



The Monthly Newsletter for Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church December 2016

Dear Members and Friends of Saint Timothy's,

What a great season the Church affords us in Advent. We have time to devote our minds, hearts and souls to prepare for Our Lord Jesus to come into the world, whether He comes at His Birth or comes to us at The Great Last Day. Such an important event in the history of mankind deserves preparation, introspection and prayer and the Church has seen fit to supply us with this opportunity in Advent. In considering our preparation we are to look more into the condition of our souls and how they are fit to "meet the Lord". Traditionally this has meant consideration of "The Four Last Things: Heaven, Hell, Death and Judgement". These are certainly serious topics and considerations. Our plates will be full in considering these over the next four weeks. How do we stand if the Lord were to return from His throne in the next moment? How is the condition of our souls should the Lord come to take us home at the end of our earthly lives in the next moment? We will find our scripture readings and prayers directed toward this preparation all through Advent.

My preparation for Christmas this year has been given more to considering Saint Mary's role at Christmas. It is difficult to think and pray about Christmas and the Birth of Our Lord without bringing in the Blessed Virgin Mary. After all, so many Bible readings leading up to and including Our Lord's birth have Saint Mary as the central figure. It's difficult not to consider the mother when hearing about and praying about the birth of any child. Let's face it, no one knew Jesus, or was closer to Him, than His Mother Mary. She was even privileged to hear God's plan for her Son before any other human. So naturally appreciation and devotion to the Blessed Mother of Our Lord comes to the fore in Advent and at Christmas.

Many Episcopalians, being part of the Anglican tradition, withdraw and recoil when hearing about devotions directed to The Blessed Virgin Mary or even any prayers or devotions directed to any of the saints. There is a part of the Anglican spiritual and doctrinal tradition that emerged from a more

Protestant and Reformed tradition and rejected any invocation of the Saints or devotion to them. Historically though, Mary, The Mother of Our Lord, has always been part of the Church's devotion, and within Anglicanism, she is revered and honored for her special place in the history of salvation. Devotion to The Blessed Virgin Mary and devotion directed to any of the saints is part of our spiritual tradition and ought to be.

As Anglicans we hold Mary to be The Theotokos. Literally this means she is *The God Bearer* or *The One who gives Birth to God*. The Church has taught since the fifth century, at the Council of Ephesus, that Mary is indeed The Mother of God. This is so important because holding to this truth about The Blessed Virgin Mary preserves the perfect union of Our Lord being fully God and fully Man. Mary is the one who brings God to the world in a way that He had yet not revealed Himself. For this reason alone she ought to be praised and blessed. We do well to not only think about her in this role but to ask her for her prayers and her intercessions. She is praying for us and we can pray with her.

The word used to describe the honor and respect we give to Saint Mary the Virgin is "veneration". Anglicans believe and have practiced that there is unique spiritual prominence in the veneration of the saints and Mary in particular. In Scripture, specifically in the Psalms, in our hymns like "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones", in the canticles in our Prayer Book, like "The Benedicite" and in our Church's liturgical calendar with its four feast days devoted to Our Lady we have preserved and still practice the veneration of the Saints. It's a good and wholesome practice in our spiritual lives to ask the saints for their prayers, their protection and to unite our praises with theirs.

What better person to ask to pray for us, than the person who was closest to Jesus while He was here in the world and is close to Him even now while He is reigning in Glory. This practice is helpful for us in our spiritual lives and is also necessary for maintaining a wholesome and sound teaching of Je-

