

## The Parish News

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY  
<http://www.stannsafortny.org>

Member of the Chenango District

March 2015

Clergy The Reverend

*From Fr. Dave*

Fr. David A. Hanselman  
761-4601 cell  
656-9502 office

Welcome March! Welcome Lent! And most especially (and hopefully) - welcome Spring!

Wardens:

-Betty Vail

639-1201

-Tracey Tallmadge

343-1301

How has your Lenten discipline been going? So far, so good for me! I hope for you, too.

In an emergency and Fr. David can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

Discipline. Powerful word. It can have some very strong negative emotions or memories attached to it for some people, and some very powerful positive emotions or memories attached to it for others.



A closely related word which I'm quite certain has many more positive things attributed to it is "self-discipline." There's something about that particular qualifier - "self" - when it comes to discipline, that makes so much difference.

St. Ann's - Lenten Soup and Bible Study. Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm

And it may seem odd, if we think about it, that a faith such as ours, a faith which has so much of its focus on others - especially "treating others as you would like to be treated" and feeding, clothing and forgiving others, finds a crucial element of faith in looking within the self.

Easter Lily - If you are interested in purchasing in memory of a loved one, please contact Betty Vail no later than March 19<sup>th</sup>.

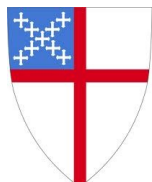
But that's exactly how we find true balance in our lives and in all the life that surrounds us. Looking inward and outward. Working on ourselves and working in the world around us.

Worship Leader - Training on Saturday, March 21, in Courtland from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Leave St. Ann's at 7:15 am.

And so it is that I find myself disagreeing with a quote I recently found from one of my favorite thinkers - Henry David Thoreau. It seems somewhere Thoreau stated: "It appears to be a law that you cannot have a deep sympathy with both man and nature." It may not be easy, but that is precisely what we are called to do, and without self-discipline it's something we can never accomplish.

Apr 2 Maundy Thursday  
Apr 3 Good Friday  
Apr 4 Easter Vigil

So, please, take this time during Lent to test yourself, challenge yourself - within and without. And may God's blessing be **with you all**.



*Father Dave* †

If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at: (607) 761-4601 or (607) 656-9502.

## Service Schedule

	<u>Date</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>CS</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
HC	Mar 1	C.Cimini	M.Harding	AC	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail
MP	Mar 8	T.Tallmadge	R.Felldin	RF	----	D.Vail
HC	Mar 15	B.Vail	J.Proffitt	BV	BV	Tracey/A.Cimini
MP	Mar 22	R.Felldin	B.Vail	JP	----	J.Proffitt
MP	Mar 29	D.Becker	M.Harding	---	----	T.Tallmadge
	Apr 2	Maundy Thursday				
HC	Apr 3	Good Friday				
	Apr 4	Easter Vigil				
HC	Apr. 5	C.Cimini	M.Harding	---	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail

### Morning Prayer:

Mar. 8 - D.Becker/M.Harding  
 Mar. 22 – A.Cimini/C.Cimini  
 Mar. 29 – B.Vail/J.Proffitt

### Church School:

Mar. 1 - T.Vail  
 Mar. 8 - K.Vail  
 Mar. 15 – R.Felldin  
 Mar. 22 – S.Proffitt

### Special Thanks to all who serve

**Note to all who serve:** It would be most helpful if, when you cannot make your assigned date, you would arrange for a substitute. If you are unable to do that, please notify a warden. Thanks for your cooperation!

## Lectionary (Year B)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Mar 1 2 Lent	22:22-30	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38
Mar 8 3 Lent	19	Exodus 20:1-17	Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-21
Mar 15 4 Lent	107:1-3, 17-22	Numbers 2:4-9	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
Mar 22 5 Lent	51:1-13	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
Mar 29 Palm Sunday	31:9-16	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)
Apr 5 Easter	118	Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9	1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-73	John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

### Altar Guild

Altar Guild Duty – Altar Guild for the month of March is **Tracey Tallmadge 343-1301**. If you wish to purchase or provide flowers for the Altar on a particular Sunday, call Betty Vail, 639-1201. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Pete Vail (607)639-1444 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin.

### In Need of Prayer

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. A current listing follows. The names listed are not necessarily members of the parish and may include individuals or other requests for which we have been asked to pray. The clergy persons of the Chenango District are included. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201.

