

The Church of the Nativity & St. Stephen  
Ash Wednesday  
Holy Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes  
February 18, 2026, Noon



**Mission of Nativity and St. Stephen**

To seek and serve Christ through service to others.

To manage responsibly the financial resources of our parish as loving and caring stewards.

To welcome and involve all persons into our parish family valuing both diversity and unity.

To enable nurture and learning in the Episcopal heritage of Scripture, tradition and reason.

To foster a community of faith for worship, spiritual growth, ministry and mission.

We invite your prayers before our mass begins. Please be reminded of the importance of Holy silence that prepares us to listen to God. Conversation, food, and fellowship following worship. All are welcome.

**The Rev. Ryan M. Tobin**

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**159 South Second Street, Newport, PA 17074**

## **Welcome**

### **Procession**

*Please stand and join in reciting Psalm 88, BCP 712.*

### **Opening Sentences**

Celebrant: Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins.

***People:*** *His mercy endures forever.*

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

***People:*** *Christ, have mercy.*

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:*** *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day**            *insert*

### **The Lessons**

**Lector:** A Reading from Isaiah 58:1 - 12            *insert*

The Word of the Lord.

***People:*** *Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 103:8 - 14**            *insert*

### **Lector:**

A Reading from 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10            *insert*

The Word of the Lord.

***People:*** *Thanks be to God.*

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

***People:*** *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Matthew 17:1 - 9            *insert*

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:*** *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **The Gospel**

*Please stand and join in this responsory from Psalm 79.*

**Celebrant:** Remember not our past sins.

**People:** *Let your compassion be swift to meet us.*

**Celebrant:** We have been brought very low.

**People:** *Let your compassion be swift to meet us.*

**Celebrant:** Help us, O God our Savior.

**People:** *Let your compassion be swift to meet us.*

**Celebrant:** Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

**People:** *Let your compassion be swift to meet us.*

**Celebrant:** Let the sighs of the sorrowful come before you.

**People:** *Let your compassion be swift to meet us.*

**Celebrant:** By your great might, spare those who are condemned.

**People:** *Let your compassion be swift to meet us.*

**Celebrant:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

**People:** *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21     *insert*

**Celebrant:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **The Sermon**    The Rev. Ryan M. Tobin

### **Invitation to a Holy Lent**     BCP 264

*Please stand for the Invitation, which begins on page 264 of the Book of Common Prayer. After the ashes are blessed, all are invited to come forward to receive ashes.*

### **Psalm 51 and The Litany of Penitence**     BCP 266

*The Celebrant and People, kneeling, recite Psalm 51 and pray the Litany of Penitence, beginning on page 266 of the Book of Common Prayer.*

## **The Peace**

*Please stand.*

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

## **Offertory**

*A collection is taken as the priest prepares the altar for Holy Communion. Please stand as the offering is brought forward.*

**Celebrant:** All things come of thee, O God.

**People:** *And of thine own have we given thee.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

**Eucharistic Prayer A**    BCP 361

*Please remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving, which begins on page 361 of the Book of Common Prayer.*

**The Lord's Prayer**            BCP 364

**The Breaking of the Bread**    BCP 364

**Prayer after Communion**      BCP 365

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Together:** *Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **Blessing**

## **Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

## **Service Participants**

**Greeter:** Bill Roman

**Lector:** Terry Stanton

**Eucharistic Minister:** Bill Day