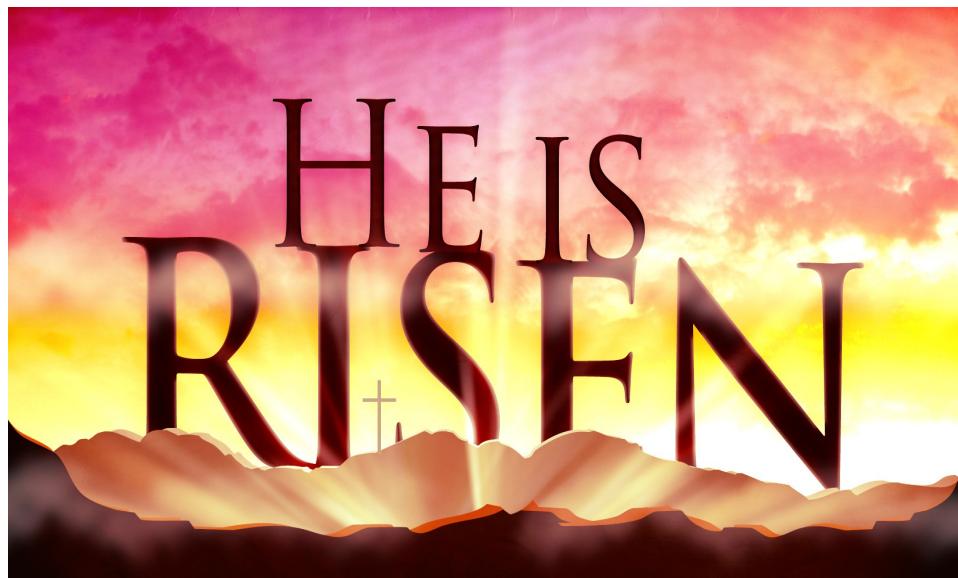


The Piper

April 2019



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A Message from our Priest In Charge...

Fellow Parishioners:

Hey – Where did March go?

It appears, the first half of Lent has flown by, probably because so much has been going on. We've had Pancake Supper, Ash Wednesday, St. Patrick's Day, Lenten Soup Suppers, and Bishop Mary's visit or something almost every week. Now to April with a slow down in the rains, the blossoming of blossoms, and oh yeah for us Holy Week and Easter. Easter is late this year because of the way the Church and not Astronomy calculates Spring. According to the science of it the Vernal Equinox was on March 20th and there was a full moon on that date. So, if we were scientific Easter would have been on the 24th this year. The Church has never been accused of being scientific, so they don't calculate

Spring they just say it starts on March 21st. The first full moon after March 21st is April 19th and so Easter is the Sunday following that or the 21st. I bet you are all glad I made that clear for you, heh-heh.



Photo submitted by Judyth Suttle

The slate for the new Bishop has been announced and the election process will be happening in early June. The candidates profiles are on the Diocesan website for everyone to check out. Please try and at least look at the candidates and if you have a preference let me and or our Lay delegates to the Episcopal election convention know so that your voice is heard. Janet and Ed Butler are our delegates to the Bishop's election convention.

Here is a reminder to the upcoming Easter and Holy Week

liturgies. We will have a Holy Thursday service at 5:30 on April 18th with the washing of the feet and stripping the altar. Our Good Friday Stations of the Cross will be at noon on Friday the 19th. The Church will be dark Holy Saturday and we will have a Sunrise Easter Vigil Service at 6:00 AM on Easter morning and then our Easter Service at 10:00 AM Easter day April 21st.

We continue with our Lenten theme for the next three weeks of trying to do at least one selflessly loving thing each week in your interactions with others. This can be a stranger or someone close to you. The intent is to open yourself to the love of the Holy Spirit and then share that with another through some action, being mindful of both the action and the moment before the action. God is present in the here and now. The Holy Spirit is at work in our lives always and we can be open to experiencing it. This Lent it is not about denying oneself but about opening oneself to the love God gives us to share.

Blessings, I am happy to be and remain:
 Yours in Christ
 Rob+

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Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 14	8am & 10am Palm Sunday
Wednesday, April 17	5:15pm Evening Prayer
Thursday, April 18	5:30pm Maundy Thursday-service with foot washing
Friday, April 19	12 noon Good Friday-Stations of the Cross-Church will be open all day
Sunday, April 21	6am-Sunrise Easter Vigil 10am-Choral Eucharist

Shrove Tuesday & St. Patrick's Day Dinner



Masquerade? The white collar
was a giveaway!

