



THE THREE CROWNS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISH OF THE EPIPHANY

November 27, 2017

70 Church Street
Winchester, Massachusetts
781.729.1922

Bringing Advent Home

"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. 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. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth; we beheld his glory, the glory as of a father's only son."

Lesson 5 from Parish of the Epiphany Christmas Pageant

John 1: 1-5;14 (NRSV)



My daughter Grace is at it again. Last year, I wrote about how much [Grace loves](#) the season of Advent. In our house, preparing for Christmas begins early, well before Halloween. Grace plays on-demand Christmas music and builds a fire most nights; she demands that we all gather and sit by it. There have been a few lingering summery nights recently, but this has not curtailed her enthusiasm for cozy fires. Grace is relentless when it comes to enjoying this season and I am thankful that every day she reminds me to slow down and enjoy the light during these dark nights. In my own created busyness, I know I would miss those moments of grace without her pointing them out to me.



Advent, the beginning of our church year, is a cozy season. It is a season of joyful preparation and hopeful waiting for a special little baby to arrive. It is a season to slow down to recognize and savor a quiet hiatus among the busy times. It is a season to watch for those moments of grace that come to us unexpectedly. As adults, we have the opportunity to create these Advent memories for our children to remember and perhaps pass down to their own children someday.

Please consider creating or adding to your own Advent traditions at home this year. There are several opportunities here at Epiphany for families to mark these four weeks leading up to Christmas as a holy, sacred time.



Yesterday we gathered for fellowship and made Advent wreaths. This was such a wonderful gathering for all in our Parish community, adults and children alike! The Advent wreath is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent. Beginning with the First Sunday of Advent on 3 December, the lighting of a candle can be accompanied by a reading from Scripture or a prayer.

Each Sunday, an additional candle is lit until, by the last Sunday before Christmas, all four candles are lit. This is a wonderful tradition to share with children.

Being part of the Christmas pageant community is another way for children to enter into the story of waiting for the birth of Jesus. We are still looking for shepherds, angels, and animals. They can join us as we learn Christmas carols, rehearse, and have fellowship in the Church on Sundays beginning on 3 December after the 10:00am service. The pageant will be part of the service on 24 December at 4:00pm.



Every year the Reverend Tom Mousin and Merry



Watters share their wonderful [Advent devotional calendar](#) with us. Each day includes daily Scripture readings and a suggested activity. Copies of this calendar will be available on Sunday 26 November in church. This year, I would like to send out a daily reflection and activity based on the Scripture providing background, age appropriate activities, and questions to spur parents, grandparents, godparents, or friends to share and foster discussion with children at home. If you are interested in receiving this daily reflection for families, please [contact me](#).

Finally, check out the Advent Giving Tree on Sunday in Hadley Hall or at the back of the Church. There are so many opportunities for families to help and serve our

greater community during this season, whether it is shopping for a child through the Council of Social Concern or supporting our children at El Hogar in Honduras.

Perhaps you already have Advent traditions you do at home. I would love to hear about them!

May you take the time to slow down and savor this holy season of Advent.

Talk to you soon,

Carolyn



CHRISTMAS FAIR is This Saturday



Saturday, 2 December from 10:00am - 5:00pm

Come and bring your friends to the fair. The proceeds help the many outreach programs the Church supports including international missions to Haiti and Honduras. Some of the local outreach efforts include the Council for Social Concern food pantry, St Stephen's after-school youth programs in Boston's South End, and St. Luke's soup kitchen and food pantry in Chelsea. The fair will be held at 70 Church Street in Winchester on Saturday, December 2, from 10:00am-5:00pm.

At the Fair, there will be a variety of gift items to help you get an early start on your Christmas shopping. Come visit our famous Knit Table, which will feature baby football and baseball hats, our White Elephant table with beautiful antique housewares, a

Vintage Jewelry table full of bargains, plus new and returning jewelry vendors including Linda Preston and Mei Mei of Lexington. There will also be a Christmas Table featuring beautiful wooden ornaments lovingly crafted by Epiphany parishioner Will Aldrich, and many other beautifully crafted holiday ornaments. Other vendors include Aruna Designs, Usborne books, and paintings by artist, John McConnell. Back by popular demand will be the bustling café serving soups, sandwiches, salad, and dessert. The Bake table will be piled high with jars of jams, jellies, homemade bread and butter pickles, rich and delicious chocolate fudge sauce, festively wrapped treats home-baked by Parishioners, and, of course, Epiphany's fresh apple pies.

Specialty baskets will be auctioned off. Their themes include Michigan, Arlington, Cambridge, family game night, afternoon tea, and gardening tools. Call the Parish of Epiphany 781-729-1922 with any questions or visit us online at www.3crowns.org. Handicapped accessible and admission is free.

[Click here](#) to volunteer your time on Friday to set-up, or on Saturday at the Christmas Table, Wait Staff for the Café, or clean-up.



