

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 29

THE STAR

Official Newsletter of Church of the Epiphany-Tempe

Pictured above: Parish Spring Clean Day volunteers enjoying a well deserved lunch break!



[Click here for more details!](#)

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MAR. 29

Palm Sunday | 8am & 10am

APRIL 2

Maundy Thursday | 7pm

APRIL 3

Good Friday | 12pm & 7pm
Stations of the Cross | 3pm

APRIL 4

Holy Saturday Service | 9am
Easter Vigil | 7pm

Holy Week with Jesus | A Holy Week Daily Text Experience

From Palm Sunday to Easter, receive real-time text messages as you follow Jesus step by step through his final days. Let every text deepen your journey.

[Click here to learn more and take the first step.](#)

Sunday at Epiphany

Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion

Celebrant:

The Rev. Hunter Ruffin

Lay Ministers 8:00AM

Greeter:

Andrea Stewart

Reader:

Andrea Stewart

Acolyte:

Joe Moritz

Eucharistic Ministers:

Carol Dalton

Lay Ministers 10:00AM

Greeters:

Dylan Westbrook, Cece Wilhite

Readers:

Mary Harthun, Karen Ford

Acolyte:

Ken Mewhinney

Eucharistic Ministers:

Nancy Keith, Diane Spillum

Music:

Dr. Miriam Hickman, Matt Flora,
Choir

A/V Ministers:

Cassandra Kariuki,
Alex Mather-Charles

Join us in-person at 8:00 or 10:00, or
[online at 10:00](#)



FOR HE HAS BEEN RAISED

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 5

Worship Services

8AM - SPOKEN WORD WORSHIP

10AM - CHORAL WORSHIP

WITH GUEST MUSICIANS

Egg Hunt & Brunch

9AM - POTLUCK-STYLE BRUNCH

9AM - EASTER EGG HUNT

EPIPHANYTEMPE.ORG/EASTER



Worship | Serve | Love

Easter Egg Filling & Brunch Donations

Time to start thinking ahead to helping with the Epiphany Easter activities that we've all come to enjoy and share with our Unity and now UCCI neighbors. Please pick up a packet of Bible verses to add to your FILLED donated plastic eggs - see the large basket in the Narthex with the sign. There are some empty eggs available for anyone to take, first come first served. Please return filled eggs (with non-melting candy) by Palm Sunday. If at all possible, consider helping to hide them on Easter morning, and mark your calendar to bring a food item for the Easter brunch. Both the egg hunt and brunch will run from 9am to 10am, between the two services. Questions? Contact Pam at:

 watermanpj28@gmail.com or 602-686-1249.



Lenten Cereal Drive – Will Reach Goal of 700!

June Crane

Palm Sunday marks the end of our Lenten Cereal Drive but the grocery cart will be outside the west doors of the Parish Hall on Easter for late donations. We brought in 92 boxes of cereal last week for an amazing total of 592 to stock the food banks of Paz de Cristo and Matthews Crossing. Enough money has been donated to purchase at least 90 additional boxes so with what will come in on Palm Sunday I fully expect to exceed 700. You are the best! Thanks!



Creation Care Corner

Offering ideas and inspiration for sustainable discipleship

Each year, the United States produces 35.7 million tons of plastic waste. That's equivalent to more than 200 pounds of plastic waste for every single man, woman and child in America. (US Public Interest Research Group) More than 91% of plastic is burned, thrown into a landfill or tossed into our environment. Much of what is left in the environment winds up in the ocean. Scientists estimate that there will be more plastic than sea creatures in the ocean by 2050. (Lauren Spurrier, World Wildlife Magazine, Fall, 2019) We all can play a part in reducing the scourge of plastic, starting here at Epiphany. The Creation Care Committee has set a goal of eliminating as much single use plastic from our garbage as possible. You will see changes coming in the Parish Hall kitchen in the coming weeks. Stay tuned to announcements and information in the Star for more details. A few adjustments in utensils, cups and other items will go a long way toward reaching our goal. We are asking for your help and support in this effort!

-Amy Douglass

Parish Spring Clean Day 2026

Thanks to everyone that showed up and made this a successful clean day! Tasks completed include:

Trimmed Memorial Garden and Farmhouse Shrubbery. Roses, Lantana and Shrubbery. Groomed Memorial Garden & Pet Scatter Garden. Policed Farmhouse Grounds for Roofing Debris. Cleaned Parish Hall chairs. Polished Pews, Organ Console, Piano & Nave Furniture. Organized Choir Robing Room & Choir Loft. Cleaned Church Bldg. & Parish Hall Trash & Recycling Bins. Restocked pew "holders". Replaced Bulbs Above Stations of the Cross. Removed Damaged Drywall Paper Above Choir Loft & in the Narthex. Painted "Repair Patch" in Narthex Veranda. Trimmed Vegetation on West side of Church Building. Trimmed Shrubbery on North side of Ed. Bldg. (prep. for Cooling. Center). Organized NE Parish Hall Storage Room. Organized Main Ground Floor Parish Hall Storage Room. Cleaned Parish Hall Kitchen and Coffee Making Equipment



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Hostesses Needed for the May 9 Third Annual Ladies Spring Afternoon Tea!

Please consider being a hostess in one of two ways: 1) have fun decorating a table and using your own china to set eight places, then help make either sandwiches or desserts or 2) be the "hostess" at a table set and decorated by someone else, though helping with sandwich prep or dessert prep would be greatly appreciated. We need three to five additional hostesses at this point, plus several people to staff the kitchen and keep the tea coming. Contact Pam for more info at WatermanPJ28@gmail.com or 602-686-1249

Epiphany is Going Digital!

