



Grapevine

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March, 2016

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday
8 am—2 pm

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Our Daily Bread Treasurer
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Vestry Members

2017: Bob Wilbur, Mary Wargat
Gordon Francis

2018: Lisa Benedetti, Raquel
Holmes, Alan Dennen

2019: Michael Stagliola, Wayne
Perkins, Amy Kazlauskas

Greetings from Fr. Rich

Dear Friends,

This year during the Season of Lent we have a couple of special events to which I would like to call your attention.

First, on Palm Sunday, March 20, our Diocesan Bishop, the Right Reverend Alan Gates will be making his first visit to St. Thomas. Bishop Gates will be with us at the 10 AM service as we bless palms and hear the Passion Narrative. Bishop Gates will be with us after the service for coffee hour and then to meet with the Vestry. Please join us at the 10 AM service as we welcome Bishop Gates and celebrate Palm Sunday.

Second, I am offering a class on three Saturday evenings beginning on

March 5, on Episcopal 101 at 6:00 p.m. This class is open to everyone but please RSVP to Lynn in the office so that we can have the appropriate materials available for you. This class will serve both as a refresher and introduction to what it means to be an Episcopalian, and as preparation for Confirmation or Reception into the Episcopal Church. Please contact me if you have questions.

Third, each year we have an overnight vigil at St. Thomas after the Maundy Thursday service until 9:00 a.m. on Good Friday. Individuals sign up for one hour shifts to pray and spend time with Jesus just like the first disciples did. This year Lou Raposa

will be singing and playing the guitar the first couple of hours after the Maundy Thursday Mass and you are invited to attend at that time, too. Additionally, I am inviting anyone who would like to contribute to making the chapel into a garden to do so. This means bringing plants and other decorations to the chapel and arranging them prior to the Maundy Thursday Mass. If you would like to help with this, please contact me at frrich64@aol.com or 508-824-9595.

I encourage you to continue your Lenten disciplines and join with me in the preparation for the Resurrection. May we all be renewed to follow Jesus more closely and surrender our lives to the one who now lives.

Holy Lent,
Father Rich+

Spring Retreat

Gayle Raposa

Is Jesus maybe calling us to come away with Him for just a little while? Away from our "busy"ness of our lives to a place of rest and peace where we can celebrate as a loving community the elements of God's creation—Earth, Air, Water and Fire.

Plans are just beginning for an overnight prayer experience to include times of shared prayer, times of quiet reflection and times of fellowship and fun. A committee will be meeting to discuss locations, dates and content of this event.

Watch for more news on this mini-retreat.

WEB PAGE... Check us out: www.stthomastaunton.com



Our Daily Bread

Photos by Raquel Holmes



Our Daily Bread's Director, Anne Duhaime, competed in a chili competition on January 31st. Three categories competed for the best chili—restaurant, community and home chef.

In their "community" category ODB competed against Taunton Fire Department, Taunton Police Department, the Office of the Mayor, and Rachel's Hair Expression. Taunton Fire Department took first place and the police were second.

The competition was held in support of **Benjamin's Fund** which is a non-profit organization that provides assistance, (resources and financial) to families with terminally ill children.

Thank you, Anne, for ODB's support of this worthwhile fund.



Senior luncheons

Join us for lunch and entertainment

Thursdays

12 noon
in the Parish Hall.



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Join the Joy of Living Seniors

Ann LaFleur, Chair

Join the Joy of Living Seniors for their Thursday lunches. These catered luncheons are free for anyone over 55. The meal begins at noon and is followed by a short program usually about resources or events of interest to seniors. Generally, on the fourth Thursday of every month, we have a special bingo with prizes.

The programs are organized and sponsored by the Joy of Living Seniors

ministry at St. Thomas which also sponsors the Nature and Meditation Walks. Our Daily Bread provides the nutritious lunches offered each week.

