

Good SHEPHERD News

Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens, Ohio

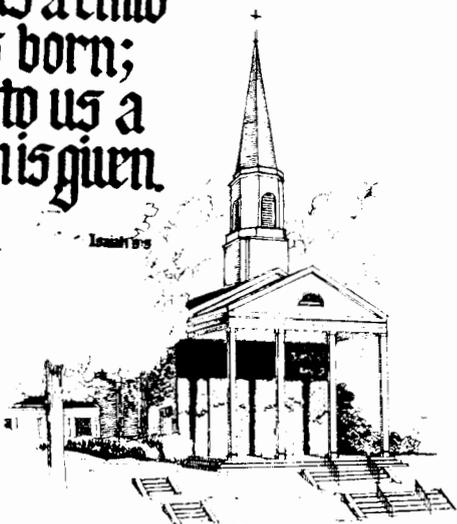
December

2004

For
unto
us a child
is born;
unto us a
son is given.

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*The Episcopal Church on the Campus of Ohio University
Since 1875 - Established 1907 - Parish 1958*

In the Interim . . .

ADVENT and THE COMING INTERIM YEAR

“up, watch in expectation” (from Hymn 68)

Advent marks the beginning of a new church year as well as that season of “anticipation and preparation” as we look forward, once again, to the “coming” of Christ in the world. It is a season of watching and waiting in a wakeful and alert manner,

Advent also provides the theme for the entire coming year at Good Shepherd as the parish anticipates and prepares for the coming of new clergy leadership. In this year the Profile Committee will conclude its work and the Search Committee will be formed and begin its work of finding the right clergy person to provide pivotal leadership for the future of this congregation.

Early in December the wardens, Christy Ortman and Allyn Reilly, and I sit down together to talk about my continuing as the interim priest in charge at Good Shepherd for another year. As part of that discussion we will talk about what part of our current goals we need to give special attention as “preparation” for that new leadership. We, too - your wardens, vestry and all of us - will need to be “alert and attentive” as we prepare.

As always we ground our anticipations and preparations in prayer. There is a prayer for the calling of a new rector in the Book of Common Prayer. I encourage you to use it often throughout the coming year. It is Prayer # 13 on Prayer Book page 818:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

* * * * *

Over the weekends including **Sundays December 12th & 19th** I will be away from the parish conducting interviews with potential nominees for the next bishop of our diocese. On these two Sundays there will be only one Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. (no 8:00 a.m. Eucharist) and **The Rev. Paul Nicely** will preach and preside at the Eucharist on those Sundays. Paul, a former professor of pastoral care at the Methodist Theological School, is retired and lives in Delaware, Ohio.

* * * * *

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated at **Lindley Inn** every other Sunday at 2:00 p.m. I alternate presiding at this service with one of our nine **Eucharistic Visitors** and **David Burton, Karen Evans-Romaine, or Jan Gault** currently assist us in singing hymns on **piano**. We would like to build up the number of piano players so that each may serve about once every eight weeks and so that we may give "coverage" during vacations, education leaves, etc. If you can and would like to be part of this ministry as a piano player please speak with me.

Michael Jupin,
Interim Priest

**Sr. Faith Margaret, from the
Community of the Holy Spirit in New
York City, will visit Good Shepherd
December 10th - 12th. While here she
will be taking appointments for private
consultation/spiritual counseling.**

**If you would like to meet with her,
please call Julie Nehls for an appointment
at 593-7354.**



Senior Warden Comments

As I sat at the table this Thanksgiving in Baltimore with my husband John, our children Kate, Phillip, Carl, and our new son-in-law, B.J., I smiled about God's grace. It is by His grace that I am here at all. I am reminded in The Book of Common Prayer that it is by God's grace that I think and move and have my being. I gazed about Kate's dining room, which fairly sparkled with winking candles and smiling faces. Bowls and platters began to be passed around the table. Then we put on the brakes. Grace. That's what we needed to say. Bowls and platters were put down, hands held hands, and we prayed the grace we taught our children to say. "God is great, God is good, and we thank Him for our food. By His hands all are fed. Thank you for our daily bread. Thank you for the birds that sing. Thank you, God, for everything. Amen."

