



THE THREE CROWNS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISH OF THE EPIPHANY

17 October 2016
www.3crowns.org



In the Beginning was the Word

John 1:1



The other day I was given the chance to hear some of you share the story of how you first began meeting to discuss the Bible together. Sometimes the words of Holy

Scripture seep out in everyday conversation, and this verse from the Gospel of John's prologue did, quite fittingly! What this group began years ago marked a commitment that has persisted. I suspect there are many similar stories of beginnings here at Epiphany. Beginnings emerge from within a community of faith when we share our hopes and dreams with each other, led by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I am thrilled and honored to begin a year of field education with you. This is a huge transition point for me. I've left the beloved church community that led me through discernment and raised me up to further my formation in a new place. My time with

Monday, 17 October	
9:00am	Parent/Toddler Group
6:00pm & 7:30pm	AA
Tuesday, 18 October	
7:15am	Men's Group
1:00pm	Epiphany Visitors
6:00pm	Pray the Parish Prayer List
7:30pm	Stewardship Committee
Wednesday, 19 October	
7:30am	Holy Eucharist
12:30pm	Women's Spirituality Group
Thursday, 20 October	
9:30am	Bible Study
5:30pm	Chorister Rehearsal
6:15pm	Accessibility Team Meeting
7:30pm	Parish Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 23 October	
8:00am	Holy Eucharist
8:45am	Fellowship
9:00am	The Word Today, Lectionary Discussion
9:45am	Youth Formation Class
10:00am	Holy Eucharist
10:00am	Children's Worship
11:15am	Adult Formation Class
11:30am	Confirmation Class
11:30am	Genesis Youth Group
12:30pm	YPF Youth Group
5:00pm	Evensong

that call. In the weeks and months ahead, I'll be sharing more of my story and hopes while I learn about yours. Am I nervous? Absolutely. Am I excited? You can bet your life on it.

When I first inquired about coming here, Reverends Miriam and Thomas told me how caring a Parish you are. You absolutely are, and yet you yearn to live even more deeply into that! I see a desire and commitment to both nurture and raise-up children and youth in faith, and a passion for transformation in the lives of all people through deeper connection, mission, and outreach. Beauty abounds in this building, and in the liturgy, preaching, and music. In you, I see a vibrant community with outstanding leadership and faithfulness to one another. I pray that the spiritual hunger that draws us closer to God and one another continues to be felt and fed here so that we embody love, hope, and peace in a world in great need of it.

Thank you for this opportunity to learn and to experience the fullness of life in Christ in this place. Under Miriam's supervision, I will be serving alongside you in a variety of ways that will be both a comfort and a challenge for me. Please know that I learn too, when people ask questions of me. Consider this your permission to ask! I will be praying for and with you each week and ask for your prayers as I trust that the God of grace who has brought me to this place will continue to work in all our lives.

Jen



The Word Today: Discussion of Today's Lectionary

On Sunday get some coffee in Hadley Hall and join us for Bible study and conversation based on the day's readings. We start at 9:00 and finish at 9:45am. We

relaxed, and friendly study of the day's lectionary readings intended to connect our faith journeys with the texts.



Thursday Bible Study **Weekly at 9:30am in the Suter Room**

Do you like to make friends and discuss ideas? Are you interested in learning more about Holy Scripture, and how it inspires and challenges your faith? This fall every Thursday morning from 9:30-11:00am, we will focus on of the Gospel of Matthew. As a reference the group will use *An Introduction to the New Testament* by Raymond E. Brown.

This group is known for deep thinking, strong coffee, and tasty snacks. We begin and end session with prayer. Friendship and learning abound.



Adult Formation Class



The Adult Formation class meets Sundays at 11:15am in Hadley Hall. If you have any questions, suggestions, or are interested in joining the Adult Formation Committee please contact [Rich Goldhor](#).

This Sunday, 23 October - *Christmas: Our family celebrations, our church observances, and the commercial machines*
Join Rich Goldhor and seminarian Jen Vath for a lively discussion of all the pressures that surround us (beginning now!) about the holidays. How can we feel less pressured, less harried during this holy season that has been co-opted by

another in making Advent and Christmas more meaningful.

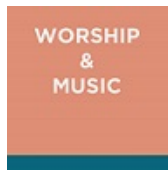
Sunday, 30 October and 6 November *Vocation*, a two-week series: Do you see your life's work as a vocation or just a job that pays the bills?

Sunday, 13 November *Bishop Gayle Harris* will join us to talk about how parishes in our Diocese may form partnerships with parishes and Institutions in the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.



