



Holy Week Activities

From early times Christians have observed the week before Easter as a time of special devotion. From this beginning evolved the rites we observe today on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Here at St. Stephen's, we will also observe special services on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Holy Week ends at sundown on the Saturday before Easter, with the celebration of the Easter Vigil on Sunday morning.

The complete schedule is being sent out as a separate special edition of the E-Newsletter. You can also find the schedule on the printed cards available in the Narthex and in the church office; in the Palm Sunday bulletin as an insert; on our website [Home - St. Stephen's](#); and on our Facebook page, [Facebook - St. Stephen's Episcopal Church](#).

St. Stephen's Website Links

Download the bulletins for this week's services: [Home | St. Stephen's](#)

This Week in Our Faith – March 22, 2024

Palm Sunday – the Sunday of the Passion

This Sunday, March 24, 2024:

▶ 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I (spoken) Location: St. Stephen's Nave

▶ 10:00 AM Choral Eucharist Rite I Location: St. Stephen's Nave

You can watch the 10:00 AM service on our [YouTube channel](#).

Sunday – Adult Education

All classes are held in the Pollard Room. We invite you to join us after a service, to learn more about the Christian faith and the Episcopal way of life.

▶ **9:00 AM - Lectionary Study Continues:**

Each week we take deep dive in the gospel passage, seeking to enlighten our understanding of the Gospel and the message of the good news of Christ.

▶ **11:15 AM - Adult Education**

This will be the final week of the group Lectio Divina on the Passion Narrative. Come hear what Jesus has to say to us now, and journey with Him as He makes His way to Calvary.

Sunday - Children's Christian Education

Children's Sunday School is held after the 10:00 AM Services

Room 108: Ages 3-6 (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd)

Room 202: Grades 1-3 (Primary)

Room 204: Grades 4-6 (Primary)

Room 209: Grades 6-8 (Intermediate)

Monday, March 25, 2024 and Tuesday March 26, 2024 - Stations of the Cross - 6:00 PM

MONDAY MARCH 25
6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

TUESDAY MARCH 26
6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross is a traditional liturgical devotion commemorating the last day of Jesus' life. Come join us in retracing the traditional steps Jesus is believed to have followed on Good Friday.

You may notice that our beautiful banners have been taken down and replaced with Stations of the Cross. Booklets entitled *The Way of the Cross* are available in the narthex and in the hallway outside the sacristy. This resource will guide you through the stations as you walk the Way of the Cross. You can also find a copy of this booklet for download by clicking [here](#).

Tuesday- Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM

Join us in the St. Alban's Chapel for Holy Eucharist - Rite I / Healing Service.

Tuesday - Bible Study 10:00 AM

Join the Tuesday Bible Study group on Tuesday mornings in the Pollard Library. We start at 10:00 AM, and end prior to the Tuesday Healing Service.

We are following a 12-session study entitled "Twelve Women of the Bible: Life-Changing Stories for Women Today" and using the book and DVD of the same name. In some ways there are so many 'Marys' ...it's easy to get some of them mixed up. In my youth, I thought the woman at the well was Mary Magdalene. Come to Tuesday Bible study to learn who this Mary really was. Questions? please contact Jim Rousey at james.rousey@aol.com.

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 6:00 PM NEW TIME Lenten Simple Soup Supper and Choir Offering

Two soups (one vegetarian), breads, crackers, & fruit.
Join us for fellowship at no charge.



One more time! We will be offering Italian Vegetable Soup (Vegan) and White Bean Soup with Ham, along with crackers, bread and cornbread, spreads and fresh fruit from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Then stay with us to hear our wonderful choir present a special offering of Sir John Stainer's "The Crucifixion". Our guest soloists will be Joel Brown (tenor) and Tim Pope (baritone).

Thursday, Friday, Saturday - The Easter Triduum

The three holy days, or Easter Triduum, of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are at the heart of the Holy Week observance. Join us during this three-day period where we prepare for Easter. Everything we say and everything we do proclaims the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ until he comes again.

► Thursday March 28 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm – Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Overnight Vigil following the service
Signup sheets for the overnight vigil are available in the upstairs hall and the hospitality room

► Friday March 29 – Good Friday

12:00 – 3:00 pm – Seven Last Words of Christ (drop in anytime)
7:00 pm – Good Friday Liturgy with Holy Communion

