



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A LION'S SHARE

FEBRUARY 21, 2026



The Ladies Luncheon on February 14 at the Polaski Street Grille in Riverhead.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 2026



Many thanks to the men of the Parish for pulling together a fantastic Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. This is an annual tradition in most Episcopal churches and we celebrate *Mardi Gras* with pancakes, butter, syrup, bacon, and sausages. (Pictured L to R) Steve DeCaro, Chris Adams, Paul Okula, Fr. Chris, Larry Andria, Sandy Wyman, Steve Turner, Michael Warner, and Pete Williams. (Not pictured) Dick Gardner and Tom Hadlock.



Wednesdays in Lent

(February 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25)

6:40 p.m. —Meditative Music

A service of prayer which reflects the final hours of Jesus' life.

Saint Mark's

Lenten Study 2026

Thursdays in Lent

10:00 a.m. in person or via zoom

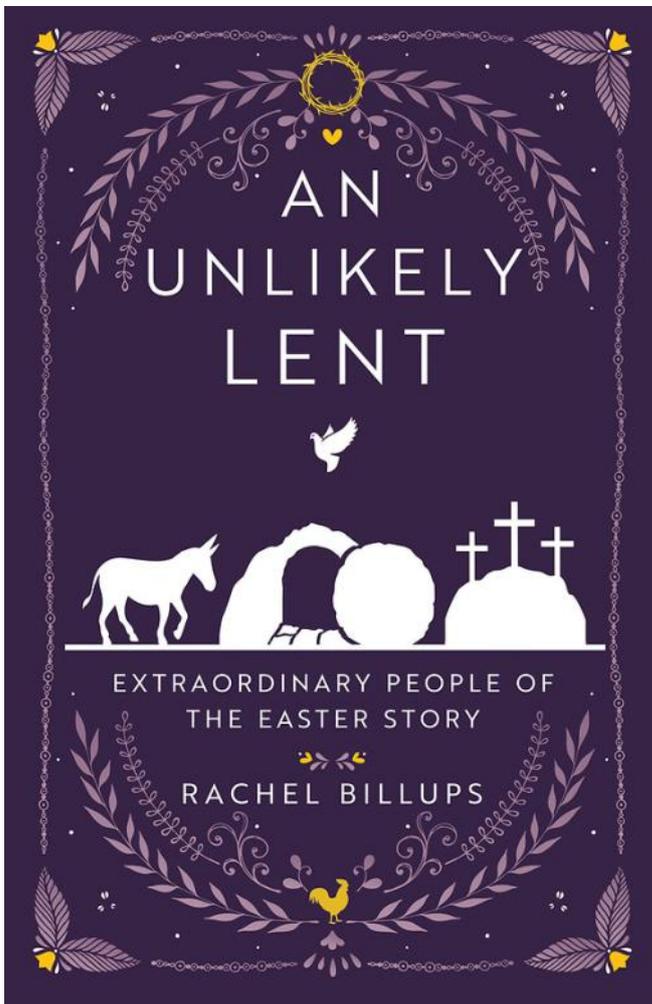
Notice the unexpected in Easter.

The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are at the heart of the story of Easter. But the resurrection was not witnessed in isolation; it unfolded before a crowd. What might the stories of those women and men teach us today? How will they help us step into the story of Easter? Here, we can see what has been overlooked, not just in the grand moments but in the in-between: the silence, the side characters, and the questions.

Gain new insight from the crowd on the themes of:

- Devotion
- Opposition
- Freedom
- Courage
- Companionship
- Alliances

By seeing the Easter story through their eyes, we may discover that the resurrection is not just a past event, but an invitation into something new, unexpected, and unlikely. Walk through this season with eyes wide open, ready to see where God is moving, even in the margins. Since the cross is not the end of the story, embrace every unlikely moment along the way.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5697969237>

Meeting ID: 569 796 9237

Books can be purchased through Amazon or Cokesbury



Peconic Deanery

Lent

Study

Series

Spiritual tools for today: lessons from Jesus and civil rights leaders.

Time: 7:00pm - Study Session; and 8:00pm - Compline.

Thursdays: Feb. 19, 26; March 12, 19 & 26.

Zoom: Meeting ID: 837 6688 5713 & Passcode: ChChBible

February 19: Benjamin Shambaugh, Rector of St. Luke's in East Hampton

Lessons from the Liberation Theology of Howard Thurman, Gustavo Gutierrez, and James Cone.

February 26: Charles McCarron, Rector of St. Mary's on Shelter Island

A Lenten Meditation on Justice: From the Desert to the Garden (Inspired by the writings of Leonardo Boff).

March 5: Justin Falciani, Rector of St. Mary's in Hampton Bays

Sacramental Church: how we can be a force for liberation in our parishes and every day life in the USA. This discussion is based on chapter 13 in A Theology of Liberation by Gustavo Gutierrez.

