

*Ashes to Easter 2019*



**St. Timothy's  
Episcopal Church  
Danville, CA**

Dear Friends,

In order to help you observe Holy Time in March and April, we offer **this booklet called “Ashes to Easter”**. It is a guide to all the worship services, activities and educational opportunities available for adults youth, and children — to newcomers and old-timers alike — during Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

The Lenten Lectionary is a booklet of daily reflections by parishioners on the Scripture readings during Lent that is available as a separate booklet at the church on Sunday mornings. It is available in the Narthex, church office and website [www.sainttimothysdanville.org](http://www.sainttimothysdanville.org)

*Beginning with the beginning* —

The prayer book liturgy for Ash Wednesday March 6th, 2019 says:

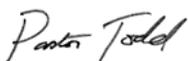
I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, study, fasting and self-denial, and by **reading and meditating on God’s holy Word (BCP 265)**

For some of us that means taking something out of our lives — **“giving something up”**. For others, it means **adding a spiritual practice** or discipline. For all of us, it is a time to reset and return to God.

Throughout the forty days of Lent, return often to the well of grace that your church offers. With every step you take, may you offer that same grace to others.

You are invited therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a Holy Lent, Holy Week, and Holy Easter at St. **Timothy’s**.

Faithfully,



Pastor Todd



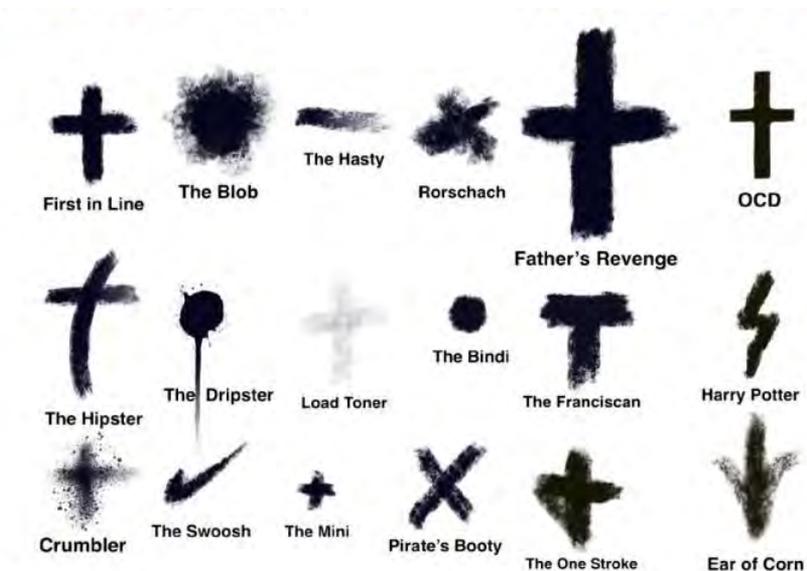
Pastor Susan

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Ash Wednesday, March 6th  
Join us for the imposition of ashes & communion  
12pm & 7:30pm

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of using ashes made from palm branches blessed during the previous year's Palm Sunday worship. The clergy place ashes on the heads of participants to words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". Did you know that ashes are not 'required'? Enjoy some of our best mistakes!



### Reconciliation of the Penitent

Reconciliation is reconnection and realignment with God and others.

A brief liturgy is found in Book of Common Prayer on page 447  
*throughout Lent by appointment*

There is no confessional booth like in the movies, but reconciliation of the penitent is available for those who wish to make a private confession throughout Lent. Reconciliation — reconnection and realignment with God and others.

Email Pastor Todd [rector@sainttimothysdanville.org](mailto:rector@sainttimothysdanville.org) or Pastor Susan [associate@sainttimothysdanville.org](mailto:associate@sainttimothysdanville.org) to schedule a time.

## Wednesday Evenings in Lent:

### Overview

*March 13, March 20, March 27, April 3, April 10*

(Not on April 17th—Holy Wednesday)

- 6:30 - 7:20pm  
Pre-K and elementary program led by Pastor Todd (with snacks)
- 6:45 - 7:00pm  
Light refreshments for all in the Grace House entry hall.
- 7pm - 8:30pm  
**Adult program, led by St. Timothy's parishioners and clergy.**  
Junior High and High School table in Adult program

## Wednesday Evenings in Lent:

### Adult Program

*Living the Questions 2.0*

7pm - 8:30pm in Grace House conference room

### March 13 — *Evil, Suffering, and a God of Love*

Whatever the status of evil in the world, I know that the only God in whom I can believe will be a God found in the midst of evil rather than a safe distance from it; suffering the evil rather than inflicting it. Robert McAfee Brown

### March 20 — *Lives of Jesus*

The many portrayals of Jesus in the Gospels, various traditions, theologies, and the arts, amount to a Jesus who lived many lives — each of which helps us in teasing out what it means to be a disciple of this mysterious and profoundly significant phenomenon called Jesus of Nazareth.