God is great and He is good. Our gifts from God are with us every day. As I hurry to write cards, find presents for loved ones, make my home ready I will be comforted by the words of Barbara Crafton who wrote in a recent e-mail, "Facing failures and inadequacies is a welcome part of Advent for me, by far the most welcome part: we were never supposed to get it all done. We never have been self-sufficient. We need a saviour now, and we've always needed one."

I think that's about the size of it. We need a saviour and we've always needed one.

Christy Ortman
Senior Warden



When in doubt, steal! Below is a note about spiritually preparing ourselves for the Season of Advent that Katharin has written for *Epistle*, the St. Paul's of Logan newsletter. Don't panic folks, the Rite I reference is in regards to Logan's main service. Ted Foster

CHRISTMAS IS A-COMIN' . . .

By Katharin Foster

. . . and the goose is gettin' fat. Well, OK, I'm not really sure about the goose, but I do know folks are gettin' frantic as the holiday season unfolds. Can you believe Thanksgiving and Christmas are only a few short weeks away? Ted and I have already bought our Christmas-letter paper and are thinking about what our annual letter should say. We've begun to think about gifts for each other, too. (I want a Jaguar and he wants a backhoe.)

The problem here is that Ted and I and a lot of other folks are not thinking about the holidays in the way God intends us to. God intends that we slow down a bit in the next few weeks and think about the magnificent gift God has and will be giving us-nothing less than the Son of God come down to us in person. Thankfully, the Church recognizes our need for slowing down a bit by giving us another sort of gift-the Season of Advent, which begins on November 28th.

In many ways Advent is an odd season. It's certainly at odds with what's going on around us in the frantic race to Christmas day. For us people of God, Advent is an oasis in the spiritual desert that the secular holiday season has become. It's a time when we will worship using Rite I, not as a punishment but as a gentle way of drawing us back to a quieter era and to our unique, beloved Anglican roots. It's a time to think about things like Advent trees and symbols and calendars. It's a time to focus giving rather than getting and on restoring broken relationships. In short, it's a time to gently get our spiritual house in order as our King of Kings approaches.

True, frantic can be fun in small doses. Gathering up gifts to give can be great fun, too, if not overdone. We all need a little Christmas. But, even more, we need Advent, a time of deliberate spiritual preparation for what's (and Who's) to come. May God bless us, every one, during the Season of Advent.

Funds Raised for Hunger: The World Hunger Sunday Offering from November 14th totaled \$649. This offering is divided between our Wednesday Lunch Program, the Athens County Food Pantry, and Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD – who sponsored the Sunday). A check to ERD will also include \$200 realized from the sale of Bishop's Blend Coffee in the parish, thanks to the work of Jack Flemming and Jan Ergood.

Sunday Morning Adult Education in December
9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in Nehls Hall

December 5th

Our Episcopal heritage in Liturgy and Music
The Church Year

With an emphasis on Advent

Leader: Leslie Flemming, chair, the Worship Committee

December 12th

Heifer Project

Presented by

Members of the "Focus on Hunger" Committee

December 19th & 26th

No program will be presented on these Sundays

Good Shepherd continues to sell "Bishop's Blend Coffee" in Nehls Hall after the 10:30 a.m. service every Sunday. The cost is \$9 per bag and the quality is equal to what is available at Kroger's for the same price. The profits of \$3 per bag are forwarded to Episcopal Relief and Development. Also, this coffee is Certified Fair Trade Coffee. This means that the farmers who grow Bishop's Blend Coffee do less damage to the environment and make more profits on the beans they grow. For more information, please contact Jack Flemming.

A Very Large THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone for the prayers, food, visits, rides, cards, notes, and phone calls I received during and after the knee surgery – it meant a lot and is making me heal faster.

I thought some of you might enjoy this poem I received from a friend who obviously had a knee replacement. It says it all for me.

