

Fifth Sunday of Lent

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy."

POPE FRANCIS



Giving - Fasting - Praying
Repenting - Forgiving

*The Church Of Epiphany
Brick Township, New Jersey*

The Church of Epiphany

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

615 Thiele Road ~ Brick, New Jersey 08724

Phone: 732-458-0220 / Fax: 732-458-0855 / Website: www.churchofepiphany.org

*Celebrating
50 Years*

*Reflect on the Past
Celebrate the Present
Prepare for the Future*

Served By

REV. MICHAEL SANTANGELO -----Pastor
REV. ROBERT LAFERRERA-----Weekend Assistant
LOUIS V. COMMISSO (Retired) -----Deacon
MICHAEL MULLARKEY-----Deacon
RONALD NOWAK (Retired)-----Deacon
KIM LORENTZEN-----Director Religious Education
DANIEL DANTONI-----Director of Music
DONNA WOODLEY-----Parish Secretary
CAROL LORE-----Finance Secretary
KELLY CURCIONE-----Administrative Asst. Rel. Ed
MICHAEL & AMY NOWAK-----Middle School Youth Group
BARBARA FAVRETTO-----High School Youth Group

Rectory Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 4:30pm,
Office is closed for lunch 12:00pm – 1:15pm
Friday 9:00am – 3:00pm (no lunch break on Friday)

Religious Education Office

Same as Rectory Office Hours
Kim Lorentzen – Director of Education
kim@churchofepiphany.org
Kelly Curcione – Administrative Assistant
kelly@churchofepiphany.org

Welcome to our Parish

Please fill out a registration form to be affiliated with Epiphany Parish. Registration forms can be found on the parish office door or online on our website.

Masses

Saturday Vigil-----4:00 pm

Sunday-----8:00 am & 10:30 am

Holy Day Masses -----Mass as Announced

Confessions- -----Saturday from 3:00pm – 3:30pm

Sacrament of Marriage

Saturday 11:00 am, 12:30 pm, 2:00 pm. Couples should contact the Parish Office to make preparations at least 1 year before the planned wedding date.

Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is ordinarily celebrated the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 12:00 pm. To schedule Baptism, please call the Parish Office, at least one month in advance.

Sponsor Letters/Requirements

The following is required by Canon Law to be a Catholic Godparent/Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. Be at least 16 years of age. Have completed the Sacraments of Initiation. (Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation). If married, have a marriage that is canonically valid and recognized by the Catholic Church. Be a registered and active parishioner living a life of faith. You must be registered with our parish for at least 3 months before we will provide a sponsor letter. Although you may have registered with our parish, if you are not attending Mass regularly and using the envelope system there is no way for the parish office to confirm regular Mass attendance. Please contact the Parish Office to confirm your status with our parish.

March 17, 2024 • 5th Sunday of Lent

Daily Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 16, 2024

9:00AM John Ward by Pat & Jim Gaffney
4:00PM Anna Angele Haroutunian
by Debbie & Wayne Pagels

Sunday, March 17, 2024

8:00AM People of the Parish
1030AM Ida DiGiovanni by the DiGiovanni family

Monday, March 18, 2024

9:00AM Robert Bal by Janet Morrow

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

9:00AM Pat Barra by Dan Erwin

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

9:00AM Virginia Snell by Mary Maralla
Intentions in the Grey Book

Thursday, March 21, 2024

9:00AM Daria Campbell (Living) by the Maralla family

Friday, March 22, 2024

9:00AM John Crosio by Dan Erwin

Saturday, March 23, 2024

9:00AM Giuseppe Disclafani by the Norman family
4:00PM William Taibi & family by Marina

Sunday, March 24, 2024

8:00AM Marcelo Tan by Maria & Terry Herbert
10:30AM People of the Parish

This Week at our Parish

Monday, March 18, 2024

10:00AM Food Pantry – PH
1:00PM Small Group Faith Sharing - APR
7:00PM Let's Get Together and Pray - WA

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

10:00AM Come and See Bible Study - APR
1:00AM Small Faith Sharing Group – APR
5:30PM Family Faith Formation Class – All facilities

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

3:00PM Adoration - WA

Thursday, March 21, 2024

7:00PM Adult Choir – WA

Friday, March 22, 2024

7:00PM Stations of the Cross - WA
8:00PM AA - APR

Saturday, March 23, 2024

9:00AM Cursillo - APR
10:00AM Food Pantry – PH
4:00PM 7th & 8th Grade Mandatory Mass - WA

