

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVI, No.6

March 6, 2024

christchurchtyler.org

FROM THE RECTOR:

Lent is a forty-day spiritual journey. From it's beginning on Ash Wednesday, in this season we hear especially of God's call for us to *'deny ourselves, take up the Cross'* and follow Jesus.

The destination of Lent is the Cross of Christ. And the days in which we make that final journey to Calvary is Holy Week.

Beginning on Palm Sunday, March 24, we will join many millions of Christians throughout the world by looking back to that fateful week in which Jesus entered Jerusalem in triumph, prepared the disciples for what was coming, washed their feet, instituted the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist, died on the Cross at Golgotha, and was buried in the tomb of a friend.

From Palm Sunday to Holy Saturday, every day we will walk another step in the journey to the Cross, gathering daily to worship the Lord.

In *The Four Loves*, C.S. Lewis wrote this about Good Friday, "God, who needs nothing, loves into existence wholly superfluous creatures in order that he may love and perfect them. He creates the universe, already foreseeing the buzzing cloud of flies about the cross, the flayed back pressed against the uneven stake, the nails driven through the mesial nerves, the repeated incipient suffocation as the body droops, the repeated torture of back and arms...Herein is love. This is the diagram of Love Himself, the inventor of all loves."

I invite you to persevere in the observance of a Holy Lent. And prepare anew for the walk with Christ and Christ Church through Holy Week.

Faithfully in Christ Jesus,

David +



“Let anyone with ears, listen!” (Matthew 11:15 NRSV)

I’ve been thinking a lot about listening during this season of Lent. I even mentioned this in my last *Crucifer* article about poetry.

That’s because one of the challenges of my life, and an area of growth for me, is learning to become a better listener.

First and foremost I want to listen well to God. This means that I want to have the time and leisure in prayer to attend to what God is saying or not saying. It also means I want to have the quietness of heart to really read and understand Holy Scripture. Life has a way of becoming so busy that this kind of listening gets crowded out.

I also want to be a good listener to others. I want to be a husband who really listens to my wife who I love. I want to be a father who listens well to his sons (and this kind of listening is perhaps the most challenging at this stage of life!). I want to be the kind of friend who listens well to those close to me. And I want to be the kind of priest and pastor who makes the people who talk to me feel deeply listened to.

In Kate Murphy’s book *You’re Not Listening: What You’re Missing and Why it Matters*, she makes the case that listening is something that few of us do well, and this has significant negative consequences in our world.

Murphy begins her book by asking,

When was the last time you listened to someone? *Really* listened, without thinking about what you wanted to say next, glancing down at your phone, or jumping in to offer your opinion? And when was the last time someone *really* listened to you? Was so attentive to what you were saying and whose response was so spot-on that you felt truly understood?

She goes on to say that “In modern life, we are encouraged to listen to our hearts, listen to our inner voices, and listen to our guts, but rarely are we encouraged to listen carefully and with intent to other people.”

Murphy is right. And I’d like to see this change, even if in some small way.

I have had the privilege to be *really* listened to by a handful of people over the course of my life. These wonderful listeners include Amy, my wife; a kind priest and mentor Fr. Ajit; and a wise Christian counsellor who listened to me as I went through a time of great pain. In all of these cases being listened to left me feeling lightened, encouraged, and deeply known. Being listened to helped me to walk with Jesus, to know that God was listening to me too.

I want to be a kind of person who helps others to feel that way. And I hope that as Christians as we listen to Jesus, that we can be the kind of listeners that the world really needs, and by our listening, we might lead them to know God.



★ The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

BISHOP DOYLE INVITES
 YOU
 THE VERY FIRST GRANDE TEXAS
FAMILY REUNION 2024
 May 3-5

A weekend of fun just for us at Camp Allen!

Check in at 5 pm Friday
 Check out at 1 pm Sunday

For more information go
 to epicenter.org

Packages Include
 Six buffet
 meals and most
 programming.
 Kids age 2 and
 under are free.

Weekend Activities

Archery	Nature Hikes	Outdoor Movie
Ropes Course	Biking	Petting Zoo
Fishing	Labryinth	Craft Room
Swimming	Live Music	Inflatables
Paddleboarding	Eucharist	Skeet Shooting
Canoeing	Reptile Show	Yoga
Giant Swing	Pickleball	Zip Line

