

March 2024

THE TORCH

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CAMANO ISLAND, WA

www.StAidanCamanoIsland.org

[www.Facebook.com/StAidanCamanoIsland](https://www.facebook.com/StAidanCamanoIsland)

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From the Vicar

Every few years, four to be precise, we experience an “intercalary year” or “bissextile year” in which a day is added to the calendar at the end of February. We all, of course, know this as a “leap year.” It’s a clever and simple solution to an interesting problem. The seasons and astronomical events of our solar system do not fit perfectly into our neatly designed Gregorian calendar. An astronomical year lasts a smidge longer than 365 days and a hair shorter than 365 1/4 days. By slotting in an extra day every few years the gap resulting from the slow drift of the solar system’s natural clock away from civilization’s own

ingenious time keeping system can be reset.

Having winter in winter and summer in summer and Easter at Easter is wonderful thing. But beyond the pleasantness of having events occur when they should, there is an interesting reminder that leap years impart. A humbling take-away, if you will. God’s universe and all that God has made and called good is both within human understanding and outside of it. We’ve become amazing at describing it, constructing models of it, tracking the movements of it, predicting outcomes based on mathematical formulas, and using all of those skills to invent machines that can stretch those findings, computations, and insights far into the future. Yet there remains a gap we cannot close. For all of humanity’s astonishing accomplishments we are still a bit like children playing in God’s sandbox while a stone’s throw away there is a beach and an ocean so beautiful and vast that we can scarcely imagine it. This combination of an ability to understand and to know coupled with limitation is, truly, a comforting and grace-filled reality.

As Holy Week approaches so does God’s grace in a uniquely emotional and powerful way. If one undertakes a journey through Holy Week one will walk the way of the cross and come face-to-face with the crucified Lord. One will come face-to-face with one’s own limitations and failings and find that God himself has taken those limitations and failings upon his shoulders. By entering into our world, by living and dying as one of us, God has closed the gap and put our world right side up again. In telling this story year after year, and enacting it through the events of Holy Week, we rediscover the greatest truth of our lives: God is love and in Christ God has closed the gap.

At times we come to the events of Holy Week and Easter desperately wanting to feel something or be moved in a particular way. And sometimes we are. And sometimes we aren’t. And both are ok. The beauty and grace of the liturgy and the worship of the church, especially in this season, is that it doesn’t depend on us. Like a sturdy seat or a firm foundation it can hold us and support our lives, however we come to it.

May the prayers of the church and the power of God’s truth and the peace that surpasses understanding surround you and envelope you as it will.

Yours in Christ,
Drew+



From the Senior Warden

When the final days of February come into view, I'm usually anxiously pacing and looking ahead to better weather, more light, outdoor activities and the sounds of spring. It's always the case that I'm trying to hurry the winter along.

Yet, right in the midst of this winter darkness and cold comes the season of Lent. Every year, God says to me, "Let's not rush ahead! Slow down and prepare for the joy of Easter and the warmth of the spring to come with penitence and fasting." He reminds me that walking slowly through this season of Lent will enlighten my heart and enrich my faith.

Just as the early Christians observed self-examination and repentance during Lent, I too, hope to focus on prayer, self-denial, reading and fellowship. The resurrection and joy of Easter will surely come, but first, I need to observe the Lord's passion and His loving sacrifice.

I admire that Saint Aidan's offers many liturgical services throughout Lent and into the Holy Week. These Lenten services bring to mind the need to slow down, observe and contemplate the journey of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If we're moving too fast, it's hard to absorb the richness, the beauty and/or the truth of His mercy.

At the end of March, the Holy Week services will be ...

- Palm Sunday
- Holy Monday (Stations of the Cross)
- Holy Tuesday (with a guest speaker)
- Wednesday Taize (with the glow of lights)
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Saturday Easter Vigil
- Easter!

I hope that you will be able to join in worship and fellowship throughout these holy days. Each one of these worship services will enrich our Lenten experience and hopefully, bring an understanding of the amazing love that our Lord has for each one of us. To share that understanding, you may consider inviting a family member or your neighbor to join into our fellowship.