Sunday, March 24, 2024

8:00AM 7th & 8th Grade Mandatory Mass - WA
10:30AM Children's Liturgy of The Word – APR

Legend: APR – All Purpose Room PH – Parish Hall
CA – Commons Area WA – Worship Area
RE – Religious Education Room OS – Outside

Sunday Scriptures

Here are next Sunday's Scripture Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Isaiah describes the pain and insults of the Servant of God. Yet he sounds hopeful when describing God as his help, knowing he will not be disgraced.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Mark 14:1—15:47

Please remember those who have died

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the deceased spouses, relatives, friends, and benefactors of the parish and for the comfort and consolation of their families including; Eileen Beelitz.

Please pray for the sick

Jimmy Burke, Barbara Harmann, Maureen McCormack Dorothy Nocera, Barbara Crincoli, Fr. Daniel McLearen, Robert Pettinato, Patti Vogel, Rylee Gerrity, Ami Hardy, Nicole Perry, Bishop David M. O'Connell, Jerry O'Donnell, Denise Halpin, Bethany Garner, Annmarie Hanley, Janet C. Schalen, Kathleen LeDoux, Sandy Netkie, Veronica Segars, Joan Mullee, Frank Osborne, and those in the sick call book.

"Please Pray for the Sick" list is for those parishioners who are in need of further prayers from our "Prayers of the Faithful". They will remain on the list for 2 months, after which time their names will be moved to the Gray Book. To add someone to the prayer list, call Donna at 732-458-0220 or email Donna@churchofepiphany.org

At the request of Pope Francis, Bishop David O'Connell, and our Pastor, Father Mike, we are praying for our church in these very challenging times in response to the abuse crisis. We turn to Saint Michael the Archangel to defend us from all evils.

Powerful Prayer to Saint Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host - by the Divine Power of God cast into hell, satan and all the evil spirits, who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



STATIONS of the CROSS

Please join us at 7:00PM for Stations of the Cross in the Worship area on March 22nd.



It is with great happiness that we announce our newest parishioners who have joined our parish family through the Sacrament of Baptism.

*Luciano Pasquale Agoglia
Colin Douglas Stuhler*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration will take place each Wednesday at 3PM. The gathering of the faith community gives honor and praise to the Lord and prayer is offered for one another. Private prayer and/or stillness is left to you as is the amount of time you spend in the worship area. Adoration closes at 6PM.

Bethany Bereavement

The Church of Epiphany Bethany Bereavement Support Group offers peer support for those grieving the death of a loved one. If you have lost a loved one, join others who have also experienced a loss for a series of 6 sessions of information, mutual sharing and peer support in a spiritual, caring, and confidential setting. If you are interested in joining, please call 732-458-0220.

Wellness for Maturing Adults

The HOPE – Wellness Ministry invites you to join them every first Wednesday of the month where they will discuss wellness for maturing adults. This program goes far beyond simple “health practices” (diet, exercise, etc.) for better health; it teaches how to harness psychological power, and spiritual strength to achieve optimal health in body, mind and spirit. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 1, 2024**, following the 9:00AM Mass in the All Purpose Room. We hope you join us!

Healing Mass

All are welcome to join us for a Healing Mass. We will begin at 6:30PM in the worship area with prayer and reflection. Mass will commence at 7PM followed by Prayers of Healing and Adoration.

Our next Healing Mass will be on April 19th at 6:30PM.

“Did you ever wonder...?”

On the 1st Tuesday of the month we will gather in the APR for a casual gathering to answer your questions about the Faith. Questions can be submitted ahead of time or will be collected as we gather.

Who: Anyone interested in learning more about the faith

What time: 7:00PM – 8:30PM

Where: The All Purpose Room

When: Tuesday, May 6th (Please note there is no meeting in April).

Why: Why not?

Altar Rosary Society

The Society's Mission is “to sustain the beauty and sanctity of our Church and to increase devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary by promoting true Christian Charity, love of God, Neighbor, and Catholic Family Life.” **Our next meeting will be on April 6th after the 9:00 am Mass** and recitation of the Rosary. Meetings last about one hour in the All Purpose Room. Our membership is open to all Catholic Women and Men of our Parish. Please come to any of our monthly meetings to meet us.

Baby Shower



The Altar Rosary Society will be hosting our annual Baby Shower for mothers in crises. All baby items collected will go to The Sisters of Life. Please drop off any new baby item to our commons area until **March 20th**. Unfortunately, the sisters can only accept new items and cannot accept furniture.

