

CROSSROADS

Fr. Chris writes ...

My dear people,

We have entered into the season of Lent, our annual pilgrimage through the desert on the way to the promised land of Easter, our solidarity with Jesus during his temptation in the wilderness, our preparation for the sacred and central re-living of that one holy week in Jerusalem.

As Christians, above all, we seek to be honest about our human condition. We constantly try to do something quite difficult – to own up to our failings, but to lay claim to our beauty. Most people tip one way or another. They feel that they are rotten and no good (or they feel at least like other people are rotten and no good). Or they feel like they are beautiful and perfect exactly as they are, and they get quite grumpy when someone tries to point out their faults. As Christians, we strive to keep both these things in harmonious balance. We remember that Jesus Christ had to come and die for our sins because we're sinners, but at the same time we remember that he came to die for us because we're worth that kind of sacrifice.

So Lent is, in part, a chance to look at ourselves with accuracy and without the masks we tend to wear. This is a big side-effect of our Lenten practices, which are classically fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. It's food and money and time and energy. These are basic things. We all work with these things. And so that is where we must begin with our spiritual lives. In all these things, we often operate from an assumption of scarcity. Money, food, time, energy – we feel like we don't have enough of any of it. We cling to these things. But Lent challenges our patterns of behavior and belief by encouraging us to try to resist the temptations. It's uncomfortable, because we usually find out how weak our willpower really is. We can't even make it a few days! Then it occurs to us that we're not really free, not really in control of our own lives, not really as strong as we'd like to be.

If we realize that before we get to Holy Week, then we see Jesus on the cross differently. The person who discovers her own weakness and vulnerability begins to see the crowds, and Peter's denial, and even Judas' betrayal in a new light. We realize that, yeah, if we're honest, we're never going to be able to do it without grace.

Lent isn't easy. It's necessary, though. There's no shortcut to glory.

Faithfully,

Chris+



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Holy Week Services

Ash Wednesday began Lent, and Lent is a season of preparation for the Paschal mystery—the celebration of Christ’s death and resurrection. We dive into the celebration of these mysteries in the liturgies of Holy Week. Put these on your calendar now, and we’ll see you in 40 days.



Palm Sunday - 29 March, 10:45am

Tenebrae - Wednesday 1 April, 6pm

Maundy Thursday - 2 April, 8pm

Good Friday - 3 April, 6pm

Holy Saturday - 4 April, noon

The Great Vigil of the Resurrection - 4 April 9pm

Sunday of the Resurrection (Easter Sunday) - 5 April,
10:45am

If you can only come to a few services in Holy Week, we recommend Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil!

St. John Chrysostom on Lent and Fasting

St. John Chrysostom (Greek for “golden-mouthed”) was archbishop of Constantinople in the 4th century. We commemorate him on January 27th.

Do you fast?

Give me proof of it by your works.

If you see someone who is poor, take pity on him.

If you see a friend being honored, do not be envious.

Do not let only your mouth fast, but also the eyes, and the feet, and the hands and all the member of our bodies.

Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice.

Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin.

Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful.

Let the ears fast by not listening to evil talk and gossip.

Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism

For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers and sisters?

Announcements and Reminders

Wednesdays in Lent

We've always had worship at 6pm, and this continues in Lent. What's new is that we're bringing back a meal afterwards. We'll typically have a simple soup and bread meal after the 6pm liturgy.

It's time to... Stop, Pray, Work, Play & Love

Lent 2015 online reflections with the brothers of the Society of St. John the Evangelist. <http://ssje.org/ssje/time/>

The Sunday Readings

Did you know you can always find the readings for our Sunday services online? Go to <http://lectionarypage.net/> and click on the date.

Hospital Stays

If/when you or a family member are admitted to the hospital, you are still asked your religious preference and if that information may be released. Father reports that information is not released by the hospital. Therefore, if you or a family member are hospitalized, please inform the office if you would like a visit.

Jean Runge, for the Vestry

St. Andrew's choir is coming back

It's true. We're rebuilding the choir. Several parishioners met after the liturgy on the 15th to talk about how to proceed. Pam Cordle, Millard Harrell, and Andrea Garritano are taking the lead on our rebuilding efforts, and we're hoping to start rehearsals on March 4th. The choir will start out slowly, only singing on certain Sundays. We hope this will get the ball rolling and we will build up as we go.

If you're interested in singing – no experience or audition necessary – come to a rehearsal on Wednesdays from 7-8 (starting 3/4) or Sundays from 10-10:30 (starting 3/8).

