

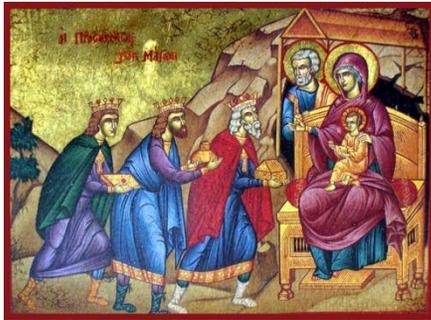


THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2019



Epiphany – Eye Opener

Dear Friends,

In the Christian tradition, after all the joyful celebration of Christmas recedes, there is a deep and lasting impression of Christmas upon our bodily senses which is to be practiced and experienced. We are encouraged and challenged to do so during the Epiphany Season. As part of our faith formation, we are called upon to be more open to recognizing things we haven't noticed before and/or seeing them in a new way.

To have an epiphany is to see, witness, behold and share the “new” that was sitting or standing right there in the midst of what you had previously taken for granted as the ordinary or the same old thing. If you allow that the Holy Spirit moves in the midst of the ordinary, then your senses will become sensitized. Like a shepherd who hears angels singing, or one of the Magi who sees God in the baby, you'll become more aware of how, in the course of your very average, ordinary day, God is manifested, shining a

bright light on what's happening on the street corner. Yes, Epiphany is a season of the church year but it is also a phase or facet of our faith development. Our growth in Christ will give us eyes to see into what we are looking at; while also giving us a keener sense for being open to who is looking back at us.

The scripture readings of the Epiphany season tend to be primers, eye-opening opportunities, for seeing things in a new way. Epiphanytide is sometimes called “The Season of Lights” for this very reason. So test that out when you are hearing the Sunday lessons read and the Holy Gospel proclaimed. And as an extra help, consider joining the *Sunday morning Bible Study from 9:30 until 10:10am*. We gather around a table in the parish hall for an informal, brief presentation followed by discussion. It's always lively; it's even fun.

Another biblical eye-opener this season is the Episcopal Church-wide *Good Book Club*. Everyone who joins in will be reading Paul's Letter to the Romans, a few verses each day, Monday through Saturday. You don't have to show up at a meeting to participate. Click www.goodbookclub.org to get started. Just a few verses of scripture each day will give you an added sense of what is important for our lives.

Remember: not all “epiphany” moments are brilliant flashes of light or even really demonstrable at all. However, over time, if you open yourself up to the presence of God in your life, you will, day by day, become

more open to people around you and even to those who are far off. You might become their Epiphany moment—an aspect of the presence of God in their lives.

Such inter-relatedness within God's Creation is often overlooked, not sensed. And this insensitivity has a ripple effect, often destructive. Yet, we can start to reverse those trends. By something as seemingly simple as reading and reflecting upon a Scripture passage a day, the "Good News" of God's love and power can change the way we read headlines and view other people.

Faithfully yours,



Wings of Song

presents

**MARK ADAMS, pianist
and friends**



JAZZICAL!

An afternoon of jazz and classical music

January 13, 2019 at 3:00PM

Saint Luke's parish hall

Suggested donation \$15;

seniors, children and students \$12

Call 718-268-7772 for reservations

Holy Baptism Sunday, January 13

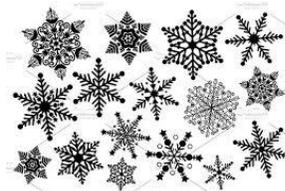
At the 10:30 liturgy celebrating the Baptism of Our Lord, we will welcome Miles Alexander Karas into Christ's body, the Church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Please keep him and his parents, Michael and Jaime, in your prayers.



Annual Parish Meeting

Saint Luke's Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 27, beginning with the 10:30am Holy Eucharist and the Rector's Annual Report. The meeting continues in the parish hall with a potluck luncheon, Vestry elections, budget presentation, and discussion of our Parish Renewal Goals. Please sign up for the Potluck!

All Committee and Project co-chairs are reminded to submit their descriptive paragraphs electronically to the office by this Friday, January 18.