HOPE For the Homebound Ministry

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

We are reaching out to parishioners who may be alone, homebound, and unable to participate in our Church Community. If you are homebound, or know of someone who is homebound, and would like to receive the Eucharist or just a friendly visit or call from one of our parishioners, please call the parish office to make arrangements.

Let's Get Together and Pray

Meetings take place on Mondays at 7:00PM. Our prayer group is open to anyone who is searching for answers and looking to pray as a community. **Please note: we will not be meeting between March 25th – April 15th.**

For more information, please contact Kim at kim@churchofepiphany.org.

Celiac Sprue Parishioners

The parish provides a low gluten (<0.01% gluten content) host for those who are gluten-intolerant. Parishioners should see the Deacon or Priest prior to the beginning of Mass in order to be included in the reception of the Eucharist.

Power & Purpose Conference

Join the Church of Epiphany at the Power and Purpose Conference on **June 14-16** at Franciscan University of Steubenville. Experience the Holy Spirit's power and healing! Allow him to reveal the purpose of your life: to live in true freedom and joy of the Spirit. Early Bird Registration Rate until April 4th \$185, Regular rate \$205. Flyer with more information can be found in our commons area. Or contact kim@churchofepiphany.org for more information.

STEWARDSHIP



Time ♣ Talent ♣ Treasure

*****Our Current Collection*****

Your continued generosity is most appreciated!

March 10, 2024

Total weekly collection: \$5003.00 / Online: \$806.00

Catholic Relief: \$513.00

Needed to meet the budget: \$8363.00

Our 2024 Annual Appeal – Goal \$30,000

Our 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal has begun.
Look for mailing information in the commons area.



Annual Appeal Explanation

The Annual Catholic Appeal mission remains the same as it was when it began; to financially empower the Church to serve all the people of God, regardless of belief. What's different today: the needs are greater than ever before. For more information visit the Diocese website: <http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/catholicappeal/>

Year-End Tax Contribution Statements



Statements will be issued upon request by emailing Carol at Carol@churchofepiphany.org or calling the Parish office at 732-458-0220.

For those who give online. You can process your tax statements directly from ParishSoft. Go to "My Online Giving History", click print, select the time period, and then select *detail report*. This report satisfies IRS regulations for charitable contributions.

Why Should I use weekly envelopes? The use of envelopes is important, they document your active participation in the faith life of our parish. This information is needed in order to obtain a Letter of Eligibility to be issued when you are asked to be a baptism or confirmation sponsor. This also facilitates the preparation of a statement of contributions for income tax purpose.

If you do not currently participate in our envelope system and would like to start using them, please contact the Parish Office at 732-458-0220.

Online Giving

If you prefer to pay bills and manage your finances online, you can set up an account and make your parish offering online via our website. You will be able to specify exactly how much you are giving, how you are giving it (credit card or bank withdrawal), to what fund you are giving, and when/how often you would like to contribute. It's safe and secure, and you can even track your giving history and pledge progress at any time. Just click the Online Giving button (on the home page or the Online Giving page) to get started or access your existing account. *Please note: Special Holidays/days of Holy Obligation Donations may be set up separately.*

If you have questions about the security of online giving or the processes involved, check out the Online Giving FAQ page on our website: churchofepiphany.org

Ways to Perpetuate a Memory or Commemorate an Event

The Tree of Life: This is a way to perpetuate the memory of a loved one or to memorialize someone. To make a donation of \$500 for an engraved leaf or \$2500 for a stone, please contact the parish office staff at 732-458-0220 or email carol@churchofepiphany.org

Commemorative Bricks: This is an ideal way to commemorate a graduation, wedding, special family celebration, or acknowledge a love one. To order one of the two bricks (4X8" or 8X8) and make a donation of \$150 or \$200, please contact the parish office staff at 732-458-0220 or email carol@churchofepiphany.org

Bequests

We are a tax-exempt non-profit Organization and gratefully accept donations from last will and testament and/or stock to assist in carrying out our mission. For more information on how to have your wishes known, please talk to your personal banking representative. May God Bless you for your generosity!

Vigil Candles

Candles will be in honor or memory of the named individual for one week (Sunday to Saturday) and announced in our bulletin and displayed at candle. Donation is \$10. Please come to the parish office to see dates available dates.

