

April Happenings

St. James Episcopal Church, Amesbury

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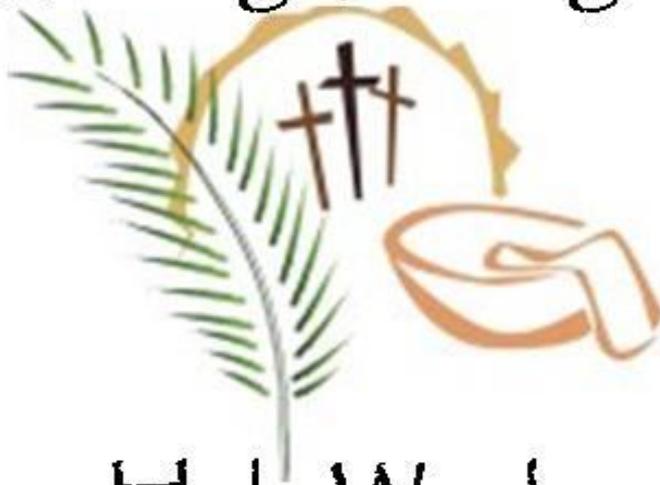
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Walking Through



Holy Week

The Sunday of the Passion

Palm Sunday

April 9, 2017

9:00am

Procession of the Palms from the Millyard
An Amesbury Council of Churches Event

10:00am

Blessing of the Palms
A reading of the Passion Narrative and
Holy Eucharist Rite II at St. James Church

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
in
Holy Week

7:00pm Stations of the Cross & Holy Eucharist Rite
II

Maundy Thursday, April 13

5:00 pm
Egg Dyeing, dinner and fellowship

7:00pm
Foot Washing Ceremony &
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Stripping of the Altar and Procession to the Altar of
Repose

9:00pm - 9:00am
Night Watch Vigil in the Chapel

If you would like to partake in Night Watch, please
contact the office and let us know the time you will
watch. You may contact us at email:
stjames.office@verizon.net
or telephone: 978-388-0030.

Good Friday - April 14

12:00pm to 3:00pm
The Sanctuary will be open for silent prayer.

12:05pm
Stations of the Cross

7:00pm
Good Friday Liturgy and
Communion of the Pre-Sanctified

Easter Eve - April 15

7:00pm

The Great Vigil of Easter
at

St. James Groveland

Lighting of the New Fire, Blessing of the Paschal
Candle, Holy Baptism and
The First Eucharist of Easter

Fr. John will serve as Preacher.

Easter Day - April 16

6:00am

Sunrise Service at Alliance Park, Amesbury.

This is an Amesbury Council of Churches Event. A
light Breakfast following service at the Union
Congregational Church

10:00am

Festal Procession and Holy Eucharist Rite II

All are welcome as we celebrate the
Sunday of the Resurrection
at St. James Episcopal Church Amesbury



Lenten Offering



Palm Sunday, April 9, is the last Sunday of Sung Compline. The service begins at 5PM in the sanctuary and is led by the St. James choir.

Compline is the final service of the day in the monastic tradition and is sometimes referred to as nighttime prayers.

All are invited to this service to reflect on our Lenten pilgrimage. It is an opportunity to simply come and listen, sit, kneel, pray, contemplate and bask in the Glory of God as our choir leads us in the beautiful sung prayers of our Compline service. The service lasts approximately 30 minutes and is a great way to wind down the day and prepare for the week.

Maundy Thursday



The evening will begin with a family potluck supper, fellowship and Easter Egg dyeing in the Parish Hall. The dinner and egg dyeing is for young children and those young in heart. Eggs and dyeing

materials will be provided. All are invited and welcome. Please contact Kelly Bennett for more information and to let her know if you can bring a dish to share.

Everyone is then invited and encouraged to participate in the Maundy Thursday Liturgy beginning at 7:00PM. At the Liturgy we celebrate the institution of The Lord's Supper and the giving of the New Commandment. We also recount how Jesus washed the feet of His disciples giving us this example of humble service towards others to follow. After the Liturgy concludes the Altar will then be stripped in commemoration of how Jesus was stripped, emptied. Fr. John will then invite our children and youth to help him wash the Altar in preparation to receive our Lord's Body on Good Friday.

Our youth are invited to stay after the Liturgy for an interactive Holy Week event.

