

OUR VOICE

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S THIS WEEK

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Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9 am – 3 pm

WEEK OF MARCH 14TH – 21ST

THE 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

Today's Hymns

Prelude

Processional – “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus” (vs. 1,4,5)

Gospel Processional: “My Faith Looks Up To Thee” (vs 1,2)

Gospel Recessional: “My Faith Looks Up To Thee” (vs 3)

Offertory Hymn

Communion Hymn “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love” (vs 1-4)

Communion Hymn “St. Patrick’s Breastplate” (vs 1-3)

Recessional – “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (vs 1-3)

Postlude

Organ

Hymnal 495

Hymnal 691

Hymnal 691

Organist

SOP 239

SOP 333

Hymnal 686

Organ

Calendar:

- **Wednesday, March 17th is St. Patrick’s Day - <https://nationaltoday.com/st-patricks-day-2021/>** Initially a day to honor patron saint St. Patrick of Ireland, over time the holiday has evolved into a fun and festive celebration of Irish culture.
- Fr. Steve has started a book study, on Wednesdays, March 3-31, from 2:45pm to 3:30pm, on both Facebook LIVE and in-person. The book is: Uncommon Decency, by Richard Muow. It’s readily available & inexpensive through [AmazonSmile](#). A New Zealand Eucharist will follow if requested. You may respond with questions before or during the class in-person or online.
- **Please look for your St. Christopher’s Giving statement for tax year 2020 in the mail!**
- **We are gearing up for a big celebration this May!**
St. Christopher’s was founded on January 6, 1969 and we are throwing a party *to celebrate both our past and our future!* Keep your calendar clear for our **50th Anniversary Celebration**, AND the opening of **our 1996 Time Capsule**, on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021!** We will have both an outdoor worship service and a reception! Details to follow! Please contribute to our celebration ... search out your old photos and remembrances, and bring your ideas for the next 50 years! (Possible Mini-Outreach Auction included!)
- **Our March Ministry** is the **Food Care Center**. The holiday donations are nearly depleted! Please help replenish their shelves, by placing non-perishable items in the box in the Narthex. A list of needed items is available.

Please Support St. Christopher's !!

Time, Treasure and Talent ... Your ongoing and generous support is vital. Thanks, y'all!

Birthdays

March 14th – Becca Sands
March 14th – Janet Culver
March 14th – Shalea Litchfield

Anniversaries

March 18th – David & Michele Sands

Links:

- Hymn lyrics: see the Worship Guide, and <https://hymnary.org/hymnal/EH1982>
- For our scripture readings, see www.lectionarypage.net
- Our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/stchriskilleen

Services:

Check Out Our Virtual Service !!

- **Services will continue to be both Live and Virtual (“Facebook Live”), in the Parish hall at 9:30, for this Sunday!**
- *Please remember: Our gathering limit is 50 – let’s hit that number! We all wear Masks, practice Social Distancing, and sanitize our Hands.*
- Pew sheets, readings, and worship guides are available during office hours, by email, on our website, or on our Facebook page.

Ministry Schedule

<u>Altar Guild:</u>	March 14 th – Team C, March 21 st – Team D
<u>Readers/Lectors:</u>	March 14 th – Jayne Doxsey, Barnett Carthey March 21 st – Dave & Holly Miller March 28 th – George & Judy Van Riper (Palm Sunday) April 1 – Maundy Thursday-Judy Van Riper April 2 – Good Friday-Need volunteer readers! April 3 – Holy Saturday-Need volunteer readers! April 4 th – Penny Gillespie, Michael Blomquist (Easter Sunday)
<u>VOD/Ushers:</u>	March 14 th – Larry Taylor March 21 st – Judy Van Riper March 28 th – Jayne Doxsey (Palm Sunday) April 1 – Maundy Thursday-Judy Van Riper April 2 – Good Friday-Need volunteer! April 3 – Holy Saturday-Need volunteer! April 4 th – Jay Sproul (Easter Sunday)

Ushers/VODs: *Please* count attendance and model Covid safety protocols. Turn on/off the lights, light the altar candles before, and extinguish them after, each service. Count the offertory receipts with our Treasurer and sign the form after the service.

