



Grace Church of West Feliciana Parish

"A loving congregation seeking unity with God and each other in Christ"

**Newsletter for
March 27 & April 3,
2016**

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Passion

The word "passion" has an important double meaning. In common parlance, we use it to refer to a strong feeling of excitement, enthusiasm, or a compelling affinity, love or desire for something. We say things like, "he has a passion for learning" or that a husband and wife shared "a night of passion." Christians, however, use the word in a way that seems to starkly contrast with this common meaning. We speak of "the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ," "the Passion Gospel," or simply "the Passion," referring to the events that transpire between Maundy Thursday and the Vigil of Easter – i.e. Christ's suffering and death on the cross. And yet, in this, the two meanings of "passion" converge. For it is through Christ's suffering and death on the cross that God shows his exuberant, enthusiastic, utterly compelling love and desire for us – his desire to be with us and we with him, being reconciled with him and each other – no matter the cost. This is why, in the collect for Good Friday, we pray God "graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross" (BCP 276). Because of Christ, because of his Passion, we are God's family.

"Passion," from the Latin, *passio*, literally means "suffering." In his Passion, God in Christ chose to suffer with us that we might know how much he loves us in spite of everything unlovable thing we may do. In the mystery of the Crucifixion, we see the means God has chosen to deliver the world from the power of evil – through the power of suffering love (a power which the world labels weakness).

As Christians, we are called to share in Christ's Passion. That means we are not only called to be united with him in his death, as we are in our Baptism. We are also called to be partakers of his resurrection – to share in his unending life of love and service to others.

On the eve of his Passion, our Lord Jesus Christ gave his disciples a new commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you." This command is the source of the name "Maundy," from the Latin *mandatum*, "commandment." On Maundy Thursday, we imitate the action of Christ when he gave this command – washing feet, taking on the role of a servant – to share in the love of which this was an outward and visible sign.

In our Youth Ministry here at Grace, we endeavor to communicate the substance and significance of these Paschal Mysteries to our teenagers. So, this past Sunday, we brought the youth group to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Innis for an amazing outdoor "way of the cross" performance. Sadly, the weather was frigid cold - and this was worsened by biting wind. Nevertheless, we saw church members portraying the parts of Jesus, Mary, the thieves, Roman soldiers, and heard moving testimonies from men and women from the local community sharing stories about events in their lives that relate to the various stations of the cross, the events of Christ's Passion.

On Maundy Thursday, to embody Christ's command to show love through humble service, the youth group will remain for much of the night, washing and cleaning the church, straightening the pews, prayer books and hymnals – to have everything in order and looking spectacular for our wonderful Easter celebration.

Finally, to celebrate the new life and joy of Eastertide (and the “Spring Break” of the local students), we're planning some fun events – a Kayaking trip on Tuesday, March 29, and a hiking trip to Tunica Falls on Saturday, April 2. Then, our middle schoolers will have an opportunity to participate in the Diocesan Junior High Youth Rally at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center April 15-17, where I will be serving as chaplain. On April 22, our youth group is participating as a team in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life at the West Feliciana Sports Park.

In all this, we seek to humbly and gratefully remember our call to share in Christ's Passion, and to rejoice in the wondrous power of his resurrection. I pray the same for you all in the coming days. Fr. Peter+

An Easter Egg Hunt will immediately follow the 10:00AM Service this Sunday. Please bring a dozen, boiled and colored eggs before the 10am service and put them in the kitchen. Please have your child's name on the carton and their age, so we can divide the “hunters” into 2 groups. Immediately after the service, the children will gather by the front door of the church and be separated by age into two groups. And the Hunt is on!

The Church office will be closed on Good Friday.

Chalice Bearer training: Fr. Kang will be having a chalice bearer training on Thursday, March 31 at 5:30 pm. If you would like to become a chalice bearer, contact Fr. Kang and attend the class. He invites all current chalice bearers to attend his class to refresh your skills.

New Church Directory: There are two copies of the draft directory for you to look at in Jackson Hall this Sunday to make corrections on your name. Please check your information and make corrections with the provided red ink pens and write OK next to it so we'll know it has been checked. Distribution day will be April 10 during coffee hour. Please return your old directory binder to the basket under the table by the church Office. Be sure to put your name on it and we will use it for the new directory. Please have these to us no later than April 4. If you choose not to turn it in, that will be fine. Thank you for your help.