### March 27— *Challenges facing progressive Christians*

Stagnation in thought or enterprise means death for Christianity as certainly as **it does for any other vital movement. Stagnation, not change, is Christianity's most deadly enemy**, for this is a progressive world. — Harry Emerson Fosdick

### April 3 — *Restoring Relationships*

Three macro-stories shape the biblical narrative: Bondage and Liberation; Exile and Return; Sin and Forgiveness. Each represents a facet of the human condition and demonstrates what is needed for the restoration of relationships.

### April 10 — *Stories of Creation*

**One's perception of the Creation Stories is critical to one's view of the Bible, the purpose of creation, the essence of human nature, and the environment.**

## Youth, Children

Movie — March 10th  
*The Prince of Egypt*

All ages movie-time in Grace House—Overby @1pm.  
We will have snacks but bring a favorite (non-melty) treat to share.

Wednesday Evenings in Lent:  
Children

*Children 4 year old to 4th grade*  
6:30 - 7:20pm

Each week we will sing, make a craft, hear a teaching and engage in a service activity. The program is about 50 mins.

*For example—*

We will make cards for parishioners at Sunrise on one Wednesday.

We will decorate the soles of socks for a local homeless ministry.

We will watch a video about Jesus in the desert.

**We will learn and sing “Lord of the Dance.”**

We will have mucho fun!

### Parents options during Wednesday children’s time

You can stay with your kids.

You may also walk the labyrinth (booklets provided outside).

You can also take a moment to be quiet.

## **Parents’ Night Out**

March 2nd —5-9pm

Parents of younger children can get a low cost break and a night out to have dinner. Or they can just go home and watch Netflix in their socks.

3-months old to 5th graders can be part of the fun.

## Adults

Come on Tuesday —

March 12, March 26, & April 9th @ 2pm

For Coffee, Tea and conversation for light snacks and fellowship. We will **gather in Grace House. All are welcome. It’s a chance to reconnect with good friends and connect with new ones.**

## Formation Youth and Adults Sundays and Wednesdays

### Youth

Wednesday Nights in Lent there will be a youth table in the *Living the Questions 2.0* class in Grace House,

7pm –8:30pm.



### Sunday Mornings in Lent

During the season of Lent, there will be NO Sunday morning adult education. Please join us for Wednesday night formation.

### Sunday Afternoons in Lent

#### ***Inquirers' class***

- 1 - 1:30pm clergy teaching as well as Q & A.
- 1:30 - 2:30pm confirmation / inquirers'/ newcomers' class breakout

### **Inquirers Classes**

*Interested in learning more about the Christian faith  
from the perspective of the Episcopal Church tradition?*



The Stations of the Cross  
*Fridays at 12pm during Lent*  
*(Mar 8, Mar 15, Mar 22, Mar 29 & April 5, April 12th)*  
*and*  
*Good Friday, April 19th at 1pm*

**At St. Timothy's, we are blessed with a beautiful meditation garden. We will** wind our way through the outdoor stations while reading scripture, meditating and praying. We begin near the parking lot and end at the ninth station in the Columbarium.

The practice of walking the stations of the cross, also known as the Way of the Cross, is a practice widely observed by pilgrims to Jerusalem who walk the path Jesus walked to his crucifixion. This is a chance for us to **remember Christ's sacrifice throughout Lent so** that we feel the full impact of his sacrifice and his resurrection during Easter.

If you are not able to come on Fridays at noon, there will be a booklet available in the office for you to guide yourself through the stations, or pick up a Stations Booklet 24/7 from the Plexiglas stand near the parking lot.



Eucharistic Visitors

It is the joy and responsibility of every member to help us remain connected as a community of faith. Help us bless those who are shut in and unable to come to church. You can remind them to call the church if they want communion brought to their home or to the hospital. As always, our phone number is 925-837-4993.

