

Welcome to **St. John's Cathedral**



**“Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous deeds!”**

- Psalm 72:18

December 4, 2016 - 8 a.m.
The Second Sunday of Advent

LOVE *at the* CORE.

Welcome to St. John's Cathedral! We are so glad that you are here.

We worship God in the heart of the city. We are surrounded by the poor in an area of town that is often neglected. In his life, Jesus often ministered to the poor and needy, and we believe that by worshipping **God in the urban core, we can catch a glimpse of God's love.**

We welcome all people. Our nursery is open all morning on Sundays. We would love to get to know you better, and you can help us by filling out a visitor card located in your pew and placing it in the offering plate as it comes by, or by handing it to an usher. Please let us know if you need prayers and if you would like us to email you our online newsletter. Listening devices are always available for the hearing impaired and large-print bulletins for those who have trouble with their eyesight. Please ask an usher if you need these items or anything else. We want to help you feel at home here.

We believe that worship should be beautiful and sacred, a moment to hush the hurriedness of our lives and experience the peace of God. I **hope that you feel God's love this morning.**

Faithfully,

The Very Reverend Kate Moorehead,
Dean

ADVENT: A CALL TO RETURN TO THE LIGHT

“Let us cast aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light...”

- Romans 13:12

The season of Advent lasts only four weeks, and already one week is gone. As the days darken, we light candles and pray for the light to come into the world. We wait for Jesus to come, not only to remember **Jesus’ birth, but we wait for him to come again. During this season of waiting, the Scriptures tell us to set aside the darkness and search for the light.**

I have been thinking a lot about how to identify the darkness. It is a spiritual question. How do we discern when we are being drawn into darkness and how can we turn to the light? Here are some thoughts I **have had...**

- * When you are tempted to do something in hiding, be careful. If you are keeping secrets from your loved ones, watch out. The darkness loves for you to hide and wants for you to feel ashamed.
- * The darkness wants us to be spiritually asleep, to be unaware of ourselves or others. Being too busy puts you to sleep so be careful. If you find you are getting too busy, **carve out brief moments of solitude or silence to ask yourself, “Am I awake to God’s purpose in my life?”**
- * Be sure to give generously. The darkness works primarily through self-absorption and giving to others pulls you out of yourself.
- * **Don’t be too focused on your own happiness. The point of life is not to feel something but to be of service to God.**
- * **Remember that this season is about the miracle of God’s love for you and that love comes to you even when things are messy and don’t turn out as you hoped they would. Christmas is not supposed to be perfect; it is supposed to be holy because God came to live as one of us.**

I pray you will be able to cast aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light during this beautiful season.

May God bless you.

In Christ’s love,

Kate+



*The Very Reverend
Kate Moorehead,
Dean*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

On each of the four Sundays of Advent, a candle is lit on the Advent wreath as the light of Christ comes into the world.

In Procession, Hymn 616 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” (St. 1-3) *Es flog en kleins Waldvögelein*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be our God.
People For ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant and the People say together

The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Romans 15:4-13

Lector A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the

Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The Psalm is read in unison.

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The People stand.

The Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Gospeler

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People are seated.

The Sermon

The Very Reverend Kate Moorehead

A period of silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The People stand.

The Nicene Creed

The Celebrant and People say

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People *All remain standing as able.*

The Leader and People pray responsively

Hear us, good Lord, as we pray to you with the words, Lord, come among us.

Almighty God, we ask you to guide us as we seek to bring about your peace in this broken world. Help us to find a way to heal the division that threatens to divide this nation. Guide us to seek and serve justice. Keep our loved ones safe. Help us to show both mercy and compassion. You alone can guide us. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

Be present with those who are sick or suffering in any way. Bless those who mourn. Comfort the lonely in this holiday season and come to the aid of those who are poor and in need. I invite you to speak aloud the names of those in need. . . . Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

Embrace the souls of those who have died. May they see you face to face. I invite you to speak aloud the names of those who have died. . . . Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

Bless this community, Lord, as we seek to worship and serve you without fear. Help us to make space for you in our busy lives so that we may be ready for the coming of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We give you thanks for the many gifts that you have given us: for the love of family and friends, for our children, for the gifts of music, art and literature, for the freedom to worship you, and for this beautiful cathedral. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers.

