

## February 2008

The Church of the Epiphany  
Church Hill, Glenburn, PA 18414  
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Fr. Craig Sweeney, Rector  
**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday ~ Friday  
8:30 am ~ 4:30 pm

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### **From the Rector –**

Lent is upon us, already. Ash Wednesday is the 6<sup>th</sup>, early since Easter is early. This year, Easter is almost as early as it can be, and Ash Wednesday is set by that date.

In the old days, Lent was a time of preparation. Those who wished to convert to Christianity spent this time in fasting and study. In some places, they had to spend up to 3 years preparing for baptism! But the Church prepared, all together, for Easter, for the resurrection.

From this time of fasting, Lent came to be known as a penitential season, and in modern times, we mostly were taught that it was time to ‘give something up.’ That would be, of course, something that hurt - a genuine sacrifice. Giving a sacrifice to God is by way of showing our love to God, for only for someone we genuinely loved would we give up something painful.

The earliest religious ceremonies were largely sacrifices - people would bring food, usually, and food was precious in those times. People survived on their hunts, and later their flocks and crops. Giving up some of that precious food was truly a sacrifice, it was giving something away, something they needed - a lot. Sacrifices were powerful statements of faith in the God who was ultimately the source of everything.

In our service of the Eucharist, our presentation of wine and bread to the altar for the priest to bless is designed to invoke the image of sacrifice. We bring forth the ‘stuff of life,’ food and drink, and give it to God, trusting in God to provide for us out of his grace and mercy. Thing is, none of us made those wafers, none of us fermented that wine. It truly isn’t much of a sacrifice for us to offer food and wine to God - it doesn’t hurt, it isn’t like we don’t have plenty.

This is why I leave the money plates on the altar - for that is our real sacrifice these days. Giving money hurts, or at least it is inconvenient, and thus a genuine statement of our love for God.

In any event, I don’t think that giving up candy, or drinking or going on a diet really fits the religious point of sacrifice to God. If that spiritual discipline is helpful to you, I think that is great, truly. It doesn’t do much for me. Fasting a day a week - now that can be powerful, reminding us of how much we take our bounty for granted, making us realize how much we consume as millions in the world are hungry.

I usually try to take something on, not give something up. This Lent I’ll be working on re-developing my spiritual life. Oddly, it is not unusual for clergy to begin to slack off on this critical aspect of life. We grow so familiar with Scripture, so immersed in thinking about God and theology, so busy with parish life that it is easy to set our prayer time aside. I find myself weakened by this slackness. And making myself do this will be a genuine nuisance - a sacrifice.

I urge you to find something to give up, something that hurts, or something to take on, something that grows you closer to God. It is growing closer to God that counts in this season, demonstrating our love of the God who gives us everything - who on Easter gives us the gift of eternal life. Saying ‘thanks’ is the least we can do.

Fr. Craig

## **“I’m a good driver” (with apologies to “Rainman”!)**

After Andrew turned sixteen in the Spring of 2007 I became much more familiar with the PA Driver’s Manual. Whilst accompanying Andrew during the six months in which he learned to drive I helped him to focus on the fundamentals of driving. One of the key things is to appreciate how easy it is to get distracted and not to stay focused. Another important skill is to learn how to ‘yield’ and allow others to have the right of way. To not be in a big hurry and be able to slow down when necessary.

All of these essential elements are equally relevant when it comes to using the season of LENT – to move purposefully and with a sense of direction during the forty days in preparation for Easter.

Lent calls us to ‘slow down’ and change gears so that we are not constantly in a big hurry. To adopt a different discipline which enables us to become calm – even still – ‘and know the reality of God’s presence.’

We have to deal with the many distractions which take our focus off God and matters of faith. Sometimes it helps to carry a simple wooden cross or create a ‘sacred space’ in our homes which is conducive to prayer, reflection and study. Religious icons, music and even lighting can help create an atmosphere which is peaceful and relatively quiet. Even distractions can be re-directed and embraced in our prayerful petitions to God.

Hopefully many of you will take advantage of the different study and fellowship opportunities which Epiphany is sponsoring during Lent. To make time for occasions of both individual and corporate study and fellowship. To devote some time to being open to God and willing to yield to His most gracious will. Yielding involves purposeful progress in the direction that God is guiding us into – giving Him the opportunity to work in and through our lives.

Linda Rogers has provided the information about the Lenten Study and fellowship opportunities. Please take advantage of this special time of Lent which invites us to slow down, to even be still, and to focus on God and His will for our lives and Epiphany as a parish. May God richly bless us and be with us as we eagerly embrace this gift of Lent.

