



EPISCOPAL
CHURCH of the HOLY CROSS
90 Parkway Drive | Trussville, AL 35173

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Senior Warden: Laurie Nabors

Junior Warden: James Patterson

Deacon: The Rev. Dn. Susan Southwick

Organist & Director of Music: Tom Meacham

Parish Administrator: Andrea Smith

Youth Leader: Jonathan Williams

Holy Cross is dedicated to raising up faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, committed to genuine Worship, loving Fellowship, and passionate Mission.



FEBRUARY
2023

the **PATHWAY**

CHURCH of the HOLY CROSS NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE REV. MASSEY GENTRY

One of the unfortunate consequences of the normal practice of the Episcopal liturgy since the Introduction of the 1979 Prayer Book has been the loss of the public use of the Daily Office. A few parishes schedule Morning Prayer as a normal part of the liturgical rota, but those would be the exception rather than the norm. One of the consequences is that most Episcopalians have lost familiarity with the canticles. Every now and then we will use the Magnificat or the Song of Simeon or the Nunc Dimittis. Because of Cursillo, the Second Song of Isaiah has gained in favor. Canticles are portions of scripture meant to be sung or otherwise set to music. They were teaching tools for the faith in a time when there were few written or formal texts. If you remember how you first learned the alphabet as a child, I would wager that you first learned the song. Point made. One of my favorite canticles is one we use very little, but the text is a marvelous meditative tool for Lent. It is the Kyrie Pantokrator, known, as well, as the Song of Penitence or the Prayer of Manasseh. (See BCP page 90) In part it reads:

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart,
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned,
and I know my wickedness only too well.
Therefore I make this prayer to you:
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.
Do not let me perish in my sin,
Nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.
For you, O God, are the God of those who repent,
and in me you will show forth your goodness.
Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
in accordance with your great mercy,
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

I do not know about you, but I have a hard time bending anything, much less my knees. Age and cynicism and just being alive have all conspired, as well, to harden my heart and afflict my soul. But shortly we will be in Lent. I need to bend the knee of my heart, to make my appeal, to be sure of God's gracious goodness. To confess, I have sinned. O lord. I have sinned. Forgive me. Lord, forgive me. And God does.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



All are invited to help us celebrate Shrove Tuesday in Mardi Gras style with the pancakes and all the fixings. Traditionally our men folk do the cooking and our EYC youth group set up and decorate. So, mark your calendar and join us Tuesday night **February 21st at 6:00pm** in the Genesis Room for good food, fellowship, and King Cake. "Laissez les bons temps rouler" (Let the good times roll!!)

The Assisting Bishop is Coming to Holy Cross for Ash Wednesday



The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior, Assisting Bishop in the Diocese of Alabama, will be joining us for our Ash Wednesday service at 6:00pm on February 22nd. Please join us as we welcome Bishop Prior for his first visit to Holy Cross. Meet the Bishop and enjoy a cup of coffee after the service in the Genesis Room. There will not be a noon service so if anyone needs help with a ride at night, let the Vestry know and one can be arranged. Hope you will be able to attend!

Lenten Meal and Lessons Series

Please join us in the Genesis Room for our Lenten Meal and Lessons series this year. Dinner will begin at 6:00pm with Lessons starting at 6:30 and ending by 7:30. We are blessed to have Massey, Rev. Rob Morpeth, and Rev. Geoff Evans all join us this year. If you have a favorite soup or other light meal you'd like to share, we're looking for volunteer cooks to join in to make it a group effort. Folks to set up and clean up are always welcome too. There will be sign-up sheets in the Genesis Room for Volunteers and Attendees.

Please note: the classes are on either Tuesdays or Wednesdays, so mark your calendars carefully. Good food, fellowship, and lessons... Hope you can come!