The Confession of Sin

The People kneel.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

The People stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Clergy and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Representatives of the congregation bring forward the People's offerings of money, and other gifts. The People stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar.

Hymn 380, stanza 3 “Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving, from the Prayer Book of the Church of England

The People stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever!

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

The Celebrant and People say

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord! As a mother tenderly gathers her children you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it: and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends, and taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take eat: this is my body which is given for you

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

The Celebrant and People say

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us into the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember Lord your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with John and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendor for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by him, with him, and in him, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

The Celebrant and People say

Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Celebrant continues

The Gifts of God for the People of God. (Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.)

Please join us at God's table.

All baptized people are welcome to receive communion. Everyone is welcome to come to the altar for a blessing. If you would like a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest.

The Postcommunion Prayer

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The Celebrant and People say together

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

May Almighty God watch over you who wait for Christ to come again, you who long to see His face. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

In Procession, Hymn 72 “Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes”

Richmond

The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

+ + +

*The flowers in Cummings Chapel and at the High Altar are given to the glory of God,
and in loving memory of Margaret Shahood Maida and Marie King Koon.*

SERMON NOTES

THIS SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY, DEC. 4

► **Holy Eucharist**

8 a.m. Cummings Chapel

► **Holy Eucharist**

9 a.m. Cathedral

► **Christian Formation for all ages**

All Christian Formation classes meet at 10 a.m.

Children's Formation

Pre-K to Kindergarten - Room 5, Basement

1st - 3rd grades - Room 202, 2nd floor

Tweens Formation

4th - 5th grades - Room 302, 3rd floor

Youth Formation

6th - 8th grades - Undercroft

9th - 12th grades - Room 304, 3rd floor

Adult Formation

Centering Prayer - Room 306, 3rd floor

This is a time in community to experience centering prayer as well as explore appropriate readings and reflections. All are invited.

How to Celebrate Advent Alone or with Family
- Taliaferro Hall

Join Dean Kate, Director of Parish Life Kym

Johnson, and Director of Children's Ministries

Terry Hunt for this presentation on special ways you can celebrate this holy season.

► **Holy Eucharist**

11 a.m. Cathedral

► **Verger Meeting**

12 p.m. Ingram Lounge

► **Birthday Blessings**

Sunday, December 4

Sheila Burrell, Sharon Millan, Sally Ferris, Lisa Still, Greg Craddock, John Lind, Rodney Lofton, Elizabeth Phillips

Monday, December 5

Ann Dyer, Judy Maurer, Shelly Parman,

Tuesday, December 6

Gerald Tjoflat, Sara Flynn, Erica Utti

Wednesday, December 7

Pam Parent, Larry Shughart, Colt Sloan, Silas Nelson

Thursday, December 8

Dan Hadwin, Noel Liles, Perry Todd, Mohini Cole, Caroline Bedenbaugh

Friday, December 9

Doanyelle Conner, Randy Gallup, Lauren Young

Saturday, December 10

Jackie Gahan

ANNOUNCEMENT

► **Growing into the Fullness of God:**

Stewardship 2017

God is doing amazing things in and through St. John's Cathedral, and we are all invited to grow into God's fullness through a financial pledge to the life and ministry of the cathedral. Pledge cards are available in the church office and the back of the church. You may also pledge online at www.jaxcathedral.org/pledge-2017/.

THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

MONDAY, DEC. 5

► **Feed the Homeless**

2 p.m. Sulzbacher Center
Dinner preparation begins at 2 p.m. and is served at 6 p.m. Please call Don Wucker at 398-4776 for more information.

► **Friends of Bill W.**

5:30 p.m. Ingram Lounge

► **Men's Grill 'n Chill**

6 p.m. Taliaferro Hall
All men of the cathedral are cordially invited to this fellowship dinner on the first Monday of each month. Bring your own steak (or chicken, or fish or veggie burger) to cook and a drink. A starch, vegetable, salad and bread will be provided. We suggest a donation of \$3. Men, please consider bringing your sons with you, regardless of age. This is a monthly opportunity for all the men of the cathedral to gather, so please join us!

