



Grace Episcopal Church Honesdale, Pa.
Founded 1832

Grace Notes

of GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
The Rev'd Edward K. Erb, *rector*
827 Church Street
Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431
(570) 253-2760
gracechurchhonesdale.org
LENT 2021

PARSON'S CORNER

"COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS, NAME THEM ONE BY ONE"
(an old Gospel song)

For months we have heard of many things the pandemic has done to our lives.

I need not list them all, but you know -
some have lost their jobs,
some have lost their loved ones,
some have lost...

well you make the list.

But there are blessings to count and celebrate:

- + We've gained a small but active Bible Study group every Tuesday evening - we've not had a Bible Study group in the 11 years I've been here until the fall of 2020! It's forced me (I mean, given me the opportunity) to do in depth Bible Study of my own!
- + At my annual organ recital (usually for Hallowe'en, though this year we made it a Memorial to those who died from Covid), we had over 200 'hits' on the broadcast. We normally have about 40 people in house, and we received about \$2,000 towards the organ fund!
- + Our usual AWA (average weekly attendance) is 50-60 for the three weekend services. In December, with Virtual Grace, we have had an average of 'hits' plus additional family members of 90. Christmas Eve we had over 225! Already through January and mid-February, the average is 80! If only we could get them all in-person. Some are folk from California, Colorado, Central PA, Florida, NY, NJ...
- + And the charitable giving has been phenomenal - not only in parish offerings, but food donations for our Saturday distributions, and cold weather gear give-aways.
- + Through community donations we have replaced in-efficient stoves and commercial refrigerator in the kitchen. We were able to offer our annual Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners (all take-outs). And even those gave us praise from recipients who might not have had a holiday meal for their family.
- + And I'd just like to mention the five young people - former and current Choir members - who called me and offered to help with the Christmas Eve service, providing our annual tradition of 'ringing in' the birth of Jesus with the handchime exercise.
- + And, God help me! I've learned to Zoom, Sue has learned to video-tape, and a year working in the same house, we've not killed each other. It's only been 40 years we've been married.

All things considered, I look to the many blessings of this past year, and expect more in this new year.

Fr. Ed

"A House of God for All"

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2021

Vestry met in -person and by Zoom on Monday, February 15th

- + Fr. Erb reported that ‘attendance’ of Virtual Grace services has been quite good, more than we would ever have in-person. Contributions have remained good as well.
- + Jr. Warden Pete Mikulak reported on Buildings & Grounds - the boilers have been repaired and are working well. Inspection of the apartment has been done and a few minor infractions have been taken care of. We are looking to replace the Rectory roof this spring, and are planning for repairs to our sidewalks and parking pad. Fr. Erb has sent a list of relatively minor repairs and updates that should be done inside the Rectory.
- + Sr. Warden Dr. Matt Corso noted that our Treasurer has suggested a new program for monitoring donations, pledges, parishioner information and more. She has used Shepherd’s Staff elsewhere and she reports that it will be less expensive. It was also decided that now would be a good time to replace the old computer in the office. Fr. Erb has an IBM contact through which he gets a major discount.
- + A Nominating Committee has been established for this year’s elections with Neil Petrosky chairing. Susan Keller has volunteered to chair a new Fund-raising Committee, Sue Erb to advise.

EASTER CANDY SALE



It’s now a annual tradition at Grace Church, and a tasty one!. Sue Erb and her ladies had a very successful sale last year, even with the pandemic! And now they’ve decided to keep going - on a limited basis this year.

If you would like Easter Candy, please get your order to me as soon as possible. Pay on delivery. (We are having some difficulty getting

some of the materials--so it will help to know soon what we actually need to purchase.)

Peanut butter eggs and coconut eggs are \$1 each

We will have a limited number of milk and white chocolate crosses at \$2 each.

Email your order to Sue Erb: suerb@aol.com.

Proceeds benefit the Grace Episcopal general fund for operation of the church.

PARISH BIRTHDAYS THIS LENT

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as she begins another year. Grant that she may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen her trust in your goodness all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

February

1 Suzanne Clark
4 Chase Stephens
7 William Hoerter
9 Jordan Peer
14 Susan Erb
16 Matthew Corso
16 Catherine Sullivan
26 Susan Keller

March

14 Elise Marsh
16 Bill Dimmick
22 Kurt Scudillo
24 DeeDee Hartonchik

and Easter Day, April 4th
Ann Bock



Ash Wednesday

17 February 2021

at Grace Episcopal Church

Corner of Church & Ninth Streets, Honesdale, PA

A VIRTUAL SERVICE of WORD & PRAYER

“Remember that you are but dust, + and to dust shall you return.”

HOLY WEEK 2021

call for information, call Fr. Ed: 570.241.2685

BISHOP KEVIN NICHOLS
is hoping that by mid-March
we may be open for In-Person Worship again.

**Stay tuned for updates
as the weeks progress.**

PALM SUNDAY + March 28th

Last year we had “drive-by” pick-up of blessed Palms.

Stop by Central Park, cross the street,
and take Palms that have previously been blessed.
And wave to Fr. Ed & Sue.

If we all wear masks, we may even be able to chat!

MAUNDY THURSDAY + April 1st

Our annual Agapé meal - maybe, we hope!
One of our favorite celebrations of the year.

GOOD FRIDAY + April 2nd

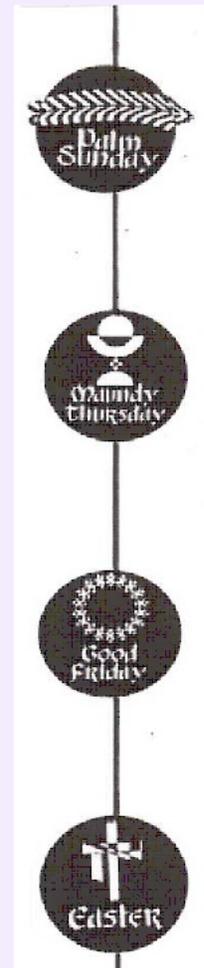
If nothing else, Stations of the Cross will be broadcast
on “Virtual Grace”

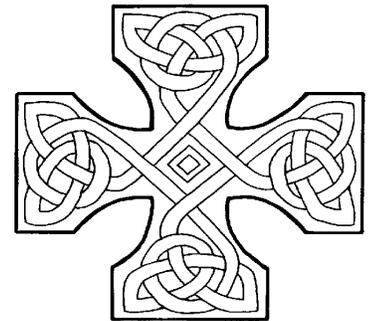
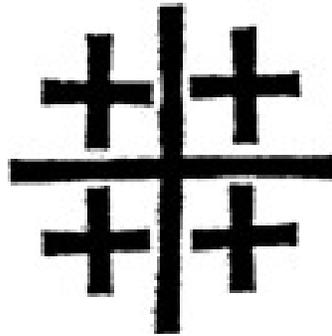
HOLY SATURDAY + April 3rd

The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Baptism

EASTER DAY + April 4th

A Virtual Grace Celebration of the Resurrection





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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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