Ladies Luncheon

The ladies' luncheon schedule has resumed after a break for the holidays. They are meeting at Amanda's Bakery and Café at 702 Commercial from 11:30-1:00. It is a "Pay your own way; come and go as your schedule permits" affair.

February Milestones

In our daily prayers we celebrate and remember

Births

Feb. 1 Allie Mitchell
 Feb. 10 Celeste Williams
 Feb. 13 Colleen Mitchell
 Feb. 15 Jared Kline
 Feb. 17 Susan Brinkman
 Mike Weidert
 Feb. 21 Carolyn Lackey
 Feb. 22 Gloria Stewart
 Feb. 23 David Mai
 Elijah Williams

Baptisms

Feb. 3 Zoe Dyer
 Feb. 6 Patrick Davis
 Feb. 14 Will Dyer
 Feb. 28 Ron Roerig

Confirmations

Feb. 2 Nancy Romine
 Jean Runge (rec'd)
 Feb. 6 Douglas Amend
 Marged Amend
 Emily Ayers
 Justin Davis
 Kelby Harrell
 Jeff Hawes
 Betsy Wright
 Feb. 23 June Hubert

Anniversaries

Feb. 19 Chuck and Diana Moore
 Feb. 28 Bob & Anna Basler

The faithful departed

Feb. 1 Mabel Scott
 Feb. 3 Bernice Hagan
 Feb. 4 Opal Glasgow
 James Spears
 Feb. 5 Lyman Thayer
 Cliff Stewart
 Feb. 7 Leo Conwell
 Roscoe Mendenhall
 Donetta Resch
 Feb. 8 Robert Howell
 Feb. 10 Harry Higgins
 Feb. 11 Thomas McCullough
 Feb. 12 Ann Haywood
 Feb. 15 Nettie Resch
 Feb. 16 Maurine Warren
 Feb. 17 Bill Miles
 Feb. 18 Clarence Smalley
 Feb. 19 Floyd Maher
 Feb. 20 Maurene Ore
 Feb. 21 Maurine Lauderback
 James Wilson
 Feb. 23 Frank Griffin
 Feb. 25 William Firth
 Feb. 26 Willa Story
 Feb. 28 Clarence Kraum

March Milestones

In our daily prayers we celebrate and remember

Births

March 1	Kevin Williams
March 4	Jordan Kline
March 6	Chris Arnold
March 7	Florence Colaw
March 10	Cade Amend
March 11	Shirlee Ebberts
March 12	Kathryn Lakey
March 18	Anna Basler
March 22	Ian Brinkman
	John Dougherty
	Ann North
March 24	Jean Runge
March 25	Lisa Moody
March 30	Sue Wilson

Baptisms

March 8	Patrick Kelley
March 17	Justin Davis
	Carolyn Lackey
March 28	Lynn Bonney
March 29	Jean Runge
March 31	Hudson LeGrande Kline

Confirmations

March 1	Lawrence Eudaley
March 7	Laurilla Crispel
March 14	Barbara Walker
March 18	Lynn Bonney
March 22	Barbara MacGregor
March 26	Grady Fowler
March 29	Nancy Garcia
March 31	Jean Runge (rec'd)

Anniversaries

The faithful departed

March 2	Rosamund Shulley
March 3	Mary Martin
March 4	Jason Austin
	John Bannon
March 5	Alfred Christie
March 6	John Gladfelter
	Zelma Noble
March 7	Reva Herman
March 8	Lloyd Price
March 9	Gertrude Leonard
	Lyle Noyes
March 10	Anna Canby
	Mabel Corbett
March 12	Mary Barnes
March 16	Lloyd Edwards
March 18	Dorothy Kimbell
March 19	Clinton Henning
March 20	Elmer Jones
March 21	Maxie Bird
March 22	Mildred Purviance
	Bertha Sprague
March 23	Lucetta Stover
March 28	Olevia Hunt
	Georgia Morrison
March 29	Nillie Ruth Markle

If a date that's important to you hasn't been included in this calendar, please notify the church office at 342-1537 or office@standrewsemporia.org.

The Services of Holy Week

Holy Week is March 29th to April 5th. If this is your first Holy Week, you are in for a full and astounding treat. It is during this week that we walk with Jesus through his last week in Jerusalem. We call this the Paschal Mystery: his passion, death, burial, and resurrection, and this is the vibrant heart of the Christian way.