March 12: Chris Jubinski, Rector of St. Mark's in Westhampton Beach

Episcopal saints: Bishop Paul Jones, Deaconess Harriet Bedell, Seminarian Jonathan Myrick Daniels, and Queen Lili'uokalani.

March 19: Roger Joslin, Vicar of Church of the Redeemer and Holy Trinity Church

"I felt my legs were praying" reflections on The Prophets by Abraham Joshua Heschel.

March 26: Cecily Broderick, Rector Elect of Christ Church in Sag Harbor

Following in the footsteps of Pauli Murray and taking up our cross to follow Jesus: reflecting on the life of a saint and Matthew 25:31-46.

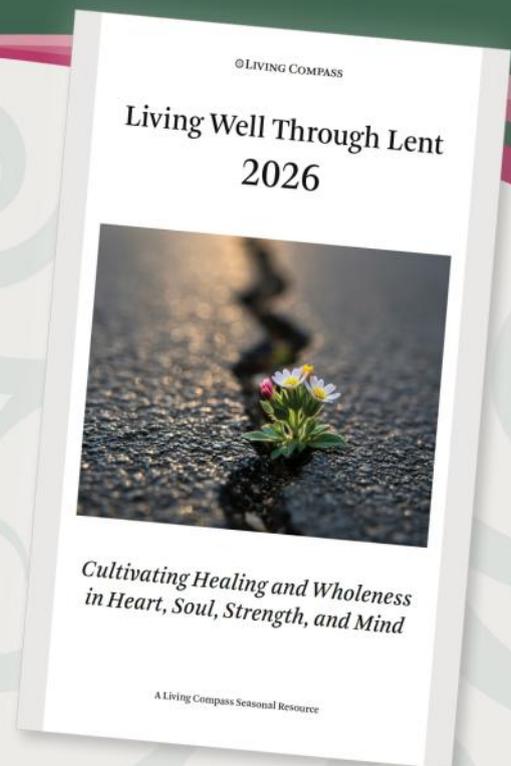
ENGAGE WITH US THROUGHOUT THE 2026 LENT SEASON!

Our Living Compass theme for the 2026 Lent season is ***Cultivating Healing and Wholeness in Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind.***

Explore our devotional of daily readings and questions and see why thousands of people across denominations use this resource to prepare for Easter. Ideal for individual use, congregational programs, classes, small groups, and retreats.

ACCESS OUR LENT RESOURCES:

- **Printed Book:** 5.5" x 8.5", separate content (English or Spanish)
 - \$1 per book (1/4 of production cost)
 - FREE shipping (continental US) for 10+ books, \$10 for 1-9 books
 - Order early at LivingCompass.org/Lent
- **FREE PDF Download:** (English or Spanish)
- **E-book:** \$0.99 on Amazon (English or Spanish)
- **Daily Emails:** FREE signup for reflections (English only)
- **Podcast:** Two six-minute Lent talks per week on our website or in your favorite podcast app
- **Guided Meditations:** In our NEW Living Compass app on Apple or Google
- **Free Facilitator Guide:** PDF for group leaders (English only)
- **Online:** Access daily English reflections on our website and daily Spanish reflections on the Brújula de la Vida Facebook page



FEATURED WRITERS: Robbin Brent, Brian Cole, Robert Hirschfeld, Westina Matthews, Amy Sander Montanez, Lisa Senuta, David Steindl-Rast, and Scott Stoner.

SPANISH EDITION: Vivir una buena Cuaresma en el 2026: Cultivando la sanación y plenitud en el corazón, alma, fuerzas y mente.



Original content by La Rvda. Maytee de la Torre Díaz, La Rvda. Luz María Lambis Garces, El Rvdo. Yoimel González Hernández, El Rvdo. Pedro N. López, La Rvda. Marycelis G. Otero, El Rvdo. Luis Enrique Hernández Rivas, and El Rvdo. Guillermo Wilches in print, PDF, and e-book formats.

QUESTIONS: Contact us at info@LivingCompass.org



**LIVING
COMPASS**
Spirituality &
Wellness Initiative
HEART • SOUL • STRENGTH • MIND

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, 02/23	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday, 02/24	6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting - Zoom
Wednesday, 02/25	7:00 p.m. The Way of the Cross (Stations) in the church 7:30 p.m. Alateen Meeting - Atwater Room
Thursday, 02/26	10:00 a.m. Lenten Study - Atwater Room 11:00 a.m. Mid-Week Healing Service with Holy Eucharist 12:30 p.m. Threshold Singers - Atwater Room 7:00 p.m. Peconic Deanery Lenten Study Zoom Series
Friday, 02/27	10:00 a.m. Yoga - Parish Hall
Saturday, 02/28	9:00 - 1:00 Winter Market - Parish Hall 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the Church - Anointing & Prayers for Healing
Sunday, 03/01	9:15 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Church - Anointing & Prayers for Healing 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

