



The Anchor Line

The newsletter of
Grace Episcopal Church

April 2025

Grace Episcopal Church
9101 Panama City Beach Pkw
Panama City Beach, FL 32407
850-235-4136

Email: secretary@gracespirit.org

Website:

www.episcopalchurhespb.org



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A Word from Father Justin

What in the World is the Triduum?



As we approach the end of our Lenten journey, Holy Week and Easter are on the horizon. We are preparing to dive headfirst into the ancient tradition of the Triduum. Many of you may have never heard this term, even though you have taken part in it every year during Holy Week. It is a powerful time, as we walk with Jesus to his death on the cross. I implore you to fully take part in our services during Holy Week this year. The Rev. Leonel Mitchell was instrumental in the revision of the 1979 version of the Book of Common Prayer, and frankly, his explanation of the Triduum puts mine to shame. Below are his words from *Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and the Great Fifty Days: A Ceremonial Guide*.

The Rev. Leonel L. Mitchell writes, "The Latin word *triduum* means a period of three days. It is used neither in *The Book of Common Prayer* nor in *The Book of Occasional Services*, yet it is widely used by Episcopalians and needs to be mentioned. It refers to the period beginning with sundown on Maundy Thursday and extending until sundown on Easter. It corresponds to the ancient celebration of the Pascha, with two days of fasting and one of celebration. It includes, therefore, the Maundy Thursday eucharist, the Good Friday liturgy, the Holy Saturday Word liturgy, the Great Vigil of Easter, and the services on Easter Day.

The advantage of the concept from a theological and liturgical point of view is that it restores a measure of the unitive nature of the paschal celebration. We begin with the celebration of the eucharist commemorating the Lord's Supper, with its remembrance of the institution of the sacrament and washing of feet. This celebration is tied to the Good Friday liturgy, so that the institution of the eucharist is directly related to Christ's death on the cross, and both are related to the celebration of the resurrection of the Great Vigil and in the services of Easter Day. Ormonde Plater has pointed out that the omission of the dismissal at the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday liturgies also serves to tie the liturgies of the Triduum together. In one sense it is a single liturgical act, from Maundy Thursday through the Great Vigil. This is the period in which we pass over with Christ from death to life, celebrating each event in the drama of salvation and entering into the mystery of dying and rising again with the Lord of life. It is here that all of the pieties of Holy Week come together, and at many different levels the people of God are caught up into the divine mystery. We die, and live and reign with Christ."

Fr. Justin+ 918-704-1665

ANNOUNCEMENT



Sunday Worship

Please join us for Sunday worship at 9:00am

Coffee Hour after Sunday Worship

Grace Episcopal Church warmly invites its members and friends to come together in Fellowship after Sunday Worship, where the aroma of coffee and delicious treats mingles with the sound of joyful conversations, fostering a deep sense of community and belonging.

Hosts are needed, please sign-up in the fellowship hall.



Grace & St Thomas Men's Luncheon

When: Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon

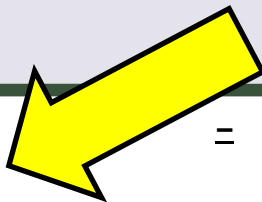
Where: Wicked Wheel or other location as announced

No reservation required

Wed. night Worship and Supper NO SERVICE IN APRIL

When: Every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:45 pm

On the third Wednesday of each month, we gather at 5:45 PM for a meaningful Worship service featuring Holy Communion, followed by a delightful Potluck supper where everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share, enriching our fellowship with diverse flavors and stories. If you wish, bring an adult beverage of your choice



Dinner with Friends

We would love for you to attend. Everyone is invited. If you might be interested please let Kim or Dean Beckman know so you can be included in the email invite list!

Kim Jacobson-763-370-3122

or email: kimsuej63@gmail.com

Dean Beckman-email: Gussie1223@msn.com

HOLY WEEK

SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 17 | 6 PM
ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 18 | 6 PM
GRACE EPISCOPAL

HOLY SATURDAY

APRIL 19 | 10 AM
ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA



EPISCOPAL CHURCHES
PANAMA CITY BEACH

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
9101 PANAMA CITY BEACH PKWY
PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL. 32407

ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA
204098 1ST AVE
PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL 32413

THERE WILL BE NO Service or Potluck,
Wednesday, April 16TH



Easter Sunday Worship,
April 20th- at 9:00am

Host and Hostesses are needed for

Coffee and refreshments after worship each Sunday.

Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall for the Sunday you would like to host.

Host is responsible for providing refreshments and making coffee. Cleaning up afterwards, take out the garbage, make sure the coffee pot is off and doors are locked.