Lenten Lessons Schedule

- Tuesday, February 28 - Massey
- Wednesday, March 8 - Rev. Rob Morpeth
- Wednesday, March 15 - Rev. Rob Morpeth
- Wednesday, March 22 - Rev. Geoff Evans
- Tuesday, March 28 - Massey

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:30am Worship and Holy Eucharist 5pm EYC	30 6pm Knitting Group - Genesis Room	31 10am Tuesday Morning Bible Study pm Massey 101	1	2	3 6:40am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study	4
5 9:30am Worship and Holy Eucharist 5pm EYC	6 6pm Knitting Group - Genesis Room	7 10am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 11:30am Healing Eucharist	8	9	10 6:40am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study	11
12 9:30am Worship and Holy Eucharist 5pm EYC	13 2pm Cahawba Art 6pm Knitting Group - Genesis Room	14 10am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 11:30am Healing Eucharist	15 11:30am ECW Meeting	16 11:30am Book Club	17 6:40am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study	18
19 9:30am Worship and Holy Eucharist 5pm EYC	20 6pm Knitting Group - Genesis Room	21 10am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 11:30am Healing Eucharist 6pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	22 6pm Ash Wednesday Service- Asst. Bishop visiting	23 11:30am Ladies' Night Out	24 6:40am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study	25
26 9:30am Worship and Holy Eucharist 5pm EYC	27 6pm Knitting Group - Genesis Room	28 10am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 11:30am Healing Eucharist 6pm Lenten Lesson Series with Massey	1	2	3 6:40am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study	4

Prayers for those who Influence Public Opinion (BCP 827 #39)

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People



We pray for our Parish Family: The Rev. Donna Gerold, Sue Peterson, Gloria Smith, Sharon Towry, Georgina Okoro, Jennifer Alexander, Jerry Towry, Joan Brooks, Jeannine Sizemore, Cissy McLendon-Isaacs, Joanne Carnes, Hilde Davis, Gaila Sargent, Karen Bain, and Greg Wynn.

We pray for our Extended Parish Family: Darryl Davis (Robert & Hilde Davis' son), Jami Sherman (Andrea Smith's mom) Jack Benton (Cousin of Inga Strickland), Jimmy & Ellen McDuffee (Farmer's Market Vendor and friend of Alyce Daniel & Julie Barnard), Steve Turner (friend of Jack & Louise Wood), Jonathan Heath (friend of the Westers), Stephanie Lorino (friend of Susan Southwick), Carolyn Jones (Harold Jones' mother), Betty Barnard (mother in law of Julie Barnard), Stuart Craig (brother of Skip Craig), Jason Saylor (Mac McQueen's nephew), Imel and Tendziegloski Family (granddaughters of Karen Krueger), Bobby Sykes (cousin of Cissy McLendon-Isaacs & Laurie Nabors), Ryan Kemp & family (Julie Barnard's nephew), Rusty Smith (Gloria Smith's son), Brian Limbaugh (Fran & Gracie Bramblette's friend), Grace Calton (Donica Creasy's daughter), Jan Plan (Susan Caraway's friend), Joseph Kahler, II (Jennifer Bodnar's son), Logan Keating (Mary Allen's grandson), Pat Benefield (Joan Brooks' friend), and Brooks Caudle (Camille Turner's great-nephew).

HAPPY
Birthday



February

Inga Strickland	2/05	James Patterson	2/23
Cindy Cole	2/06	Dan/Danny Dollar	2/23
Marsha Craig	2/07	Johnny Cole	2/26
Cissy McLendon-Isaacs	2/18	Linda McQueen	2/26
Melinda Walczuk	2/19		



ECW Meeting

Holy Cross ECW will be meeting on Wednesday, February 15th at 11:30am in the Genesis Room. All ladies are welcome! Bring a sandwich and come join in on the fun and fellowship!

Ladies Night Out

The February Ladies Night Out will actually be held during the day! In an effort to reach all of our ladies, we are having a daytime event. We will be going to Hilltop Cafe (the old William's Orchard) in Argo. We will have lunch at 11:30 on February 23rd. The parking is somewhat limited, so I thought we might want to carpool. We will meet at the church about 11:10 and leave no later than 11:15. As always there will be a signup sheet in the Genesis Room. I look forward to seeing you there!

Karen Mann



Souper Bowl Sunday

Please join us Sunday, February 12, 2023 after church in the Narthex. There will be all kinds of soups and sweets available! Also, cheese balls and cheese rings will be available to buy and order. All proceeds go to ECW!

Confirmation Liturgy

There was a scheduling conflict for Confirmation Liturgy Class. The date is yet to be determined. Nevertheless, please contact Massey if you are interested in either Confirmation or being Received. Bishop Prior will be with us for the Imposition of Ashes at 6pm on February 22nd.