March Luncheon Speakers

- March 3 ~ Bill Hanna ~ History of Taunton
- March 10 ~ Dr. Margie, DC ~ Benefits of Chiropractic Care
- March 17 ~ St. Patrick's Day Party ~ Avis
- March 31 ~ Bingo

March JOL Walk

A Walk for Love and Kindness

11:30 AM—12:30 AM
Boyden Wildlife Sanctuary

Meet in church parking lot at 11:15 AM.
All are welcome. Easy walk.
(Rain/snow cancels walk).

For more information on the Walks, please contact

Ethel Fraga at ethel.fraga@verizon.net



Tent for Rent ~ 20 ft. x 40 ft.

(Requires space of 30 x 50 ft for set-up)

\$200/day (includes crew to deliver, set up and take down)

Tables and chairs are available at half the rental rate at \$5.00 per table and 50 cents per chair. Tables and chairs must be returned immediately after the event and put back in place.

To reserve the tent, tables and chairs, contact
Paul Boudreau at paulboo67@yahoo.com



**If you like to sing,
Join the choir...**

Rehearsals

Wednesdays, 7:30 PM

Sundays, 9:00 AM



Electronic Distribution

If you are receiving this Grapevine in the mail and would like to receive it via e-mail, please send me your e-mail address.

Benefits: pictures are in color and you receive it sooner.

**Send e-mail to:
bevdanek@outlook.com**

Notes from the Organ Console ~ Dr. Steven Young

Notes on Hymns

Among the hymns being sung during the month of March, we find several that are very familiar. I hope these words provide some insight about the hymn, its lyricist, and its music.

Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah, hymn number 690 hails from Wales. The tune, *Cwm Rhondda*, was composed by John Hughes for a festival in the town of Capel Rhondda, Hopkinstown in 1907. The original Welsh text was written in 1745 by William Williams; an English translation appeared around 1772. Its popularity has remained. It was used on the film *How Green is My Valley*, and was sung at the funeral of Lady Diana, Princess of Wales.

On Palm Sunday it is tradition to sing *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* (#154). The original text was written by Theodulf, Bishop of Orleans, France circa 820 A.D. There seems to have been some scandal surrounding this bishop who was imprisoned by the emperor Louis of France due to a supposed conspiracy to oust the emperor and replace him with an Italian ruler (Theodulph originally came from Italy before becoming bishop). The tune for this hymn is called *St. Theodulf*, because of the text's authorship. Melchior Teschner of Poland composed the tune somewhere in the early 1600s. The text acts as a retelling of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The medieval church actually re-enacted this story on Palm Sunday using a standard liturgy that featured this hymn. The priests and inhabitants of a city would process from the fields to the gate of the city, following a living representation of Jesus seated on a donkey. When they reached the city gates, a choir of children would sing the hymn, then in Latin: *Gloria, laus et honor*, and the refrain was taken up by the crowd. At this point the gates were opened and the crowd made its way through the streets to the cathedral. Though we might not have any city gates to proceed through today, this hymn still acts as a royal hymn of praise and proclamation. Today we praise the "Redeemer, King" because we know just what kind of King He was and is – an everlasting King who reigns not just in Jerusalem, but over the entire earth. What more could we do but praise Him with glory, laud, and honor.

March Offertory Anthems include:

March 6	Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake	Richard Farrant
March 13	Drop, drop slow tears	Roland E. Martin
March 20	When the Lord entered the Holy City	Mason Chadwick Shfa
March 24	Ave verum corpus	W. A. Mozart
March 25	Good Friday Anthems	Robert J. Powell
March 26	Christ the Lord is risen	Arnold von Bruck
March 27	Hallelujah (<i>The Messiah</i>)	George Frideric Handel

Join us for a Lenten Quiet Evening

Fr. Rich Bardusch

Setting Our Faces Toward Jerusalem: A Lenten Quiet Evening

Come and join us for an evening of quiet and reflection. From early Christian times, Holy Week has been a major time of pilgrimage. As Christians ready themselves for the holiest week of the year, come prepare yourself to journey with Jesus toward Jerusalem. Although meditations will be offered, there is only one rule: do not disturb others. Reading, journaling, praying, art work or any other quiet activity is welcome.

