



# THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

December 2019

## *DO YOU NEED A LITTLE ADVENT?*



Dear Friends,

The old standard seasonal tune says, "It's that time of year when the world falls in love..."

But do you even have time to listen to your favorite holiday songs while not trying simultaneously to accomplish three other items on your Christmas "to do" list? As a result, do you usually have yourself a frenzied little Advent?

There's always been so much talk about keeping Christ in Christmas. But do we need to think about keeping *you* in Advent? It needn't be a big deal. Just an intentional reservation of 15 minutes a day. You'll receive a daily email from me with a short scripture passage or perhaps a verse from a hymn, and just a few words of reflection to send you on your own reflective way.

All you need do is send me an email by this Sunday, December 1, saying you need a little Advent. Then you will start receiving a daily email from me, Monday through Saturday all Advent season (no Sunday email because we are gathered together in worship those days).

My email address is [stlukestom@gmail.com](mailto:stlukestom@gmail.com)

Faithfully yours,

## *A Baptism, and Honoring Youth on Feast of All Saints Sunday, November 3*

At the 10:30 liturgy, we welcomed Nava Gleich into the fellowship of Christ's body, the Church, through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Please keep Nava and her parents, Janelle and Oren, in your prayers.

Also, please keep Lisa Johansen and Greg Cushna in your prayers. Their son Finn, along with Yaelle Gleich, have been studying and discussing the meaning of Holy Communion with the Rector.



## *JESSE TREE PROJECT BEGINS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 GIFTS DUE Sunday, December 15*

By giving gifts to children through the Queens Community House, we provide holiday cheer for needy families. The tree in the narthex is decorated with ornaments made by our Church School children. Each ornament contains the name and age of a child who needs some extra love. Take one or more ornaments, then write your name and phone or email on the master list next to the name(s) you are taking. **DON'T LOSE THE ORNAMENT** -- you will need to use it for a gift tag. Please purchase your gift, wrap it, **attach the ornament**, and bring it to Saint Luke's **Sunday, December 15**.

A few hints: electronic games and gift cards are good for teenagers. If you buy clothing, err on the large side; if you're not sure about your purchase, enclose a gift receipt in the package.

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
DECEMBER 1**

**8:30am -- Holy Eucharist**



**10:30am -- Holy Eucharist  
with Choir and Organ**

**Advent Lessons and Carols**

**SERVICE OF HOPE AND**

**EXPECTATION**

**The Advent Wreath Explained  
to Our Children**

The 10:00 pm Christmas Eve liturgy at Saint Luke's is a festive choral Eucharist with a variety of music and familiar carols. Choral music of Brahms, Vaughan Williams, Dvorak, Mendelssohn along with contemporary arrangements of traditional texts and organ music create a framework for contemplation and prayer for all creation. Late in the evening, in a candlelit church, the Eucharist is an oasis of calm in an often frenzied season.

--William Stokes  
Organist and Choir Director

**Advent Wednesdays  
at Saint Luke's**

**December 4, 11, and 18 at 7:30pm**



**Advent Service of Lights  
and Evening Prayer**

**with a brief seasonal meditation,  
followed by dessert and hot beverages**

**Come: sit, listen, pray.**

**Enjoy each other's company.**



***A Saint Luke's Holiday Tradition...***  
...is the sale of holly and greenery from Saint Luke's own front yard. You can brighten your home for the holidays with seasonal beauty, and benefit our 2019 Outreach Grant recipient, the Queens Community House, at the same time. The bouquets will be available Sunday, December 15 at hospitality hour.

***Music at Saint Luke's  
for Advent and Christmas***

The liturgies of the four Sundays of Advent preceding the Christmas festival are quiet and reflective, with chanted psalms, choral music and, on Advent 4, the beloved aria and chorus from Handel's Messiah, "O Thou that tellest good tidings to Zion" sung by Olivia Smith-Grugan. The Advent hymns invite us to consider, not only the here and now, but the world that is coming.

