

The Nativity of John the Baptist



John the Baptist, the prophet, and forerunner of Jesus, was the son of elderly parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, and was related to Jesus on his mother's side. His birth is celebrated six months before Christmas Day, since according to Luke, Elizabeth became pregnant six months before the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary. John figures prominently in all four Gospels, but the account of his birth is given in the Gospel according to Luke. John lived ascetically in the desert. He was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt, and ate locusts and wild honey. He preached repentance and called upon people to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom and of the Messiah, baptizing his followers to signify their repentance and new life. Jesus himself was baptized by John in the Jordan. Because of John's denunciation of the sins of Herod, especially Herod's incestuous marriage, John incurred the enmity of Herodias, Herod's wife, and was put in prison. Through Herodias' plotting with Salome, her daughter, Herod was led to promise a gift to Salome, who demanded John's head. John is remembered during Advent as a prophet, and at Epiphany as the baptizer of Jesus.

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Savior by preaching repentance: Make us so to follow his teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching: and, following his example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for truth's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

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Calendar of Events

*If you would like to see your event listed here, please email Clelia or garritycpg@gmail.com. If you would like to see your event listed in the *diocesan calendar*, please email Barbara.*

SAVE THE DATES

Jun 26, HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN'S GARAGE/YARD SALE, 507 Churchill St., Fallon.

Jun 26, ST. BRIGID CHAPTER OF THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING is celebrating their One Year Anniversary at St. Matthew's. Las Vegas from 10:00AM to 12 Noon. We will have an instructed Eucharist and a Candle Ceremony. Luncheon will be served after the service.

Jul 1-31, OPEN DOORS AT TRINITY RENO; 200 Island Ave., Reno, NV. Pipes on the River, organ concert every Friday Noon-12:30 PM; Stained Glass Artist lecture and tour; Jul 6, 10:30 AM-12 Noon; Labyrinth Walk with music and art, Jul 11, 4:00-8:00 PM; Summer Faire and Festival, Jul 24, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

Jun 26, SOULFUL LIVING, A WORKSHOP BY BISHOP DAN at St. Peter's, Carson City, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. A special invitation to contemplative Christians seeking methods of prayer and meditation; also Christians who want to blend their psychology with their spirituality. No charge. Free-will donations are encouraged to cover the costs of the host church. Lunch is not included. For more information, email Bishop Dan at bishop@nvdiocese.org

Jul 11-18, A BENEDICTINE EXPERIENCE, Bishop's Ranch, Healdsburg, CA. A time to nurture and strengthen our daily lives through prayer and spiritual companionship. For detailed information, or to register, please contact The Friends of St. Benedict at 202-363-8061, or saintbenedict@prospect-tech.com

Jul 24, GALILEE BENEFIT CONCERT, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Incline Village, 3:00 PM. Music will be performed by pianist Andrew Campbell and violinist Katie McLin. All proceeds go to Galilee Episcopal Camp and Conference Center. Admission Fee \$20. For tickets, please contact Galilee at 775-749-5546, or visit the St. Patrick's Church Office.

Jul 31, JOURNALING WORKSHOP: Roisin O'Loughlin, D.Min, presenter, Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Cost \$45.

Aug 4, 11, 18, 25, DREAM GROUP, Cathy Pagano, MA, facilitator. Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Direction, Las Vegas, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Newcomers Welcome! \$20 per person.

Aug 7, INTRODUCTION TO CENTERING PRAYER WORKSHOP: Based on the Teachings of Fr. Thomas

Keating, Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas, 9:00 AM - Noon. Freewill offering.

Aug 10, MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE DIOCESE OF NEVADA offered by the Episcopal Divinity School. An eight-week online course that focuses on identifying ways to empower people to effectively engage in the world through the ministry of the baptized. No fee. To enroll contact frensdorff.school@gmail.com

Aug 14, GALILEE 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, 2:00 - 8:00 PM. Barbecue Dinner at 6:00 PM. We will celebrate this important anniversary with an afternoon of barbecue, as well as singing, kayaking, guided hikes, and a worship service. Bishop Dan Edwards will join in the celebration with a special pre-dinner Eucharist. No registration is necessary for those coming for the day. For those interested in staying the night, the cost is \$40/person, which includes a brunch on August 15th. To make reservations, please call 775-749-5546.

Aug 19, THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS: A Presentation by Margaret Towne, PhD, Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas. 10-11:30 AM. Freewill offering.

