



SAINT JOHN'S
CATHEDRAL
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

December 31, 2025 | 4 p.m.



HOURS & INFORMATION

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8am Holy Eucharist, spoken

9am Breakfast

Adult Formation: Dean's Forum,
Taliaferro Hall

For Children & Families: Family Eucharist (First Sundays), *Cummings Chapel*, Family Flex Cafe (activities for children ages 4 - 10), *Ingram Lounge*

10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
with organ and choir

Children gather in the *Taliaferro Hall* foyer before the 10:30 a.m. service, and return to their families at the Peace. Blessing Bags with quiet activities are available for children who remain in the service.

11:45am Lunch and Fellowship, *Taliaferro Hall*

Hakimian Family Nursery Hours

10am to Noon

St. John's Cathedral Bookstore & Gift Shop

Hours

Sun: 9am to 12:30pm

M-Th: 10am to 4pm

F: 10am to 3pm

Vestry

Steve Busey, *Chancellor*; John Sefton, *Subchancellor*; Martha Cox, *Sr. Warden*; Patrick Kimball, *Jr. Warden*; Paul Arrington, *Treasurer*; John Bass, Donna Walker Bell, John Erstling, Glenn Guiler, Paige Hakimian, Lewis Hunt, Lisa McKenna, Laura Jane Pittman, Louis Russo, Adam Smith, Shane Williams

Clergy

The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll, *Dean*; The Rev. Canon Mark S. Anderson, *Vicar*; The Rev. Dr. Linda Privitera, *Associate Priest of Theology and the Arts*; The Rev. Thomas O'Dell, *Associate Priest for Welcome and Engagement*; The Rev. Sandra Kidd, *Deacon for Pastoral Care and Outreach*

Music

Timothy Tuller, *Canon for Music*

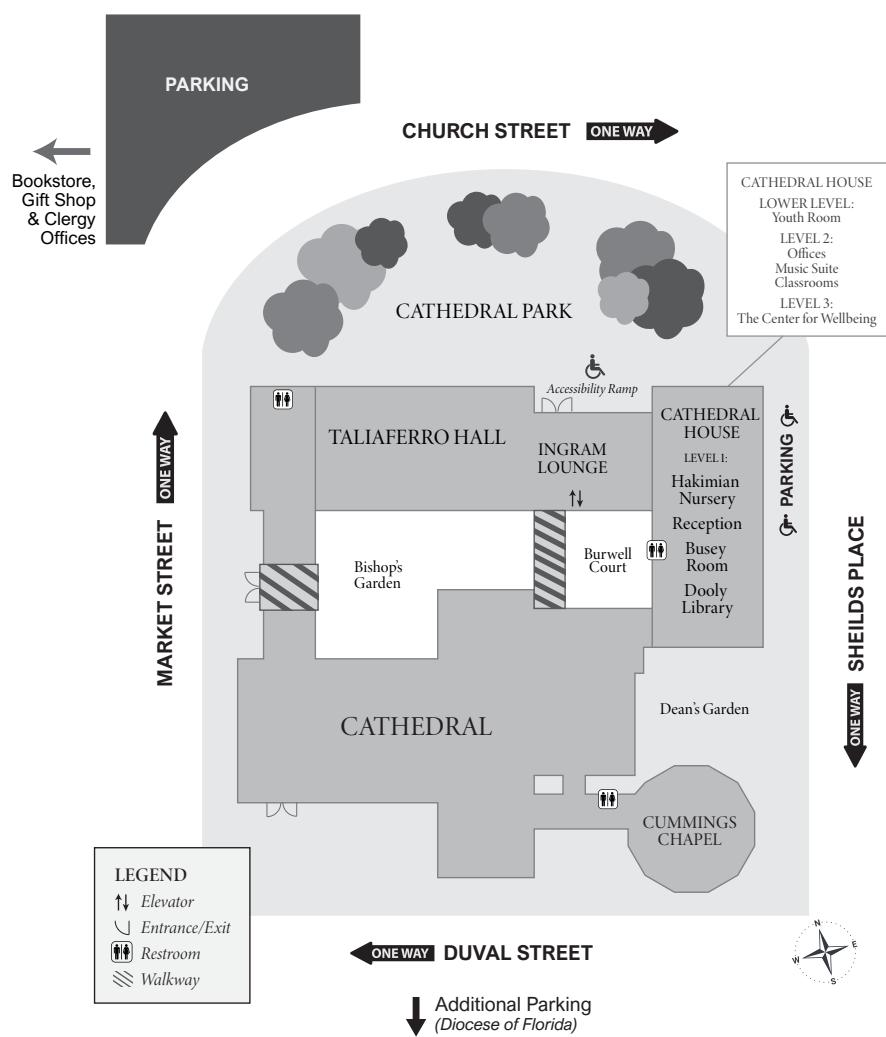
WELCOME

Whether you're visiting for the first time or you've been worshiping here for years, our welcome ministry - Engage@JaxCathedral is here to help you make a home for your faith at St. John's Cathedral.

Fill out the Welcome card in the pew back and place it in the offering plate or hand it to a clergy. Or complete the form online at jaxcathedral.org/welcome (or scan the QR code) so we can get to know you.



MAP



❖ WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL ❖

The first Festival of Nine Lessons with Carols was held in Truro Cathedral, Christmas Eve 1878. The service was created to replace the practice of the Cathedral Choir caroling parishioners at their homes, but to still offer the Christmas cheer of hearing beloved carols. Edward Benson, then bishop of Truro, later became Archbishop of Canterbury and the Festival service began to spread. The most famous Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is that of King's College, Cambridge, which began in 1918. The longest running service in the U.S. is celebrated at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Hanover, NH, which has presented the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols since 1935.

Voluntaries

Prelude and Fugue in A, BWV 536, Johann Sebastian Bach

Noël X, Louis Claude Daquin

All stand

In Procession, Hymn #102

“Once in Royal David’s City” *Irby*
Irma Joyner, soloist

Soloist

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Choir

We, like Mary, rest confounded that a stable should display
heaven’s Word, the world’s creator, cradled there on Christmas Day,
yet this child, our Lord and brother, brought us love for one another.

Choir

For he is our lifelong pattern; daily, when on earth he grew,
he was tempted, scorned, rejected, tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

All

**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child who seemed so helpless is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

All

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing round,
we shall see him; but in heaven, where his saints his throne surround:
Christ, revealed to faithful eye, set at God’s right hand on high.**

The Bidding Prayer, The Lord’s Prayer, And The Grace

The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll

Dear People of God, in this Christmas Season, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience to the glorious redemption brought to us by this holy Child, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially for the Church in this country and within this city. And because God particularly loves them, let us at this time remember the poor and helpless, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, and all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. Lastly, let us remember before God Jesus’ pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

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 Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

All sit.

The Invitatory Carol

Sing Lullaby (The Infant King), arr. Edgar Pettman

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Angels are watching, stars are shining, over the place where he is lying. Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Soon will come sorrow with the morning, soon will come bitter grief and weeping. Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-dozing, sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, then in the grave at last reposing. Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby! is the babe a-waking? Sing lullaby! Hush, do not stir the Infant King.
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning, conquering Death, its bondage breaking. Sing lullaby!

The First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15

Anne Egan, Pediatrician & Chairman of the Board, Wolfson Children's Hospital

Lector

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

The Words of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

People

Carol

Adam lay ybounden, Peter Warlock

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond: four thousand winter thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkès finden written in their book.
Nè had the apple taken been, the apple taken been, Nè had never our lady abeen heavenè queen.
Blessèd be the time that apple taken was, therefore we moun singen, *Deo gracias!*

The Second Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6, 19

Tracy Morris, Director of Outreach, Beaches Fine Arts Series

Lector

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on

their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD. The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night; but the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

People

The Words of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

Carol

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day, John Gardner

Joel Panian & Bella Pantfoeder, percussion

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day; I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance;
Refrain: Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love, this have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature to call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was so very poor, this was my chance
Between an ox and a silly poor ass to call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

Then afterwards baptized I was; the Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard I from above, to call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Lector

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Ginny Myrick, President & CEO, Cathedral District Jax

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

People

The Words of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

Carol

For unto us a child is born, G. F. Handel

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

All stand.

Hymn #78

"O little town of Bethlehem" *Forest Green*

All

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

All

**For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.**

Choir

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

All

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

All sit.

The Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:2, 4, 6-9

Lector

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Brian Ward, Development Director, Catholic Charities

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

The Words of Holy Scripture.

People

Thanks be to God.

Carol

In the bleak mid-winter, Harold Darke

Luke Hopper, tenor

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid-winter long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain; Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man I would do my part, yet what I can I give Him, give my heart

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Lector

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Courtney Lewis, Music Director, Jacksonville Symphony

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." 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.

The Words of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

People

Carol

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree, Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

All stand.

Hymn 105

"God rest you merry, gentlemen" *God Rest You Merry*

**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.**

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!

**From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same: h
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. *Refrain***

**"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." *Refrain***

**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. *Refrain***

All sit.

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Donna Deegan, Mayor, City of Jacksonville

Lector

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave

birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Words of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

People

Carol

Sussex Carol, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring,
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

When sin departs before Thy grace, then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men, now and for evermore. Amen."

The Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

The Rev. Deacon Saundra Kidd, St. John's Cathedral

Lector

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

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!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Words of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

People

Welcome and Announcements



As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, please place your offering in the collection plate as it is passed. You may also give by texting "jaxcathedral \$(amount)" to 73256, or use the QR code to give online. Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Carols

Bell Carol, William Mathias

Born is Jesus Christ the King, Alleluia. Joy and peace to us he'll bring, Alleluia.

Refrain: Upon this day all people sing to hear the news the angels bring.

To free mankind from fear and sin and all the bells on earth do ring.

Shepherds saw the angels bright, Alleluia. Shining through the dark of night, Alleluia. *Refrain*

Kings there came, and gifts they bare, Alleluia. To worship Christ that child so rare, Alleluia.

To hear the news the angels bring, to free mankind from fear and sin, upon this day all people sing Noel!

Blessed be that holy child, Alleluia. And his mother, Mary mild, Alleluia. *Refrain*

Blessed be the Trinity, Alleluia. Mankind is forever free, Alleluia. *Refrain*

Gloria!

Twas in the moon of winter-time when all the birds had fled, the mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead. Before their light the stars grew dim, and wandering hunters heard the hymn: 'Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, *in excelsis gloria.*'

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender Babe was found, a ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapp'd His beauty round. But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high: 'Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, *in excelsis gloria.*'

O children of the forest free, O Sons of Manitou, the Holy Child of earth and heav'n is born today for you. Come, kneel before the radiant Boy who brings you beauty, peace and joy, Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, *in excelsis gloria. Gloria!*

All stand.

Hymn 94

"While shepherds watched their flocks by night" *Winchester Old*

All **While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.**

All **"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind; "Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.**

Choir

"To you, in David's town, this day is born of David's line the Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

Choir

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid."

All

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:

All

All glory be to God on high and on the earth be peace; good will henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease."

All sit.

The Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Lector

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

The Rev. Dr. Linda Privitera, St. John's Cathedral

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

People The Words of Holy Scripture.
Thanks be to God.

Carol

The Three Kings, Healey Willan

“Who knocks tonight so late?” the weary porter said. Three kings stood at the gate, each with a crown on head. The serving man bowed down, the Inn was full, he knew. Said he, “In all this town is no fit place for you.” A light in the manger lit; there lay the Mother meek. Said he, “This place is fit. Here is the rest we seek. Come, come.” They loosed their latchet strings, so stood they all unshod. “Come in, come in, ye kings, and kiss the feet of God.”

All stand for the final lesson.

The Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-14

Lector A reading from the Gospel according to John.

The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll, Dean, St. John's Cathedral

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.

People The Words of Holy Scripture.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn #83

“O come, all ye faithful” *Adeste fidelis*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come, and behold him, born the King of angels;
Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God from God, Light from Light eternal, lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb; only-begotten Son of God the Father; Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; glory to God, glory in the highest; Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; Refrain

Remain standing for the collects.

The Collects for the Nativity of our Lord

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born 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 Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn #87

“Hark! the herald angels sing”

Mendelssohn

**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.
Pleased 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**

All remain standing for the retiring procession.

In Procession

Chorale Prelude on *In Dulci Jubilo*, Marcel Dupré

All sit.

Voluntary

Chorale Improvisation on *In Dulci Jubilo*, Sigfrid Karg-Elert

† † †

Please join us in Taliaferro Hall for a champagne reception, where we tune in to live-stream BBC One, hear Big Ben's famous chimes at midnight in London, and enjoy the breathtaking fireworks over the London Eye.

Poinsettias at the Christmas Altar

given in loving memory of

Lillian & William Armsby
Neal Armstrong
Dr. Ambrose Moody Bailey
Dr. Raymond Lull Bailey
Mark Baldwin
Mr. & Mrs. WD Baldwin
Ann & Arthur Barry
Michael Bendiksen
Tom & David Burrell
Donna Carey
Edward Albert Charron
Thomas & Lorraine Corey
Arthur & Eileen Cunningham
Barbara Davis
Dr. George H. Dorion
William Aaron Duncan, Jr.
Cecil Blaine Fisher
Alice & Chester Gillis
Vonciel Gore
Bruce B. Hardman
Theodore F. & Dorothy Haussman
Madge Hazen
Walter & Ruth Hendricks
Col. James & Adele Higgins
Marcia, Robert & Lilly Hodgson
Geneva Hubbard
Marion Bendikson & William Ingram

given in thanksgiving for

The Cathedral Clergy and Staff
The Sacks Children: Mattie, Spencer,
Flora Grace & Beck
The Life and Love of Barbara Davis
Our Grandchildren: Jack, London & Sky
The Parents of Sharon & Ed Millan
Jacqueline & Soraya Claudia Maxwell
The Children & Grandchildren of
Bob & Valerie Dannals

Leo & Marie Jean
Carol & Doug Jennings
Earl & Dixie Jones
Jean Kasten
Janis & Hunter Kelly
Sue & Keith Kirwan
Dr. H. Raymond Klein
Harry J. Mason, Jr.
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Robert Hague Maxwell
Liz McAlhany
John McCarty, Jr.
Catherine & Peter McCranie, Jr.
Oliver & Evelyn Oswalt
The Rev. Dr. Robert & Nancy Parks
"Pecan" the Dog
Mercedez Ramirez
Marjorie Goldthwait Richardson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Rowe, Jr.
DD & Mildred Smith
Robert & Marjorie Sneller
Marcelyn Swanson
Art Towson
Patty & John Waidner
Bill Warren
Glenn West

John & Nancy Barry
Jayne & Spook Hill
Catherine Gerding
Dion III, Dylan, Allison, Aubree & Lily
For Family
The Nichols Family
The Rogers Family
The Cassidy Family
The Naughton Family