

# The Sacred Journey of Holy Week

By Fr. Donald Owens, Interim Rector

**Holy Week is now days away! The most holy week of the year for the Christian Church. The liturgies of this week go back as far as the middle of the first century—i.e. 50 CE. All four Gospels report the events of this week taking up over half of each Gospel! The writers let us know what is most important for the life of the Church.**

**The spiritual power of the events of this week lead us through the ups and downs of the events of the week. The Triumphal Entry with all the hope and excitement being stirred in the lives of the followers in the lowliness of riding on a donkey with children running around gleefully and by the actions bringing Peace to all. All the while, across town Pilate is arriving at the same time on his horse as a conqueror ready to use all the force at his command to squash the smallest uprising, bringing peace by force, which is no peace.**

**Thursday having supper with his closest friends, not only eating with them and sealing their relationship as true companions (those with whom I eat), but washing their feet as a servant when being Lord of lords. Commanding us to love one another as he has loved us! Go do likewise. We are shocked to realize that Judas has his feet washed and is even sitting next to Him in the place of honor and being fed directly from His hand! How much are we to love? This much! From here plunged into confusion and fear with betrayal, trials, and unbearable pain in the face of death. The whole world has collapsed around us—hope is lost.**

**This is Holy Week. The many ups and downs we experience. The question lingers “Will there be a tomorrow?”**

**The answer comes the early morning of the first day of the week. The Feast of the Resurrection bursts forth. This Day has been celebrated from the very beginning—i.e. within a year or two from his death and resurrection. It is the oldest of all, known as the Queen of the Festivals. A new Era has begun and you and I are called to join the Band of followers to tell the world by our deeds and lives what God is doing and has done. The Great Parade is on the move.**



## **Exhibit on Anne Frank, Child Victim of the Holocaust, Opens April 2 at Dodwell House; Anna's Place NOLA Students Trained as Docents, Will Give Tours at 6 pm; all are invited**



Select panels from the traveling International Anne Frank Exhibit are now on display at the Dodwell House. This is a collaboration between Anna's Place NOLA, Loyola University and the International Anne Frank Exhibit.

In conjunction with the **opening reception Tuesday, April 2 at 6 pm**, Anna's Place NOLA students, who have trained as docents, will lead visitors through the exhibit. Students in the children's choir will perform, as they did during the opening ceremony. Fr. Don Owens will offer the opening prayer, and Dr. Naomi Yavneh Klos of Loyola will speak and will describe the partnership with Anna's Place NOLA. -- by Darryl Durham

## **Update from Rainbow Initiative of St. Anna's (RISA NOLA), which welcomes LGBTQI+ asylum seekers**

+ RISA NOLA has adopted a mission statement:

Consistent with the goals of the Episcopal Migration Ministries, the mission of RISA-NOLA is to bring visibility and aid to LGBTQI+ refugees and asylum seekers. We work with similar organizations to welcome forced migrants, providing initial housing, food, and other necessities; then walking with them as they move toward self-sufficiency.

+ We have worked for two months with a trans woman asylum seeker from El Salvador. As she becomes increasingly self-sufficient, we are preparing to welcome another person, possibly a trans man from Honduras.

+ **SAVE the Date!** The choir under Darryl Durham's direction is scheduling a musical fundraiser for the evening of April 19. More details soon!

## **Christian Education Welcomes Students of All Ages**

St. Anna's Episcopal Church Sunday School is back in action, so please come join us. Adult classes are held from 9:00am - 9:55 and age appropriate Youth classes are held from 9:15 - 10:00am. Curriculum and lesson plans are available upon request. (Note - Christian Education classes will not meet Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday.)

## **Sing Praises to God's Name on Easter Day!**

This Easter the church choir will be presenting some special music during the Voluntary and Communion segments of the Easter service. If you'd like to join us, then please come rehearse with the choir, starting this Wednesday from 6:00 - 7:00pm in the choir room.



# More News from Anna's Place NOLA and Dodwell House



The Anna's Place Choir had the opportunity to perform at the Blessed Frances Joseph-Gaudet Evensong Service at St. Lake's Church on March 10, and we are beyond grateful for the unwavering support of the Gaudet Foundation for choosing Anna's Place NOLA as one of 21 grant recipients!