<u>SATURDAY, February 21, 5:00 p.m. Participants</u>	
LEM/Lector	Laureen Andria
Usher	Jim Lilly
Altar Guild	Diane Feil, Marcia Palmer
<u>SUNDAY February 22, 9:30 a.m. Participants</u>	
LEM	John Kern
Lector	Tom Hadlock
Ushers:	Rich Caccavano, TBD
Altar Guild	Diane Feil, Marcia Palmer
Coffee Hour	In the Atwater Room
<u>FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS</u>	
Lori Jean Williams	02/04
Penelope Tunney	02/06
Rob Moyle	02/11
Stephen Hunt	02/13
Tracy Mullen Lilly	02/15
Hudson Andria	02/16
Sandy Wyman	02/18
Kevin Tunney	02/21
Aidan Sherwood	02/23
Connor Canty	02/23
Pamela Sheiffer	02/24
Louise Reeves	02/28
<u>FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES</u>	
Paul & Norma-Jeanne Okula	02/02
Francis & Nicole Gordon	02/22
Paul & Lisa Canty	02/24
Kent and Elizabeth Wolgemuth	02/29

<u>Services</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>On-line</u>
02/14 - 5:00 p.m	20	
02/15 - 9:30 a.m	37	78
02/17 - Shrove Pancake Supper -	36	
02/18 - "Ashes to Go"	26	
02/18 - 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service	10	
02/19 - Lenten Study	11	
02/19 - Mid-Week Service	8	
02/19 - Pastoral Visit WHCC	2	
02/19 - Pastoral Home Visit	2	

Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon.
And, remember the People of the Middle East, Armenia,
Ukraine, Haiti, Iran, Syria, and the United States of

**THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**



WELCOMES YOU

America too!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVING WELL THROUGH LENT 2026 devotional booklets are now available.

THURSDAYS IN LENT – Two studies: 10:00 a.m. “An Unlikely Lent” in person and via zoom and also we join our fellow parishes for a Deanery program at 7:00 p.m. via zoom. Please see the newsletter for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

02/25 - “The Way of the Cross” will begin at 7 P.M. in the church and continue during Lent.

FYI

PARKING LOT SAFETY - With children and other vulnerable people being present here throughout the day at Saint Mark’s, **please follow the direction arrows in the parking lot** to keep traffic flowing in one direction and please watch your speed to help ensure safety.

PLEASE NOTE: The current anniversaries and birthdays are listed in this insert each week. Kindly check it over to be sure your information is correct or if you need to be added. If you have access to the phone directory, kindly check that out also and contact Kate in the church office for any changes or additions. Thank you.

PASTORAL CARE – Please notify me if you are sick or in the hospital so that I can pray for you and visit to bring you Holy Communion. Some people hesitate to call me because they think they are inconveniencing me. Not true! I am here for you and your spiritual care. My cell is 410.253.3664 – Chris +

INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY – Please download this great tool on your apple or android device and have up to the minute access of our parish directory. The directory can also be accessed online at www.instantchurchdirectory.com

ALTAR PLANTS: - If you would like to dedicate plants for the Altar please contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at Laura.bott17@gmail.com. Each plant is \$40. In March there are two plants available on the 15th. Please remember to contact her if you sign up in the book.

PRAYER LIST

Dick Anderson (Req. by Edie Hofmann), **Arma Andon Jr.** (Req. by Sundry Schermeyer), **Ridgie Barnett** (Parishioner), **John Burke** (Req. by Norma Jeanne Okula), **Amanda Cacoperdo** (Req. by Tim Feil), **Candace F. Cerretani** (Catharine Nobiletti’s sister), **Kim Clark** (Req. by Fr. Chris), **Deana Chiusano** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Julia Cloppse** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Abby Connett** (Req. by Nancy Connett), **Dana Davis** (Req. by Rosanna Davis), **Estrella Farajian** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Ryan Fay** (Req. by Jennifer Kast), **Owen Foster** (Diane & John Stewart’s grandson), **Nancy Fraser** (Req. by Ki Nobiletti), **Fred Rees Garcia** (son of Victoria Garcia), **Sandra Griffith** (Req. by Jane Griffith), **Elaine Hanes** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Paulann Hoffman** (Req. by Chris Adams), **Helen Horton** (Parishioner), **Imogene** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Barbara Ireton** (Req. by Carol Smith), **Debra Wolgemuth Jarashow**, (Req. by Elizabeth Wolgemuth), **Nancy Jones** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Gretchen & Jim Jubinski** (Fr. Chris’ Parents), **Karen** (Req. by Catharine Nobiletti), **Tom Kurfman** (Req. by Carol Jubinski), **Cole LoRusso** (Marj Kulesa’s Nephew), **Warren McCann** (Kate Gabrielsen’s son-in-law), **Irene Monahan** (Req. by Laura Bott), **Jeanette Navas** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Paul Oele** (Parishioner), **Jesse O’Neil** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Andrew Ortega** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Cassie Panzarino** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Rosemary Rees**, (Victoria Garcia’s sister), **Tom Simson** (Parishioner), **Allison Skinner** (Parishioner), **Dale Tracey** (Req. by Carol Jubinski), **Sarah Witters** (Req. by Victoria Garcia.), **Walter Zalaski** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **John Zuby** (Req. by Carol Jubinski).