► **Boy Scouts**

6 p.m. Taliaferro Hall

TUESDAY, DEC. 6

► **Holy Eucharist**

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

► **Yoga**

5:45 p.m. Cummings Chapel

► **EFM (Education for Ministry)**

7 p.m. Ingram Lounge

► **Girl Scouts**

7 p.m. Basement "Coffee House"

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7

► **Please note: this is the last day for**

Wonderful Wednesday dinners and classes for the year. Wonderful Wednesdays will resume on January 4.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7 CONTINUED

► **Holy Eucharist**

7 a.m. Holy Communion Chapel

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

► **ESJ Middle School Eucharist**

8:30 a.m. Cathedral

► **Wonderful Wednesday Dinner**

5 – 6 p.m. Taliaferro Hall

Dinner cost: \$5 per adult, \$3 per child under 12

► **Chorister Rehearsal**

5:30 p.m. Choir Room

► **Movie Night: *The Bishop's Wife***

6 p.m. Taliaferro Hall

Join your parish family in watching this holiday classic!

► **Art Class**

6 p.m. Painting Place, Basement

Fr. Lou Towson and the Rev. Jean Dodd lead this fun class. No experience necessary. Basic materials are provided, though participants are encouraged to bring their own materials.

► **Youth Group**

6:30 p.m. Undercroft

► **Choir Rehearsal**

7:30 p.m. Choir Room

THURSDAY, DEC. 8

► **Lectionary Bible Study**

12 p.m. Ingram Lounge

► **Holy Eucharist**

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

► **Celebration Singers Rehearsal**

5:30 p.m. Ascension Chapel

THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL CONTINUED

FRIDAY, DEC. 9

► **The Cathedral Bards**

9:30 a.m. Ingram Lounge

This group meets to have fun, in-depth discussions on poetry, examining poetic devices from the works of Mary Oliver, selected poems from master poets, and poems from members of the group. The group plans to publish an anthology of original poems in 2017. Contact Jerry Fluellen at jerryfluellen@aol.com if you are interested in participating in this group.

► **Cathedral School Christmas Program**

10 a.m. Cathedral

Reception to follow in Burwell Court.

► **Clara's at the Cathedral**

11 a.m. Taliaferro Hall

► **Contemplative Holy Eucharist**

12:10 p.m. Cummings Chapel

SATURDAY, DEC. 10

► **Advent Quiet Garden Morning**

9 a.m. St. Mary's Green Cove Springs

Come away during this busy holiday season and ponder with Mary on the wonder of the Incarnation. Refreshments will be provided. The morning will conclude with Eucharist.

► **11th Step Meditation Group**

9:30 a.m. Room 306

► **Blessing of the Bikes**

11:15 a.m. Cathedral and Shields Place

All bikers are welcome to come and be blessed! Bikes should be parked on Shields Place. Bikers will go into the cathedral first for a brief, ecumenical service of prayer and then return to Shields Place for individual blessings from Dean Kate, Fr. David and Fr. Raja.

NEXT SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY, DEC. 11

► **See Sunday service times on page 11 of the bulletin.**

► **Please note: December 11 is the last Sunday of Christian Formation classes for all ages before the holidays.** Sunday classes will resume on January 8.

► **Christian Formation for all ages begins at 10 a.m. today.** See all class offerings on page **11 of the bulletin.** The **“How to Celebrate Advent” class for adults will be replaced by the following:**

[The History of Christmas Hymns with Tim Tuller](#) - Taliaferro Hall

Our Canon for Music will take us through the history of some of these most beloved hymns.

► **Senior Chorister Christmas Concert**

10:30 a.m. Cathedral

Our senior choristers will perform special songs for the season before the 11 a.m. service.

► **Advent Healing Service**

5 p.m. Cummings Chapel

This service is a time for anyone experiencing feelings or situations that make this holy season difficult.

ANNOUNCEMENT

► **Send us your photos!**

If you have taken any photos from any cathedral events within the past year, we would love to include them in a year-in-review slideshow! This slideshow will be shown at our Annual Parish Meeting in early 2017. Please email all photos to Helen Likins, Communications Coordinator, at hlikins@jaxcathedral.org. You can also call Helen at the office (ext. 117) if you have any questions about sending your photos.

Season's Blessings

Advent and Christmas at St. John's Cathedral

Wednesday, December 14

Ye Olde English Christmas Dinner,
6 p.m.