Fr. Graham +

## **Upcoming DioBeth Youth Events**

Hello All,

Information and registration forms on our upcoming youth events are now on the diocesan youth website:

[www.lifeistasty.org](http://www.lifeistasty.org). We have some wonderful events on the horizon:

- [Christophany in the Springtime for 6-12 graders, April 25-27](#)
- [a Jr. High Mission Trip for 6-8 graders, June 17-20](#)
- [the National Episcopal Youth Event \(EYE\) for 9-12 graders, July 8-13](#)

Please help spread the news!

Thanks and peace,

The Rev. Demery Bader-Saye, Missioner for Youth, The Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

## **Alan Mead**

Alan Mead, onetime interim rector in Reading and Clarks Summit, has accepted a call to be interim rector of St. John's Church, Church Hill, Richmond, VA, beginning March 1. He will finish as interim rector at St. Paul's Memorial Church, Charlottesville, VA, at the end of February. St. John's is the historic church where Patrick Henry gave his speech concerning "give me liberty or give me death." Alan hopes someday to reconnect with the Diocese of Bethlehem. He has remained in touch with us online. "I really appreciate keeping in touch with everyone there whom I came to love dearly," he wrote to me recently. "It helps me to continue feeling like I am indeed a crouton in the House of Bread."

Bill Lewellis, Communication Minister/Editor [blewellis@diobeth.org](mailto:blewellis@diobeth.org)

## The Biggest

Goes out to Linda Post, who did a wonderful job on the Bishop's reception held January 27<sup>th</sup>. The food was scrumptious and the centerpieces gorgeous!

### February Youth Activities

Sun. 2/3, 12 - 1:30 pm - Youth Advisory Council (YAC)  
Sun. 2/3, 6 - 10 p.m. - SuperBowl party for 6th - 12th grade at the Conaboy house  
Sat. 2/9, 9 a.m. - ?? - Youth Room Work Day, 6th - 12th grade  
Sun. 2/17, 12:30 - 2:30 - Rock Climbing at 3 Peaks Climbing Gym, 6th - 12th grade

SuperBowl Party: 6th - 12th graders are invited to Mattie and Casey Conaboy's home, 641 Edella Road, on Sun., 2/3 from 6 - 10 p.m. Please RSVP to Josh by Wed., 1/30, at 570.561.7793. He will ask you to bring something to add to the snack table. Bring a friend!

And Epiphany Youth have their own website. Please visit us there! <http://EpiphanyYouth.blogspot.com/>

Peace,  
Josh, Missioner to Youth

### Family Intercessions

*February 3* ~ Doris Marsh; Barbara Mason; Penny Mason, Brian Potopowitz, Mason & Anna Moher; Kurt, Charlotte, Shireen & Shahrzad Massoudi; John & Jo Anne Matechak

*February 10* ~ Nadina Mattes; Roger, Jackie, Emily, Molly, Philip & Phoebe Mattes; Anne Matthews; Rev. Terry Matthews; John & Bonnie Matthews

*February 17* ~ Rev. Stephen & Maureen Matylewicz; Leona McHugh; Pat, Kristie, Ian, Adam & Kate McMahon; Jean McMahon; Nancy McManamon

*February 24* ~ Ruth Miller; Donald, Annette, Amy Lynn & Nicole Miller; Bob & Sally Miller; Charlie Moffat & Melette; Barbara Monick



### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, serving from 5 - 7pm in the Parish Hall. All you can eat Pancakes, Sausages, Fruit Cups & Drinks! Tell your friends and neighbors! No cost; donations accepted. And, calling all Epiphany gentlemen, youth and boys: if you can help with this annual tradition, please sign up in the Narthex/Parish Hall or contact Chair Dave Brojack: 945-3169, 586-2281, [dave@brojacklumber.com](mailto:dave@brojacklumber.com) or Co-chair Wayne Divis: 836-4961, 388-2243, [ldivis@epix.net](mailto:ldivis@epix.net).

### Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist Services...

... will be on February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am & 7 pm. There will be a breakfast in the Parish Hall after the 9:30 am service.

## 2008 Annual Meeting & 2007 Reports

If you were unable to attend the Annual Meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>, copies of the 2007 Reports, 2008 Proposed Budget, status of our trust funds and 2008 meeting minutes are available in the office.

