
The Outrider

DECEMBER 2004/JANUARY 2005

The View from Above the Close

*"When did I forget to tell
you how much I love you?"*

OK, it's something you've heard before from me, but here it is again:

*This is the irrational season
When love blooms bright and wild.
If Mary had been full of reason
There'd have been no room for the child.
--Madeleine L'Engle*

As the year ends and begins again—a new year, always new, always potent, always full of unexpected possibility—I am drawn to irrationality.

It's not a hard draw for me. Most people will tell you that "rationality" and logic and thoughtfulness are not my strong suits, not at all. I tend toward intuition and magic and chaos and mystery and not a little wonderment. I am not, by nature, a linear thinker...I am, quite truthfully, not a "thinker" at all though I do have many thoughts. I encounter the world with perceptions and feelings and emotions.

I'm writing this (because of *Outrider* deadlines) on November 3, 2004. We are, on this date, in the *thinnest* of time. (If you don't know what that means—the "thinnest of time"—just ask me and I'll tell you more about Celtic spirituality than you ever want or need to know!) Take my word for it—the word of a person who doesn't have a drop of blood in his body that can't be traced back to the British Isles and Celtic forbearers—we are, as I write this, walking on thin ice between this life and the life to come. That's why All Saints and All Souls come in early November. Reason and logic don't have much to shore them up in this time of the year. This is my time of the year—the irrational season.

So, listen: God—our God, the God of creation and wonder—is not a God that traffics in Reason or Logic. Leave those, along with your guns, at the door of this pub. God—our God, the God of creation and wonder—is playing with us in a remarkable and life-giving way. A way like this: we will go through a period of "waiting" and "expectation" that we call Advent until we arrive again, without knowing how or why, at the crude barn and the simple manger where

God—our God, the God of creation and wonder—lies sleeping as a baby boy. Angels and shepherds...holy beings and the most common of folk...will gather with us there and we will celebrate the Impossible, the Unimaginable, the Ridiculous and painfully Irrational mind of God. God, without having to do so (being God, after all, has some perks!) will choose, once again, to be born in our midst—beyond all reason and logic, outside of all expectations and all understanding. Just that, just that...just that: to be born as one of us...cut to the chase, roll the credits, cover your bets.

When I'm being especially self-absorbed, I begin to think that God is like me—irrational, intuitive, wonder-filled, miracle driven. Then I realize, I'm not that wrong. Unto us a child is born. Unto us a son is given. Flesh of our flesh and blood of our blood—God is born in human form.

I'm not sure how to celebrate that properly. But we'll give it a try at St. John's. We'll try to make *incarnation* live and breathe in our liturgies over Christmas. Because that's what it is all about—every bit of it, the whole shebang, the full Monte, the whole nine yards, all and all and more than all, everything...God is coming, as always, to become one of us so we might "know"—not like reason and logic "knowing" but like irrational and intuitive "knowing"—that we are One with God and God is One with us....Just like that.

And it is all this: God is saying, beyond all reason, outside all logic...God is saying this—*I love you, forever and always, just like that.*

Have I told you lately I love you? Consider yourself told.

And this is the time of year we need to listen to hear God speaking in a mystical whisper in our ears, just that: *I love you forever and always..*

This is the "irrational season". Love blooms fresh and wild.

Keep your ears open. Listen for the whisper.

Shalom,

JIM



ORDINATION FOR MICHAEL SPENCER

THE GOOD LORD WILLIN' AND THE CREEK DON'T RISE!

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Smith will ordain Michael Spencer to the priesthood on Sunday, January 16, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. here at St. John's. Mark the date and join us in celebrating Michael's ordination!

HALLOWEEN 2004

St. John's 2nd Annual Halloween Eucharist and Haunted House was a huge success. It is so important, I think, that the church reclaim and celebrate pieces of our spiritual life co-opted by the culture. Maybe we can get Christmas back some day!

Malinda Johnson's sermon on Halloween spoke deeply to my heart. I thought it worth sharing with those who may not have heard it.

Shalom,
Jim

Halloween 2004

Ezekiel 37:1-14

I Samuel 28:3-25

Luke 8:26-39

Over the past few weeks as I've talked about this service, I've heard a lot of folks (both insiders and outsiders) say that Halloween doesn't belong in church. It's too pagan, too commercial, too flaky...or, as one priest I know remarked, *Oh, come on, Malinda, celebrating Halloween liturgically is just too weird, even for St. John's!*

So maybe we are coloring a bit outside the lines of propriety here today; and yet, if you ask me, whatever dubious stuff we're embracing - the crazy costumes and the kitschy decorations just for starters - *none* of it has half as much to say in the way of weird (or questionable) as do all those characters we just heard from in Holy Scripture.

