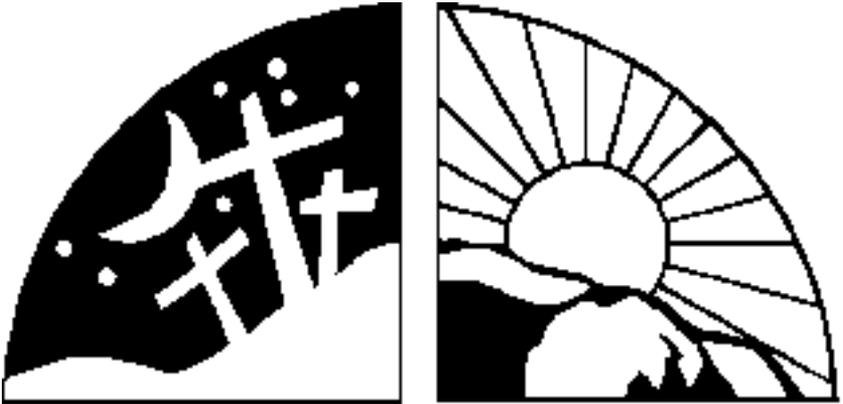


# THE WEEKLY WORD

EPIPHANY PARISH OF SEATTLE

MARCH 26, 2012

## A GUIDE TO



# HOLY WEEK

## Our Common Easter Journey



Dear Epiphany,

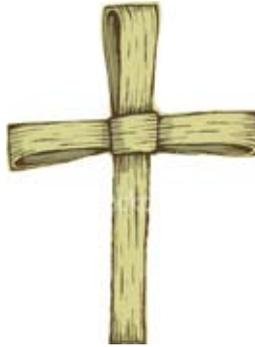
I talk a lot about Epiphany being a place for people wherever they are on their spiritual journey. That means something different to everyone I suppose, which is the hope. But the one journey we Epiphany stalwarts walk together is the *Triduum*.

*The Triduum* is the word for the three acts of Easter. Act One is Maundy Thursday. Act Two is Good Friday. Act Three is the Easter Vigil.

These three services work together as one play to express the depth, meaning and perspective of what God has done for the world through Jesus. Easter Sunday then becomes the day we throw open the parish to the world. It's the day when people who suspect that there is a bit more to life than they are living show up. And that is great! It is as it should be! This is when we have the chance to reflect the joy and peace of life lived in the light of God's glory. Easter morning is when we sing at the top of our lungs. It is the day we park far away and give up our regular seat to the newcomers and visitors. We can do this because we have experienced the Triduum. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil are Christ's journey, and our journey is immeasurably enhanced, if not transformed, by following his footsteps. Please make time this Holy Week to experience the great three days of Easter. To experience the entire play can put us on a common path, which is part of God's plan for this holy place we call Epiphany.

*Doyt+*

**Friday before Holy Week  
March 30**



**Palm cross Making (4:00 P.M. in the Great Hall)**  
Join Peggy Wilton and members of the Altar Guild in making Palm Crosses for the Palm Sunday services.  
A great activity for the kids!

**Saturday before Holy Week  
March 31**



**Holy Week Rehearsal for  
Liturgical Ministers (8:30-11:00 A.M.)**  
As is the custom at Epiphany, Eucharistic Ministers and Acolytes scheduled to serve during Holy Week will rehearse the services of Maundy Thursday, the Great Vigil, and Easter Sunday.

*See p. 18 for a Holy Week checklist!*

# The Sunday of the Passion

*Palm Sunday*



## Holy Eucharist with the Liturgy of the Palms

**April 1**

**8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.**

**Childcare begins at 9:00 A.M.**

The Liturgy for The Sunday of the Passion, or Palm Sunday, kicks off Holy Week. The service begins with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, but then quickly shifts mood with the dramatic reading of the Passion by appointed readers. The congregation takes on the part of the crowd. The reading of the Passion in this way serves as an overture to the Triduum later in the week, when we journey through the events that culminate in Jesus' crucifixion and death, without which there would be no Easter.