## Dalton Food Pantry

The first Sunday of each month is Food Pantry Sunday for Epiphany, the next being **February 3rd**. All non-perishable/non-breakable foods can be left in the Narthex or Sunday School baskets or in the kitchen. The Dalton Food Pantry benefits needy residents in Abington Heights and Lackawanna Trail School Districts and is open Monday evenings 6-7:30pm in the basement of the Dalton United Methodist Church on So. Turnpike Road.

### 2008 Dates to Remember...

- March 16<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday
- March 20<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday Soup Supper (*if you can coordinate this event, please call the office*)
- March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Easter Sunday
- **April 4<sup>th</sup>** – Talent Show & Youth Spaghetti Supper
- May 11<sup>th</sup> – Pentecost Sunday
- June 8<sup>th</sup> – Youth Sunday / Parish Picnic
- June 23-27 – E/T Vacation Bible School

**EPISCOPAL DICTIONARY** [*Some of the terms we Episcopal people often use, and figure everybody knows.*]

#### Ambulatory

A side **aisle** in a church building, between the **pews** and the side walls, most often used for special **processions**.

#### Amen

From Hebrew, meaning, "So be it." Episcopalians say "*ah-men*," while most other communions say "*eh-men*."

#### Amice

A rectangular neckpiece or collar worn with an **alb**. The amice is generally not worn by a **low church** person.

#### Anglican

A term which simply means "English." The Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion -- a collection of Churches around the world that has their origins in the **Church of England**.

## Sunday Adult Forum in the Parish Hall

Feb. 10–Mar. 16, 9:15-10am. "A Rule of Life for Congregations" -Readings based on Baptismal Covenant

### Easter Flower Envelopes...

...are in the pews. Please return them to the office or in an offering plate by Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Chili Cook-Off Winner

Congratulations to Sulema Soto-Correa on her chili which won top honors at the Epiphany celebration on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The recipe is printed below. Also, many, many thanks to The Coreys for coordinating this event. And congrats Ellen on 2<sup>nd</sup> place!

### Taco Chile (The easiest recipe on the planet! – Sulema)

1 big can of crushed tomatoes  
1 can of corn - do not drain  
1 can of black beans  
1 can of kidney beans  
1 lb ground beef  
1 envelope - taco seasoning  
1 envelope - powdered Hidden Valley Ranch dressing  
1 medium onion  
2 to 3 cloves of garlic  
1/2 green bell pepper  
Sour cream  
Cheese  
Tortilla Chips

Brown the hamburger with chopped onions, chopped garlic and chopped bell pepper. Add the crushed tomatoes, beans, corn & seasonings. Put in a crock pot and heat for 4 to 6 hours on low. Top w/cheese, sour cream and tortilla chips.

## AEM Lenten Luncheons

At noon on Wednesdays in Lent, AEM churches in our area will host a soup luncheon followed by Lenten program (see the calendar page for specific locations). Epiphany will host this luncheon on February 27<sup>th</sup>. If you can help with this event, please contact the office. We will need set-up and clean-up folk, soup makers and bread bakers, and ladle-ers.

...  
**AS THE TIMES-TRIBUNE**

### Abington Heights

Junior Cory Spangenberg sponsored a special blood drive — one specifically for babies — at the Church of the Epiphany in Glenburn last Sunday. The drive was part of Cory's senior project.

The blood drive was designated a "Type for Tots" drive, which provided type-O blood for infants in neonatal units of local hospitals.

People with other blood types also gave blood at the drive. "Thirty-seven people gave blood and our goal was 30," Cory said. "It was a good turnout."

Anyone who donated blood during the drive was entered into the "Warm your Heart, Warm your Home" contest sponsored by the American Red Cross, which will pay for the winner's heating bills for a month.

Cory, who is 16, was too young to give blood at the drive, but his parents donated, as did parents of some of his Abington Heights basketball team mates.

"It definitely showed me that I could do more for the community and help out," he said.

— LAURA LEGERE



## Cruising to Equity

A campaign to witness for children through prayer, education, worship, and action.

**Port of Call #4 – A Moral Start** Season: Lent (Feb 6 – March 21, 2008) We will be collecting children's books (pre-school through 5<sup>th</sup> grade), games, and/or videos that promote positive values. For example: Ungame, Kids Chatter, Veggie Tales, Junie B. Jones, Penguins, Babysitters Club, Box Car Children, Safe Am I, Frog and Toad, Safe Harbor, and Magic Tree House. We will give these items to Shelf to Shelf, a program sponsored by the Retired and Senior Volunteers Program.