There are lot of liturgies during this week, and several of the services are completely unlike anything else we experience here at St. Andrew's. Here is a short guide:

There are lot of liturgies during this week, and several of the services are completely unlike anything else we experience here at St. Andrew's. Here is a short guide:

- Palm Sunday, March 29th. This is a Holy Eucharist, as we always celebrate on Sunday. The new features are that we bless and are given palm leaves and we walk together into the church, remembering Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-11). We also hear the account of Christ's crucifixion, called the Passion Gospel, for the first time. We'll hear it again (from a different gospel) on Good Friday.
- Tenebrae, 6pm on Wednesday April 1st. The word comes from the Latin for "shadows." We say or sing psalms, and we hear portions of the book of Lamentations, the writings of St. Augustine of Hippo, and the epistles. Tenebrae takes us into a reflective and solemn mood. The gathering forces of darkness drew in towards Jesus before his arrest. There are still forces of darkness in our lives today.
- Maundy Thursday, 8pm on Thursday April 2nd. This is the commemoration of the Last Supper, during which Jesus gave "a new commandment" (commandment in Latin is *mandatum*, which became Maundy). At this service we celebrate Christ giving the Holy Eucharist to the church. We wash each other's feet at his command. We bring the Blessed Sacrament to the chapel where we keep watch through the night. This service always begins after sunset on Thursday, as it begins the Sacred Triduum ("TRID-you-um"), the three holy days at the heart of the Paschal Mystery.
- Good Friday, 6pm on Friday April 3rd. In addition to the Citywide Stations of the Cross that we do at noon with Christians from around Emporia, we have our own particular Good Friday liturgy at 6pm. Here we hear again the Passion from St. John's gospel. We pray a special set of ancient prayers called the Solemn Collects, only prayed on this one day. We venerate, or honor, a large crucifix. We focus our attention on Christ's sacrificial death for us. Although we know that Easter is coming, we never forget that death is the door to new life.
- Holy Saturday, noon on Saturday April 4th. This is a fairly short and simple service which commemorates Christ's descent among the dead. During this time, Christ was proclaiming the good news of salvation to all those who died before Jesus was born, those who had not had the opportunity to receive the gospel.
 - The Great Vigil, 9pm on Saturday April 4th. This is the central liturgy of the whole Christian year. In a sense, every Sunday Eucharist is a little version of what we do at this liturgy. There are four parts of it, which all take place in the darkness of the evening. First, we light a fire, and from the fire we light the Paschal Candle which is a sign of the enduring light of Christ. Second, we hear the Prophecies, a sequence of readings that tell the story of our need for salvation through Christ. Third, we baptize new Christians, or we renew our own baptismal promises, because the sacrament of baptism is closely tied to the resurrection of Jesus. Fourth, we celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter, celebrating again Christ's victory over death in the best way we know how—by receiving him into our bodies in his flesh and blood.



TRIDUUM

Services of Holy Week, cont'd

If you can't make it to all the services, the most important are Maundy Thursday, Good Friday (the evening one), and the Great Vigil.

It's a demanding schedule of services, it's true. If you come to all of them, you'll wind up spending nearly 8 hours at church during the course of the week. It takes commitment, and a deep desire to weave the story of Jesus into your own life story. It's powerful, when you approach it with a prayerful heart and a desire to see it through. Make it a holy Holy Week!

Sponsor flowers, music and candles for Easter

Please complete the form if you would like to contribute toward flowers, music, candles and other enhancements to our Easter worship. You may drop it in the collection plate. The form should be in the office by Monday, March 30, to assure inclusion in the Easter bulletins, but your donations are welcome at any time before Easter. There are also forms on the table in the hall. You may also call in your contribution (342-1537) and drop a check by the office at your convenience before Easter. Thank you.

Name _____ Phone _____

Please print clearly.

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

In honor of _____

Amount enclosed _____

The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe
Bishop of Kansas

The Rev. Chris Arnold
Priest in charge

Rick Mitchell -Sr. Warden

Bill Barnes

David Cordle

Millard Harrell

Jordan Kline

Nancy Pontius

Jean Runge

Trish Weidert

Members of the Vestry

Mary Austin, *Sexton*

Helen Miller, *Organist*

Rae Ann Warneke, *Parish Secretary*

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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www.standrewsemporia.org

620.342.1537

WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays 8:30 (spoken)

and 10:45 a.m. (sung)

Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.



**St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church
828 Commercial
Emporia, Kansas 66801**