sus Christ's fully human and divine natures. It seems the more devotion we give to Saint Mary, the more grounded we become in showing the truth of Jesus Christ to the world. This is nothing new. Two priests who are considered fathers of the catholic revival in Anglicanism the middle part of the nineteenth century, John Henry Newman and Edward Bouverie Pusey, exchanged letters about this doctrine of "Jesus Living in Mary". Newman writes to Pusey, "True devotion to the Mother is the 'easiest,' 'shortest,' and 'surest' way to union with the Son, and when devotion to Mary grows cold or dies, faith in Jesus as Lord, God, and Saviour is certain to wither away". According to Newman there is a way in which taking away honor and reverence from The Blessed Virgin Mary produces a blurred and vaguer understanding and presentation of Our Lord. According to the authors of "Jesus Living in Mary", *Newman suggests that the hesitations of some Protestants about Our Lady's role, under Christ, as intercessor and advocate betray a woefully inadequate Christology. If we take from the Blessed Virgin her intercessory mission and transfer it to Christ, we shall be diminishing, not enhancing, His glory.* So for the sake of a healthy spiritual life and teaching that Jesus Christ is all that

He says He is, interceding to Mary needs to be maintained and deepened. It is easy to come to this conclusion as we come to celebrate Our Lord's Birth.

We will indeed celebrate The Nativity of Our Lord at the end of Advent with three glorious services here at Saint Timothy's. On Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th we will have two services, one at 5:30 and one at 11:00. Both services will be identical in their ceremonial except the 5:30 will include a pageant offered by the children of our Church School. Please arrive at least a half hour before the services begin (5:00 pm and 10:30 pm) so you can enjoy special contemplative Christmas music presented by our Choir as they are accompanied by an orchestra. On Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th notice that we will have **one said Service of Holy Communion at 9:00 am** (not the usual 9:00 and 11:00 o'clock services). Father Carreker will celebrate and preach at this service.

We have so many reasons to celebrate at Saint Timothy's and it is a pleasure and privilege to celebrate with you and the rest of our family and friends. Know that you are in my prayers to be blessed with a holy Advent and joyous Christmastide.

Yours faithfully, in Christ,



The Reverend Jay C. James
Rector

[#GIVINGTUESDAY.](#)

Thank you to all the families who donated gifts for the activity bags!

Everyone enjoyed putting together activity bags for children in WakeMed and Duke Children's Hospitals.



The Youth Group has been hard at work gearing up for our Annual Angel Tree project this past month! This year, the Angel Tree gifts are due on December 11, 2016. Please bring your gifts back unwrapped with the card as well. Also, the Youth Group will be hosting a Biscuit Breakfast between the services on December 11th. Biscuit options are sausage with egg and cheese, egg and cheese, sausage and egg, plain, or another combo of your choosing. Plain biscuits are \$1 and a breakfast sandwich biscuits are \$3. Coffee and juice will also be provided. Come and join us for a breakfast full of fun and fellowship!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Upcoming Special Events:

Upcoming Special Events:

- Sunday, December 4th - Annual Meeting, Only one service at 10:00 am**
- Saturday, December 17th - Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal**
- Sunday, December 18th - Church School sings from the choir loft during the 11:00 am service**
- Sunday, December 25th - No Church School, One Sunday service at 9:00 am**
- Sunday, January 1st - Church School resumes**
- Sunday, January 8th - Bring a Friend to Church Day**

It's December and that means the Church School will be focusing on the Christmas Pageant that we will present on Saturday, December 24th during the 5:30 pm Family Service. Information about available cast parts, the dates for the practices and the costumes we have on hand have been emailed out to our Church School families. Have you received your copy? We want everyone to participate in the pageant. If you did not receive this information and would like to participate, review the information below and call or email Sarah Culton at sculton@gmail.com. Please help make our pageant a success by having your child participate.

Practices will be during *coffee hour in the church and Children's Chapel* on the following dates- **December 4th*** (Church), **December 11th** (Church) and **December 18th** (Children's Chapel) **Saturday, December 17th** - Dress rehearsal 9:30 -11:00 am, please meet in the Parish Hall **Saturday, December 24th** Pageant Night please come to the Parish Hall at 5:00pm.

*December 4th is the Annual Meeting there is only one service at 10:00 am. The Daughters of the King will be hosting a brunch following the meeting and the children will rehearse for the Christmas Pageant in the church.

