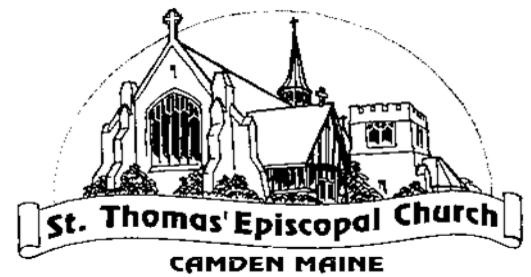


# St. Thomas' Tidings

Sunday, March 29, 2020  
Fifth Sunday in Lent

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. Everyone is welcome! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar.



The Rev. Canon Lisa Fry, Rector

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## Letter to the Community

Blessings, people of St. Thomas'!  
Let's begin with new things that I need to announce:

- **OUR CHURCH BUILDING IS CLOSED.** The Diocese has asked that all traffic in the church be curtailed. If people **MUST** go in, they may only go in 1 person at a time. They must sign in and out with the date and time. This is for tracking, in case someone should become ill. We need to know where they've been—and who else might be at risk. All people must disinfect their hands and the pen coming and going.
- Susie is working at the church for very limited hours, and remotely.
- Jon is nearly finished disinfecting the building. He will only be there sporadically to check the building.
- I am working from home.

Here's what the Bishop says: all churches are discouraged from streaming Eucharist services, and videos and live streams need to be done with only one person present in the room. The Bishop encourages all of us to look toward the day when we all come together again for Holy Communion. He asks that we take advantage of all the other services in the prayer book at this time. If it helps—he says—we can think of ourselves as being "in exile." Hoping that things will soon be back to normal is understandable, but not

likely. It is very possible we won't be back in the church until mid-May. Meanwhile:

- I'm doing Noonday Prayers Monday- Friday live on Facebook
- Compline on Wednesdays and Sundays at 8 p.m. live on Facebook
- I encourage you to pray either Morning or Evening Prayer.

## Videos



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

1 hour ago · 42 views

Rev. Lisa leads Noonday Prayer live on the St. Thomas' Facebook page. You can also view Compline live, and see her sermons on video.

I will also be putting out informational videos, as well as short videos with prayers and guided meditation. Share them with your family and friends. They will be on our YouTube channel and our website. I will also link them to Facebook.

And speaking of Facebook—if you have always resisted Facebook, I applaud you. I did, too. But rethink your stance now. If you are on Facebook and LIKE our page, you

will receive notices in your feed of upcoming videos and services live online. Get used to going to our church page. Here's the link: [https://www.facebook.com/camdenepiscopalians/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/camdenepiscopalians/?modal=admin_todo_tour). This is a great way to share pics—either on your own Facebook page OR the church's, to chat online in real time, to stay connected. If you need help getting started, CALL ME.

How about this? Make an altar in your home. All you need is a space you intentionally put together for remembering and thanksgiving. Assemble things on it that have personal meaning to you. Light a candle there. Be still and watch the flame and remember that Christ lives in you. Christ is with you. Even now.

I will be sending out materials for you and your families to use during Holy Week. Make this Holy Week a year to remember—a year unlike any other—as you follow Jesus' walk to the cross.

The Bishop says we might all think about *moving to Washington for Easter*—not literally—but online. It would be cool to have thousands of people all worshipping together virtually. Then, call each other on the phone and wish each other Happy Easter! Don't forget the kids!

Our watchwords for this time are Creativity and Adaptability. Instead of focusing on what you are missing (and believe me, I understand...) focus on what we are finding out!

*Continues on next page...*

'Letter' continues...

Expect to discover ways of meeting God in this time of uncertainty. Share those journeys if you are comfortable, with the community, on Facebook, or with me—and if you like, I'll make sure they get posted on our website to encourage the community.

Above all, pray for each other. Call each other. Email each other. Send encouraging notes. We are the church. And the church will always continue as we walk with God and each other.