First there was the prophet Ezekiel who, in a rather alarming vision, sees a valley of dry bones rattle around at his command and become a massive army of skeletons. These obedient skeletons quickly get dressed up once again in human flesh and skin *only to stay dead a little while longer*; but then breath, blowing in with the four winds, fully restores the slain in this vision to life.

So our first lesson features skeletons, zombie-like creatures and the living dead. And our second lesson from 1st Samuel involves a witch, a séance and a conjured up ghost as well. (All that's missing from this story is a Ouija board and a bunch of squealing girls.)

Finally -- if all that isn't suspect enough - in Luke's Gospel we're told a graphic tale about demonic possession and an exorcism, how Jesus heals a man so tortured and out of control that day and night he was known to wander around naked, howling among the tombs, chained and fettered for a time...though chains and fetters couldn't even begin to subdue the frightening power that possessed him.

From start to finish, I'd say these readings are pretty spooky -- spooky stories (weird and questionable stories) that couldn't have been scripted any better for the occasion by Edgar Allen Poe or Stephen King. However, these spooky stories from our tradition witness to the transforming power of God's love and grace more than fear.

Now clearly, part of what we're about here this morning is sheer nonsense - it's the fun of reversals and rebellion in the carnival spirit, the thrill of thumbing our noses, if only for a moment, at the terrifying power of darkness and death. Today, in the carnival spirit of reversals and rebellion, it's also - *for a moment* - a child's world where good taste, good nutrition and good dental hygiene mean nothing; and what counts is taking our fears out of the closet (just like dress up clothes) and literally trying them on for size.

When I was little I was a homebody. I never left home for camp or anything else until college and now, looking back, I can see that issues of safety and security were a huge, if unconscious concern I picked up from the environment around me.

But guess what I almost always chose to be on Halloween: I chose to dress up as either a Gypsy, or what my friends and I use to call a "hobo" (which I guess was a 70's version of something like a "drifter").

In other words, I chose to be *wanderers*, folks who never stayed put for very long, folks who lived dangerously (at least by my standards) without much at all but the cold, hard ground to fall back on.

Year after year after year I chose to become the exact opposite of what my relatively cushioned, suburban upbringing would have me be. It's as if for one night a year I got to act out that particular culture's fears and insecurities, I got to challenge my inherited values, but in a safe and playful way. (Incidentally, I'm not the least bit surprised that my eight year old son, who looks and acts about as menacing as Howdy-Doody, is dressing up this evening as a *bling-wearing, gun-toting gangster*.)

But this is what Halloween's all about. It gives us permission to rebel against our lot. It gives us a chance to poke fun at ourselves and our limitations. On Halloween all of us, adults and kids alike, get to act like we're party to the chaos all around us. And, as we prowl around this day pretending to be a bit braver maybe than we really are, we might just consider fear as a possible *opening* (rather than an automatic hindrance) to the grace of God.

Of course, fear may not be the place we normally go looking for God or grace or any other good thing. But in fear of holy torment the man in today's Gospel found healing in Jesus; and driven by fear, poor Saul stumbled upon the kindness of an outcast witch; and in what I can only imagine was a fear-filled vision (to put it mildly), Ezekiel received God's promise on behalf of his people. In all these stories fear beat a quick path to God only the foolhardy would recommend.

Yet this celebration here before us - especially as we move altogether to the altar - this is a *feast of fools*, it always has been. Entrusting ourselves to a God of grace and a God of surprises, Halloween challenges us to put on a brave face and find out just what strange and hidden gifts our own fears might hold.

UPCOMING ADULT FORUMS

The 9:00 a.m. Adult Forums are a good way to examine your faith and learn together with others. The discussion is always lively. Join us for the following offerings:

ADVENT SUNDAYS - November 28, and December 5, 12 and 19

"INCARNATION AND THE FACES OF GOD"

On Sundays at 9:00 a.m. during the four weeks of Advent, we will spend some time looking at some religious traditions of the East - Hinduism, Buddhism, and Taoism - and some major Western religions - Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. Using Joseph Campbell's Power of Myth series as a guide, we will discuss differences between the eastern and western conceptions of the divine, while also discussing the Christian concept of the incarnation. This is intended as an introduction to world religions, considered from the uniqueness of a Christian perspective. All are welcome to attend.