Julia Nehls

Eulogy to a Knee

*I think that I shall never see
A joint as complex as my knee
For years it helped me run and play
At many sports, till I was gray.*

*But then arthritis took its toll,
And it was painful just to stroll.
So finally, when it got too rough,
I saw a surgeon, had enough.*

*It really gave my heart a twinge
To think this loyal little hinge
Would soon be severed from its home,
And then replaced with cobalt chrome.*

*Nervously, while still erect,
Into a hospital I checked.
The day had come, the job well done.
Post-op orders: "Walk, don't run!"*

*And so farewell, old faithful knee
For you I wrote this eulogy.
Parting was painful and not much fun,
But my new knee's life has just begun.*

By: Sherwin Kaufman



Notes from the Organ Bench



In this season we use the word “carol” frequently. We sing Advent and Christmas Carols and go Christmas Caroling. But did you know that there are also Carols for other seasons of the church year? So what is a “Carol”?

According to the editors of the *Oxford Book of Carols*, “the content must be narrative, contemplative, or celebratory, the spirit must be simple, the form normally strophic.” (‘Carol’ is used in this sense throughout the book, through the distinction between Carol and Hymn is retained where necessary.) The familiar Carols we sing at Christmas are an extremely small percentage of the body of Carols that are available to us from the Middle Ages onward. This collection also contains Carols for the New Year, Epiphany, Lent and Easter.

Richard Greene, in *A Selection of English Carols*, explains the English word ‘Carol’ as “a direct borrowing of the Old French *Carole*, which means a round dance in which the participants provide their own music by singing an alternations of a choral part, a burden, and uniform stanzas assigned to a soloist who leads the dance, the ‘ringleader’ in fact.”

The familiar carol “Angels we have heard on high” (H-96) and the less familiar but delightful medieval Carol “Nova, nova ave fit ex Eva” (H-266) – a carol telling the story of the Angel Gabriel appearing to Mary are but two examples of carols in the style of a verse and refrain.

In general, Carols may be distinguished from Hymns on the incarnation by their more folk-like and story-telling qualities. The differences, however, become blurred as Hymns have come into use that are folk-like in spirit. We are fortunate that, although the Puritans tried to eradicate the Carol, many survived and by the mid-nineteenth century, books of Christmas Carols began to appear. Then the appearance of the folk-song movement at end of the 19th and in the early 20th century helped the recovery of the English Carol in particular. Ralph Vaughn-Williams in particular was instrumental in recovering many of these tunes which he then used in his orchestral and choral compositions. In H-82 examples of tunes from this period are 116, (This endris Night) 272 (The Truth From Above) and 78 (Forest Green).

As we move through the Advent and Christmas seasons we have the opportunity to sing Carols from many countries and traditions – new and old. One of the most beautiful new Carols is David Hurd's setting of the poem "A Stable lamp is lighted" by Richard Wilbur (104).

The Advent Festival will feature several Advent Carols, Hymns, and Anthems. A Woodwind trio will be featured, Jan Robison will be the organist and soloists will be Krista Voorhees, Renee Geyer, Jason Hartz, and Jacob Conklin. Child care will be provided. Then on Sunday, December 26th, the service of Nine Lessons and Carols will feature the Carols about the incarnation.

Wednesdays, December 8th, 15th, and 22nd, Christmas Eve and Nine Lessons and Carol rehearsals will be held. If you know of anyone who would like to sing for Christmas Eve and Nine Lessons and Carols, on December 26th, please invite them. We are especially short on tenors.

**Marsha Keilly,
Music Director**

ADVENT FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND MUSIC



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2004
4:00 P.M.
CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
64 UNIVERSITY TERRACE
ATHENS, OH**

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RECEPTION FOLLOWING

CHILDCARE PROVIDED

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is receiving nominations (including self nominations) for four positions on Vestry to be elected at the January Annual Meeting and serve until that meeting in January 2008. Also to be elected are a Senior and Junior Warden for a term of one year. Listed below are the expectations of and supports for Vestry members at Good Shepherd as developed by the current Vestry. Also sought are nominations for two delegates and two alternates to represent the parish at the November 2005 Diocesan Convention. Please forward your nominations to the church office or Bob Shelly and Leslie Flemming, who are the co-chairs of the committee, by December 5th, 2004. Vestry Membership:

Expectations of Vestry Members

Attendance at meetings is expected. If an absence is anticipated the member will notify the parish office. If a member misses three meetings in a year the Rector and Wardens will inquire about the members ability or desire to continue his/her membership.

