

# Good Shepherd Anglican Church

## AS WE MOVE FORWARD IN LENT

The first of March means that we are only two weeks into the Lenten Season and Easter Sunday seems a long way off. May God's love strengthen you as we continue to prepare ourselves for the Christ's betrayal, agonizing death and resurrection through our personal journeys of introspection, sacrifice, and abstinence.



## THE IDES OF MARCH MARCH 15, 2013

The ancient Romans used the term "idus" or half division to measure the middle of most months. The Ides of March, the 15th, was usually marked with a military parade and a festival. It is best known in modern times as the date that Julius Caesar was stabbed to death in 44 B.C. His murder was carried out by Marcus Brutus and Gaius Longinns, the leaders of a group of conspirators in the Roman Senate.

The historian Plutarch wrote that a soothsayer predicted that Caesar would be harmed not later than the Ides of March. When the seer met Caesar on that day, Caesar joked "The Ides of March have come" to which the seer replied "Aye, Caesar, but not gone". Rather reminiscent of "it ain't over 'til the fat lady sings". William Shakespeare dramatized Caesar's death in his play "Julius Caesar", when he is warned to "beware the Ides of March".

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*"And this is the promise which He Himself  
made to us: eternal life."*

**John 3:16-17**

## PASSION SUNDAY MARCH 17, 2013

Passion Sunday is the fifth Sunday in Lent and the beginning of the thirteen days known as Passiontide which ends on Holy Saturday. During this period, all the crosses and crucifixes covered in veils of violet since Ash Wednesday, continue to remain covered. The Lenten color of violet is also used for vestments until the end of the celebration of the Lord's passion on Good Friday.

There has been a movement since the 1970s in some Christian Churches to combine Passion Sunday with Palm Sunday and to disregard Passiontide.

According to Dom Gueranger in The Liturgical Year, "This Sunday is called Passion Sunday, because the Church begins, on this day, to make the sufferings of our Redeemer her chief thought". Now, apparently the last two weeks of Lent are dominated by the celebration of the passion.

## THOMAS CRANMER ARCHBISHOP AND MARTYR MARCH 22, 2013

Thomas Cranmer (1489 - 1556) was one of the principal leaders of the English Reformation and the Archbishop of Canterbury (1533 - 1556) during the reigns of Henry VIII and Edward VI. His work was primarily responsible for the establishment of the structure of the Church of England. Born in Nottingham, England, as the second son in the family, he was educated at Cambridge. His father was a minor member of the gentry and, only having land enough to give to his eldest son, Thomas and his younger brother were encouraged to join the clergy to make their way in the world. He was given a fellowship at the age of

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**THOMAS CRANMER** *(continued from previous page)*

fourteen to Jesus College, Cambridge. He subsequently lost the fellowship when he married the daughter of the local tavern keeper. His wife died in childbirth and he re-applied for a fellowship and was accepted. In 1523 he took holy orders and also earned his Doctor of Divinity. Seeking to avoid a plague in Cambridge, he left for Essex and the move proved to be fortuitous for him. Henry VIII was staying nearby and Cranmer became a willing advocate for Henry's desired divorce from Catherine of Aragon. In 1530 he argued Henry's case as part of an embassy trip to Rome and in 1532 he was appointed as the Ambassador to the Holy Roman Empire of Charles V. It was on a trip to Germany to investigate the Lutheran movement that he met the reformer Andreas Osiander. The Lutheran's ideology appealed to and influenced him significantly. He also met and later married Osiander's niece, Margaret, that year.

Thomas Cranmer became the Archbishop Of Canterbury on March 30, 1533. He would hold the office for twenty-three years. Following the Pope's approval of Cranmer's appointment as the Archbishop, Cranmer declared Henry's marriage to Catherine of Aragon to be void. Four months after the divorce, Henry married Anne Boleyn.

To credit Cranmer with being a skilled church politician would be a gross understatement. With the King's support, he instituted reforms which led to the creation of the Church of England. Along with Thomas Cromwell, he supported the principle of Royal Supremacy in which the king was considered the sovereign over the Church and his realm. In 1537 King Henry issued a royal license to print the Bible in English which complemented the Book of Common Prayer and gave access to God's Word to all English speaking Christians. In 1549 he was instrumental in completing the Book of Common Prayer which replaced the Roman Catholic Liturgy in England. The cumulative effects of the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer in English were landmark achievements in providing worshipers the freedom of reading, learning and understanding their faith. Cranmer's connection to and support of the Protestant Reformation extended to several continental reformers to whom he gave refuge and with whom he collaborated in establishing and developing new doctrinal standards on such topics as the Eucharist, clerical celibacy, the role of images in places of worship, and the veneration of saints.