If there are any names that can be removed, kindly contact Kate in the church office 631-288-2111.

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces: Francis Gordon, Amanda E. Degener, Kyle M. Degener, George L. Degener, Jesse Fritz, Cameron Garcia, Nicholas LoRusso, Joshua Rudd, Rob Scribner, James Mercready and Midshipman 4th Class Luke Williamson.



Lent 1 (A)
February 22, 2026

[RCL]: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; **Psalm 32**; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Opening Prayer |

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Context |

Great heroes are plentiful in the Hebrew Bible—from Moses delivering the Israelites out of Egypt, to Esther interceding with the Persian King Ahasuerus (Xerxes) to save her people—but there is something unique about the biblical image of heroism. In the surrounding ancient near eastern cultures, figures like Gilgamesh or Hercules rallied against the gods for power and may even be or become semi-divine themselves. But biblical heroes, by contrast, rely on the steadfast mercy of God in the midst of their very human frailty.

While the author of Psalm 32 is unknown, scribal tradition has long associated this psalm with King David, one such biblical hero. There are many possible ways to read a psalm, but the traditional connection of this psalm with David invites the reader to use their spiritual imagination. What does it mean to be a hero who has fallen short?

King David, though beloved by God, was a human being with his own temptations and weaknesses. The Book of Samuel tells the story of a young man devoted to God, who defeats the giant, Goliath, and gains favor with King Saul, whereupon he becomes embroiled in political conflict. When David himself eventually becomes King, he spares little regard for the consequences of his actions on his people. He covets the wife of Uriah, one of his loyal soldiers, and takes her for himself. In an effort to hide his actions, he sends Uriah to his death in battle.

Though he eventually acknowledges his sin, David spends much of his life trying to understand the consequences of his choices. In this psalm, we can lament alongside David the ways we have fallen short, but so too can we give thanks for the forgiveness and mercy God offers us so freely. This psalm reflects King David's story, as well as the universal human story. How does it reflect your story?

Theological Reflection |

Every journey needs a map, and Psalm 32 begins with the destination in sight. *Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven.* The opening verses give away the ending with unreserved delight. God is going to forgive! The key to human happiness is forgiveness and an unburdened spirit.

Verses 3 and 4 describe the physical weight of keeping a secret from God. Earthy embodied language expresses the psalmist's anguish. *My bones withered away. My moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.* The body feels the effects of fear, anxiety, and shame. The deepest parts of the body, the structures that sustain human form and the water that replenishes the whole, suffer with the burden of unspoken truths.

This struggle drives a disconnect between the body and mind, systems that were created to work together. This disconnect extends to the human relationship with God. *Your hand was heavy upon me day and night.* Touch that should feel comforting becomes overshadowed by fear and anguish. Human perception becomes distorted under the weight of withheld truths.

Though Lent is a season to lament and grieve the ways that humans draw away from God, remember, the ending has already been given away. The Psalmist does not dwell in misery for more than two verses. Rescue comes without drama or delay. *Then you forgave me.* The psalmist offers the truth to God and receives the gift of mercy. There is no mystification or confusion. From the very moment everything is laid out on the table, God's forgiveness is granted. Truth-telling is the transformational moment on which everything hinges. For from this point forward, no times of trouble or overflowing waters can destroy the freedom found in God's abundant love.

The wisdom of the psalm teaches that happiness, security, and freedom are not found in being perfect, or in fighting against all the things in life that are frightening or difficult. Everything that a human being most deeply needs can be found in complete intimacy with God. God wants to know everything about his beloved children, even the parts that hide in the shadows.

If all of that is true, then what are the faithful called to do next? *All the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble.* This is the mark of faithfulness: trusting in God to hold every care, even in times of trouble. Faithfulness is living life in the knowledge that God responds with mercy—even to human failing—and trusting in that mercy enough to bring one's whole self to God again and again.

In this newfound freedom, the psalmist is finally able to hear God's teaching. *I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go.* With all of the distortions out of the way, God can introduce what it really means to be human. To be fully human is to *choose* to stay near to God, to understand that what God wants for humans is goodness and delight.

This is one of the seven "Penitential Psalms" traditionally associated with the Lenten season, and it shines a light on the healing power of God's mercy. *Mercy embraces those who trust the Lord.* There is such tenderness in these words. To stay near to God is to be embraced, to be lovingly held. That is a cause for joy. In the beginning of the Lenten season, Psalm 32 offers the opportunity for thanksgiving, to rejoice in the tender care God offers the soul.