Attendance at special Vestry days, planning sessions, and retreats is also expected. This includes the Annual Meeting of Bishops, Vestries, and Mission Councils (in 2005 on Saturday, February 19TH, at Procter Conference Center).

A signed financial pledge to the mission and ministry of the parish is expected of all Vestry members.

Vestry members are expected to use discretion in reporting the meetings to others, being free to offer information on issues, processes, and general discussion without attributing comments to or any discussion of any particular Vestry member or Parishioner.

Vestry members are to have a commitment to growing in understanding their role as Vestry persons and as members of the Parish.

Among the roles of Vestry members is to both listen to members' comments on and inform members of the mission, goals, objectives and general life of the parish.

Supports for Vestry Members

All members of the Vestry will keep one another in their prayer and prayer for the Vestry will be a regular part of the prayers of the people on Sundays and other occasions.

New members will receive an Orientation led by the Rector/Priest and Wardens (and others as necessary). At least one Annual Vestry "retreat" will aim to strengthen each member's understanding of their role and equip and empower them for this special ministry.

The Rector and Wardens will provide all members with timely information concerning issues facing the Parish.

The Rector/Priest will attend to regular contact with all Vestry members to strengthen his/her relationship with them and to "build up" the ministry of the Vestry.

United Thank Offering

A United Thank Offering Ingathering will be held on Sunday, December 5th. We are invited to "count our blessings" through the coins that we have been putting into our United Thank Offering Blue Boxes in thanksgiving for all of God's many gifts to us. Please bring your box with you to church on that day, or put a check into the envelope that you will find in your bulletin.

The Blue Box is a powerful tool. Regular, intentional thanksgiving can make a difference in your life. And more: our prayers and offerings build churches and schools, feed the hungry, clothe the poor, and provide shelter for the homeless. All over the world lives are changed through these offerings.

If you do not have a Blue Box, or would like to know more about the United Thanks Offering, please ask me. We need you!

**With Thanks,
Leslie Flemming**



Ted's Tid-Bits

An interest in general category 'old-time' fiddle music has its rewards. Beyond research and playing the music itself are those abundant 'literary' rewards. Old Time tunes have been transmitted by ear resulting in many versions, titles and venues for the same song. Sometimes the results are not pretty culturally speaking. Consider "Life in the Finland Woods" -- we older folks might recognize this once elegant melody in Patti Page's "Mocking Bird Hill" hit of the 1950's.

Tune titles are often colorful, funny, poetic, and may even invite naughty thoughts. Consider these... Merrily Kiss the Quaker; You Married My Daughter and Yet You Didn't; Forty Dogs in the Meathouse; The Wind that Shakes the Barley; The Wise Maid; Up Jumped the Devil; Snoring Mrs. Gobil; Paddy on the Turnpike; Midnight on the Water; Little Burnt Potato; Haste to the Wedding; Hanged Man's Reel; Chicken in the Breadpan; Granny Does your Dog Bite; Chinky Pin (or Too Young to Marry); Swinging on a Gate; Turkey Creek Hop (or Rubber Dolly); Whoa Mule Whoa; Cotton Eyed Joe; the Devil in the Strawstack; Footprints in the Snow; Jack of Diamonds (Drunken Hiccups); the Joke is on the Puppy; God Gave Noah the Rainbow Sign; Rabbit, Where's Your Mammy; Whiskey Before Breakfast.. Now, if the title is something like "There is a Possum in the Headlights Tonight" you can figure the tune might be 'old timey' but not old time.

As with fiddle tunes, band names can be almost literary; are sometimes self depreciating, and often of geographic reference. Consider these ... Sweets Mill String Band; Roaring Fork Ramblers; Wretched Refuse; Alabama; Flying Burrito Brothers; Old Flame; Cumberland Mountain Folks; Golden West Cowboys; Foggy Mountain Boys; Nitty Gritty Dirt Band; Clodhoppers; Arm and Hammer String Band; Fuzzy Mountain String Band; How to Change a Flat Tire; Pickin' around the Cookstove; Spark Gap Wonder Boys; Ozark Strutters; New Lost City Ramblers; Boys of the Lough; Delaware Water Gap; The Flax in Bloom; Ship in the Clouds; the Skillet Lickers; Highwoods String Band; Cape Breton Symphony; Yankee Ingenuity; Old Reliable String Band; Hollow Rock String Band; the Hill-Billies; Kentucky Colonels; Poverty String Band.