Save the date! Join us for this parish-wide holiday celebration of good food and good cheer, complete with carol singing, Christmas crackers and a visit from Father Christmas! The cost for this special dinner is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under the age of 12. Please RSVP to Judy Maurer at the office at 356-5507 or jmaurer@jaxcathedral.org.

Friday, December 16

Holly Jolly Christmas Sing-a-long
Concert with Karim Zabaneh,
7:30 p.m.

Join us for this Christmas spectacular featuring beloved songs of the season in Taliaferro Hall! Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased from the church office. Proceeds will go towards the **cathedral and Karim Zabaneh's education.**

Sunday, December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Pageant, 9 a.m.

Celebrate the coming of Christ through story and art from our talented cathedral children. All children are welcome to participate. Adult volunteers are also needed. A rehearsal will be held on Saturday, December 17 at 10 a.m. in the cathedral. For more information, please contact Cheryl Bowen at 904-349-0922 or cherydi33@icloud.com

Sunday, December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Messiah Sing-a-long, 11 a.m.

Join us in the cathedral as Canon for Music Tim Tuller leads us in singing selections from **Handel's *Messiah*.**

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4 p.m., Family Service with Holy Eucharist*

6 p.m., Holy Eucharist with Bishop Howard and brass and tympani*

11 p.m., Holy Eucharist with brass and tympani - incense will be used at this service.

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist in celebration of the birth of Christ.

Saturday, December 31 -

New Year's Eve

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, 5 p.m.

A candlelight service of Christmas scripture and traditional carols sung by the Cathedral Choir.

**Nursery available*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

► **St. Mary's Bag-a-month Club - December Items**

Donate to those in need at St. Mary's! The theme for December is first aid supplies. Pick up a marked brown bag this Sunday and fill it with pain and fever relievers, cough and cold medicine, band aids, etc. Bring your bag back before the last Sunday of the month.

► **Donate Christmas Flowers**

You can contribute donations towards flowers for our Christmas Eve and Day services in honor of your loved ones. If you donate by Wednesday, December 21, we can list the names of your loved ones in the Christmas Eve and Day bulletins. Donation envelopes are located in the pews, or you can donate online at www.jaxcathedral.org and click "Donate Altar Flowers" under the Give tab.

CALL FOR VESTRY NOMINATIONS AND CONVENTION DELEGATES

The Vestry bylaws provide for a nominating committee to nominate candidates for vacancies on the vestry as well as candidates for the offices of Delegate to the Diocesan Convention.

Qualifications for Vestry members (4 to be elected): A Vestry nominee must be a **communicant of St. John's Cathedral in good standing for a period of at least 12 months prior to election**; if a nominee has served two full terms (for a total of six years), there must be a two-year break before he or she may be nominated again; must be actively involved in the ministry of the Parish; must be willing to accept active leadership, including responsibility for decision making that represents the entire Parish; must, if called upon, serve on the boards of affiliated corporations of the Cathedral; must be willing to invest the time necessary in the ministry of leadership, including attendance at worship, Vestry meetings and other scheduled Vestry activities, special events, and satellite activities; and must be otherwise eligible. In addition to the above qualifications contained in the bylaws, the Vestry believes that nominees for service for the next three-year term should possess special skills, gifts and talents in visionary and strategic thinking, be courageous, and have skills in fiscal planning and policy.

Diocesan Convention Delegates (2 to be elected): **Per the St. John's Parish by-laws**, the Sr. Warden fills one of the 5 delegate positions. The remaining four convention delegates serve a two year term, with one or two rotating off each year. At the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting, we will elect two delegates and two alternates for the 2018 diocesan convention. It is critically important that you obtain the permission of your nominee before submitting his or her name to a Nominating Committee member. (Please note: the By-Laws have been amended so that parishioners choose Vestry members by election at the annual meeting rather than through a selection (lottery) process.) Send nominations to Helen Likins, Communications Coordinator at hlikins@jaxcathedral.org. Nominations will be forwarded to and reviewed by the nominating committee members: Bill Erwin, Don Lester, Ginny Myrick, John Adams, Deborah Baker, Tommy Donahoo and Faye Wisner.

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

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Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 356-5507 - www.jaxcathedral.org
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