There will be a small change to the schedule during Holy Week. Instead of the traditional Wednesday Tenebrae ceremony, Saint Aidan's will offer a Taize service. This contemplative worship service and the music of Taize, along with candles glowing throughout the sanctuary, will offer a quiet time of renewal and self-reflection.

May God bless YOUR Lenten journey! I trust that He'll slow mine down!

Donna has passed the baton and I am very grateful to her for all the service she has given to Saint Aidan's and for the encouragement she has given to me. I have very big Senior Warden shoes to fill! So many of you have set the example. Thank you!

Vonda
vonda.buse@gmail.com

Important Events at St Aidan's in March

March 3	Feed My Sheep Sunday
March 6, 13, 20	Lenten Series with Soup/Salad/Bread Supper, 5pm
March 13	Women of St Aidan's, 11am
March 14	Work Crew Day, 10am
March 24	Palm Sunday
	Selah, 5pm
See page 4 for Holy Week Services	
March 31	Easter Sunday, one service, 10am



See calendar on page 6 for more activities and events at St Aidan's.

From the Junior Warden

There is not much to report on this month. Changed a few light bulbs and had some outside motion sensor lights replaced (Thanks Rob Gorman!). I am currently getting estimates to have all the buildings painted on the outside. I am hopeful to get this done before June. The warmer weather looks promising for replacing the ramp and stairs. A generous donation from Pat VanAlmkerk will provide funding for a new entry door and benches.



We will be having a work “party” on Thursday, March 14. The exciting task of picking up pine needles along the prayer path is the primary task along with a few other “spring cleaning” tasks.

Finally, a reminder to make sure windows are closed and doors are locked if you are the last person leaving the premises.

Peter Dunphy

St Aidan's Annual Meeting Held on January 28th



2024 Bishop's Committee

Vonda Buse	Senior Warden
Peter Dunphy	Junior Warden
Dick Philmlee	Liaison for Buildings and Grounds
Marshall Eberhart	Liaison for Community Engagement
Marilyn Rockwell	Liaison for Christian Education
Allen Feris	Liaison for Communications/Technology
Candy Trautman	Liaison for Outreach
Candi Bialon	Liaison for Worship
Ray Riches	Liaison for Congregational Life

**NEXT TORCH
DEADLINE**

Thursday, March 20th

Email submissions to: mcnallyk@outlook.com
Photos, suggestions and/or comments are greatly appreciated

The Beginning of the Lenten Season



Holy Week Services

7:00 p.m. every evening of Holy Week services will be in-person and live-streamed on St. Aidan's YouTube page.

Holy Monday: Stations of the Cross

Holy Tuesday: Eucharist, guest preacher

Holy Wednesday: Taizé

Holy Thursday: Maundy Thursday, Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday: Good Friday

Saturday Easter Vigil: Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday Celebration (10:00 a.m.)





Coffee Hour *After Sunday 10am Service*



If it is your Sunday consider bringing a light snack—sweet or savory to share during coffee hour.

For March:

First Sunday (March 3)	A-D
Second Sunday (March 10)	E-L
Third Sunday (March 17)	M-R
Fourth Sunday (March 24)	S-Z
Fifth Sunday (March 31)	Women of St Aidan's

If it is your week to host please stay to help clean up after Coffee Hour.

Please Help Keep the Kitchen Useable!

The women of St. Aidan's request that all coffee hour hosts to please take ALL leftover food home each week. The refrigerator has become a storage bin for the leftovers and they never get served.

If you use the refrigerator, please date and label what it is for (gathering place dinner, homeless shelter, etc.). Also, please take used tea towels and dishcloths home to be laundered.—Thank you

Thank You Altar Guild!!!

Much gratitude to the stalwarts of the Altar Guild especially during Lent, Holy Week and Easter tide. Their diligence in preparing for each service is greatly appreciated.