This is what makes research fun, local 'old-timey' bands include Rattletrap; Hotpoint; and of course Home Remedy of which we are all familiar.

Ted Foster

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Parish Health Committee

December will be VERY busy for most of us, so don't forget to take care of yourself – spiritually, emotionally and physically. Remember, it says, “love your neighbor as yourself,” not INSTEAD of yourself.

(Busy parents and professionals take note.) In addition to the wonderful services and carols in December, the Parish Health Committee will be there to check blood pressure after church on December 19th. (We will ignore your cholesterol for now.) Blood pressure readings are planned for a monthly occurrence. Please mention other concerns you have.

In the spring, perhaps too late for New Year's Resolutions, we plan to cooperate with the Episcopal Retirement Homes' program for a “Portions Project” or “Just how big should your plate be?” For a small investment, \$5, you will receive a mat, plate and appropriate size servings for meal planning and eating. Signing a pledge is also part of this, so start working on your resolve now!

Also remember those who may be alone and need your support, including 1) members of Good Shepherd; such as Beatrice Chirume, while Erasmus is again in New York with the Salvation Army, others known to us and those on the prayer list; and 2) those to whom we minister at Lindley Inn, Southeast Ohio Corrections Facility, the Wednesday Lunch Program and the Southeast Psychiatric Hospital. Matthew 25: 37-41: Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and fed you...when did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you...

And don't forget that love and joy are the best gifts of the season, and often the best medicine ever prescribed!

Jane Ergood

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Anyone who would like to contribute towards the Christmas poinsettias, as a memorial or in thanksgiving for someone, should contact the parish office at 593-6877 by December 20th.

**News from
the Pews. . .**



Katharin Foster returned to her alma mater, Seabury Western Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, recently for a conference and to renew old acquaintances. Katharin, by the way, is the new chair of the Diocesan EAM Committee.

Chris Coleman directed the play at the Stuart's Opera House.

Marge Stone was pictured in the *Athens Messenger* recently with several other former presidents of the Guild of O'Bleness hospital.

Thanks to those who contributed to the CROP Walk – over \$2,400 was given in Athens – more than \$160 of that at Good Shepherd – 25% goes to the Athens County Food Pantry.

Welcome back from northern climes to **Jeanne & Arvin Wells** and **Connie & Tony DeBerardinis**. And welcome back to **Roland & Mary Anne Swardson** from an extended trip to Turkey. Your correspondent roamed out to dinner to visit son Rich and his wife Amy.

Married in early October: **Joe Hollow & Elizabeth Weber** of Delaware, Ohio. They will live in Chicago.

Allyn & Marsha Reilly report the engagement of their daughter, **Carolyn**, to **Jacob Sheehan**. Carolyn is presently an Americorps worker in Knoxville, Tennessee, and Jacob works at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. **Caitlin Reilly** and husband are making passengers laugh on the Royal Caribbean cruise ship *Voyager of the Seas*.

Reid Sinclair,
Roving Reporter

PRAYER SHAWL MEETINGS

There will be one Prayer Shawl Meeting in the month of December and it will be Tuesday, December 14th, at Doris Green's home. Tuesday, January 4th, will be the kickoff to the 2005 Prayer Shawl meetings and it will be held at Julie Nehls' home. All meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

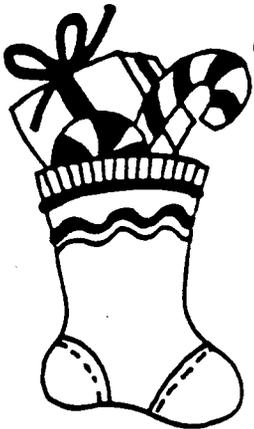
December Birthdays

- 12-1: Lucille Jennings
- 12-8: Lynn Graham, Charles Seymour
- 12-11: Chris Seymour
- 12-12: Betsy Irwin, Jim Karageorge
- 12-13: Jane Ergood
- 12-14: Abi Morgan, Andy Morgan
- 12-17: Levi Lackey
- 12-18: Alex Buckley
- 12-19: Marsha Dutton
- 12-21: Don Randolph
- 12-23: Joanne Larson
- 12-24: Karen Evans-Romaine, Jim Mowery, Al Topping
- 12-25: Shawn Parsons
- 12-27: Kathy Auflick, Karen Bump
- 12-30: Andrew Culp, George Karageorge



