

# GOOD NEWS

FROM  
EPIPHANY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Jesus Christ is Risen Today – Alleluia! Alleluia!



This year for the first time, **Bobby, Thomas, Scarlett and Abby** with help from **Leslie Burton** learned how to prep the cross for Easter day. For years Miss Betty-Jeanne did this and now the flowers have been turned over. They did a marvelous job as the pictures show.

Easter at Epiphany was full of cheer, food, flowers, and eggs! As the record number of 230 people exited the services, the Church School children threw the Alleluias up in the air which had been safely put away on Shrove Tuesday. Yea! The Alleluias are back!



**Mary Ellen Howey, Heather Bowman and Laura Canon** were Easter Coffee Hostesses serving us with a beautiful Easter feast. The food was super delicious. Many thanks to everyone who donated treats for Easter.

After five long years **Bobby B.** finally found the “golden egg” and his smile showed how thrilled he was finally the winner of that egg.!

Thanks to **Melissa Farr** and **Gina Kistle** for the Easter Egg hunt and goodies in the eggs. As our children flew around gathering eggs their parents, grandparents and friends watched with delight.



Easter Holy Week.....	1-4
Farewell .....	4
Installation .....	5
Italian Dinner .....	6
SAGE .....	7
Treasure House .....	7
Family Promise .....	8
Baptisms .....	8
Butterflies .....	8
Upcoming Events .....	9
Thank You .....	9
Directory Corrections....	9







He is  
**RISEN**





## Palm Sunday Traditions...New and Old

Our Church School children love having their palms and processing with the Choir and congregation. Their faces show it all. As the adults go into the Nave to hear the Passion our church school children go into Miss Betty-Jeanne's classroom to hear the story of Benjamin's Box (a walk through Holy Week designed for children). As the children receive donkey hair, nails, dice, cloth they learn what our Lord went through from Maundy Thursday to Easter with the Resurrection.

This year we had a very special guest, **Rob Burton** joined our class and after the reading showed our children how to make palm crosses. Palm crosses are so much better for this age and the children were thrilled to be able to take home their palm cross. Many thanks for Rob showing our children how to do this and for making each child their own palm cross.

Our older children in Miss Leslie's class had their own version of Benjamin's box. She placed in plastic eggs donkey hair, nails, dice, cloth, stone and hid the first 5 eggs outside by the children's garden. After they found the eggs she asked each child to open their egg (in order of the story) and then read from the book why this object was important. Thanks to **Leslie Burton** a new tradition starts.





## Tenebrae – Latin meaning *darkness*

A new beginning has been born at Epiphany, as 48 people joined Father Rick for our first Tenebrae Service. A solemn and serene mood was set as the service commenced in virtual darkness, with the only light cast from nine candles burning on the Altar, eight black candles flanking one white. After each of the service's readings, one black candle was extinguished.

The service began with the Epiphany choir singing "Abba." The Betrayal of Jesus is recounted, as darkness draws nearer with each candle snuffed. Nearer with Peter's denial at the Last Supper. Darker still as the service turns to the Garden of Gethsemane, where our Lord asked Peter, James, and John to "wait with me one hour." Our choir then sang "Wait With Me."

Judas betrays Jesus. He is arrested, and the Nave grows darker still. Peter denies Jesus three times and another light perishes. Pilate asks who Jesus is, if he is King of the Jews, and the gloaming creeps nearer. The crowd shouts for Barabbas to be spared and shriek "Crucify Him!" Another flame smothered.

The Epiphany choir then performed "My Dying Lord." We hear soldiers mock Jesus on the cross, and the darkness has now nearly consumed the light.

"Father, Forgive Them" was then sung by the Choir. Christ is buried. The final candle, the white Christ candle, is put out. Total and complete darkness has fallen across the Nave.

A "BANG!" pierces the stillness of eternal night. The tomb is closed.

The Congregation sits in the all surrounding blackness, the representation of Christ in the tomb. In silent contemplation, the congregants exit the Nave and the service is concluded.



The children in Miss Betty-Jeanne's class learn about Jesus' friend Lazarus and how important friends are to us and to God. Although each and every year they think Lazarus looks like a walking mummy. The following week they hear Benjamin's Box so they learn again that death really doesn't exist for us but eternal life. Thanks be to God!



