

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



December 24, 2017- 10:30 a.m.
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

LOVE *at the* CORE.

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

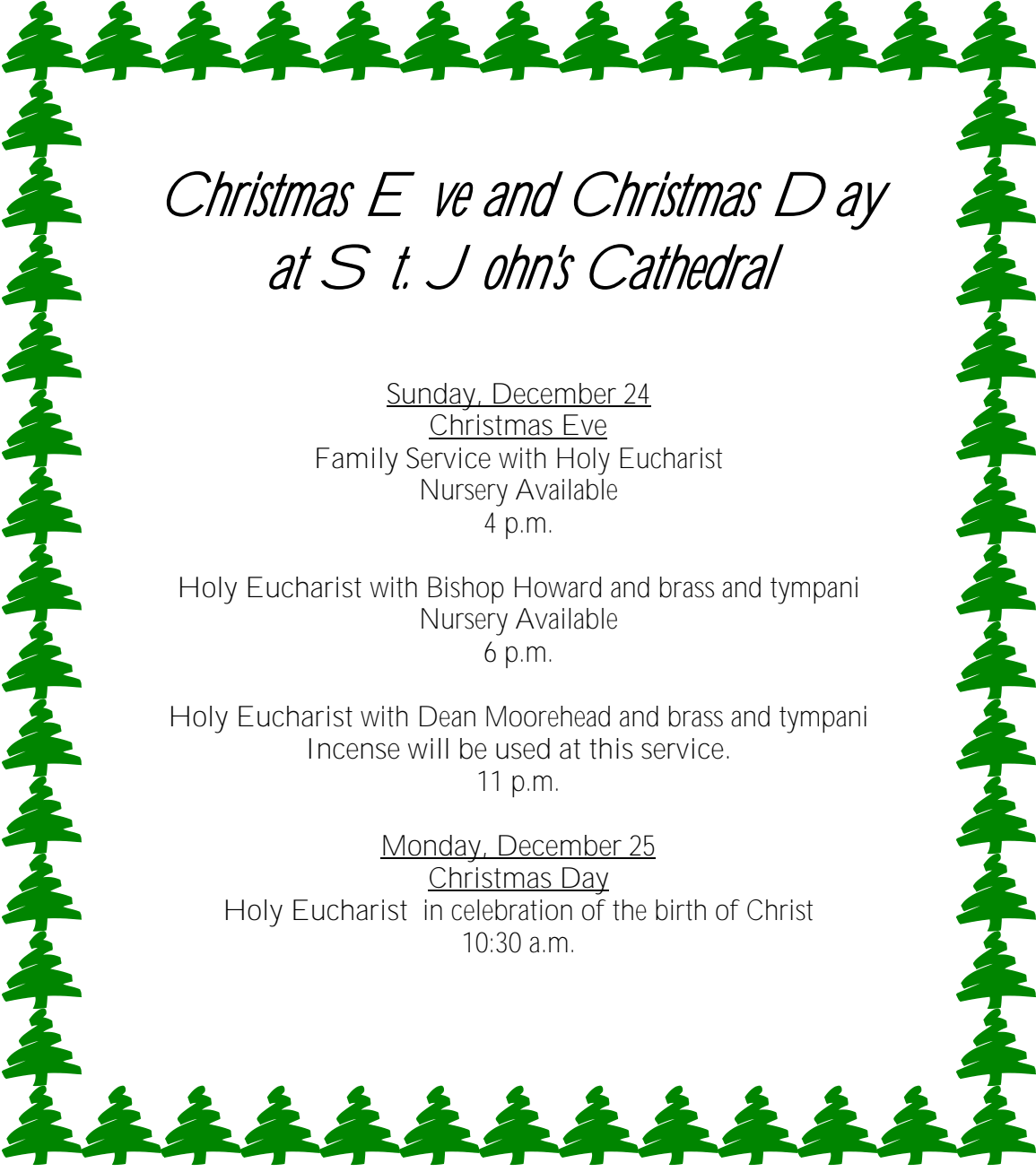
We worship God in the heart of the city. We are surrounded by the poor in an area of town that is often neglected. In his life, Jesus often ministered to the poor and needy, and we believe that by worshipping **God in the urban core, we can catch a glimpse of God's love.**

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



*Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
at S t. J ohn's Cathedral*

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Family Service with Holy Eucharist
Nursery Available
4 p.m.

Holy Eucharist with Bishop Howard and brass and tympani
Nursery Available
6 p.m.

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

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Voluntary

Magnificat

Dietrich Buxtehude

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.

Introit

Light One Candle to Watch for the Messiah

Wayne L. Wold

St. John's Celebration Singers

In Procession, Hymn 66

“Come, thou long expected Jesus”

Stuttgart

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be our God.