*Photos submitted by Janet Butler, Sharon
Fishel and Steve LaFever*

Thoughts from the Junior Warden

Are we good people?

One of the great quests in this world is the quest for meaning. Does life have meaning? Is life absurd? Is this a play and we are puppets? Does it really matter? These and similar questions have plagued us since the dawn of civilization. I want to approach these questions with an examination of what we do with our life. A mythological character named Sisyphus was being punished by Zeus. His punishment was to roll this huge rock to the top of the hill. While he slept at night the rock rolled back down the hill and he had to repeat this task for eternity. Are we, like Sisyphus, rolling rocks up a hill each day and find meaning in that task? Or, instead of rolling rocks, do we create meaning in our lives?



In the latter part of the Gospel of Matthew, there are three parables of judgement. Each one emphasizes a particular act of judgement; but all center around one truth. The judgement is not upon those who have committed some positive wrong, but upon those who have done nothing at all.

In the parable of the ten virgins, five were called foolish and are condemned for not providing themselves with oil for their lamps. In the parable of the talents, the man with one talent is not condemned because he only possessed one talent, but because he did nothing with it. Finally, in the parable of the great assize, the souls on the left are condemned not because they had committed some grievous wrong, but because they done no works of mercy. In all three parables, the condemnation is on those people who were good . . . but good for nothing.

As we get older, we may look back and think we were good people. We did no harm to anyone. We didn't stray too far from the path. In some respects, we were like Sisyphus. We rolled that rock up that hill each morning. We did what we were supposed to do, we were good. However, we also come to realize

that it is what we didn't do which causes discomfort and doubt. We were good; but were we good for something?

Jesus often quarreled with the Pharisees. His quarrel had nothing to do with their morality. They were morally excellent. They didn't harm anyone, but neither did they help. They were good for nothing. People who are guilty of a wrong often have spurts of conscience that urge them to reform. Our conscience refuses to rest; it goads and pricks at our psyche and more than often wins.

This is important. Those who have a goodness of respectability and decency often find their consciences lulled to sleep and become smug and self-satisfied. Like the Pharisees, they are not conscious of any particular need. They are good people. Christianity asks: good for what? Sadly, life does not permit us to look back and change things. It only allows us to look back and adjust our path forward. It is much easier to see positive wrong than negative goodness! We can all see the mistake we made (we remember them all too well), but we have trouble examining the void in our goodness.

Is there meaning in life? There is if we are able to create it. The task of creating meaning is both individual and collective. We can both help ourselves and help others. Meaning does not spring up from on high, it comes from our own core of existence. It emanates from our own consciousness, it stems from our own passions. We, in life, can either nurture that creativity or extinguish it and become those who roll rocks up hills. The meaningfulness in our lives has to be birthed by each of us in our own way. The result is action. It is doing something in our world that entails more than just being a good person. It involves risk, living the Gospel of loving one another and reaching out to others, speaking up for injustice, and having respect for all people! I, for one, want to be good for something . . . and not end up being good for nothing.

.....
“I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older; then it dawned on me – they’re cramming for their final exam.” – **George Carlin**
.....

Art and Poetry Corner

UNPREDICTABLE

by Donna Brough

Spring comes
With sweet breath
Wearing pretty blossoms in her hair

She showers us with benevolent rain

She twirls swiftly about
Prancing and stomping in the muddy puddles
She has wrought, noisily blowing

Before quietly leaving again



April Birthdays

2	Ed Butler	18	Sheryl Mello
5	Luke Banke	19	Ian Holtzclaw
6	Sharon Fishel	22	Susan ValdedeRuten
11	Donna Brough	24	Kaelyn Caprino
14	Barbara Banke	26	Hyacinth Bevan
16	Pauline Syres	27	Joan McVay

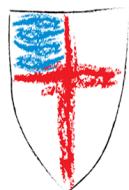
Farewell

On Sunday, March 24th, Bishop Mary joined us to celebrate the Eucharist one last time before she leaves the office of Bishop of the El Camino Real Diocese. As in past visits, Bishop Mary's sermon was a blend of humor and straight forward talk. The message was honest and heartfelt.



Following the service there was a lovely reception held in our parish hall in her honor. She answered the question of "where are you going, and what will you be doing?" More specifics on that topic will be publically announced in the coming months.