The evening, March 18th, will begin at 6:00 PM with a soup supper and end by 9:30. It will be led by Tara Soughers, Director, Common Ground: Center for Spiritual Practice, McKinstrey House. Come for all of it or any part.

Joined in Holy Matrimony



Three generations of St. Thomas Weddings



Bob & Linda Belenger
1958
(Rev. Skipper Beal)



Kim (Belenger) Avila
Tom Avila
1983
(Rev. Tom Crum)



Corrie (Avila) Devenger
Aarik (Jay) Devenger
January, 2016
(Rev. Dr. Richard Bardusch)



Pastoral Care Team Prayer List

Please pray for our sick & shut-ins...

Malcolm Baker
Beatrice Lagasse

~ ~ ~

Please contact Fr. Rich with any pastoral emergencies. Be sure to inform him if you know of anyone in the parish who is ill and/or in the hospital.

In addition to keeping you on our prayer list, our Pastoral Care Team is available, upon request, to visit and take communion to those who are sick/shut-in or hospitalized.

Pray for our Dearly Departed

May light perpetual shine upon them

Brant S. Haworth
Called Home February 3, 2016

Husband of Myrtle Haworth
Long-time faithful member of St. Thomas

Prayer for our Mission

O gracious and loving God, you work everywhere reconciling, loving and healing your people and your creation. In your Son, and through the power of your Holy Spirit, you invite each of us to join you in your work. We, young and old, lay and ordained, ask you to form us more and more in your image and likeness, through our prayer and worship of you and through the study of your scripture, that our eyes will be fully opened to your mission in the work. Then, God, into our communities, our nation and the world, send us to serve with Christ taking risks to give life and hope to all people and all of your creation. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Pray for our Military

- Daniel Snowdall
- Megan Drewniak
- Adam Dyke
- William Marsh IV
- Aaron Weissman
- Donald Souza
- Noel Souza
- Ryan Vohnoutka
- Alex Paull
- Christopher French
- Rick Dray
- Alex Bolton
- Scott Larson
- Brendan Clifford

HOLY WEEK ACOLYTES

March 23 (Tenebrae) - 7 PM

Candles: Douglas & Chris Francis
 Readers: Douglas & Chris Francis

March 24 (Maundy Thursday) 7:00 PM

Crucifer

March 25 (Good Friday) - 7 PM

Crucifer: Julia Boudreau
 Candles: Camden Cleathero & Parker Cleathero
 Readers: Julia Boudreau, Parker & Camden Cleathero

March 26 (Holy Saturday)- 5 PM

Crucifer : Jade Holmes
 Dove: Joey Kazlauskas
 Candle: Quincy Jones-Sylvia

HOLY WEEK EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

March 23 (Tenebrae) - 7 PM

Chalice: John Blake
 Readers: John Blake, Beverly Kimball, Douglas Francis, Christopher Francis, Ethel Fraga

March 24 (Maundy Thursday) 7PM

Verger / Chalice: John Blake
 Lector/Prayers/Chalice: Brenda Neugeboren

March 25 (Good Friday) -Noon

Lector: Socia Hodge
 Verger: John Blake
 Readers: Greater Taunton Clergy

March 25 (Good Friday) - 7 PM

Verger/Lector: John Blake
 Prayers/Chalice: Renee Vitale
 Readers: Renee Vitale, John Blake, Julia Boudreau, Parker Cleathero, Camden Cleathero, Paul Boudreau, Lisa Benedetti, Beverly Kimball

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

March 6

Gospel Condolezza Dwuye
 Crucifer Steven Rose
 Front Candles Julia Boudreau / Elijah Figueroa

March 13

Nathan and Jade Holmes

March 13

Gospel Kloie Butler
 Crucifer Christopher Francis
 Front Candles Kirstyn Murray / Kassidy Murray

March 20

Gospel Condolezza Dwuye
 Crucifer Camden Cleathero
 Front Candles Douglas Francis / Steven Rose

March 27

Gospel Kloie Butler
 Crucifer Christopher Francis
 Front Candles Kirstyn Murray / Kassidy Murray
 Back Candles Steven Rose / Douglas Francis
 Dove Julia Boudreau
 Reader Christopher Francis

