



Making disciples who make disciples

*The First Sunday in Lent
February 21, 2021*

Church Worship & Office Location

2215 S 8th Ave, Yuma, AZ 85364
(928) 343-9551

ctryuma@gmail.com

Fr. Austin Mansfield, a/OSA, Rector
(928) 247-4001

fr.mansfield@gmail.com

Dcn Linda Stokes, Assisting Clergy
(928) 259-6620 llostokes1@me.com

Worship Service Times

Sunday 11:30 a.m. & Wednesday 5:30 p.m.

Church Mailing Address:

PO Box 2919
Yuma, AZ 85366

Find us Online: ctryuma.org

Find us on Facebook:



Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church,
A Christian Community

Parish Council Members

Senior Warden

Frank Durham, frankdurham65@yahoo.com

Junior Warden

Randy Smith, Bumper1194@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jeffrey Polston, Jeffrey@matpc.com

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Mary Sue Houston,

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Ann Traverso, anntraverso@hotmail.com

David Wayman, dwayman66@yahoo.com

Connie Whitener, Believe47@q.com

Eric Scherrer, ericandrewscherrer@gmail.com

**Next Parish Council Meeting
February 24, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

In Word – Giving Out, Not Just Up

*And he was in the wilderness forty days,
being tempted by Satan. And he was with
the wild animals, and the angels were
ministering to him. — Mark 1:13 (ESV)*

Thus began Jesus' incarnate ministry on earth. Not with trumpet blasts or processions announcing the reign of the King of kings (as would have been the case for Caesar, Herod, or other monarchs of his time), but rather in modest preparation reminiscent of his humble birth.

Having grown in stature, wisdom, and grace as Luke describes (2:40), the adult Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:1) to sacrificial prayer and communion with the Father amid distraction and temptation by Satan. Before embarking on his mission in this world, Jesus chose to forego comfort in order to fill his spiritual reservoir for the battle ahead.

The Early Church (4th century) established a 40-day fast before Easter as a time for self-examination and repentance in preparation for the holiest and most important day in Christianity—Easter. The resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ conquered death for all who believe in his promise of salvation and ensured forgiveness of sin for those who truly repent and turn to him.

This sacrifice and gift that God offers us should draw us to our knees in humble adoration and gratitude; yet I remember growing up with the admonition that I

needed to give something up for Lent, without any explanation regarding prayer or restored relationship, just the duty to give up something I enjoy (like desserts), ostensibly because for some unknown reason, God wanted me to. There was a shallowness to this Lent that stayed with me for many years.

I've since come to realize that God offers this time of sacrifice for my benefit, and that my sacrifice can be an intangible like time instead of twinkies. Adding conversations with God as I replace particular activities creates a habit that can continue beyond the Lenten borders. Adding a new daily devotional or a prayer walk through my neighborhood needn't stop with my celebration of the resurrection. The 40-day journey into the wilderness was preparation for Jesus, not a symbolic ritual. Our Lenten practices can become holy habits if we are willing.

Beyond giving something up, our sacrifice during Lent can be a giving out to our communities: Helping at a mission or shelter, visiting and praying with the elderly in nursing homes, volunteering at local charity thrift stores, any number of apostolic actions that let us be the hands and feet of Jesus as we use that time prayerfully to draw even closer to him.

There's nothing wrong with giving things up for Lent; our sacrifice, however, would be more fragrant if it included giving out from our hearts as well. The statement in John's Gospel that God "so loved the world" (John 3:16), refers to his method, not his intensity. The word translated as *so* would in today's

usage be *in this way*. John shows *how* God loved the world: by giving his son over to torture and death so that we might be saved. It seems that in God's lexicon, *love* is an action, not just a status. That we are loved by God reflects his decisive action and determination toward our salvation through his grace.

I pray that our own Lenten sacrifices may be similar demonstrations of our intentional love for our Lord, in whichever way we are led to profess them.

Your Brother in Christ,

Fr. Austin



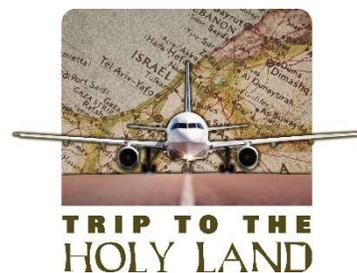
Sunday's Scripture Readings

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-9;
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15



Join Fr. Austin on a Trip to Israel!

Brochures and Registration forms for Fr. Austin's trip are available in the Narthex at church, or by contacting the office. Trip will



depart on December 6 and return on December 13, 2021. For more information, contact Fr. Austin.



Prayer Time in the Chapel

In response to the prayer survey CtR is offering 2 days per week to come together in prayer:

**Tuesdays, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. and
Thursdays, Noon – 1:30 p.m.**

Please speak with Connie Whitener if you have questions. All are welcome to come!

Mark Your CALENDAR



Sunday, February 21

11:30a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, February 23

6:30 a.m. Bible Study

9 – 10:30 a.m. Prayer time in the Chapel

9:30 a.m. Prayers and Squares – CtR Library

1 – 3 p.m. Bible Study at Dorothy Warner's Home

6:30 p.m. GriefShare Program ~ CtR Library

Wednesday, February 24

2:00 p.m. Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Eucharist Service

6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, February 25

11:00 a.m. Thursday Morning Prayer Group

12 – 1:30 p.m. Prayer time in the Chapel

Sunday, February 28

11:30 a.m. Worship Service



In the 2020 CtR Annual Report, Jennifer Kircher suggested sponsorship of Altar materials – a case of sacramental wine, bread, or candles. Altar Guild is not supported by the CtR budget. All altar materials are purchased with donated funds. If you are able to sponsor (or partially sponsor) any of these items, please contact Jennifer Kircher. As a point of reference, a case of wine is \$90, communion cups are \$19 for 1,000 cups, Vigil Candles are \$22 for 12 candles, and Priest's host is \$20 for 25 pieces. Thank you.