The **Women of Grace** gathered on the delightful morning of March 5th for a heartwarming breakfast at Another Broken Egg, and what a lovely gathering it was! Our discussions were rich and varied, touching on topics that not only nurtured our spiritual growth but also deepened the connections among us. It's amazing how a good meal and meaningful conversation can uplift the soul—who knew that eggs benedict could be so enlightening? As we look ahead, I encourage you to join us for future gatherings; they promise to be just as enriching and enjoyable. Together, we can continue to foster this vibrant community, supporting each other in faith and friendship. Let's keep the spirit alive at Grace Episcopal Church—whether it's through a shared meal, a service, or one of our many upcoming events, there's always a place for you here!

Supper at Grace

We are thrilled to announce that there is a wonderful opportunity to bring back the beloved **Supper at Grace!** Our dear friend Susan Walters is ready to step up and lead the charge, but she can't do it alone—she needs a couple of enthusiastic souls to join her in this heartwarming initiative. This is where you come in! If you have a passion for community, a knack for teamwork, or simply want to share your time and talents with fellow parishioners, we warmly invite you to consider becoming part of the leadership team. Together, we can create an inviting and inclusive atmosphere where everyone feels welcome and connected. If you're interested in diving into this cherished ministry, please reach out to Liz in the Church office. Let's come together and make Supper at Grace a reality once again—your involvement could make all the difference!

Nursing Home Ministry

At Grace Episcopal Church, we believe in the power of compassion and service, and our **Nursing Home Ministry** is a heartfelt extension of that belief! The Women of Grace are eager to serve the elderly in our community, and we're currently exploring opportunities at local nursing homes where our efforts can make a real difference. If you have a desire to brighten someone's day and share the warmth of our church family, we warmly invite you to reach out to Deb Edmonston. Whether you're looking to lend a hand or simply curious about how you can get involved, your participation can enrich the lives of both the residents and yourself. Let's come together to create a ripple of kindness and support in our community—because every moment spent in service is a moment that truly matters! Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to make an impact; contact Deb today at (404) 542-7234!

Apalachicola Tour of Homes

We are excited to announce a wonderful opportunity to engage with our vibrant Episcopal community through the upcoming **Tour of Homes**, and tour of Trinity Episcopal Church of Apalachicola scheduled for May 3rd in the charming town of Apalachicola. This event is more than just a tour; it's a chance to connect with fellow parishioners, deepen your faith, and embrace the rich traditions that unite us. Grace Episcopal Church warmly invites everyone to join in this enriching experience, where all are welcome to partake in the fellowship and joy of shared moments. As we gather together for this special day, we will stop for lunch, reinforcing the spirit of community and togetherness that defines our church. If you're interested in participating, we encourage you to reach out to Liz at the church office—this is your chance to be part of something truly meaningful!



We are excited to invite you to keep an eye on your inbox for an announcement about our next gathering at Grace Episcopal Church! This meeting promises to be a wonderful opportunity for us to come together in faith, strengthen our bonds as a community, and share in the enriching experiences that our church family offers. **Your presence is truly valued**, and we hope you will join us as we continue to grow and support one another on our spiritual journeys. Let's spread the word and encourage others in our community to join in this welcoming atmosphere of fellowship and love!

Community News

Panama City Beach Easter Egg Hunt Frank Brown Park

April 19, 2025 Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Bring your kids to the annual Easter egg hunt put on by the City of Panama City Beach! Children 10 and under are welcome. The hunt begins at 10:00 a.m. There will also be pictures with the Easter Bunny!

Seabreeze Jazz Festival

April 24-27

Named a “Top 10 Jazz Festival in the USA” by JazzIZ Magazine and recently nominated as “Best Jazz Festival” at the Oasis Smooth Jazz Awards, the Seabreeze Jazz Festival in Panama City Beach combines the top national smooth jazz artists with a full weekend of fun, sun, great beaches, and good times – all on the west end of Panama City Beach. The event now attracts over 20,000 fans from the USA, Canada, and Europe for the ultimate performance-packed weekend of jazz.

Thunder Beach Spring Motorcycle Rally

April 30-May 4th Panama City Beach

Vibrant belief

The disciples did not bother to try to understand the resurrection body. They doubted, and then they believed. They believed something so wonderful that it changed this broken, fragmented, beaten-down little group of men and women in a moment from depression to enthusiasm, from despair to new life, vibrant and unafraid.

—Madeleine L'Engle, *The Rock That Is Higher*

Know who (and whose) you are

Actor Kirk Douglas once picked up a hitchhiker. After the man got settled in Douglas's car, he turned to look more closely at the driver. Surprised to recognize the famous man at the wheel, the hitchhiker exclaimed, “Do you know who you are?!”

