

# The Carpenter's Helper

*This Week...we are entering Holy Week*



**Drive Through/Walk Up  
Communion and Prayers**

continues every Sunday

10-11am

**ALL are Welcome!**



## It's time to think about Easter flowers.

In past years, the sanctuary has been decked out with heavenly bounties of fresh florals. I can almost smell them now. A list of dedications have been printed on the back of the Easter bulletin, displaying our Thanksgivings and Memorials.

This year we will be accepting flower dedications, but it will be a bit different. Your Memorial or Thank offering will go towards outdoor plantings. In this way, everyone can enjoy the flowers throughout the season, and we will be kinder to the environment.

You will still see lovely flowers around the altar on Easter, either in person or on YouTube, but it will be less lavish than in past years. However, when you visit the church building throughout the season, please take time to admire the outdoor plantings, and know that they represent some of our Thanksgivings and Memorials: Matthew 6:21: For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

If you would like to make a dedication, you may do so directly through the St Thomas website . You will also find the dedication form attached to this email. You may choose to mail it in, or drop by the office (if I'm not in, please leave it in the box on the front of the office door). I will have extra forms available on the bulletin board in the lobby. Please let me know if you have any questions about this change. Please submit your dedications no later than Wednesday, 3/31/21.



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.



# The Julian Porch

I honestly don't know that much about the history of the Julian Porch, but I was drawn to its serene beauty when looking around the sanctuary this morning, and wanted to share it with you. It inhabits the small walkway to the left of the altar, with doors that lead to the portico. This is the door that the dedicated and often invisible altar guild use to access the sacristy.

I never before noticed the lovely quote above the door, or the stone stuck in the wall which was retrieved from near Lady Julian's cell in Norwich England. I've passed by the picture of the praying hands before, but had never noticed that the artist was one of our faith family, Peter Greiss. And of course, what needs to be said about the stunning stained glass, and the magical light and colors that they bounce around the room.

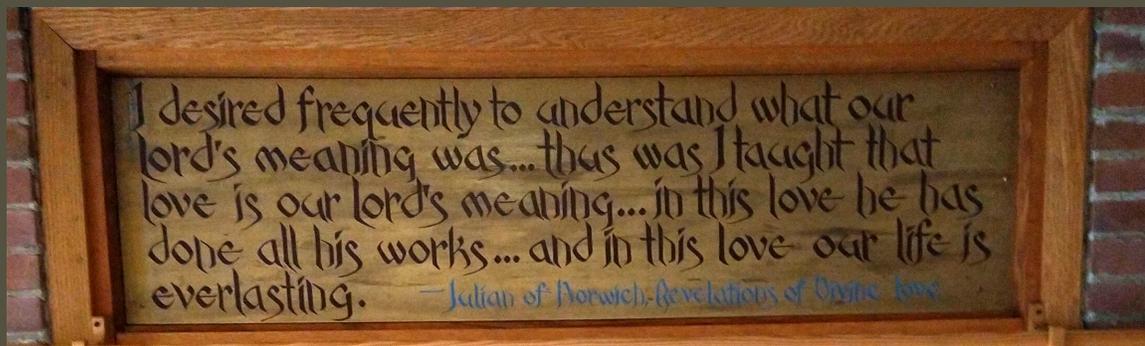
Pre-pandemic, during services, Lay Healing took place in this special room: volunteers who in their faithfulness and dedication to prayer comfort with those who are in pain, sorrow, or grief, or are standing in for someone else who is in need of prayer. We also share prayers of praise and thankfulness. The Scriptures instruct us to pray for one another, anointing one another in the name of the Lord (James 5:13-16) and we will be healed. Of course, healing takes many forms, and as we have come to understand, is not always a physical cure.



stone donated by Jack Robinson



praying hands by JP Greiss



I desired frequently to understand what our lord's meaning was... thus was I taught that love is our lord's meaning... in this love he has done all his works... and in this love our life is everlasting. — Julian of Norwich, Revelations of Divine Love

## THE SACRAMENTAL LIFE

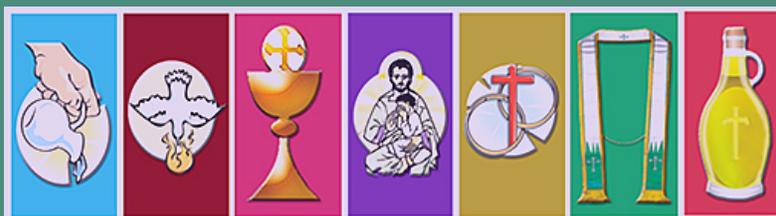
3 WEEK SERIES  
VIA ZOOM

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.





(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.

Last 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.

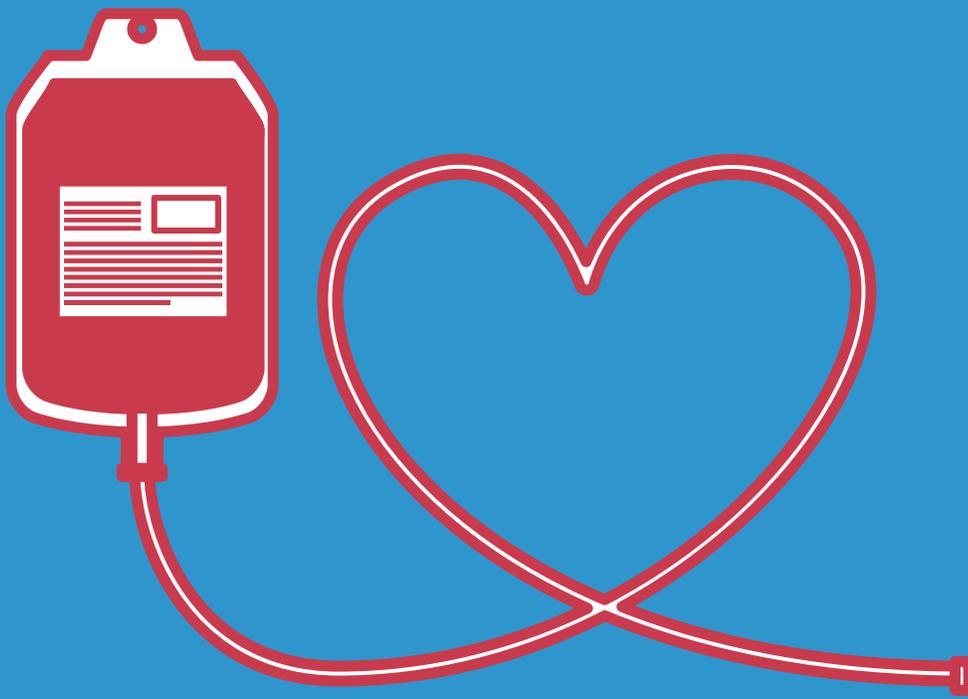
**T** **Maundy Thursday**  
Holy Eucharist with stripping of the altar, and watch, 7pm  
at St Thomas's, celebrating with St Nicholas's  
This evening we celebrate the Eucharist, remove the ornaments in the church in preparation for Good Friday, and reserve the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar of Repose. 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





**Be A Hero!**

**Every donation can save up to 3 lives!**

**COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE  
APRIL 7TH, 2021 1-6PM**

*appointments are requested*

**call 888-8-BLOOD-8**

*walk-ins will be accepted if possible*

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**More details at [delmarvablood.org](http://delmarvablood.org)**