

Vicar

The Rev. Sharon Sheffield

Bishop's Committee

Sue Williams, *Bishop's Warden*

Jane Gordon-Topper, *People's Warden*

Andrea Utzman, *Clerk*

Lynne Richmond, *Minutes Secretary*

John Mitchell, *Bookkeeper*

Shelley Arnold

Rick Fridrick

Camelia Jolly

Rosemary Sissons

Minister of Music & Organist

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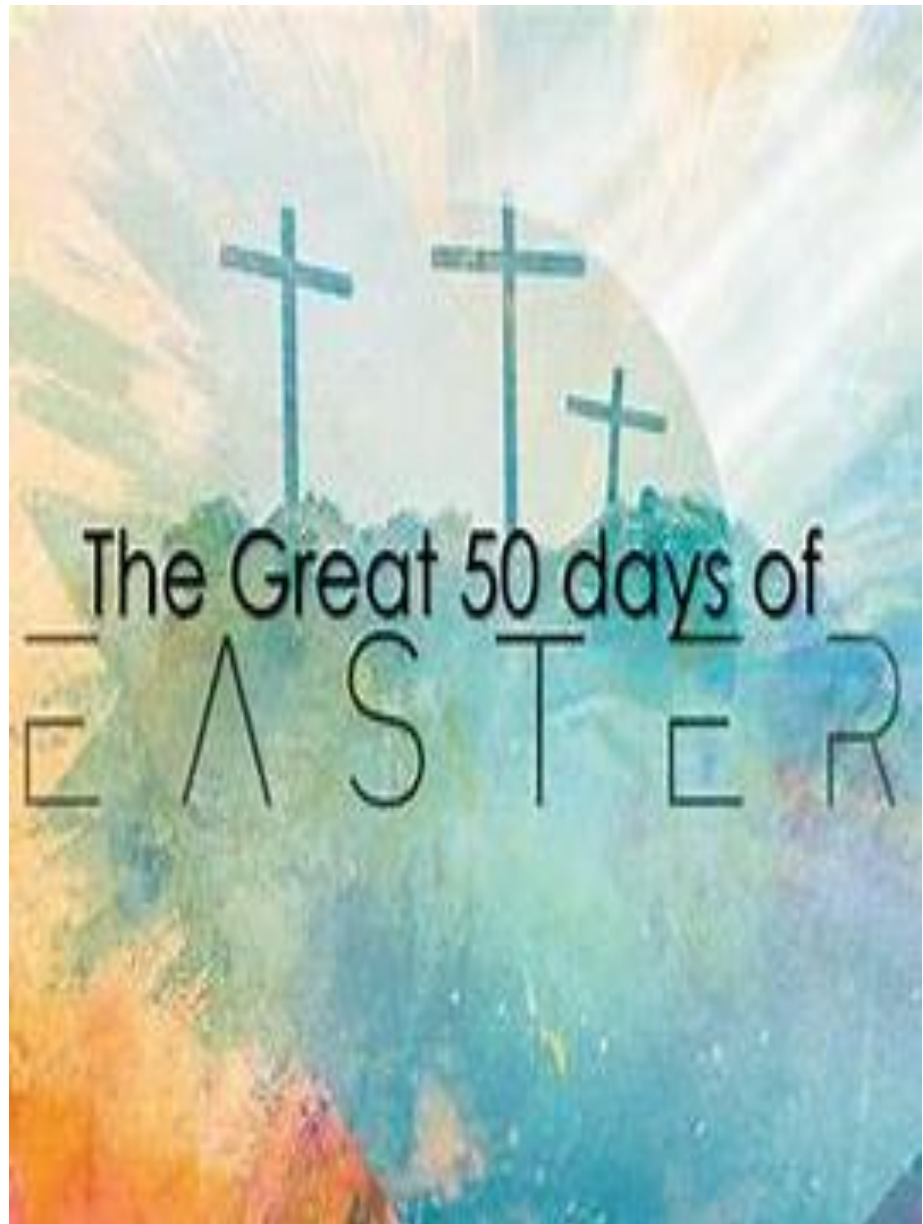
Vicar's Cell: 562-833-3393