CPR Class

Holy Cross will offer CPR classes for our parishioners sometime after Easter. This class will be taught by Center Point Fire Chief, Alex Nabors. Alex taught our last classes two years ago and quite a few people participated. Everyone is welcome from 5th graders to great grandparents. Whether it is your first time to take CPR, or just want a refresher course, come join in for a free class. AED training will be included in the session. Families are encouraged to take the class together. It is an informative, no pressure kind of class. There will be a sign up sheet in the Genesis Room if you are interested.

- The Vestry voted to continue the current Covid protocols due to recent recurrences of COVID.
- Our Parish Administrator, Andrea Smith, joined us on January 10th and is doing very well. Sabrina and Janet Prewitt are orienting her as she learns her new job.
- The Genesis Room has a new updated ceiling following recent flooding damage. The entire cost was covered by insurance.
- Massey did his first 101 class on January 31st at 6pm. It included a light meal. Everyone is welcome.
- Gross Out Campers will be at the church this summer from Memorial Day to the end of July. Please welcome "All God's Children"!
- The Search Committee has recently interviewed a promising candidate for Rector. Prayers and fingers crossed that God will guide us to find the right person for Holy Cross!
- Bishop Prior will do Ash Wednesday service at 6pm on February 22nd.
- Plans are underway for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner, Lenten dinner lessons, Easter week services, with Easter Brunch and Easter egg hunt.
- A new Bylaws committee has been formed to write the bylaws for Holy Cross.
- The Vestry voted to steam clean the tile floors in the Genesis Room, hall, and bathrooms. The carpets in the 3 classrooms will be steam cleaned.
- The Vestry voted to buy a new computer to replace the 12 year old computer in the Parish Administrator's office.
- Discussed plans for a possible Parish Retreat at Camp McDowell this year.

Stewardship Committee

Happy New Year everyone! Here we are at the start of a new year and new challenges for the Church of the Holy Cross. 2023 also holds unlimited opportunities and thanks to you, through your generous pledges we are ready to meet those challenges and opportunities.

Thanks to your generosity we have exceeded last year's pledges and will be able to meet our financial obligations going forward. Our overall budget is growing and will allow us to take on needed repairs and upgrades like the recent parking lot paving project.

As the Stewardship Chairperson on the Vestry, I just wanted to say thank you for your continued support of Holy Cross.

Roy Wood

Music Program Report

As we have returned to full worship after the pandemic restrictions, our choir is growing! We are thankful for new faces and voices and our returning members. Although the choir "stall" looks small, there is always room for more to join. The choir meets from 6:30 - 7:30pm on Thursdays and gathers at 9:00am on Sunday mornings to warm up and prepare for worship. We look forward to more growth and continuing to work with our clergy to enhance our worship through music in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Meacham, Muic Director and Organist

Julie Barnard, Vestry Music Ministry Liasion

February Schedule

February 5 - Rev. Massey Gentry
Vestry in Charge: Roy Wood
Lectors: Tom & Karen Mann
Crucifer: Reese Booth

February 12 - Rev. Massey Gentry
Vestry in Charge: Laurie Nabors
Lectors: James Patterson & Skip Craig
Crucifer: Gracen Patterson

February 19 - Rev. Donna Gerold
Vestry in Charge: Cindy Wester
Lectors: Bob Peterson & Mac McQueen
Crucifer: Jo Grove

February 22 - Bishop Prior
Vestry in Charge: Cindy Wester
Lectors: James Patterson & Skip Craig
Crucifer: Carol Crews

February 26 - Rev. Massey Gentry
Vestry in Charge: Inga Strickland
Lectors: Bill Fyfe & Reese Booth
Crucifer: Nick Bramlette

March 5 - Rev. Donna Gerold
Vestry in Charge: James Patterson
Lectors: Rosie McKinney & Karen Krueger
Crucifer: Carol Crews

March 12 - Rev. Massey Gentry
Vestry in Charge: Carol Crews
Lectors: Karen & Tom Mann
Crucifer: Tom Mitchell

March 19 - Rev. Donna Gerold
Vestry in Charge: Michael Alexander
Lectors: James Patterson & Skip Craig
Crucifer: Reese Booth

March 26 - Rev. Massey Gentry
Vestry in Charge: Julie Barnard
Lectors: Bob Peterson & Mac McQueen
Crucifer: Gracen Patterson