Bless you all! *Lisa+*

### St. Thomas' Website

We are doing our best to keep the most up-to-date information on our website ([www.stthomascamdenme.org](http://www.stthomascamdenme.org)) and hope you will use it as your first stop in keeping up with what St. Thomas' is doing. Our site includes links to St. Thomas' Facebook page, YouTube Channel, letters from Rev. Lisa and Bishop Brown, links to the Washington Cathedral and St. Luke's Cathedral, and a host of other links and information to help us through this difficult time. Feel free to e-mail ([communications@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:communications@stthomascamdenme.org)) or call (230-1040) me for additional information or help in managing the many vehicles we are using to keep in touch with you. If I don't have the answer, I will try to get you to the right person. Also let me know if you want to see other information on our site.

Remember...we are all in this together!

Blessings, *Terry Mello*

### Music Notes

Hello, Everyone! A bit of news from your music department:

First—I miss you!

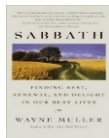
Hoping you are well and enjoying the beautiful sunshine. I have daffodils and narcissus coming up in the garden. So good to see them. And the bluebirds have been coming over to dine at my feeder.

I have been checking in with the choir and have set up a first meeting for us on Zoom so that we can visit virtually. (Actually, this is mostly for me so that I can see their faces.)

There is a list of choir music that I want us to start on as soon as we are able to meet in person—not sure we can rehearse through Zoom—maybe we can try that??!

Since church activities have been postponed, I have been putting my keyboard to good use—practicing—however, I need something with foot pedals! Not sure how to deal with that part of being an organist.

Until we can meet in person, I hold you in my prayers. Looking forward to seeing you all soon. *Clarissa*



### Experience Peace in a World of Chaos This Lent

We continue reading *Sabbath* by Wayne Muller.

This terrific book shows us how to create times of rest, delight, and renewal—and a refuge for our souls. With great stories and suggestions for practice, Muller teaches us how to refresh our bodies and minds, restore our creativity, and regain our inner happiness.

You could take this on as a relaxing Lenten discipline by doing what the class will do: read one short chapter daily. Each week we will complete one section.

Savor the experience alone, with family, and/or join us by email on Facebook each day—just email Lisa to get add your email to the list! Come accompany us as we share what we have taken from each day's readings. *Lisa+*

### Prayer List

Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: *Amelia Mello, Galen Prosser, Brian Bowley, Stephanie Laite, Sandra A., Paula, Julie, Ryan, Peter, Adam, Robert Pearson, Dustin, Hunter Fierro, Tadd Lyman, Shirley, Harry Hart, Ada Power, Chris Sewall, Larry*

*Parker, Bayard Chanler, Carol, Marcie Vega, Eleanor, Vicky and Bill, Arnie Joy, Maxine, Judith Shepherd, Ron, Andrew, Joanne Scott, Tiffany Andrews, Seana Roubinek, Carolyn Morris, Amy, Joan Pottle, Paul Whittaker, Anne, Sandy Lyle, Brian Fitzpatrick, Skip Groman, Tom Fontaine, Kathy Kulick, Lainie Vreeland, David Harper, Susan Conrad, Elaine*

### This Sunday March 29, 2020 Fifth Sunday in Lent

*Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45*

### Next Sunday April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday

**The Liturgy of the Palms**  
*Matthew 21:1-11  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*

**The Liturgy of the Word**  
*Isaiah 50:4-9  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:14-27;66*

### Calendar

#### Sunday, March 29

Eucharist available by links to services  
(see St. Thomas' website)

#### Monday, March 30

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—Live on Facebook

#### Tuesday, March 31

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—Live on Facebook

#### Wednesday, April 1

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.—Bible Study via Zoom

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—Live on Facebook

8:00 p.m.—Compline—Live on Facebook

#### Thursday, April 2

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—Live on Facebook

#### Friday, April 3

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—Live on Facebook

#### Saturday, April 4

#### Sunday, April 5—Palm Sunday

Eucharist available by links to services  
(see St. Thomas' website)

10:00 a.m.—Possible Zoom reading of The Passion

8:00 p.m.—Compline—Live on Facebook

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