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS/LAYREADERS

March 5

Renee Vitale

March 6

8:00 AM Sonia Hodge
 10:00 AM Beverly Kimball, Lector/Chalice
 Alix McNamee, Prayers/Chalice

March 12

Raquel Holmes

March 13

8:00 AM Michael Stagliola
 10:00 AM Marge Largey, Lector
 Len Walker, Chalice
 Sarah Walker, Prayers/Chalice

March 19

Brenda Neugeboren

March 20

8:00 AM Avis Leary
 10:00 AM Linda Belenger, Lector/Chalice
 William Waytes, Chalice
 Robin Miller, Prayers

March 26

Terry LaRue, Prayers/Chalice
 Raquel Holmes, Lector/Chalice

March 27

8:00 AM Michael Stagliola
 10:00 AM Christopher Francis, Lector
 Linda Belenger, Prayers / Chalice

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS

March 6

Birthday & Anniversary

March 13

Joan Andrade, Carol Crepeau

March 20

Sonia Hodge

March 27

Tad & Marie Largey

FINANCE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

(4th Tuesdays)

March 22
 April 26
 May 24

Meetings start at 7:00 PM in the parish hall.

Newly-elected officers

Newly-elected Treasurer, Elmer Holmes, presents Treasurer's Report



Newly-elected to serve the three-year term on Vestry were Mike Stagliola (left), Wayne Perkins (right) and Amy Kazlauskas (not present). Amy previously served a one-year unexpired term so was able to run for the full three-year term..

Also elected...

Clerk, *Robertha Dwuye (not present)*

Convention Delegates:

Monica Shearer, Will Waytes, Jane Lopes (alternate)

Taunton River Deanery

Renee Vitale

Episcopal City Mission

Paul Boudreau, Kirk Cleathero

287th Annual Meeting

February, 2016

On February 14th, (a record-breaking cold day at 13 below 0), a quorum of hearty soles gathered for our annual meeting. The pipes had frozen in the parish hall so there was no heat, only one furnace was working in the church, but the pot luck luncheon with the usual menu of delicious food supplied by our parishioners nourished us and the reports were presented, votes taken and another successful meeting is in the record books.



Our guest, Rev. Tara Soughers (Director of Common Ground, Centering Spiritual Practice) gave a brief update on the progress of this ministry on which she is working with Fr. Rich. This is a continuation of the program Fr. Rich and Rabbi Heath began several years ago. Their first event was "An Advent Quiet Evening" in December led by Rev. Tara.

Our ODB Treasurer, Eric Pearson, gave a brief update on Our Daily Bread and answered questions. They had a very successful fundraiser in January and have several more planned including a Comedy Night in March and a Paint Night in April. They are always looking for donations of toiletries, coats, hats, gloves for their clients. Monetary donations can be made through their web site/Pay Pal—ourdailybreadsoupkitchentaunton.com. Donations of food have increased and they are looking for a van or panel truck to allow them to pick up the larger donations as needed.

Our membership book was signed by those who had not previously done so.



Rotating off the Vestry this year were Monica Shearer, Clerk, and Beverly Kimball, vestry member. Each were recognized for their service and presented a Home Plate gift certificate. Also rotating off the vestry were Amy Kazlauskas and Chris Han-non (not present).

Christian Education Corner

Renee Vitale

Saturday church school meets

March 5th & 19th
5:00 PM in the Chapel

Sunday School meets weekly at 10:00 AM in the upstairs classrooms in parish hall. The last Sunday of each month is Youth Sunday—children go directly to church for special youth services.

WANTED:

Teachers
Assistant Teachers



Godparent preparation
Tuesday
March 22, 2016—6:00 PM

Blessing Bags ~ The Sunday School students will be making “Blessing Bags” for the homeless as part of their Lenten devotions and are asking for your help to create 25 Blessing Bags.

