

The Church of the Nativity & St. Stephen
Third Sunday in Lent March 8, 2026



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

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 717-216-0148, ryan@tobin.church

Michele Neibert - Parish Administrator

Office: 717-567-6514 **E-mail:** chnatss@pa.net

<https://nativityandststephen.org>

159 South Second Street, Newport, PA 17074

Lector: A Reading from Romans 5:1 -11 insert

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn “*Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*” Hymnal 343

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 4:5 - 42 insert

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Ryan M. Tobin

The Nicene Creed BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Celebrant and People: 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**Recessional Hymn**

“How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord” Hymnal 637

Dismissal

BCP 366

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Announcements

Today we accept an additional offering for Neighbor Helping Neighbor.

Please add a check or cash in envelope and designate for food bank. Or it can be mailed to the church office anytime during the month. We will send one monthly donation to them.

Please include the following in your daily prayers.

Wendy, Tootser, Mary Jeanne, Jan, Bob, Jim, Lynne, Tammy, Kim, Marie, Sue, Robert, Monty, Ray, Kate, Kevin, Nancy, Ann and the family and friends of Patti O'Neill Mosca.

Flowers for Easter, April 5.

Donations for Easter flowers will be taken through March 29. If you have an envelope, you can use for the donation, including marking if they are “in honor of” or “in memory of” someone. There are also envelopes at the back of the church.

Holy Week and Easter Services 2026

Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday, Nativity, 9:30am

Tuesday, March 31, Holy Week Service, St. Stephen, 7pm

Maundy Thursday, April 2, Nativity, Agape Supper – 5:30pm; Service - 7pm

Service with foot washing, communion, and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday, April 3, 12:30pm, Nativity,

Easter Sunday, April 5, 9:30am, Nativity

Weekly Conversation and Devotions

Wednesday, March 11, 9am, Newport Family Restaurant

Wednesday, March 18, 9am, Zoom

Wednesday, March 25, 9am, Newport Family Restaurant

Vestry Meeting, Thursday, March 26, 6pm via Zoom.

Dedication of Communion Elements

The church is now offering the opportunity for you to dedicate the Communion Elements in honor of, or in memory of, a person or event that is important to you (e.g., birthdays, wedding anniversaries, and other special occasions). The dedication will be printed in the bulletin and announced by the celebrant during the service. Please contact Michele at the church office to select a date and arrange your dedication. An offering of \$60 for this dedication will be collected to support the Worship and Music program at Nativity & St. Stephen.

Help fill our community food pantry!

Items that seem to be taken first include canned pasta meals, soups, macaroni & cheese, etc. We also need items that kids can take for a snack or light meal without cooking (pop tarts, fruit cups, etc.). Please make sure that your contributions are neither damaged nor expired.

Rejoice! Music Ministry, Incarnation UCC, 47 N. 4th Street, Newport

All concerts are free and start at 2pm followed by refreshments.

March 22 – The Miller’s (Southern Gospel)

Steps to Stability, Saturday, April 18, 10am, Little Buffalo State Park

This 5K is a joint fundraiser for Join Hands Ministry and Perry Human Services. The registration fee is \$25 through February 28 and \$30 beginning March 1. Sign up at

<https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/PA/Newport/StepsToStability>

Service Participants

Greeter: Karen Kern

Lector: Rick Rasmussen

Prayers of the People: John Cramer

Acolyte and Eucharistic Minister: Shannon Burns

Tech Assistant: Aiden Shiffer

Coffee Hour: Susan Rice

Altar Guild: Wendy Day

Counters: Becky Gephart-Crup and Bill Day



Vestry

Bill Day, Sr. Warden

Jill Hoover, Jr. Warden

Wendy Day

Mary Price

Rick Rasmussen

Charlene Robbins

Terry Stanton

Rebecca Gephart-Crup, Treasurer