Spiritual Bouquet

A Spiritual Bouquet is a spiritual blessing that is made for a loved one during the First Friday Mass of the month. In addition, their name will be printed in the bulletin. You can also request a card. Donation is \$10

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The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which adults who would like to become Catholic, or Catholic adults who would like to receive all of their Sacraments are able to do so. If you would like more information about the process, feel free to reach out to Kim at Kim@churchofepiphany.org or contact the parish office.

Homily Reflection Books

Homily Reflections: Each student must write 14 Homily Reflections as follows: A minimum of 9 Masses throughout the year as well as 3 Mandatory Masses together with Christmas and Easter Masses. (*Minimum Total of 14 Homily Reflections.*) This is not saying you only have to attend Mass 14 times a year. Sundays are a Holy Day of Obligation and Practicing Catholics are required to attend weekly Mass and all Holy Days.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our youngest parishioners are invited to join us every Sunday, at the 10:30 Mass in the APR for the Children's Liturgy of the Word. It's open to ages 4 through Second Grade. No need to pre-register or sign up. If you have any questions, please leave a message with the Church office.

Religious Education Volunteers Needed!

The Religious Education Department is looking for a teacher & 2 aides for the Summer program. The program is tentatively scheduled to run from June 24-28, 2024. 1st-4th grades will be held from 8:45AM-1:00PM & 5th - 8th will be held from 2:00PM-6:15PM. We need a 5th grade teacher and aides for 5th & 7th grades. Teachers will receive a \$50 per child discount on their tuition and Aides receive a \$30 per child discount. If you are interested, please email Kelly in the Religious Ed office.

myParish App

Stay up-to-date with what is going on in your parish throughout the week. Enjoy many useful faith-building resources and features to complement our daily faith life, such as, Confessions and prayer time reminders, daily Mass readings, quick access to parish contacts, receive MASSMode reminders to silence your phone before Mass, and much more.

Gift Auction ~ Donations

This year's gift auction will be here before you know it! Please consider picking up an item to donate, don't know what to buy we can always use gift cards. Please make sure all items are new with the tags still attached. Donations can be dropped off to the parish office. **And don't forget to save the date: October 19th!**

Helping Hands

Our Food Pantry is located in the Parish Hall, the small white church, on the corner of Herbertsville Road and Thiele Road in Brick. Food Pantry hours are Saturday from 10AM – 1PM and Monday from 10AM – Noon.

Below is the list of items needed for the Helping Hands food pantry:

Most Needed

- *Juice/Drinks
- *Fresh Fruit/Vegetables
- *Cooking Oil
- *Pasta Sauce (Jars)
- *Meat/Chicken/Pork/Hamburgers
- *Butter
- *Fish
- *Snacks
- *Applesauce
- *Cheese
- *Pancake Mix
- *Eggs
- *Oatmeal/Sweet Oatmeal
- *Brown Rice
- *Condensed Soup
- *Coffee
- *Frozen Vegetables
- *Assorted Canned Beans
- *Assorted Dried Beans
- *Tea
- *Tomato Sauce

In January, Helping Hands helped 265 families / 1429 people with Food.

Easter Dinner Baskets

Helping Hands is looking for individuals or small groups to donate an Easter dinner for a family in need, or if you want to donate a ham, pork roast or turkey breast, we will make up the basket with all the trimmings. Please contact the parish office to sign up. It will be necessary to bring the donations to the Parish Hall on Wednesday, March 27th between 8 & 10AM, client pick up is from 10AM-2PM. **Thank you for caring and sharing.**

Thank you to everyone who purchased a calendar raffle! The drawings will take place every Tuesday for 12 weeks (until March 26th). Winners do not need to be present; we will call you if you are our lucky winner.

- Week 1 winning ticket # 12
 - Week 2 winning ticket # 318
 - Week 3 winning ticket # 300
 - Week 4 winning ticket # 307
 - Week 5 winning ticket # 380
 - Week 6 winning ticket #187
 - Week 7 winning ticket #329
 - Week 8 winning ticket #303
 - Week 9 winning ticket #107
 - Week 10 winning ticket #11
- Congratulations!



*We wish
to see Jesus*



Gospel: John 12:20-33

Jesus was afraid of the suffering he knew he must face. Yet he explained just as a grain of wheat must die to be harvested, he had to face his hour of suffering to glorify his Father's name. Jesus explained that once he was lifted from earth, he could draw all people to himself, lifting them to eternal life.

"Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip... and asked him, 'Sir, we would like to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew. Philip and Andrew went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.'"

