



Seeking the Holy Mysteries of Advent



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Sacrament – “An outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible grace.”

– Saint Augustine
writing in the 5th Century

In the language of the old Christians, the word sacrament rose from the Greek work “mysterion,” and the Latin word “*sacramentum*.” The old Christians spoke of Baptism and the Eucharist as

the Holy Mysteries; things present, visible, yet also wrapped in the mysterious power of God’s presence. As the rites of the Church grew among Latin speakers, Tertullian began using the Latin *sacramentum*, sacred oath, to describe the experience of Baptism and the participating in Lord’s Supper, the Eucharist. These were life defining events for believers; the sources of a new identity and allegiance.

Some believe that Tertullian had in mind ancient soldiers and officers taking a sacred oath of allegiance. Baptism was thought of as the sacred oath made to the King of Kings, and that baptismal oath was fed and nurtured by taking communion. Augustine followed on later with the definition that we see above.

During Advent, we are reminded that the one to whom we owe our ultimate allegiance is coming, and

that our lives in this world are bathed in sacramental meaning. During Advent, the Church is inviting us to awaken to the sacramental reality of our lives. The times and days in which we live are filled with the message that God is near, and God is coming for us. We will find in the readings, the music, and the prayers, the invitation to “wake up” from the long season we have been traveling following Pentecost. Every Sunday we say, “He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.”

The Sundays in Advent are seeking to prepare us for an inevitability; each of us will meet God in the future. Now is the time to reorient our compass points appropriately.

When the noise and lightshow of our pop-culture Christmas threaten to tip the balance of my spiritual senses toward frustration and distraction, I come to church on Sunday and simply try to listen. Listening closely, I hear prophets call to nations that have grown lethargic and ambivalent toward their obligations to God. Listening closely, I hear Paul, John the Baptist, and Jesus call to us personally, individually, to awaken within; for our soul and conscience to accept the fact that God is near, so near that we should be forewarned.

This is the “something” in life that we must not miss – we are living in a sacramental world such that the deepest and most significant message of our lives lie within our



**Christmas Eucharist with
Bishop Owensby**
5:30 pm – Cathedral

Midnight Christmas Eucharist
10:30 pm – Cathedral

Christmas Day Eucharist
10:00 am – Cathedral



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SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am, 10:30 am, & 6:00 pm
Sunday Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 4, 2022

The Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11 :1-10
Psalm 72 :1-7, 18-19
Romans 15 :4-13
Matthew 3 :1-12

DECEMBER 11, 2022

The Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35 :1-10
Canticle 3
James 5 :7-10
Matthew 11 :2-11

DECEMBER 18, 2022

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7 :10-16
Psalm 80 :1-7, 16-18
Romans 1 :1-7
Matthew 1 :18-25

DECEMBER 25, 2022

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98
Hebrews 1:1-12
John 1:1-14

Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

Wednesday

7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Chapel

Fridays 5:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist
Chapel
(The 5:30 service
is an option for
those who cannot
attend Sunday
worship.)



(Continued from page 1)

nearness to God. I am reminded that “*we are not human beings having a spiritual experience; we are spiritual beings having a human experience.*”

- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

I trust that if we ask with humility and courage, at the outset of this new Christian year, Christ will help us return to a sacramental life, a life filled with the mystery of His presence, a life in which our outward and visible arrangements transparently express the inward and spiritual Grace that He shares with us.

These are the days for rekindling an old friendship that we may have forgotten, but that is never forgotten by our heavenly family.

*Blessings and Godspeed,
Alston*

Christmas Memorials

It is the custom at St. Mark's to invite the parish family at Christmas to make a contribution to the glory of God and in memory or honor of loved ones. This is not only an appropriate way to honor those who have gone before us, but these gifts make it possible to decorate the Cathedral in a festive manner. If you wish to make a memorial, please send your donation, along with the name or names of those to be honored, to the attention of **Becky Deverts, no later than Friday, December 16.**



End of Year Contributions

If you want to mail your 2021 pledges or any other contributions by the end of the year, they must be **postmarked by December 31.** If you wish to hand deliver them to the church office, they must be in **by December 30** when the office closes for the holiday.

