



The Courier

Christ the King Episcopal Church

1224 North Jefferson Street

Huntington, Indiana 46750

FEBRUARY, 2025

A Few Words from Fr. Ted

A MANY-SPLENORED THING

The next several days we will be hearing a lot about love. Since immediately after Christmas, the stores have had large displays of brightly colored Valentine's Day decorations – over-sized hearts, cupid figures with their tiny bows drawn, and such – everything in red and white. Then, of course there are the over-priced cards and heart-shaped boxes of candy that seem to call out, "Take me home, or you will be in trouble." It is the annual celebration of love. In this case it is romantic love.

The day is named for St. Valentine, who is thought to have been a third-century priest or monk credited with being able to cure epilepsy. He was martyred on February 14 and has been commemorated on that day by the Western Church since the eighth century. It seems that he was persecuted for solemnizing the marriages of young couples contrary to an edict of the emperor who thought that "unmarried men without families made better soldiers." (<https://denvercatholic.org/why-is-st-valentine-the-patron-saint-of-those-in-love>.) Various sources also claimed that the Feast of St. Valentine was regularly kept within the Anglican Communion. However, current calendars in the *Book of Common Prayer*, *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, and *A Great Cloud of Witnesses*, fail to list Valentine for commemoration. Regardless, it remains in popular imagination as the "Day of Love."

I find it hard to believe there is any other word in the English language that is as difficult to define or even describe as love. It is truly one of those things you must experience to even begin to understand. This is true not only of romantic love but of love in all of its forms. In addition to romantic, we have love for parents, siblings, children, friends, pets and groups such as country or church. C. S. Lewis among others reminds us that the Greeks had many words for love. The four he wrote on were: *Storge*, affection as among family members; *Philia*, as in friendship and companionship; *Eros*, romantic lover; and *Agape*, spiritual love. *Agape* love includes charity towards others, selflessness and a desire for the divine. It is the highest form of love according to Lewis.

(<https://newbookrecommendation.com/summary-of-the-four-loves-by-c-s-lewis-a-detailed-synopsis-3/>.)

The key in this schema is that love is defined by its object. Love, even self-love, cannot exist without an object toward which it points. Without this we would be left only with self-serving lust and valuing others only for what they can do for us. Jesus, though, models for us love that makes the other primary. All that he did was out of love for us and all of creation with nothing to gain for himself. What



could he gain? The Lord of the Universe is by definition self-sufficient, beyond the kinds of needs that define our existence. Yet, in the Incarnation, Jesus “though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.” The only reason he did this was love, the only thing that held him on the cross was love. That is the love that truly needs to be celebrated; that is the kind of love we most need.

We live in a time where we are being urged to put ourselves first and to act against anything that threatens to diminish our privilege, our standard of living or our dominance of others. That is not the love we are called to; that is not the example of Jesus. Our highest calling is to “love the Lord our God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our mind. And to love our neighbor as ourselves.” (BCP p 324, paraphrased)

It is okay to celebrate Valentine’s Day, to whatever extent we wish. It is right to let those you love know that you do. It should be done more than once a year. But on that day, and others, remember that all love is an expression of having first been loved beyond anything we can conceive.

Fr. Ted +



WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITES?

The Worship Committee would like to know what your favorite hymns are. We work hard to choose hymns that relate to the readings each week, and we also consider whether our congregation is familiar with a hymn or not. In addition, we try to keep from using the same hymns over and over. However, we realize that there may be some people who would like to hear their favorites, so we are asking if you would consider which three hymns are at the top of your list and let us know. You may reply to the email that this newsletter was sent from (sljepesen@yahoo.com), or write them down and give them to either Linda Beatty, Meg Moss or Sue Jepsen. Your input is appreciated!

ALZHEIMERS and DEMENTIA

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Will meet Thursday, February 6 at 5:00 p.m.

Questions?

Call Nancy Heasley

260-450-7077



BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet on Monday, February 17 to discuss *Yellowface* by R. F. Kuang. The New York Times says, "Yellowface is Kuang's fifth novel and first foray outside of fantasy. It's a breezy and propulsive read, a satirical literary thriller that's enjoyable and uncomfortable in equal measure; occasionally, it skirts the edges of a ghost story."