If you asked someone 'would you like to see Jesus?', surely the reply would be 'Yes, but where can I find Him today?' The answer is clear, as we have Him present in the Blessed Sacrament, in the gift of grace and all the sacraments. The church is our sacrament of encounter with God.

How many people need us to be the Philip, the Andrew; to point out and bring them to Jesus. Jesus is present in the face of those in need, and we are to be the face of Jesus for them. May this be our task as our Lent will soon draw to a close.

Trip to Sight & Sound Theatre

The Church of Epiphany Altar Rosary Society is hosting a bus trip to Sight & Sound Theatre to see DANIEL. The trip will be on November 16th and cost \$190 per person. The bus will leave the Epiphany parking lot at 7:30-AM to see the 11AM show. Cost of the trip includes bus transportation, Hershey Farm Grand Smorgasbord, and ticket to see DANIEL. For more information email: Seasonal615@gmail.com. Please make check payable to "Church of Epiphany Altar Rosary Society."



John Kearns Scholarship

John Kearns was a man who dedicated his life to assisting others, always willing to share his time and perform charitable works.

The Knights of Columbus council 8160 will award two \$500 scholarships, one to a current 8th grader who will attend a Catholic High School and the other to a current High School senior going to any college. Information and the application form can be found in the commons area or on our website. Deadline to apply is June 2nd.



The Knights of Columbus council 5160 will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30th for children ages 10 and under. The hunt will take place on the Church of Epiphany grounds at Noon. Please register by March 25th at jbcedeno@comcast.net.



The high school community of Donovan Catholic educates its students to live their faith, respect and serve others in a global society, and pursue academic excellence in a college preparatory environment. Join us at our open house to learn more about the Donovan Difference!

**Tuesday, April 16th
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

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- ✓ **Academic course details**
- ✓ **Student Life and programs**
- ✓ **Meet students, advisors, & teachers**

Register on our Website!



Mega Raffle

Help to support our parish by purchasing tickets for our Mega Raffle. Tickets are \$100 each and only 500 tickets will be sold. 50% of total proceeds will be awarded. No cash alternatives. Potential Prizes are:

- *First Prize – up to \$12,500 (25%)
- *Second Prize - up to \$6250 (12 ½ %)
- *Third Prize – up to \$3750 (7 ½ %)
- *Fourth Prize – up to \$2500 (5%)

Drawing is on November 3, at noon at the Church of Epiphany. The winner need not be present to win. Tickets are available in the parish office or will also be available for purchase at Hospitality Weekends.

Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the US Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church or if know of someone who was, you can report the abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at abuseline@diocesoftrenton.org. The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to the local enforcement authorities.

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Fifth Sunday of Lent | John 12:20-33

In His final days, Jesus reminds us to follow Him. Jesus says, "My Father will honor the one who serves Me". *John 12: 26*

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds". *John 12: 23-24*

Give us New Life, O Lord.

My plan for Lent, one week at a time...