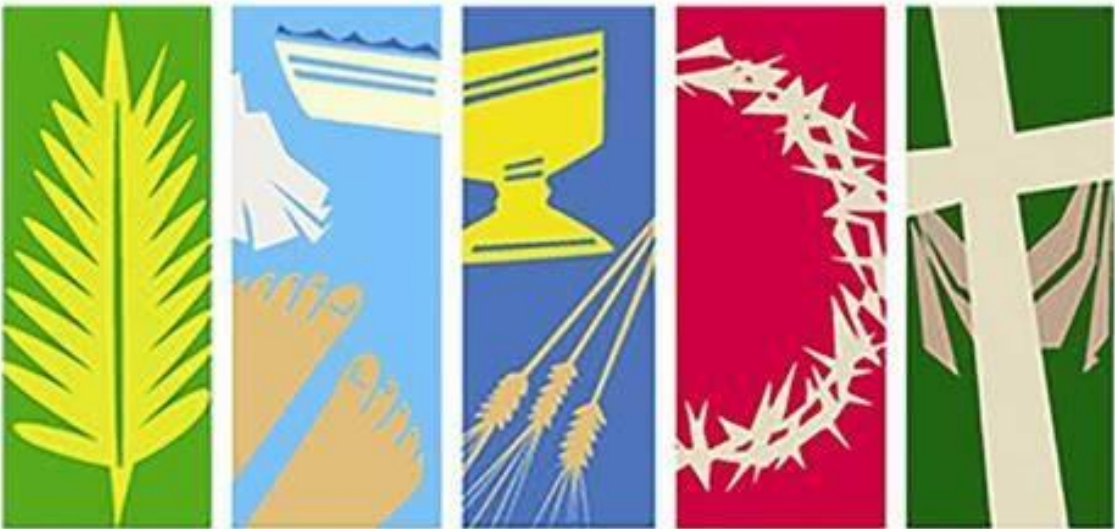
Web homepage:

stthomascanterbury.org

CANTERBURY TALES

APRIL 2024





HOLY WEEK THANKS

Holy Week and Easter don't happen without a faithful crew of folks who make, clean, mend, arrange flowers, read, sing, usher, and fill many other functions. Our Holy Week services were reverent, grace-filled, and well-attended. Thank you to everyone who helped, from the whole St. Thomas community! We hope you enjoy some pictures of our services and sanctuary.



Some of the Altar Guild Angels



Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday



Stations of the Crosswalk



Easter Morning

EASTER SERVICE UPDATE

Our sunrise service experiment seems to have been quite successful.

We had 64 people attend our Easter Sunday services in person, and 121 attend online (we livestreamed both services Sunday morning, thanks to John Mitchell, who volunteered to do double duty). In 2023 we also had 64 people attend services in person, spread out over three services rather than two, with 89 attending online. Those numbers look good enough to consider trying the same experiment next year, with an early Easter morning service rather than a Saturday after-dark vigil. We'll be sending out a survey shortly asking for your input, to make sure we're meeting the needs of our people. Thanks again for your flexibility and grace in trying something new.

CLERGY CONFERENCE & SCHEDULE CHANGES

Mother Sharon and the majority of the clergy in the diocese will be in Riverside for Clergy Conference May 6-8. There will be no Morning Prayer May 7-8 and no Evening Prayer May 7. The May Taizé service will be delayed a week to May 15. You are invited to keep the clergy of the diocese in your prayers as they meet to plan for the future of the church.



Thank you to everyone who supported our Spring Bake Sale! We drew in members of our neighboring community to enjoy our treats, and we raised \$382 for our ministries. We'd like to make the spring sale a little bigger, with some outside vendors as we do in the fall, but that means we need someone to coordinate the spring sale. If this sounds like a fun ministry for you, please talk with Mother Sharon or Sue Williams.



APRIL TAIZÉ

Please come to the sanctuary Wednesday, April 10 for our monthly Taizé service. We will meet at 6:15 for a brief time of prayer, scripture, song, and silence. You are welcome to bring a friend who will enjoy a simple meditative service.