Pageant Cast

Narrators	Middle High School Students
Gabriel	4 th /5 th Grade
Star Bearer	4 th /5 th Grade
Mary	4 th /5 th Grade
Joseph	4 th /5 th Grade
3 Wisemen	4 th /5 th Grade
Angels	K-5 th Grade
Shepherds	K-5 th Grade
Barn Animals	Preschool-1 st Grade

Costumes

Narrators	Sunday Dress or robes we provide
Gabriel, Star Bearer and Angels	Light colored clothing-we will provide cottas, wings and halos
Mary and Joseph	Dress/Shirt and slacks-costumes will be provided
3 Wisemen	Shirt and slacks-ropes and crowns will be provided
Shepherds	Shirt and slacks-we will provide tops and headdress
Barn Animals	Brown or Black Sweat suits-please see list of available costumes

We have the following Barn Animal costumes available: Camel (3), black sheep (1), lamb (3), and cow (4).

What will your New Year's resolution do for God's Kingdom in 2017? Let's start the year by engaging our community outside of our church family and support the **Bring-a-Friend-to-Church Day!** On January 8th, 2017 let us nourish those seeds that Jesus has been planting in our family and friends, strangers and neighbors. Be on the lookout for a flyer in the bulletins that you can use as an invitation to those looking for hope, salvation, and love.



As we begin the season of Advent and prepare for the Birth of our Lord and Savior, I invite everyone to enjoy this wondrous season and participate in our services and programs.

*From our
Senior Warden*



I want to personally thank all the members of the Standing Stewardship Committee, who coordinated our Every Member Canvass. This committee is comprised of some of the most hardworking members of our parish and they deserve a pat on the back and a huge thank you for all their time and attention to our campaign this year.

With that being said, if you have not taken the time to prayerfully consider your commitment to St. Timothy's in 2017, I invite you to please do so and return your pledge card. We begin this month establishing the budget for 2017 and want to make sure we can continue to support all the programs and services that are near and dear to all of us.

On Sunday, December 4, 2016, we will have one combined service at 10:00, followed by our Annual Parish Meeting. I hope you will plan to attend and participate in the Annual Meeting. It is great to have the services combined and have fellowship with those who usually attend the early or late services.

In closing out the year, I want to acknowledge all the committees of the parish and their dedication and devotion to St. Timothy's. Your service is greatly appreciated! I look forward to hearing the reports at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and safe travels over the holiday season!!

Faithfully,

Cathy Elsea



GREETINGS FROM THE CHOIR LOFT



As I write this, we are about to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, Thanksgiving and then, the First Sunday in Advent. It's hard to believe we're into the "holidays" already! Where did 2016 go??

As I wrote in the last *Tidings*, we will begin the Advent season with the choir singing a setting of Gregorian chant: "Creator of the Stars of Night". Each Sunday in Advent, during the Lighting of the Advent Wreath, we will use a setting (new last year) of the "Advent Wreath Service" the choir will sing appropriate verses for each Sunday of Advent which focus on the meaning of each candle. The congregation will respond after the cantor sings "Kyrie eleison", "Christe eleison", "Kyrie eleison".

Communion anthems for the remaining Sunday's of Advent will include "Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus", an anthem we learned just last year. It will be sung at the combined 10:00 am service on December 4. December 11 and 18, respectively, will feature the anthems "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" (a favorite of the choir's) and a lively setting of "Savior of the Nations, Come" with tambourine!

Our Christmas Eve services always begin with a half hour of seasonal music. This year we'll start at the end!! Our first Christmas Eve anthem will be the final movement of the Saint-Saens Christmas Oratorio, "Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts".

We will also be singing "People, Look East", two settings by John Rutter: "Il est ne" and a new one for all of us, "Angels' Tidings". Also new for us is John Rutter's "Christmas Night", which will be sung as a Communion anthem for both services. All the traditional carols and some new and some long-cherished choir anthems will be sung. There will be trumpet and a string quartet too.

2017. A new year. Resolutions. Could joining our choir be one of your resolutions? You know we have a seat reserved for you! Come join us!!

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as your music director and organist.