Christmas and New Year's Office Hours

The Cathedral office will close at noon on **Friday, December 23.** We will reopen on **Tuesday, December 27.** We will close at noon on **Friday, December 30.** We will reopen on **Monday, January 2.**

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Our annual Christmas Pageant
will be presented on Sunday,
December 18th during the
10:30 service.
Please join us!

Children's Christian Formation

Nursery (newborn to K3 - 3 years old by September 30th)

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 pm

First floor of Parish building next to Catechesis Atriums

9:30 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

First floor of Parish Building – Rooms 105 & 106



Level I Atrium (K-3 – Kindergarten)

Level II Atrium (1st – 3rd grade)

9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday school (4th – 5th grade) Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

9:30– 10:30 am Sunday school (6th-8th grade) Ministry Center Youth Lounge

9:30 -10:30 am Sunday school (9th-12th grade) Ministry Center Youth Room



Adult Christian Formation

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. N.T. Wright's biography of Paul

Ministry Center Garden Room

Oblationers Needed

Our Hospitality Committee invites parishioners (families, adult singles, siblings, friends) to serve as oblationers (gift bearers) at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. This is a meaningful way to serve the faith community. For more information please contact **Kathy Williams** at 469-9211.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER 1

James Jackson
Andrew Porter
Steve Allen

2

R. Dean Elston
Caroline Brainard
Robert Quin
Lou Palmer
Aimee Aaron
Melissa Flores
Lauren Thibodeaux
Abigail Jackson
John Pou

3

Betsy Roberts
Scott Deupree
E.C. Latch
Virginia Q=Petersen
Lee Collier
William McMurry

4

Bambi Trickett
Marie Kalmbach
Emma Nuckolls
William Childs
Morris O'Brien
Mosty O'Brien
Ean Burch

5

Marian Dehan
Bruce Lowe
Polly James
Carol Reyenga
Riggs Arnold

6

Charlotte Gaffney
Janet Harrell
Kathryn Beaird
Campbell Siskron
Christian Rabalais

7

Melody Duncan
Allen Marsalis
Sarah Margaret Shemwell
Lila Demech
John Mazur, Jr.

8

Nancy Montgomery
Amy Hodges
Jan Briscoe

9

Jim Vozzella
Elizabeth Davis
Bill McIntyre
Susan Campbell
Wiley Crockford
Edward Stroud
Chad Hill

10

Carroll Joffrion
Katie Gordon White
Louis Rabalais

11

Al Childs
Gertrude Lynes
Patty Stott
Ben Gates
George Ewing
Toni Winham

Sean Henagan

12

Ellen Davis
Peggy Shirley
Tara Jones

13

Buz Wheless
Marybeth McVie
John Bowen

14

John Madison
Duane Brown
Charlotte Hargrove

15

Melinda Hernandez
Susan Sherman
Stafford Comegys
William Herzog
Roger Coley
Parson Cotter
Jeffrey Douthitt
Rhett Arnold

16

Le Roy Kirby
Tricia Grayson
Austin Horne
John Mason Reeks
Seth Thibodeaux

17

Scott Reeks
Stuart Reeks
Tatum Peters
Tessa Culver
Elizabeth Gatschenberger
Spencer Pringle

18

Pam Peak
Mary McCullough
Humphrey
Christine Brooks
Alix Powell
Colin Irion
Jacob Jones

19

Emily Clarke
Creighton Hodges
Jack Perkins
Taylor Williams
Lisa Bingham

20

John Turnage
Ava Katherine Alley

21

Ted Thomas
Mary Stephens Allen
Morgan Kilpatrick
Elizabeth Dulaney

22

Cynthia Peatross
Darcy Henagan
Quintin Hardtner
Quintin Hardtner, IV

23

Marletta Eddy
John Meldrum
Holly Fletcher

24

Robert Laborde
Emily Lofton

Hannah Woodard

25

Lindsay Atkins

26

Linc Coleman
Rosemary Lafargue
Margaret Elrod
Lea Green
Kay Butcher

27

Woodus Humphrey
Tyler Nichols
Keaton Russo

28

Jim Liner
Sue Scheel
Bonne Summers
Stephen White
Jane Davenport
Samuel Brainard
Henry Perkins

29

Kathryn Hayes
Ethan Varnadore
Lindsay Aaron
Barbara Messier-Villafuerte

30

Jeff Webb
Miriam Martin
Camille Tharpe

31

Robert Pou
Sharla Inman



FATHER FORGIVE

The Community of the Cross of Nails, founded by Coventry Cathedral, is an international partnership dedicated to reconciliation among the peoples of the world.

