

TIDINGS



February 2026

Newsletter of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Danville, CA

I hope that our Lent is not an escape from the world, but a way of telling the truth about ourselves. We begin this season with ashes to locate us in impermanence and dependence. We are a culture that rewards certainty, speed and power. Lent slows us down and reminds us that dust on foreheads is not a failure. Dust is where God begins.

Walking from Ash Wednesday to Easter, we will follow Jesus who refused to grasp power, worship, wealth, and did not confuse God with empire. These temptations are air we breathe. Lent invites us to notice how easily we inhale them.

Our Wednesday nights will ask basic questions because basic questions are the hardest to answer honestly. Who is Jesus? not the version we prefer, but the one who actually speaks and acts in the Gospels. What happens when wealth becomes a moral measure rather than a tool? How does political power form our loves, our fears and our sense of neighbor? What does it mean to witness? Done not by talking louder, but by living differently. And where are the resources of the Church when we are tired, conflicted, or unsure?

The Stations of the Cross ground these questions in a body. Jesus does not save the world from a distance. He is arrested, tried, mocked and executed by systems that look familiar. Each station resists the lie that suffering is accidental or that injustice is rare. We walk, we stop, we pray and we refuse to look away.

Lent - Showing up. Listening. Repenting. Turning again toward God and toward one another. If Easter means anything, it is not that death was denied, but that it was faced—and undone by love. So, lets walk this way together again, the first time.

I want to highlight our schedule for 2026.

Ash Wednesday February 18th

12pm (livestream)
Imposition of ashes and spoken communion

7pm (livestream) Imposition of ashes, meditations,
music, debut preacher, without communion



Lenten Wednesdays

February 25th, March 4th , 11th , 18th, 25th

6pm Soup

6:30pm Sessions

Who is Jesus

The Gospel of Wealth

Political Power and Faith

“Witnessing” as an active faith

Diocese of California (Diocal) resources

The Stations of the Cross

February 20th, 27th, March 6th, 13th, 19th, 27th

Every Friday in Lent at 12pm

& April 3rd (Good Friday 1pm)

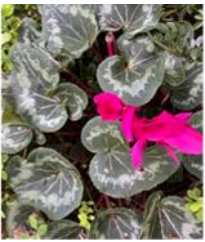
Todd

THE ROAD AHEAD

FEB 15 SUNDAY	Lenten Lectionaries available at Church & online Book Group (The First Ladies) at 11:15am
FEB 17 TUESDAY	Pancake Supper prepared by our Scouts: 5-7pm, Parish Hall
FEB 18 WEDNESDAY	LENT BEGINS Ash Wednesday Worship 12pm: Imposition of Ashes & spoken communion (Livestream available) 7pm: Imposition of Ashes, meditations, music, debut preacher, no communion (Livestream available)
WEDNESDAYS IN LENT	Lenten Series & Soup Supper, 6-7:30pm
FEB 22 SUNDAY	LENT 1 Book Group at 11:15am, Library Deanery Youth Group, Grace Martinez, 1-3pm
MAR 1 SUNDAY	LENT 2 Healing Prayer at 11am, Church
MAR 8 SUNDAY	LENT 3 Time change - spring forward!
MAR 15 SUNDAY	LENT 4 Book Group at 11:15am, Library
MAR 29 SUNDAY	PALM SUNDAY

TAKING TIME DURING LENT

Lent evokes images and thoughts of doing something different for 40 days before Easter.



(Sundays are not fasting days.) We are being asked to study, read our Bibles, reflect, fast, pray and give to others. To “repent” means both to allow our hearts to be changed and to change perspective, opening our hearts, minds and bodies to orienting ourselves to another way—God’s way of Love so we may walk with one another. During Lent we have an opportunity to listen deeply to our longing, taking time to do something. We cannot, I believe, do it all.

Preparing ourselves for Easter might mean choosing a discipline, a practice that we don’t usually do, or have always wanted to do. The heart of gratitude is there already in the surprise of a plant that seems to have appeared out of nowhere, or a regular walking on the labyrinth that quiets the mind and the walking itself becomes a prayer. Can we add someone or something to our prayer list, so we notice how many times we are distracted? Can we keep a Sabbath day without ___ and find that giving up means an opportunity to add something different to our routine. Can we write a poem, draw a picture, sing a song, or dance with abandon with God, rejoicing or lamenting? Can we weep with our neighbor as we face the brokenness in our world, knowing that Easter comes?

This Lent we are invited to act with conviction, confessing our anxiety, and our inability to keep our focus on the Holy One. God is with us.

We keep this time of Lenten practices together as a community in prayer and worship. God is speaking—. God help us to hear.

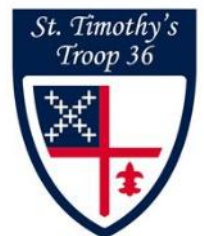
Susan+



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



**Mardi Gras
Pancake Supper on
Tuesday evening,
February 17th!**



Take a break from cooking dinner (and doing dishes!) and join us for a Mardi Gras Pancake Supper on Tuesday evening (February 17th) from 5-7pm in the Parish Hall.