Anon E. Moss for the people of Saint Aidan's

Ann Boid	03	Judy Mieger	18
Erin Lavery-Mullins	03	Mandy Whitaker	18
Isaiah Samuels	04	Jo Beecher	19
JoAnne Linroth	08	Susan Stewart	25
James Miller	11	Colin Kyles	29
Dasan Samuels	11	Rhoda Venditto	31
Annie Spitz	12		

Tuesday 10:30 am—Study Group

The group meets in Dietel Hall and will by the end of March complete "Lent: The Season of Repentance and Renewal" by Esau McCaulley and readings in the New Testament. They will then be reading and discussing "Hearing the Message of Ecclesiastes: Questioning Faith in a Baffling World" by Christopher J.H. Wright.

This is a very informal group, stop by and join in the discussions.

Lenten Series

Soup/Salad/Bread Suppers

Thank you to the hosts of the Lenten Series suppers:

February 21	Altar Guild
February 28	Tuesday Study Group
March 6	Women of St Aidan's
March 13	Choir
March 20	Bishop's Committee

Food Bank Sunday *(March 3rd)*



"Feed My Sheep"

Collections are on the first Sunday of the month. If not attending services you can drop off donations on the porch the first Saturday or Sunday of the month.

Thank you for your donations.



Ken & Hellen DeMoyse	12
Dick & Judy Bingay	19
Will & Carol Swain	19
Ray Riches & Nancy Pates-Riches	29



Altar Guild Teams for March

March 1-15

Team 4: Jan Donovan, Ann Morgan, Karole Gorman, Bev Maxwell

March 16-31

Team 1 & 2: Kara Hunt, Freda McKeown, Patty Vermilye, Judy Bingay, Gayle Thomas, Candi Bialon

St. Aidan's Technology Issues?

If you have an questions or concerns about the operation of St. Aidan's website, Facebook pages, or YouTube please contact Allen Feris.

Feris_allen@msn.com or by phone at 425-870-2622

Need Help?



If you need help please contact
Ray Riches

MARCH 2024—Activities Calendar*

*Check for status on St. Aidan's website, current ePistle or with organizers of specific groups for updates.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
The Third Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) Food Bank Sunday 4:30 pm Episcopal 101	5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I 5 pm Lenten Series			7 pm AA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
The Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	3:15 pm Outreach Committee 5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I 11:00 am Women of St Aidan's 5 pm Lenten Series	10:00 am Work Crew		7 pm AA
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
The Fifth Sunday in Lent 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	4 pm Bishop's Committee 5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I 5 pm Lenten Series	TORCH DEADLINE		7 pm AA
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	H O L Y			W E E K		
Palm Sunday 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) 5 pm Selah	Holy Monday 5:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross	Holy Tuesday 7:00 pm Holy Tuesday Eucharist	Holy Wednesday 7:00 pm Taizé	Holy Thursday 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist	Good Friday 7:00 pm Good Friday Liturgy	Easter Vigil 7 pm Great Vigil of Easter
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Easter Sunday 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			7 pm AA