***Casting Call for "Babes in Toyland"  
Saturday, Dec. 7 and Sunday, Dec. 8***

In spring 2020, the Gingerbread Players will present Victor Herbert's classic operetta *Babes in Toyland*. We're looking for singing actors ages 8 and up to fill out the cast. It's a great ensemble piece, with lots of name roles and some show-stopping choruses. Auditions will be held on Saturday, December 7, 10am to noon, and Sunday, December 8, 2 to 4pm. Come and show us your stage skills! You will be asked to read from the script. Prepared songs are welcome, but you can also audition by singing "Happy Birthday." Visit [gingerbreadplayers.org](http://gingerbreadplayers.org) for further details.

***Christmas Caroling and  
Potluck Supper***



***Sunday, December 22***

All Saint Luke's church family and friends are warmly invited to come join the fun. We'll gather in the parish hall at 4:45, drop off our contributions for the supper, then proceed to make a joyful noise around the neighborhood at 5:00. We return to the church for supper at 6:30. If you'd rather not sing, just show up with your dish to share, and stay for an evening of food and fellowship.

Please indicate on the signup sheets in the narthex or parish hall what you'll be bringing – main dish, side, salad, or dessert.



***Schola Sine Nomine***

***Christmas Concert at Our Lady of Mercy***

Schola Sine Nomine, a choir conducted by the inspiring Saya Callner, returns to Our Lady of Mercy on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 6:15pm for a program of Lessons and Carols. This traditional service combines New Testament readings of salvation history interspersed with musical selections and community carol singing. Please take a break from your holiday preparations and join us for this very special event!

Our Lady of Mercy is located at 70-01 Kessel Street, Forest Hills NY 11375. There is ample street parking.

--Louise Foisy



***CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AND MUSIC***

Your offerings supply the evergreens and poinsettias that beautify our church for worship, as well as our festive Christmas music through the addition of two guest choristers for the closing Sundays of Advent and for Christmas Eve. So that your memorials and thanksgivings may be included in the Christmas worship bulletin, please complete this form and send it along with your check to reach the parish office by ***Tuesday, December 17.***

***Greenery***

Circle one:

***In memory of...  
In thanksgiving for...***

Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

***Music***

Circle one:

***In memory of...  
In thanksgiving for...***

Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Nominating Committee 2020 Vestry***

The Nominating Committee for the 2020 open Vestry positions is made up of Chairperson Jean Tessier (Warden), Liz Reynolds (Vestry) and Stephen Banci (Parishioner-at-large).

Current Vestry Members whose terms of office expire at the January 26 Annual Meeting are as follows:

Suzanne Schick, Warden

Ann Espenschied

Alison Hagge

Jyri Laatikainen

Emily Taylor

Of these, only Jyri is ineligible for re-election since he has served the allowable two consecutive three year terms.

If you would like to suggest a potential candidate to the Nominating Committee, please keep in mind that eligibility qualifications include the following:

Communicant in good standing who is at least 18 years old and has been a member of Saint Luke's Church for at least one year. In addition, the person being named is someone who is actively engaged in the mission and program of the church through their offering of time, talent and financial support.



### ***Birthdays and Anniversaries***

- 2 Aleyamma Varghese
- 2 Jim Chamberlain
- 2 Amy Jones
- 7 Jim VanWestering
- 8 Paris Singh
- 12 Anne Harte Su
- 13 Barbara Glick
- 15 Emily Taylor and Guennadi Boiko (A)
- 16 Jonathan Wallin
- 16 Siew Kwok
- 20 Vanessa Franqui

- 22 Brian Percival
- 26 Vincent LaDuca
- 27 Gert Hounsell
- 27 Giselle Bates
- 27 Mickey Zacarias
- 27 Grant Tyrell
- 29 Jennifer Saver
- 29 Varghese and Aleyamma Varghese (A)
- 30 Kenneth Portz
- 30 Declan Hoyt Bowman



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