\$5 suggested donation per person.

Thank you, Scouts!

Sign up is not required but very helpful!

CHILDREN'S FORMATION DURING LENT

Children will meet in the Children's Liturgy room in the Parish Hall for Lenten activities, including Bible stories, crafts, and games, especially focusing on Moses, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter narratives. We encourage families to take home the children's bulletins which reflect the themes of Lent and lectionary, and can always be used to look up a story in the Bible.

A Lenten calendar is available for children to use at home. Join us to learn pray and play as we remember that God is always with us.

DEANERY YOUTH GROUP

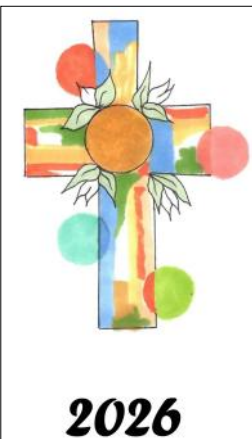
February 22, 1-3pm at Grace Martinez

We will put together hygiene kits for Laundry Love. Laundry Love is a Martinez mission that provides no-cost laundry services on Friday evenings at the local laundry mat. For the Hygiene kits, we are looking to put together the following items which we will purchase, but will also accept donations for: Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Mouthwash, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body wash, Body lotion. (All travel sized.)



For more information on Laundry Love, click [HERE!](#)

LENTEN LECTIONARIES



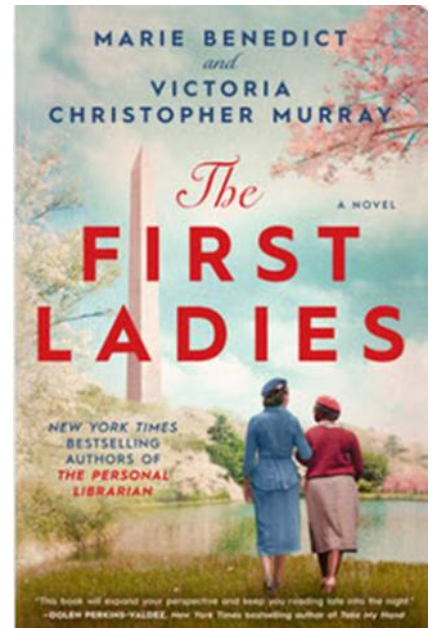
The Lenten Lectionaries are ready! You may pick up a copy at church on Sunday, February 15 or on Ash Wednesday (February 18). If you would prefer to read your copy electronically, you may download it from [St. Timothy's Website.](#)

Thanks to all our authors who help to make this Lectionary possible. Please call or send an email to those whose writings helped you to further your Lenten Journey. They really appreciate knowing that someone enjoyed or learned from their contribution.

Thank you, Helen Coleman, for this amazing publication!

BOOK GROUP - FEBRUARY

On Sunday, February 22, 2026 the St Timothy's Book Group will meet to discuss, **"The First Ladies"** by Marie Benedict and Victoria C Murray. In 1927 Eleanor met Mary McLeod Bethune at a luncheon for leaders of prominent women's groups hosted by her mother-in-law, Sara Roosevelt. Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) was running for Governor of New York. The two women bonded when the other white ladies attending refused to sit with Mrs. Bethune. They formed a close friendship which sustained them both and resulted in many reforms in the treatment of Black people during the administration of FDR in New York and later the White House. This book brings that relationship and those times to life.



Questions – contact Sally P at Sallyspotts@gmail.com

LENT MADNESS

Are you a little competitive and like games? This year for Lent, learn about influential people of faith and vote every day for your favorite saint. Sundays are a day of rest and the competition continues throughout Lent as winners enter a new bracket. Who will win the Golden Halo this year?

Play it on your phone and learn about history, the power of sacrifice and the faith of prophets, mystics and theologians who have gone before us.

<https://www.lentmadness.org/#bracket>



LITURGICAL ART FOR THE SEASONS

PREPARING for LENT

February 15 – After concert - We need helpers to put up the “Crown of Thorns” banner and put the Christmas banner to rest. We will also be putting up the white banner behind the cross.

After enjoying the jazz concert in the parish hall at 11:30, please come back to the sanctuary to help with the banners. We will need about 6 or 7 people.

We will also need 2 people to help with the display under the cross for Lent.