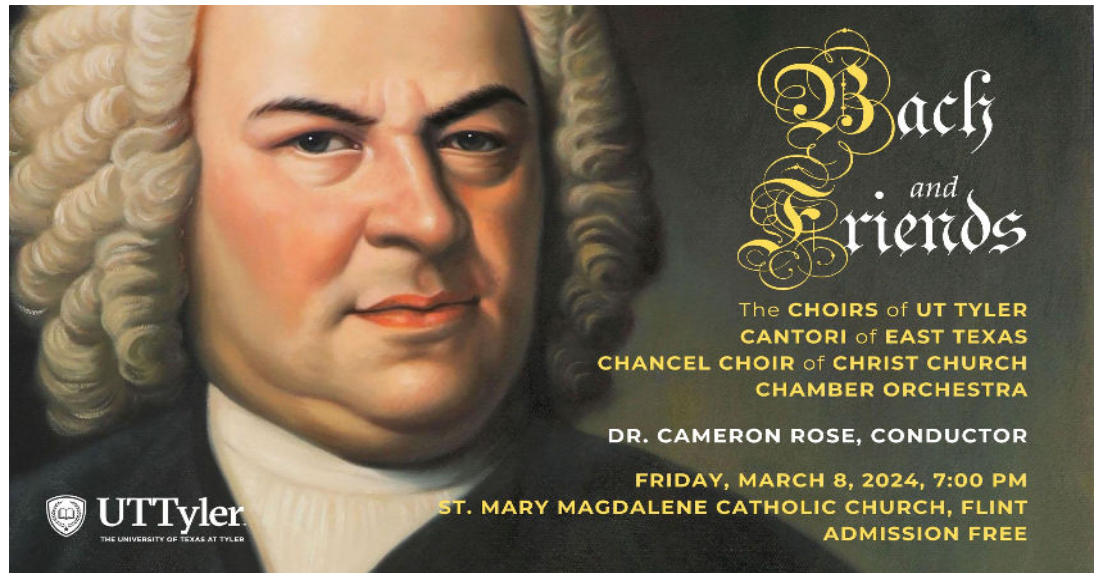
REGISTER NOW!
campallen.org

March 8, 2024 7:00 pm
BACH AND FRIENDS

featuring the choirs of
UT Tyler, Cantori of East TX
& Chancel Choir of Christ
Church.

St. Mary Magdalene
18221 FM 2493, Flint, TX

Free and open to the public.
We have Chancel Choir
members singing in this.
Come out and support them.



April 21, 2024 6:00 pm In the Nave

CHORAL EVENSONG featuring *Inspirata* under the direction of Hunter Birkhead.

“*Inspirata* is an auditioned ensemble of singers dedicated to promoting a heightened awareness of sacred choral music through the performance of some of the finest works the tradition has to offer.”

The director, Hunter Birkhead was here in December and performed on the Tidings of Joy Noon-Time Concert Series. *There will be a reception to follow the service.* Make your plans now to be there and bring a few full of friends.

May 19, 2024 3:00 pm In the Parish Hall.

***Vibre*, in Concert**

They will present a program entitled “Uncommon Time” and will include pieces of the 19th Century Anglo-Irish carol *Venite Adoramus Dominum* to Dave Brubeck’s *Take 5* and lots of modern composers of handbell music.

The performers are Diane Sorrels, Andy Martinez, Karen Mobbs, Gini Raney, and Leslie Russell.

Please note that it is in the Parish Hall. You will not want to miss this presentation.

LET’S KEEP A HOLY LENT



Saints

of the British Isles

Lenten Lecture & Lunch
Tuesdays at noon
February 20 - March 19

Christ Church Downtown

1928 *Book of Common Prayer*
Holy Eucharist & Healing Service
Noon Thursdays through March 21
Downtown in the Nave



Praying the Rosary

Praying the rosary will be available in the chapel at 11:30am, before each Tuesday Lenten speaking series. Using the rosary (Anglican prayer beads) encourages contemplative prayer. Touching each bead in order helps maintain focus as much as the repetition of the prayers themselves. Prayer beads are available for use. Please come 10 minutes early if you would like instruction.

children's ministry
Kimber Short,
Director of Children's Ministry

It Isn't Hot in the Furnace

On this unseasonably warm day in February I'm reminded of a couple of my favorite albums from my elementary school days. One, "It's Cool in the Furnace" featured the story of Daniel and his buds Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and how God shepherded them through the literal living hell of King Nebuchadnezzar's edict. Of course this wasn't the exact message to an eight year old; it was more along the lines of trust God even when things look bleak. But you get my meaning.

There are so many places in the world right now where things certainly are bleak. And try as we might to protect our children's hearts from this, they are wise beyond their years. In Chapel during the Prayers of the People, they regularly pray for the people of Ukraine and others touched by war. For some with Ukrainian-born family members, this must weigh especially heavy on their hearts. In fact, some of their reflections on even the most difficult Scriptures are so wise it blows me away! But the lesson is always, trust God. PERIOD. THE END. 50 years later, I can still find it difficult to "let go and let God".

In this season of Lent (as in every other season) that is exactly what we are called to do. Turn away from the worldly holds on our lives and towards the God that offers us Peace beyond all understanding, Grace undeserved and a Love greater than we could ever hope to imagine. I can't think of anything better to pray than that for my downtown 2nd-4th graders (and all the other children I have the honor of working with) as they continue their First Communion Classes.

