

Benediction Weekly

April 9, 2017

St. Benedict's Church is an inclusive Christian community that celebrates the divine in all beings, and inspires spiritual growth through joyful sacramental worship, loving service, creative expression, thoughtful inquiry and commitment to social justice.



CALENDAR – This week at St. Benedict's:
(at the church unless otherwise specified)

TODAY PALM SUNDAY

8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ Palm Procession

Tuesday, Apr 11

3:00 pm – Dog Walkers meet at Baywood Pier
5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck supper

Wednesday, Apr 12

2:30 pm – EarthCare Meeting
6:00 pm – Blessing of Oils at St James' PR
7:30 pm – Choir Practice at TUMC

Thursday, Apr 13 MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:15 pm – Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm – Eucharist with Foot Washing

Friday, Apr 14 GOOD FRIDAY

12 noon – Good Friday Liturgy
2:30 pm – Stations of the Cross
7:30 pm – Tenebrae at Trinity UMC

Saturday, Apr 15 HOLY SATURDAY

7:45 pm – Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, Apr 16 EASTER SUNDAY

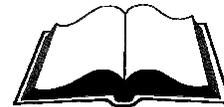
8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ music

Today is the Last Day to make an Easter Lily dedications for inclusion in the Easter bulletins.



Look for contribution envelopes on the Holy Week sign up board and at the ushers' station. Suggested contribution \$10 each.

Lectio Divina
with the Prophet Isaiah



On weekdays, listen for a word.
On Saturday, re-read the whole passage.
What do you hear now?

Lectio for April 9 - 15

Monday	Isaiah 52:13-15
Tuesday	Isaiah 53:1-3
Wednesday	Isaiah 53:4-6
Thursday	Isaiah 53:7-9
Friday	Isaiah 53:11-12
Saturday	Isaiah 52:12-53:12

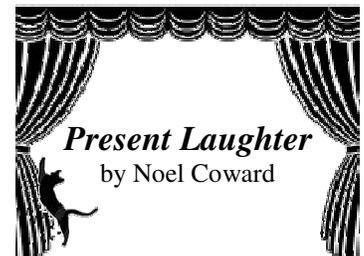


Rev. Caro+ will be on Vacation from April 19 through April 29.

During her absence church business will be managed by the Parish Council, led by our wardens Anne Kanter and Rod Morse. The clergy team will be available for spiritual counsel. Pastoral care concerns should be addressed to Celeste Pennington.

St. Peter's Readers' Theater is in rehearsal for their spring production: Adapted and directed by Jonniepat Mobley, *Present Laughter* will be performed on Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 p.m. Be sure to save the date for a fun afternoon of Coward's sophisticated and sparkling wit.

*St. Peter's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church,
545 Shasta Ave., Morro Bay*



Serving God and the People of St. Benedict's this Week:

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple; Eucharistic Minister: Stef Shuman; Chalice Bearer: John Horsley; Lectors: Bryson McKelvey & Francis Rivinus; Ushers: Rod Morse & Esta Kandarian; Greeter: Ken Kenyon; Altar Guild: Diana Hammerlund; Intercessor: Judy Schloss; Coffee Hour Hosts: Anne Kanter & Barbara Schippers; Tellers: Bryson McKelvey & Stef Shuman; Music Director: John Cribb



**On-Going
Activities
at St. Ben's**

BIBLE STUDY - Come join us for Bible Study at 9:20 a.m. every Sunday except first Sundays.

DREAMS & SPIRITUALITY GROUP - First and third Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm.

EARTHCARE - A discussion/action group to formulate local solutions to environmental concerns. Second Wednesdays at 2:30 pm.

HEALING SERVICE - a time for prayers for healing at the 10:30 service on 5th Sundays.

HOLLISTER INSTITUTE - Opportunities for stimulating discussion and thoughtful exploration for everyone, whether or not they are members of a church. See website.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER CIRCLE - Prayers for the community and the world. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10am.

