

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Bishop
The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector
Gerrie Vergona, Treasurer
Esther Graham, Music Director
Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator
Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Wardens and Vestry 2022

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden
Peter Quigley, Property Warden
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano
Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue
Kay Karlick, Tom Larson, Ken Seda
Joanne Smithson, Clerk

Mission Statement

To proclaim the faith that our years have engendered: to use the diversity of our Episcopal experience while working toward a common goal; to teach the young about Jesus and to reach out and affect the lives of those in the community.

"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!

We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly with the Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector.

To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Please notify the church office 732-350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations. If it is an emergency you may also reach Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



The Fifth Sunday of Lent

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I**

**APRIL 3, 2022
8 & 10:15am**

Hymnal	THE WORD OF GOD	BCP
	Open Acclamation	319
441	Processional “ <i>In the cross of Christ I glory</i> ”	
	Confession and Absolution	320
S91	Kyrie	324
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <i>Isaiah 43:16-21</i>	Insert
	Psalm 126	Lenten Booklet
	Second Lesson: <i>Philippians 3:4b-14</i>	Insert
	Gradual: <i>Verse</i>	Lenten Booklet
	Gospel: <i>John 12:1-8</i>	Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i>	
	The Nicene Creed	(bottom of page) 327
	Prayers of the People	328
	The Peace	332
	Offertory Anthem	
	Doxology: “ <i>All things come of Thee, O Lord</i> ”	
 HOLY COMMUNION		
	Eucharistic Prayer I I	340
S112	Sursum Corda	
S113	Sanctus	
	<i>The Lord’s Prayer</i>	336
S157	Angus Dei	
	Communion Hymns:	
325	“ <i>Let us break bread together</i> ”	
313	“ <i>Let thy Blood in mercy poured</i> ”	
679	“ <i>Surely it is God who saves me</i> ”	
	Post Communion Prayer	339
	Announcements	
	Blessing	
398	Closing Hymn: “ <i>I sing the almighty power of God</i> ”	
	Dismissal	

Save the Date on Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY GROUP-

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am, for info contact Roberta Mackey at (917) 696-6863

CHOIR PRACTICE-

Wednesdays at 10am

HEALING SERVICES-

Thursdays at 10:00 am

ORDER OF ST. LUKE-

2nd Thursday of each month, April 14th- after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING-

Monday, April 25 @ 10am

WHITING GARDEN CLUB-

Whiting Garden Club meets next on April 6th at 10AM in the Parish Hall call Stefanie if you plan to attend.

DO YOU NEED A PLEDGE CARD?

Please see our Treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.

LENTEN SCHEDULES-

Available in the Narthex

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP-

Monday, April 11th at 10AM All are welcome

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE -

A Holy Week Schedule is available in the Narthex.

VIGIL AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL-

A Vigil will be held on Saturday April 16th @ 7 pm in Trenton at the Trinity Cathedral. There is a sing-up sheet in the Narthex for ride share opportunities. Please let us know if you can provide rides to and from the Vigil.



ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. Compline is now on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** at 7PM on **YouTube and Zoom**. All are welcome!

COME AND SEE!!!



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THE ENGLISH TEA HAS RETURNED

The ECW will again be presenting their American Version of the English Tea. The first one will be held on Thursday, May 19 from 2-4PM. Tables for four are set with linen tablecloths and napkins, real china plates, cups and saucers, sugar bowl, creamer, and flowers in the center of each table.

Two tables are set--one with dainty sandwiches including cucumber-- scones, jam, and butter. The other table has trifles, cookies, fruit, candy, pastries, and more. Upon arrival, tickets may be purchased for the treasure auction, and of course the 50/50. The door prizes are all brand new teapots. Tickets are \$15 per person. They may be purchased on Sundays in the Narthex, Monday through Thursday from 9AM-2PM from the church office, call the church office at (732) 350-2121; or by calling the chair, Stefanie Bodine at (732) 350-2904. Only 100 tickets are sold. and when they are sold out, that's it. NO REFUNDS. The teas were begun over 30 years ago by our English friend and ECW member Teresa Thurber. Men and women are welcome. So, gather your friends together so you do not miss this special event.