EPIPHANY SUNDAYS - January 9, 16 and 30

"MORAL VALUES"

A look at how moral values are understood - or disagreed about - in the church and nation.

LENT SUNDAYS - February 13, 20, 27 and March 6 & 13

"THE GOSPEL OF ST. THOMAS"

Reading one of the "Gnostic" gospels together to see how Thomas enriches our faith.

Join us for coffee and conversation in the library each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.



"Come, let us adore him..."

Worship during the holy time of Christmas is essential to us as individuals and a community.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 (ADVENT IV)

10:15 a.m. - The Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24 (THE EVE OF THE INCARNATION)

4:00 p.m. - Family Service of Holy Eucharist and Carols

10:00 p.m. - The Christ-Mass with Choir, Instrumentalists, and Eucharist

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 (THE FEAST OF THE INCARNATION)

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Rite I and Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26 (CHRISTMAS I)

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I & Homily

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II & Sermon

12 del día Misa en Español

DECEMBER 5 - DEACON CARROLL



Mike and Marian Carroll have been a vital part of our worship and shared life for several years. Mike's journey will come to a place of momentary completion on Sunday, December 5th when he functions as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church for the first time.

Mike was and is a Deacon - ordained 18 years ago in the Roman Church. On December 4th his orders and ordination will be received into this branch of God's holy catholic church by Bishop Wilfrido Ramos-Orench at St. John's. The next day, our companion on the way will, for the first time, be for us The Rev. Michael Carroll, a deacon in our church. Praise God!

Join us for that celebration at a special "welcome" coffee hour!



CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S

Christmas and "music" go together. There are three remarkable opportunities for you to enjoy the music of the season at St. John's!

A COOL YULE - Sunday, December 5th at 4:00 p.m. - a blend of piano solos and duets with Steve Minkler and friends (see full article in this *Outrider*).

CHORUS ANGELICUS - Will present "Christmas Angelicus" on Saturday, December 18th at 5:00 p.m.

WATERBURY CHORALE MESSIAH SING-IN - This annual community sing will be held on Sunday, December 19th at 4:00 p.m.



GREENING OF THE CHURCH

The traditional greening of the Church will take place following the 10:15 service on Advent IV, Sunday, December 19th. Many hands make the work go faster! Join us for this fun and festive event.



FOURTH SERVICE "IN THE WORKS"

Michael Spencer is overseeing a planning group to design a fourth services - probably on Saturdays. The group will be visiting other alternative services at churches around the area. Then they'll reflect on the needs of our parish and how to attract unchurched folks.

If you're interested in joining this group, please contact Michael. The goal is to have the service in place by September 2005 if not sooner.



BAPTISMS

If you or your child desires baptism, please contact Jim, Malinda, or Michael. The next date for baptism is Sunday, January 9th at the 10:15 service. A class for parents and godparents will be held on Saturday, January 8th at 10:00 a.m.

AFRICAN TEAM MINISTRIES



Jewelry and crafts will be available for sale on Sunday, December 12th and Sunday, December 19th. The items are crafted by women in Africa and all proceeds are returned to the women and children of Africa. The items are truly unique and make wonderful Christmas gifts. Please contact Lorraine Barker or Jim Morgan if you would be interested in taking a turn at selling the items on either date.



ST. JOHN'S EPIPHANY PARTY
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2005

YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE COMING OF THE MAGI
-AND-
THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

6:30 PM POTLUCK & KING/QUEEN'S CAKE
7:15 PM HOLY EUCHARIST
8:00 PM BLESSING OF THE DOORS OF OUR SACRED SPACE

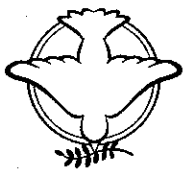
Sign up for this event. It is a time of light and joy. Bring friends and family to commemorate the Feast of the Epiphany. Sign up sheets are available in the hallway or you can call the Church Office at (203) 754-3116.

MITTEN TREE



Each fall as cold weather and Christmas approach us, there is a Christmas tree filled with mittens and hats in the lobby of the Church near the office. Now is the time to begin collecting mittens and hats for children without them. Please bring the hats and/or mittens to Church each Sunday and place in a basket at the back of the Church to be taken to the altar during the offering. The hats and mittens will be given out during the Christmas party for the Soup Kitchen patrons and their children. Do help a child or children enjoy a warmer winter with a new hat and/or mittens. I thank you in advance for your generosity.