Relay for life: Our Youth Group will be participating in the “Relay for Life” Cancer fundraiser scheduled for April 22th from 5pm to 11pm at the Sports Park Rodeo arena. One of the fundraisers is buying luminaries which are paper bags with a candle inside of them and they are lined around the walking area. On them are written the names of loved one that you are honoring with their fight for cancer or memorializing that their fight is over. You can also submit a picture that will be included in a slide show that will run during the event. There will be several booths in the arena sponsored by groups that will sell food and refreshments, and games. More info coming soon.

The Friends of Oakley are sponsoring a special screening of “Audubon, the movie” at our local Audubon State Park on Saturday, April 9 at 2pm. The movie has been shown in limited areas around the country and The Friends are excited to bring it to our town. There will be a reception at the Visitors Interpretive Center following the showing. This is free and open to the public. Make plans to attend.

Intercessory prayers are asked for Grace Church members who are ill:

Mark Armstrong, Landon Anderson, David Barnes, George Black, Wayne Blake, Russell Daniel, Cecil May Dwyer, Rob Fisher, Kent Mitchell, Tom Morris, Sara Nelson, Emile Pourciau, Margie Sheets, Wendell Wade, Jeremy Willis, Donna Wright, Madeline Wright.

Birthdays

Adam Whatley-March 27; Chris Jones-March 29; Mary Thompson-April 1; Sue Steib, Mike Hughes, Ann Beaumont, Penny Graham, Jim Tengler-April 4; Shelby Griffin, Pat Butler, Anne Butler, Jeremy Willis, Missy Higgins, Roy Skaggs-April 5; Rebecca Klein-April 9.

Wedding

Anniversaries

Richard & Meg Kendrick-March 31; Bobby & Jane Daniel - April 3; Carl & Gloria Fontenot-April 5; Frank & Jamie Farmer-April 6; Tom & Linda Flynn-April 8.

Other persons prayers are asked for:

Charles Barham, Mercer Barney, Zane Bell, Jolie Berry, MiMi Bornman, Leo Brown, Ben Brown, Steve Brown, Willie Bryant, Randy Bryant, Debbie Bunch, John Caruthers, Jenny Clark, Bodo & Kitty Claus, Troy Cothorn, Kathleen Davis, Debbie Desmar, Helen Desselles, Molly Douglas, Mark Ellison, Gretchen Eppling, Jennifer Erickson, Louise Ewin, Mark Feltner, Dennis Flynn, Matthew Gill, Myron Hamey, Roy Hardin, Parke Henderson, Elmo Hegwood, Wayne Hudson, Joel James, Lindsey Johnson, Jill Joffrion, Mary Jo Kaly, Cecil Kelly, Jody Lemoine, Bob Lewis, Jessica Liddle, Max, Paul McGuff, Ralph McKenzie, Laine Martrain, Mary Anne McCrory, Ruby McKee, Robin Michel, Dorothy Anne Millikin, Jim Mire, Jimmy Mitchell, Rusty Melton, Alice Mier, Mike Morris, Randall Nachman, Emily Neumann, Ashley Palmer, Barton Platte, Susanna Prescott, Holly Price, Peter Purpera, Carol Ratcliff, Tammy Riggs, Gwin Shanks, Kaizlyn Shockley, Cade Stapleton, Gary Thomas, Glenn Thomas III, Terri Thompson, Denham Turner, Darold Whitmer.

Those serving in the armed forces: Parker Blanche, Amanda Browning, James Boucher, Jay Christopher, Ryan Coacher, Ben Colia, John Davis, Joseph Dooley, Bryan Geltz, Edward Jenkins, Laura Latson, Shawn Lemons, Terry Palmer, James Powers, Jeff Ragusa, Christopher Willis, Matthew Young, 745th & 746th Exped Squads, 379th & 926th Exped. Support Squads.

New address: Bettsie and Josh Norton have a new address 805 Waterbury Ct., McKinney, TX 75070-5593. We will miss the family and wish them well in their new home.

St. Mary's Church, Morganza, will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary on Saturday, April 23 from 4-7pm with worship and dinner on the church grounds. You are invited to join them. Call 225 638-8433 for more information.

Welcome to Christine and Shannon Pollet, who have transferred to Grace Church with their daughters, Madison and Evelyn Rae.

St. Francisville Symphony Association presents The Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra in a concert on Friday, April 1 at 7pm in Grace Church. Join BRSO's principal wind quintet retracing some 300 years of music as they present *Back to Baroque*. Tickets are available at Bank of St. Francisville and at the door the night of the concert. For more information call the bank at 635-6397.

