



# The Scroll

Volume 46, Issue 4 April 2026

## *Reflections from the Rector:*

As I write this, Holy Week is almost here — and I find myself, as I do every year at this time, both eager and, to be honest, a little nervous by what is coming.

My anxiety does not come from how busy the week is. I have been through enough Holy Weeks to know that while the schedule is full, the whole community pitches in, and it always comes together. But there is something about this week that resists being managed. You can plan the services, prepare the music, set the table for the Agape Meal, arrange the chairs in the Memorial Garden for the Vigil — and then Holy Week arrives and does what it always does. It gets past your defenses. It finds the places in you that are still unresolved, still grieving, still hoping against hope, and it speaks directly to those places in a way that no other week of the year quite does.

I think that is why the church has always invited us into this Holy Week journey rather than jumping straight to Easter morning. It would be so much easier — and so much less meaningful and true — to skip straight to resurrection, bypassing the garden, the trial, the cross, and the silence of Holy Saturday. But, we do not skip it. We stay with it. We sit in the darkness of Tenebrae and let the candles go out one by one. We kneel to wash feet. We keep watch through the night. We stand at the foot of the cross on Good Friday and do not look away.

Why? Because the resurrection only means what it means if you have walked through what came before it. The joy of Easter morning is not a generic happiness — it is a specific, hard-won, costly joy. It is the joy of people who know how costly the gift is that we have received.

I am also struck, as I prepare for this Holy Week, by how much we need that specific joy right now. We live in a time of anxiety — about the state of the world, about the future, about things that feel beyond our control. I hear it in conversations after services, in the prayer requests that come in, in the heaviness that many of us are carrying. The world is not as it should be. And often, neither are we.

The story we walk through this week is about people who understood that kind of heaviness. They were not people who had it together. It is a story about frightened disciples and a God who was even willing to become vulnerable and face the cross for us so that death will not have the last word. It is, at its heart, a story about a God who can sympathize with anything we are going through. And it is a story about what happens when the worst thing imaginable turns out not to be the last thing.

That is the story we need. And, I am so grateful that we get to walk it together.

This year at St. Bartholomew's, Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday and moves through Tenebrae, the Agape Meal, Maundy Thursday, the Thursday Night Watch, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil before arriving at Easter morning. Each of these services is an invitation — not just to observe a story from a safe distance, but to enter into it. To find your place in it. To let it find the places in you that are still waiting for resurrection.

You do not have to have everything figured out to come. You do not have to be at your best. You only have to be willing to show up. *Holy Week is for all of us. I hope to see you on the journey.*

Blessings,

Joseph+

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*And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

1 COR. 10

*We sold 102 Fish Meals on March 6th*

*AND*

*We sold 111 Fish Meals on March 20th*

*AND*

*WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT –  
WITHOUT YOU!*

*Your 2026 Vestry*

- Jackie Raeth*
- MaryAnne Good*
- Barb McCall*
- Joyce Feenstra*
- Lisa Russ*
- Charles Duchscher*
- Mary Beth Pierucci*
- Kyle Waddell*
- David Miller*

*About St. Bartholomew's*

We are called to be an inclusive community where all may encounter God's love. God strengthens, nourishes, and speak to us through scripture, tradition, and reason.

Our worship services are fully accessible in person and online, supplemented by a variety of other opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. We welcome the indwelling of the Holy Spirit as we seek to follow Christ.

With God's help, we seek to share the unconditional love of Jesus Christ through our outreach and social justice ministries.

All have a place here.

- *St. Bartholomew's Vision Statement*



## THE JOURNEY TO EASTER — Holy Week at St. Bartholomew's

*All are welcome at every service.*

*Childcare available at all services except the Easter Vigil.*

**Palm Sunday | March 29 | 10 am** Holy Week begins as we remember Jesus entering Jerusalem — palms, procession, and the Liturgy of the Passion.

**Tenebrae — The Service of Shadows | Wednesday, April 1 | 6:30 pm** An ancient and haunting candlelight service in which candles are extinguished one by one as the story of Christ's passion unfolds in scripture and song. This year's Tenebrae features a live string quartet. If you attend only one Holy Week service, make it this one.

