

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

As you enter the sanctuary this week you will notice something different. For Lent we are hosting an exhibition of *Way of Sorrow* by local artist Brian Behm. By focusing on the horizon Brian draws our eyes from the historical Jesus to the present day reality of suffering and hope present in our world today; in creation, in those on the margins, and in the Church.

Way of Sorrow draws on the Christian tradition of The Stations of the Cross which depicts the steps along Jesus' journey on the day of his crucifixion. The series is a pilgrimage and viewers are encouraged to move sequentially through the stations in prayer and meditation. The work explores the horizon as a metaphor—the meeting place of the Divine and the human. Utilizing this basis for a Stations of the Cross series allows the viewer to approach the story in a visceral, emotional way.

Beginning tomorrow, Friday, March 7, we will be holding weekly Stations of the Cross at 12 pm in the Sanctuary on Fridays during Lent.

LENT NOON EUCHARISTS ON WEDNESDAYS

Beginning next Wednesday, March 12, we will hold a weekly Noon Eucharist in Corlett Hall (following Chatty Yarns).

SAYING GOODBYE TO BRADLEY

A message from our Rector: "It is with tremendous sorrow that I inform you all that our music minister and parish administrator, Bradley Burgess has decided along with his family to move back to South Africa. We have been blessed to have Bradley here for nearly three years; he has been instrumental in helping me get settled these last six months, and has brought much consistency and joy to our worship, music ministry, and to the choir in particular. While I am saddened, I also realize this is a destabilizing time for many of us and I certainly understand the desire to be closer to home and to family. Bradley's final Sunday with us will be **March 16**, the Second Sunday in Lent. Please plan to join us that Sunday as we wish him and his family farewell and good luck in their new adventures. A small reception will follow."

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

- 8:30 am: Rite II Eucharist, spoken (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Choir Warm-up (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Adult Formation: Exploring Celtic Christianity (Curry Hall 204)
- 9:50 am: Middle School Youth Formation (Curry Hall, 202)
- 10:30 am: Rite II Eucharist, with Music (Nave)
- 7 pm: High School Formation (Curry Hall 202)

MONDAY, MARCH 10

- 6:30 pm: Education for Ministry (Estill House)

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

- 7 pm: Buildings & Grounds Meeting (Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

- 10 am: Chatty Yarns (Corlett Hall)
- 12 pm: Wednesday Lent Eucharist (Corlett Hall)
- 7 pm: Handbells Rehearsal (Corlett Hall)

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

- 12pm: Pastoral Care Meeting (Conference Room)
- 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal (Nave)

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

- 12 pm: Stations of the Cross (Nave)

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

- 8:30 am: Rite II Eucharist, spoken (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Choir Warm-up (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Adult Formation: Exploring Celtic Christianity (Curry Hall 204)
- 9:50 am: Middle School Youth Formation (Curry Hall, 202)
- 10:30 am: Rite II Eucharist, with Music (Nave)
- 7 pm: High School Formation (Curry Hall 202)

RAMADAN FRIENDSHIP DINNER

Nativity has been invited to once again participate in the Annual Friendship Iftar Dinner at the Divan Center (1076 W Chatham St, Cary, NC 27513) on Thursday, March 27, at 6:30 pm. This special evening is an opportunity to share in the spirit of Ramadan, enjoy a meal with our neighbors, and celebrate unity in diversity. Space is limited, so please register soon. Join us as we gather to break bread and build friendships.

B&G UPDATE

The Building and Grounds Team is currently working on a project to convert all fluorescent lighting in all our buildings to LED lighting. These lights are much more energy efficient than the present fluorescent, resulting in a savings of about \$1,200 per year, according to a Duke Energy assessment. These are just the latest B&G efforts; there are always ongoing projects that need the Team's attention around our campus. Other recent tasks include completing the construction of the pergola in the Memorial Garden, and power-washing and painting the exterior of the church buildings. New hands are always welcome to join our group. If you're interested, please contact Junior Warden Dave McKinnon.

CALL FOR DONATIONS: HVAC REPLACEMENT

One of our newer Trane HVAC units has failed after just eight years. Since 2020, we've spent over \$11,000 on repairs, leading to the decision to replace it. The new unit will cost approximately \$22,000—an unplanned expense in our 2025 budget. If you feel called to contribute, we would be grateful for any donations to help cover this cost. Please write "HVAC" in the memo line of your check. Thank you for your generosity in keeping Nativity a welcoming and comfortable space!

We have a total of 10 HVAC units that serve our three buildings: three Daiken units for worship building, installed in 2019; three Carrier units for the education building, installed in 2010; and four Trane units for Estill House, two installed in 1990 and two in 2017. One of the newer Trane units has failed and it is not feasible to repair it. HVAC units have a normal expected life of 10–15 years. On average our units are performing well. However, over the next 10 years we should expect all units to need replacing. Prayerfully, we will budget for these events and have the funds available when needed.

HOLY WEEK BLESSING BAGS

The youth, working alongside Randy Smith will assemble Blessing Bags for the homeless during Lent this year. They will be available for pickup on Palm Sunday, April 13 after each service so that you can give them out during Holy Week. If you would like to contribute, sign up to bring items on the signup genius -- items are

needed by March 23. These bags are made in memory of Carol Smith and their son, Justin.

SIGN UP FOR TEXT MESSAGES

In addition to reaching out to Nativity parishioners via Glad Tidings and the website, we also have a text messaging service. This is an ideal way for you to hear about weather emergencies, upcoming special events, and timely reminders. We encourage you all to sign up at nativityonline.org/nativitytextsignup

ADULT FORMATION: CELTIC CHRISTIANITY

Join us this Lent for a five-session series on Early Celtic Spirituality from March 9 through April 16 from 9:30 - 10:20 am in Curry Hall 204. This engaging series will delve into the unique history of Celtic Christianity and explore its rich spiritual traditions that continue to inspire daily life. Through discussion, reflection, and shared insights, we will uncover how these ancient practices intertwine with our faith today. All are welcome!

ONE WAKE UPCOMING ACTIONS

ONE Wake is continuing its good work in 2025 by advocating for affordable housing, expanded public transportation, and mental health in Wake County. Save these upcoming dates and join us to make a difference in our community!

- March 20, 7 pm: ONE Wake Annual Meeting.

YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2025: WONDER & WILDERNESS

Registration is open for the Summer Youth Pilgrimage! From June 16–21, high school students will travel from northern Massachusetts to Maine's northern shores. Together, we'll discover the beauty of God's creation and embrace our call to be good stewards of the world. Through worship, service, learning, rest, and play, we'll deepen our faith as we partner with local Episcopal parishes to care for creation, one another, and ourselves. *Space is limited!* Details about the trip, payments, and more can be found on the registration form. If you have further questions, reach out to Jeremy.

ADULT PILGRIMAGE TO THE UK

Join us on a transformative pilgrimage through Scotland and England in 2025! Explore historic Christian sites like Edinburgh, Lindisfarne, Bamburgh, and Durham Cathedral, where you'll walk in the footsteps of saints and delve into the rich tapestry of faith. Experience guided tours, spiritual reflections, and the beauty of these sacred lands. For more details on this journey, see Jeremy Clos.

