

4/3/2020

Dear St. Edward's Family,

Greetings in the merciful Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is hard to believe that we are still in this social distancing time. Although it is difficult to predict how long this will continue, I want to encourage you that God will see us through these painful and uncertain times. As we move forward in this new reality, I want to share with you some changes to our worship and opportunities for online worship through Holy Week.

In light of our Gov. Ron DeSantis order to *Stay At Home* we are suspending the Drive-Thru Eucharist that we had last Sunday. It is important that we do our best to stay at home over the next month for the safety of our church and our community.

We will continue to have a number of online worship times available for you to stay connected in communal worship. The schedule is as follows:

***Palm Sunday** – A Morning Prayer service will be uploaded at 10:00 AM on Sunday, April 5th. It will include some familiar hymns, a sermon, and a litany for healing. A full-service bulletin will be made available for you online. I also invite you (if you are able) to mount palm branches (or some sort of leafy branch) on your front door as a way of symbolically remembering Palm Sunday. I encourage you to leave it up through Holy Week. On Easter morning you may want to decorate it with flowers to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

***Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday** – Compline will be offered at 8:05 each night on Facebook live. I invite you to pray each evening these ancient prayers.

***Maundy Thursday** – At 8:05 PM Maundy Thursday readings and prayers will be offered with a meditative reflection.

***Good Friday** – Our chief pastor, Bishop Greg Brewer will be officiating and preaching a Good Friday Ministry of the Word Service on Friday, April 10 at 12:05 PM. The video stream will be from the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and you can find it at www.ccslorlando.org.

***Seven Last Words** – Although I do not have the details yet, I will be giving a meditation on one of the seven last words of Jesus. Six other ministers will be with me through the video conferencing site Zoom. This will be recorded and made available around 3:30 PM. I will share more specific details as soon as I am able to.

***Holy Saturday** – Compline will be offered at 8:05 PM on Facebook live.

***Easter Sunday** – Two worship services will be available.

A Morning Prayer service from our sanctuary will be uploaded at 9:30 AM on Sunday, April 12th. It will include some familiar hymns, a sermon, and a litany for healing. A full-service bulletin will be made available for you online.

Also, Bishop Greg Brewer will be officiating and preaching an Easter Sunday Ministry of the Word Service on Sunday, April 12 at 10:15 AM. The video stream will be from the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and you can find it at www.ccslorlando.org.

You may follow our videos online at our website, Facebook, and YouTube. Copy the link below and paste it into your browser.

Website: www.stedwardsepiscopal.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stedwardsepiscopal

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UC5Xwcto3KDRqB7MW16_ZVvA

Thank you for your continued support of St. Edward's Episcopal Church through prayer, witness, and giving.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

Blessings and Peace,

Rev. Mark A. Lafler

Rector

St. Edward's Episcopal Church

Mount Dora, Florida