**Agape Meal | Thursday, April 2 | 5:30 pm (Parish Hall)** Before the Last Supper, the early Christians gathered for an Agape Meal — a sacred communal dinner of prayer, scripture, and simple food shared in community. On Maundy Thursday evening, St. Bart's revives this ancient tradition. We will share foods from the time of Jesus and the disciples, read scripture together, and pray as the first Christians did. This is a rare and genuinely moving experience, and one you will not find at most churches.

**Maundy Thursday — Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing | Thursday, April 2 | 6:30 pm** Following the Agape Meal, we move into the church for the Maundy Thursday liturgy — Holy Eucharist, the washing of feet as Christ washed his disciples', and the stripping of the altar. The service ends in silence.

**The Thursday Night Watch | April 2, 8 pm — April 3, 8 am** After the Maundy Thursday service, the Watch begins. Through the night, members of St. Bart's keep a private hour of prayer and vigil in their own homes. Across North Augusta, in the quiet of the night, our congregation watches together — apart. Sign up for your hour on the sheet in the Parish Hall or online at [saintbart.org/easter](http://saintbart.org/easter).

**Good Friday | Friday, April 3 | 6:30 pm** We gather on Good Friday in scripture, silence, and prayer to mark the crucifixion. A spare and powerful service.

**Easter Vigil | Saturday, April 4 | 8 pm (Memorial Garden, weather permitting)** The oldest and most luminous service of the Christian year. We gather in darkness in the Memorial Garden, light the new fire, and wait together for the resurrection. When the bells ring, the darkness is over. If you have never experienced an Easter Vigil, this is the year to come.

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*Full descriptions of every service, including what to expect and how to sign up for the Thursday Night Watch, are available at [saintbart.org/easter](http://saintbart.org/easter).*

*Invite a friend. Bring your family. There is a place for everyone at St. Bartholomew's this Holy Week.*

## TENEBRAE: A Service of Shadows & Light — Wednesday of Holy Week · April 1 · 6:30 p.m.

For the first time at St. Bart's, we will gather on the Wednesday of Holy Week for Tenebrae — a candlelit service of scripture, reflection, and sacred music.

Ten reflections will trace the final hours of Jesus' life as candles are extinguished one by one. Throughout the service, a professional string quartet will perform short musical meditations drawn from the string quartets of Joseph Haydn — creating space to listen, pray, and absorb the story in a way words alone cannot.



If you attend one additional Holy Week service this year, consider making it this one.

And — please invite someone who might appreciate sacred music and candlelight.



## Will You Keep the Watch?

After the Maundy Thursday service ends in silence, something else begins.

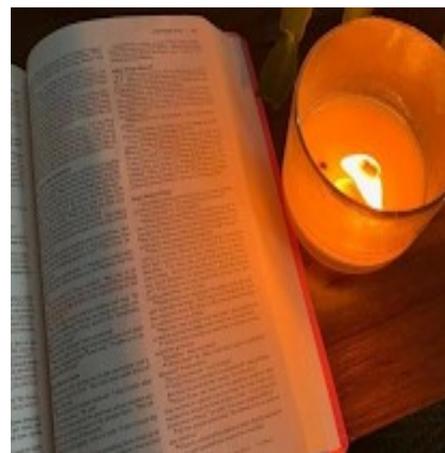
**From 8 pm Thursday, April 2 through 8 am Friday, April 3,** members of St. Bartholomew's take turns keeping a private hour of prayer in their own homes. There is no required format — only the intention to set aside one hour for quiet prayer, scripture, and stillness as the congregation watches together through the night.

This is one of the most meaningful things we do as a community all year. And it costs nothing but an hour of your time.

### Sign up for your hour two ways:

- Pick up a pen at the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall
- Register online at [saintbart.org/easter](http://saintbart.org/easter)
- Questions? Contact Sandy Zeller at [stzellermail@gmail.com](mailto:stzellermail@gmail.com)

All are welcome to participate — including those who cannot attend the Holy Week services in person.



*"Could you not watch with me one hour?"* — Matthew 26:40

## EASTER SUNDAY AT A GLANCE

### Easter Sunday at St. Bartholomew's - Sunday, April 5

**9:00 am — Holy Eucharist (Contemporary)** Joyful Easter worship with our praise band.

**10:00 am — Free Easter Brunch & Egg Hunt** Parish Hall — open to everyone including first-time visitors. No ticket. No sign-up. No cost. Just come.