Aug 21-22, HEALING TOUCH SPIRITUAL MINISTRY, Jeanne Clark, MA presenter. Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas. Cost \$300 (\$150 for repeaters; \$225 for full-time students) 16 credit hours for massage therapists.

Aug 31, APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR ARTISTS TO REPRESENT THEIR PARISH AT THE 2010 DIOCESE OF NEVADA CONVENTION IN OCTOBER. Add inspirational art to the Diocese of Nevada. Create and share your works of visual art at the 2010 convention. For information, or to submit a piece of artwork, contact Meg Table at megtable@hotmail.com 4500 Pisa Dr. Reno, NV 89509; 775-827-2516.

Sep 3-6, SOLO FLIGHT AT 20: VISIONING THE FUTURE FOR SINGLE ADULTS IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Richmond, VA. As Solo Flight gathers for its 20th consecutive year, the coordinators are discerning the future and looking to conduct visioning sessions centering on being single in The Episcopal Church. For further information and registration: <http://www.soloflightministry.net>

Sep 8, PASTORAL CARE EDUCATION: AN ONLINE INTRODUCTION TO THE FUNDAMENTALS OF PASTORAL CARE offered by the Frensdorff School of Christian Education. The two-semester class will offer a complete overview of the basic disciplines of pastoral care. It will be taught via Adobe Connect by Jodi Lediard, Maryellen Waltz, Clelia Garrity, Jan Olandese, and Bishop Dan Edwards. The class is strongly recommended for persons currently in vocational discernment for Holy Orders, or for those persons who have been ordained but unable to attend formal Clinical Pastoral Education. Registration for the class is limited. Contact frensdorff.school@gmail.com

Sep 17-19, 24th ANNUAL WESTBERG PARISH NURSE SYMPOSIUM; Thriving in a Changing World. Embassy Suites & St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles MO. [For information, or to register](#)

Sep 18, SERVANT-LEADERSHIP, a model of leadership that is based on shared power, shared decision-making, building trust, collaboration, and mutual accountability. Servant-Leadership training seeks to draw on the gifts, strengths, and abilities of each person in the congregation. **Trinity Church, Reno, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.** Workshop space is limited. To enroll contact frensdorff.school@gmail.com

Sep 19, SERVANT-LEADERSHIP, a model of leadership that is based on shared power, shared decision-making, building trust, collaboration, and mutual accountability. Servant-Leadership training seeks to draw on the gifts, strengths, and abilities of each person in the congregation. **Christ Church, Las Vegas, 1:00 - 5:00 PM.** Workshop space is limited. To enroll contact frensdorff.school@gmail.com

Oct 8-10, 1ST ANNUAL DIOCESAN WOMEN'S RETREAT sponsored by St. Peter's Church, Carson City. The diocesan-wide retreat for Women of Faith will be held at Galilee Episcopal Camp and Conference Center. Co-leaders are Rev. Helen McPeak of Epiphany, Henderson and Rev. Stefani Schatz, Rector of Trinity, Reno. All women of the diocese are welcome and encouraged to bring friends. The cost for the weekend is \$145 - \$160. This includes all meals. To register call 775-749-5546, or send a \$50 non-refundable check to Galilee, PO Box 236, Glenbrook, NV 89413.

Oct. 30, ORDERS OF MINISTRY: SHAPING THE CHURCH FOR LIFE, Roving Workshop presented by Bishop Dan Edwards, 9:00 AM - Noon, St. Bartholomew's, Ely. The workshop will look at the roles of laity, priests, deacons, and bishops. Who is responsible for what? What is special in the spirit of each order? What's up to the vestry and warden? What's up to the priest? What's up to the deacon? What is a rector, a priest in charge, an assistant? How can we best share the ministries so that we all grow and God is glorified?

Oct. 22-24, DIOCESAN CONVENTION, Santa Fe Casino Hotel, N. Rancho Drive, Las Vegas. Delegates and guests are asked to register in advance. Travelers should call the Santa Fe Casino Hotel at 702-658-4900 to make room reservations. Please mention that you are attending the Episcopal Church Convention to get the group discount rate. Icebreaker Thursday night, Oct. 21, 7-9 PM. Todos Los Santos will host our fellowship gathering at All Saints' Church, Las Vegas. Please continue to check our website for forms, information, etc. <http://www.diocesenconvention.org/>

 Forward to a Friend

Ponderings & Prayers



The Inferiority of Goodness

by Bishop Dan Edwards

"...I don't honestly believe we can live without guilt. I don't believe even the strongest and best of us can do that for two reasons.

First, we have to live in human society and the structures of society are unjust.