In 1552 the Book of Common Prayer was revised and became emphatically more Protestant than the earlier edition. It is recognized as one of the greatest classics of English Literature and well into the 21st Century its phrases are part of common English usage. Cranmer succeeded in retaining many elements of the

Catholic liturgy and ritual that he found beautiful and not unbiblical. And so, the English Church Services combined both the old and the new. However, it signaled a dramatic change in religion with the Protestant Reformation as the catalyst. Until this time, Christianity was based on the authority of the Pope and he was believed to be appointed by God. The Pope had the power to give pardons and guarantee salvation. He was the "mediator and advocate", according to the Church. The Book of Common Prayer declared that Jesus Christ is our only mediator and advocate. To the Roman Church, this was nothing less than heresy.

With the accession of the Roman Catholic Mary I to the English throne, Cranmer was arrested and imprisoned for over two years. Under pressure from the Roman Church authorities, he recanted his Protestant beliefs and was apparently reconciled to the Roman Catholic Faith. However, on the day of his execution on March 21, 1556, in Oxford he withdrew his forced confessions and proclaimed the truth of the Protestant Faith. He reportedly placed his right hand in the fire, the hand with which he had signed the recantations, and said "This hath offended!" With that gesture the government's hope of quelling the Protestant Reformation was lost. Thus, he died a heretic to the Catholics and a martyr to the Anglican Church and the Protestant Reformation. His legacy lives on within the Anglican Church through the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, the Anglican statement of Faith derived from his work.

*(The author is indebted to two works on Cranmer's life: the "BBC History" and the detailed "Luminarium: Anthology of English Literature".)*

## **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

The Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on March 25th, the Monday before Easter. The propers are found on page 235 of the BCP. The day recognizes the announcement to the Virgin Mary by the Archangel Gabriel that she would become the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Despite being a virgin, Mary was told that she would miraculously conceive a child who would be called the Son of God. She was told to name her son Jesus, meaning "YHWH delivers".

Mary's response to the news from Gabriel was: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). Thus, Mary humbly and without reservation, trusted and submitted to God's will.



## HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday follows Passion Sunday and is the beginning of Holy Week which will take us from the joyous entry to Jerusalem through betrayal, agony, death and despair to Christ's glorious resurrection.

On Palm Sunday Jesus enters Jerusalem to the sound of Hosannas and riding upon palm branches spread in His honor. He was welcomed as the Lord's agent, the coming King of Israel. The following day, Monday, Jesus drove the money changers and traders from the Temple. That day the jealousy of the chief priests and scribes begins to show itself as they plot to arrest Jesus (Mark Chapter 14:1). On Tuesday, in Jerusalem, He evades the traps set for him by the priests (Matthew 21:23; Mark 11:27; Luke 20: 1 -21:36). On Tuesday afternoon Jesus went to the Mount of Olives overlooking Jerusalem. He taught in parables and warned the people against the Pharisees. He also predicted the destruction of Herod's great temple and told his disciples about future events, including his own return.

The Gospels do not mention Wednesday but Maunday Thursday is a truly momentous day: The inevitable betrayal by Judas Iscariot and Christ's institution of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist (Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22: 7-23). After the Lord's Supper, they sang a hymn and then went to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed.

Good Friday, the most solemn day in the Christian Year, brings the reality of Christ's death on the cross (Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 22:66 - 23:56; John 18:28 - 19:37). He was arrested, His disciples deserted and denied Him, He was given a false trial, condemned, beaten, mocked and forced to carry His cross to The Place of the skull, Golgatha, where He was crucified with two other prisoners. Death by crucifixion was a favorite among the Romans because it was both slow and excruciating. On Good Friday the veils on the cross and crucifix are changed to black, the color of mourning and death.

Many from that time to this have wondered how the day of our Lord's death could be called Good. It is believed that it is "good" because, by His precious sacrifice and death, God showed his inestimable love for man and purchased our redemption from sin. Holy Saturday, or Easter Even, is chronicled in Matthew 25:57, and tells of the gracious love of Joseph of Arithamea in providing a tomb for the Christ and of the guard placed upon it. There is no doubt that Jesus was dead. Indeed, the centurions did not break Jesus's legs, a common practice at crucifixions, since they saw he was already dead (John 19:33). Mark 15:44 records that before Pontius Pilate would release Jesus's body, he required the centurion's word that He was dead. The truth and apparent finality and fact of His death was devastating and we can only imagine the sorrow of His followers.



## HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

Easter Morning brings the discovery of the empty tomb (John 20:1 and Mark 16:1). Christ's followers must have been mystified, confused and filled with sorrow. The Messiah who they had loved and for whom they had left everyone and everything in this world was gone. When they arrived at the tomb "They did not understand from Scripture that Jesus has to rise from the dead "John 20:9). The Apostle Luke reports (18:31) that although Jesus tells them what will happen to him and that he will rise from the dead on the third day, they did not understand him. An Angel of the Lord told them Jesus was alive and gave them the joyous message that Christ has risen (Matthew 28: 1-10). They were overjoyed. Indeed, Christ has died and has risen. Allelulia! Allelulia!

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*"I am the resurrection and the life. He that believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."*

**John 11:25-26**

## VESTRY MEMBERS

Rev. Tom Phifer .....	(480) 892-4260
Brian Simpson .....	(480) 710-5040
Ron Jaworski .....	(480) 288-8282
Marvin Blattel .....	(480) 357-0173
Don Cummings .....	(480) 832-1583
David LaMarine .....	(602) 881-6346
Greg Stern .....	(480) 844-4898

# GOOD SHEPHERD ANGLICAN CHURCH VESTRY MEETING

**FEBRUARY 4, 2013**

The Good Shepherd Anglican Church Vestry met at the Home of Reverend Thomas K. Phifer on February 4, 2013. The following members were present: Marvin Blattel, Don Cummings, Ron Jaworski, David La Marine, Brian Simpson and Greg Stern.

Father Phifer gave the invocation and Ron opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Don presented the Treasurer's Report and noted the outreach projects for the previous month; i.e., the inside doormat, pew hardware and repair and the altar platform reconstruction. We were not charged a maintenance fee by the bank for the Building Fund. Attendance is seasonally improved and the financial status remains stable.

Ron mentioned that the three new couples now attending Good Shepherd were at one time worshipers at Trinity. Each couple "found" us through the Arizona Territorial Newspaper ad. Dave suggested that the same ad be used in the Apache Junction Independent and could result in Apache Junction and Gold Canyon attendees. Ron volunteered to investigate the cost.

Brian asked for a volunteer to insure that the lights in the fellowship hall were working by Sunday. He said we also need a sign on the door to the sanctuary and Greg will work on that. Greg also may have a piece of plexiglass to use in repairing the Church of God of Prophecy sign at the entrance on University. The large Good Shepherd sign which was used at the Wesleyan Church in Apache Junction was discussed and may be used with a pipe frame. Marvin will check on it. Brian said that we will probably need a work party in March.

Dave said that the red service booklets are in poor condition and need to be replaced. They are used quite a bit since the type is enlarged and much easier to read than the prayer books. It was decided that the booklets should be bound in the same manner as the hymnals and that we need about thirty of them. Ron will check on the cost.

We have a potential if not actual hazard on the stage behind the altar. Several persons have remarked that the floor is covered with wires used for the musical equipment on the stage and that the power is left on to the equipment. Brian said that he would contact the fire department and request a courtesy walk through of the building.

Ron reported that Julia, Marvin and he had repaired all the pews and it was agreed that the project was certainly needed. Marvin said that more kneelers were required and that last weekend the kneelers had been treated carelessly when stored in a room for a wedding.

Don reported that the Church Directory would be available next Sunday.

Fr. Phifer confirmed that the ashes for Ash Wednesday were available and also said we need to have a time and location for making the Palm Crosses on the sixteenth. Marvin will follow up.

Brian provided the vestry with an update of the work being done in the newly formed Arizona Deanery. The Arizona Deanery consists of the Arizona Parishes of the Western Diocese of Anglicans and was created to provide mutual support and to "begin their journey together toward the formation of a new diocese in Arizona". The meeting brought together the priests from Yuma, Mesa, Prescott and Phoenix with Brian being the only non-clergy member. The inaugural meeting was held on January 29, 2013 and hosted by Fr. Keith Andrews at Living Faith.

