



ST. MARTIN *of* TOURS
E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H
O M A H A , N E B R A S K A



April 2019

Greetings.

The month of April reminds us that Easter is more than just one day. Easter is an “every Sunday” celebration during which we come together to receive the fruit of the cross and resurrection of Jesus—the forgiveness of sins and the certainty of eternal life with God. Easter is also an “every day” celebration in which we live each day trusting in God through Christ, knowing that Jesus is “the resurrection and the life” for us.

So what do we do now as we go forth from the empty tomb? Let us follow the example of the first witnesses of the empty tomb. After the two angels reminded Mary Magdalene that Jesus had risen, St. Luke tells us that “they remembered the words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest”. They went forth from the tomb changed by the resurrection of Jesus. They went forth from the tomb to bring an “every day” witness of God’s power over Sin, death, Hell, and Satan himself.

So where do we go once we leave the empty tomb? Let us follow the example of Jesus’ first disciples. After Jesus walked through locked doors to appear to the eleven disciples and to show himself to Thomas, seven of the eleven disciples went back to their fishing business. They went back to their vocations or stations in life and took the witness of the resurrection with them. They lived in the joy of the resurrection of Jesus while carrying out the daily, ordinary labor and responsibilities given to them.

Now, we go forth from Easter Sunday and the celebration of the empty tomb free as God’s forgiven children in Christ. Now we go forth empowered by God’s Spirit living and active within us to live in the joy of the resurrection as “every day” witnesses.

I wish you all a blessed Eastertide!!

Vicar Kim+

St. Mart's News and Announcements



.EASTER FLOWERS

The Altar Guild of St. Martin's invites you to help adorn our church with lilies for Easter. Please offer \$25 for each plant. Flowers may be donated in memory or in honor of someone.

Fill out the form found in your bulletins and place it in the collection plate by **Sunday April 7th**. If paying by check, please note that the offering is for Easter flowers. **Thank you.**

VESTRY

The Vestry of St. Martin of Tours will meet on **Sunday, April 14 at 8:00 am.**

We will discuss our part for the ANNUAL CINCO DE MAYO PARADE. It is scheduled for 10 AM on Saturday, May 4, 2019.

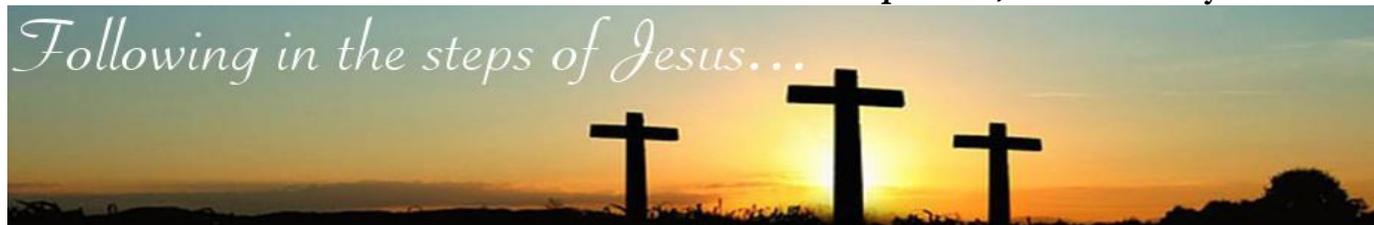


LENTEN PROGRAM

Our Lenten program of Spanish Lessons with Emma Espinoza will continue on **Sunday, April 7th**. The lessons will conclude with a presentation from Emma about Mexican Culture on **April 14th, Palm**

Sunday.

We will have a Potluck Mexican Fiesta at Second Table on **April 14th, Palm Sunday** as well.



Holy Week Events

Sunday, April 14th - PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins on **Palm Sunday, April 14th at 9:30am** with the **Liturgy of the Palms**. On Palm Sunday Christians celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the week before his death and resurrection. For many Christian churches, Palm Sunday often referred to as "Passion Sunday," marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.

Monday, April 15th - MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK

On Monday, **April 15th**, we will celebrate Morning Prayer at **9:30 am.**

Wednesday, April 17th - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please plan to join us on **Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 pm** to walk the Way of the Cross.

The **Triduum Sacrum** designates the three most sacred days in the church's calendar—Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

The liturgy on these three days is one extended service (thus no dismissals in the Maundy Thursday or Good Friday liturgies).

Thursday, April 18th - MAUNDY THURSDAY

Holy Week continues with the Maundy Thursday, **April 18th at 6:30 pm**. The evening will begin with an Agape meal and conclude with the stripping of the Altar. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified.