December Anniversaries:

- 12-24: Jim Mowery & Lynn Graham
- 12-27: Sheppard & Peggy Black
- 12-30: Al & Margaret Topping



CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS:

Once again we will be filling Christmas Stockings for the Salvation Army. Stockings will be available today and next Sunday, December 5th, during Coffee Hour or in the Parish Office. They should be filled for a boy or a girl ages 7-8 and returned to the church by Sunday, December 12th. For more information, please contact Sally Spero at 797-4756.

December Worship Schedule

Sun, Nov 25	Mon, Nov 26	Tue, Nov 27	Wed, Dec 1	Thu, Dec 2	Fri, Dec 3	Sat, Dec 4
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I ----- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II ----- 2:00 PM Lindley Inn Worship -----			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist -----			
Sun, Dec 5	Mon, Dec 6	Tue, Dec 7	Wed, Dec 8	Thu, Dec 9	Fri, Dec 10	Sat, Dec 11
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I ----- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II ----- 4:00 PM Advent Festival of Lessons & Music			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist -----			
Sun, Dec 12	Mon, Dec 13	Tue, Dec 14	Wed, Dec 15	Thu, Dec 16	Fri, Dec 17	Sat, Dec 18
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II ----- 2:00 PM Lindley Inn Worship -----			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist -----			
Sun, Dec 19	Mon, Dec 20	Tue, Dec 21	Wed, Dec 22	Thu, Dec 23	Fri, Dec 24	Sat, Dec 25
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II -----			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist -----		4:30 PM Christmas Eve Eucharist ----- 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Music ----- 10:30 PM Christmas Eve	
Sun, Dec 26	Mon, Dec 27	Tue, Dec 28	Wed, Dec 29	Thu, Dec 30	Fri, Dec 31	Sat, Dec 31
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I ----- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II ----- 2:00 PM Lindley Inn Worship -----			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist -----		4:30 PM New Year's Eve Eucharist -----	

December Events

Sun, Nov 28	Mon, Nov 29	Tue, Nov 30	Wed, Dec 1	Thu, Dec 2	Fri, Dec 3	Sat, Dec 4
9:00 AM Diocesan Convention Report ----- 10:15 AM Church School -----		9:30 AM Prayer Shawl -----	12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM ----- 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal -----	1:30 PM Bible Study ----- 4:00 PM Ecumenical Clergy Meeting ----- 7:00 PM Bible Study		10:00 AM Lessons & Music Rehearsal ----- 5:30 PM Ultreya Potluck & Meeting -----
Sun, Dec 5	Mon, Dec 6	Tue, Dec 7	Wed, Dec 8	Thu, Dec 9	Fri, Dec 10	Sat, Dec 11
9:00 AM Adult Education ----- 10:15 AM Church School -----			12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM ----- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal -----			
Sun, Dec 12	Mon, Dec 13	Tue, Dec 14	Wed, Dec 15	Thu, Dec 16	Fri, Dec 17	Sat, Dec 18
10:15 AM Church School -----		9:30 AM Prayer Shawl -----	12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM ----- 1:15 PM Parish Health Meeting ----- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal			
Sun, Dec 19	Mon, Dec 20	Tue, Dec 21	Wed, Dec 22	Thu, Dec 23	Fri, Dec 24	Sat, Dec 25
10:15 AM Church School -----			12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM ----- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal -----		9:15 PM Choir Rehearsal -----	
Sun, Dec 26	Mon, Dec 27	Tue, Dec 28	Wed, Dec 29	Thu, Dec 30	Fri, Dec 31	Sat, Jan 1
9:45 AM Choir Rehearsal -----	Parish Office Closed -----		12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM -----			