Advent Quiet Day



Saturday, 9 December from 9:00am – 12:00pm

Once again the Reverend Martin Smith will lead the prayers. In the midst of the busy Advent season, all are invited to enjoy quiet time with prayers.



Advent Service of Remembrance and Hope



Wednesday, 6 December at 7:00pm

Christmas can be a difficult time for some of us. We offer a way to express your feelings within the context of a prayer service. Please join us for prayer, scripture, poetry, and music.



2017 Advent Calendar



Merry Watters and Tom Mousin are delighted to share with you this year's Advent Devotional Calendar. [Click here.](#)

This calendar follows the liturgical calendar for Advent. This year's calendar begins on the First Sunday of Advent, 3 December, in the upper left corner, and then moves down through the days of the week. The last devotion, on December 24, is found at the bottom of the calendar. For each day there is a scripture reading with a corresponding activity.



Children's Christmas Pageant



Presented on 24 December at 4:00pm

In preparation for the pageant, all children who are interested in participating are invited to come up to the front of the church after the 10:00am service on 11 December to learn and practice Christmas carols with Craig. The children will sing the carols in the pageant. Practice will be fifteen minutes long. All children up to grade 6 are welcome to participate.

Coffee, juice, and a light snack will be available while parents wait.

Please [contact Carolyn](#) if your child has an interest in a reading part, or a major role, or if you can volunteer. This is a lot of fun and a great opportunity to meet other families!



Pageant Rehearsal Schedule

Dec 3rd: Pageant carol rehearsal in Church at 11:15am

Dec 10th: Pageant carol rehearsal/ costume fitting at 11:15am

Dec 17th: Pageant dress rehearsal in the Church at 11:15 am

Dec 24th: Call time is 3:00pm and Pageant begins at 4:00 pm



MISSION
&
OUTREACH

Parents Night Out this Saturday



Saturday, 6 December from 6:00 - 9:00pm

Advent is a busy time of year so parents are invited to take some time out to enjoy an evening to yourselves.

YPF high school youth group is offering to babysit your children while you relax, prepare for Christmas, or just sleep.

Drop your children off at Epiphany and YPF will provide them with dinner, movies, and games. It will be a fun night for them and for you!

Suggested donations are \$25/child or \$45/family. All proceeds will be donated to Rosie's Place.



Advent Giving Tree



Advent is a time when we prepare for the mystery of the incarnation of God who came to Earth and became one of us. It is in this spirit that we invite everyone to participate in our annual Advent Service Project, the Advent Giving Tree.

Parishioners choose ornaments from the tree in Hadley Hall or in the Church. On each ornament is a specific Christmas gift request. These gifts help those in need and who come to us through the many organizations with which Epiphany is involved. Please be mindful of the various instructions and due dates of each gift. If you have any questions, please contact [Celia Ceruolo](#) at 781.729.6209.



PARISH LIFE
&
EVANGELISM

Thank you to Peggy Roll



Epiphany Visitors celebrated and thanked Peggy Roll for her decades of service to Epiphany's home-bound members through her leadership of the Epiphany Visitors Committee.



Apple Pies For Purchase and Pickup



Epiphany's delicious homemade apple pies are ready. Pick them up in the kitchen and put your payment in the envelope. Pies are \$12 each. Checks can be made payable to Parish of the Epiphany with "apple pie" noted in the memo line. There are fewer pies available this year so be sure to get yours soon.



Sanctuary in the City

Sanctuary In The City is a group of Parishioners who work in the Boston/Cambridge area who get together the first Wednesday of each month for lunch, prayer, and fellowship. For those who work in the city and are interested in this "sanctuary in the city" and want to learn more, please contact [James Wagner](#) or [Solomon Owayda](#). The group's next meeting is December 6th.



This Week at Epiphany

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| Monday, 27 November | |
| 6:00pm & 7:30pm | AA |
| Tuesday, 28 November | |
| 7:15am | Men's Group |

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| 6:00pm | Pray the Parish Prayer List |
| Wednesday, 29 November | |
| 7:30am | Holy Eucharist in the Chapel |
| Thursday, 30 November | |
| 9:00am | Contemplative Prayer |
| 9:30am | Thursday with the Gospels: Bible Study |
| 5:30pm | Junior Choir Rehearsal |
| 7:30pm | Adult Choir Rehearsal |
| Friday, 1 December | |
| 9:30am | Parent/Child Playgroup Group |
| Sunday, 3 December | |
| 8:00am | Holy Eucharist |
| 8:45am | Fellowship |
| 9:00am | The Word Today Lectionary Discussion |
| 9:45am | Children's Formation |
| 10:00am | Holy Eucharist |
| 11:15am | Adult Formation |
| 11:15am | Children's Pageant Rehearsal |
| 11:30am | Genesis Youth Group |
| 6:00pm | YPF Youth Group |

For more information

Our website can be [found here](#)

Information on our [Worship Services](#) can be found here

If you are [new to Epiphany](#), click here

Our complete [Parish calendar](#) can be found here

Sign-up for [on line pledge payments](#) here

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*70 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890
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[Unsubscribe](#)