**Shawn and Mark Woolworth**

have moved to Colorado and we wish them nothing but the best. Thank you for your years of service and dedication to Epiphany. You will be missed!

# Father Rick O'Brien's Installation



Another milestone for Epiphany was held on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. With Bishop Dan as Celebrant our part time priest, Fr. Rick O'Brien, became our full time *Priest in Charge under Special Circumstances*.

Wow! – that title means after two years if Fr. Rick and your Vestry concur (agree) Fr. Rick will be hired by your Vestry as our Rector with the consent of our Bishop. Father's first 13 months seem to fly by and we are sure the next 24 months will fly by too. There are numerous ideas and discussions in the works with our new full time priest and your Vestry.

The lay participants were Melissa Farr and Betty-Jeanne Cousins who represented

Church School and presented Father with his Bible. George Yao presented Father with his Stole. Our Sr. and Jr. Wardens, Gina Kistle and Scott Luttenegger presented Father with the keys to the church while Elsa Torgerson, Bill Kohn and Kris Kohn presented Father with the Bread and Wine.



The choir was marvelous once again under the leadership of Kathy Steinbrenner. Our choir practices hundreds of hours a year bringing us the most moving music. They deserve to have the summer off each year to rejuvenate themselves for September when our choir will return to us.

Mary Ellen Howey, our newest Vestry person, prepared all the food which was consumed with no leftovers – she worked many hours preparing the food and setting the outside area. Thank you Bev Hart for taking photographs.

Another milestone has been achieved ....now we wait for having a Rector in the near future.





# 5th Annual Italian Dinner



Italian Dinner once again was a huge success due to our three Musketeers - **Mary Valentine, Melissa Farr** and **Mary Feyt**. Without these three working together this event would not have been such a huge success. This year for the first time they **“sold out”** then Mary V added one more table – and it sold out again. The final count was seating for 100!

As you heard from Mary V so many others helped to make this a success not only before but after the event when numerous parishioners stayed and helped break down tables and have the Nave ready for Sunday’s service. We even had Deacon Sam and Fr Rick vacuuming and helping with chair placement.

A special thank you to **George Yao** for sending the tip basket around for our great servers, **Christina, Sean, Brendan, Zach, Emily and Katie**. Our youth certainly were marvelous and very professional serving our appetizer, meal and dessert. Many thanks to **Rob Lavachek** for lending his expertise in directing all our servers. Well done Rob!

We must also say a big thank you to **Kathi and Jeff Colman** for going up to the ceiling and hanging the banners.





**Thomas asked, “Lord we don’t know where you are going. How can we know the way?”**

**John 14:5-7, 15-10**

Here at Epiphany, we see the way as a journey you do not have to walk alone. We are committed to adult education, offering several programs: *Faith Matters, Bible Study, The Pelagians, and Advent and Lenten studies* are some of the guides. And now we are adding **SAGE**—Spiritual Awakening and Growth through Education.

**SAGE** will be an umbrella organization, under which we will

sponsor classes, workshops and seminars here at Epiphany. We have even developed our own logo (with Tom Walsh's indispensable creative talents)!

We look forward to this logo becoming well known in our community, as we bring opportunities for interesting and stimulating events to Epiphany. Through this program, Canon Catherine Gregg's class on Centering Prayer was held on March 18<sup>th</sup>. She is also scheduled to offer a course on June 24<sup>th</sup> on 14<sup>th</sup> Century Mystics, which is highly anticipated. In addition, Linda Edwards and Bishop Dan Edwards, held a seminar on April 22 on a most vital and topical subject; Getting along in a polarized world. We expect to offer at least 3 or 4 similar programs a year here at Epiphany.

We anticipate SAGE will offer greater exposure to our parish: It will get our name out there in the community as a center of adult spiritual education, and will further our reputation as a vital, energized and growing congregation. This is a wonderful opportunity for the members of our parish too - bringing informative, rewarding and inspirational classes and workshops to our own doorstep. What a great deal for all of us!

Treasure House, the thrift store at Christ Church, sells gently used items to support our mission to provide a charitable fund to support many projects, including the Epicenter Food Bank, “camperships” to Camp Galilee, and gifts to churches. We are in **need of volunteers** to work in the shop on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and/or Saturdays unpacking, hanging, pricing and arranging our many donations. If this ministry interests you, please talk with Judy Koehn about this great opportunity to work with wonderful folks who serve the community. Contact Judy via email at [judykoehn@mindspring.com](mailto:judykoehn@mindspring.com) or call the shop at 702-735-0871 during business hours.