Stefanie

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.. *Amen*

First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.



Psalm 126

In convertendo

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting Winter clothes **ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear,* and other items. Our Summer clothes are now on clearance sale. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.

ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN ~ is in need of additional members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732-350-7584 for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain, your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.

CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS ~ We will be revisiting the Caregivers program soon after Lent. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. If you have any questions please feel free to contact JoAnn Smithson at 609-268-0821.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING

Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan. Contact our Treasurer, *Gerrie Vergona* if interested.



COFFEE HOUR   **help wanted**

A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2022 - sign up! Everyone is so grateful for the delicious food that you share, your help, and they love chatting after the services. Any questions, contact *Stefanie* at (732) 350-2904

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws

Days and Hours of Operation are:

Tuesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Wednesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws is made up of members of the **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** community and other volunteers who assist in maintaining our pantry, provide food for the sick, the hungry and the needy. The food pantry is here to help those who have minimal funds to work with and come to us when they have a specific need for food. The **Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws** through very generous donations is also able to provide pet food for dogs and cats. For further information please call: **Jim Jados, Director, Food Pantry at (732) 408-5948.**

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Thank you to all who have donated. There are parishioners as well as other members in our community who benefit greatly from this valued fund. If you wish to contribute, please use the basket on the back table for donations



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month--April 14th, after the Healing Service.

Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:

Celebrant: N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

People: May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

Celebrant: Continues with a closing prayer.

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines 1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am
The Arbors 2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Pines 3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm



to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it 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."





Each of the Lenten Sundays stresses one of the events in the Old Testament history of Salvation. For us, these events foreshadow the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection and our incorporation into him in Holy Baptism.

The two greatest events in Israel's salvation history were the Exodus/Passover in the time of Moses and Israel's return from exile in Babylon to the land of promise in the sixth century B.C. Today we hear from Isaiah a reflection upon that return which transforms it into the sign that still to come. God's plan is an even greater act of salvation—something entirely new. It is that new action by God which we celebrate in this season and especially in Holy Week and Easter.

Today's gospel reading is the story of a woman who expressed her devotion to Jesus by anointing his feet with costly perfume. While Judas complained about her extravagant action, Jesus saw it as a sign of his coming death and burial. The gospel writer discounts the complaint that the money could have been given to the poor. We are reminded that to make our Lord our greatest value is essential to our role as the people of God.

In the second reading, Paul testifies that his life is lived in Christ. This is not simply a metaphor. In baptism, we have been made part of Jesus' dying and rising, which is renewed in the Eucharist.

We are nearing Holy Week, when we enter into an intense period of rediscovering our identity as people who are in Christ and in whom God has performed the ultimate act of salvation. The restoration of all people to their true homeland with God will end the exile from God created by our disobedience.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.

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FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

APRIL 3, 2022

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Stefanie Bodine</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Bill Bodine</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Debbie Fisher, Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:15 am	<i>Michael Munson</i>
LEM 10:15 am	<i>Robert Virtue, Greg Hartline</i>
Altar Guild 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 10:15 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>



Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to

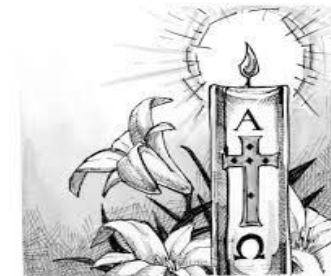
The Glory of God

In Memory of

*My Father Charles Rotsaert,
by Stefanie Bodine*

In Memory of

*My Mother, Dorothy Dewland
by Joy Frey*



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to the

Glory of God

In Memory of

*Our Granddaughter
Hope Gundecker,
by Bill & Dottie Kaster*

In Memory of

*Charles Rotsaert's Birthday by
Stefanie & Bill Bodine*