Donations of small/travel-sized toiletry items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, wet wipes, bandaids/first aid kits, mini tissue packs, deodorant, quarters, chapstick, comb/brush, nail clippers, flashlights, cough drops, Tylenol, feminine products and warm, thick socks are needed. Also needed—something to pack the items in such as gallon Ziploc bags or old purses or handbags for the women. There will be a box in the back of the church in which you can place your donations.

Saturday church school theme for March is “Offerings.”

Sunday School theme for March focuses on “Faces of Easter” through their *Godly Play* series

Children and adults interested in being baptized and/or confirmed... 'tis the season. Classes are scheduled ~ check with Fr. Rich for further details.

It's not too early to think about summer camp. We're looking to send a group of campers to camp for one week in July. For further information, contact Ms. Renee, Ms. Lisa or Ms. Raquel.

Baptismal Preparation

The next Baptismal occasion is Saturday, March 26, 2016, the Great Vigil, also known as the Easter Vigil at 7:00 PM. This service is the first service of Easter and is an especially appropriate time for baptisms.

Anyone desiring to be baptized or to have a child baptized should contact Father Rich at 508-824-9595 or FrRich64@aol.com. Those who are to be baptized must have at least two godparents. All godparents must themselves be baptized, and members of a Christian church.

Godparent preparation is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2016, at 6:00 PM in the evening in the Coram Lounge at St. Thomas. Those adults being baptized and godparents must be present. Young children do not need to be present, but may if their parents wish it. If godparents are unable to be present at this time, other arrangements must be made with Father Rich. This preparation is important in that it covers both the role of godparents as well as the logistics of their part in the baptism.

“Sponsors of adults and older children present their candidates and, thereby, signify their endorsement of the candidates and their intention to support them by prayer and example in their Christian life. Sponsors of infants, commonly called godparents, present their candidates, make promises in their own names, and also take vows on behalf of their candidates.”

“It is fitting that a parent be included among the godparents of their own children. Parents and godparent are to be instructed in the meaning of Baptism, in their duties to help the new Christians grow in the knowledge and love of God, and in their responsibilities as members of his Church.” *Book of Common Prayer, page 298.*

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS are available through the Thomas Crum Scholarship Fund for active members of St. Thomas Church. For information, or to apply, contact the scholarship committee: Kirk Cleathero, Chair at dawnnkirk@verizon.net.



NEW

After Sports Mass

Sundays—5:00 PM

Musician
Jeff Paquette

Spooktacular

NEXT BAZAAR

PLANNING MEETING

SUNDAY,

March 13, 2016

~ ~ ~

Plan early

OCTOBER

WILL COME QUICKLY

Upcoming Events ~ Save the Dates

Saturdays (weekly)	5:00 PM - Come as you Are service—Chapel
Saturdays (1st)	6:00 PM - Senior Ministry—Coram Lounge
Sundays (1st)	11:30 AM - Newcomer's Meeting—Coram Lounge
Sundays (1st & 3rd)	10:00 AM - Healing Prayer offered during Eucharist—Serviceman's Altar
Sundays (2nd)	11:30 AM - Christian Formation Meeting
Sundays (weekly)	9:00 AM - Choir Rehearsal—at the organ
Sundays (weekly)	10:00 AM - Church School
Sundays (weekly)	1—6 PM - Nothing But the Truth—Coram Lounge
Sundays (weekly)	5:00 PM - After Sports Mass— Begins February 28th —Chapel
Sundays (last Sunday)	10:00 AM - Youth Sunday
Sundays (4th Sunday)	11:30 AM - Building & Grounds Committee—Coram Lounge
Mondays (1st & 3rd)	10:00 AM - Assisted Living (Raynham)
Mondays (3rd)	Women's Club
Tuesdays (2nd)	7:00 PM - VESTRY—Coram Lounge
Tuesdays (4th)	7:00 PM - Finance Committee Meeting—Counting Room
Wednesdays (weekly)	7:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal—Chapel
Wednesdays (1st)	6:30 PM - Mindfulness Group—Coram Lounge
Thursdays (weekly)	12:00 N - Senior Luncheon—Parish Hall
Fridays (weekly)	7-10 PM - Nothing But the Truth—Parish Hall
Fridays (2nd)	10:00 AM - Knitters meet in the Coram Lounge
Fridays (3rd)	2:30 PM - Taunton Nursing Home