Both services begin with the Liturgy of the Palms, followed by a procession into the Church. The 8 o'clock service will meet in the Great Hall and process over the Skybridge. If the weather is agreeable, the 10:30 service will meet outdoors and process through the Garden of Remembrance. Please try to arrive ten minutes before the service is scheduled to get a palm branch. You are also invited to bring a branch you've clipped from your yard to carry in the procession.

At the end of the service, baskets of blessed palm crosses will be available in the Narthex. Consider picking one up to take to a friend who is sick or otherwise unable to attend church.



## Monday & Tuesday in Holy Week



### Evening Prayer April 2 & 3 6:00 P.M.

According to *The Book of Common Prayer*, "The Holy Eucharist, the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day...and Daily Morning and Evening Prayer, as set forth in this book, are the regular services appointed for public worship in this Church."

On the first two weekdays of Holy Week, as well as the Wednesdays in Lent, we add a second Evening Prayer service at 6 P.M. At these services, we use the daily Eucharistic readings to keep us grounded in the themes of this holy season. We also invite members of the parish to present homilies.

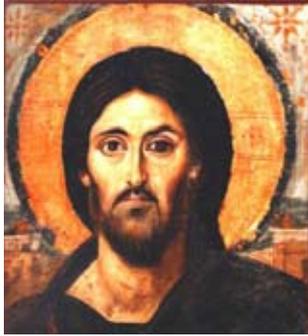
The homilists for Holy Week are:

**Monday, April 2nd**  
Wellesley Chapman

**Tuesday, April 3rd**  
Eric Artzt



## Wednesday in Holy Week



### Taizé Style Contemplation & Prayer

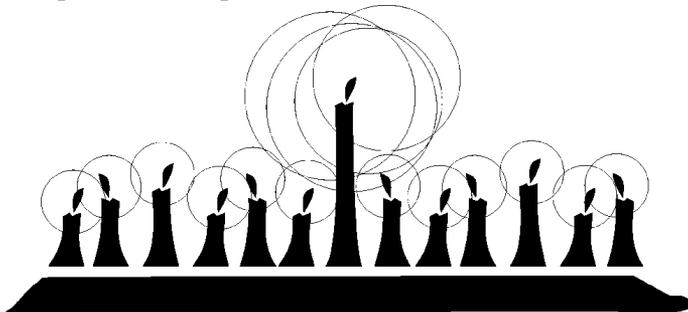
April 4

7:30 P.M.