The greatest American theologian of the 20th Century, Reinhold Niebuhr, taught us that we cannot be moral people in an immoral society.

For example, if the whole world were given the chance to consume what North America and Western Europe consume, it would take 5 planets with the earth's resources to meet the demand.

How can we justify that?

The second reason we can't dodge guilt is that life is morally complicated.

Often the choices we face are not between right and wrong, but between wrong and worse.

Even if we do our best in those situations, we come out with a moral remainder.

I don't know how we can get through life with clean hands. So a lot of us live with regret.

<http://www.bdsermons.blogspot.com/>



Desert Angels Health Tip of the Week

MAGICAL MUSIC FOR HAITI

Two fundraising concerts for Episcopal Relief & Development/Haiti Fund

raised a total of \$9470 !!!

Thank you so very much Grace in the Desert Episcopal Church, Las Vegas
and
St. Paul's, Sparks

for hosting these wonderful events.

So many people gave so much of themselves to make these concerts a success, and to contribute funds that will help our brothers and sisters in Haiti with tents, food, water, and medical supplies.

NEWS BRIEFS

The Episcopal Diocese of Santiago has resolved at its Diocesan Convention a willingness to enter into a Companion Diocese Relationship with the Diocese of Nevada-TEC. This resolution will be placed on the agenda of the upcoming Diocesan Convention in Las Vegas.

St. Thomas, Las Vegas will offer continuing education classes beginning June 19 at 10:00 AM. We will be studying Deuteronomy, followed by History of the Episcopal Church (a video class)

All Saints' Parish Youth has Bible Study and Fellowship, Wednesdays from 4:00 to 6:30 PM

RAPT in PRAYER, a prayer shawl ministry that meets at St. Peter's, Carson City in the library the first Saturday and the first Thursday of each month. Patterns and yarn are available; all knitters need to bring is needles. July meetings are on the 1st and 15th. All are welcome - we can teach knitting, as well.

The first Wednesday of every month:

Naomi and Ruth Circle - Healing through Friendship and Prayer: A support group for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one, 5:45 - 6:45 PM, Trinity Episcopal Library, 200 Island St. Reno. We will be reading and discussing the book "*Enduring Grace: Living Portraits of Seven Women Mystics*", by Carol Lee Flinders.

Epiphany, Henderson Loss and Grieving Support Group meets the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6:30 - 8:00 PM.

Mondays at 7:00 PM - Contemplative Prayer, Epiphany, Henderson.

Epiphany Adult Sunday School meets every Sunday at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Room.

Saturdays at 8:00 AM Epiphany's Men's Group Breakfast: Rae's Restaurant, Alternating weeks.

The Epiphany Outreach Group will be cooking and serving a meal to the homeless on the 2nd Friday of every month in collaboration with a program operating at St. Timothy's called "Friends of the Desert." Please arrive at 1PM; clean-up is from 6:00-8:00 PM. For information see Ginny, or call her at 476-9150.

An Informal, Contemporary Eucharist at 5:30 PM every fourth Saturday of the month at St. Christopher's, Boulder City.

Special Youth Breakfast and Bible Lesson the first Sunday of every month at 9:00 AM, St. Christopher's, Boulder City.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Fallon offers a Bereavement Support "drop-in" group the 2nd Monday of every month from 6:00 - 7:00 PM at the vicarage.

and

Two 8 week Bereavement Support sessions are also offered in the Fall (September 30th - November 18th) on Thursday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the Vicarage.

and

A "drop-in" Bereavement Group meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at CARES Cottage in Yerington (306 Surprise Street) from 1:00 - 2:00 PM

St. Timothy's, Henderson offers a Grief Support Group, the group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the church. The group is facilitated by hospice chaplains; meeting times are: Mondays at 10:00 AM. The group offers support for those who have experienced any sort of loss. 43 W. Pacific Ave. in Henderson.

Please submit your news briefs to Clelia at garritycpg@gmail.com

Contact Information

eNews Chief: Clelia
775.253.5579 (cell phone: no solicitors, please)

About Us

The Episcopal Diocese of Nevada embraces 6,000 members from communities throughout Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona in 34 congregations and 2 new faith communities. Our electronic newsletter service and print journal, The Desert Spirit, are provided to parishes and members free of charge.

Persons interested in the ministry of communications may contact [Barbara](#), [Hallie](#), or [Karl](#) to get involved.

Persons wishing to opt-out and not receive the electronic newsletter can simply unsubscribe by selecting the link at the end of this newsletter.

Changes to snail mail addresses for The Desert Spirit must be sent to the [Editor](#).

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