Reflection Questions |

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- What is the connection between repentance and joy?
- How is your Lenten practice or devotion drawing you closer to God’s mercy?
- Where in your life do you feel embraced by God?
- How and when do you practice trusting in God?

Faith in Practice |

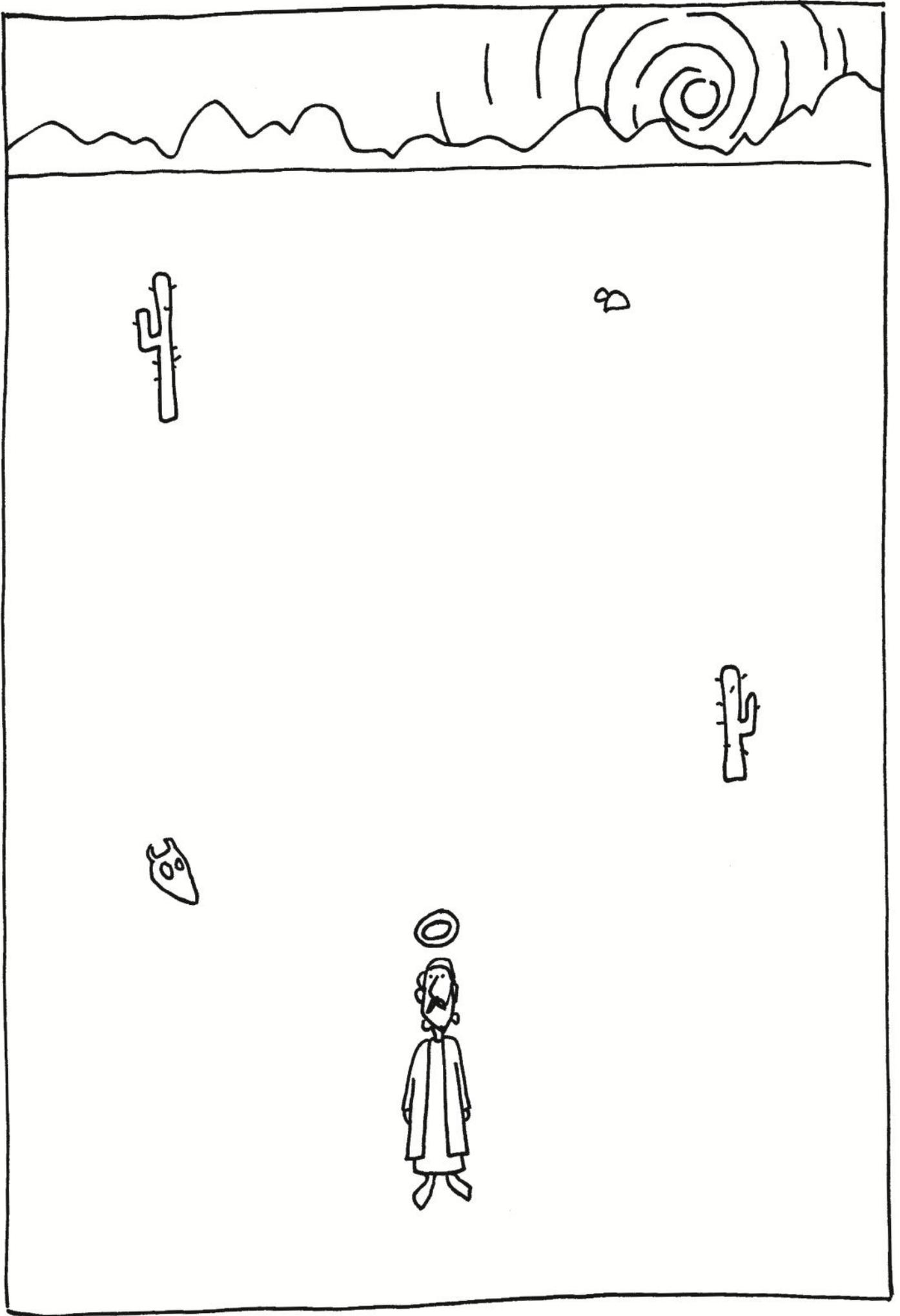
This week, consider God’s gift of mercy. This gift is reaffirmed in worship through the confession and absolution, but the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available to anyone who wishes to engage more intentionally with this gift of forgiveness. Take an inventory this season and ask: is there any part of you that desires to be more free in God’s mercy? What would you tell God if there were no secrets between you? Allow your whole self to be lovingly embraced this season in the Sacrament of Reconciliation or in personal prayer.

