



EPISCOPAL
CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS

90 Parkway Drive | Trussville, AL 35173

205.655.7668 | www.holycrosstrussville.org

Rector: The Rev. Massey Gentry

Deacon: The Rev. Dn. Susan Southwick

Organist & Director of Music: Tom Meacham

Children's Minister: Heather Johnson

Student Minister: Jason Varnadore

Parish Administrator: Janice Ridgeway

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

“O MERCIFUL CREATOR, YOUR HAND IS OPEN WIDE TO SATISFY THE NEEDS OF EVERY LIVING CREATURE: MAKE US ALWAYS THANKFUL FOR YOUR LOVING PROVIDENCE; AND GRANT THAT WE, REMEMBERING THE ACCOUNT THAT WE MUST ONE DAY GIVE, MAY BE FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF YOUR GOOD GIFTS; THOUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, WHO WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT LIVES AND REIGNS, ONE GOD, FOREVER AND EVER, AMEN.”



SEPT/OCT
2020

the **PATHWAY**
CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR:

Grace and Peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

There is a wonderful little movie, “Babette’s Feast,” which tells the story of a French housekeeper/cook who flees the French Revolution and washes up on the shores of an 18th Century Norwegian village. The village mostly is inhabited by the remnants of a Protestant religious sect and Babette becomes the servant of the two spinster sisters who are daughters of the deceased but still revered founder. Late in the movie one of the characters, a cavalry general, tells one of the sisters, “Surely, God’s mercy is infinite. He returns to us even those things we thought we had forever lost.”

In the late Winter of 1996, I discussed with the vestry of Holy Cross the possibility of becoming your Rector. Almost a quarter of a century later I can confess that indeed God’s mercy is infinite and an opportunity to at least be with you a short time is a gift of grace.

I have some history with you, with your former clergy, with some of your laity. Both my parents were buried from Holy Cross. I have the hope of creating some more history as we journey together.

Trussville has changed a good deal in the last 25 or so years. I have not, of course. I still have a head of hair (that is as long as I observe the lyric of the old country song “I never go around mirrors anymore because I hate to see a grown man cry”!)

On a practical matter, inevitably the question of “what shall we call you?” comes up. As you will learn about me in so many circumstances, I will respond with a story.

When I was at St. Martin’s, Houston, we were hosting an event honoring the late President Bush and I was in charge of the worship. There were numerous Episcopal clergy present, some of whom I did not know personally. At one point I referred to a priest by using a title I thought was correct, only to be irately corrected. As the rant came to a close, the priest looked at me and said, “and just what do they call you?”

Now I actually have a fancy title, one that I have had before. I think I am the only priest in the church who has been Canon to the Ordinary to three different Bishops in two different dioceses.

I subscribe to the theory, however, that if needing to have the title is a requirement one should probably not have the job in the first place. It is the ministry, not the title.

But on with the story. “And just what do they call you?”

“Massey,” I replied. “People just call me by my name. Massey.”

Please do.
Peace,
Massey Gentry

INSIDE WORSHIP UPDATE:

In an August 14th email, **Bishop Sloan announced that inside worship will begin on Sunday, September 6th.** The Bishop further instructed: "all parishes will be required to follow State and CDC guidelines, some of which are: gatherings should be limited to the number of people we can safely put in our naves using every other pew, maintaining six (6) feet of physical distance, wearing masks, and households sitting together. We also suggest that we not have congregational singing (although soloists or ensembles distanced from others should be fine) and no coffee hours or socials after the services. It will be best if we keep services brief, and each parish will need to work out a plan for how people enter and exit the buildings so that we can maintain our distance. Still, we should make outdoor worship our first choice, where and when possible. The Eucharist, so central to our understanding of corporate worship, can be an option using good sense and proper precautions – I strongly suggest that we use the bread only." To see the entire email from Bishop Sloan, go to <https://www.dioala.org/>.