The Community of the Cross of Nails focuses on three priorities: healing the wounds of history; living with differences and celebrating diversity; and building a culture of peace.

The Dean has stated that this is a priority for him and has called for us, here at St. Mark's Cathedral, to form a community.

We will be having a meeting for those interested on December 4 after the 10:30 service in the parlor to learn about the Community and discuss what such a community would be like here.

The Rev. Paul Martin, who served on the staff of Coventry Cathedral, will facilitate this meeting.

"God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself and has entrusted us with the ministry of reconciliation." (1 Corinthians 5:18)

Cathedral School News

by Dr. Chris Carter, Headmaster
ccarter@smc.school

Last month School Chaplain Ely Bulnes and I, along with School CFO Lisa Sigrest, attended the National Association of Episcopal School Biennial Conference. It was a great joy to join for learning, fellowship, and worship with Heads, Chaplains, and administrators of hundreds of other Episcopal schools from across the country. Two highlights for me were the Convention Eucharist, at which the Bishop of West Texas, The Rt. Rev. David Reed, presided, and NAES Executive Director, The Rev. Dr. David Madison,



preached and the keynote address by Jon Meacham, a Pulitzer prize winning biographer and devout Episcopalian. Both Fr. Madison and Mr. Meacham addressed the conference theme "Be Strong and Courageous," inspiring all who were there to persevere in our ministry and know that Episcopal schools are doing important work for the Kingdom of God.

This month our Episcopal identity is clear as we observe the season of Advent and prepare for Christmas. St. Mark's students participated in a toy drive as part of the Loyola College Prep FAiTH collection, as well as Advent outreach projects in Lower and Middle Schools. The Preschool Sing and Kindergarten Nativity Play will occur on Dec. 9 at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall, and the Lessons and Carols Chapel will take place on Dec. 16, at 8 a.m. in the Cathedral. Both events are guaranteed to help you feel the Christmas spirit, and parishioners are welcome at either or both!

Lost Anything at Church?

Or maybe you're just missing some item and have no idea where it might have gone. Drop by or call the church office and check into our lost and found! We have everything from sunglasses to scarves to cell phones to jewelry (including some very nice pieces.) Check and see what you're missing!



*Christmas
Blessings
2022*



ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL



MEMORIAL FLOWERS

December 4

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Florine Kendrick FitzGerald, William Edward FitzGerald, Florine Ruth Kolb Festervand and Charles Clifford Festervand.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Eleanor Enloe Kayser.

December 11

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ben Whittington, Mr. & Mrs. Jacques N. Lasseigne, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Clovis Whittington, Mr. & Mrs. O.P. Sherrod, Orvis Sigler, Steve Sigler and Sheila Prioux.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Louise Flournoy Clay, Fred Hunter Clay, Hugh Brian Walmsley, Sr., and Betty Cavender Walmsley.

December 18

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas Kalford Ratcliff.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Guy Brevard Sample.

December 25

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Cecilia L. and Clarence H Ellerbe, Cece Ellerbe & Sam W. Smith, and Louise A. & D.C. Elston, Jr., and in honor of the 58th wedding anniversary of Lennis & Richard Elston.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Henry Daniel Shehee, Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Emerson Cecil, Sr., and Rear Admiral & Mrs. Charles N. Payne.

BIRTHS

Phillip Seth Thibodeaux, on November 1, 2022. Parents are **Lauren & Seth Thibodeaux**. Big brother is **Andrew Thibodeaux**.

BAPTISMS

Rose Elizabeth Eldredge, daughter of **Kathryn & Christopher Eldredge**, on November 20, 2022.

Pierce Thomas Drummond, son of **Sarah & David Drummond**, on November 20, 2022.

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. Amen.

DEATHS

Rest Eternal grant to them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Frank Riley, brother of **Carroll Joffrion**, on October 26, 2022.

John Howell Craig, brother of **Tom Craig**, on October 29, 2022.

James W. Graves, husband of **Brenda Graves**, father of **Arianne & Warren Graves**, on November 12, 2022.

