



Crossings

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✠ EPISCOPAL
875 COTTON STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA
FEBRUARY 14, 2018

Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 9:30 and 11:00 am
Saturday: 5:00 pm

Book Study and Eucharist

Tuesdays during Lent: 11:00 am

Nursery

Sunday
9:45 am – 12:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Sunday: 9:45 am

Sunday School

Sunday: 10:00 am

The Vestry

Reece Middleton, Senior Warden
Ginger Paul, Jr. Warden
Steve Snodgrass, Secretary
Tommie Sue Brooks
Shirley Enani
Maggie Fowle
John Hughes
Anna Grace Madden
Sara Townsend
Monty Walford, Treasurer
(non-vestry)

Contact Information

Telephone: (318) 222-3325
Fax: (318) 681-9506

Email:

office@holycrossshreveport.com

Please visit our website

www.holycrossshreveport.org

Deadline

Material for *Crossings* must be received by **12:00 Wednesday**.

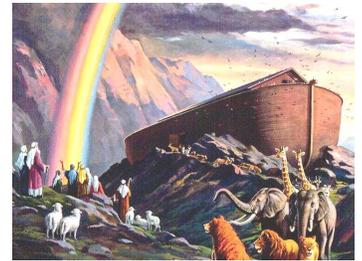
Please send to

lynn.walford@lsus.edu

Covenant: God's Faithfulness

Lessons from the Hebrew Scriptures on Sundays in Lent this year (Year B) focus on "Covenant." God's faithfulness to Israel and to us lies at the heart of our faith and our knowledge of the God we worship. Israel witnesses God's faithfulness in three covenants: the covenant with Noah, the covenant with Abraham, and the covenant at Sinai. Jeremiah prophesies that God will make a "new covenant" with Israel. Christians find in Jesus' giving his blood (the ancient sign of the sealing of a covenant) not a sign but *the essence of the covenant*, "shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins." Tucked into these lessons of covenant, old and new, on the Fourth

Covenant with Noah



Sunday in Lent, is that strange story told in Numbers 21:4-9: God instructs Moses to make a staff with a poisonous snake. Moses holds the bronze staff and snake before the people who have been bitten by poisonous snakes, and they live. This, too, is a story of God's faithfulness in saving God's people.



Covenant with Abraham

The practice of "cutting a covenant" is older than written history. An animal is killed and split in two; the two people making the covenant walk between the parts, which are laid on the ground.

The agreement is this: If I break this covenant, may the same done to this animal be done to me. It was a binding promise, a promise of life and death. The story assigned for Lent 2 doesn't give this account; however, God's promise to Abraham is told again in Genesis. In this story, cutting the covenant is done in Abraham's dream. God instructs Abraham to cut five animals in half and lay them on the ground. God's light passes along the path through the pieces. God's promise is as binding as any made by human beings. In life and death.

Covenant at Sinai



We make covenants today, some bound by promise, some by law. A legal contract is a covenant; a marriage contract is a covenant; a treaty between

The New Covenant



nations is a covenant; a verbal agreement between friends is a covenant; living within the laws of our city, state, and country is a covenant; the promises we make to God in baptism are a covenant. It's hard to imagine the penalty for breaking a modern-day covenant being as severe as being cut into two pieces. However, it may be beneficial for us to consider the seriousness of the agreements we make. It is also good for us to remember the weight of God's commitment in making a covenant with us.

Making a covenant, we assume that both parties agree to follow certain rules and that the covenant is binding as long as both parties are faithful to it. That the commitment made is conditional, in other words. However, in three of the four biblical covenants between God and a person or people, only one bears a condition: the covenant at Sinai, which we know as the Ten Commandments. There is no demand that Abraham or Noah's people or Jesus' followers remain faithful to God. God's faithful, forgiving, unconditional love is forever.