It was a privilege and an honor to meet with Emille Cantrell, Chief Marketing Officer, and Stacey Matthews, Marketing Manager, to receive this generous donation from Imperial Trading Co. and to give them a tour of our facilities. It's always great to connect more with members of the community. A special thank-you to our Advisory Board member Arkesha Baquet for making this possible! (also pictured: Darryl Durham, Dr. Cavin Davis)

## Rector Search Committee Update

Since the February Annagram was published, the Search Committee has completed a second round of zoom interviews with rector candidates. We are in the process of assessing the candidates based on the criteria established by parishioners and other stakeholders of St. Anna's last Spring through the online survey and focus groups, and as articulated in the Parish Profile. The Search Committee asks for your prayers as we approach the late stages of the search process.

-- Bill Glew, Search Committee Chair

## **In Memoriam Lynn Lewis-Robison, 1951-2024**



**Lynn told me she felt led by the Lord to walk through our church doors because she had no intention of doing so; she was just taking a break from working as a hot walker at the race track, with time to kill. She spotted St. Anna's and walked in the open door, changing her and all of us who knew her. She sang with our choir adding another dimension to our voices. She took us in with her inspired faith and sang some wonderful notes, then shouting "Hallelujah!" and "Amen!" as she was slain in the spirit while a sermon was being given. Outside of church I helped with some needs and she gave of herself to give Anna 's children the exposure to her horses. I miss her presence as do many. We were blessed to know her.**

**-- Roberta Wilson**

**Lynn was a model of the joyful Christian I aspire to be, radiating delight in her life, her voice, her friends and family. Her memory is a blessing.**

**-- Bill Glew**

## Need a Ride to Join Palm Sunday Procession?

St. Anna's is hiring pedicabs to enable worshippers who can't comfortably walk 3/4 of a mile to join our Palm Sunday procession. If you'd like a pedicab ride on Palm Sunday, please contact Karen Judge, Senior Warden, to ensure we have pedicab seats for all who need one. Loading at 9:45 Palm Sunday, March 24; procession departs by 10.



### **Holy Week Services**

#### **Palm Sunday (March 24).**

9:45 -- Blessing of the Palms, line up for procession

10:00 -- Procession through the neighborhood

10:30 -- Eucharist, followed by crawfish boil

#### **Maundy Thursday (March 28).**

6 pm -- Solemn High Mass; foot-washing, stripping of the altar, followed by Chapel of Repose until dawn

#### **Good Friday (March 29)**

Noon -- virtual Stations of the Cross (Facebook)

6 pm -- Passion of Our Lord; distribution of Reserved Sacrament; Veneration of the Cross

#### **Easter Day (March 31)**

10:30 Festival High Mass (recommend arriving early!)

**St. Anna's Parish Calendar**  
**SUNDAY MARCH 10 -- SATURDAY APRIL 6, 2024**

Virtual Morning Prayer and Compline offered M-F at 8am and 9pm on Facebook Live

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March 10 - 4 Lent</b> Sunday School - 9am Adult Christian Ed - 9am Rosary - 10am Choir - 10am Mass - 10:30am RISA NOLA - 12-1pm	<b>March 11</b>	<b>March 12</b>	<b>March 13</b>  Choir - 6pm	<b>March 14</b>	<b>March 15</b>  Packing -- Food Bank 4:30 pm	<b>March 16</b>  Delivery - Food Bank 930 am  Plastic weaving for Mats 10-12
<b>March 17 - 5 Lent</b> Sunday School - 9am Adult Christian Ed - 9am Rosary - 10am Choir - 10am Mass - 10:30am RISA NOLA - 12-1pm	<b>March 18</b>	<b>March 19</b>	<b>March 20</b>  Choir - 6pm	<b>March 21 --</b>  Book Club 6pm	<b>March 22 -</b>	<b>March 23</b>
<b>March 24 - PALM SUNDAY</b> Gathering outside church - 9:45 Procession - 10 am Mass - 10:30 Crawfish boil after Mass (No Sunday School or Adult Christian Ed)	<b>March 25</b>	<b>March 26</b>	<b>March 27</b>  Choir - 6pm	<b>March 28 MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>  6pm - Mass, washing of feet Vigil, Chapel of Repose overnight	<b>March 29 GOOD FRIDAY</b>  12pm - Virtual Stations FB  6pm - Mass Veneration of Cross	<b>March 30</b>
<b>March 31 - EASTER DAY</b> Rosary - 10 am Choir - 10 am Mass -- 10:30 am (No Sunday school or Adult Christian Ed)	<b>April 1</b>	<b>April 2</b>	<b>April 3</b>  Choir - 6pm	<b>April 4</b>	<b>April 5</b>	<b>April 6</b>