***Nominating Committee
and Slate of Candidates***

The Nominating Committee of Warden Suzanne Schick, Vestry member Ann Espenschied and Parishioner-at-large Paul Dinas will present the following slate of candidates at the Annual Meeting:

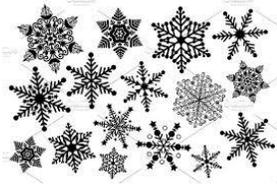
- *Jean Tessier (Warden, two-year)
- Jennifer Hudson-Phillips (Vestry 2-year unexpired term)
- *Michael Papamihalis (Vestry 3-year term)
- *Diane Santana (Vestry 3-year term)
- *Debbie Smith (Vestry 3-year term)
- *Carole-Anne Weik (Vestry 3-year term)

(*current Vestry members eligible for another term)

Annual Outreach Grant

The North Brooklyn Angels Food Truck Ministry—the AngelMobile—has been Saint Luke’s 2018 Outreach Grant recipient. The people of the parish will be contributing \$3,864 for the ministry of the food truck. Deacon Joe Occhiuto will be present at the 10:30am liturgy on Sunday, January 13 to receive the check. During the month of November, spurred on by an anonymous matching fund challenge, donations, bake sale and Thanksgiving Pie program brought in \$1,301 which was matched by the anonymous parishioner. Many thanks to all!

Our 2019 Grant recipient has been named. The Outreach Committee proposed and the Vestry accepted The Queens Community House. So the donation jar at Hospitality Hour is now for contributions to benefit the work of QCH. More information will be forthcoming soon, including the date of a representative speaking to us during a Sunday liturgy.



Rector's Medical Leave

Shortly after Christmas, Father Tom sent a letter by email to all the members of Saint Luke’s Church sharing his medical news of a prostate cancer diagnosis. As he stated then, the diagnosis was made early in the cancer’s development, but the nature of the cancer dictates surgical removal and he will be having surgery on January 30th.

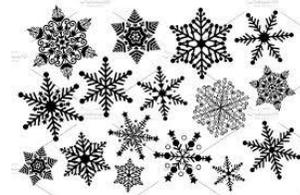
Tom will begin a medical leave following the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 27. He is scheduled to be away from Saint Luke’s for a five-week period, resuming his full ministry on Ash Wednesday, March 6. He asks for your prayers. Tom is thankful for the many expressions of support from parishioners, confident and positive in outlook; hopeful for a full and complete recovery.

While the Rector is on medical leave, the parish office will be open as usual weekdays and the Sunday liturgies at 8:30 and 10:30am will be led by guest clergy:

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Feb 3 | Father William Doubleday |
| Feb 10 | Father William Ogburn |
| Feb 17 | Clergy of Saint John’s,
Park Slope |
| Feb 24 | Father William Doubleday |
| Mar 3 | Father William Doubleday |

During Tom’s absence, the regular life and ministries of the parish will have oversight by Wardens Jean Tessier and Suzanne Schick and the Vestry; and all Committee Co-Chairs will play an extra active role. Pastoral emergencies will be handled by Father Doubleday, and Fathers Norman Whitmire and Joshua Samuels of the Forest Park Deanery. Deacon Joe Occhiuto will also be available.

Father Tom, of course is with us through January 27 and we will look forward to his return on Ash Wednesday.

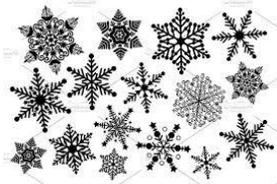




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January Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Elizabeth Reynolds
- 2 Christopher and Claire Dippel (A)
- 5 Tess Conte
- 5 Tyson Ho
- 6 Titcha Ho
- 7 Devin Smith
- 8 Michele Kasper
- 14 Alice Chodkowski
- 15 Kaden Zacarias
- 16 Karun George
- 19 Ann Chamberlain
- 19 Andrew Dinan
- 22 Lara Wang
- 22 Helen Wang
- 24 Kai Laatikainen
- 24 Christian Anthony Young
- 27 James Jonah
- 27 Kassiana Rivera
- 31 Yuri Dyatlovitsky



February Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Audrey Lamadieu
- 3 Charlotte Dippel
- 4 Aino Jonah
- 9 Lauren Foisy
- 10 Guennadi Boiko
- 15 Alodia Carldon
- 18 Mark Adams
- 20 Henry Tyrell
- 20 Angelica Rose Martinez
- 20 Brian Reynolds
- 22 Stephen Banci
- 25 Linda Martinez

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The Very Rev. Thomas F. Reese, Rector