See you Sunday!

Kimber 

SAVE THE DATE:

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!! 3/30/24, CCS, 10:00 am.
 And the FLOWERING OF THE CROSS on Easter Sunday.
 CCD @ 9:00 and CCS @ 11:05.



CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

3/10 **Bryson Perkins**, 3/11 **Olivia Young**,
 3/13 **Mary Caroline Willis**

student ministry
Sarah Jones,
Director of Student Ministries



I have decided to put down all forms of electronic entertainment during lent. This is often called unplugging but I am finding the opposite to be true. It feels more like I am plugging back into the world. I noticed I go to sleep earlier and wake up (*sometimes*) earlier feeling more refreshed. I pet my dogs more and talk to them about life. I took up a new creative hobby to keep my hands busy on the days I feel antsy. I read more and I am dedicating extra time to interacting with my family in more meaningful ways.

I wanted to step away from whatever created the most distance between myself and God or myself and others. I knew that I was spending too much time staring into the electronic void but I didn't realize the depth to which I had lost perspective on some things. I would often get caught up in news stories and stew in anger or confusion about how the world could operate in such a way. All the while overlooking the beautiful, peaceful day that exists outside my own window. Overlooking the abundance that is constantly provided and missing countless opportunities for gratitude. Being a more introverted individual, I often feel drained after lots of social interactions during my day and just want to relax. I am realizing what I used to consider relaxing was not always so. Perhaps it was relaxing in a way due to my screens never asking anything of me but I very rarely felt re-energized afterward. Now, instead of zoning out and being an emotionally unavailable lump on the couch, I am finding more soulful activities to unwind with. I am enjoying my new mostly screen free life. I still catch myself habitually staring at my phone once in a while but overall, I have cut back tremendously. I might even swear off electronics for good! Ooh, but there is that one show coming out in April...

Sarah Jones



Holy Week *and* Easter

PALM SUNDAY | March 24, 2024
Downtown 7:30am, 9:00am*, 11:00am* | South 11:05am**

HOLY MON, TUES, WED | March 25, 26, 27
Noon Eucharist Downtown

MAUNDY THURSDAY RITES | March 28
7:00pm* Downtown

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY | March 29
Noon Downtown
STATIONS of the CROSS 1:15pm Downtown

HOLY SATURDAY | March 30
EASTER EGG HUNT 10:00am South
The GREAT VIGIL of EASTER 8:00pm Downtown

EASTER SUNDAY | March 31
Downtown 7:30am, 9:00am*, 11:00am*
South 7:00am (outdoor sunrise service) & 11:05am**

*Darkness has been vanquished
by our eternal King!*



*Nursery available *Children's Chapel



Easter Flowers & Music

You are invited to participate in the Feast of the Resurrection at Christ Church through the Easter flower fund &/or underwriting the music.

Please complete this form if you wish to contribute & make a dedication.

Donor Name _____ Phone # _____

Flowers

DEDICATIONS

Music

<In memory of> _____

<In thanksgiving for> _____

☐ In thanksgiving (general)

Deadline: Thursday, March 21, 2024

Please return this form with your donation to the Church Office, put in offering plates or scan the QR code.
Thank you! [Any forms received after this date the dedication will not be included in the Easter Service Leaflet.]



thanksgivings , supplications & fellowship

In Our Prayers

Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:

Lisa, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Isabelle, Tommy, Lorelei, Cody, Paul, Lucy, Amber, Lindzey, Dylan, Amber, Briggs, Margaret, Maggie, Jennifer, Linda, Chris, Mike, Mark, Marian, Dalton, Verdie, Stacy, Lily, Susie, Noah, Mike, Vicki, Josh, Katie, Johnny, Harley, Jennifer, Jasper, Lynne, Scott, Bruce, Kyle, JC, Elizabeth, Becky, Jeremy, Mary Elizabeth, Steve, Brenda, George, Link, Nancy, Chuck

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese on the Coast (Nigeria)*

The Episcopal Church: *Dioceses of Eastern Oregon & Easton (MD)*

Diocese of Texas: *St. Stephen's—Beaumont & St. Mary's—Bellville*

upcoming

TUESDAYS, through MARI9
Lenten Lecture & Lunch | CCD
 Tuesdays of Lent at noon
Praying the Rosary | CCD
 11:30 am in the Chapel

FRIDAY, MARCH 8
Primetimers
 6:00pm|CCD
Bach & Friends
 7:00pm| St. Mary Magdalene, Flint
 Christ Church Chancel Choirs joins
 UT Tyler Patriot Singers (see p.3)