LITLOVERS' BOOK CLUB - Discussion and fellowship. 4th Saturdays 1pm in members' homes.

LUNCH BUNCH - lunchtime social gathering following church, 2nd Sundays at Celia's Garden Café.

MEET ME IN MORRO - lunchtime social gathering, 3rd Tuesdays at varying restaurants in Morro Bay.

MEN'S BREAKFAST - morning social gathering, 2nd Saturdays 9am at Celia's Garden Café.

PEOPLE'S KITCHEN - Providing and serving food at Prado Day Center, 1st Saturday of even-numbered months.

POTLUCK AND PRADO on the 1st Sunday of each month donations to Prado Day Center are collected, and potluck lunch follows 10:30 service.

VESPERS AND CONVERSATION 5:30 pm Tuesdays. Vespers service using varying liturgies, followed by potluck supper.

VESTRY / PARISH COUNCIL
3rd Thursdays at 6:30pm
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, *Rector*
Anne Kanter, *Sr. Warden*
Rod Morse, *Jr. Warden*
Pamela Bleisch, Lisa Gonzalez,
Esta Kandarian, Barbara Schippers,
Ken Kenyon, and Kathie West.

The Presiding Bishop's Easter Message

It's taken me some years to realize it, but Jesus didn't just happen to be in Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday. He wasn't on vacation. He wasn't just hanging out in town. Jesus was in Jerusalem on purpose. He arrived in Jerusalem about the time of the Passover when pilgrims were in the city. When people's hopes and expectations for the dawn of freedom that Moses had promised in the first Passover might suddenly be realized for them in their time.

Jesus arranged his entrance into Jerusalem to send a message. He entered the city, having come in on one side of the city, the scholars tell us, at just about the same time that Pontius Pilate made his entrance on the exact opposite side of the city. Pilate, coming forth on a warhorse. Pilate, with soldiers around him. Pilate, with the insignias of Rome's Empire. Pilate, representing the Caesars who claimed to be son of god. Pilate, who had conquered through Rome the people of Jerusalem. Pilate, representing the Empire that had taken away their freedom. Pilate, who represented the Empire that would maintain the colonial status of the Jewish people by brute force and violence.

Jesus entered the city on the other side, not on a warhorse, but on a donkey, recalling the words of Zechariah: *Behold your King comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey.* Jesus entered the city at the same time as Pilate to show them, and to show us, that God has another way. That violence is not the way. That hatred is not the way. That brute force and brutality are not the way.

Jesus came to show us there is another way. The way of unselfish, sacrificial love. That's why he entered Jerusalem. That's why he went to the cross. It was the power of that love poured out from the throne of God, that even after the horror of the crucifixion would raise him from death to life.

God came among us in the person of Jesus to start a movement. A movement to change the face of the earth. A movement to change us who dwell upon the earth. A movement to change the creation from the nightmare that is often made of it into the dream that God intends for it.

He didn't just happen to be in Jerusalem on that Palm Sunday. He went to Jerusalem for a reason. To send a message. That not even the titanic powers of death can stop the love of God. On that Easter morning, he rose from the dead, and proclaimed love wins.

So you have a blessed Easter. Go forth to be people of the Resurrection. Follow in the way of Jesus. Don't be ashamed to love. Don't be ashamed to follow Jesus.

Have a blessed Easter. And bless the world. Amen.

*The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church*

Giving in March - St. Ben's General Operating Fund - Thank you!!

March Income: \$ 18,170	Monthly Income Budgeted: \$ 12,989	Difference: \$ 5,181 surplus
YTD Income: \$ 47,809	YTD Income Budgeted: \$ 38,968	Difference: \$ 8,841 surplus

Keeping in Touch during the Week. For counsel & spiritual care, please contact any of the clergy: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, 704-5826; The Rev. Donna Ross, 235-5117; The Rev. Barry Turner, 784-0670; or The Rev. Faye Hogan, 541-4595.

Call Celeste Pennington with pastoral care & prayer chain requests, 771-8974.

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