We would do well to ask ourselves and each other the same thing. Often, we seem to forget — or perhaps we never knew.

Through much of life, we behave as if our identity depends on our occupation, wealth, family line, daily accomplishments or good deeds. But none of these — not even the last one — determines the core of who we are. All that matters is our Creator's opinion, and God loves us with abundant, unconditional love.

Do you know who you are? You are God's beloved child! And so is everyone else. May we live out that knowledge, treating one another as such.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

New Lawn Equipment for Grace Church

I mentioned concern about the age of our old lawn tractor during the annual parish meeting last December and a member stepped forward with a generous gift of \$3,000 to purchase a new one. We recently picked up a new Husqvarna mower from Lane's Outdoor Equipment in Chipley, as well as a leaf blower and line trimmer which the church did not previously have. The old mower was sold through Craig's List. Yours truly is in the driver seat but Jeanine usually pilots the tractor while I trim.

Fred Pope, Junior Warden



Lay Ministry Schedule

April 6, 2025

Lector: Kelly Hodges
Crucifer: Katy Hodges
Chalice Bearer: Jack Friou
Greeter: Deb Gray
Counter: Fred Pope

April 13, 2025

Lector: Nancy Beckman
Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Sam Richardson
Greeter: Fred Pope
Counter: Sam Richardson

Wednesday Service-NO WEDNESDAY SERVICE

April 18, 2025- Good Friday

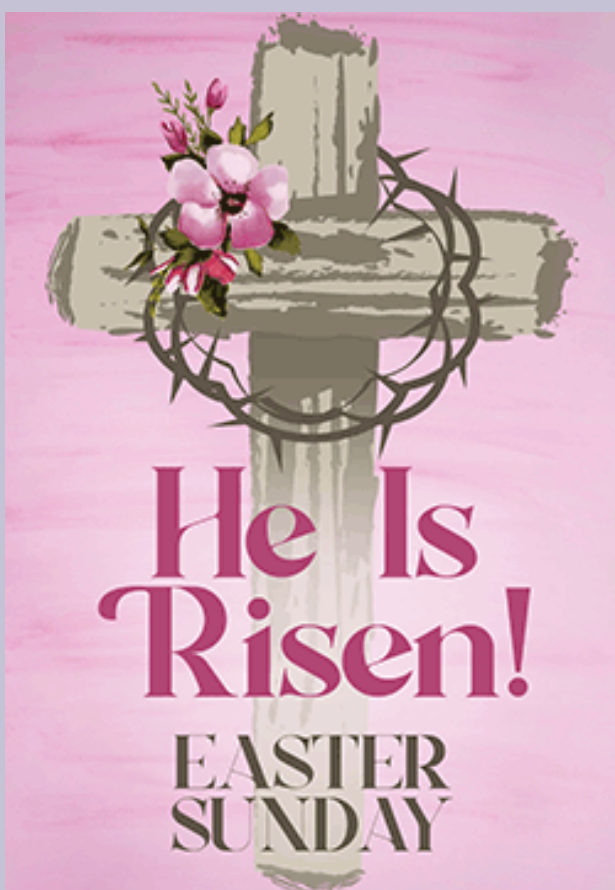
Lector: Carol Adams
Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Carl Walters
Greeter: Dean Beckman
Counter:

April 20, 2025 - Easter Sunday

Lector: Jamie Shephard
Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Sam Richardson
Greeter: Pam Tancredi, Dean Beckman
Counter: Sam Richardson

April 27, 2025

Lector: Les Brackett
Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Carl Walters
Greeter: Carol Adams
Counter: Carl Walters



A Word from the Editor

Announcements for the newsletter need to be emailed to Liz Creswell secretary@gracespirit.org by the 20th of each month.



APRIL Birthdays

4/10– Kari Russo Richardson
4/20– Tom Jacobson
4/24– Jillian Carrick

If your birthday or anniversary are missing from the list please email that information to secretary@gracespirit.org



Keep on shining

Charles W. Naylor (1874-1950) was a traveling evangelist until misfortune struck. First a tentpole fell on him as he prepared for a meeting. A year later, a bus accident left him partially paralyzed.

Despite experiencing chronic pain, Naylor became a prolific author and hymnist, dictating almost 150 songs. He often wrote about God's loving care amid adversity. One of his hymns begins:

When the winds of persecution blow,
When the streams of hatred tow'rd you flow,
When your foes in number seem to grow,
Just keep on shining.

"God's comfort in our times of sorrow is not an imaginary thing," Naylor wrote. "It can be so real that it is a balm for our wounded spirits. Having passed through the experience more than once, [I know] how real and vital and sustaining the comfort of God can be."