

March 21, 2021

St. Thomas's Episcopal Parish

276 S. College Ave Newark, DE
302.368.4644 StThomasParish.org

weekly newsletter

The Carpenter's Helper

This Week...we are moving towards Holy Week



**Drive Through/Walk Up
Communion and Prayers**
continues every Sunday
10-11am
ALL are Welcome!

THE SACRAMENTAL LIFE

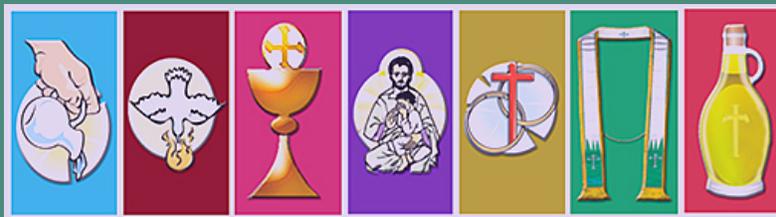
3 WEEK SERIES
VIA ZOOM

3/7, 3/14, 3/28 AT 10:45AM

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 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.



Thank you for wearing a mask in the church building. It protects those who are worshiping, and communing. Your mask protects the clergy, staff, faith family members, and community. Let's keep our church building safe, healthy, open, and a respectful place for all.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Thomas's is alive and well.

We are worshiping via live streaming on YouTube (See our YouTube Channel and hit Subscribe!). The full-text bulletins for our services can be found on our website, and by email request.

We also continue to respond to the needs of the Newark community through our collaboration with the Newark Empowerment Center and others. Those who would like to support our work may do so by going to our "Giving to St Thomas's" page.

Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them, and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times. May God bless you and keep you, now and always. For more, see the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware COVID-19 site.

Eye Spy



This week, we look to the far left of the altar to the candle corner. This is a special area of the sanctuary, ALL are welcome to use.

The term "votive" comes from the Latin word votum, which means a vow, pledge or religious undertaking or promise. It can also mean a prayer. Lighting a votive candle can therefore include one or more of these intentions. We light candles to pray for their deceased loved ones and the sick, for the health and welfare of family and friends, and the intentions and needs of all in the world, particularly the poor and most abandoned.

The cross behind our candles is a San Damiano Cross, before which St. Francis of Assisi was praying when he is said to have received the commission from the Lord to rebuild the Church. This symbolically joins our needs with the needs of Christians around the world.

Lighting a candle can also be a way of strengthening a prayer intention. Just as the candle continues burning after you leave the building, and your prayer continues.

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."



This Sunday, ECM and CREW will be joining together (virtually) to go through the Stations of the Cross. Part of their activity is writing devotions on a wooden cross. Afterwards, they are welcome to come by the church building and present their crosses to the Lord. There will be a basket next to the candles for those devotions.

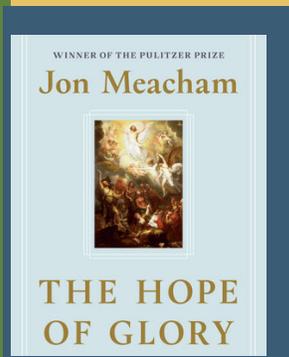
You are all welcome to surrender your prayers of thanksgiving, worry, and praise to God by lighting a candle. If you are unable to come to the building, please call or email the office and I'll be glad to offer up your devotion.

THE NEWARK PARISHES OF SAINTS NICHOLAS & THOMAS ADULT CHRISTIAN ED

LENT 2021: THURSDAYS AT 11AM
ALL ARE WELCOME!

THE HOPE OF GLORY by Jon Meacham
Reflections on the Last Words of Jesus from the Cross
Lead by Fr Bill Lane of St Nicholas

MAR 25: SIXTH WORD (IT IS FINISHED; JN. 19:30)
APR 1: SEVENTH WORD (I COMMEND MY SPIRIT; LK. 23:46)



If you would like to take part and are not already participating in the Thursday Adult Study, please e-mail your request to wmbplane@gmail.com and you will receive the sign on information.



(10) EACH OF YOU HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH ONE OF GOD'S MANY WONDERFUL GIFTS
TO BE USED IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS.

SO USE YOUR GIFT WELL.

(11) IF YOU HAVE THE GIFT OF SPEAKING, PREACH GOD'S MESSAGE.

IF YOU HAVE THE GIFT OF HELPING OTHERS, DO IT WITH THE STRENGTH THAT GOD SUPPLIES.

EVERYTHING SHOULD BE DONE IN A WAY THAT WILL BRING HONOR TO GOD
BECAUSE OF JESUS CHRIST, WHO IS GLORIOUS AND POWERFUL FOREVER. AMEN.

1 PETER 4:10-11

God has entrusted you with the responsibility of ministering to others with your spiritual gifts. Exercise your gifts with care and diligence in order to be good stewards. Let the benefits of your gifts be shared widely both within the church and beyond. You will have the satisfaction of seeing how it blesses the lives of many others and how it builds up the kingdom of God.

This week, you received an emailed survey from the stewardship committee. Take a moment in the next few days to take this time and talent survey. There is also a survey for the youth! You can mail, or email your reply. Or, you can stop by the church building and leave them in the box in the lobby that was used for pledges. Please contact Kristin or Helen with any questions.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

Holy Week

MARCH 28 - APRIL 4 2021



S **Palm Sunday**
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 9am
The Liturgy of the Palms and distribution of palm will take place at the service and palms will be available later in the day

M Holy Eucharist, 5:30pm
A quiet, spoken service with prayers from Eastern Orthodox Service of the Bridegroom (Matthew 25: 1-13)

T Holy Eucharist, 5:30pm
A quiet, spoken service with prayers and anointing for healing

W Holy Eucharist 12noon
Solemn Evensong 7pm
Our usual Wednesday midday Eucharist with intercessory prayer. In the evening, a chanted service of evening prayer.

T **Maundy Thursday**
Holy Eucharist with stripping of the altar, and watch, 7pm
at St Thomas's, celebrating with St Nicholas's
This evening we celebrate the Eucharist, remove the ornaments in the church in preparation for Good Friday, and reserve the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar of Repose. The church will be open continuously (live and via YouTube) until Friday noon for those who wish to follow Our Lord's request that we watch with Him "one brief hour" (Matthew 26:40)

F **Good Friday**
Good Friday Liturgy 12noon
Stations of the Cross, 7pm
at St Nicholas's, celebrating with St Thomas's
The principal Good Friday Liturgy will be observed at noon, with the solemn collects and Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament. The evening service will be the traditional Christian cycle of prayers on the Way of the Cross.

S **Holy Saturday**
Reconciliation (Confession) 2-4pm
Great Vigil of Easter, 8pm
at St Thomas's, celebrating with St Nicholas's
There will be opportunity for private confession during the afternoon as a way of becoming fully prepared to celebrate Easter. In the evening, we will gather for the Church's most solemn observance-waiting and watching for Our Lord's resurrection. We will light the new Paschal fire, renew our baptismal promises, and make a joyful noise (bring bells!)

S **Sunday of the Resurrection**
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 9am



A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN SEVEN DAYS