March 5	9:00 AM—4 PM	Diocesan Spring Learning Event—Cathedral of St. Paul
March 5	6:00 PM	Adult Confirmation/Reception class (following 5 PM service)
March 5	6:00 PM	Episcopal 101
March 8	All Day	HOME PLATE Fundraiser
March 10	7:00 PM	Fair Sewers/Stitchers—Coram Lounge
March 12	6:00 PM	Episcopal 101
March 13	11:30 AM	Fair Preparation/Planning Meeting—Coram Lounge
March 16	9:15 AM	Lenten Mini retreat—Coram Lounge
March 18	6:00 PM	A Lenten Quiet Evening
March 19	10 AM—12 PM	First Communion Class
March 19	6:00 PM	Episcopal 101
March 20	10:00 AM	Rt. Rev. Alan Gates, Bishop—visits St. Thomas
March 22	6:00 PM	Godparent preparation
March 23	7:00 PM	Tenebrae—service of lessons, light & dark and silence
March 24	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday
March 24	8 PM—12 N	All Night Vigil
March 25	12 Noon	Good Friday Ecumenical
March 25	7:00 PM	Good Friday Episcopal
March 26	11:30 AM	Walk for Love and Kindness—Boyden Wildlife Sanctuary
March 26	5:00 PM	The Great Vigil with Baptisms
March 27	8:00 AM	EASTER—Holy Eucharist
March 27	10:00 AM	EASTER—Festal Eucharist
March 27	10:00 AM	FIRST COMMUNION
March 27	11:15 AM	EASTER EGG HUNT ON RECTORY LAWN
March 27	5:00 PM	Holy Eucharist
April 9	10:30 AM	Confirmation / Reception
April 10	11:30 AM	Acolyte Training—main church
October 22, 23	All Day	2016 FAIR ~ Spooktacular Bazaar

~ GRAPEVINE DEADLINE ~ April deadline is March 20, 2016

Send articles to Beverly Kimball

(h) (508) 697-6667 ~ e-mail: bevdanek@outlook.com

Spooktacular Bazaar

NEEDS YOUR HELP

Meetings are underway to plan for this very important fundraiser.

MUCH HELP IS NEEDED NOW!

Jane Lopes and Beverly Kimball would like to hear from YOU!

BAZAAR STITCHERS

March 10—7:00 PM

Coram Lounge



First Communion Class
Saturday
March 19, 2016
10:00 AM—12:00 Noon

Join us for our Home Plate Fundraiser

Tuesday ~ March 8, 2015

Home Plate ~ Bay Street Grille

Enjoy lunch or dinner with your family and friends and present this ticket with your bill. St. Thomas Church will receive 20% of your bill. This offer is good on sit-down meals, take-out orders as well as gift certificates purchased.

This ticket should be cut out, copied and given to your family and friends, and take one with you to Home Plate.

NOTE: No tickets are allowed to be distributed at Home Plate Restaurant at any time.

SEE YOU THERE!

Join the Bazaar Stitchers

March 10, 2016—7:00 PM

Thursday evening—Coram Lounge

~ **CALLING ALL STITCHERS** ~

Come prepared to make pot holders
 Bring ideas for future projects


OPTIONAL

Bring your sewing machine
 Bring material and scissors, needles & threads

...or just COME—we will have the supplies and the machines

All levels of ability (or none at all) are welcome to join us for work, fun and refreshments.

TICKET



Supports
Episcopal Church of
St Thomas

Bring this ticket to
 Home Plate Bay St. Grille on
Tuesday,
March 8, 2016

Good for dine-in, take-out
and gift card purchases.
 Tickets cannot be distributed
 at any time at Home Plate.