Good Friday Offering



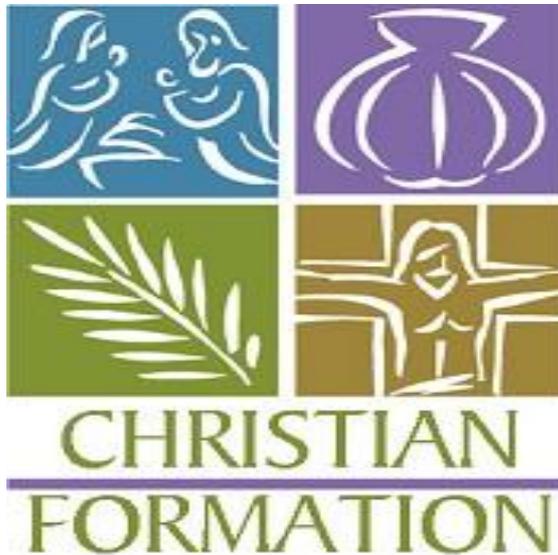
This year we will be participating in The Good Friday Offering which will go to support Mission in the Holy Land. On Good Friday, offerings are invited from across the Episcopal Church to support the four dioceses in the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Funds are used to promote peace and mutual understanding through pastoral care, health care and educational programs throughout the region.

The loose plate offering this day will go to support our sisters and brothers in the Middle East. You may also help support this fund by writing Good Friday Middle East offering on your check in the memo line. Visit www.episcopalchurch.org/goodfridayoffering or see our poster on the bulletin board in the hallway to learn more.

Vestry Meeting



The April Vestry Meeting will be held on Wednesday the 19th at 7pm in Fr. John's office. All parish members are invited to attend the meeting to hear and observe our Vestry Leaders.



Easter Sunday, April 16th all young children are invited to a Resurrection Egg Hunt in the Parish Hall.

The confirmation class will meet in the Parish Hall on April 23 at 3:30 - 6:00pm in the Parish Hall.

The Middle School Class "Weaving with God's Promise" will be held on April 30th beginning at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. If you have questions please contact Dawn Schmidt or Ron Jones.



April Food Donations

ONT is in need of cereal, soups, crackers, pasta sauce, pasta and peanut butter and nutritious snacks.

Also, personal items such as deodorant, mouthwash, toothpaste, toothbrush, etc., are always in need.

Click [here](#) to view ONT's website.

Let us give thanks for God's many blessings to us.

Martha and Mary Productions
In the Arms of God and Women

Spring Retreat: Connection

May 12 6:00 pm dinner until May 13, 2017 at 3:30 pm
Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center, No. Andover, MA



"Perhaps if we were to truly experience the love that God has for us as God's beloved, loving us just the way we are, we would be transformed as Jesus was transformed. As we are transformed in compassion, may we act in compassion toward others, and may our own face shine with the light that shows we have seen and heard the love of God." (Christine O'Hara is the rector of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls, SD)

"Let us slow down enough to truly notice all that is presenting itself to us as a blessing.[i]" What is presenting itself to you just now? How are you being called to live the baptismal promise to be a light in the world? How are you finding the joy of simply giving and receiving your Self? More and more we are called to the enduring practice of connection -- with others, with God, and with our Self -- as we live the divine potentiality of relationship. Come, slow down, and connect deeply in the Arms of God and Women at the Martha and Mary Productions' Spring Retreat: Connection.

We will be meeting from Friday May 12 in the evening beginning with dinner (although you may arrive any time after 3:30 pm) until Saturday May 13 at 3:30 pm at Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center in No. Andover, MA where we have met before. This lovely retreat center offers us two labyrinth walks and a beautiful setting; three delicious meals (dinner, breakfast, and lunch) are included; and a spacious, light-filled meeting room. Costs for the workshop include all materials including a book to take home; three meals and lodging including linens; and snacks. Rates: All rooms have hall or shared bathrooms. There are:

2 Singles at \$159 each	2 Triples at \$139 each
3 Twin at \$149 each	2 Quad (4 in each room) \$133 each

We set the rates based entirely on actual cost of the workshop. For further information, contact Julia at jsteer45@comcast.net or call Julia (at 978 346-1116) or Louise McRae (at 978 388-8473).

Registration is available NOW! To make a reservation (and guarantee your room assignment), contact us. Deposit of \$75 holds reservation. Make check to Julia Steer, 56 River Road, Merrimac, MA 01860. Final payment due April 1. Space is limited.

QUICK LINKS

[St. James Website!](#)

[Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts](#)

[Send us an E-mail](#)

Blessings and Peace to All!

The Rev. John Satula