

Holy Week & Easter Season 2017

*“Over time, I have learned two things about my faith journey. First of all, that it is God who is seeking me, and who has a myriad ways of finding me. Second, that my most substantial changes, in terms of my [faith] conversion, **comes through other people** ... I recall the scene at Calvary, when Jesus sees his mother standing near a disciple. ‘Woman, here is your son’ and to the disciple ‘Here is your mother.’ It is through Jesus Christ, and the suffering [and resurrected] Christ at that, that God seeks us out and gives us to each .other.” Kathleen Norris. **Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith.***

Dear friends in Christ,

Peace be with you in this most holy time of our Christian faith journey. I pray you may be filled with the awesome power of this story each day in Holy Week, and that you may rise in the new life and faith of Easter joy with our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, with people like you, together.

Join us in the many rich worship experiences that this holy time offers. Our festal celebration of Palm Sunday through the deeply moving foot washing and the final Eucharist on Maundy Thursday, stripping the sanctuary bare and the Night Watch in the Garden of Repose. Gather at the foot of the Cross through the Good Friday Liturgy, and the meditative and interactive walk with Christ through the Way of the Cross on Good Friday evening. Then join the grand celebration of new light and life at the Great Vigil of Easter and on Easter Day. It is my prayer that these worship experiences, and the spirit and love of God, will touch you in new and profound ways. May this Easter Season be your time when God who seeks you in the myriad of ways find you, and you find God in our risen Lord Christ, together.

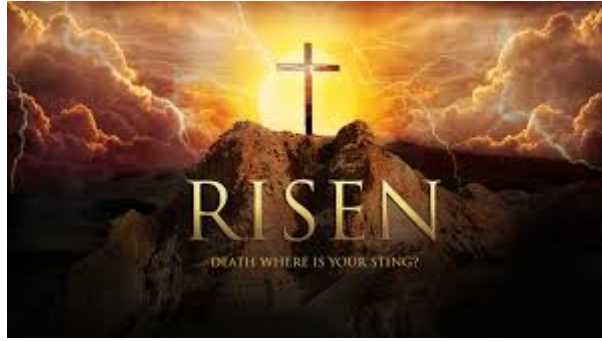
As you know, this will be my last Holy Week and Easter Season serving the people of St. Thomas’s as I will retire on October 31 of this year. Over these almost 9 years, we have grown in life and faith, caring for God’s temple both in our physical space and our spiritual spaces as well. Your next chapter now has The Grove property fully paid and owned by the parish for your future. I am so grateful to so many who have shown me **God and Christ in skin** through your lives, and for that I am deeply, deeply grateful!

May the love of God and Christ be reflected in your heart and living now and always. **Alleluia! Christ is Risen! The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

With holy affection

Paul+

The Reverend Paul W. Gennett, Jr.



Holy Week and Easter 2017

Sunday, April 9: Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms, Reading of the Passion, Holy Eucharist I
- 10:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms, Reading of the Passion, Holy Eucharist II
- 5:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Palms, Reading of the Passion,
Inclusive Language Liturgy & Holy Eucharist

Monday, April 10 through Thursday, April 13

Evening Prayer at 5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

- 11:00 a.m. Renewal of Ordination Vows and Holy Eucharist at Christ Church, Dover DE

Maundy Thursday, April 13

- 6:00 p.m. Soup and Bread Supper in the Great Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist, and Stripping of the Altar,
followed by Nightwatch hours in prayer at the Altar of Repose until the Good Friday
liturgy begins
- 10:00 p.m. Compline

Good Friday, April 14

- 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 12:00 noon Good Friday Liturgy with Sermon and Solemn Collects
- 7:00 p.m. The Way of the Cross – Praying the Fourteen Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 15

- 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter – Festal Celebration of Holy Eucharist with incense

Easter Day, April 16

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 10:30 a.m. Festal Holy Eucharist with Choir & Brass
- 5:30 p.m. NO SERVICE on Easter Day