Carol Peter Michele Joyce Pat Mya Holly Cindy Lou Toni Lois Vern Sally  
 Clifford Deb Lally Mary Niles Bonnie C. Elliott Julia Richard Don Wieber  
 Norma Ryan Judy Amber Danny Wade Mike Wade Michael Weiland Elaine Fr. Chuck Taylor  
 Fr. David Hanselman Fr. Bruce MacDuffie Bishop "Skip" Adams Pope Francis Zion Church St. Paul's  
 Church The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church The vestry of St. Ann's

The following prayer is suggested by Bishop Skip. It is from the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer:

***Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.***

## Vestry Highlights

1. **Outreach** - \$200.00 to the "Broome County Dog Shelter".
2. Father Dave reports Backpack program at Afton Central School is progressing well. Will be working on sponsors.
3. Lenten meal at 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm - 6:45 pm
4. Red Cross contacted regarding Clothing available at St. Ann's.
5. Morning Prayer Service Palm Sunday.
6. Worship Leader Training on Saturday, March 21, in Cortland from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Leave St. Ann's at 7:15 am.
7. Financial Report - Zion Greene working on accounting. St. Ann's has not received a bill for about a year so it is not know what is owed for St. Ann's Share. Pete explained closing Women's Auxiliary account; Women's Auxiliary Money Market Account, Rector's Discretionary Fund due to no activity in those accounts.

## Kudos



**THANKS!** - To Pete and Chris Vail for providing folk music during the service.

**THANKS!** - To anonymous return of the stolen Creche figures.

Mary, Baby Jesus and Shepherd have returned. but the Lamb is still on the run.



**Note:** If you know of one or more people who we should thank in this column, please pass that information on to Pete Vail or Jody Proffitt. We don't want to miss anyone!

### Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> is Palm Sunday.

Due to the three churches Father David serves and the scheduling, St. Ann's will NOT have a Holy Eucharist service. A Morning Prayer service will be conducted with Blessing of the Palms and the Passion reading.



"DON'T YOU REALIZE YOU'RE INSIDE A CHURCH?!  
TAKE OFF YOUR HAT!"

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Thanks to Dan

ANOTHER ESKIMO BAPTISM GONE BAD

12-03-2007



**Question:** "What is Passion Week / Holy Week?"

**Answer:** Passion Week (also known as Holy Week) is the time from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday (Resurrection Sunday). Also included within Passion Week are Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Passion Week is so named because of the passion with which Jesus willingly went to the cross in order to pay for the sins of His people. Passion Week is described in Matthew chapters 21-27; Mark chapters 11-15; Luke chapters 19-23; and John chapters 12-19. Passion Week begins with the triumphal entry on Palm Sunday on the back of a colt as prophesied in Zechariah 9:9.

Passion Week contained several memorable events. Jesus cleansed the Temple for the second time (Luke 19:45-46), then disputed with the Pharisees regarding His authority. Then He gave His Olivet Discourse on the end times and taught many things, including the signs of His second coming. Jesus ate His Last Supper with His disciples in the upper room (Luke 22:7-38), then went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray as He waited for His hour to come. It was here that Jesus, having been betrayed by Judas, was arrested and taken to several sham trials before the chief priests, Pontius Pilate, and Herod (Luke 22:54-23:25).

Following the trials, Jesus was scourged at the hands of the Roman soldiers, then was forced to carry His own instrument of execution (the Cross) through the streets of Jerusalem along what is known as the Via Dolorosa (way of sorrows). Jesus was then crucified at Golgotha on the day before the Sabbath, was buried and remained in the tomb until Sunday, the day after the Sabbath, and then gloriously resurrected.

It is referred to as Passion Week because in that time, Jesus Christ truly revealed His passion for us in the suffering He willingly went through on our behalf. What should our attitude be during Passion Week? We should be passionate in our worship of Jesus and in our proclamation of His Gospel! As He suffered for us, so should we be willing to suffer for the cause of following Him and proclaiming the message of His death and resurrection.

Read more: <http://www.gotquestions.org/Passion-Week.html#ixzz3SNzGZueG>

### **The Forty Days of Lent**

From the early centuries of Church history onward, Christians used the weeks before Easter to teach new believers more about the faith. The opportunity for instruction became especially important after the Emperor Constantine made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire in the fourth century. The many weeks of self-examination, prayer, and devotion leading up to Easter helped lead less-than-fully-committed believers more deeply into the Christian community. Around AD 330, Lent was standardized at six weeks. Because every Sunday is a "little Easter" for Christians, and thus a "feasting day," Sundays were never included in the forty fasting days of Lent. Gradually, four more days were added to the original thirty-six, and the first day of Lent became known as Ash Wednesday. This day gets its name from a ceremony—a rite or ritual, really—that takes place in many liturgical churches on a Wednesday six weeks or forty days before Easter. During Ash Wednesday services, worshipers come forward, and the priest makes a mark in the shape of a cross on each person's forehead. This mark is made of ashes, often from the palm branches that were waved in praise during Palm Sunday services the year before. The "imposition of ashes," as this tradition is called, is one of the most solemn events of the church year. Often, words like these are spoken to each worshiper: "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." While the tradition may sound gloomy or even morbid to people in today's culture, it's intended to remind us of a solemn truth: trouble, sickness, and death came into God's perfect creation because human beings rebelled against him. He could have abandoned us, but he didn't. Instead, he came even closer to us in his Son, Jesus Christ, who became a human being to rescue us.

