

November/December 2016

## ***The Shepherd***

*St. Luke's Episcopal Church*

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# **“Rector’s Christmas Letter”**

## **St. Luke’s Episcopal Church**

Sea Cliff, New York

~2016~

*And the Word became flesh and lived amongst us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth...From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.*

*[John 1:14, 16-18]*

Dear Parish Family & Friends:

At the very core of our Christian Community is the most extraordinary idea; that the invisible God of all creation has acted to make his love for us known most in the life of Jesus Christ.

At St. Luke’s we have undertaken a pilgrimage to be faithful to this astonishing thing called the ‘incarnation’. To live out our lives faithfully to the premise that in Jesus, humanity and the divine have come into nature, come into time and history, and come into our hearts and minds in a way that has literally made all things new.

I’m reminded of what Philip said to Jesus at another point in John’s gospel, ‘Lord show us the Father and we shall be satisfied’. He spoke from the deep desire to know the ultimate source of meaning and reality; to know what ‘God’ is like. Jesus’ response to Philip (and to us) is direct, “Have I been with you all this time Philip and you do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” What makes Christmas a bit different at this parish, is that we look back over the year, and find that we as a ‘community’ have shared, worked for, prayed with, and helped one another to see that Jesus has crossed our lives, just like Philip’s. At St. Luke’s a new thing has occurred before our very eyes. We have found our joy in the love of God for one another because...Jesus has made God known to us

Come to this venerable parish & holy place; come to St. Luke’s expecting your hearts to be filled with wonder this Christmas. Listen to the story of how God saved and redeemed his people. Come share in our joy through music, worship, fellowship and humor. Come and see something “new” in an old place.

**Christmas Eve** celebration begins at **4:30 p.m.** in the church.

**Christmas Day** we will have one service of Holy Communion at **8:00 a.m.**

**New Year’s Day** Holy Communion **8:00 a.m.**

Come with family and friends expecting a wonderful celebration of the season. Most importantly, open your heart, soul and mind...and expect to be filled with God’s love for you. This comes with my prayers, love and deep affection.

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

*David*



Thank you to all our volunteers who made our **Annual Bazaar** so successful! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and it would not be possible without all your help. Thank you!



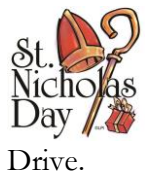
### Choir Resumes

The choir will practice **Sunday, November 27 at 9:00 am** in the church.

### Every Member Canvass

You should have received our letter and pledge card for our 2017 Canvass. If you have not, please let us know and we will have one sent to you. Please mail your pledge cards back as soon as possible. Thank you!

### Saint Nicholas Day



**December 4** is Saint Nicholas Sunday. Children are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate to the St. John's Episcopal Hospital's Holiday Toy Drive.

### Adopt a Family

Signups for our annual Adopt a Family project begin today! Instructions and profiles for the families are available in the Parish Hall. The wrapped gifts should be brought to the Parish Hall on or before **Sunday, December 4**. If you have any questions, please contact Ginnie Treiber at 671-9209 or Debbie Pierce 759-9342.



### Children's Christmas Pageant

One of the highlights of our year is our **Christmas Pageant**, which will be held on **Sunday, December 18th** in our Parish Hall immediately following our 10:00 am service. Set up will be on **Sunday, December 11** and rehearsal will be **Saturday, December 17 at 9:30 am**. If you are interested in having your child participate, please contact Allison Trotta at 646-505-8197.



### Sunday School

Our Sunday School follows the North Shore Schools calendar and will be closed on December 25 and January 1. Classes will resume January 8.



### Christmas Services and Activities

- Dec 4 Saint Nicholas Day, 10:00 am  
Adopt-a-Family gifts due
- Dec 11 Christmas Pageant Set-Up, 11:30 am
- Dec 17 Greening of the Church, 9:30 am  
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, 9:30 am
- Dec 18 Children's Christmas Pageant  
11:30 am
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service, 4:30 pm
- Dec 25 Christmas Day Service, 8:00 am
- Jan 1 New Year's Day Service, 8:00 am

### Greening of the Church



Join us in the Church on **Saturday, December 17 at 9:30 am**. Volunteers are needed, especially able bodied men to prepare the church for Christmas!

### Christmas Flowers and Music



Envelopes for commemorating flowers and music for Christmas are in today's bulletin. Your Christmas memorial request will be printed on a special insert in the Christmas Eve and

Christmas Day bulletins. Please use these envelopes for your gift and return to the Parish Office **before Tuesday, December 20**. Flower/Music requests received after that date cannot be printed.

### Coffee Hour



Join us at Coffee Hour every Sunday immediately following the 10:00 am service. All are welcome! Volunteers are needed to host this special gathering. Speak with Betty MacDonald or call her (676-4211) for more info.

### Altar Flowers/Sanctuary Light Memorials are an



important way to commemorate loved ones, family and friends. Your message is posted in the weekly bulletin. These memorials help us defray the costs for altar flowers and sanctuary candles. Many dates are available – please contact the Parish Office if you would like to reserve a date for a memorial.

## Parish Birthdays

November

7<sup>TH</sup> Lisa Spina  
8<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Mackney  
8<sup>th</sup> Igor Webb  
13<sup>th</sup> Katherine Spina  
14<sup>th</sup> Janette Heurtley  
15<sup>th</sup> Luke Salditt  
15<sup>th</sup> Matthew Salditt  
17<sup>th</sup> Jason Tastensen  
18<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Webb  
21<sup>st</sup> Lucinda Hurley  
22<sup>nd</sup> Rebecca Webb  
27<sup>th</sup> Marianne Walters-Webb  
30<sup>th</sup> Vivienne Treiber



December

17<sup>th</sup> Katie Regan  
13<sup>th</sup> Dale Kordeleski  
19<sup>th</sup> Christopher Schuessler  
20<sup>th</sup> Douglas O'Dell  
24<sup>th</sup> Andrew Siegel

## St. Luke's Thrift Shop

Good quality clothing is needed. Donations may be dropped off at the Thrift Shop, Tuesdays between 10:30 am and 1:30 pm or placed outside the Thrift Shop door anytime. Please no books, cassettes or video tapes!

**THRIFT  
SHOP**

## Church Calendars

The Episcopal Church Year Calendars are available in the Parish Hall during coffee hour. Please take only one per household. Any contributions for the calendars would be appreciated.

## King Kullen Receipts

If you shop at King Kullen, please drop your receipts at our Parish Office. We receive a 1% refund of the net total of fall receipts we collect and return to the Glen Cove Store. Every little bit helps!

## Advertisers Needed for The Shepherd

We are looking for advertisers for this Shepherd Newsletter. If you own a business, please consider advertising with us next year. The Shepherd is published 10 times each year and reaches over 100 families. Please contact the Parish Office if you are able to help. We appreciate your support!

## Parish Anniversaries

November

4<sup>th</sup> Dee and Ed Doxey  
9<sup>th</sup> Ginnie and Bruce  
Treiber  
11<sup>th</sup> Nancy and Peter Rose

December

No anniversaries are listed in December. Please contact the office if you have one and would like it acknowledged.



## Looking forward to January ...

### Annual Parish Meeting

Mark your calendars! We will be holding our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29 immediately following the 10:00 service. Learn about Parish activities and committees. Listen to plans and the church budget for 2017 and vote for Vestry members. Don't miss this important meeting – the future of our parish depends on you! Pot Luck luncheon will follow the 10:00 am service. All are welcome, children too!



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