► Saturday March 30 - Holy Saturday

9:00 am – Holy Saturday Service

Easter Events

Easter Day - Sunday, March 31, 2024

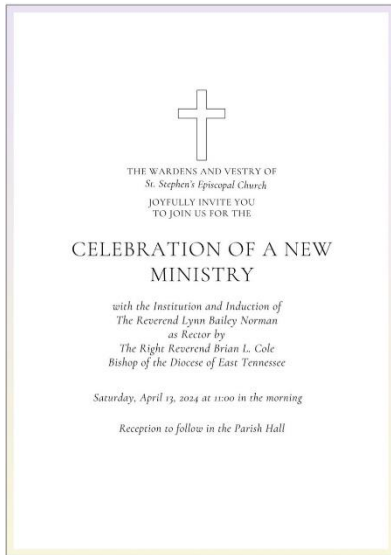


- After the 6:00 AM Easter Vigil: breakfast will be served in the Parish Hall until 9:00 AM.
- Christian Ed. is sponsoring the annual Egg Hunt, which will be at 9:45 AM on the front lawn. Please bring your own basket if you can, we have just a few.
- We will have Easter Brunch from 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM. Parish Life will provide the Easter ham, cupcakes, and beverages.

Please bring a brunch dish (think breakfast casseroles, quiche, grits, fruit salads, deviled eggs, breakfast breads, veggie trays, pastries, coffee cake, etc.) to share, and join us in fellowship as we celebrate our Risen Lord.

Upcoming Parish Events

After 8 years, we will install The Reverend Lynn Bailey Norman as St. Stephen's 9th Rector on Saturday, April 13, 2024. We will be joined by many area clergy members as well as our own Bishop Brian Cole. Come and be a part of this joyous occasion as we usher in the New Ministry of our New Rector!



Parish Life will provide buns, cupcakes, and beverages. Veggie burgers for our non-meat eaters will be provided as well. Please help us celebrate by bringing a side dish-we will need lots of potato salad, slaw, baked beans, deviled eggs, veggie platters, fruit platters, chips, etc.

Parish News

Mite Boxes Available

As part of our Lenten tradition, Mite Boxes can be found in the Narthex, Parish Hall or Hospitality Area. We invite you to take one home and for everyone in your family, both young and young at heart, to use it to collect coins during Lent. Donations will go towards the Rio Grande Borderline Ministries (RGBM). We will collect the Mite Boxes on Easter Sunday.

Ongoing Church Events

- Tuesday Bible Study - Pollard Room, 10:00 AM**
- Wednesday WOW for ORHS Students - Parish Hall, 10:00 AM**
- Wednesday Men's Group - Pollard Room, 8:30 AM**
- Thursday Contemplative Prayer (Zoom) - 4:00 PM**

Loose Plate Offering

This week's loose plate offering is designated for the Ecumenical Storehouse.

Let's Go Krogering!



Do You Shop at Kroger? If you do, there's a very simple way you can help St. Stephen's! Have you heard of the Community Rewards Program? All you have to do is simply link your Shopper's Card to your account - just scan the QR code on the left - it's that easy!

Through this program, Kroger helps to support local nonprofit organizations. and you can now link your account to St. Stephen's. Then every time you shop, your visit will be applied to the Rewards program, at no added cost to you! Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations.

You can find out more at the [Kroger's website](#).

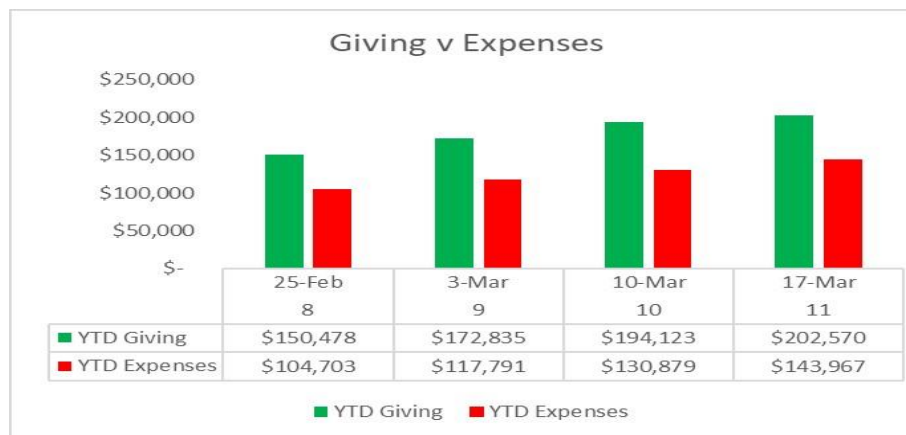
Outreach News

This Week's Outreach Spotlight - Blessing Box

► Please keep the Blessing Box needs on your shopping list. This week we are requesting canned tuna, chicken, and peanut butter. Please keep the size of the Blessing Box in mind when you shop.

Focus on the Parish

St Stephen's Financial Status - March 17, 2024



Helpful Links

[Those Who Serve](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News and Events from the Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee](#)

The church's office hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Offices are closed on Fridays and weekends.

Glossary definitions provided courtesy of Church Publishing Incorporated, New York, NY, (All Rights reserved) from "An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church. A User Friendly Reference for Episcopalians," Don S. Armentrout and Robert Boak Slocum, editors



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