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Today, churches around the world set aside forty days to help their members prepare for Easter. While non-liturgical churches usually do not observe Lent, most do help their members prepare for Resurrection Day in other ways. But why forty days? The number 40 appears often in the Bible. For example:

The forty days of flooding rains at the time of Noah (Genesis 6-8)

The forty days Moses spent on Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments (Exodus 24:18)

The forty days Jesus lived in the desert while he was tempted by the devil at the beginning of his ministry. (Luke 4:1-13)

The forty days of surprise visits Jesus made to his followers after his resurrection. (Acts 1:3)

Whether we observe the forty days of Lent or not, the time and thought we devote to reading Scripture, journaling, and prayer in the days leading up to Easter will deepen our appreciation of Jesus' love for us. He lived a perfect life in our place. He suffered, was crucified, and buried—for us. He rose—for us. He will come again—for us.

Jesus paid a debt he didn't owe, because we owed a debt we could never pay. Now we are free from the debt of sin! We are God's redeemed people. Christ died, and because of his cross and empty tomb, we will live forever. One day, he will take us to live with him in eternal Easter joy. That's something worth thinking about any time of year!



Circa 30 A.D., Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Getty Images

### What Is Palm Sunday?

What Do Christians Celebrate on Palm Sunday?

On Palm Sunday Christians celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, the week before his death and resurrection. For many Christian churches, Palm Sunday, often referred to as "Passion Sunday," marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.

The Bible reveals that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds greeted him by waving palm branches and covering his path with palm branches. Immediately following this great time of celebration in the ministry of Jesus, he begins his journey to the cross.

The biblical account of Palm Sunday can be found in Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; and John 12:12-19.

### What Is Easter?

What do Christians Celebrate on Easter?

On Easter Sunday, Christians celebrate the resurrection of the Lord, Jesus Christ. It is typically the most well-attended Sunday service of the year for Christian churches.

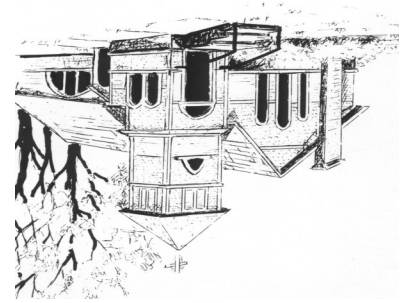
Christians believe, according to Scripture, that Jesus came back to life, or was raised from the dead, three days after his death on the cross. As part of the Easter season, the death of Jesus Christ by crucifixion is commemorated on Good Friday, always the Friday just before Easter. Through his death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus paid the penalty for sin, thus purchasing for all who believe in him, eternal life in Christ Jesus.

The biblical account of Jesus' death on the cross, or crucifixion, his burial and his resurrection, or raising from the dead, can be found in the following passages of Scripture: Matthew 27:27-28:8; Mark 15:16-16:19; Luke 23:26-24:35; and John 19:16-20:30.



Ricardo Reitmeyer / Getty Images

ST. ANN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Address label here

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Tracey Tallmadge

Wardens: Betty Vail

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR  
COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY  
AND ACTION

Afton, New York 13730

P. O. Box 22

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

## The Final Word



*No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide you the way out so that you may be able to endure it.*

*1 Corinthians 10:13*

How often, when finding ourselves in a situation that tests us do we say, "Why me, Lord?" Paul, in his 1st letter to the Christians in Corinth, provides the answer: You are no different than anyone else, (i.e., why not you?) God will see that you get through it. And, although it may be difficult to see it while we're being tested, it's likely that we'll grow from the experience. The secret is having faith that God is with us to get us through it.

Peter, in his first letter, elaborates on the benefits of enduring testing and maintaining that faith. He says, "May God bless you with his special favor and wonderful peace as you come to know Jesus, our God and Lord, better and

better.

"As we know Jesus better and better, his divine power gives us everything we need for living a godly life. He has called us to receive his own glory and goodness! And by that same mighty power, he has given us all of his rich and wonderful promises.

"So make every effort to apply the benefits of these promises to your life. Then your faith will produce a life of moral excellence. A life of moral excellence leads to knowing God better. Knowing God leads to self-control. Self-control leads to patient endurance, and patient endurance leads to godliness. Godliness leads to love for other Christians, and finally you will grow to have genuine love for everyone. The more you grow like this, the more you will become productive and useful in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." What more can we ask?