The Diocesan Jr. High Youth Rally will be held April 15-17 at the Solomon Center in Robert. Junior High Rally is open to all 6th - 8th graders. This is a weekend designed by the Diocesan Youth Leadership Council to be a fun, relaxing retreat that combines presentations by youth, small group discussion, and worship with games, activities, music, and fellowship. Learn more and register online at: <http://www.eventbee.com/v/secc/event?>

The Holy Spirit in the Life of the Believer: Join us for a six week class on the Holy Spirit beginning on April 13, 2016 from 9:00-10:30AM and from 6:00-7:30PM. Many Christians are willing to acknowledge that the Holy Spirit was present at creation, guided the prophets, acted in a mighty way during the time of Jesus, and led a group of dispirited Christian in the New Testament to create the biggest evangelistic force the world has ever seen. Unfortunately, the Holy Spirit's work seemed to have ended there. It is as though the Spirit has taken a very long vacation from which he will only return at the last day. Many Christians have a hard time believing in the Holy Spirit as active, alive, filled with power, and leading the life of Christians daily. This idea is not biblical and it does not fit within the life of the church. This class will seek to help those who attend to discover the multiple ways in which the Spirit of God is active and present in their lives every day. I pray you can join us. Fr. Roldan+

Please Mark Your Calendar

Maundy Thursday: March 24, Holy Eucharist and Washing of Feet at 7:00PM at Grace Vigil at the Altar of Repose begins at 8:15PM in Jackson Hall.

Cleaning of the Church by the Youth Group begins at 8:30PM, followed by TBA activity.

Good Friday: March 25, Passion of our Lord Service at 12:00Noon.

Stations of the Cross in Grace Cemetery at 3:00PM.

Saturday of Holy Week: March 26, Great Vigil of Easter at 7:00PM

Easter Sunday: March 27, Holy Eucharist at 7:30 and 10:00AM. Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the 10:00AM Service.

We have Daily Morning Prayer now on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8:00AM, Thursdays at 9:15, and Fridays at 7:00AM

Grace Church
of West Feliciana Parish
P.O. Box 28
St. Francisville LA 70775

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Address Service Requested

Sunday Ministry Assistants & Calendar

Sunday, March 27, 2016

Acolytes: Nicole Mulkey, R. E. Barrow, Logan Reinhardt, Wyatt Olsen, Mary Jane Opperman, Emma Olsen
Chalice bearers: 7:30am: Carol Stamey
10:00am: Maria Gerry, Brandie Olsen
Ushers: Rob Reinhardt, Robert Singer, Joe Savell, Dwight Singer
Lectors: Dixie Blue, David Bunch
Vestry Rep: Tiger Olsen
Altar Guild Team 3 & 4
Altar flowers: Easter Lilies
Sanctuary Candle: Rucker and Susan Leake
Coffee Hour: Landon and Connie Anderson
Babysitters: Madie Kane, Shelby Griffin

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Acolytes: Natasha Kirschling, Mathilde Fox-Smith, Matthew Skaggs, Joseph DeJean, Charles Fox-Smith, Karina Mulkey
Chalice bearer: 7:30am: Lucie Butler
10am: David Bunch, Joey Gammill
Ushers: Glenn Thomas, Kelly Ward
Lectors: Missy Higgins, Rachel Howell
Vestry Rep: Robert Singer
Altar Guild Team 1
Altar flowers: Susan Leake
Sanctuary Candle: Mary Woodyear
Coffee Hour: Rucker and Susan Leake
Babysitters: Lorna Klein, Claudia Tully

Easter Sunday March 27, 2016

7:30am - Eucharist
8:45-9:45 - Bible Study
10:00am - Eucharist
Easter Egg hunt &
Coffee Hour
4-6 pm - Youth Group

Easter 2 April 3, 2016

7:30am - Eucharist
8:45-9:45 - Bible Study
10:00am - Eucharist
Coffee Hour
4-6 pm - Youth Group

Wednesday, March 30

5:15pm - Holy Eucharist

Thursday, March 31

9:15am - Morning Prayer
10:00am - Worship at SF Country Manor

Friday, April 1

7:00am - Eucharist
8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study
7:00pm - Symphony Concert @ Grace

Sunday, April 3

7:30am - Eucharist
8:45-9:45 - Bible Study
10:00am - Eucharist
Coffee Hour
4-6:00pm - EYC meetings and supper

Wednesday, April 6

5:15pm - Holy Eucharist

Thursday, April 7

9:15am - Morning Prayer
10:00am - Worship at SF Country Manor

Friday, April 8

7:00am - Eucharist
8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study