*If you know of some one who has fallen off our radar or is temporarily unable to attend church, please let your staff and clergy know!*

Sunday, April 7th  
Seder Celebration Dinner  
4pm in Parish Hall, all ages  
RSVP to Eric — d4dolphins1833@gmail.com

Cost:

We ask all individuals to pay \$10 and families to pay \$20 to offset food cost. If you agreed to be part of the cleanup crew, dinner is free!

Timing:

4 - 7pm            The meal and service  
                      People will bring different dishes according sign up  
7 - 8pm            You may choose to help cleanup

This special celebration is a way of enlivening your Lenten experience and preparing you for Palm Sunday / Holy Week. You will experience many of the Jewish roots of our Christian celebrations. Kids are welcome! It will be long. Half way through, there will be an activity for smaller children.

No nursery

April 14th: Palm Sunday

8:30am & 10am

*Blessing of the Palms, Procession into the church  
Holy Eucharist with Reading of the Passion story*

Palm / Passion Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. At no other time of the year is our identity as Christians more clearly focused than during this week when we seek renewal, reconnection and recommitment as we recall the great acts of God which have brought us life and salvation.

**No Adult or Children's Education on Palm Sunday | Nursery is open.**

Palm Cross Making — Palm Sunday

9:15am, all ages in Parish Hall

We will fold Palm Crosses. It is not just for children. Come and be part of a multigenerational opportunity to help us fully experience Palm Sunday.



# Holy Week

## April 17th: Holy Wednesday

10:30am Service

*We will have our regular Wednesday morning Eucharist*

*No Bible Study on Holy Wednesday*

7:30pm Service

*Contemplative Liturgy and a chance to write prayers and experience reconciliation with God.*

***(We won't put you on the spot — No one-on-one confessions in the service)***

— Lay Led — No Communion

***"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:8-9***

There will be brief opportunities in the midst of the service for individuals to reflect on readings and experience healing and forgiveness.

## April 18th: Maundy Thursday

7:30pm Service

*Communion, Hand Washing and Stripping of the Altar*

We will have hand washing and NOT foot washing. This is not a concession to **people's discomfort with feet**. Rather, we believe that our hands have done so much damage to each other and the world. Because of that, our touch needs renewal.



*See next page for a powerful poem about hand washing.*

*Maundy Thursday: Wash My Hands*  
*Poem by Lucy Nanson*

Wash my hands on Maundy Thursday not my feet  
My hands peel potatoes, wipe messes from the floor  
change dirty nappies, clean the grease from pots and pans  
have pointed in anger and pushed away in tears  
**in years past they've smacked a child and raised a fist**  
fumbled with nervousness, shaken with fear.  
**I've wrung them when waiting for news to come**  
**crushed a letter I'd rather forget**  
**covered my mouth when I've been caught out**  
touched forbidden things, childhood memories do not grow dim  
These hands have dug gardens, planted seeds  
picked fruit and berries, weeded out and pruned trees  
**found bleeding from the rose's thorns**  
dirt and blood mix together  
when washed before a cup of tea  
Love expressed by them  
asks for your respect  
in the hand-shake of warm greeting,  
**the gentle rubbing of a child's bump**  
**the caressing of a lover, the softness of a baby's cheek**  
sounds of music played by them in tunes upon a flute  
**they've held a frightened teenager,**  
touched a father in his death  
where cold skin tells the end of life has come  
but not the end of love,  
comforted a mother losing agility and health.  
With my hands outstretched before you  
I stand humbled and in awe  
your gentle washing in water, the softness of the towel  
symbolizing a cleansing  
the servant-hood of Christ.  
Wash my hands on Maundy Thursday  
and not my feet.

## Holy Week (continued)

### April 19th: Good Friday

We recall the Passion and Death of Jesus where we find freedom. Three opportunities for worship are

12pm – Good Friday Liturgy

*In church, no communion, less than an hour*

1pm – Stations of the Cross

*In meditation garden following the church service. Rain plan is to remain in church*

7:30pm – Good Friday liturgy

*In church, no communion with music.*

### April 20th: Holy Saturday

9am Service

*Brief Holy Saturday service, no communion, in church*

We gather at 9:00am for this very simple service, as we remember the day when the crucified Christ visited among the dead while his body lay in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea.