**11:00 am — Holy Eucharist (Traditional)** Classic Easter celebration with organ.

Childcare available at both services



## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS CONTINUE — April 15 | 5:00–6:30 p.m.



Join us for our next Wonderful Wednesday on Wednesday, April 15, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. **We will begin with a potluck dinner at 5:00 p.m. and then enjoy a guided discussion led by Fr. Joseph.**

Our featured film is *Philomena* (2013), starring Judi Dench and Steve Coogan. Based on a true story, the film follows Philomena Lee, an Irish woman who spent fifty years searching for the son who was taken from her as a young mother in a Catholic convent — and sold for adoption to an American family without her knowledge or consent. Accompanied by a cynical journalist, she embarks on a journey that becomes as much about faith, forgiveness, and the grace of an open heart as it is about finding her child.

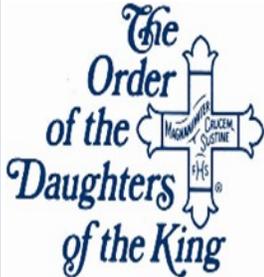
Warm, often quietly funny, and profoundly moving, *Philomena* asks some of the most important questions a person of faith can ask — about the Church, about suffering, and about what it truly means to forgive.

Please watch the film at home before we gather. For those who prefer not to watch it on their own, we will screen the film in the Parish Hall at 3:00 p.m. on April 15th. Recommended for adults and older teens.

## HEALTH SCREENINGS



The Health Ministry Screenings take place on **Sunday, April 12 from 9:30 to 11:30 am in the Parish Hall**. During this time, you can have your blood pressure, blood glucose and weight checked, as well as ask general health questions. For any questions, contact Robin Petry, 706-836-3027 or [petrymail@yahoo.com](mailto:petrymail@yahoo.com).



The St. Bartholomew's Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is a group of women who commit themselves to a life-long practice of prayer, service and evangelism with the mission to spread Christ's Kingdom. Here at St. Bartholomew's we support the clergy's pastoral care.

**We meet on the 4th Sunday of each month at 11:45 a.m. in the Nursery.** Any woman interested in joining, can contact Robin Petry at [petrymail@yahoo.com](mailto:petrymail@yahoo.com) or call: 706-836-3027



## *EpiscoPals Lunch*

The EpiscoPals is a monthly luncheon gathering for Adults 50+. It is a fun, relaxed time of fellowship and eating good food! For some good food and a whole lot of talking, make plans to join us: Our monthly luncheon will be held on **THURSDAY, April 16th**. We will meet **at 11:30 a.m. at BJ's Country Buffet, 611 E. Martintown Rd, N. Augusta** Sign up Sheets are in the Parish Hall. For more information contact **Mike Osteen at 803-315-3549** We hope to see you there!

## **Crafters for Christ**

Crafters for Christ are accepting requests for personal crafted items including: quilts/blankets of various sizes, pillowcases, walker caddie, key fobs, bibs, aprons, infant sensory taggies, and comfort stuffed animals like bear, cat, rabbit, dog, giraffe, or elephant. Items can be made from a loved one's clothing. Color or patterns can be specifically requested. Pricing is per the item ordered.

Any of the Crafters can take your order or you can complete order form. Forms are available on the table in the Parish Hall, the Parish Office, or online @ [saintbart.org/form/C4C](http://saintbart.org/form/C4C). One of the group will be in touch with you for confirmation.

All proceeds go to local ministry outreaches of St. Bart's Episcopal Church. Please make checks out to St. Bart's Episcopal Church and mark "**For Crafts**" in the memo line.

If you would like to contribute your time and talents, our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday -April 24th at 10:00 a.m. in the Adult Education Building** (across the driveway from Parish Hall).