This week I will pray for _____

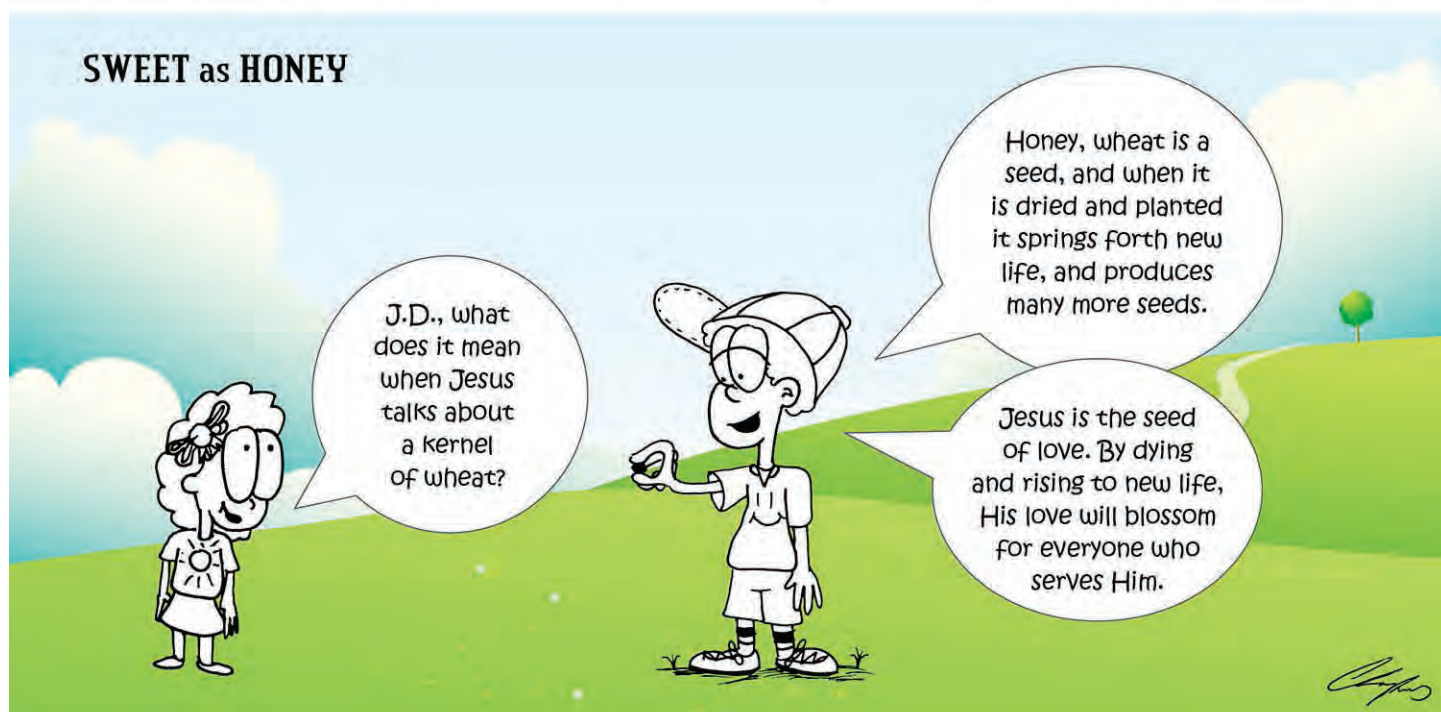
This week I will give up/do without _____

This week I will do this act of love/good deed _____

(Sundays optional)

Lent is almost over - next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week.

SWEET as HONEY



July 1 - 12, 2025

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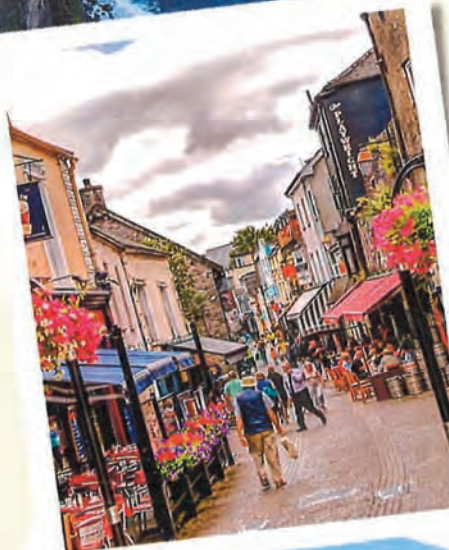
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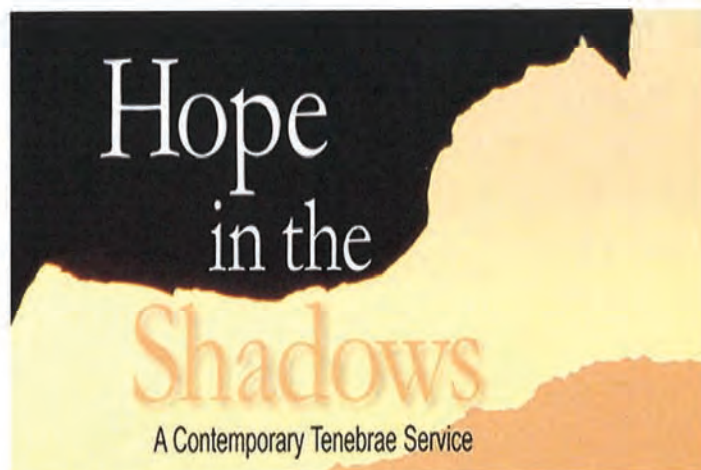


The Epiphany Adult Choir presents:

Hope in the Shadows: A Contemporary Tenebrae Service

Enhance your Lenten season by joining us here at Epiphany, on Tuesday, March 26th at 7:00PM for this special Tenebrae service. *Hope in the Shadows* recalls Christ's journey to the cross by examining the shadows of betrayal, injustice and agony that marked the journey. It contrasts the selfish exploits of humanity with the diving nature of loving God. As you take this sacred journey, may the words of James be a reminder of the hope which is ours:

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. (James 1:17)



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