## A Plea for Help... with Meals on Wheels

Our church delivers meals every Tuesday for the Lackawanna County Meals on Wheels program. This participation not only compliments our mission as a church but provides a much needed assistance to those people still wanting to remain independent and in their homes. This is a great project for those looking for a non-monetary way to increase their stewardship for our church.

We are in need of at least six drivers (and a new coordinator but I still want to drive!!) who have an hour or so to deliver meals in the Clarks Summit/Dalton area. Participation usually involves one month of Tuesdays per year. Our normal delivery route currently has 7-8 stops and takes about an hour to an hour and a half to complete (your time may vary based on the weight of your right foot and chattiness!!!). Delivery teams are welcome and a terrific way to do something together with a friend or family member.

If you are interested or have any questions, please call John Bachmann at 587-8841.



## Directory Updates Birthdays:

September 14 – Madison Driscole

## From the Parish Register

### Burials:

Eugene A. Monick

## Lenten Ark Banks & Calendars

FILL THE ARK! Heifer International ark banks and calendars will be available at the Pancake Supper on February 5<sup>th</sup> and in the Church Narthex. Please return filled banks to the Church by Easter Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. For more information on Heifer, see [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) or call 1-800-422-0474.

## Lent at Epiphany

This year there are a variety of offerings during the week for small group fellowship, study, and spiritual growth during Lent. Examine the days and time, the locations, the study topics, and the leaders. Select one or more of these opportunities to adopt a Lenten discipline and enhance your spiritual growth during this holy season. Invite a friend to join you.

Leaflets about the Lenten study opportunities are available in the Narthex.

Sunday Forum Feb. 10 - Mar. 16 Parish Hall 9:15 - 10:00 AM  
"A Rule of Life for Congregations" - Brief readings based on the Baptismal Covenant. The format will be small group discussion of questions posed each week. Led by Lay & Clergy Leaders.

Sunday Evening Feb. 10 - Mar. 9 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
Hosted by Robin and Charlie Pinches 422 Waverly Ave., Clarks Summit  
"Reliving the Passion of Christ" by Walter Wangerin. The format will include fellowship and small group discussion led by Charlie Pinches.

Tuesday Evening Feb. 12 - Mar. 11 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
Hosted by Rachel and John Baildon 410 Powell Ave., Clarks Summit  
"Reliving the Passion of Christ" by Walter Wangerin. The format will include fellowship and small group discussion led by Charlie Pinches.

Wednesday Afternoon Feb. 13 - Mar 12 Commons Room 4 - 5:15 PM  
"40 Days of Lent: Different Shoes - A Common Path" This small book of daily meditations by a prisoner who reminds us though we all walk in different shoes we walk in common before God. It is available in the Narthex. Fr. Graham Cliff will lead participants as they "dig deeper" and "think further."

Thursday Evening Feb. 14 - Mar. 13 Parish Hall 5:30 - 7:00 PM  
Intergenerational format - families encouraged  
5:30 - 5:45 Brief service of Evening Prayer  
5:45 - 6:15 Simple soup supper provided (soup, bread, fruit - also PBJ for kids)  
6:15 - 7:00 Bible study  
Leader: Josh Frank

Abington Ecumenical Ministerium Wednesday Noon – 1 pm - Soup & Study  
Feb. 13 – Dalton United Methodist Church  
Feb. 20 – Factoryville Baptist Church  
Feb. 27 – The Church of the Epiphany  
Mar. 5 – Clarks Summit United Methodist Church  
Mar. 12 – Clarks Green United Methodist Church  
Mar. 21 Good Friday Service 12 – 3 pm at First Presbyterian Church, School St., Clarks Summit  
Fridays in Lent at 7 pm – Stations of the Cross, Our Lady of the Snows, State St., Clarks Summit

Trinity Lutheran Church W. Grove St., CS Wednesday Evening Worship  
Feb. 13 - March 12 7:30 pm

Holy Week at Epiphany March 19 - March 22  
Wednesday 9:30 am Eucharist  
Maundy Thursday 6 pm Supper, 7:30 pm Eucharist  
Friday 8:00 pm Service of Tenebrae  
Saturday 8:00 pm Easter Vigil

Submission by Linda Rogers

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### USHERS ~ PLEASE NOTE:

Fellow ushers: The new bell rope has changed the dynamics of bell ringing at Epiphany. It's easy to inadvertently "flip" the bell by pulling too hard or too "long" on the new rope, as I found out at a Christmas Eve service. When the bell flips, the rope shortens by 4 or 5 feet, and requires someone to go up on the roof to set things right. On Feb. 10, we'll plan to have two brief refresher sessions in the narthex, one right after the 8:00 service, and one right after the 10:30 service. Chad Sutton has had extra experience in the ropes, and will be a resource for us at those 2 sessions. Please plan to stick around a few minutes on Feb. 10 to be sure we are all up to speed with the new rope. Lee Rancier

WE ARE CALLED

We are called to be holy; to live according to God's laws.  
 We are called to forgive; for if we don't forgive how can we be forgiven?  
 We are called to pass on the Gospel; to tell the truth about Jesus.  
 We are called to be salt; for without salt there is no zest in God's word.  
 We are called to be light; to show the light of God in all we do.  
 We are called to be faithful; full of faith, holding our beliefs.  
 We are called to be God's hands and feet and voice in the world.  
 We are called to go to the heart of the laws and obey them.  
 We are called to be holy.



DLL

**Wednesday Morning Services**

If there is a delay or cancellation of classes in the Abington Heights School District, the 9:30 am service on Wednesdays will not be held.

**Open Dates for Altar Flowers**

The following dates are available for Altar Flower donations: March 30; April 6, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18; June 15, 22; July 20; August 10, 17, 24, 31; September 7, 14, 21; October 12; November 2, 16; December 7, 14, 28. Contact Adrien in the office if interested. The cost of weekly Altar flowers is \$40.

<b>Acolyte Schedule</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>February 10</u></b>  <b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>  <u>David Lange</u>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>                      CRUCIFER– <u>Cory Spangenberg</u>                      FIRST SERVER– <u>Seth Pinches (Y.R.)</u>                      SECOND SERVER– <u>Alexis McGuirk</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>February 17</u></b>  <b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>  <u>Cory Spangenberg</u>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>                      CRUCIFER– <u>Claire Pinches (Y.R.)</u>                      FIRST SERVER– <u>Patrick Lange</u>                      SECOND SERVER– <u>Kyle Bachmann</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>February 24</u></b>  <b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>  <u>Zach Kalmanowicz</u>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>                      CRUCIFER– <u>David Lange</u>                      FIRST SERVER– <u>Molly Mattes</u>                      SECOND SERVER– <u>Kate McMahon (Y.R.)</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>March 2</u></b>  <b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>  <u>Claire Pinches</u>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>                      CRUCIFER– <u>Dominic Castanzo</u>                      FIRST SERVER– <u>Keeley Whitney (Y.R.)</u>                      SECOND SERVER– <u>Hannah Whitney</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>March 9</u></b>  <b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>  <u>Dominic Castanzo</u>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>                      CRUCIFER– <u>Rachel Little</u>                      FIRST SERVER– <u>Ben Kalmanowicz (Y.R.)</u>                      SECOND SERVER– <u>Alexis McGuirk</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>March 16 – Palm Sunday</u></b>  <b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>  <u>Russell Voigt</u>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>                      CRUCIFER– <u>Zach Kalmanowicz</u>                      FIRST SERVER– <u>Emily Mattes (Y.R.)</u>                      SECOND SERVER– <u>Kyle Bachmann</u></p>
<p><b>If you are scheduled to serve and cannot serve, YOU MUST get a substitute. Fr Craig is counting on you! Our next Acolyte Meeting is Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> immediately following the 10:30am church service since it is Super Bowl Sunday.</b></p>	



## Schedule of Worship for Holy Week

- March 16 ~ **Palm Sunday** ~ Holy Eucharist ~ 8 & 10:30 am  
Sunday School & Adult Forum ~ 9 am
- March 19 ~ **Wednesday in Holy Week** ~ Holy Eucharist ~ 9:30 am
- March 20 ~ **Maundy Thursday** ~ Soup & Bread Supper ~ 6 pm  
Holy Eucharist ~ 7:30 pm
- March 21 ~ **Good Friday** ~ A.E.M. Good Friday Service ~ 12-3 pm  
@ First Presbyterian Church, Clarks Summit  
(Come for all the time or spend as much time as your schedule allows)  
Tenebrae at Epiphany ~ 8 pm
- March 22 ~ **Easter Vigil** ~ Holy Eucharist ~ 8 pm
- March 23 ~ **Easter Sunday** ~ Holy Eucharist ~ 8, 9:30, 11:15 am  
No Sunday School or Adult Forum

**The Church of the Epiphany**  
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