



St. Stephen's E-NEWS

WHERE GOD IS SEEN, LOVE IS FELT, LIVES ARE CHANGED.

March 31, 2023



Our new St. Stephen's confirmands stand with Bishop Brian Cole, Father Ashton Sims, and Father Howard Hess following the March 26 service. From left, Wil Henderson, Bri Henderson, Tyler Walker, Bishop Cole, Father Ashton, Father Howard, Olivia Cox, John Cox. A barbecue luncheon was served in honor of Bishop Cole and the confirmands following the 10:00 a.m. service. The Bishop will return for the Good Friday Liturgy at 7:00 p.m., April 7.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

St. Stephen's will observe **Palm Sunday on April 2.**

The Service Bulletins are available to view and download from the [St. Stephen's website](#) or from these links:

[7:45 a.m. Spoken Eucharist](#)
[10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist](#)

Note: Weather permitting, the 10:00 service will begin outside where worshipers will form a procession into the church to mirror Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

WEEKLY PRAYERS

WE PRAY FOR PARISH MEMBERS

*Matthew & Olivia Feldman, Elijah
Mary Fell*

Lewis, Linda, & David Felton

*Nicole Fisher, Michael, Lilley, Matthew
Serge & Joy Fournier*

Please keep these people in your prayers.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR A BUSY EASTER

Next Sunday, Parish Life is sponsoring a Brunch from 9:45 -11:00, between the 8:30 and the 11:00 a.m. services. This will allow all of us to come together to celebrate, regardless of which service we attend. It will also allow our wonderful choir, musicians, and clergy an opportunity to recharge between services!

An Easter ham will be provided, as well as juices and coffee. Please bring your favorite brunch dish--either sweet (pastry, coffee cake, etc.) or savory (quiche, hash brown casserole, breakfast casseroles, grits, deviled eggs, etc.)--to share with our parish family.

Children should not forget their Easter baskets! Christian Education will also hold the

annual Easter Egg Hunt beginning at 10:00. a.m.

Join us! It will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of Easter!



HOLY WEEK TRADITIONAL TIME FOR CONFESSION

The approach to Holy Week and Easter is a traditional time for those who wish to make a confession to do so. Given that privacy is inherent to this rite, please contact Fr. Ashton directly [by email here](#) rather than through the office if you wish to arrange a time.

FINAL LENTEN BOOK STUDY SATURDAY, APRIL 8

The final Lenten Book Study of *Cross-Shattered Christ: Meditations on the Seven Last Words* by Stanley Hauerwas will be held Saturday, April 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the St. Alban's Chapel.

See Page 2 for More News and Schedule of Holy Week and Easter Activities



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DAUGHTERS OF THE KING PLANNING APRIL TEA

The St. Agnes Chapter of the Daughters of the King is hosting an Afternoon Tea at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, April 23, in the Parish Hall, to honor all women of the parish.

To RSVP: Sign up sheets are available in the Narthex, the Parish Hall, and the Hospitality Center. You may also RSVP at [this link](#).

UPCOMING PLATE OFFERINGS TO SUPPORT CLEARFORK OUTREACH

Undesignated loose offerings on Sundays April 9, 16, and 23, will go to support the St. Stephen's summer ministry to kids in Clearfork Valley. You may also designate offerings made by check by writing "Clearfork Ministry" in the subject line.

Since 2016, St. Stephen's has been conducting a summer day-camp for children in the rural Appalachian community using a refurbished school building now called the Clearfork Community Institute.

With uncertainty about the status of a Federally funded meal program that benefits Clearfork, we ask that you be generous with donations this April.

St. Stephen's 2023 Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 2	7:45 a.m.	Spoken Service With Eucharist
Palm Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Choral Service With Eucharist
	11:45 a.m.	Lenten Book Study, St. Alban's Chapel*
Monday, April 3	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I, St. Alban's Chapel
	Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross (Self-Led)
	6:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Tuesday, April 4	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist + Healing Service
	Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross (Self-Led)
	6:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday, April 5	Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross (Self-Led)
	7:00 p.m.	Sung Compline
Thursday, April 6	Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross (Self-Led)
	Maudy Thursday 7:00 p.m.	Maudy Thursday & Foot Washing
	8:00 p.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Keeping Watch Vigil
Friday, April 7	Noon	Seven Last Words (3-Hour Service)
	Good Friday 7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday, April 8	9:00 a.m.	Holy Saturday, St. Alban's Chapel
	Holy Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Lenten Book Study, St. Alban's Chapel*
	7:00 p.m.	Great Easter Vigil
Sunday April 9	8:30 a.m.	Easter Sunday Festal Choral Eucharist
	Easter 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Easter Brunch, Parish Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt on the Church Lawn
	11:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Festal Choral Eucharist
	During Service	Flowering of the Cross

* Book Study for *Cross Shattered Christ* by Stanley Hauerwas

The church offices are closed on Good Friday, April 7, and Easter Monday, April 10

BRING BELLS FOR GREAT EASTER VIGIL

Please bring bells -if you have them - to ring at the Great Easter Vigil, 7:00 p.m., Saturday, April 8. The service begins in the grove with the kindling of the first fire of Easter.

FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

All, especially our children, are invited to bring flowers on Easter morning for the Flowering of the Cross. If nothing is blooming at your home, extra flowers will be available at the church.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURES

The church office will be closed Good Friday, April 7, and Easter Monday, April 10.

AFTER HOURS PASTORAL SUPPORT

To request after-hours pastoral assistance, please dial the church at 865-483-8497, then follow the voice prompts to select "Pastoral Emergency" (Option 2).