The Transformative Light into Lent

I have so enjoyed the longer than usual Epiphany season this year. Counting the Last Sunday of Epiphany, we will have enjoyed 8 Sundays of Epiphany! It is such a joyous, uplifting season as we have had time to soak up the meaning of the Light of the Epiphany beginning with the first symbolic and iconic Divine Light shown from the Eastern Star that guided those to the baby that would be King, Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of God! Throughout the Epiphany Season we have been encouraged by the Epiphany themes of hope, assurance, confidence, comfort and affirmation as God's children.

And now, marked by Ash Wednesday, we enter the season of Lent. If the Epiphany Season is to be for us a mountain-top experience of enlightenment, encouragement and comfort from the knowledge that we serve and belong to a powerful God of the Universe who also cares about us individually and about our well being, the Lenten Season brings us down the mountain to the places where we live out our faith in our everyday lives . . . in our full humanness. Like Jesus before us who came down the mountain from his glorious Baptism and entered into the wilderness of preparation, so do we enter into a Lenten journey of preparation.

Since the Beginning of the Fourth Century, Christians have journeved through a Lenten Season to ultimately prepare themselves for Holy Week and Easter. Traditionally, the 40 days of Lent have been a time of special observances in worship, pravers, spiritual formation, self-evaluation, spiritual disciplines, self-denial, fasting, meditation and reflection. It is also a time of repentance and renewal. All of these observances, practices and experiences are to prepare ourselves for the true meaning and celebration of Easter. Easter remains the single most significant event in Christianity and in the Church. Christ's suffering, death and resurrection is the theological core of Christianity.

The Epiphany Season is well positioned before the Season of Lent. In a sense, the Epiphany Season builds us up with a strong foundation of hope, confidence and assurance so that it may strengthen our resolve and fortify us for the challenges and preparations of a truly disciplined and meaningful Lenten journey. The Light found in the Epiphany can illumine our pathways into the "wilderness" experiences of our Lenten journey ahead that will lead us to Easter.

Once again, (as the Benedictine mantra goes: "Again, we begin again."), your priest and the Church invite you to the beginning of a Holy Lent. May the Light and the riches from the Epiphany Season guide and strengthen you in the observances of a truly, faithful and Holy Lent! AMEN

The best is yet to come!"

Fr. Terry 🕇



The Rev. Terry Street, Rector

March at a Glance

- 2 Mardi Gras Party, 6:00p,PLC
- 3 ECW Meeting/Lunch, 12:30, PH
- 5 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5:30p, PLC
- 6 Ash Wednesday Services, 12:10p & 6:30p, Nave
- St. M/M DOK, 10:00a, PH
- 13 Fellowship Supper/Stations of the Cross, 6:00p, PLC
- 14 Men's Club, 6:30p, PH
- 20 Fellowship Supper/Stations of the Cross, 6:00p, PLC
- 27 Fellowship Supper/Stations of the Cross, 6:00p, PLC



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- Saint Philip Episcopal Church

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Confirmation/Bishop Visit Sunday at St. Philip



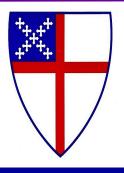
March Birthdays Monica Vunk 2	On the Prayer List Ricky Blount	t St. Philip Staff & Vestry Members
Jamie Pitcock 3 Mary Shardy 3 Robert Sy 6 Nicholas Nelson 10 Tracy Dain 12 Meredith Kerlin 14 Lee Sheffield 15 Charles Brooks 19 Gabriel Temple 19 Jeffrey Wingo 19 Madeline Tonole 28 Tony Settles 29 Bruce Nelson 31	Steve Chester Suzy Cunningham Paul Fischer Shirley Goergens Lynne Howard Kelsey Knight Maryann McLeod Christy Miller Sue Morrison Robert Nabors Fr. James Newsom Dean Randall Rhodes Family Robinson Family Alex Sholder Sipes Family Valenti Family	Fr. Terry Street 896-5106 RectorMaera Montgomery Parish Secretary 388-9830Dr. Richard Townley Director of Music MinistryJessica Heckle 335-8117 TreasurerVESTRY Dwight Wagner 490-2788 David Delich 828-8561 Jeff Albert 337-1669 Sandra Booth 494-9301 Jennifer Temple 590-8484
March Anniversaries Donna Turner 487-5405 Andy & Lisa Graham 17		
Memorials		
Betty Fowler by Pamela Malone		1. Sy by Pamela Malone
Hugh Hollowell by Pamel	a Malone	Jeanie M. Sy
Ruth Reed by Mr./Mrs. R Mr./Mrs. R Pamela Ma Mrs. Don P	obert Turner, III lone	Mr./Mrs. Charles Wilburn- alton Walker by Mr./Mrs. Ray Harvelle Mr./Mrs. Don Holmes

Faye Frykholm

Sandra Booth

Mr./Mrs. Don Holmes

In Honor Of Friend Martha Manos' Birthday by Sally Magedfrau



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Save the Date—Volunteers Needed

It will be here before you know it! The annual **Operation Backpack** at the Emmanuel Center will take place on Friday, July 26th (setup) and Saturday, July 27th (event). This is one of our biggest community outreach programs designed to get these beautiful children excited and outfitted for a new school year. The Emmanuel Center has a proven record of a 100% graduation from high school; an amazing statistic in a community that could easily be different. Walking into class on the first day of school with a new backpack and the essentials to a successful academic year is a spectacular boost to self-esteem and confidence, the cornerstones to future success. Your contribution of time and financial resources make it happen for up to 300 children each year! Each backpack costs between \$35-40. We have developed a robust program to purchase supplies at wholesale prices and setup a "store" for each child to participate in the selection of their favorite colors to fill their backpacks. It works and we would love for you to be part of it in any way that you can! Please consider:

- 1. Co-coordinator to work with Liz Stephens
- 2. Volunteering to help set up on July 26th
- 3. Volunteering to participate with the children on the 27th
- 4. Making a financial contribution of any amount to offset the costs

For more information, please contact Liz Stephens at 860-501-5536 or <u>the4stphens@gmail.com</u> or Father Terry. Thank you in advance for making the difference in the life of a child in our city!

St. Philip Episcopal Church

9380 Davies Plantation Rd.

Memphis, TN 38133

The Rev. Terry Street, Rector

Sunday Schedule

- 8:00a Holy Eucharist
- 8:45a Coffee Hour, Parish Hall
- 9:00a Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 9:15a Christian Education
- 10:30a Holy Eucharist
- 11:45a Coffee Hour, Parish Hall

Wednesday Service

12:10 p Healing w / Holy Eucharist

We're on the web... www.stphilipmemphis.org