Kelsey Aebi is a postulant for the priesthood in the Diocese of East Tennessee, and an M.Div. student at the School of Theology in Sewanee, TN. As a seminarian, Kelsey especially enjoys the study of the Hebrew Bible, and serving as a Sacristan in the Chapel of the Apostles. In her free time, she enjoys reading fantasy and science fiction, praying the rosary, and traveling with her spouse.



Sermons that Work and Bible Studies that Work are a joint offering of Forward Movement and The Office of Communication at The Episcopal Church.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/bible-study/>
<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sermons-that-work>





Tell Out My Soul

Farther Along: A Lenten Reflection

The parable of the Prodigal Son resonates with us because it is so relatable. It is such a human story of selfishness, greed, squander, loss, return, and love. In most families a version of this story, perhaps in less dramatic terms, plays out as children try to claim their place in the world. I never appreciated home as much as when I came back to it after having tried and failed in my first post-college experience.

The parable that we hear Jesus tell us about a misguided son, a doting father, and a jealous brother is most often understood from the perspective of the prodigal. Some focus might be on the father, but the jealous son gets almost no thought, save for his complaint. I think this is a shame, because all three characters in this story have a profound lesson for us. The prodigal teaches us about gratitude, the father models unconditional love even if we don't understand his motives, and the jealous brother shows us the face of steadfast loyalty and faith.

I grew up singing the hymn Farther Along. It's a story about one day knowing all the reasons why things happen to us even if they don't make sense in the present. It contains the line "Then do we wonder why others prosper, living so wicked year after year." I hear the jealous brother in this line. Some of the most hardworking members of our churches are the overlooked brother-type of member: loyal, faithful, honest, doing our portion of the work that is needed, no flash or hype needed. The hundreds of volunteer hours that we contribute, the countless ideas and talents that we share, the steadfast showing-up make us faithful stewards of the gifts we have been given, whether someone throws us a party, or not. tens.org



Questions for Reflection:

How do you feel about recognition for service or ministry? Does it inspire you or motivate you to serve? Or does it embarrass you?



Cn. J. Davey Gerhard serves as Executive Director of TENS: The Episcopal Network for Stewardship and reminds us that planned giving is the perfect way to ensure that an inheritance is not squandered.



THE EPISCOPAL
NETWORK FOR
STEWARDSHIP

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Epiphany 4A 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Holy Eucharist with Anointing & Prayers for Healing 10:30am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Parish Office Closed The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Candlemas)</p>	<p>3</p> <p><i>Cornelius the Centurion, or [Manche Masemola, Martyr, 1928]</i></p>	<p>4</p> <p><i>Manche Masemola, Martyr, 1928</i> 7:30pm Alanon in the Atwater Room 7:30pm Alateen in the Parish Hall</p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>Agatha of Sicily, Martyr, c.251</i> Bright Beginnings Valentine Dance 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers 8:00pm Compline Zoom</p>	<p>6</p> <p><i>The Martyrs of Japan, 1597</i> 10:00am Yoga</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00am Winter Market</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Epiphany 5A 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour 6:00pm Superbowl Party and Chili Cookoff</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>10</p> <p><i>[Scholastica, Monastic, 543]</i></p>	<p>11</p> <p><i>[Theodora, Empress, c.867]</i> 7:30pm Alateen in the Atwater Room</p>	<p>12</p> <p><i>Theodora, Empress, c.867</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Staff Meeting 12:30pm Threshold Singers 8:00pm Compline Zoom</p>	<p>13</p> <p><i>Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818</i> 10:00am Yoga</p>	<p>14</p> <p>LOVE <i>Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries, 869 and 885</i> 12:30am Saint Mark's Ladies Luncheon 9:00am Winter Market 5:00pm Holy Eucharist</p>
<p>15</p> <p> Transfiguration Sunday Last Epiphany--Transfiguration Sunday 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Bright Beginnings Closed for the Week Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>17</p> <p> SHROVE TUESDAY <i>Janani Luwum, Archbishop and Martyr, 1977</i> Parish Office Closed 5:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper</p>	<p>18</p> <p> ASH Wednesday Ash Wednesday <i>Martin Luther, Pastor and Reformer, 1546</i> 12:00pm Ash Wednesday - Ashes to Go 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:30pm Alateen in the Atwater Room</p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>Agnes Tsao Kou Ying, Agatha Lin Zhao, and Lucy Yi Zhenmei, Catechists and Martyrs, 1856, 1858, and 1862</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers 7:00pm Deanery Lenten Study via zoom</p>	<p>20</p> <p><i>Frederick Douglass, Social Reformer, 1895</i> 10:00am Yoga</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00am Winter Market 5:00pm Holy Eucharist</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Lent 1A 9:30am Holy Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour 2:00pm Parish Hall Event</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Parish Office Closed <i>Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr of Smyrna, 156</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Saint Matthias, Apostle 6:30pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Emily Malbone Morgan, Lay Leader and Contemplative, 1937</i> 7:00pm Way of the Cross 7:30pm Alateen in the Atwater Room</p>	<p>26</p> <p><i>Photini, The Samaritan Woman, c.67</i> 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Staff Meeting 12:30pm Threshold Singers 7:00pm Deanery Lenten Study via zoom</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>George Herbert, Priest and Poet, 1633</i> 10:00am Yoga</p>	<p>28</p> <p><i>Anna Julia Haywood Cooper, Educator, 1964</i> 9:00am Winter Market 5:00pm Holy Eucharist with Anointing & Prayers for Healing</p>