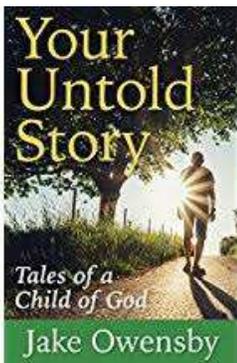
To realize this is almost more than we can bear for more than the moment it takes us to think of it. Even as we try to fulfill our promises to be faithful to God, we know that every day we miss the mark. Jesus' life and death are the essence of God's promise that every time we fall short of keeping our Baptismal Covenant we are forgiven, the board is erased, we start again anew. We do not have to carry the burden of guilt. God's love is forever, in life and in death. It's almost beyond imagining, since we see little love that is so faithful in life.

During Lent we contemplate God's love, and in it our need to be forgiven, to be loved, to be set free. We sink deep into God's faithfulness. It is a faithfulness that will carry Jesus through the humiliation and the trials of Holy Week, the sorrow of Maundy Thursday, the anguish of the cross—and the joy of the Resurrection. God's promise is forever; in life and in death, nothing can come between God and God's beloved Creation.

The Rev. Mary B. Richard

The followers of Christ have been called to peace. . . . And they must not only have peace but also make it. . . . His disciples keep the peace by choosing to endure suffering themselves rather than inflict it on others. They maintain fellowship where others would break it off. They renounce hatred and wrong. In so doing they overcome evil with good, and establish the peace of God in the midst of a world of war and hate.

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in **The Cost of Discipleship***

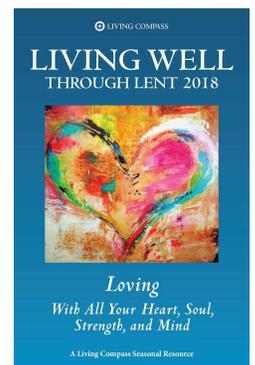


Book Study for Lent

Our Bishop's new book, *Your Untold Story*, is out! It can be ordered from Amazon: \$14.95 paperback, \$12.99 Kindle edition. During Lent we are meeting on **Tuesdays at 11:00 in the Undercroft**. We read the book together, discuss it, and close with Communion. Join us!

It's never too late to begin a Lenten discipline. . . .

Living Well through Lent 2018 booklets of meditations for the days in Lent are available in the Narthex and the Undercroft. A free Kindle edition is also available from Amazon.



Daily Feast: Meditations on the Word, Year B

Louisville: Westminster, John Knox Press, 2012



The First Sunday in Lent February 18, 2018

Genesis 9:8-17 ✎ *Psalm 25:1-9*
1 Peter 3:18-22 ✎ *Mark 1:9-15*

(*Genesis 9:8-17*) The biblical flood narrative is not merely a story of the return to primordial chaos; it also contains a story of deliverance and of relationship with God. God directed Noah . . . to build an ark so that he and his family and some of the animals might escape the punishing waters of the flood. From this small community God then fashioned a new human family and established a covenant with that family and with the world as a whole. This is a story of deliverance and new beginnings.

Dianne Bergant

The Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2018

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 ✎ *Psalm 22:22-30*
Romans 4:13-25 ✎ *Mark 8:31-38*

(*Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16*) The pastoral gift of Genesis 17 is the reminder that at the center of our being rest blessing and promise, naming and covenant. We are followers of the One who established a never-ending covenant with Abraham and brought that covenant to fullness in Jesus Christ. In our baptism we have been given a new name, “disciple of Jesus,” that tells us everything we need to know about ourselves and everything we need to know about God. Through the extravagant grace of God, the life of the Church, and the waters of baptism, the covenant established with Abraham and Sarah has been opened to us. Even in the darkness of Lent and under the shadow of the cross, the promise that God made to Abraham remains: God is our God, and we are God’s people. This is a covenant that cannot be broken, even as we follow the one named Emmanuel, whose destiny is our destiny: the cross, the grave, the skies.