People Forever 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 Magnificat

Hymnal S-247

Betty Carr Pulkingham

The Cantor sings each verse of the Magnificat, omitting the Gloria. The People sing the Antiphon.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Romans 16:25–27

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

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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 89:1–4, 19–26

Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

"I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations."

You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *

"I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.

My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.

No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.

I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.

My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.

I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.

He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'"

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The People stand.

Hymn 56

“O come, o come Emmanuel” (St. 7–8)

Veni, veni Emmanuel

The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

Gospeler

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will

conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People are seated.

The Sermon

The Reverend Raja Zabaneh

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.*

Eternal God, in this season of Advent, awaken your whole Church to see our unity more than what divides us; Give us strength and courage to find quiet moments to sit still and wait for you to come. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We give you thanks for the gift of our lives, our loved ones and the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask your blessing on all who are sick, grieving, struggling with poverty or alone during the

holidays. (We pray especially for...) Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask you to bring peace to the world and to this our city, that we may respect and honor one another. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask you to help us learn to tell the truth of our stories so that other people may be drawn to you. Lord, we wait for you.

Lord, come among us.

We ask you to welcome into your embrace those who we love who have died, that they may see you face to face. (We remember especially...) 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.

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 continues

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 the Lord 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

The Offertory

Night of Silence

Daniel Kantor

St. John's Celebration Singers

As the Altar is prepared for Communion, representatives of the congregation collect the offerings of the People. The people stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar.

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

*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 sing

Hymnal S-125

Richard Proulx

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. You are also invited to receive prayers and anointing with holy oil in one of our transept chapels where anointers wait to pray with you.

Music at Communion

Organ

Prelude on *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

Gerald Near

Hymn 60

“Creator of the stars of night”

Conditor alme siderum

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 57 “Lo, he comes with clouds descending”

Helmsley

The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Voluntary Prelude on *Puer nobis nascitur*

Gerald Near

+ + +

*The flowers in Holy Communion Chapel are given to the glory of God,
and in loving memory of Amelia Shields DeMuth, Carl Robertson Kurtz, Jr., Bayard Shields Ferber,
Amelia K. Ferber, Paul L. Ferber, Bayard Benoit Shields, and other members of the Shields Family
by Paul S. Ferber*

► **Birthday Blessings**

Sunday, December 24

Henry Jenks, John Waidner

Monday, December 25

Pixianne Beasley

Tuesday, December 26

Nancy Studstill, Paul Ferber, Kimberly Romano

Thursday, December 28

John Donahoo, Jr.

Friday, December 29

Jane Still, David Dufresne, Ivette Blanco, Chereth Little

Saturday, December 30

Alice Gillis, Sally Kelly, Vin Malhotra, Marilyn Young, Clint Weinberg, Sarah Brown

THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

▶ **See Service times for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day** on page 3.

▶ **TUESDAY, DEC. 26 - OFFICES CLOSED**

▶ **Weekday programs resume the week of January 7.**

NEXT SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY, DEC. 31 - THE FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS

▶ **Holy Eucharist**

8 a.m. Cummings Chapel

▶ **Family Service with Holy Eucharist**

9 a.m. Cathedral

▶ **Church on the Mat**

10 a.m. Cummings Chapel

▶ **Holy Eucharist with Cathedral Choir**

11 a.m. Cathedral

SUNDAY, DEC. 31—NEW YEAR'S EVE

▶ **The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

5 p.m. Cathedral

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

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

▶ **MONDAY, JAN. 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY**
- OFFICES CLOSED

SATURDAY, JAN. 6

▶ **Storytelling workshop with Bishop Porter**

Taylor and his son Arthur Taylor

Save the date and make plans to attend! Telling **Our Stories: My Story, Our Story, God's Story** aims to help participants articulate parts of their story and relate them to our story of faith.

Because January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany, we will focus on two themes: Epiphany—letting the divine light shine in and through us—and Metanoia or the great turning—allowing God to redirect/reconfigure our lives. Bishop Porter Taylor will also preach at the 9 and 11 a.m. services Sunday, January 7.

▶ **Art Exhibit: Raquel**

Now through January 14 in Taliaferro Hall

The present exhibition of paintings by Raquel is a beautiful array of works formed by a mature artistic vision. Impressionistic in style, ranging from classic images to Cezanne-like paintings. The paintings are for sale through the bookstore.

▶ **2018 Offering Envelopes**

If you indicated on your pledge card that you would like offering envelopes for 2018, they will be available for pickup at all Sunday services on December 31, 2017 and in the following weeks.

▶ **Fresh Greens from Fresh Ministries**

Fresh Ministries will resume selling greens in January.

SERMON NOTES

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

256 East Church Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 356-5507 - www.jaxcathedral.org
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
and Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

You can now watch our 11 a.m. service live on our website!
Just click the Live Broadcast link on the homepage.

Forgot your checkbook or cash? Text the dollar amount of your gift to
904-584-3116. (Example: \$20)