## **APRIL - MINISTRY OF THE MONTH - CASSEROLES FOR CHRIST PROVIDES MEALS FOR WALKING TALL**

Contact Dee McLane for more info at [lmclane@wgu.edu](mailto:lmclane@wgu.edu)

**LAST DATE TO BRING CASSEROLES - DELIVERY WILL BE THE NEXT DAY**

**Sunday - April 19th**

**PANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP IN THE PARISH HALL**

**Monday - April 20th**

**CASSEROLES SHOULD BE PUT IN PARISH HALL FREEZER BY APRIL 19TH.**

## STEWARDSHIP AT WORK

“You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you..” John Bunyan

Year to Date receipts through January, 2026:

	OPERATING FUND		
	Actual	Need	Difference
Pledge	\$ 31,482.37	\$ 21,053.23	\$ 10,429.14
Other	\$ 623.77	\$ 883.96	\$ -260.19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 32,106.14</b>	<b>\$ 21,937.19</b>	<b>\$ 10,168.95</b>

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If you are a member who has not pledged, please consider doing so. Just contact the church office, get a pledge card, and drop it in the offering plate. Pledges are welcome at any time during the year.

### *A Wish and a Prayer*



When you wish upon a birthday candle, God hears it as a prayer. These dreams of your heart ascend to His heart, where they ignite in hope. Hope for happy days ahead, for making more good memories. Hope for loved ones coming together, sharing smiles and stories and hugs. For reasons to celebrate – big and small – and for joy upon joy. Each candle, like

each year of your life, represents God’s faithful care for you. He is always working things together for your good, bringing you more grace, making your hopes and dreams come true.

#### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 **Cindy Mayberry**
- 4 **Jayce Raymond Dollar Jones**
- 6 **Kathy Langston**
- 17 **Judy James**
- 18 **John Good**
- 29 **Aubree Jones**
- 29 **Michael Shippen**

### *An Anniversary Blessing*



To celebrate the day of your marriage is to celebrate Love, itself; For rare is the joy of a perfect match. To honour the day of your marriage, is to honour Life, itself; For as one, Together you are a true inspiration. May God continue to Bless your marriage with Love and Happiness.

#### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 **Joey & Sandy Zeller**



ALTAR  
FLOWERS

We invite you to purchase altar flowers in *Loving Memory of* or in *Thanksgiving of*, by signing up for a Sunday in the Flower Book, located in the Narthex or by contacting Janice at [admin@saintbart.org](mailto:admin@saintbart.org). The cost is \$45 and may be paid by cash or check, earmarked “altar flowers” in the Sunday collection, or by text-to-give: Text SAINT-BART Flowers \$45 to 73256 using your text messaging. Standard rates do apply.

### Pastoral Emergencies

All pastoral concerns including: hospitalizations, illnesses, deaths, child concerns, or relationship issues may go directly to Father Joseph via his secured email at [priest@saintbart.org](mailto:priest@saintbart.org) or by phone at 803-279-4622.

All concerns will be held in the strictest of confidence.



# The Scroll

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
471 West Martintown Road  
North Augusta, SC 29841

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 8:30 A.M. Centering Prayer
- 9:00 A.M. Sunday School
- 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 10:00 AM Children's Church
- 10:00 A.M. Live Streaming to Facebook & YouTube
- 11:00 A.M. Coffee Hour in Parish Hall

**Scroll Editor: Janice Furman**  
**Please submit articles by the 20th of the month by e-mail to:**  
[admin@saintbart.org](mailto:admin@saintbart.org)  
**Any suggestions? Submit to same.**



Lenten Quiet Day  
 Saturday, March 21, 2026  
 Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
 471 West Martintown Road  
 North Augusta, SC 29841

### Lenten Labyrinth Walk

Facilitated by:  
 Camille Woodruff, Verified Certified Labyrinth Facilitator  
Camille came to the USA in 1975. She is a retired teacher and an active member of Our Savior Episcopal Church in Marietta, GA. She was deeply inspired by a personal labyrinth walk in the west 1990s which began her journey towards certification.

All are welcome to attend.

8:00am-9:00am  
 Registration Check-in  
 9:00am  
 Labyrinth-101: History, Meaning and Use  
 Reflection Time  
 Anglican Prayer Books Craft Time  
 Labyrinth Walk  
 Holy Eucharist  
 Lunch

**There is no cost to attend but to prepare enough lunch and plan, please RSVP to Robin Pate at [robinpate@saintbart.org](mailto:robinpate@saintbart.org) or text/call 706-836-3027**

This Lenten Quiet Day is sponsored by the St. Bartholomew's Daughters of the King.