Fr. Steve's Thoughts:

As we continue to recover from the water breaks and damage from the most recent winter storm, we will let our faith in God support us. Here is a quote that Debbie found:

God's help is near and always available, but it is only given to those who seek it.

Do something that demonstrates faith—radical, risk-taking faith.

God will respond.

He has never rejected a genuine gesture of faith.

Never.

(borrowed from Max Lucado)

May the Lord's every blessing, and the peace which passes all understanding, be upon us.

- Fr. Steve +

Come for a tour of St. Chris's Preschool !!!

Call them or visit their webpage.

- Registration - 18 months through Kindergarten - is ongoing.
- Sign up online, <http://www.stchrisps.com/admissions.html>
- Tue, Wed, Thur, 8:45-2:15pm (before and after school care available!)

(254) 526-8380

<http://www.stchrisps.com> stchristopherps@gmail.com

The Preschool has their Scholastic Book Fair online. Feel free to send this link to grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. The Virtual fair starts 3/7/21 and runs through 3/20/21. Books delivered straight to you and we get 25% back for those orders.

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stchristopherps>

Lenten Trivia

“Alleluia” is not sung or said during Lent

When does Lent start? Lent starts on Ash Wednesday

"Lent" originates from the word, Lencten. ("Lencten" has Old English origins, which translates to the word, "spring." Hence, Lent occurs during the spring months.)

What is Good Friday? Jesus was crucified on the cross on Good Friday. This is also the Friday that comes before Easter Sunday.

Why is the day called "Ash" Wednesday? The day is called "Ash" Wednesday because of the ash that followers smear on their foreheads. It comes from the ashes of the palms from Palm Sunday.

What is the official color of Lent? Violet is a type of purple color that also represents Lent. Violet is also a royal color that is used to acknowledge the resurrection of Jesus.

When does Lent end? Maundy (Good) Thursday is when Lent officially ends. This is due to The Last Supper, which was the last meal Jesus consumed before he was crucified.

Why do we celebrate Lent? Since Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the desert, Lent is about giving something up to honor this. This also occurred after his baptism.

Rose Sunday or Laetere Sunday

This Sunday is called "Laetare Sunday" in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite since its mood and theme is one of hope and rejoicing that Easter is near. In the Ordinary Form this Sunday is not different from the other Sundays of Lent even though the entrance antiphon for the day still begins with the Latin word "laetare" and the vestments worn by the celebrant are rose-colored, not violet. The day is important because it is the day of the second scrutiny in preparation for the baptism of adults at the Easter Vigil.

Managing Coronavirus in the Diocese of Texas – February 2021

Texas Winter Storm info: <https://www.epicenter-prepare.org/winter-storm>

For more information, see the Diocesan website: <https://www.epicenter.org/health-resources/>.

COVID-19 Vaccinations: <https://www.epicenter.org/article/helping-ensure-access-to-the-underserved-through-new-covid-19-vaccination-hub-at-texas-southern-university/>

COVID-19 Hub on the Diocesan Website: <https://www.epicenter.org/resources/covid-19-hub/>

Other Resources:

- CDC Guidelines – Patients currently under quarantine, must remain in isolation unless at least seven days have passed from when COVID symptoms first appeared, and are fever-free for 72 hours (without fever-reducing medication), and have neither shortness of breath nor a cough. See, also, the Information at www.cdc.gov
- Veterans Crisis Hotline | Call 1-800-273- 8255, text 838255, or visit <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net>

Texas Governor's Office latest COVID news: [Governor Abbott's Proactive Response To COVID-19](#)

About availability of Vaccines: https://www.bellcountytexas.com/publicnotice_detail_T3_R370.php

Go here for updates on testing and vaccines: <https://www.bellcountyhealth.org/>