Women's Group Meeting **Wednesday, 19 October at 12:30pm**

The Women's Spirituality Group meets once a month for a light lunch and discussion. We read poetry, essays, and books. We write, talk, and sometimes meditate. It's member-led and different each month. It's a time for fellowship with other women on a spiritual journey. Please consider making space in the middle of your week to connect with your faith and Epiphany. On 19 October we plan to meet at the home of Susan Youmans, 1 Taft Drive in Winchester. If that is not possible, we will gather at Epiphany. [Contact Gayle Pershouse](#) for information.



Ministry Helpers are Needed



ACOLYTES Epiphany acolytes are leaders in the 10:00am worship services throughout the year. They carry the cross and torches and assist the clergy through the worship service. Anyone in fourth grade or older can learn how to be an acolyte and will then be asked to participate in a service once or twice a month. A training for new acolytes will be held in October in preparation to begin as an acolyte in November. Please contact [Mary Street](#), 978.664.2695 if you have questions.

GREETERS A Greeter welcomes worshippers on Sunday mornings at both the 8:00 and 10:00am worship. Greeters stand at the Narthex and at the Central Street door. They are the first "good morning" that you hear when you come to church. Greeters provide a warm welcome and offer support to those who enter at our Central Street door. We are especially in need of Greeters for the 8:00am service. Please contact [Nancy Keating](#)



for more information.



Evensong
Sunday, 23 October at 5:00pm

All Saints Requiem

A solemn Requiem Mass for All Souls will be celebrated on Sunday, 6 November at 6:00 pm at Christ Church of Hamilton & Wenham, in Hamilton, Massachusetts.

The choirs of the Parish of the Epiphany and Christ Church Hamilton & Wenham will combine voices. This Requiem Mass is set to the music of Gabriel Fauré. Everyone is invited to attend this special liturgy commemorating the souls of the faithful departed on the Feast of All Souls.



Preacher to Kick-off Annual Commitment Campaign



We welcome once again the Reverend Francis X. Fornaro as a preacher this Sunday, October 23rd. Frank is retired Rector of St. Paul's Church in Bedford, and, most recently, was the interim president and dean at Episcopal Divinity School. Frank is a friend and mentor to many clergy, a gifted pastoral theologian, and a terrific preacher.



Confirmation and Confirmation Recognition



Reed Aldrich, Chaney Dalton (Concord Academy), Jack Degnan, Jacob Hickey, Julia Keating, Christopher Rappole, and William Sullivan will be confirmed at St. Paul's Church in Malden on Saturday, October 29th. This months-long journey has included study, discussion, taking communion to sick or home-bound parishioners, talking with an adult mentor, and discovering the joys of living in the baptized way. On Sunday, October 30th, at the 10:00 worship service we'll celebrate and honor them.

Prayer Vigil for Election

We'll join other sisters and brothers throughout the Commonwealth (in both our diocese and in Western Massachusetts) in committing ourselves to praying continuously before and during Election Day, November 8th. At Epiphany we'll start 48 hours of prayer with a prayer service at 7:45pm on Sunday, November 6th (at the conclusion of the YPF meeting...to which all are invited), and we'll continue praying throughout the day on Monday (the Chapel of Praise will be set up for you to stop by, or to commit to a specific time), and Tuesday, concluding with Evening Prayer at 7:00pm on Tuesday evening. More information about making this a spiritual practice for your household will be forthcoming. Of course praying now is also good.



For more information on the Diocese of Massachusetts Prayer Vigil [click here](#).



Music Notes from Yesterday Morning

David Eaton, Director of Music and Organist, offered the following notes regarding the music that was sung at the 10:00am worship yesterday.

The offertory anthem, *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies* by Harold Darke, is a standard of the mainstream parish church choir repertoire, but interestingly this anthem has not appeared in a published collection for a while. Quite possibly, Darke's most well-known anthem, *In the Bleak Midwinter*, is traditionally sung at Christmas.

The sacred music of the English composer and organist Harold Darke (1888-1976) is among the core repertoire of Anglican choirs today. Darke was born in Highbury, London; he received his formal music education at the Royal College of Music and studied composition with Charles Villiers Stanford at Oxford. Darke later served as professor of organ at the Royal College of Music from 1919 to 1969. During his lifetime, Darke was considered among the finest organists in England. He held organist positions at Emmanuel Church, West Hampstead, St. James, Paddington, and briefly deputized as the Director of Music at King's College, Cambridge during World War II. For fifty years, Darke was the organist at St. Michael's Church, Cornhill from 1916 to 1966. St. Michael's is a medieval, Anglo-Catholic, High Church parish in London that can trace its history to the early twelfth century. Darke initiated a lunchtime organ recital series at St. Michael's in 1916 that established him as a city institution. This recital series has continued under the leadership of his successors to the present day. Additionally, Darke founded the St. Michael's Singers and presented

known contemporary composers.