AQION'S SHARE

*The Weekly Newsletter of Saint Mark's Church
 A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island*

SAINT MARK'S CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday—9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

WEEKEND SERVICES

Sat. 5:00 p.m.—Holy Eucharist
 Sun. 9:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Livestreamed)

THURSDAY SERVICES

11:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano
Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. GERALYN WOLF
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. William Franklin
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Very Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski
Rector

Email: chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org
 Cell: 410.253.3664



Friday February 13, 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

We write to you in this ongoing time of promise for the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island. We thank you for the questions we have already received for the upcoming Meet and Greet Sessions. These questions will help us to reflect the hopes, challenges and priorities of this diocese, and encourage pastoral reflection from each of our candidates.

If your parish has not yet submitted a question, we invite you to [submit your questions here](#). The deadline to submit questions is Friday, February 20th.

A reminder, Meet and Greets will be taking place the week of March 9th, with sessions taking place in Suffolk, Nassau, Brooklyn and Queens. Dates, times, and locations will be announced next week. Each of the candidates on the final slate, [as announced by the Joint Oversight Committee](#), will be at the events to respond to questions about the future of our diocese.

As we look toward the future, we also pause—intentionally and joyfully—to honor the ministry that has shaped us.

This is a season of gratitude and hope—honoring what has been and listening attentively for where God is leading next. The Transition Committee remains committed to transparency, prayer, and clear communication.

Please hold the slate, Bishop Provenzano and his family, and our whole diocese in your prayers.

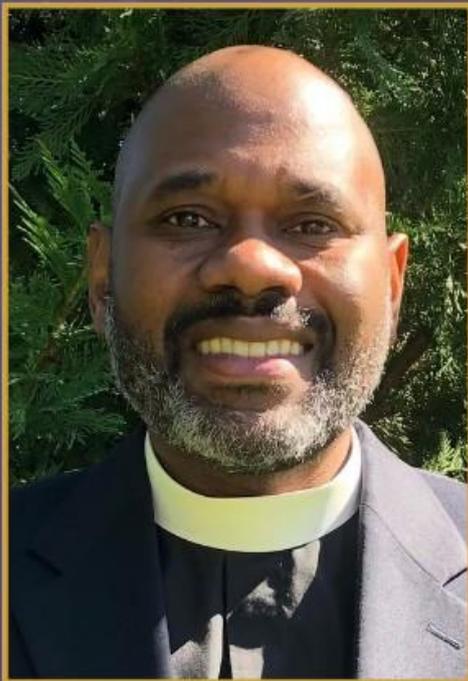
**Faithfully,
The Transition Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island**

To view this announcement on the website, [click here](#).

For more on the Search for the Ninth Bishop of Long Island, [click here](#).



Announcing the Slate of Candidates for Ninth Bishop of Long Island



**THE VERY REV.
HICKMAN ALEXANDRE**

*Vicar, St. James Church
Brookhaven, New York*



**THE REV. DR.
ADAM J. SHOEMAKER**

*Rector, St. Stephen's Church
Charleston, South Carolina*



**THE VERY REV. DR.
MICHAEL T. SNIFFEN**

Dean of Long Island

Read the full announcement at DIOCESELI.ORG/SLATE

TIMELINE



Bishop Provenzano Announces Resignation

DECEMBER 2024

Bishop Provenzano announces his intention to retire in September 2026.



Joint Oversight Committee Active

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2025

Members of the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council appointed to Joint Oversight Committee (JOC). JOC meets with the Presiding Bishop and Consultants for the process.



JOC Calls for Committee Applications

MARCH - APRIL 2025

JOC requested applications for Search and Transition Committees. Application review and selection.



Announcement of Search and Transition Committees

MAY 2025

Committees and Co-Chairs announced to Diocese.

Search and Transition Committees Active

MAY - JUNE 2025

Beginning with a shared retreat, the committees are hard at work on communication, data collection, and profile creation plans.



Listening Sessions and Survey Conducted

JULY - SEPT 2025

Your chance to make your voice heard! Survey link and listening session info will be available soon.

Diocesan Profile Published, Application Opens

FALL 2025

A snapshot of our Diocese is available for potential applicants. Nomination and application period opens.



Application Period Ends, Discernment Begins

FALL 2025

Applicants are screened and interviewed by the search committee.

