

ST. DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ELLSWORTH

TID BITS FROM THE TABLE ~ MARCH 29, 2024

Dear ones,

We've begun our Triduum, the most holy part of our liturgical year. Thank you to everyone who made our Maundy Thursday Eucharist service so meaningful. It was an honour to mark the start of the Triduum together. If you would like to meet with me during 'office hours' this week I'm in Friday 3:30-4:30 before our Good Friday service. My office hours begin 'officially' in April. If you'd like to ensure time alone simply email me at carolynkrosen@gmail.com, or text/call at 406.696.4113 anytime.

Friday (today, when you read this), we will offer our Good Friday service at 5pm. All are welcome, and their loved ones. If you haven't been to a Good Friday service, or haven't been for some time, you're most welcome. If you make it a point to attend Good Friday service each year, you're most welcome. It's a moving and beautiful service. In our parish, we have a tradition of accumulating a 'bowl of burdens' during Lent, of writing down people or situations that weigh heavily on our hearts on bits of paper, then folding them and putting them in our (physical) bowl of burdens; following our Good Friday service we set these alight. We warmly invite everyone present to participate in this tradition on Good Friday.

On Sunday at our usual 9:30am we will celebrate Easter Sunday in all its glory. Last year we also celebrated a baptism (Ava, Arthur's very best friend and our next-door neighbor); this year we will renew our baptismal vows at this service. I will also put in a request for you to bring your Easter baskets this Sunday; the Easter bunny has come early to our house and left more than a hundred eggs ready to be hidden by my beloved husband Aaron (and Arthur) during the Easter service...

Thank you to everyone who is taking part in making sure the Easter service is as beautiful and meaningful as possible. That includes, but isn't limited to, our readers, our musicians--thank you as well to Paul for his musical choices, plus Margaret, Greg and Tom--and our sacristans including Marian as Head Sacristan who prepare our liturgical space with such devotion and care, as well as our greeters, ushers, servers, counters, our hospitality team, those who prepare and bring lovely food for our Easter feast, and our Wardens and Vestry members, as well as the members of our Liturgy Team, for all their dedication and hard work. It takes much love and time to prepare for our Easter feast, and we are all grateful.

Yours, with gratitude and love,
Carolyn+



Left to right: Dave Wells, Deputy Warden; the Rev. Dr. Carolyn Rosen, Priest-in-Charge; Tom Hancock, Senior Warden and the Rev. Tracy Shaffer, Deacon.

It has been requested that I again put in my Holy Week article on where and what Jesus did during this last week before his crucifixion. Jesus was not idle but intent on doing what he did best by seeing and caring for others. My hope is that I can learn from Him and reflect on how I can do more for others. May your Holy Week and Easter be thoughtful and joyful. Love, Dianne

Perhaps this will help us to think about how important and historical this coming week is to all of us.

Holy Week

Holy week is coming right around the corner. This year, our Jewish friends are observing Passover in April, around when our Easter usually occurs. It is a religious observance of the freeing of the Jews from Egypt. As I was growing up my best friend was Jewish, and I was able to help prepare their home for the Passover. It was and is very memorable and special. At my home, even as I was brought up as an Episcopalian, the only activities were getting new clothes or shoes, going to church on Palm Sunday to get my palms and Easter to be joyous. I knew about Maundy Thursday and Good Friday but with both parents working, we did not observe them. I knew that my Catholic friends got out of school at noon where I stayed until the end of the day. Looking back, I know it was a necessity, but I feel somewhat cheated, especially now I know about the significance.

Holy week! It is a week of rejoicing like our Jewish friends, they for freedom from the Egyptians and us from death. Do you know what Jesus did each day of week? Remembering that Jesus was Jewish, he came into Jerusalem ready to prepare for Passover with joy, mixed feelings, and action, and ultimately his final sacrifice for us.

Palm Sunday was a day of triumph and hope. Humble, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Branches of palms that had great value to the people littered his path. The people have so much joy and hope that Jesus was their savior, but from the Romans not spiritually.

On Holy Monday, Jesus went into the temple. He was outraged at what he found. He threw out the vendors. He also healed the blind and lame, enraging the Pharisees. He did not make many friends with the priests of the temple.

On Holy Tuesday he challenged the Pharisees and Sadducees about many things including taxes on marriages, on the widows and not caring about justice, mercy and faithfulness. Many parables were spoken that day to help us later to be more like what God wants us to be.

Holy Wednesday is also called Spy Wednesday since it was on this day Judas Iscariot agreed to betray Jesus by making a deal with the Pharisees in exchange for money. Jesus went to Bethany to the home of Simon the Leper to visit and was praised and anointed by Mary with expensive perfume.