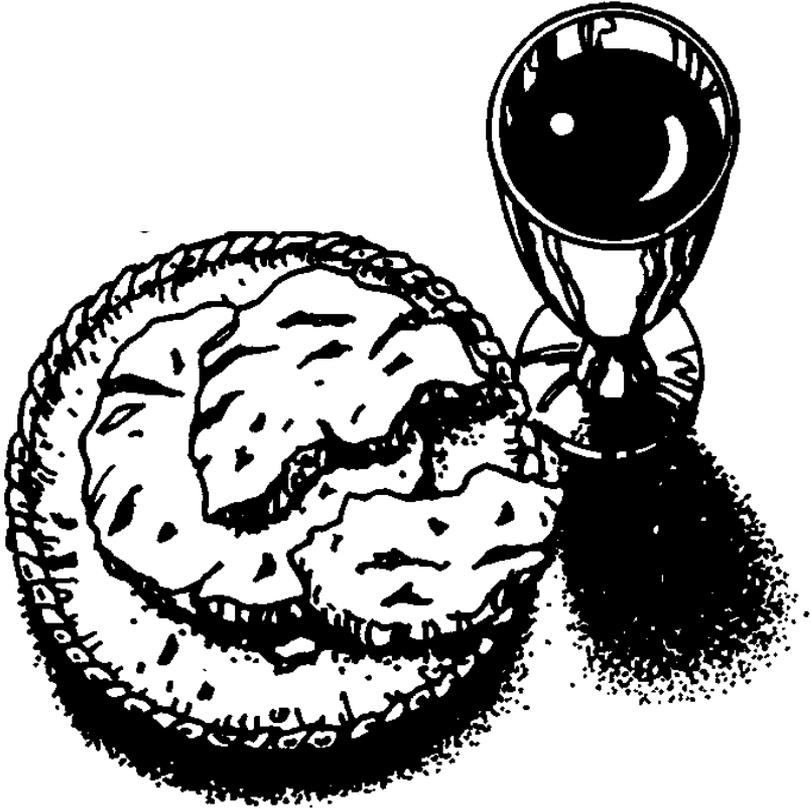
*Childcare 6:30-9:00 P.M.*

The worship tradition known as Taizé began many years ago in the ecumenical French monastic community of Taizé. It is a quiet service of meditation, reflection, readings and music. The experience finds its true meaning in the active participation of all assembled by focusing and deepening our faith through the power of prayer. Therefore, everyone is encouraged to participate as the Spirit moves them, whether that be in song, prayer, or quiet meditation.

The liturgy that has developed around the Taizé community is primarily for the worship of God, but it is also meant to quiet the soul. This quietness does not happen at once, but gradually during the worship. There is repetition in the words of the music, there are many periods of silence, and the readings are read slowly – all so that we may have a deep quiet calm in our hearts. Then we may be still and at peace in the presence of God.



*The Triduum*



*Act One*

**Maundy Thursday**

*Scene One*  
**Agape Meal**

**April 5**

**6:30 P.M.**

*Children Welcome!*

The Agape Feast dates to apostolic times and is a simple, meatless meal of soup, bread, cheese, olives and fruit.

Parishioners are asked to bring food, wine or juice (no dessert, please) to share as a testament of our Christian love for each other.

A sign-up sheet for the Agape meal may be found in the Narthex.



*Scene Two*

**Maundy Thursday Liturgy**

**April 5**

**7:30 P.M.**

*Childcare 6:30-9:00 P.M.*

This service recalls the Last Supper of Jesus on the night of his betrayal. It focuses on two major themes: Holy Hospitality and the Institution of the Eucharist.

## *Holy Hospitality: The Foot-Washing*

Coming from the Latin *Mandatum Novum*, or “New Commandment”, *maundy* refers to the commandment Jesus gave to his disciples: “Love one another as I have loved you.” At this service, Christ’s commandment is enacted by The Foot-Washing. After an invitation from the Presider, you may come forward to have your feet washed by the clergy. We encourage you to take part in this beautiful ritual.



## *The Institution of the Eucharist*

After the Foot-Washing, we proceed with the celebration of the Eucharist. Every Sunday, we hear the Words of Institution during the Eucharistic Prayer. They begin: “On the night he was handed over to death and suffering, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread....” The familiar words take on a poignant urgency and reorient us to the central mystery of our faith.



## *The Stripping of the Altar*

The service concludes with the stripping of the altar as an act of preparation for Good Friday. One way to deepen our understanding of the symbolism of this moment is to meditate on the following verse from Psalm 22: “They divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.”

*Scene Three*  
**Watchnight**  
**April 5**  
9:00 P.M. until Noon  
the following day

During the night on Thursday, a watch is kept before the consecrated bread on the Altar of Repose in the Chapel. The consecrated bread is felt to be the real presence of Christ, and so we keep vigil with Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane on the last night before he is handed over to be crucified. The tradition comes from the question Jesus asked his disciples Peter, James and John, who kept falling asleep as Jesus prayed in agony awaiting his arrest: "Can't you keep watch with me even one hour?" So we keep watch, praying through the night.

A sign-up sheet to cover all hours for Watchnight may be found in the Narthex. It is also fine to just show up.



*The Triduum*



*Act Two*

**Good Friday**

## *Scene One*

### **Fasting**

**April 6**

*traditionally beginning  
after the Agape Meal*

*The Book of Common Prayer* appoints Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as days of fasting.

On Ash Wednesday we fast in imitation of Jesus' fast of forty days in the wilderness. On Good Friday, we fast in thanksgiving for his crucifixion.