Lord, we ask you to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in sickness, or any other adversity. Open the hearts to know your love and feel your presence.

We pray for Bruno Hildebrandt, Kara, Eric, Ella & Timothy, Gerry Pyper, Sandra Pyper, Kenna Tanaka, Wes Tanaka, Steven Fischer, Ann Traverso, Neil, Lauren, Marcela, Brenda and Lonnie, Fr. Austin, Pat Galloway, Dorothy Green, Denise, Connie, Sue, Scotty Haskell, St. Paul's Church (Payson, AZ), Christopher Randle, Diane Manning, Bishop Keith, Abbie Bundy, Betty (Bo Peep) Penny, Donna, Dcn. Linda, Lorraine Chavez, Steve Chacon, Merle Shyne, Laura, Darlene O., Maddy, Lauren, Steven, Elena, Officer Shay K. Mikalonis, Niki, Roni, Bob, Carol, Zachary, Kathy Watson, and Pray for the World.

If you would like to submit prayer requests for this newsletter or if you have any updates, please contact the church office at 928-343-9551, or ctryuma@gmail.com



Prayers for the Deanery of AZ

The Rev. Austin Mansfield, Christ the Redeemer, Yuma, AZ

Deacon Linda Stokes and Everett Whitacre, Christ the Redeemer, Yuma, AZ

Deacon John and Carol Jordan, Desert Oasis Fellowship, Las Vegas



CtR Prayer Project

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18-Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

One of the things I liked most about our daughter teaching in a Christian school was our grandchildren getting to attend it. Each week the children were given a new Scripture verse to memorize, and that included committing it to memory, reciting it out loud, and knowing what it meant. Then, when they graduated as 8th graders, they each picked the verse they wanted to be their "Life Verse", a verse that spoke to their heart as being the truth God wanted them to cling to, through every stage of their life. I didn't attend a Christian school, but 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 is one I would choose as my Life Verse. I have learned through all the ups and downs of life that being joyful is a choice I get to make, based on all that God has done for me and all I have to look forward to. I have learned that praying continually doesn't mean spending my life on my knees, but rather, recognizing my need to immediately go to my Lord for help---with frequent, short, spur-of-the-moment prayers---whenever a need arises. And I have learned that to give thanks in all circumstances doesn't mean giving thanks **for** all circumstances, but that an attitude of gratitude should not be based on my circumstances or feelings at any given time. Do you have a Life Verse? Is there a Scripture verse that over and over seems to speak to your circumstances? Is there a verse that helps you through difficult times---one that you want bookmarked in your Bible and wouldn't mind having mounted on your wall? Lent is a great time to search for a Life Verse, and it's also a great time to take on the added discipline of memorizing one verse of Scripture each week. When we memorize, we not only commit God's Word to memory, but we also store it away for future use. It remains ready to help us over our next hurdle. It is spiritual food, and it is easy to find, easy to digest, and easy to share with family and friends. Why not stock up during Lent?

Praying in One Accord-Being in one accord with God's will for us includes always being joyful, always being ready to pray for God's help, and

always being ready to offer praise and thanks to our most gracious God.

Accord Prayer-Lord Christ, when we are in You and doing the Father's will, we find it easier to be joyful and thankful; help us become more like You as we dine on Your spiritual Word. In Your Name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving-Father, thank You for reminding us that our gratitude should not be based on our circumstances or feelings; rather, it should be based on a heart knowledge of Your Word and Who You are. Amen.



The Baptism of Jesus Mark 9:9-15

D S P I R I T N G V I Y
G C S C O M I N G O T C
O J O H N M I S A I B V
Y H O O T E M G L C T S
J A G R B D S P I E U U
I I A N D I S D L S S D
W P P T H A P P E N E D
A R L Y W T N J E Z L A
T D E S C E N D I N G Y
E O A C V L L T Y U H S
R V S A J Y P L I K E S
S E E M N A Z A R E T H
O H D E B E L O V E D K

APART	BAPTIZED	BEING
BELOVED	CAME	COMING
DAYS	DESCENDING	DOVE
GALILEE	HAPPENED	HEAVEN
IMMEDIATELY	JESUS	JOHN
JORDAN	LIKE	NAZARETH
PLEASED	SPIRIT	SPLIT
VOICE	WATER	WELL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is the time of year during which we look forward to Resurrection Sunday and celebrate with robust Allelu___s after many long weeks! Please consider a memorial or thanksgiving Easter lily that will adorn the altar on Easter Sunday and then **will** go on to bless residents at Yuma Nursing Center and anyone you may recommend who may be shut-in or in the hospital. The recommended donation is \$15 per potted lily. The proceeds go to purchase bread and other items that are used during all of our weekly communion services. Donations are accepted until Palm Sunday. May God bless you and make His face to shine upon you!

Jennifer Kircher
Altar Guild Directress

Please complete the form at the right and include the slip with your donation. Please place in the offering.

Thank you for your contribution!



Easter Lilies

From:

**In Memory of or
Thanksgiving for**
(Please circle)

Donation:
