

# *The Feast of the Nativity*



*December 25, 2018*

*10:30 a.m.*

*St. John's Cathedral*

*The Episcopal Diocese of Florida*

*Jacksonville, Florida*

## THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

*Welcome to Saint John's Cathedral! We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God. This bulletin contains the entire service. Music may be found in The Hymnal 1982, found in your pew rack. If you are in need of an assisted listening device, please see an usher. Thank you for being here, and we hope to see you again soon! Blessings to you in this Holy Season.*

Dean: The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead  
Sub-Dean: The Rev. Canon Allen LaMontagne  
Chaplain to the Residences: The Rev. Raja Zabaneh  
Canon for Music: Timothy Tuller

Voluntaries	Greensleeves Pat-a-pan <i>Dr. Cynthia Miller, cello</i>	Adapted by R. Vaughan Williams Arr. Stanley Rober Traditional, Arr. Daniel Kelley
Introit	Verbum caro factum est Verbum caro factum est; habitavit in nobis. Alleluia. <i>The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Alleluia.</i> Notum fecit Dominus salutare suum. Alleluia. <i>The Lord hath made known His salvation. Alleluia.</i> Prope invocavit me Pater meus es tu. Alleluia. <i>Nigh to me, he called unto me, Thou art my Father. Alleluia.</i>	15 <sup>th</sup> c. English Carol

### THE WORD OF GOD

In Procession, Hymn 105	“God rest you merry, gentlemen” God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay; remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day, to save us all from Satan’s power when we were gone astray. <i>Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!</i> From God our heavenly Father a blessèd angel came and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same: how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. <i>Refrain.</i> “Fear not, then,” said the angel, “Let nothing you affright; this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright, to free all those who trust in him from Satan’s power and might.” <i>Refrain.</i> Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and charity each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace. <i>Refrain</i>	<i>God Rest You Merry</i>
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*Celebrant* Blessed be our God.  
*People* For ever and ever. Amen.

*The Celebrant and People say*

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.

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!  
 Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!  
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
 with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
*Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!*

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
**late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.**  
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
 Pleas'd as man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
 Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,  
 hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! *Refrain*

## The Collect of the Day

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

*The Celebrant continues*

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The People are seated.*

## The First Lesson

Isaiah 52:7-10

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

*A period of silence follows the reading for reflection.*

*The Choir sings*

## Psalm 98

CHANT: Charles Villiers Stanford

O sing unto the Lord a new song, \*  
 for he hath done marvelous things.

With his own right hand and with his holy arm \*  
 has he gotten himself the victory.

The LORD declared his salvation; \*  
 his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel, \*  
 and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.

Shew yourselves joyful unto the LORD, all ye lands; \*  
 sing rejoice, and give thanks.

Praise the LORD upon the harp, \*  
sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.

With trumpets also and shawms \*  
O shew yourselves joyful before the Lord the King.

Let the sea make a noise and all that therein is, \*  
the round world and they that dwell therein.

Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the LORD, \*  
for he is come to judge the earth.

With righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the people with equity.

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-4

*Lector* A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*A period of silence follows the reading for reflection.*

*The People stand and sing.*

Hymn 107

“Good Christian friends rejoice”

*In Dulci Jubilo*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!  
**He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore.**  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!

The Gospel

John 1:1-14

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the

will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Canon Allen LaMontagne

*A period of silence follows the reading for reflection.*

*The People stand.*

The Nicene Creed

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.

*All remain standing as able.*

The Prayers of the People

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

**We pray for God's people throughout the world. We pray especially for an end to violence in France, India, Afghanistan, Iraq, Spain, Mexico and in our country. Pray for peace.**

*Silence*

We pray for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. We pray especially for those who live in the streets in Jacksonville. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

We pray for all who seek God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

*Silence*

We pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers.*

The Peace

*All stand. The Celebrant says*

*People*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
                      And also with you.

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

Merry Christmas and a warm welcome to our visitors and guests today. Please know how happy we are to have you worship with us. We'd love to welcome our guests, so please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the offering plate as it comes by. God's blessings for a merry Christmas. We hope you'll come again!

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Representatives of the congregation collect the offerings of the People.

The Offertory Anthem

King Jesus hath a garden

Charles Wood

King Jesus hath a garden, full of  
divers flowers,  
Where I go culling posies gay, all  
times and hours.

*Refrain:*

*There naught is heard but Paradise bird,  
Harp, dulcimer, lute,  
With cymbal, trump and tymbal,  
And the tender, soothing flute.*

The Lily, white in blossom there, is  
Chastity:  
The Violet, with sweet perfume,  
Humanity. *Refrain*

The bonny Damask-rose is known  
as Patience:  
The blithe and thrifty Marygold,  
Obedience. *Refrain*

The Crown Imperial bloometh too  
in yonder place,  
'Tis Charity, of stock divine, the  
flower of grace. *Refrain*

Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal,  
my bliss complete,  
Make thou my heart thy garden-  
plot, fair, trim and neat. *Refrain*

Representatives of the congregation bring forward the People's offerings of bread and wine, money, and other gifts. The People stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar. You may also text the dollar amount of your gift to 904-584-3116.

Hymn 380 vs. 3

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving

*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.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*The Celebrant and People sing*

*Hymnal, S-124*

David Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est,  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior

and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

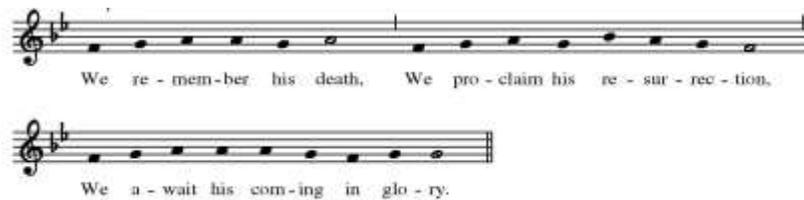
*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*The Celebrant and People sing*



*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

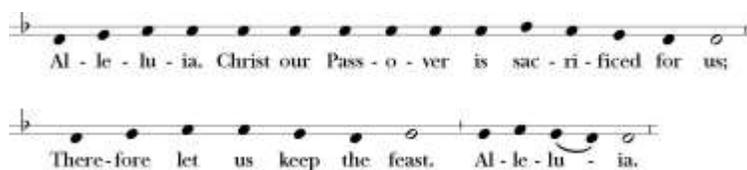
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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. Then the Celebrant and People sing*



*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.)

*The Lord's Table is open to all. Baptized persons are welcome to receive communion. Unbaptized persons are invited to the altar to receive a*

*blessing. To signify that you do not desire communion, please cross your arms over your chest, and a priest will administer a blessing.*

## Music at Communion

Coventry Carol  
*Dr. Cynthia Miller, cello*

Traditional  
Arr. Daniel Kelley

## Hymn 115

“What child is this”

*Greensleeves*

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading. (Refrain)

Refrain:  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary. (Refrain)

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him. (Refrain)

## Carol (*sung by the Choir*)

## Poverty (Nativity)

## Welsh Carol

All poor men and humble,  
All lame men who stumble,  
Come haste ye, nor feel ye afraid;  
For Jesus, our treasure,  
With love past all measure,  
In lowly poor manger was laid.

Though wise men who found him  
Laid rich gifts around him,  
Yet oxen they gave him their hay;  
And Jesus in beauty  
Accepted their duty;  
Contented in manger he lay.

The haste we to show him  
The praises we owe him;  
**Our service he ne'er can despise:**  
Whose love still is able  
To show us that stable  
Where softly in manger he lies.

## Postcommunion Prayer

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People kneel. The Celebrant and People say*

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 God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love.

The Dismissal

*People* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Concluding Voluntary

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach



Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem is over...our Savior is born and lies in a manger.  
The shepherds have listened to the angel and hurried to see the babe in swaddling cloths.  
The Wise Men travel on, led by a star.  
Two ways to meet our Lord—drop everything and believe  
or with quiet study and longing, find the way.  
The journey to Bethlehem is complete, but the story is only beginning...



*Christmas Flowers Given to the  
Glory of God and in Loving Memory of*

Paul & Clara Hafner  
Janet K. Collins  
Richard Marty  
Darrell & Jo Perkins  
Robby Pinkerton  
Bertha & Artis Pinkerton  
Jean & Fred Wilson  
Mary Laverne Watts  
Calvin T. Watts  
Edith Hulsey Shurley  
Fletcher R. Shurley  
Chester & Fate Wilkinson  
Kenon Ferguson  
Michael Ferguson  
Sarah Ferguson  
Aunt Jay  
Aunt Belinda & Great Granny  
Victor M. Slaght  
Ray & Doris Slaght  
Bill & Janelle Parrish  
Catherine McCranie  
Wallace Baldwin  
Maria Celeste Catino  
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Osborn  
Pauline Conklin  
Liz & Eddie Driscoll  
Father Jack & Betty Flynn  
Annetta Cogdell

Jim & Adele Higgins  
James & Florence Halpin  
Annie & George West  
George H. West, Jr.  
Joyce Sleaf  
Lillian & William Armsby  
Richard Bush  
Melvin & Fay Doiron  
Eugene & Joyce Schrader  
Jerry Singleton  
Kate Willis  
Jack Willis  
Bobby Jackson  
Lois Morgan  
The Very Rev. Gustave Weltsek  
Robert C. Sneller  
Hunter M. Kelly  
Claude Walker  
John Walker  
Max Harvey  
Ray Young  
Jack & Marjorie Weatherford  
Jimmy & Laura Young  
Jack, Ruth & Craig Carpenter  
Donald & John Deakin  
Afifeh & Mitchell Mackoul  
Dr. Raymond Klein  
Dr. Victor Mackoul

*Christmas Flowers Given to the  
Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for*

Phoebe Stephens  
Jack Stephens  
Dinah Stephens  
Mattie Sacks  
Spencer Sacks  
Beck Sacks  
Flora Grace Sacks  
Tom & Lorraine Corey  
Thomas & Emily Corey  
Renee & Alex Ellis  
Abigail Hunt  
David Alexander II  
Kamryn Alexander

Nicholas Spicer  
Elizabeth Spicer  
Tory Walker  
Collin Walker  
Kristen Santarone  
Leslie, Roger & Margo Clark  
Laura, Kenny, Savannah & James Kwaak  
Dot Walker  
Kathy Lind  
Russell Lind



## NEW YEAR'S EVE - 5 P.M.

A traditional Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols service  
sung by the Choir of St. John's Cathedral.

## HOLY EUCHARIST ON SUNDAYS

Our regular Sunday service times of 8, 9 and 11 a.m. resume December 30.

## HOLY EUCHARIST ON WEEKDAYS

7 a.m. every Wednesday  
12:10 p.m. every Tuesday-Friday

## PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Gather. Connect. Engage. Discovery 2019

Join us for an 8-week series of dinner and discussions that will start you on a spiritual journey  
of

self-discovery, acknowledging your gifts and revealing ways to use those gifts in parish life.

January 9 - February 27 | Wednesday evenings | 5:45- 8 p.m. | Taliaferro Hall

### Let's Talk: A Cathedral Civil Discourse Series

Dean Kate and Father Allen have preached about parish diversity and the call to nurturing  
relationships in Christ. We live in a fractured society.

Does the church have a healing role to play?

Begins January 9 | Wednesday evenings | 6 p.m.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: The Lively Word

11 a.m. | Cummings Chapel

### New Dean's Forum on the Life of St. Francis of Assisi

Begins January 13 | Sunday mornings | 10 a.m. | Taliaferro Hall

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN & PARENTS

We invite all children to join us for Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. Sunday service.  
Please join us in the back of the Cathedral. Children will return to join their family for com-  
munion.

Godly Play and our Parent Group resume Sunday, January 6 at 10 a.m.

Contact Terry Jamerson Hunt for information: [thunt@jaxcathedral.org](mailto:thunt@jaxcathedral.org)

## PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Sunday classes for middle school and high school students resume January 6 at 10 a.m.  
Youth Group resumes Wednesday, January 9 at 6 p.m. Join us for games, prayer and wor-  
ship!

Contact Liesl Gavronsky-Howsare for information: [lgavronsky@jaxcathedral.org](mailto:lgavronsky@jaxcathedral.org)



*In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,*

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”*

~ Luke 2:8-14

## ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

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

**Please remember St. John's Cathedral in your will or trust.**