This thanksgiving is best expressed by the Fraction Anthem we have been singing throughout Lent:

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.*

Traditionally, a strict fast such as the Good Friday fast entails eating nothing for the bulk of the day, and having a simple meal sometime after one has been to church for the Good Friday Liturgy. Some choose to extend the fast until after The Great Vigil of Easter. If you have medical issues, you should not fast.



## *Scene Two*

### **Good Friday Liturgy**

**April 6**

**7:30 P.M.**

**(1:00 P.M. at Parkshore)**

***Childcare 6:30-9:00 P.M.***

This Liturgy marks Christ's crucifixion, but it is not a funeral. Instead, the focus is on extolling the glory of the cross, through which all creation has been redeemed.

The Church is bare and the ministers enter in silence. *The Liturgy of the Word* concludes with the Choir singing the Passion According to John in a setting by Palestrina. The sermon and *The Solemn Collects* follow. In praying the Solemn Collects, we pray on behalf of the entire world for which Christ died.

After the Solemn Collects, a heavy wooden cross is brought in by a priest, and positioned at the top of the Chancel steps. Time is allowed for worshippers to come forward and venerate the cross by kneeling before it, touching it, standing next to it, even kissing it.

During the Veneration of the Cross, the Choir sings *The Reproaches*, in a setting by Tomás Luis de Victoria. Christ, in the words of *The Reproaches*, rebukes us. We are to understand these rebukes as directed to all humanity, and that we all, through our sins, are brought to the judgment of the cross, and there forgiven and saved by Christ. In response to the saving power of the cross, we conclude the Veneration by singing the ancient hymn *Pange lingua* (Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle).

The service concludes with a brief communion taken from the bread consecrated the night before at the Maundy Thursday service.



*Scene Three*  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
**April 6**  
*in the Chapel*  
*after the*  
**Good Friday Liturgy**

Private and confidential, this sacrament is a healing way to end the Lenten season for any who wish to be restored to God because their relationship with God has been broken by sin.

For those unfamiliar with the service, the rite may be found beginning at page 446 in *The Book of Common Prayer*.

# *The Triduum*



## *Act Three*

# **The Great Vigil**

**The Great Vigil**  
**April 7**  
**8:00 P.M.**  
*Childcare 7:00-10:00 P.M.*

Elaborate and dramatic, this service utilizes all the senses as we recount salvation history and revel in the saving power of God's great mercy. *There will be incense at this service.*



*Scene One*  
**The New Fire**

The service begins outside in the Garden of Remembrance (east of the Chapel) shortly after the sun has set. A fire is kindled and the Paschal Candle is lit from this fire. Candles held by the congregation are lit. The procession moves into the darkened church behind the Paschal Candle. An ancient hymn, the *Exsultet*, is sung.



*Scene Two*  
**Salvation History**

Several Old Testament lessons are now read. The account of the Israelites' crossing the Red Sea is given particular attention since this event is at the center of the Jewish Passover. Christians believe Christ, in his death and resurrection, to symbolize the Passover Lamb. Each reading is followed by a hymn and a collect relating what has been read in the Old Testament to the Mystery of Christ.



### *Scene Three*

## **Baptisms and the Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

Since the earliest days of the church, Easter Eve has always been a time set aside for baptisms where, by God's grace, we baptize people into a new life of Christ. Even when there are no baptisms, we remember our own initiation into the body of Christ through water and the Holy Spirit as we recite the Baptismal Covenant and say the prayers read at our own baptism.



### *Scene Four*

## **Resurrection**

After the baptism and /or the renewal of baptismal vows, the Presider calls out "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" Then the lights come on, the organ and brass ensemble lead us in an eruption of song, and bells are rung with great fanfare!