PREPARING for PALM SUNDAY

March 27 – Friday 10:30am – Install palm display under cross (One helper needed)

March 29 – Sunday 11:15am - Take down palm display and put up Holy Week display under cross. (One helper needed)

PREPARING for EASTER

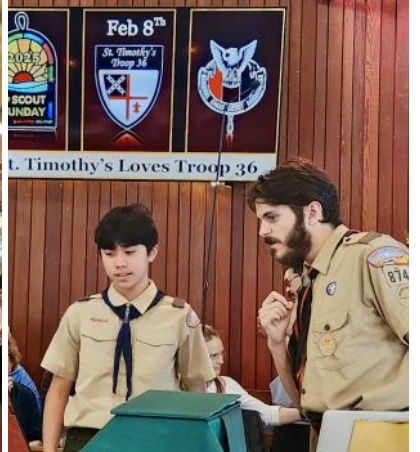
April 4 – Saturday 11:00am – We will be installing the “Crown of New Life” banner.. We will also put out Easter lilies.

PREPARING for PENTECOST

May 17, Sunday 11:15 after last service – Take down the “Crown of New Life” banner and decorate red for Pentecost (May 24).

LAST MONTH IN PHOTOS





WINTER NIGHTS SHELTER

Thank you, St. Timothy's! Job well done!



SHARE THE WARMTH DRIVE

SHARE THE WARMTH SOCK AND WARM CLOTHING DRIVE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thank you, Saint Timothy's, for all your generous donations for the Share the Warmth socks and clothes drive, and thank you to the wonderful crew of volunteers who showed up to sort the four 12' tables covered in your donated items.

We took 30 large plastic bags of clothes to Antioch Loaves and Fishes. The facility is also a Veterans Hall, and offers showers and clothing to those in need. We were warmly greeted with lots of smiles, hugs, and appreciation for all the items you donated.

We gathered 355 pairs of socks, 24 knit caps and gloves and scarves, 30 rain ponchos, 15 coats, 39 pairs of pants, 22 sweater vests, 37 jackets, 29 sweaters, 72 hats and beanies, 69 sweaters and pull over sweatshirts, 8 pairs of shoes and miscellaneous items.

As I related to the 10am service, when we were driving away, I turned to look and saw their sign by the clothing racks being distributed, and it said "LOVE IS AN ACTION." I was stunned by that since our Outreach Committee just chose "LOVE IS AN ACTION WORD" for the theme of our 29th annual Outreach fundraiser, Fruits of the Harvest (FOTH) to be held on September 12th. What irony! SAVE THE DATE!



DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMPS

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

ST. DOROTHY'S

Find lots of St. Dorothy's Summer Camp information:

<https://www.saintdorothysrest.org/camp>

- May 22-25 : Memorial Day Family Camp (All Ages)
- June 4-7: Camp Comeback (Ages 21+)
- June 21-26: Russian River Adventure I (Ages 8-12)
- June 28-July 3: Teen Adventure Week 1: Angel Island (Ages 13-15)
- July 9-11: Ankle Biter Camp (Ages 5-8 with parent)
- July 13-18: Teen Adventure Week 2: Point Reyes (Ages 13-15)
- July 27-August 1: Russian River Adventure 2 (Ages 8-12)
- July 29-August 1: Mini Camp (Ages 5-8 with parent)
- July 27-August 1: Counselor-In-Training (Ages 15+)
- August 7-10: Camp Wonder (Neurodivergent children ages 5-25 with parent)
- August 14-16: Queer Family Camp (All ages)



BISHOP'S RANCH

Find lots of Bishop's Ranch Summer Camp information:

<https://www.bishopsranch.org/experiences/summer-camp>

- June 21-26: BREAD Explorers (entering grade 10—just graduated)
- June 28-July 3: Generations Camp (All ages)
- July 6-10: READ Camp Week 1 (grades 4-6)
- July 13-17: READ Camp Week 2 (grades 4-6)
- July 19-24: BREAD Adventurers (entering grades 7-9) & Discoverers (entering grades 4-6)



Need a place for a retreat for adults?

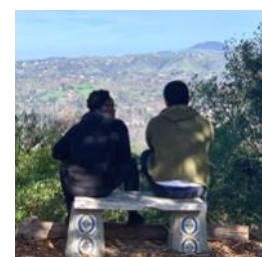
St. Columba's Episcopal Church has a **Retreat House** in Inverness, CA for special retreats or private retreats near the Point Reyes National Seashore. It is a place of quiet and beauty near Point Reyes.

<https://www.stcolumbasinverness.org/retreat-house>



Here in Danville, retreats are offered for adults at **San Damiano Retreat and Conference Center**

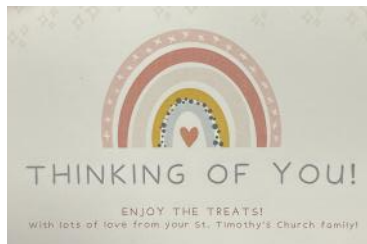
<https://sandamiano.org/retreats-home/>. It is beautiful and nearby with the feeling of being far away from our regular routines. They offer excellent weekday and weekend retreats and also offer spiritual direction.



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Thank you to everyone who helped share St. Timothy's love with our college students!

We had 15 kids and grandkids of St. Timothy's parishioners.
Students near and far: CA, OR, OH, TX, SC, CO, IN, NY!



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