Altar Servers

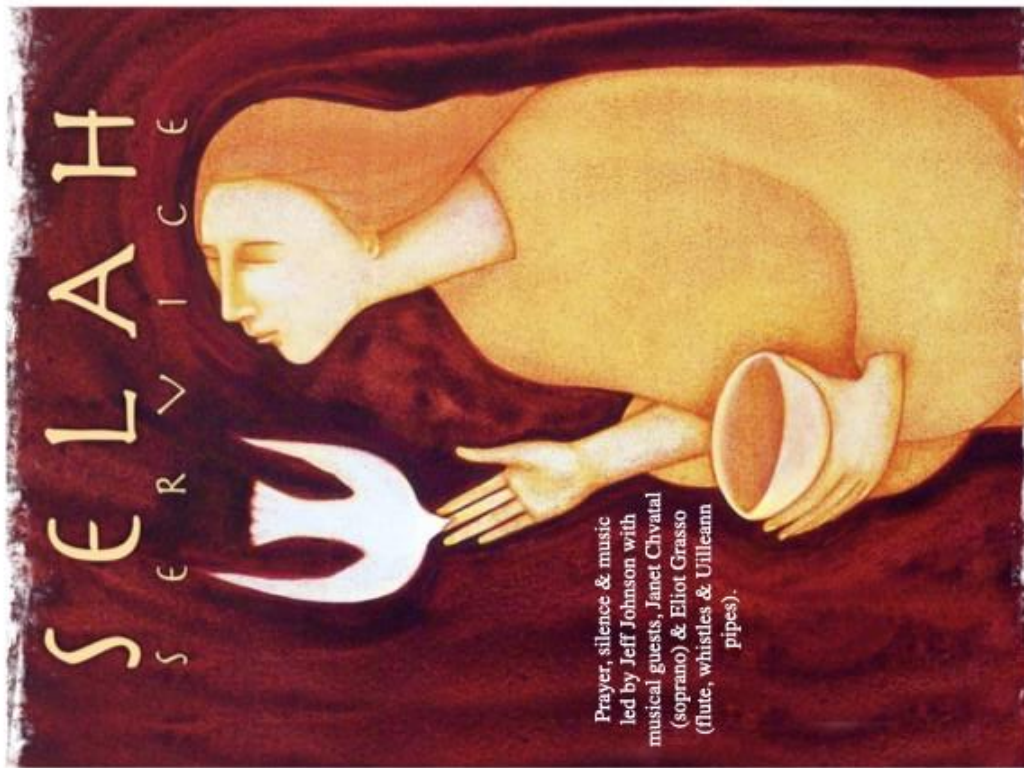


If you cannot serve on your assigned day please find a substitute and let the office know.

8:00 AM	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24 Palm Sunday	March 31 Easter Sunday
Lector	JoAnn Moffett	DonTalbott	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	One Service Only
Chalice Bearer	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	Don Talbott	Kathy Hosley	One Service Only
Acolyte	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	Don Talbott	Kathy Hosley	One Service Only
Usher	Don Talbott	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	Don Talbott	One Service Only
10:00 AM	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24 Palm Sunday	March 31 Easter Sunday
Lector	Jeff Maxwell	Rhoda Venditto	Peter Dunphy	Jackie Humes-Fear	Rob Gorman
Chalice Bearer	Theresa Strain Mary McConnaughey	Jackie Humes-Fear Bob Perry	Kara Hunt Jan Donovan	Jan Donovan Theresa Strain	Kara Hunt Mary McConnaughey
Acolyte	Mary McConnaughey	Bob Perry	Jan Donovan	Jan Donovan	Mary McConnaughey
Usher	Dick Philmlee Joey Sontheimer	Bill White Bill Sontheimer	Susie Johnson Jeff Johnson	Karole Gorman Rob Gorman	Kathy Hosley Volunteer
Counter	Sue Perry Pam Sontheimer	Jackie Hues-Fear Julie Vaux	Marilyn Rockwell Patty Dunphy	Kathy McNally Julie Vaux	Kathy Hosley Marilyn Rockwell
Childcare	JoAnn Moffett Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett Vonda Buse	JoAnn Moffett Julie Vaux	JoAnn Moffett Ethel Maxwell	JoAnn Moffett Gayle Thomas

Holy Week

March 25 Holy Monday Stations of the Cross	March 26 Holy Tuesday Eucharist	March 27 Holy Wednesday Taize	March 28 Holy Thursday Maundy Thursday	March 29 Good Friday	March 30 Easter Vigil
	Lector: Rob Gorman	Lector: Rhoda Venditto	Lector: Jackie Humes-Fear	Lector 1: Adele Lee Lector 2: Peter Dunphy	Lector: Candy Trautman
Volunteer Crucifer: as needed	Crucifer/Chalice: Bob Perry		Crucifer: Jan Donovan		Crucifer: Dick Philmlee
	Guest Preacher: Deb Hubenthal		Chalice Bearer: Kara Hunt		Chalice Bearer: Mary McConnaughey
					Reader 1: Dick Philmlee Reader 2: Nancy Pates-Riches Reader 3: Rob Gorman Reader 4: Teressa Bennett



ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 1318 East SR 532; Camano Island, WA 98282
 (P.O. Box 145; Stanwood, WA 98292)

ARK
 Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 5pm
 St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
 1318 SR 532 ~ Camano Island, WA