Greg Kocher

Calendar for February and March

Tuesdays during Lent	Book study and Eucharist	11:00 am	Undercroft
Wednesdays during Lent	Soup Days	11:00 am	Undercroft
Saturdays	Holy Eucharist	5:00 pm	Chapel
Sundays	Holy Eucharist	9:20 am	Rose Garden or Chapel (depending on weather)
	Nursery	9:30 am – 12:15 am	Education Building
	Sunday School	10:00 am	Education Building
	Holy Eucharist	11:00 am	Nave
Wednesday, February 21	Vestry meeting	5:30 pm	Undercroft
Thursday, February 22	Stations of the Cross	6:00 pm	Rose Garden or Nave
Thursdays March 8, 22	Stations of the Cross	Time TBA	Rose Garden or Nave
	VOA Eucharist	10:00 am	Nave

Prayer List

Wanda Allen
Debbie Atwood
Michael Atwood
Michael Breedlove
Tommy Breedlove
Cary Rhea Brooks
Evelyn Corley
Hugh Coyle

Ron Dean
Shirley Enani
Floyd "Buzzy" Farrar
Ed Finuf
Peter Flowers
Christine Hennigan
Barbara Hughes
Homer Hughes
Kenneth Jordan

Flo Little
Mim McCoy
Jim McCranie
Allison Moncla
Jim Santa Ana
Brady Sessions
Tommy Simrall
Jack Theurkauf

Sonny Thomas
Robert Todd
Sara Townsend
Bill Wright
Larry Wright
Mary Wright
Sheryl Wright

We pray for those who serve and are served by the Martin Luther King Health Center;

For refugees fleeing disaster, war and famine and hoping for a new life;

for the people of our country, that we may work with renewed purpose to overcome our fears and prejudices; for law enforcement officers and the people they serve; for people in all places where there is war and fear, and for those who seek peace; and for the leaders and the people of our country, that a spirit of hospitality and respect for all people may lead us to enact laws that serve those who are most vulnerable.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, Ph.D, DD (Joy); for the Bishop's Staff: the Rev. Canon William Bryant (Judith), the Very Rev. Ronald Clingenpeel, the Rev. George Gennuso (Grace), the Rev. Liz Ratcliff (Robert), Kathy Richey (David), Holly Davis, Joy Owensby (+Jake), Bob Harwell (Maryse), Archdeacon Bette Jo Kauffman; for Deacons: Polly Anderson, André Bordelon (Rose), Lois Maberry (Ron), Kay Hunter, Don Leger (Jeanette), Madge McLain, Diane Moore, Belle Rollins; for the Standing Committee; and for the Diocesan Council.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa, the Most Rev. Albert Chama, Archbishop of Central Africa and Bishop of Northern Africa; and for Iglesia Anglicana de la Región Central de América, the Most Rev. Sturdie Downs, Primate of IARCA and Bishop of Nicaragua.

Give us humility, God, to remember that we are made from dirt, so that we might till the dirt and love it as we love ourselves.

Adapted from The Book of Common Prayer

Say Ministries

The First Sunday of Lent February 18, 2018

Sun. 11:00 am:

Lectors: Melissa Fowle, Reid Raymond

Prayers of the People: Herschel Richard

Eucharistic Ministers: Kendall Raymond, Monty Walford

Acolyte: Hannah Wallace

Ushers: Tommie Sue Brooks, Gerry Brooks

Altar Guild Sat. 5:00 pm: June Kirkland, Margaret Heacock

Altar Guild Sun. 11:00 am: Tommie Sue Brooks, Ginger Paul

The Second Sunday of Lent February 25, 2018

Sun. 11:00 am:

Lectors: Ginger Paul, David Richard

Prayers of the People: Steve Snodgrass

Eucharistic Ministers: Monty Walford, Herschel Richard

Acolytes: Herschel Richard, Joe Bob Evanson

Ushers: Becky Snodgrass, Steve Snodgrass

Altar Guild Sat. 5:00 pm: June Kirkland, Margaret Heacock

Altar Guild Sun. 11:00 am: Becky Snodgrass

Lay Ministers Needed

Is God calling you into a new kind of ministry? Serving in worship and in preparation for worship are among the most rewarding ways you can give for the life of the church. We are finding ourselves “short-handed” in a few areas. Here are some ways you might pray to see if you would like to serve:

Altar Guild: Prepare the altar and Communion vessels before the service, wash and tidy up afterwards. Altar Guild members work in pairs, as a rule. Training is provided.