Marilyn Mitchell, for the Outreach Committee



PASTORAL CARE MEETING

There will be a Pastoral Care meeting Sunday, December 19th at 9:00 a.m. We will each take names of people from St. John's Parish list to visit before Christmas. We will be taking the Eucharist to those who would like to receive it. If you are unable to join us that day, please call Marilyn Mitchell at (860) 868-2368 or the Church Office (203) 754-3116 to let us know who would like to visit and when.



Women's Fellowship

THIRD COMMUNION BREAKFAST - "SISTERHOOD"

All women of St. John's are welcome to be *empowered!* Share your passion with the wonderful community of *Sisters!* Sandy Totoritis has agreed to organize the next event on Women's Communion Breakfast celebrating "Sisterhood" on Saturday, December 11, 2004, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Please contact Sandy (597-9200) or through the Church Office at 754-3116 if you're interested in helping. Look for the sign up sheet on the hall table.



SAVE THE DATE - FEBRUARY 5TH - MARDI GRAS!!
More info in the next Outrider



ANNUAL MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2005

According to the Canons of the Diocese of Connecticut, each parish shall hold an Annual Meeting to elect Vestry members, Officers, and other representatives, receive reports and the budget for the coming year and otherwise carry out the business of the parish.

St. John's Annual Meeting is traditionally on the 4th Sunday of January. This year that falls on January 23.

The schedule for that day will be:

8:00 a.m. - All Parish Breakfast in the Auditorium

9:00 a.m. - Joint Service of Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. - Annual Meeting in the Library

12 del día Misa en Español

Voting list open: In order to vote at the Annual Meeting, you must have been attending St. John's for at least six months, be 18, baptized and a contributing member to the parish financially. There are remarkably open requirements. If you qualify to vote there is a form to fill out to be admitted as a voting member. You may get the form from the office, clergy, you may obtain one in the library, or you may use the form below. We invite you to become a voting member.

Sign up for breakfast: We need a near count for the breakfast on Annual Meeting Day. You may bring juice, fruit, rolls, etc. Bacon and eggs will be prepared by members of the Vestry. It's a chance for the 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. "congregations" to meet each other. Sign up during January in the hallway or call the church office.

VOTING DECLARATION FORM

Date: _____

I hereby declare my desire to become a voting member of St. John's Episcopal Church, Waterbury, Connecticut, according to the provisions of Canon I, Section 6, of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Connecticut. And I also hereby express my attachment to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of the Episcopal Church in the United States.

Signed:

(Please print your name)

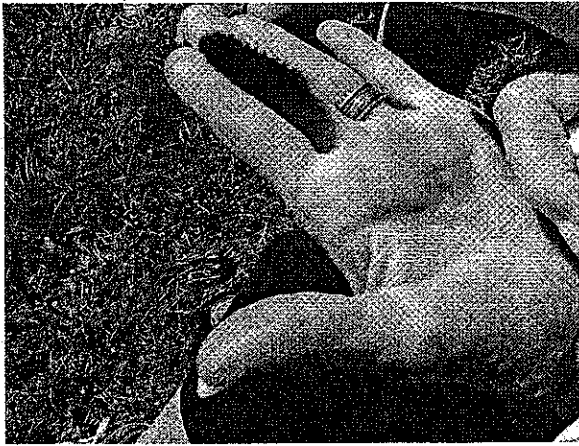
Celebrations By Lorene Castle



I must admit that I learned about services in monasteries from reading Brother Cadfael novels. I did not know that the Episcopal Church had monasteries when I joined this church about 7 years ago. I was very excited to share the monastery experience with Brother Cadfael the first time that I went to Holy Cross. I went to every service. I loved having the opportunity to do so.

This year I had a different Holy Cross experience. I watched a feather fall slowly from somewhere high about us because Elaine Garretson delighted in the feather's journey.

I got up early to watch the sunrise with a cup of coffee and friends from St. John's whom I have come to love. Early in the morning, we sat on the porch in the cool fall air and waited to see the first light appear on the horizon across the Hudson River. With the delight of children on Christmas morning, we anticipated the magnificent shape of the sun.