### April 20th: Easter Vigil

7:30pm — service lasts approximately 75 mins

*There will be incense around the new fire by the bell tower but no incense in the church*

*BRING YOUR VIGIL BELLS*



We say our first alleluias and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter at the Great Vigil. As we await the discovery of the empty tomb, we hear the story **of God's saving acts.**

BRING YOUR BELLS TO RING



## Easter Sunday & Beyond

### April 21st: Easter Sunday

*Our celebration continues on Easter Day with our Sunday liturgies.  
Easter Sunday will not mirror regular Sunday schedule.*

- 7:30am  
Communion — we start on the Labyrinth  
and share communion inside the church (NEW!)
- 9am  
Communion with Easter hymns
- 10am  
Easter activity / fun for kids and youth
- 11am  
Communion with Easter music

Christ is Risen!  
**Alleluia!**  
He is Risen Indeed!

### Beyond Easter Morning

*Sundays 11:15 - 11:45am*

*Eucharistic instruction focused on children, but all welcome*

All ages are invited to our Eucharistic instruction class. In this class, we will learn about the Eucharist in our faith tradition, trace its origins **to the Last Supper, and take a fieldtrip “behind the scenes” in the church** led by a member of the clergy. This is not a preparation class for first communion, rather it is an exploration of the Eucharist

### May 5th: Rector Open House

*Save the Date*

*5:30-7pm*

### May 18th: Fruits of the Harvest

*Put the date on your calendar for our annual outreach fundraiser and party.*

## Newcomer Opportunities

### **Newcomer Appreciation at Rector's House**

*Sunday, April 14 (Palm Sunday Evening)*

*6 - 8pm*

Newcomers are especially invited to enjoy some social time, food, and drinks at the Rector's home along with some regular St. Timothy's parishioners.

### **Sunday Afternoons in Lent** **Inquirers' Class**

*1 - 2:30 pm*

We will cover the high points (and low points) of our faith. There will be Christian basics, church politics, history, why we have funny names for everything, explanation of how the church year works, stewardship, serving, and whatever else you help us to cover.

### Service Opportunity

### **Winter Nights Shelter @ St. Timothy's**

*February 11 – February 25, 2018*

St. Timothy's and Beth Chaim Congregation are again co-hosting the Winter Nights Shelter from Monday, February 11, through Monday, February 25.

St. Timothy's will open the Parish Hall and kitchen to become a Winter Nights Shelter serving approximately 35 guests. Set-up and break-down of the Shelter will be a joint effort among Beth Chaim and St. Timothy's volunteers. We will provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner; laundry services; showers; assistance with homework; space for play and relaxation and other needed services. Transportation, counseling, and other important services are provided by Winter Nights Shelter program.

*For more information contact Joann Oliver at 362-4805 or  
joannmarieoliver@gmail.com*

## Ashes to Easter Overview

Ash Wednesday, March 6th

Join us for the imposition of ashes & communion at 12pm & 7:30pm.

Wednesday Evenings in Lent

March 13th, March 20th, March 27th, April 3, April 10

(Not on April 17th - the Wednesday of Holy Week)

Sunday Afternoons in Lent

**Inquirers' Class**

The Stations of the Cross

(March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29 & April 5, April 12th)

Fridays at noon during Lent and Good Friday April 19th at 1pm

Seder Sunday, April 7th

4pm in Parish Hall, all ages

Palm Sunday, April 14th

8:30 & 10am

Blessing of the Palms by bell tower

Procession into the church, Holy Eucharist with the Passion.

Palm Cross Making, April 14th

*9:15am, all ages in Parish Hall for Palm cross making*

Holy Wednesday, April 17th

10:30am regular Wednesday service—no bible study.

7:30pm, Contemplative Liturgy — Lay Led— No Communion

Maundy Thursday, April 18th

7:30pm — Communion, Hand Washing & Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 19th

12pm & 7:30pm — Good Friday Liturgy

*In church, no communion, 1 hour*

1pm — Stations of the Cross, outside weather permitting

Holy Saturday, April 20th

9am -- Brief, Holy Saturday service, no communion, in church.

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 20th (about 75 mins)

7:30pm — there will be incense outside, but no incense in the church. Bring your bells.

Easter Sunday, April 21st

7:30am — Worship start on Labyrinth and we share communion in the church

9am — Communion with Easter music

10am — Easter activity for kids and youth

11am — Communion with Easter music