Thursday is known as Maundy Thursday. It was the first day of Unleavened Bread – observed 2 days before the start of the Passover. We know it as the day when Jesus and his disciples had their last supper of unleavened bread and wine. Jesus told them what was to happen and then went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. It was here at midnight Judas betrayed Jesus.

Friday is Good Friday, a day of trial, betrayal by the people, and crucifixion. Jesus suffered torture and much pain. His followers suffered with guilt, fear, and unbelief at what was happening. So why Good? Good also meant Holy, Sacred where we were given a victory over death by Jesus' sacrifice. Jesus died a few hours before the official beginning of Passover.

Saturday is known as Black Saturday when Jesus descended to the dead. It was the first full day of the Passover with his followers in deep mourning. An Easter Vigil is kept by many churches.

EASTER! The day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection and the gift of triumph of life over death demonstrated and promised to us. Joyous music, uplifting songs sung and so much more happiness is in our services.

It was a week of much action and deep emotions. It was a week I did not really know or understand except for the happy ends, Palm and Easter. I am so thankful for the patience God has shown so that I could know the true meaning of Holy Week. I am still learning and receiving so much more from Him, from Jesus and from his people, you.

Thank you all.

Dianne



A very special Sunday as we celebrated the first birthday of Calvin Moss Gowie.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for new life in our homes, our families, and our communities.

We Pray Especially For: Kathy O'Connell, Robbie Johnston, Jesse Pierce, Eve Mitchell, Skip Stevens, Larmie Knuesli, Tony Rowan, Sally Rowan, Jennifer McCall, Dorothy Sweeney, Robert Abshear, and Lorna McCormick for comfort and healing.

(Prayer requests will remain for three weeks unless notified that the request needs to remain longer.)

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or continue a name on the list, please let us know at stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com or leave a message at the church (667-5495).

**It is important to us that the list is up-to-date and accurate.
To everyone, please stay well and safe. Blessings to you all.**

Almighty and merciful God, we ask in our prayers that the conflict in Ukraine and the others around the world can be resolved peacefully. Bless the people that have been affected by the unrest and grant them peace and justice. We also ask for the people in our own country that have been impacted by the hurricanes, violence and loss of loved ones as they grieve, pick up their lives. Grant them strength, comfort, and healing. All this we ask with the power of your love to all through Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ UPCOMING WORSHIP / EVENTS SCHEDULE ~

At this time the Sunday services will be both in church following safe practices and via Zoom. Compline is every Thursday at 7:00p.m via Zoom

The sanctuary is open for quiet reflection and prayer on Mondays from 1 to 3.

Access to the sanctuary is available through the lower level parking lot doors of the church during this time.

March 29 ~ Good Friday Prayer, 5:00 pm

March 31 ~ Easter Sunday, 9:30 am

Upcoming Events:

- **March 30** – The Hancock County Food Drive kicks off at Friends & Family market
- **April 19th** – Literacy Night and spaghetti dinner at the pantry

Loaves & Fishes
of Ellsworth

**News for
Congregations**





American Red Cross

National Blood Shortage

Please schedule your next blood donation at redcrossblood.org

Faith in Maine:

This is a podcast produced by our Episcopal Diocese with various members of the clergy giving their thoughts and prayers. The podcast changes each week. Feel free to call and listen. You can call **207-223-6402** at any time. They last approximately 4-5 minutes.



Family News



We would love to hear about **your news** and for **what you are thankful for during this year**. Submit your news to stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com

This week we are **Green** according to CDC for our county.



Even with the wind down of **COVID 19**, we know that it will be with us for some time to come. The CDC is now resuming coding the occurrences of COVID. We will keep you informed.

We at St. Dunstan's we will continue to follow CDC data and the practices in our Diocesan parishes. Our vestry has voted to not require masks. If you wish to wear one, masks will be available. Of course, if you are feeling unwell, we ask that you rest and join us on Zoom. Our hope is that you will stay well and will join us for our worship services each Sunday.



Priest - Rev. Dr. Carolyn Rosen
Deacon - Rev. Tracy Shaffer
Senior Warden – Tom Hancock
Deputy Warden – Dave Wells
Junior Warden - McKim Peterson

www.saintdunstansellsworth.org

You can contact us by leaving a message by telephone or email:

Phone: [667-5495](tel:667-5495) Email: stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com

Muffet Stewart and Mary Delong: stdunstanstreasurer@gmail.com

Rain is in the church office Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8 – 9 am