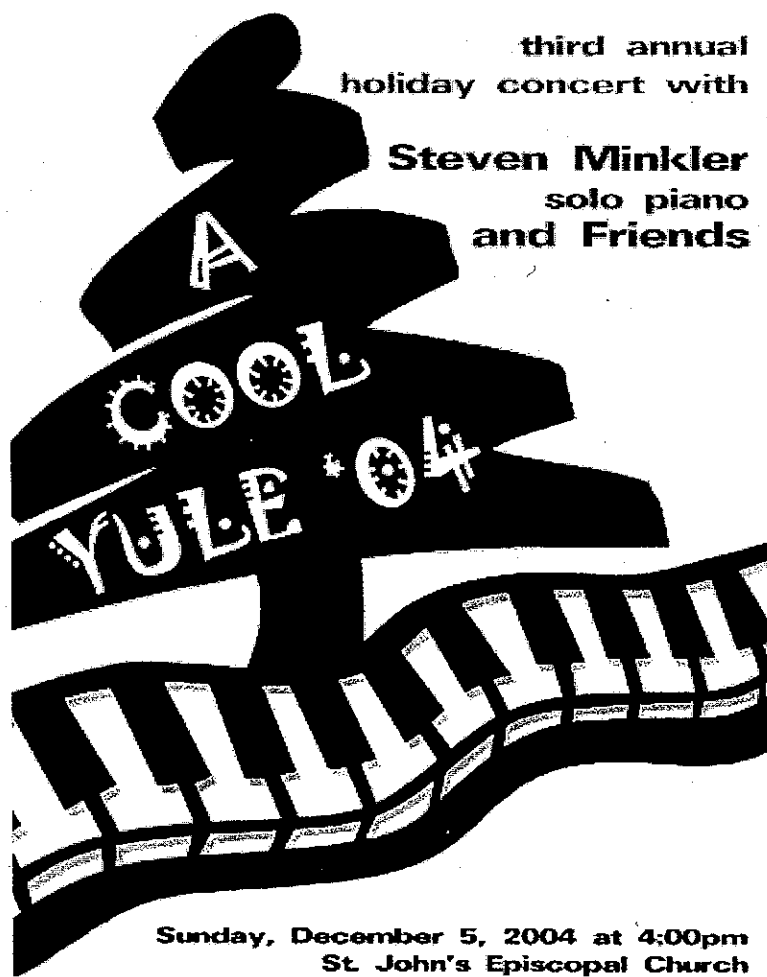


We watched Ambler Cantey pick up a caterpillar. We watched the caterpillar laze on Ambler's hand. We were not in a hurry to do anything else. We talked about the transformation of the caterpillar to a butterfly. Eventually, we watched as Ambler carefully put the caterpillar on a flower nearby.

We shared bread, wine, and cheese as the lovely day ended. We talked about our own journey.

We delighted in the present moment.

Thank you to Peter Tchakirides, Mike and Marian Carroll, Helen Pritchard, Elaine Garretson, Ambler Cantey, Delmar Nelson, Harriet Fotter, Marian Oonk, and Sandra Jellinghaus for sharing this experience with me.



A COOL YULE
Third Annual Holiday Concert
Featuring Steven Minkler (Solo Pianist) and Friends
Sunday, December 5 at 4:00 p.m. in the Church

After my first piano recital in 2002, I was deeply touched by how many people told me it was a warm, relaxing moment that captured the holiday spirit for them within such a busy time of year. On December 5 at 4:00 p.m., I'm pleased to present - by popular request - the third annual "Cool Yule" concert featuring a blend of piano solos and duets with our friends from St. John's. You're invited to take a break from the hectic holiday season to enjoy an afternoon of light, contemporary arrangements of popular Christmas songs and hymns. Joining me this year are Pam Toffey, Bob Havery, Mike and Marian Carroll, and Rosemary Minkler. I look forward to seeing you then!



SPOILED BUT GRATEFUL...