Ushers: Greet people as they come into the Narthex, hand out service leaflets, take up the offering, take the bread and wine to the altar for Communion. Ushers work in pairs.

Lectors: Read the lessons and Prayers of the People during the worship service. Training is provided.

Eucharistic Ministers: Serve the Chalice during Communion; assist Acolytes in clearing the vessels away after Communion. Training is provided.

Acolytes: Lead the procession, carrying torches and the Cross; clear away vessels after Communion. Training is provided.



New ministers will be given all the training necessary and will serve with a “seasoned” minister until they are comfortable. We are really in need of Altar Guild members, Ushers, and Acolytes! Please consider seriously these ministries and call Mary, 222-3325, if you feel a tug at your heart to serve in a new way. Thank you for all you do to make Holy Cross the wonderful place it is!



Service Music

The First Sunday in Lent: February 18

Mass:	Merbecke S 153 <i>Christ our Passover</i> Ambrosian Chant; adapt. Martens
Psalm 25:1-9:	Responsorial Plainsong; adapt. B.P.
Anthem:	<i>Lord, who throughout these forty days</i> Anon., English; arr. R. Shephard
Solo:	<i>This is our accepted time</i> Vulpius; arr. Nieland
Hymns:	150 Aus der Tiefe rufe ich 142 St. Flavian 143 Erhalt uns, Herr
Organ:	<i>Prière</i> C. Franck <i>Meditation (Symphony I)</i> and <i>Prelude (Symphony 3)</i> Widor

The Second Sunday in Lent: February 25

Mass:	Merbecke S 153 <i>Christ, our Passover</i> Ambrosian Chant; adapt. Martens
Psalm 22:22-30	Metrical setting; text, Christopher L. Webber; tune, <i>Erhalt uns, Herr</i>
Anthem:	<i>Wondrous Love</i> Anon., British tune, pre-1701; arr. A. Clarke
Hymns:	675 Bourbon 328 (1-3) Song 46 401 Leoni
Organ:	<i>Aria (Symphony VI)</i> Vierne <i>Elevation I, Op. 32</i> Dupré <i>Fugue in C minor</i> Duruflé

Holy Cross on YouTube



Our parish now has a YouTube account, and there are already videos to see and to welcome the world to our parish. Two separate playlists—Sermons and Music—will be set up, and the account will be updated regularly. Be sure to check back for new videos.

Our YouTube homepage is
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYOElso6Ycy/MZb2lvYUUA>.

Obviously, the above link is a bit tedious to type. If you read *Crossings* electronically, you should be able to click on the above link and be taken to the YouTube page automatically.

Another option, particularly for those who read paper copies of *Crossings*, is to go to the Holy Cross webpage: <http://holycrossshreveport.com/>. On this page is an embedded introductory video. Press the *play* button. You should then see the YouTube text at the bottom right of the video. Click on this text. This should take you to the current video. To see all of our videos, click on the circular picture of Holy Cross' bell tower. This will take you to our YouTube homepage, which show all of the available videos.

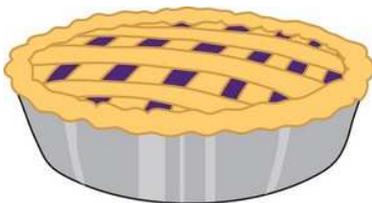
You can also google *YouTube Church of the Holy Cross Shreveport*, or go to YouTube and search *Church of the Holy Cross Shreveport*.

Soup Days during Lent

For many years the Holy Cross ECW has hosted Soup Days during the seasons of Lent and Advent. Lent is here, and so are this year's Soup Days. Holy Cross members, friends, neighbors, and people from all over the community come to the Undercroft to enjoy a delicious lunch of vegetable beef soup, crackers, homemade dessert, and water—all for the bargain price of \$5.00. All proceeds go to the various community ministries sponsored by the ECW.

