites surrounding death and burial. We will also review more briefly some of the other sacraments, including marriage, ordination, and unction.