Our experience living with host families is coming to a close and I will move to my village the first week of November. My host family is wonderful and they go out of their way to accommodate me. But amongst the host families in our town, there are some who are more spoiled than others. One girl has a family that buys her incredible amounts of snack food, has television and has a mat. (Quick cultural note- mat sitting is a social highlight. If you have a mat you not only have a place to nap but you will have more friends.) Not that I'm complaining, because I have everything that I need, but it is funny how I could become jealous because of this. That is until I realized that this person was different. The way that she handled her wealth quickly dispersed my jealousy. The difference is that one, she is grateful; two, she doesn't brag and three, she shares the wealth, giving away her food and sharing the goods at her house. Inequalities will always exist, but can be dealt with in more diplomatic ways. It's not nice to "count money in front of poor people" and not share. Spoiled. I realize that this opportunity that I have to work in West Africa as an American makes me incredibly spoiled. Why? I may not have running water but at least I have a filter and a gas stove to treat my water. I may not have electricity, but I can afford to buy candles and buy kerosene for my lantern to illuminate my nights. If I get sick, I have a full time doctor a phone call away to consult with. In short, I have everything that I need to be healthy and content in a place where many people are struggling to get by. It even makes me guilty when I'm sipping my ice cold bottle of Coca Cola, because I realize that it is a luxury that not many can afford here. When I want to complain about mosquito bites or the heat I put it in perspective of what I have access to and quickly shut my mouth. I think about my 32 year old host brother, Aymard, whose legs are badly damaged by polio and who never went to school and I am so grateful that I have fully functioning limbs and the educational opportunities that I do. Perfect contentment for me here has been learning the few phrases that I could in Mina, the local language, to communicate with him. I say "Older brother, are you there? Good work!" Complimenting him on the palm brooms he is making and the smile it brings to his face is the best part of my day. The other favorite part of my day is cheering the lizards on as they eat bugs. That's my late night show. So as I deal with the fact that I am spoiled to be living as I do in a place such as this, I am trying to diffuse my guilt with gratitude and generosity. I don't know if the same guilt factor is present with most Americans in the states, but I feel that it should be, in a place where we have enough food to waste food. Then it should be diffused in gratitude and generosity.

Kathy Haines, PCT in Benin, West Africa

CHURCH SCHOOL



The Creative Church School meets Sunday morning from 9-10:00 a.m. on the third floor. New students are always welcome.

December 5 - The Church School will focus on Isaiah 11:1-10 and Luke 1:1-25 as we move into Advent. The cow and bear, lion and ox, living alongside each other in peace does not seem very likely. Isaiah seems relentless in his belief that this kind of world is possible if people live with righteousness and faith. The real challenge is not just to believe but make it happen. This week find a symbol of peace in your household and prominently display it to remind you of the daily need to live for peace.

December 12 - We will focus on Isaiah 35:1-10. Isaiah is keen on the seemingly impossible. What seems like a giant denial of reality, on the other hand, is too good not to believe. The miracle of prophecies like this is that we begin to believe that joy will one day happen, then we often discover that joy begins to happen now. As part of our faithfulness start to do things that bring about now. We will have rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant during Church School.

December 19 - Children's Christmas Pageant. This year the pageant is called, "Christmas Moon & Stars". The pageant will take place during the 10:15 service. We will practice during Sunday School time from 9-10:00 a.m. PLEASE have your children there on time so we can get them in costume. I will need six (6) volunteers that morning to help the children get ready and to sit with them from the start of the service until the play and to help stage direct them when need to walk up. Please let me know if you can help.

December 26 - No Church School.

January 2 - We will focus on John 1:1-18. John describes just what the birth of Jesus means. God had been trying forever to tell people that God loved them and knew they could live in a way that would bring life to the world.

January 9 - We will focus on Matthew's story. This story marks a turning point. Jesus is about to begin his ministry. Baptism means a lot of different things - it symbolizes being washed clean and able to start again. It symbolizes being refreshed and renewed. It also symbolizes drowning to an old life, so that we are born again to a new life. This week share photo and memories of your child's baptism with them and why it was important to you to have them baptized.

January 16 - We will focus on John 1:29-42. In John's story we spend a day with Jesus because he simply invited some people to come and stay with him for a day. This part of Jesus' ministry was just as important as all the others - the part where he offers company and friendship.

January 23 - We will focus on Matthew 4:12-23. In Matthew's story, we join new followers who give up everything to go and follow Jesus. They made a decision at that very moment, but it would require them to keep choosing to follow Jesus.

January 30 - We will focus on Micah 6:1-8. Micah was a prophet who lived centuries before Jesus did. Micah was angry with the way people lived and who misrepresented God. Micah knew that all God wanted from God's people was lives of justice and kindness, walking humbly with God.



GWIM

First I want to thank the Rector and Vestry for having chosen me to serve as a delegate representing St. John's Parish for GWIM. I have made many friends in the cycle of churches and the community, gone to different functions with GWIM. I have been a delegate for over nine years. As the end of December approaches, I am looking forward to returning to my regular basis as a volunteer. I am there for the people. Casseroles and meatloaves will continue as usual. Thank you.

Sarah Haines



TOYS FOR SOUP KITCHEN CHILDREN

This year instead of our regular toy sale, we're doing something different. This year toys will be given away. Please purchase new toys and bring to church by December 12th. Thank you.

Sarah Haines



CASSEROLE MINISTRY

The first Sunday of each month a casserole of your choice is needed in Barbara Dublin's dining hall here at St. John's Parish. Please bring in a throw away container to the kitchen. Thank you.