John Herrmann

Music Director and Organist



Marian Hensley December 2
 Jane James December 3
 Betsy Levine December 3
 Santiago Barrios December 4
 Gayle Morgan December 4
 Joffre Fisher December 7
 Michael Lewis December 7
 Clare Smawley December 7
 Danielle Bryant December 8
 Alyce Poskel December 8
 Mariah Baughman December 9
 Gillian Boardman December 9
 Robert Crowley December 9
 Robert Ellison December 9
 Michael Mathis December 9
 Susan Patton December 9
 Paul Farris December 10
 Jacalyn Farris December 10
 Shane Mason December 10
 Carolyn Matthews December 10
 Dana Murphy December 10
 James Claypool December 14
 Kathleen Collins December 14

Glenn Hollingsworth December 15
 Rugiatu Thompson December 15
 Charlotte Collins December 16
 Sydney Bullock December 17
 Father E.T. Malone, Jr. December 18
 Alexis Booth December 19
 Connor Booth December 19
 Laurie Casey December 19
 Laura Carrico December 20
 Peggy Hume December 20
 Kayla Noelle Bryant December 21
 Andriana Slack December 21
 Corey Bullock December 23
 Taylor Fagan December 24
 Felicia Dubois-Umelo December 26
 Emeka Anen December 27
 Olive Gilliland December 28
 Debby Femia December 28
 Rachel Joseph December 28
 Lidah Saylor December 29
 Ronnie McDaniel December 30
 Pete Bourey December 31
 Jonathan Mason December 31
 Andrew Romza December 31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Mr. & Mrs. Clay Turpin December 7
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Caldwell December 11
 Mr. & Mrs. Shea Gilliland December 18
 Mr. & Mrs. Carter Wrenn December 29

ST TIMOTHY'S PRAYER LIST

Erin Sturtevant
 Mary McDaniel
 Father Presler
 Gary Shelton
 Roger Watson
 Alexander Wheat
 Rachel Rutledge
 Boo Parker
 Christine Redwood Sawyer
 Frieda Artis
 Gabrielle Baldwin
 Tom Casey

Jane James
 Betty Moore
 Terri Northcutt
 Velma Stewart
 Xander Cheetham-Smart
 Sara Jenkins
 Gertrude McKeathern
 Kathy West
 Eula Rutledge
 David Perry
 Shelby Norwood
 Peppy Hayes

The Storey Family
 Shirley Barnhardt
 Jennifer Wainaina
 Susan Parker
 Shane Riddick
 Lindsay Hoch
 Joy Musser
 Johance Harmon
 Susan Stephens
 Shannon Wamser
 Bernice Davis
 Hal Stewart



DECEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 1st Sunday of Advent 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:00 HC 11:00 HC	28	29	30 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:30 HC St Andrew the Apostle 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Knitting Classes 7:30 Stewardship Committee	1	2	3
4 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30 Morning Prayer 10:00 HC Annual Meeting Parish Brunch Youth Group Meeting Pageant Rehearsal	5	6	7 10:30 Holy Communion and Laying on of Hands for Healing 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Knitting Classes	8 10:00 Staff Meeting	9	10
11 3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:00 HC 10:00 Biscuit Breakfast 11:00 HC 11:00 Church School 12:30 Men's Fellowship Meeting	12 6:30 Daughters of the King Meeting	13	14 8:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 St. Timothy's School Christmas Pageant 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Knitting Classes 7:30 Stewardship Committee Meeting	15 3:30 Pastoral Care Committee 6:30 Vestry Meeting	16	17 8:30 a.m. until Noon— <i>Warmth for Wake</i> , 7044 Wildlife Trail, Raleigh 9:30—11:00 Church School Pageant Dress Rehearsal
18 4th Sunday of Advent 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:00 HC 11:00 HC 11:00 Church School 12:30 Hanging of the Greens 6:00—Christmas Caroling	19	20 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	21 St. Thomas The Apostle 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:30 Holy Communion 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Knitting Classes	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 5:30 Holy Communion with Church School Pageant 11:00 Midnight Mass
25 The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ 9:00 HC No Church School	26 St. Stephen's Day 12:00 Holy Communion Parish Office Closed	27 St. John the Evangelist 12:00 Holy Communion	28 Holy Innocents 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:30 Holy Communion 6:30 Bible Study	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