Last Sunday we shifted to incorporating digital worship aids into the 10am service. We found it to be largely well received—offering a clear, easy-to-follow format while also helping us be better stewards of our resources. Readings and announcements will continue to be printed, reducing our paper usage by over 50% on the average Sunday! We look forward to embracing this new, flexible way of engaging in worship together.

Attention Thew Note-Writers!

This month's notes to the teachers and staff of Thew elementary are due this Sunday, March 29!

Chapter One Book club

3rd Saturdays @ Noon

Start Reading for April!

The April book pick is The Six by Laura Thompson, meeting April 18. If you would like to join the book club, need the Zoom link, or have any questions, contact Gillian Murphy at: (480)907-4933 or gillian@kirkyhomes.com.

A/V Ministers Wanted!



With the recent move towards digital worship guides, we could use one or two more sets of hands and ears in the A/V room on Sunday!

The A/V ministry also helps set up music, live-sound systems, and the projector for special parish events. The equipment is very easy to use and intuitive to learn. If you may be interested in joining the A/V team, contact christian@epiphanytempe.org or see him after worship!

Farmhouse Building Update

Office will reopen by Monday, March 30, restrooms out of order

The sewage leak mitigation crew finished up their process this week and the Farmhouse is ready for office staff and volunteers to move back in!

Please note that the restrooms in the Farmhouse are currently out of order. Restrooms will be made available in the education building and/or church during office hours. Please keep this in mind if you plan to come to meet in the Farmhouse until further notice.

Worship | Serve | Love

**Being
With**



Only 10 spots
are available
per course!

Being With - Regular Course

RSVP

Sundays, starting April 12 through June 21, 6pm-7:30pm

Would you like to explore your faith with us? We are using a 10 week course developed by St. Martin's in the Field, London that explores the Christian faith from an inclusive and positive understanding of the Christian faith. It's particularly constructed for those who are exploring for the first time or after a significant break.

Being With - End of Life Course

RSVP

Wednesdays, starting April 8 through June 10, 6pm-7:30pm

Join us for a course that creates space for honest conversation, practical planning, and faithful reflection—for those making plans for themselves or navigating recent loss.

Together, we will explore questions of mortality, legacy, grief, and Christian hope—grounded in prayer, Scripture, and the assurance of God's abiding presence.

**Being
With**

**Exploring
Life and Faith
Together**

This Week's Prayers

We are all invited to pray for these people in our personal prayers throughout the week.

- **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Melanesia
- **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Episcopal Campus Ministry at U of A - Tucson
- **Parish Cycle of Prayer:** Colleen Van Slyke, McKenna Baker, Samantha Winter-McAlpin, Michael Hanas
- **Parish Prayer List:** Ann, April, Barbara, Bill & Lynda, Carol & Frank & Allen, Carol & Walt, Connie & Kathy, Cooper, David, Ellen & Richard, Jack & Pam, Jillian, Judith, Katie, Levi & family, Linda & John & family, Lou, Susan & Stuart, Nancy, Tony, Wanda

This Week at Epiphany

- **Sunday, March 29-** ~Rule of Life Formation Series at 11:30am in the Ed. Bldg. ~A.A. at 4pm in the Parish Hall. ~Al-Anon at 5:15pm in the Parish Hall.
- **Monday, March 30-** ~Morning Prayer at 9am in the Chapel. ~A.A. at 6pm in the Parish Hall.
- **Tuesday, March 31-** ~Morning Prayer at 9am in the Chapel. ~A.A. at 6pm in the Ed. Bldg. ~Men's A.A. at 6pm in the Church.
- **Wednesday, April 1-** ~Eucharist at 10am in the Chapel. ~Discipleship Group at 11am in the Ed. Bldg. ~Men's A.A. at 6:30pm in the Ed. Bldg.
- **Thursday, April 2-** ~Morning Prayer at 9pm in the Chapel. ~Business Networking International Meeting at 9am in the Parish Hall. ~A.A. at 6pm in the Parish Hall. ~Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm in the Church.
- **Friday, April 3-** ~Good Friday Spoken Service at 12pm in the Church. ~Stations of the Cross at 3pm in the Church. ~Good Friday Choral Service at 7pm in the Church.
- **Saturday, April 4-** ~Holy Saturday Service at 9am in the Chapel. ~Easter Vigil Service at 7pm in the Church.

*****Church of the Epiphany's office will be closed on April 6 and April 7, in observance of Easter. In case of a pastoral emergency please call (480)968-4111 and choose option 9.**

Vestry Leadership

Jan Wagner – Senior Warden
Senior_Warden@epiphanytempe.org

Jerry Adwell – Junior Warden
Junior_Warden@epiphanytempe.org

Ann Neal – Treasurer

Andrea Stewart – Clerk

Aaron Van Briesen

Heidi Thomas

Pat Blackman

Kathy Carney

Beth Hunt

Johnny Sullivan

Barbara Peterson

Alex Mather-Charles

Floyce Chavez

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Hunter Ruffin – Rector
hunter@epiphanytempe.org

The Rev. Martha Seaman – Deacon

The Rev. Tamara Noel – Deacon

The Rev. Canon Steve Schaitberger –
Seasonal Assisting Priest

The Rev. Dr. Corey Meier – Assisting Priest

Dr. Miriam Hickman – Organist, Pianist

Matthew Flora – Choir Director

Jeanne Trembeth – Sexton

Nellie Lichtenstein – Nursery Attendant

Christian Rodriguez-Ortiz – Parish
Administrator & Assistant to the Rector
christian@epiphanytempe.org

Contact the office: 480-968-4111 or
office@epiphanytempe.org