To help make Soup Days more of a success than ever, we need your help! You can make vegetable beef soup to add to the pot, or you can donate homemade pies or cakes. If cooking and baking aren't your forte, please consider helping serve our guests. Soup Days will be held on:

Wednesdays, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
February 21, 28, and March 7, 14, 21



Welcome to Holy Cross, Donna Neal!

One of the newest members of Holy Cross is Donna Neal. Donna grew up in Mer Rouge, Louisiana, and graduated from LSU. She later moved to California, and received her Master's Degree in Public Administration with a focus on Health Care Administration from Golden State University in San Francisco. She also joined the Air Force, and was stationed in San Antonio.

Donna has two sons of whom she is very proud. Paul is on the faculty of the California Institute of the Arts in Santa Clarita, and Matthew is an attorney in San Francisco.

Donna was raised a Methodist, and began attending the Episcopal church as a young adult. When she returned to Louisiana in 2013, she began looking for a church and attended several before discovering Holy Cross. She says that as she stepped into the Narthex for the first time, she was struck by the warm welcome she received from the ushers. As she sat in the pew before the service, she read our Mission Statement in the service leaflet and was impressed by what it says. She adds that she was even more impressed to learn through observation that "Holy Cross definitely lives its mission."

Before returning to Louisiana, Donna was already active in her church, serving as acolyte, lector, and Eucharistic visitor. She is also a member of Daughters of the King. One of her favorite activities, however, is her volunteer work as a driver for Meals on Wheels, since in both her professional and personal life she has always loved working with elderly people.

If you see Donna at church or at *The Continuing Feast*, please welcome her and let her know how much we value people with her energy and talents.



Our Community Garden

Several years ago we partnered with the Occupational Therapy class at the LSU Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, along with Donna Earnest and her neighborhood ministry, to begin a community garden on land we own on Tally Alley behind the Education Building. Holy Cross had the woods cleared, and the OT class and neighbors planted and tended the garden. Our neighbors continue to harvest healthy vegetables and enjoy them for meals, although not many of them are consistently involved in gardening. We believe that this is one of our most helpful ministries to and with our neighbors.

However, Donna, who manages Hope House on weekdays and leads a Bible class with neighbors on Saturdays, has her plate overloaded and has had to discontinue her work in the garden. The OT students are active when their classes are in session, but there are gaps when they are not available.

WE NEED PEOPLE TO CARRY ON THE GARDEN!

If you love to garden, or even if you would just like to help with watering, please call Mary at 222-3325. This is a ministry that gives visible gratification, as well as the satisfaction of knowing our neighbors are eating a little healthier than they would without the availability of fresh, delicious produce.



Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal
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E-mail: office@holycrossshreveport.com

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Return Service Requested

Mission Statement: *The Church of the Holy Cross, Shreveport, Louisiana, strives to be the presence of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond, through worship of Almighty God, open inquiry, sharing fellowship, valued diversity, genuine inclusiveness, and servant leadership—encouraging all to exercise God's gifts and calling as we share the Gospel of Hope in programs, to serve without regard for religious affiliation, race, or economic status.*

Hope House: There is an ongoing need for coffee, sugar, creamer, laundry detergent, disposable razors, and personal size hygiene products (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.). Please take your donations to 762 Austen Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

Forward Day by Day for **February** and **March**, in both standard and large-print editions, is available in the Narthex and the Undercroft.



The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ph.D.
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jacob Owensby, Ph.D., D. D.
The Rev. Mary B. Richard
The Rev. Sally M. Fox
The Rev. Kenneth W. Paul
The Rev. Donald D. Heacock
Mr. Bruce Power
Mr. Ron Dean
Mrs. Laurie Connell
Mr. Charles Alford

XXVII Presiding Bishop
IV Bishop of Western Louisiana
Rector
Assisting Priest
Rector Emeritus
Director, Holy Cross Child Placement
Organist-Choirmaster
Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus
Office Administrator
Sexton