Sarah Haines



MEATLOAF MINISTRY

The third Sunday of each month a 2 lb. cooked frozen meatloaf or 2 lbs. raw hamburger is needed in Barbara Dublin's dining hall here at St. John's Parish. Five dollars to have a meatloaf made in your name is optional. Thank you.

Sarah Haines



READING CLUB

The next meeting of the Open Book Reading Club will be Wednesday, December 1st at 1:00 p.m. We'll be discussing Gaudy Night by Dorothy Sayers. Bring a bagged lunch and join us for lively discussion.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM



It is once again time to order Christmas Poinsettias in memory of/in thanksgiving loved one. Please fill out the form below and mail it (with \$35 per poinsettia) back to the church office or drop in the collection plate on Sunday. We must receive your order by Sunday, December 12, 2004 in order to guarantee placement in the Christmas bulletin.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN THANKSGIVING FOR: _____

Please acknowledge my donation to:

Name: _____

Address: _____





DECEMBER

12/1 Christopher LeBeau
12/2 Louis Warren
12/2 Christopher Bowman
12/3 Molly Sherman
12/3 Matthew Weiler
12/3 Hunter Bragg
12/4 Flora Young
12/5 Catherine Gannon
12/5 Albert Gambino, Jr.
12/5 Dorothy Wineglass
12/5 Mary Gates
12/6 Anthony Zasun, III
12/7 Richard Grandpre
12/7 Andrew Mazzei
12/9 Ray Sperring, Jr.
12/10 William Knapp
12/10 Scott Ginn
12/12 David Pritchard
12/12 Mitchell Langlais
12/12 Jia Stolfi
12/13 James Costello
12/13 Alice Mancinone
12/13 Jacob Gambino
12/14 Natalia Loomis
12/14 Nicole Carrillo
12/14 Alycia Martel
12/14 Austin Bartlett
12/15 Jason Caggiano
12/15 Elaine Garretson
12/16 Delmar Nelson
12/16 Norma Connor
12/16 Jill Matteis
12/16 Marvin Knighton
12/17 Lucille Ryczer
12/17 Carol Bequary
12/17 Lisa Ruocco
12/17 Wendy Thomas
12/18 Thomas Landry-Mickett
12/18 Connor Holderbach
12/19 Marcia Holroyd
12/19 James Decarolis
12/19 Giovanna Oliver
12/20 Bryeanna Lewis
12/20 Salvatore Spinella
12/21 Mark Petrosky
12/22 Gale Hamilton
12/22 Alice Rosado

12/24 Desrine Wineglass
12/24 Sean McKinney
12/25 Evanson Dover
12/25 Edna Dumschatt
12/25 George MacDonald
12/26 Christopher Adomavicia
12/27 Tom Nelson
12/27 Cassie Salzer
12/28 Nicole Jones
12/29 Christian Daniels
12/29 Janet Mitchell
12/30 Ryan White, Jr.
12/30 Emily Gates
12/31 Diane Caggiano
12/31 William Mullahy

JANUARY

1/1 Rosemary Minkler
1/2 Jeffrey Jones
1/3 Mary Terrell
1/3 Claudine Vaccarelli
1/6 James Benson
1/6 Pam Behrman
1/7 Jennifer Marques
1/7 Sharon Taylor
1/8 Margaret Worden
1/8 Melissa Torrance
1/8 Lauren Jeannin
1/8 Ricky Torres
1/8 Azannah Levett
1/9 Russell Foti
1/9 Alan Greggis, Jr.
1/10 Joanne Frazine
1/11 Ann Mantzaris
1/11 Ernest Savoy
1/11 Diana Hernandez
1/12 Laura Varrone
1/12 Angela White
1/12 Samantha Bowman
1/13 William Breslin
1/13 Justin Feliciano
1/14 Paula Saverino
1/14 Jocelyn Grant
1/15 Gert Payne
1/16 Heidi Langlais
1/16 Erik Inkster
1/16 Francine Smith
1/16 Jason Sevas
1/17 Kenneth Velazquez
1/18 Susan Friez
1/18 Eugene Knight
1/19 Gina Tartaglia
1/20 Joshua Kloc
14

1/20 Kerrie Budin
 1/21 Nicole Dover
 1/22 Ryan White
 1/24 Cassandra Bequary
 1/24 Wyatt Shea-Levandovski
 1/25 Jeanne Luedke
 1/25 Gerard McDonald
 1/25 Beth Manners
 1/27 Tracy Longo
 1/28 Sean Huard
 1/28 Alec Blaszczyk