Friday, April 19th - GOOD FRIDAY

The somber service of Good Friday will be held at **6:30 pm on April 19th**. Good Friday commemorates the passion and death on the cross of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, April 21st - EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Savior and is celebrated this year on **April 21st**. This Eucharist Service will be followed by the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast.



ACOLYTES, USHERS, AND LECTORS NEEDED

Please prayerfully consider volunteering to serve St. Martin of Tours as an Acolyte, Usher, or Lector. If you are interested, please talk to Vicar Kim if you want to know more about it.



We have switched from CenturyLink to Cox Business.

The new internet is awesome! The phone number is the same and hopefully everything will be set up and working by the time you get this newsletter. Thanks, Beth and Vicar Kim.

Topics of Inspiration

If you have a hymn you would like me to use, please let me know ASAP. AC.

The journey through Lent into Easter is a journey with Jesus. We are baptized into his life, self-giving and death; then we rise in hope to life transformed. This Lent, faith communities are invited to walk with Jesus in his Way of Love and into the experience of transformed life. (Nancy Cox Davidge, Public Affairs Officer, The Episcopal Church, <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/>)

Scriptures of the Month

These are some of the April scriptures. I will use them to select April music. Any request?

- *John 12:1-8 Mary of Bethany anointing Jesus*
 - *The Passion according to Luke*
 - *He is Risen!*
-

Parish Profile

From Bishop Barker...*Spreading the Word*. Help support our response to last week's historic flooding in Eastern Nebraska and Western Iowa. We're working directly with Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) to coordinate a planned diocesan response. ERD is especially good at offering long-term support to communities impacted by this kind of disaster, and they can make available financial support for flood relief ministries once we have a better idea of the impact of the floods in our communities, and the best way to offer long term help. The two best ways to help right now are to pray for those effected and to make a charitable contribution to either **The Red Cross**, **The Diocese of Nebraska** or **Episcopal Relief and Development**. In the case of those latter two, if you add a note in the memo line of a check that says, "Nebraska Flood Relief" we can promise that every dollar donated will eventually be applied to help Nebraskans that have been impacted by these floods.



Vicar Kim Roberts has taken several “loads” of items to the Red Cross. If you want to help she can be contacted at bkeroberts@msn.com or the Church office at (402) 733-8815.

Wish List

- **Clean Carpets upstairs**
- **Clean from top to bottom – inside and out**
- **Another coat of paint and Another coat of poly on the floors in Basement**
- **Waterproof stairwell to Basement**
- **Handrail on steps to chapel**

Highlights of History

I have copies of The Docent Book: A brief summary of St. Martin of Tours' History. AC

1830-1835

President Andrew Jackson 1829-1837

1830

1831

1832

1833

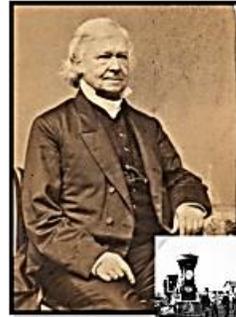
1834

1835

1831 Joseph Henry invents telegraph



Omaha warrior called Nom-ba-mon-nee, meaning Double Walker, was painted in 1832 by the famous artist George Catlin (1796-1872).



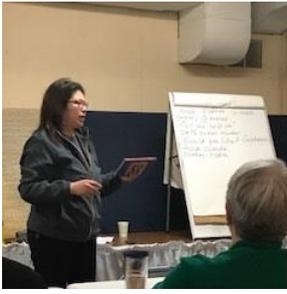
The Rev. Jackson Kemper was appointed missionary bishop of the old Northwest Territory. He promptly went west



Pictures

If you have pictures, please E-mail them to me. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper





Bienvenido

*PRAYER REQUESTS * PRAYER CHAIN*

You may make prayer request additions, deletions, and modifications via Vicar Kim Roberts at bkeroberts@msn.com, Rev. Mark Kowalski, Deacon at kowalskimjk@gmail.com or through the Parish Administrator Ann Chambers at stmartinoftoursomaha@gmail.com (402)-733-8815.