FRIDAY, MARCH 15
Supper Club
 6:00pm RSVP by 3/8

SATURDAY, MARCH 23
DOK Quiet Day
 11:00am—3 @ Laurel Beaty's

SUN, MARCH 24 Palm Sunday
 First Communion
 9:00am|CCD
 Reception at 10:00
 Christian Formation begin at 10:15

MARCH 25-31
Holy Week & Easter
 See graphic on p.5 for all the details

MARCH 31
Easter Reception
 no Christian Formation!
 0:00am both campuses

SATURDAY, APRIL 27
Crawfish Boil
 Save the date

Congratulations on the birth of:

Leigh Elaine Brelsford

January 31, 2024

and

*Meredith Claire Brelsford
 Wheeler*

February 18, 2024

granddaughters of
 Peggy & Bill Brelsford



THE VESTRY

Mr. Bill Clawwater, *Treasurer*

Mr. Tim Alexander, *Asst. Treasurer*

CLASS OF 2024

Mrs. Kim Meyer, Mr. Danny Noteware,

Ms. Sheryl Richter, Jr. *Warden CCS*, Dr. Mak Saigusa,

Dr. Dan Toney

CLASS OF 2025

Mr. Julius Bergfeld, Mrs. Catherine Buhrkuhl,

Mr. Steven Comte, Mrs. Karen Hughes,

Mr. Mark Shuttlesworth, Jr. *Warden CCD*

CLASS OF 2026

Mr. Ashley Bracken, Mr. John Bufo, Sr. *Warden*,

Ms. Joyce McGee, Mr. Stan Ward,

Mrs. Ann Weissmann, *Clerk*.

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays

Sunday, March 10

Lent 4

2 Chronicles 36:14-23, Psalm 122

Ephesians 2:4-10, John 6:4-15

Sunday, March 17

Lent 5

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51

Hebrews 5:[1-4] 5-10, John 12:20-33

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle

Bishop of the Diocese of Texas

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Hector Monterroso

Bishop Assistant

The Rev. David Luckenbach

Rector

dluckenbach@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin

Associate Rector

chartin@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Ted Welty

Associate Rector

twelty@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Stephen Stine

Deacon

sssti@tjc.edu

The Rev. Tim Kennedy

All Saints Episcopal School Chaplain, Assisting Priest

Mrs. Diana Keesey

Parish Administrator

dkeesey@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Jeffrey Ford

Organist/Choirmaster

jford@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. A.J. Meals

Assistant Organist

Mrs. Sarah Jones

Director of Student Ministries

sjones@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. McKinley Terry

Student Ministries Assistant

mterry@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Kimber Short

Director of Children's Ministries

kshort@christchurchtyler.org

Ms. Madison Perry

Children's Ministries Assistant

Mr. Uriah Johnson

College Missioner

tylertxcanterbury@gmail.com

Mrs. Valerie Huggler

Parish Secretary

office@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Samantha Hague

Director of Communications

shague@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Robert Finney

Music Leader, Christ Church South

epiphanytx@gmail.com

Ms. Jennifer Ducote

Mr. Anthony Moore

Mr. Kendrick Milton

Sexton

Sexton

Assistant Sexton

Blair Zdenek, Jessi Mayes

Nursery

Pastoral Emergency Contacts

In the event of a pastoral emergency,

Call the church office during office hours 903.597.9854;
after hours call The Rev. David Luckenbach 903-279-8777,

The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin 903-952-3850,
or The Rev. Stephen Stine, Deacon, 903-530-8168.

The Bob Rowlett Memorial Open Golf Tournament

www.christchurchtyler.org/golf-tournament



Friday, May 3, 2024

Pine Springs Golf Club

5630 CR 334 | Tyler, TX 75708

Women's Depth Group

1ST & 3RD WED / 6PM- 8
CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH



Holy Baptism

The next scheduled date for baptisms is Sunday, April 7, 2024. If interested in baptism on this date, please contact the church office, 903-597-9854 or office@christchurchtyler.org.



Christ Church | Episcopal
118 S. Bois d'Arc
Tyler, TX 75702

903.597.9854
office@christchurchtyler.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.christchurchtyler.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays

7:30 am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*

9:00 am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*

11:00 am~ **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*

11:05 am~ **CCS:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*

~live-streamed christchurchtyler.org

CHRIST CHURCH: ONE CHURCH—TWO CAMPUSES

CCD: Christ Church *Downtown*, 118 S. Bois d' Arc, Tyler, TX 75702 (office address)

CCS: Christ Church *South*, 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703

www.christchurchtyler.org | office@christchurchtyler.org

Please Note: *The Crucifer* is published twice monthly (except July and December).

If you have something you would like to see published in *The Crucifer*, please contact
Samantha Hague at 903-597-9854, shague@christchurchtyler.org.



*The vision of Christ Church is
to be recognized as a joyful,
spirit-filled community of
apostles reaching out and
transforming lives for Christ.*