**TREASURE HOUSE IS OPEN:**  
Tues, Wed, Thurs and Sat from 10 a.m. — 3 p.m.





## Family Promise

In the late afternoon of May 14<sup>th</sup>, several families will arrive at Epiphany to be our guests for the week, until the morning of May 21<sup>st</sup>. It would be very easy to call these families “homeless;” however, that label too often distances us from others. In reality, these are people who, but for the grace of God, could be us. They are down on their luck and trying—with the help of Family Promise—to get back on their feet. From their temporary residences at Epiphany and other places of worship, they will move on to transitional housing. These are mothers and fathers and their children who are struggling with the same challenges we do, but with the additional problem of homelessness. Giving them a stable place to live and showing them the love and caring of the community is a huge opportunity and a great blessing for Epiphany. Epiphany is being called to be a beacon to our community as we grow. We show it in our actions, by working together and helping others.

### What can I do to help?

There is a board in the Narthex with opportunities for you to serve and/or make donations. All of these are posted on sticky notes. Please take one (or more) and write your name underneath.



## What's with all the Butterflies?!?!

The Committee on Gratitude's theme this year, which began at our Annual Meeting, is “**New Beginnings.**” What better than a butterfly to represent Epiphany's “new beginnings” on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> with our own full time priest for the first time.



Butterflies for centuries have represented **Resurrection** – as the caterpillar goes into his cocoon and burst out as a beautiful butterfly. The butterfly is the perfect symbol to start our new journey with our priest and congregation working together for Epiphany's future.

On April 30<sup>th</sup> the Committee on Gratitude handed out index cards with a butterfly on the corner and parishioners were to write “what ***New Beginnings*** for Epiphany” means to them.

## Welcome the Newly Baptized!



At the Easter Vigil, Kim Osborne, Joel and Ayley were baptized with proud dad, Rob





  
**EPIPHANY**  
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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[www.nvepiphany.org](http://www.nvepiphany.org)  
[www.facebook.com/nvepiphany](http://www.facebook.com/nvepiphany)

**Priest in Charge: Father Rick O'Brien**  
 Father Charles Sakin    Father Vince O'Neill  
 Father Nicholas Neubauer  
 Deacon Sam Morford

**Vestry 2017**

Sr. Warden	Gina Kistle
Jr. Warden	Scott Luttenegger
Treasurer	Susan Baker
Clerk	Betty-Jeanne Cousins
Member	Cindy Berg
Member	Laura Cannon
Member	Mary Ellen Howey
Member	Bill Kohn
Member	Peter Steinbrenner
Member	Elsa Torgerson
Member	Peter Valentine

**Upcoming Events**

- May 14-21—Family Promise Week
- June 4— Church School Pool Party



**Thank you!**

Thank you Ann McMahan for donating a brand new Electrolux vacuum for our Meeting Room.



**MAD HATTER'S**  
**TEA**

Join us for an afternoon to honor our Mothers and loved ones with an Alice in Wonderland tea.

All proceeds to support women from Nevada going to ECW Triennial in Austin, Texas, July 2018. Deadline for tickets is May 10. No tickets sold at the door. Deadline for hostesses is April 21. We need Hostess representatives from all Episcopal Churches.



**MAD HATTER'S**  
**MOTHER'S DAY**  
**TEA**

Don't be late for a  
 Very Important  
 Date

**Saturday**  
**MAY 13**  
**2PM-4PM**

**All Saint's**  
**Episcopal Church**

**4201 W.**  
**Washington Ave**  
**Las Vegas**

**EWN FUNDRAISER**  
 RSVP Barbara Schafer

702-469-3554

Schaferb75@yahoo.com

Tickets \$20 pp

**Directory Corrections**

Father Vince O'Neill

C: 702-715-6504 and H: 702-614-1306

Shawn Woolworth—Johnstown, CO 80534

Betty-Jeanne Cousins: H: 702-456-9881

Sydney Ingram—702-617-1949

**April 2017 directories are in the Narthex**

**Submit articles and newsletter topics to**  
**[nvepiphanynews@gmail.com](mailto:nvepiphanynews@gmail.com)**