20% of your bill
 will be donated to

Episcopal Church of St Thomas

For information contact

Beverly Kimball
 (508) 697-6667 or bevdanek@outlook.com

First Communion Class

On Saturday, March 19, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m., St. Thomas will offer a First Communion Class for children who are baptized or going to be baptized and at least 7 years of age. If a sibling is close in age, they are also invited even if younger. Fr. Rich and other adults will lead the class and it will meet in the Coram Lounge. If you would like your child to participate, please contact the church office to add your child to the list by calling Lynn at 508-824-9595 or by email at lynncifford1@comcast.net. First Communion will take place on Easter Sunday, March 27, 2013, at 10:00 AM. Girls should wear a white dress and boys a coat and tie for their First Communion on Easter Sunday. You may also email Fr. Rich at FrRich64@aol.com if you need more information.

Shrove Tuesday Celebration

Shrove Tuesday is traditionally the last celebration (Mardi Gras) before the solemn and reflective season of Lent begins. We enjoyed a delicious pancake and sausage supper, fellowship and celebration. We burned the palms (to be used on Ash Wednesday) and buried the Alleluias (not to be said again until Easter) The “King’s Cake” was shared and Ethel Fraga found the baby buried within—she will bring the cake next year.



A **king cake** (sometimes shown as **kingcake**, **kings' cake**, **king's cake**, or **three kings cake**) is a type of cake associated with the pre-Lenten celebrations of Mardi Gras/Carnival.

What started out roughly 300 years ago as a dry French bread-type dough with sugar on top and a bean inside now comes in many varieties depending on the country. Hundreds of thousands of King Cakes are eaten in New Orleans during the Carnival season. The cake often has a small plastic baby (said to represent Baby Jesus) inside, or underneath; and the person who gets the piece of cake with the trinket has various privileges and obligations.





E-MAIL REQUEST If you have not been receiving the news and announcements we send electronically, please send your email to Fr. Rich at FrRich64@aol.com or to Lynnclifford1@comcast.net, so that we can make sure you get updated information. This is important not only because we send the most up to date information on our activities via the Internet, but also because we give notice by email in the event of a weather cancellation.

Also, if you have changed your e-mail address, please be sure we have your current one. Send to church office or print on sheet in the church.

Diocesan
Spring Learning Event
Cathedral Church of St.
Paul
Saturday
March 5, 2016
9 AM—4 PM

The Altar of Repose

Mark 14:32-34

They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

Each year on Maundy Thursday we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist and Jesus' betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane. At the end of the service, the High Altar is stripped bare and the elements removed, including the consecrated host. The host is taken by procession to another area called the Altar of Repose and people from the congregation sign up to watch over it throughout the night. The Altar in the Chapel is used as the Altar of Repose at St. Thomas.

Sitting the vigil at the Altar of Repose can be a way to sit with Jesus in Gethsemane. We sit in silence and candlelight, meditating and praying. It is a way to enter into the mystery that is Holy Week and to prepare for Crucifixion and Resurrection.

You are invited to help keep watch. There is a signup sheet in the back of the church, and you are encouraged to sign up at least in pairs for one hour blocks of time. There is no limit to the number of people who can sign up and there will be written prayers available if you so choose.

This year we also have Lou Raposa playing music and singing at the beginning of the vigil.

Holy Week Schedule

March 23, 7 PM ~ Tenebrae ~ Service of lessons, light/dark and silence—no Eucharist
 March 24, 7 PM ~ Maundy Thursday—stripping of Altar, reservation of sacrament
 March 25, 12 Noon ~ Good Friday Ecumenical Service
 March 25, 7 PM ~ Good Friday—Eucharist from the reserve sacrament
 March 26, 5 PM ~ The Great Easter Vigil—lighting of the Paschal Candle, Baptisms, special sermon written by St. John Chrysostom, First Eucharist of Easter
 March 27, 8 AM ~ Holy Eucharist
 March 27, 10 AM ~ Festival Eucharist and First Communions

Join us for the Spring Learning Event

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston

"Real Church, Real Mission," the annual diocesan Spring Learning Event, will be held on Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

The day will feature "When God Left the Building," a movie that looks at changes in society and their effect on traditional church attendance, as well as a presentation by keynote speaker Molly Phinney Baskette, the pastor at First Church Somerville, UCC, and author of *Real Good Church: How Our Church Came Back from the Dead, and Yours Can, Too*. The day also will include vibrant church practices as well as table discussions, hopeful stories and resources. Learn more and register online at www.diomass.org.

FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 645 or acook@diomass.org).

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

111 High Street
Taunton, MA 02780



The mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

To Welcome and Grow in Love.

BRIEF HISTORY—Thomas Coram, a wealthy sea captain and philanthropist, arrived from England in the 1690's and established a successful shipyard on the Taunton River. He returned to London in 1703 and left behind 59 acres of land in trust and a substantial collection of books to help found a Church of England in Taunton.

Twenty-five years later Thomas Coram's intent was carried out. In 1728 a congregation of lay persons gathered and a small church was built on the outskirts of town near the Three Mile River on what is now Tremont Street. Although the land trust was no longer available, Coram's library of books became the basis for the young parish's ministry. The church was named St. Thomas.

During the Revolution, St. Thomas Church, like most Episcopal Churches, fell upon hard times and was closed for a number of years as were many others in the area. The building itself stood unused and blew down in the Gale of 1815. In 1820 the parish was incorporated. In 1828 the Vestry voted to seek a minister who was called and then a new building was erected in the center of Taunton on High Street across from the present building.

The church grew rapidly leading to the enlargement of the building in the 1840's and this, too, was soon outgrown. The third and present structure designed by Richard Upjohn was consecrated in 1859. A chapel was added in 1869. A fire gutted the Church sanctuary in 1898, but it was rebuilt with the addition of a large three-manual Jardine organ in 1899.

The historically significant 1759 McKinstrey House (present rectory) adjacent to the church was purchased in 1907 for use as a Sunday School. In 1910 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Cabot Baylies donated a Sunday School building. This parish house has proven to be of immeasurable value throughout the years to the church and to the entire community. In 1960 ground was broken for an addition to the parish house which completed the complex of buildings as we know it today.

On-Going Committees

Acolytes—Jessica & Peter Mason
Altar Guild—Anna Loura
Archives—Marge Largey
Audit Committee—Susan Cameron,
Kirk Cleathero, Steve Perry
Brown Bag Program—Lynn Clifford
Building & Grounds—Paul Boudreau
Capital Fund Drive—Jane Lopes
Centering Prayer—Fr. Rich, Ethel Fraga
Christian Formation—Lisa Benedetti
Coffee Hour -
Counters—Sarah Walker
Fair—Jane Lopes, Beverly Kimball
Golf Tournament—Len Walker
Greeters—Sonia Hodge
Finance Committee—Elmer Holmes
Budget - Treasurer
Insurance—Susan Cameron/Norm Dunphe
Investment -
Stewardship—
Flower Committee—Cheryl Medeiros
Fundraising Committee—Paul Boudreau
Grapevine—Beverly Kimball

Consider joining one or more of these committees

Healing Prayer Ministry—Jane Lopes
Historian—Norm Dunphe
Lobster Roll Day -
Mission Trips— Paul Boudreau, Lisa Benedetti, Andrew Francis, Kim Avila
Haiti Micah Fund—Paul Boudreau
Cranwood House—Raquel Holmes
Music Committee—Steven Young
Newcomer Welcoming—Sarah Walker, Mary Wargat
Our Daily Bread—Rene Cantin
Parish Life Team—Fr. Rich
Pastoral Care Team— Fr. Rich, Robin Miller, Mary Wargat, Frank Capron, Sonia Hodge
Property Rentals—Andrew Francis
Scholarship Committee—Kirk Cleathero
Senior Ministry—Ann LaFleur
Spiritual Development—Ethel Fraga
Visitations—Robin Miller, Sonia Hodge
Taunton Nursing Home ~ Sonia Hodge
Assisted Living Facility ~ Sonia Hodge
Waldron-Gibson House (School Street) —Chris Hannon
Wine & Cheese Reception Coordinator—Brittannya Figueroa
Women's Club—Joan Blake, Beverly Farrow