MISSION
&
OUTREACH

Mission & Outreach Awards Grant for Syrian Refugees

During the past year, the Mission & Outreach Committee has explored ways that Epiphany could respond to the devastating Syrian refugee crisis. While researching avenues to assist with refugee resettlement here, we were presented with an immediate opportunity in Europe. Many Parishioners will remember the moving adult formation presentation by Beth Domig, Rich Goldhor's sister. Beth and her husband Arthur live in Salzburg, Austria and are deeply involved in welcoming the flood of refugees. Ultimately, they took two refugee brothers from Syria into their home and have been supporting their integration into the culture of Austria.



The boys are enrolled in an intensive German course that meets 3hrs/day, 5days/week and is not cheap. In June, Rich presented a grant request to Mission & Outreach on behalf of *Family Plus*, a non-profit organization started by the Domigs and friends to support such efforts. The Mission and Outreach Committee voted to award a grant of \$3000 to *Family Plus*, specifically directed to keep the boys in the language program until the end of 2016. Once they have reached a level of fluency, there will be various doors open to them to become integrated into Austrian society. Khaled could enroll at the University to work on his Master's Degree in Chemistry, and Hobi could learn a trade. Please note that Epiphany grants are distributed to organizations for emergency or one time needs. You can see a summary of grants awarded between 2011 - 2015 [here](#).



Hurricane Relief Update



Hurricane Matthew devastated the southwestern departments in Haiti. A country that is this very poor, and was just beginning to recover from the 2010 earthquake, was again knocked to the ground. The need for immediate relief in the form of food, shelter, clean water, and sanitation is enormous. To add to the country's misery, cholera, introduced to Haiti following the earthquake, is on the rise.

Epiphany has a special connection with Haiti through our medical mission teams, which have worked in rural villages around the city of Leogane for six years. Our response to this recent disaster reflects that care. A special collection for Haiti Hurricane Relief was offered at the 10:00am service on 9 October. With great generosity, the Parish contributed \$3,000 - thank you. On Tuesday, 11 October the Mission & Outreach committee voted to contribute an additional \$3,000 from the Mission & Outreach grant fund. Now \$6,000 from Epiphany is being donated to Episcopal Relief & Development and is earmarked specifically for aid to Haiti.

If you wish to donate, there is still time to send a check to the Parish Office. Make your check out to *Parish of the Epiphany* and write *Hurricane Relief* in the memo line. You can also donate directly to Episcopal Relief & Development's Haiti efforts on-line [here](#).



Non-Perishable Food Donations for the Shopping Cart



Have you noticed the shopping cart that is located immediately to the right as you enter church? Our non-perishable food donations are taken 2-3 times a month to either St. Luke's Food Pantry or the [Council of Social Concern](#) in Woburn. Recently the Council of Social Concern has let us know that their shelves are almost empty and are appealing to surrounding communities for food donations. Items especially needed are mac & cheese, dried beans, cake and brownie mixes, tuna, soups, and cereal.



El Hogar Hike for Hope

You are invited to enjoy a day of hiking and games of cornhole to support the students and staff of El Hogar in Honduras. Individuals and teams are welcome - this is a family friendly event.

Sunday, 23 October from 12:30-5:00pm

Houghton's Pond Recreation Area in Milton, MA

To sign-up and get more information please call 781.729.7600



Remember that Epiphany has two weeks reserved to travel to El Hogar.

February 25- March 4, 2017 and March 5- March 12, 2017. If you are interested in joining a mission team on either of these dates, please come to an informational meeting on Wednesday, 12 October at 6:00pm in the Suter Room. If you cannot make the meeting and would like to learn more, please contact [Jenny Rappole](#) at 339.222.1036.

*[El Hogar](#), located in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, provides a loving home and education for 250 children born into extreme poverty.



PARISH LIFE
&
EVANGELISM

Epiphany Parent and Toddler Group
Mondays at 9:00am

children to learn, share, and grow together as parents while their children play.

The group gathers on Monday mornings from 9:00am-10:30am in the childcare room downstairs in the Myra Higgins Education Wing. Each week, as the children play, parent discussions will follow topics of parenting and raising children in a faith community. Various guest speakers will join us throughout the year.