Gerald Wolff, father of **Susan Snyder**, grandfather of **Brown & Hart Snyder**, on November 12, 2022.

Betty C. Williams, on November 18, 2022.

Jason Osburn, on November 20, 2022.

Margaret Black on November 21, 2022.

Martha Cooper, mother of **Claire Rebouche**, on November 28, 2022.

May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Wednesday Night Book Group

The Wednesday Night Book group is studying Adam Hamilton's Advent Book: *Prepare the Way of the Lord* through December 21 from 6:00- 7:00 pm in the Library. The author invites the readers to look at the life and ministry of John the Baptist as well as how he calls all followers of Jesus to prepare our hearts for His coming. Anyone interested in more information or needing a copy of the book should contact **William Weaver** at 302/276-3750 or william.weaver@uhsinc.com.



Birthday Card Ministry

This year, we launched a birthday card ministry to celebrate all of our parishioners. If you find yourself wanting to serve but needing to do it on your own time, please consider this meaningful ministry. Materials are provided. For more information, please contact **Lauren Ewing** at 550-1743 or lauren.ewing@me.com.



Music & Worship

A Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 18, 2022
4:00 p.m.

St. Mark's Cathedral
908 Rutherford Street
Shreveport



St. Mark's Physical Training Monday-Friday 5:30 am at the Cathedral

meets at 5:30 a.m. every weekday morning in the field
across from the parking lot.

COME SING WITH US!

The Boys and Girls Choir at St. Mark's Cathedral

Free professional music education!

Open to ages 7-14,
no religious affiliation required

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Family Dinner Provided

Want to know more?
Contact Derrick Meador
derrick@stmarkscathedral.net



Vestry Nominations

The Nominating Committee will meet to formulate a Vestry slate to present to the parish at the Annual Meeting in January. If you wish to nominate someone for their consideration, nominations have to be to the Senior Warden by **December 2**.

To be eligible for the Vestry, a person must be a confirmed communicant in good standing. This means confirmed, regularly attending worship and pledging. Nominations can be e-mailed to Senior Warden **Bill Kalmbach** at bill.kalmbach@cookyancey.com



Calling all Turkeys!

It's that time again! The Cooking Crew is in need of 35 turkeys to cook for Christmas meals. Please drop off your turkeys to the church kitchen by **December 7**. If you have any questions or would like to help cook for the holidays, **Jennifer Beruvides** at jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net.

Expectant Moms of St. Mark's



If you are or know anyone who is expecting a child our committee is up and running and is looking for mommies to be. Please contact us

at bess@stmarkscathedral.net or sign up on our website under family ministries. We hope to welcome mothers into our community. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

Bill Kalmbach, Senior Warden – Lisa Love, Junior Warden – Murray Viser, Treasurer – John Reeks, Chancellor

2021	2022	2023	2024
Marilyn Kirkland	Ellen Alley	Ellen Erwin	Clarence Babineaux
Lisa Love	Mike Ameen	Joe Jayroe	Rebecca Bryant
Cody Mayo	Oliver Jenkins	Josh Knicely	Patrick Caraway
William Weaver	Brad Massad	Theresa Meldrum	Mark Sealy
Bud Westmoreland	Emily Merkle	Joy Ratcliff	Lynn Yancey

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby
(Bishop of Western Louisiana)
bishopjake@epiwl.org

The Very Rev. Alston Johnson
(Dean)
abjohnson@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Thomas Nsubuga
(Sub-Dean)
thomas@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Dr. Rowena White
(Canon)
rowena@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Deacon Beth Hendrix (Curate)
beth@stmarkscathedral.net

Derrick Meador
(Organist and Choirmaster)
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John Scheel (Facilities Manager)
john@stmarkscathedral.net

Becky Deverts (Financial Office Manager)
becky@stmarkscathedral.net

Bess Maxwell
(Administrative Assistant)
bess@stmarkscathedral.net

Jennifer Beruvides (Coordinator for
Events and Hands-on Outreach Ministry)
jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net

Cynthia Anderson (Receptionist)
cynthia@stmarkscathedral.net

Beth Reeks
(Minister for Pre-K Children's Programs)
preschool.beth@gmail.com

Lisa Bingham
(Financial Office Assistant Manager)
lisa@stmarkscathedral.net

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