DECEMBER SERVERS' SCHEDULE

	December 4 Purple	December 11 Purple	December 18 Purple	December 24 and 25 White
ALTAR GUILD	Midge Silberman Mary McDaniel Everlyn Boro Shawna Hastings	Darlene Sholtis Bonnie Seary Danielette Coleman	Marie Stewart Princess Cheetham-Smart Jennifer Wainaina Carol Rippetoe	Pennie Bliss Scotty Martin Sandy Wheat Princess Byass
ACOLYTES	C: M. Bain 1st Server: D. Stewart 2nd Server: D. Lewis C: C. Stewart Torch: M. Lewis Torch: C. Bain	C: E. Williford 1st Server: S. Manuel 2nd Server: A. Persing C: F. Persing Torch: W. Johnston Torch: P. Johnston	Crucifer: B. Culton 1st Server: S. Manuel 2nd Server: J. Bodiford Crucifer: I. Lamont Torch: M. Soler Torch: T. Wamser	TO BE ANNOUNCED
9:00 LAY READERS	L/C: Connie Wilson P/C: Jon Castro	L/C: Tom Donegan P/C: Mike Spencer	L/C: Pennie Bliss P/C: Bob Elsea	L/C: Mike Spencer P/C: Tom Donegan
11:00 LAY READERS	L/C: N/A P/C: N/A	L/C: Margaret Soler P/C: Kathryn Carroll	L/C: Simon Naylor P/C: Hal Stewart	L/C: Connie Wilson P/C: Kevin Bodiford
LECTORS	George Bang	Marlee Bourey	Vivian Finkelstein	Betsy James Kathryn Carroll
9:00 USHERS	Pete Gattis Ed Watson	Derek Doolittle Doug Journey	Arthur Cheetham-Smart Martin Whitley	Freddie Martin
11:00 USHERS	Rob Stone John Poole Rick Smothers Robert Elsea	Kevin Bodiford Mike Lewis John Royall Frank Louder	Duncan Culton Steve Sholtis Jim Caldwell	Bill Marley Dave Elsea Van Vreeland
9:00 GREETERS	Doug Journey	Doug Journey	Doug Journey	Doug Journey
11:00 GREETERS	Mary Watson	Anne Wamser	Betsy James	To Be Announced

Saint Timothy's Contact Information

Church Office Hours:

Mon-Fri: 9 a.m. - 1:30 pm

Phone: 919-787-7590

Fax: 919-787-7271

Church Email churchoffice@sttimothys.org

Church Website www.sttimothyschurch.org

Father Jay C. James *Rector*

jcjames@nc.rr.com or jjames@sttimothys.org

Father Michael Carreker *Associate Priest*

michaelcarreker@gmail.com 478-957-4133

Father Henry Presler *Associate Priest*

hpresler@gmail.com 704-516-4091

John Herrmann *Director of Music and Organist*

johnpedals@aol.com 919-423-2171

Sarah Culton *Director of Christian Education and Parish Life*

christianed@sttimothys.org 919-787-7590 Ext. 1012

Shannon Brooks *Bookkeeper*

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Blanca Petrillo *Parish Assistant*

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Charles Wiggins *Sexton*

919-989-1215

THE VESTRY OF SAINT TIMOTHY'S CHURCH

Cathy Elsea (Sr. Warden) cmelsea1@aol.com; Ed Watson (Jr. Warden) eeatson@me.com

Kevin Bodiford, Bob Elsea, Mike Lewis, Deanna Lord, David Mason, John Royall and Marie Stewart

Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church Mission Statement



**Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church is a traditional,
welcoming, and Scripture-based place of
worship that leads to salvation
through the celebration of the sacraments,
service, fellowship, and outreach.**