Contact [Carolyn Hughes](#) or [Bryn Hollenbeck](#) with questions, or if you are interested in joining us!



Have You Heard

Congratulations to Sam Berns who begins his service in the U.S. Coast Guard on December 6th.



Disaster Chaplaincy

This article is submitted by Jason Kinchen, who received Disaster Chaplaincy training earlier this year.

The book of Genesis tells us that the Creator made a “good” earth and all that is in it. And, though the goodness of the world is assured, the safety of the world is never guaranteed. Indeed, from the human perspective, the world is full of chaos, uncertainty, and dangers. Bad things happen with no explanation; the innocent suffer for no discernible reason. And much of the rest of scripture grapples with this basic fact. And we are still required to worship God – without the expectation of earthly reward or punishment. While this condition may vex us, we should ask ourselves what the world would be like if God always assured safety and justice without our effort. If the universe were structured in such a way that good was always rewarded and evil always punished, little need or motivation would exist for religion – or any moral or ethical thought at all.

So, bad things happen. This was at the core of training I received last February at the University of the South on Disaster Chaplaincy. This class sought to prepare ministers to offer pastoral care in disasters, disasters being events that overwhelm a community’s normal mechanisms to cope and respond. Weather catastrophes such as floods and hurricanes get the most attention, but human initiated disasters such as terrorist attacks and active shooter scenarios also command the cultural zeitgeist, although the number of people actually affected is smaller and, they are rare. But disasters can also be much smaller in scale – house and apartment fires are by far



At the heart of this course was another simple truth. God does not leave us on our own when bad things happen, and the most important thing God has done is to have given us each other. One revealing thing I learned in this course was that in any significant disaster, all of the heavy lifting is done by faith based organizations: churches, mosques, synagogues, the Salvation Army, the Red Cross. These groups provide the vast majority of services, volunteers, and materiel during a disaster and recovery. FEMA, the federal emergency bureau, state relief groups, and even local emergency services mostly provide communication and logistical support for these organizations. I was surprised and gratified to learn that houses of worship are the cornerstones of efforts to deal with the uncertain world. Perhaps God knows what God is doing, after all?

So, I asked myself, what can we do as the people called to be the Parish of the Epiphany to respond in disaster scenarios? The possible answer to this question takes two distinct directions. The first is how we would respond if we are directly affected by a local or regional disaster – a fire, or extreme weather, for example. How could we better prepare ourselves to continue our important work, worship, outreach, community support, and minister to those in our community who were hurt? Better yet, how could we anticipate and minimize the effects of such an event?

The second is how the Parish could assist in a large scale disaster where we were not directly affected, but our neighbors in surrounding communities were. We have many facilities, resources, and talents that would come in very handy in the case of a regional displacement of people: an industrial kitchen, a large building space that could be configured as a canteen or shelter, and many Parishioners trained in medical and pastoral care.

I am interested in pursuing the answers to both of these questions and would welcome a discussion among people who might also feel such a calling. As the Psalmist writes: "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by. I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me."

[Click here](#) to send Jason an email



Episcopal City Mission Annual Meeting

Come pray, reflect, and strategize with us about the future of Episcopal City Mission.

Saturday, 22 October from 8:30 am - 12:30pm (breakfast provided)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 323 Boston Post Road in Weston

Please RSVP by 17 October - [click here](#)



We are inviting all of ECM's Parish-based leaders (clergy and delegates) to this important Annual Meeting that will spend a bit of time attending to business-as-usual, and most of the time imagining and discussing our continued faith-based justice work together in 2017 and beyond.

Bishop Gayle Harris will celebrate the Eucharist and preside over the business meeting. Bishop Alan Gates and Bishop Doug Fisher will virtually bless us as they begin their pre-election walks.



Mark Your Calendar - Dates To Note

Sunday, 23 October - Evensong, 5:00pm

Saturday, 29 October - Celebration of Confirmation at St. Paul's in Malden.

Confirmands will be recognized at Epiphany on Sunday, 30 October at 10:00am

Friday and Saturday, 4 and 5 November - Diocesan Convention

Sunday, 6 November - Holy Eucharist with Baptisms, 10:00am

Sunday, 6 November - All Saints Requiem and Mass, 5:00pm at Christ Church in Wenham

Sunday, 13 November - Ingathering Brunch, 11:15am

**Save
the
Date**



For more information

Our website can be found [here](#)

Information on our Worship Services can be found [here](#)

If you are new to Epiphany, click [here](#)

Our complete Parish calendar can be found [here](#)

Sign-up for on line pledge payments [here](#)