MEN'S
BREAKFAST



The **MEN'S BREAKFAST** is one of our longest-running ministry opportunities! All men of the parish and any friends who identify as men are welcome to come to the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, April 13. Meet at the Denny's at South and Bellflower at 8:00am for food and fellowship. You don't have to commit to coming every month - just come as you are able.

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

St. Thomas is developing a new outreach mission in service to veterans living at Century Village in West Long Beach. Many of these men and women are older and living on very limited incomes. There are no grocery or drug stores within walking distance of the village. The lack of resources makes it very difficult for these veterans to provide for their basic needs. We will be making individualized hygiene kits for select residents who have been identified as having the greatest need. Within the next weeks, we will be asking for specific donations as well as people willing to "Adopt a Veteran". Our hope is to not only provide for the veteran's physical needs, but to develop ongoing relationships with these deserving men and women. Thanks to John Oppenheim for letting us know of this opportunity! For more information please speak with Shelley Arnold or Rosemary Sissons.

The Rose Window is Back!

After several months' worth of work, our Rose Window in the narthex has been repaired and reinstalled. The new installation eliminates the metal frame on the original installation; the rusting of that frame at the bottom was what caused some of the buckling of the window. The new installation relies on pressure clamps and sealant to keep the window in place, which will eliminate the possibility for water to seep in and cause rust. Hearty thanks to Mike Eade and his team at J. Michael Designs, Inc., who not only restored our window, but re-sealed all the Thomas Becket windows in the sanctuary.





Birthdays

Samantha Heatherly 4/1, Ashley Heatherly 4/7,

Cathy Khoury 4/7, Ria Almanza 4/9,

Aaron Pilgrim 4/9, Jeremy Richmond 4/27,

Owen Manel 4/27



We pray for the world, especially the people of the United States, and for peace all over the world and wherever there is oppression and trouble.

Serving in the Armed Force at home and around the world: members of the U. S. Army: **Adam** and Boston; the U. S. Marine Corps: Sean, Adelangel and Jesse; the U. S. Air Force: Jordan, Joshua, and Carlos; the U. S. Navy: **Jonathan** and the U. S. Coast Guard: **Jennifer** and Corey.

The protection and guidance of Parishioners and Friends: Bertha, Ariana, Alyssa, Ana, Deb, Joey and his mothers Beth and Jan, Penny and her family, Chris and his family, Daniel, Becky, Sandra, Alex, Josef, Brandon, Rosie, Nathan, Paul, Gayle's doctor, Patricia's children, Sarah S., Ginny, Charlene, baby Jordan's family, Pam and the Fridrick Family.

The healing of Parishioners and friends: **Karen, Liz, Carlene, Samantha, Patrick, Allyson, Allen, Joanne, Rosie, Jim, Bill, Lillian,** Linda M., Diana, Susanne, Ana, Rae Ann, Kathy, Linda O., Gingi, Becky, Michael, Kathryn, Asgeir and Rosa, Eric, Mary Ellen, Beverly, Paige, Diane, Toni, Pat, Harper, Jane, Laura, Tori, Lance, Karen, Terry, Jared, Scott, Jeff, Jim L., Lu, Richard, Cindy, Jason, Gayle, Lori, Nancy W., Janice, Patricia B., Carolyn, Ruben, David F., Melanie, David, Jessica, Patrick, Patricia, Russ, Amanda, Vivian, Kenobi, Eduardo, Bishop Curry, Stacey D., Wilver, Bill, Jace, Rick F., Larry F., Suzanne M., Antoinette, Ron, Jean H., Susan K., Marty, Carnell, Diane B., Linda S., Karen A., Deborah W., Karissa, Jim C., Mary, Rebecca B., Lucio, Andrew F., Amber and support for all families and friends caring for loved ones, the people of Ukraine, India, Vietnam, Peru, Nigeria, Haiti, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Sudan, Myanmar and all parishioners and friends with health problems.

Homebound and Special Needs: **Karen, Samantha** and the homeless, the poor and the unemployed, affordable housing for families, the end of COVID-19, Ebola, AIDS, and Cancer in the world, and for those suffering from mental illness.

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