Slate Announced, Petition Period Opens

WINTER 2026

JOC announces slate of candidates. Petition process begins.



Meet and Greets with Candidates

SPRING 2026

Your opportunity to hear directly from the candidates through in-person events across the Diocese.

Electing Convention

SPRING 2026

Ninth Bishop elected at a special convention.



Ordination of Ninth Bishop

SEPTEMBER 2026

The Diocese gathers for the ordination of the Ninth Bishop of Long Island.



Honoring Bishop Provenzano

For seventeen years, the Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano has served this diocese with faith, courage, creativity, and deep pastoral love. As part of this season of transition, the diocese is invited to gather in thanksgiving and celebration.



Diocesan Farewell Celebration "Marching in the Light of Love"

May 16, 2026: 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Incarnation

Join us for a special Eucharist, Program, and Reception honoring Bishop Provenzano's tenure, defined by a commitment to progressive activism, institutional revitalization, and inclusive ministry.

Ahead of his retirement in September, we invite the clergy, friends, and the beloved people of the diocese to celebrate a legacy which has marched in the light of God's love.

Registration will open to the diocese in March.



Winter Community Yoga Class Series

At Saint Mark's Church

Join yoga instructor Samantha Heckert in a 6 week yoga series designed to stretch, strengthen, and invigorate your body. Appropriate for beginners and longtime practitioners alike, we will aim to find confidence and ease in your individual practice. You will learn to work with any injuries or sensitivities you may have, go at a pace that feels right for you, and find peace and appreciation for what your body can do.

Fridays, January 9th - February 13th

10:00 am

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Westhampton Beach

\$15 Single Class

or

\$75 Full Six Week Series

Payable by Cash or Check day of class or Venmo @Samantha-Heckert-2 to pay in advance.

Email Sheckertyoga@gmail.com with any questions.

Rites of Passage

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

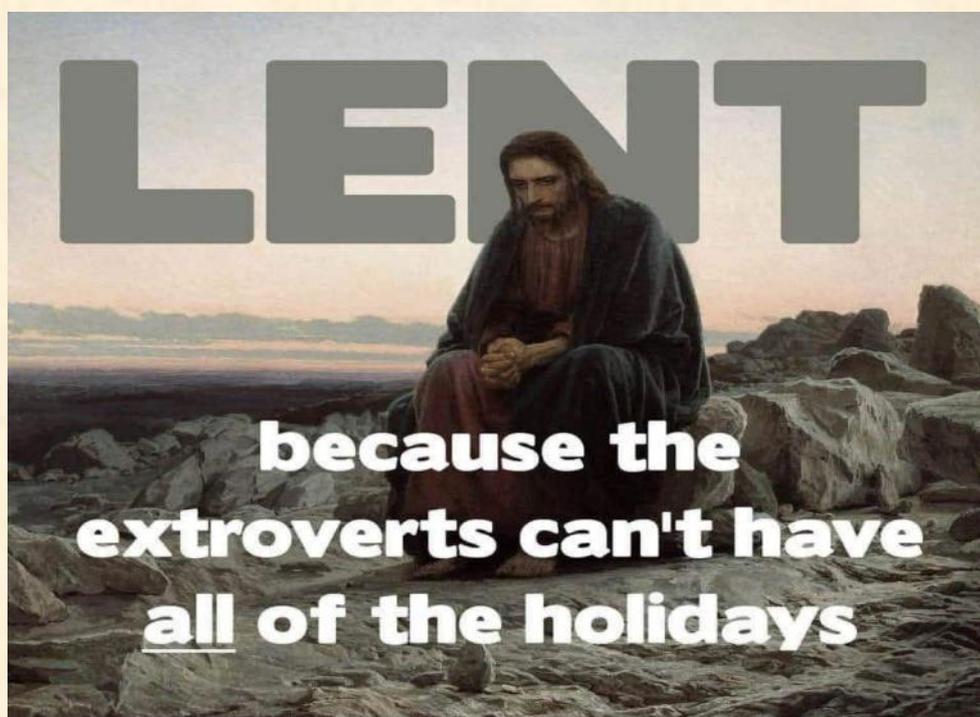
- 04 Lori Jean Williams
- 06 Penelope Tunney
- 11 Rob Moyle
- 13 Stephen Hunt
- 15 Tracy Mullen Lilly
- 16 Hudson Andria
- 18 Sandy Wyman
- 21 Kevin Tunney
- 23 Morgan Laube
- 23 Aidan Sherwood
- 23 Connor Canty
- 24 Pamela Sheiffer
- 28 Louise Reeves

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 22 Paul & Norma-Jeanne Okla
- 22 Francis & Nicole Gordon
- 24 Paul & Lisa Canty
- 29 Kent and Elizabeth Wolgemuth



On the Lighter Side...



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Office Phone: 631.288.2111



Parish Office Hours
T—F 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org
Kate Gabrielsen, Parish Administrator