DECEMBER

12/2 Fran & Kay Bergin

JANUARY

1/6 Ralph & Molly Sherman
 1/20 Peter & Sharon Taylor

DECEMBER & JANUARY PARISH PRAYER CYCLE

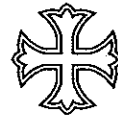
December 5: Lance & Pamela Belury, Kimberly & Nelson Belury-Matos, The Benjamin Family, James Benson, George & Carol Bequary, The Bergin Family, Clara Bigelow, Rick & Linda Blais, Rick & Lisa Blaszczyk, Charles & Donna Bock, and Evelyn Bodor.
December 12: Ted & Pat Bojarski, Christine Boroch, Susan Boucher & Family, Angela & Christopher Bowman, John & Josephine Bozzuto, Jim & Bern Bradley and Family, Edna & Christopher Bragg, The Breslin Family, The Brown Family, Lillian H. & Louis Brown, and Linda Bruce.
December 19: The Budhram Family, Stephanie & Cortland Budin, Melvin Bullock & Nicole Pearsall, Verdell Bush, Robert & Diane Caggiano, Robert & Maureen Caggiano, Robert Buel & Juan Rojas, The Cambigue Family, William & Norma Cambigue, Ambler Cantey, and The Capobianco/Umbro Family.
December 26: Cathy Caraballo & Kim Hunter, Michele Carrano, Jaime & Amy Carrillo, William & Sara Carrillo, Michael & Marian Carroll, Lesa Castillo and Family, Lorene Castle, The Castro Family, Patrick & Phyllis Catuccio, and Karen Sue Cavanaugh & Family.
January 2: Ron & Ruth Cebik, John & Elsie Champagne, The Chernesky/Banisaied Family, Pinki Chellami, Shirley Chouinard, Sandra Cinguigrana & Richard Knapp, Kathleen Clark & Family, and Michael & Jennifer Clarkson.

January 9: Vincent Clement, Maria Coffin & Family, Virginia Cole, Lisa & Richard Collins, William Conda, Mary Conklin, Jamie Conway & Michael Mrazik, Janet Conway & Earl Riley, Cristin Cook, and Robert Cook.

January 16: Tom Cook & Family, Joseph & Barbara Corbin, Jim Costello, George & Martha Coulson, Young Cortland & Family, Cathy Coviello & Frank McCusker, Philip Coyle, Terry Crawford, Eleanor Crean, Rebecca Crispi & Stanley Mickett,

January 23: The Culkin Family, Barbara Curry, Breonna Curry & Family, Samuel Dangremond, Scott & Patty Daniels, Glenn & Anna Decarolis, Donna Deitch, Geraldine DelBuono, Pat & Vincent Desouza, and Eugene DeCorpo.

January 30: Joseph & Karyn DiTomasso, The DiZinno Family, Florence Docchio, Maria & Aramis Dominguez, Evanson & Ena Dover, Robert Fournier, Lowell & Al Dwyer, Peter & Larue Eagan, The Echeandia Family, and Greg & Arlene Emmens.



FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER & JANUARY, WE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO GIVE THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIVES OF THE FOLLOWING:

December 5: Nancy Parker Santopietro, Helen Sara Norton Parker, and Maria Valletta Santo.

December 12: May & Henry Vollers.

December 26: Ethel Chase Hurlbut and Gordon Buckland Hurlbut.

January 2: Annie Gorham Callan, William Herriott Callan, Harry Everett & Loraine Allen, C. Chatfield Cole, Starr W. & Sue M. Oldershaw.

January 9: John T. Monzani and Ed Jefferson.

January 16: Rev. Samuel & Dorothy Budde, and Francine Tartaglia.

January 23: Martin L. & Agnes S. Martus.

January 30: Emily Dexter.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE



Annual reports from the Rector, Curate, Treasurer, Junior Warden, Liturgical Council, Integrity, Seminarian, House Committee, Stewardship Committee, Hispanic Ministry, St. John's Center for Spirituality, Outreach Council, AmeriCares, Earth Ministry, Librarian, Vergers, Altar Guild, Close Committee, Ushers, Christian Education, Minister of Music, ECW White Envelope, Broadway on the Green, Holiday Fair, Centering Prayer, Pastoral Care, Chorister Academy, and Lay Eucharistic Ministers are now due. The annual parish meeting will be held on Sunday, January 23, 2005.