- **PRAY FOR:** Judith, Paul, Debbie, Gary, Stephanie, Benji, Patrick; Frank, Conner
- **PRAY FOR** immigrants, victims of violence and war, victims of gun violence, victims of sex trafficking; people with HIV/AIDS; members of the armed forces and their families, people dealing with natural disasters, people and all God's creatures in Iowa and Nebraska impacted by floods, and those in recovery.
- **PRAY FOR:** Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev Michael Curry; Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Scott Barker, the South High School Teen Parent Program; Magdalene Omaha.
- **PRAY FOR:** the poor and the hungry; the unemployed; the uninsured and underinsured; prisoners and their families; the homeless and near-homeless; shelters and food pantries; visitors and newcomers to St Martin of Tours.
- **PRAY FOR** the growth of this baptismal community and for peace in the world and in our hearts.
- **PRAY FOR** those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.
- **PRAY FOR** our church family, Lani, Amanda, Elizabeth and Alex who are in Glenwood Iowa. The water treatment plant went under.

This Month's Feature Article by Gary Johnson

Easter, the Joy of Every Christian

You say "Easter." They say Easter Bunny and Easter Eggs. Easter is the highest holy day in the Christian church. Let's face it Easter is the most important day for billions of people all over the world.

When I was in college and teaching Sunday school I asked, “What is Easter?”. I was amazed at what answers I got—one child said, “Oh, that’s when you go to the mall and sit on the big bunny rabbit’s lap and tell him what you want in your Easter basket.” Another’s answer was no better: “No, no, no! It’s when you get a tree and hang eggs on it—and you wake up on Sunday and there are presents underneath it.” At that point I interrupted and gently said, “That’s a good guess, but it’s not quite right.” So, I asked the third child, “Do you know why we celebrate Easter?” She nodded her head. “It’s when Jesus was crucified. He died, and His disciples put his body in the grave. They rolled a big stone in front of the opening. And the guards went to sleep. On the third day, there was a big earthquake and the stone rolled away.” Hearing all that I was really encouraged that she knew so much of the Easter story. I said, “That’s right.” Then she continued, “When the earthquake happened, the entire town came out by the grave. And if Jesus came out and saw his shadow, they knew there would be six more weeks of winter!” I chuckled and thought how in the world did she come up with the last part of it? Guess Ground Hog Day got in there somewhere. “Well that partly is true,” I told her, “but not quite exactly.” Of course, they did get the right story before we left. Amazing what comes out of children’s mouths. I heard them tell their parents before church that they were told a wonderful story about Jesus and why we celebrate Easter.

The world in general thinks much more of Christmas and far less or very little of Easter. Our houses are not adorned with Easter decorations nor are our front yards. Christmas has taken over and Easter is just something that happens during springtime. It doesn’t have a month of preparation like Christmas. It is true that we would not have Easter if we didn’t have Christmas first. Christ came into this world so that Easter would be the climax of all that he did for mankind. Imagine a little baby becoming the Savior of mankind thirty years later. Easter is the supreme religious moment of the year because the resurrection of Christ answers the deepest and most profound questions of modern man. It meets him underneath the surface, where he lives and wonders and ponders the great issues of life. Many non-Christians think they can survive in the world and mostly answer and solve his own questions about life. As Christians we know that we need Christ in our daily lives. He gives the assurance that when we are down trodden and need help. He is always there to help us out. All we must do is to turn to him and ask. Truly man needs Christ in his daily life to help solve his dilemmas.

Easter is all about Jesus Christ who lived to the ripe old age of 33. Apart from his birth and the one story from when he was 12, the Bible only covers the last 3 years of his life. Easter is about the last 3 days. What Jesus was able to accomplish in 3 years was the legacy he left behind. He was no ordinary man. He was the only person who was both fully God and fully man.

We have been planning and preparing for this Sunday for weeks. Why is Easter a big deal?

– **Family “belonging”**: A lot of us will gather with family and friends for the traditional Easter feast. If you have grandchildren, then you will hide eggs and your kids will hunt for them. We live in a secular world and somehow the secular part creeps in on the Christian day. Barely do you find anything religious in a commercial establishment; it is all about Easter bunnies and candy. Too many the real message of Easter is not there but the commercial aspect is. Of course we like to be with family and friends. But God doesn’t seem to have the main spot. Many Christians will say a short common table prayer before eating but that is about all. They soon forget why they are celebrating and being together. God is no different. He likes to be with his family. Every Sunday is a family gathering. Look at Ephesians 1:5 “God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ.” He is disappointed when His family doesn’t get together--attend church regularly. He misses us and the gift He gladly gives us. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. Easter is the death and resurrection of Jesus. It made a way for us to be adopted into

God's family. A close family is one that stays together, not one of being distant. That is what God's family is-- closeness and unity.

– **"Forgiveness"** all gone. It is a great picture of Easter. In Christ our failures, mistakes, sins; they are all gone. Hebrews 8:12 "And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins." I prefer if it would have said "I will forgive their sinfulness..." God loves us and he knows our frailties and overlooks them.