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY:

This group will start in September with its new study topic, the book of Jeremiah. It meets on **Friday mornings, 6:30-7:30** in the Genesis Room. Breakfast (BYO – "bring your own") is during the first half hour, and Bible study is during the second half hour. As always, newcomers are welcome! **-Bob Peterson**

TEAM UPDATE:

We continue to provide outside service two days a week (Monday and Friday from noon until 2:00pm). We are so blessed to live in this area--if we begin the week with only two jars of jelly, someone will knock on the door and hand us a bag full of jelly! We just smile and say, "It's a God thing!!" Here are things we can always use: flour, sugar, cornmeal, individual packets of grits and oatmeal, cereal, pancake mix, syrup, jelly, canned veggies and soups. We sincerely appreciate everyone's help in keeping the TEAM shelves fully stocked. **-Courtney Dollar**



FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS,

which begins the week of **September 6th through October 4th**, is also known as the "Seasons of Creation." For more information on how to create mindfulness around all that God has created and our role as stewards, visit the Episcopal Church's Creation Care website: <https://episcopalchurch.org/season-creation-and-st-francis-day-resources>.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

We pray for our Parish Family: For all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially:

Anne Mayo, Grady Lancaster, Bill Wester, Dianne Adams, Hilde Davis, Gailya Sargent, Donica Creasy, Mary Allen, Dale Burch, Rosie McKinney, John Carlisto, Karen Bain, Tom Kinstler, Joan DaLee, Jean Barron, Jane Kerr, and Greg Wynn.

We pray for our Extended Parish Family: Patty Mosely (Jan Baker's friend), Lindsey Lanning – (Catherine Proctor's friend), Lisa Phillips (Catherine Proctor's sister-in-law), Margo Lacy (Catherine Proctor's sister), Dakota Clark (Dianne Adams' grandson), Ryan Kemp & family (Julie Barnard's nephew), Terry Tranchina Traverca (Inga Strickland's friend), Ann Rogers (Inga Strickland's friend), Greg Wooten (Anne Mayo's friend), Layne Ross (Laurie Nabors' friend), Stoney Dawe (Dale Burch's friend), Linda Williams (Karen Bain's friend), David & Anna Marie Schaefer (Dianne Adams' son and daughter-in-law), Rusty Smith (Gloria Smith's son), Sybil Lewis (Mark Lewis's mother), Anthony Turner (Susan Southwick's grandson), Rick Nail (Louise Wood's friend), Pat Daniel (Fran Bramblette's stepmother), Cheryl Bannister (Karen Krueger's friend), Lindsey Lanning (Catherine Proctor's friend), Tara Harvey Kenney (Inga Strickland's friend), Brian Limbaugh (Fran & Gracie Bramblette's friend), Cindy & Jim Clark (Dianne Adams' daughter and son-in-law), Melissa Kuehn (Inga Strickland's niece), Rich Lakin (Mike Rohr's friend), Joyce Odewahn (Anne Amick's mother), Willy Holub (Tom Kinstler's nephew), Grace Calton (Donica Creasy's daughter), Laura Reichert (friend of Laurie Nabors & Rosie McKinney), Jan Plan (Susan Caraway's friend), Joseph Kahler, II (Jennifer Bodnar's son), James McIntyre (Anne Mayo's friend), Logan Keating (Mary Allen's grandson), Michael Lombardo & family (Fran Bramblette and Stephane' Daniel's friends), Pat Benefield (Joan Brooks' friend), and Brooks Caudle (Camille Turner's great-nephew).

FAMILY FUN!



Please join us for a
MOVIE ON THE LAWN,
Sunday Evening,
October 25th,
at 6:00 pm



SEPTEMBER

Jeff Rotenberry 9/2
Sarah Rushing 9/7
Joanne Carnes 9/13
Brenda Jean 9/14
Jan Carlisto 9/16
Jeannine Sizemore 9/19
Terrie Percy 9/19
Rachel Grove 9/19
Deanna Booth 9/21
Gailya Sargent 9/24
Hilde Davis 9/26
Fran Bramblette 9/26
Gloria Smith 9/28

OCTOBER

Dennis Rushing 10/1
Reese Booth 10/1
Sydney Bodnar 10/2
Ford Rotenberry 10/2
Laurie Nabors 10/10
Mary Allen 10/12
Sue Peterson 10/13
Heather Johnson 10/20
Juli Fyfe 10/23
Joe Daniel 10/24
John Arnold 10/26