*You are encouraged to bring your own bells from home  
and join in the ruckus!*

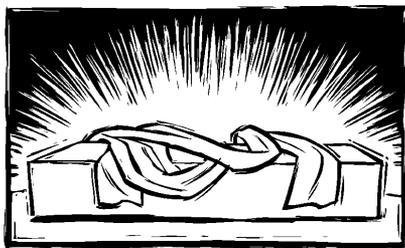
*Cow bells, sleigh bells, hand bells, Christmas bells.  
Any bell will do!*

*Or bring \$5 to buy or rent a bell as a fundraiser  
for rebuilding the cathedral in Haiti.*

The service then continues with the first festive Eucharist of Easter, followed by a champagne reception in the Great Hall.

# The Sunday of the Resurrection

*Easter Day*



**Festival Eucharist with Choir & Brass Ensemble**

**April 8**

**8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.**

**Childcare begins at 9:00 A.M.**

Holy Week concludes with the greatest feast of the Christian year, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. With unbridled festivity, we pull out all the stops in our liturgy and music. Please bring flowers from your garden to decorate the Flowering Cross as you enter the church.

**Join us for a Potluck Brunch  
between the Easter services.**

## The Great Easter Egg Hunt!

*after the 10:30 service*



Meet in the Great Hall.

There will be two age groups for the Hunt, plus extra Easter bags with handles (made by the Godly Play classes!)

We encourage all children to attend.

# Holy Week Checklist

## *Palm Sunday--8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.*

- Arrive at church ten minutes before the service to get a palm branch for the procession into the church.
- You may choose to bring a branch you have cut at home.
- Be sure to take some palm crosses home with you at the end of the service, to keep or deliver to a friend unable to attend church.

## *Monday & Tuesday--6:00 P.M.*

- Evening Prayer in the Chapel

## *Wednesday--7:30 P.M.*

- Taizé Service in the Church

## *Maundy Thursday--Agape Meal at 6:30 P.M.*

*Liturgy at 7:30 P.M.*

*Watchnight Vigil*

- Sign up in the Narthex to bring an item to the Agape Meal, a meatless meal of soup, olives, cheese, fruit, wine, and juices. No dessert, please.
- If you are planning to have your feet washed as part of the Maundy Thursday Liturgy, please be sure to wear shoes and socks that are easy to remove. No nylons, please.
- Sign-up in the Narthex for an hour of prayer in the Chapel as we keep watch with Jesus throughout the night.

## *Good Friday--Liturgy at 7:30 P.M. (1:00 P.M. at Parkshore)*

*Sacrament of Reconciliation after 7:30 service*

- Fast until after the Good Friday Liturgy.
- Participate in the private and confidential Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) in the Chapel after the 7:30 service.

## *The Easter Vigil--8:00 P.M.*

*NOTE: There will be incense at this service.*

- Arrive early and meet in the Garden of Remembrance, east of the Chapel.
- Bring bells to ring when the church erupts in Easter joy! Or bring \$5 to buy or rent a bell as a fundraiser for rebuilding the cathedral in Haiti.

## *Easter Sunday--8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.*

- Park far away or walk to church to make room for our guests!
- Sign-up to bring something to the Potluck Brunch between services.
- Stay for the Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:30 service.
- Bring flowers from your garden to decorate the Flowering Cross on your way into church!

# Easter Flowers

This Easter Sunday, the highest celebration of our Christian year, you can remember a special person or event by donating towards our Altar Flower Fund. Perhaps you would like to acknowledge the birth of a baby, or a marriage, or a loved one now departed. You may donate towards one or more lilies, but you are not limited to Easter. Any date during the year we can decorate the altar with a floral arrangement on the Sunday closest to that date.

Complete the form below and send your check to the church office or add it to the collection plate. Remember that during Advent and Lent only greens are used on the altar.

Thank you for your consideration of the Altar Flower Fund.

PLEASE COMPLETE FORM BELOW AND RETURN  
TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4.

-----  
Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

- My check is enclosed for purchase of an Easter Lily.  
(Make payable to: Epiphany Parish; Easter Flowers).
- I wish to be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin,  
in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

in thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

For another special Sunday or anniversary during the church  
year: \_\_\_\_\_ Bulletin message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_