Thank you to all that helped with the reception and service, and thank you, Bishop Mary, for all you have done for our diocese! *Photos submitted by Judyth Suttle*



101 Reasons to be Episcopalian

Reason 97

Where a woman's place is in the House of Bishops.

anonymous



WALKABOUT

There are 5 candidates who will be doing a “Walkabout” in our Diocese the week of May 5, 2019. The Monterey Deanery Walkabout will be Wednesday, May 8 at 6:15 PM. Location TBD.

There are 2 requests from the committee.

1. Questions for the candidates
2. Volunteers for: set-up & take down, hospitality, refreshments and IT/communications.

Your delegates for the election of the new bishop are Ed and Janet Butler. The election will be on June 1, 2019. (*More information forth coming*) Ed & Janet are requesting any question you may want asked of the candidate be submitted to your delegates by April 21, 2019.

If you would like to help with the dinner, registration table, hospitality, let your delegates know. All parish members are welcomed to attend the Walkabout. RSVP's are needed.

(Along King's Highway will have registration info)

All parish members welcome on June 1 for Holy Eucharist prior to the election but will be asked to retire for election process.

Any questions you may have, please contact Ed and Janet Butler at: edwill54@att.net (Ed) or hermph54@gmail.com





Earth Day

Pledge to Care for Creation taking off across Church

1,000 pledges sought by Earth Day, April 22

Reprinted from www.episcopalchurch.org/ edited for space.

[March 29, 2019] Episcopalians and friends concerned about all of God's creation are joining Presiding Bishop Michael Curry in pledging to take action to protect and renew God's world and all who call it home. The goal is to gather at least 1,000 pledges with concrete, personal commitments by Earth Day, April 22.

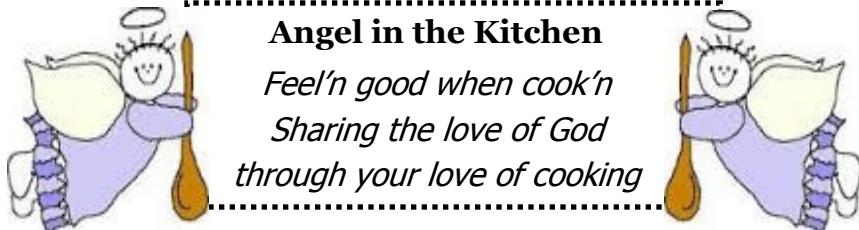
As Bishop Curry noted, "Many of us are ready to pledge and help to care for God's creation. Like the Bible said, God so loved the world that he gave his only son. That means the real world: all of us and all of it. And this is one way we can participate in helping to care for God's creation. This is dear and near to my heart and the heart of God."

The three overarching elements of both the vision and the pledge - loving, liberating, and life-giving - arise directly from the call to live as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement and as people who live the Way of Love:

LOVING: We will share our stories of love and concern for the Earth and link with others who care about protecting the sacred web of life.

LIBERATING: We will stand with those most vulnerable to the harmful effects of environmental degradation and climate change – women, children, poor people and communities of color, refugees, migrants.

LIFE-GIVING: We will change our habits and choices in order to live more simply, humbly and gently on the Earth. Learn more about the ministry of Creation Care in The Episcopal Church at www.episcopalchurch.org/creation.



How to Make Your Own Natural Easter Egg Dyes

Skip the store and head straight to your fridge.

What you'll need: Rubber Gloves, Strainer, White Vinegar, Pot, Water

For all eggs:

The general procedure for all the dyes is the same, except for the silver color. Combine 1 quart water and 2 tablespoons white vinegar in a medium pot. Bring that to a boil, add your dye ingredients, lower the heat, and simmer for 30 minutes. Let the dye cool and strain it before adding your eggs.

For yellow:

Add 3 tablespoons turmeric to the boiling water. Be careful! Turmeric is notorious for staining your skin so you might want to put your rubber gloves to use!

For pink:

Add 4 cups of chopped beets. Don't worry if your eggs look more brown than pink at first. After drying, these eggs will be a pretty, pastel shade.

For blue:

Add 3 cups chopped red or purple cabbage. To get a robin's egg blue, let the eggs soak for 30 minutes. If you want a deeper hue, leave the eggs soak overnight in the fridge.

For orange:

Add 4 cups of yellow onion skins to the pot. For a brighter orange, leave the eggs to sit in the dye overnight in the fridge.

For silver:

Combine 4 cups each of water and frozen blueberries in a bowl. Let the mixture come to room temperature and strain. Keep the eggs in the dye overnight in the fridge.

Correction for your St. Andrew's directory:

Doreen **Andersen**'s last name is spelled incorrectly in the 2019 Directory. It should be **Andersen**, not Anderson.