The morning was spent in scripture study (Acts 27) and reflection. After lunch provided by Living Faith, the group "approached a few questions that were meant to help us begin to dream together of what God may have in store for us to define more clearly our basic values which will frame our work together". The discussion centered on three questions: First, what are the characteristics of a missionary fellowship of churches?; Second, what do we contribute to our work together and how will we benefit from one another?; And finally, are there any others who should be invited to join with us? The strengths and vulnerabilities of each parish were given and how others could help. Good Shepherd's obvious need for a replacement pastor was addressed and will be brought to the House of Delegates during their meeting this month. Additionally, other pastoral resources - either on a "supply priest" basis or from personal contacts - may become available.

A final question was asked by Fr. Keith Andrews of Living Faith: How may I serve you? The group decided that periodic correspondence in the form of prayers from the deanery parishes, a communication to the parishes of this meeting and a quarterly "What's Happening" e-mail would be helpful. In addition, a roster of churches should be developed and also a pulpit exchange.

The group committed to meeting monthly on the last Thursday, The next meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a. m. at Christ Church Anglican in Phoenix. The vestry thanked Brian for his work with the Deanery and in searching for Fr. Phifer's replacement.

The next vestry meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Reverend Phifer's home. Rev. Phifer gave the benediction, Marvin moved and Don seconded the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
David A. LaMarine, Secretary

## **WHO YOU ARE SPEAKS LOUDER TO ME THAN ANYTHING YOU CAN SAY**

At the beginning of my 8:00 a.m. class one Monday at University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), I cheerfully asked my students how their weekend had been. One young man said that his weekend had not been very good. He'd had his wisdom teeth extracted. The young man then proceeded to ask me why I always seemed to be so cheerful. His question reminded me of something I'd read somewhere before: Every morning when you get up, you have a choice about how you want to approach life that day, I said to the young man. I choose to be cheerful". Let me give you an example, I continued.

The other sixty students in the class ceased their chatter and began to listen to our conversation. In addition to teaching here at UNLV, I also teach out at the community college in Henderson, about seventeen miles down the freeway from where I live. One day a few weeks ago I drove those seventeen miles to Henderson. I exited the freeway and turned onto College Drive. I only had to drive another quarter-mile down the road to the college. But just then my car died. I tried to start it again, but the engine wouldn't turn over. So I put my flashers on, grabbed my books, and marched down the road to the college.

As soon as I got there I called AAA and asked them to send a tow truck. The secretary in the Provost's office asked me what had happened. This is my lucky day, I replied, smiling. Your car breaks down and today is your lucky day? She was puzzled. What do you mean?

I live seventeen miles from here. I replied. My car could have broken down anywhere along the freeway. It didn't. Instead, it broke down in the perfect place: off the freeway, within walking distance of here. I'm still able to teach my class, and I've been able to arrange for the tow truck to meet me after class. If my car was meant to break down today, it couldn't have been arranged in a more convenient fashion. The secretary's eyes opened wide, and then she smiled. I smiled back and headed for class. So ended my story to the students in my economics class at UNLV.

I scanned the sixty faces in the lecture hall. Despite the early hour, no one seemed to be asleep. Somehow, my story had touched them. Or maybe it wasn't the story at all. In fact, it had all started with a student's observation that I was cheerful. A wise man once said, Who you are speaks louder to me than anything you can say. I suppose it must be so.

*Author: Lee Ryan Miller - story from his book "Teaching Amidst the Neon Palm Trees"*

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## **AUDREY HEPBURN'S BEAUTY TIPS**

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness. For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people. For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry. For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day. For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone. People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone.

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms. As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.

# Good Shepherd Anglican Church

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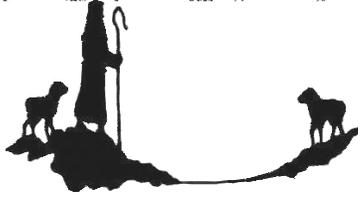
## *Services:*

7830 E. University Dr.  
Mesa, AZ 85207

## *Website:*

[www.GoodShepherd  
AnglicanChurch.org](http://www.GoodShepherdAnglicanChurch.org)  
or  
[www.MyGSAC.org](http://www.MyGSAC.org)

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## FOR YOUR INFO

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Bishop Ron Johnson  
March 6th

Chris Defenbaugh  
March 7th

Jack Somer  
March 11th

Betty Orler  
March 18th

Ron Jaworski  
March 30th

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Dot Hill  
March 22nd

Dante & Linda Nobilio  
March 26th