Marguerite Wire will lead the discussion and Emily Goedesky will host. Join us for refreshments and discussion in the Parish Hall at 7:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 Dianne Neidlinger
5 Marguerite Wire
13 Fr. Ted Neidlinger
21 Kimberlyn Boxell
27 Dr. Marlene Schleiffer



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

8 George & Rose Holtrey

NOTE: If a birthday or anniversary of a member of your family is not being included in these lists, please contact Sue Jepsen with the dates she needs to recognize at

sljepsen@yahoo.com

Thanks!

SERVICE ROSTER FEBRUARY, 2025

	2-Feb	9-Feb	16-Feb	23-Feb
		Love INC Ingathering		Little Blessings Ingathering
Reader (OT & Epistle)	Meg Moss	Dick Wire	Marguerite Wire	Alex Klausing
Intercessor	Bill Oswalt	Gary Beatty		
Server 1	Dixie Harrold	Marguerite Wire	Carmaen Oswalt	
Server 2		Carmen Oswalt	Kory Boxell/Dixie Harrold	Meg Moss
Oblations				
Counter	Nancy Heasley	Alex Klausing		
Altar Guild	Dixie Harrold	Marguerite Wire	Linda Beatty	Alex Klausing
Coffee Hour	Oswalt	Goedesty	Beatty	Wire

REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR NEXT MONTH!



CHRIST the KING FEBRUARY, 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 Adult Study	03 Epiphany	04	05 7:00 p.m. AA	06 5:00 Dementia Caregivers Group 5:30 Evening Prayer	07	08
09 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 Adult Study	10	11	12 7:00 p.m. AA	13 5:30 Holy Communion	14	15
16 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist	17	18	19 7:00 p.m. AA	20 5:30 Evening Prayer 6:00 Vestry	21	22
23 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist	24	25	26 7:00 p.m. AA	27 5:30 Evening Prayer	28	01

Why the Dolly Parton Imagination Library?

Some of you may have noticed that the Vestry voted to give money to this organization at the end of 2024. If you're not familiar with it, the Imagination Library is free to any child aged 0 – 5 who is registered. They receive one free book a month delivered directly to their households. This program helps the children develop a love of reading; it is designed to engage parent involvement, prepare children for entry to kindergarten, and enable every household to build their own library.

Since launch the program in November 2021, 1,609 children in Huntington County have been positively impacted with the delivery of over 27,186 books! However, that is only 50% of that age group, and *every* child in Huntington County could benefit from this.

The books range between \$1.10 to \$1.85 plus \$.95 per book for shipping. It is so affordable! But as numbers continue to grow, the cost goes up. Fortunately, the State of Indiana pays for 50% of the cost. For example, 1,128 books were shipped in October for a total of \$2,652.35. The United Way of Huntington County paid \$1,326.17. We felt our support of this project would be money well spent.

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VESTRY

Sue Jepsen 2025
Nancy Heasley 2025

John Jepsen 2026
Paul Wilson 2026

Carmen Oswalt 2027
Sue Nunemaker 2027

PHONE NUMBERS

Church:
260-356- 3570

Sr. Warden:
260-224-3835

Little Blessings Childcare:
260-359-1161

SERVICES at CHRIST the KING

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.: Holy Communion
Thursday, 9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.: Evening Prayer
2nd Thursday/month, 5:30: Communion

WEB PAGE: www.episcopalchurch-huntington.org

FACEBOOK Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/ctkhuntington>

EMAILS :
Treasurer: markpark823@gmail.com
Newsletter: sljepsen@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS:
Fr. Ted, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Thursdays

PERSONNEL

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Theodore
Neidlinger

Bishop/Rector: The Rt. Rev.
Douglas Sparks

Sr. Warden:
Marguerite Wire

Jr. Warden:
George Goedesky

Treasurer:
Mark Parker

Music Director: Sue Nunemaker