– **Future "hope"**: Someone said life without Christ is a hopeless end; life with Christ is an endless hope. Life with God is always about the future and not about the past. It is why your windshield is so big and your rear-view mirror is so small. God has an amazing purpose for you. Trust in the Lord; He will never fail you. Call upon Him the days of trouble and He will answer you.

The Christian churches all over the world will be adorned for the greatest festival of all. Easter lilies will adorn most chancels of the churches and homes. The Easter lily signifies rebirth and a new beginning. . The lily is mentioned frequently throughout the bible and serves today as a beautiful reminder of the significance of the season. They grace homes and churches each spring as a symbol of purity, joy, hope and life. Hymns of Easter will be sung by choirs and congregations: "Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia," "I Know That My Redeemer Lives."

The truth is Easter is about Jesus, God's son fulfilling his purpose. Are you fulfilling yours? I know you are but just in case you know someone who isn't, remind them that it all starts with meeting the man who has risen. What a glorious feeling to be part of Christ's family. Nothing will ever surpass it. Once you have it, it becomes a "magnificent obsession" because you can't help keeping it to yourself.

Spread the Word.--ALLELUIA. CHRIST IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN INDEED.

Contacts St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church

- The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Barker, Diocesan Bishop of Nebraska
- Rev. Kim Roberts, Rector bkeroberts@msn.com
- Rev. Mark Kowalski, Deacon kowalskimjk@gmail.com
- Ann Chambers, Parish Administrator, Music Director
StMartinOfToursOmaha@gmail.com
- Cathie Hughes, Sunday School Director
- David Rose, Adult Religious Formation
- Steve Mincer, Senior Warden
- Beth Mincer, Treasurer
- Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday from 9 am until Noon
- LIKE US ON Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/StMartinOfToursEpiscopalChurch/>

Adult Bible Study and Sunday School Notes

Sunday, April 7th – The children in Sunday School will continue to make Lent and Easter Decorations.

Sunday, April 28th - David Rose will continue the Genesis story after Second Table .

Servers-at-a-glance

	7-Apr	14-Apr	15-Apr	17-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr	20-Apr
	5 Lent	Palm Sunday	Monday in Holy Week	Stations of the Cross	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Saturday Set-up Day
Altar Guild	1-Chambers	2-Kowalski					ALL
Acolyte	Conner M.	Conner M.	xxx	xxx	xxx	Steve M.	ALL
Chalice Bearer	Patrick V.	Steve M.	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Deacon	Deacon Mark	Deacon Mark	???	???	???	???	???
Celebrant	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim
Lector	Gary J.	Stephanie	TBA	xxx	TBA	David R.	xxx
Lector 2	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Preacher	Patrick V.	Vicar Kim	xxx	xxx	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	xxx
Usher	Bill R.	Jim M. ?	xxx	xxx	xxx	TBA	xxx
Sunday School	Cathie H.	Cathie H.	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Bible Study	Spanish	Spanish	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Special Music	David R.	David R.	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
2nd Table	Gary J.	Mexican	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Torch Bearers	TBA	TBA	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Thurifer	xxx	SteveM.	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Let me know ASAP if you need to change your dates or duties. Ann Chambers

Please prayerfully consider volunteering to serve St. Martin of Tours as an Acolyte, Usher, or Lector. If you are interested, please talk to Vicar Kim if you want to know more about it.

April 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Office Open 9-12 		Office Open 9-12	Omaha Children's Choir 6:30 PM		
The Golden Rule Week						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
5 Lent Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School Preacher - Patrick Lenten Study	Office Open 9-12		Office Open 9-12	Omaha Children's Choir 6:30 PM 		
National Blue Ribbon Week - End Child Abuse						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Holy Week						
 Vestry 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 Sunday School Preacher - Patrick Last Lenten Study Program & Fiesta	Office Open 9-12 MP 9:30:00 AM Morning Prayer		Office Open 9-12 Starts at 6:30 PM 	Starts 6:30 PM  	Service 6:30 PM 	Clean Up 10 AM Set up for Easter 
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Easter Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Brunch Egg Hunt	Office Open 9-12 Earth Day		Office Open 9-12	Omaha Children's Choir 6:30 PM 		
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
2 Easter Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School Bible Study	Office Open 9-12		May Day			
5	6	SAVE THE DATES	Saturday, May 4th: Cinco de Mayo Parade 10:00 am			
			Sunday, May 12th: Vestry Meeting 8:00 am			
			Thursday, May 30th: Ascension Day 6:30 am			