

St. Michael's Messenger

April 20, 2025 – Easter Sunday



The Rector's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Michael's,

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

Tonight, we begin to go deeper into Holy Week. It has been a joy to see folks at our services on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter are really one service – but in three parts. This year, we will have our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. Perhaps one day, we will even add a Vigil, which takes place after sunset on the Saturday before Easter Sunday. Pardon Fr. Dan for getting ahead of himself...

Back to this year... Maundy Thursday is the commemoration of Jesus giving his disciples (and subsequent disciples like us) his new commandment that we to love as he has loved. He shows this love by washing the feet of disciples. We will have a foot washing tonight. Remember, it is strictly voluntary, and yes, we will wash both feet. Finally, tonight, we will strip the Altar as we hear Psalm 22 being read. Listen to those words and think of Christ's betrayal and his body on The Cross. The beauty of our Nave and Altar are laid bare to ready us for Good Friday. The final piece of tonight will be the Procession of the Reserved Sacrament from the Nave to a quiet place so Christ's presence can rest and we can visit that place for prayer and reflection.

Tomorrow, we will gather at noon for the Good Friday Service. There is no Communion on this day. We will have a Passion Narrative, time to venerate the Cross, and we will pray the Solemn Collections. At 6 PM, we will have our Stations of the Cross service. All are welcome to come to both services.

On Sunday, we will have one service at 10:30 AM. Having penned this article while the choir was practicing, Sunday's music will be glorious. Please come and share in the joy in celebrating Christ's Resurrection. We will renew our Baptismal Vows, just as we did on All Saints Sunday. Yes, I will aspurge the congregation – reminding us all of our new lives in Jesus Christ. Again, Holy Week is a great time to invite people to church. Let the Holy Spirit inspire us all to invite people to attend. As reminder, Good Friday's offering has a special purpose. The offering for that day only will go to assist The Church in the Middle East. This has been the tradition of The Episcopal Church for just over one hundred years. For more information, including reading our Presiding Bishop's Letter concerning the Good Friday Offering, please click here. In the Parish Hall, you can find a poster with information as well. In love, let us be generous in our giving to this most worthy cause.

Have a great week and I will see you at church! There are still plenty of opportunities. Please come and please invite others (and come with them).

Faithfully, Fr. Dan

Remaining Holy Week Schedule of Services

Thursday, April 17, 6 PM Maundy Thursday: Service of Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of Altar, and Procession of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, April 18, 12 PM Good Friday: Passion Narrative (Gospel of John), Veneration of the Cross, and Solemn Collects 6 PM Stations of the Cross

Sun., April 20, 10:30 AM Easter Sunday Service: Holy Eucharist, with Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Easter Seasonal Blessing (No 8:30 AM Service)

April 21, 22, and 25 Church Office is closed

MASTER SCHEDULE: Tia is putting the Master Schedule together for the next part of 2025. If you are a server and know of dates that you cannot serve from May through August, please email that information to <u>office@stmec.org</u>.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: We will have the Stations on Good Friday at 6 PM.

APRIL MEET 'n' EAT: Will be Thursday, April 24 @ 6:00 PM. It will be held at West End Supper Club, 413 W. Main St. in the Silos. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and join us for great food and fellowship.

MAY ECM MEETING: The men will meet Thursday, May 8, for a Mexican feast. A social will begin at 6:30 and dinner at 7pm. Please sign-up on the ECM bulletin board, so we know how much food to purchase. The cost will be split among those attending



BUT SUNDAY'S COMING

CALENDAR

	04/17	6:00	Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist
	04/18	12:00	Good Friday: Passion Narrative
	04/18	6:00	Stations of the Cross
	04/20	10:30	Easter Sunday Service (Only One Service)
	04/21		Church Office Closed
	04/22		Church Office Closed
	04/24	6:00	April Meet 'n' Eat
	04/25		Church Office Closed
	04/27	9:30	DOK Meeting
	04/30	11:00	Mid-Week Healing service
	04/30	4:30	Choir Practice
	05/07	11:00	Mid-Week Healing service
	05/07	4:30	Choir Practice
	05/08	6:30	ECM Cinco De Mayo Social
	05/11		Happy Mother's Day!
	05/11	11:30	Finance Meeting
	05/14	11:00	Mid-Week Healing service
	05/14	4:00	Choir Practice
	05/15	6:00	Vestry Meeting
	05/18	9:30	DOK Meeting
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ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Reverend Daniel A. Wagner, Rector

Tia LaMance, Church Administrator Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am-2pm; Tuesday 9am-12pm 1200 Powdersville Road, Easley, SC 29642 ◆ 864-859-6296 Web: www.stmec.org ◆ Email: <u>office@stmec.org</u>



APRIL

- Baker Cleveland
- 2 Christopher Borowski
 - Ellie Cook

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- 4 Ethel Lawler
- 6 Jean Jordan
- 9 JoAnn Hicks
- 19 Catherine Borowski
- 26 Michael Pulley

May God Bless You On Your Birthday!!

SERVING SUNDAY 04/20/25

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dainel A. Wagner Organist & Choirmaster: Nancy Owens Special Musician: Susan Wallace Guest Organist: Stan Hinton Altar Guild: Valarie Burgin & Teri Swann Eucharistic Minister: Sarah Mikell Lector: Libby Carman Verger: Tom McCabe Crucifer: John Dickey Torch Bearers: Summer Robbins & Ethan Carroll Banner Bearer: Robert Borowski Greeter: Rick Parnell & Teri Swann Vestry Open-up Church: Robert Pinkston Vestry Lock-up Church: Ellie Cook