



MMXXI: 12 : DECEMBER : 2021

EVANGEL

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - NORMAN

...And Dwelt Among Us...

Holy Eucharist

SUNDAY

Rite I: 7:30 a.m.

Rite II: 10:30 a.m.

TUESDAY

10:00 a.m. (chapel)

WEDNESDAY

6:00 p.m. (chapel)

I love Christmas! Always have. But when my faith journey transported me into the Episcopal church all those years ago, it began a process where Christmas took on new meaning. One of the first things that happened is that Christmas became not the “most wonderful time of the year.” I actually learned that Easter, the time we joyously celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, is the most wonderful time of the whole year.

That didn't lessen my Christmas cheer one bit. It only heightened my Easter fandom. Because, as we all know, Easter isn't possible without Christmas. A resurrection can't happen without an incarnation. So I actually started to enjoy Christmas more, in a different kind of way, because I understood it better. The beautiful lights on the houses in my neighborhood became reflections of this child coming into the world who truly is the light of that world. The music, the laughter of family and friends, the food—all of that Christmas cheer—became reminders that the Christ child truly does bring joy to the world.

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Lesson & Carols

Christmas Pageant

Blood Drive

Santa Ministry

Christmas Eve

Getting a better understanding of Christmas also made it for me more sacred. It wasn't merely a baby in a manger scene; it was the Word made flesh who chose to leave the riches of heaven to come to earth in poverty. So he could live among us. So he could show us what truth, beauty, and goodness looks like. So he could show us God.

My prayer is that the Christmas services (and events) here at St. John's would serve that purpose for you—that, in some way, they'll make Christmas more meaningful for you. Please join us Christmas Eve as we'll have three services that day: a more family oriented service at 4pm; an 8pm service where we'll require masks to help provide more comfort for those affected by the pandemic; and, the big one, an 11pm candlelit service with incense. Christmas Day service, at 11am, will be more simple and more quiet. May God bless you in this Advent and Christmas season!

Advent & Christmastide Gatherings

THE LESSONS

Lectionary Year C

DECEMBER 5
Second Sunday of Advent
Baruch 5:1-9
or Malachi 3:1-4
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6
Canticle 4 or 16

DECEMBER 12
Third Sunday of Advent
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18
Canticle 9

DECEMBER 19
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Micah 5:2-5a
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)
Canticle 15 (or 3)
or Psalm 80:1-7

DECEMBER 26
First Sunday after Christmas
Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
John 1:1-18
Psalm 147 or 147:13-21

St. John's has much to offer this Advent and Christmas season! Come to some, come to all, come enjoy the season's gatherings with your parish family. We are grateful to be together again!



Sunday, December 5th: Gather at St. Michael's (1601 W. Imhoff Rd.) to hear the Norman Singers perform their Winter Concert. This concert will feature seasonal works to get you in the mood for the season.



Sunday, December 12th: Join us at 6 p.m. in the Nave for Lessons & Carols. During this service, scriptural readings are interspersed with choral presentations and hymns, all of which recall mankind's longing for liberation from sin and death, and our hope and expectation for the both the first and second coming of Christ the Lord. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall.



Sunday, December 19: The children of St. John's have been working hard on the Christmas pageant! Come enjoy their production at 5 p.m. in the Nave and sing along to favorite Christmas songs. Afterwards, relax with cookies and cider in the Commons. Fr. Detrich has heard a rumor that St. Nick will also visit church that evening!



Christmas Eve Services



4 p.m. (family-style with a children's sermon)



8 p.m. (masks required)



11 p.m. (candlelit with incense)



Christmas Day Service— 11 a.m. in the Nave



December 26— First Sunday of Christmas/St. John's Sunday



Knit Night!

Have you been wishing you could set aside an hour or two to complete something you've been working on to gift someone? "Knit" Night is a great way to do that! Bring along any portable project and join others who enjoy creating beautiful things to enjoy and use. Our group may be small in numbers, but we have a variety of interests, including knit, crochet, embroidery, quilting, spinning yarn, sketching and others. Work on your own project, help someone learn new skills, or get suggestions and assistance with crafting challenges.

The group will meet December 2 and December 16 -- the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 in The Commons. We welcome you to come for all or part of the time. If you're between projects, join us for the conversation. All skill levels are welcome, including complete beginners. If you have questions or would like to be added to the email reminder list, please contact Melody Palm, (309) 825-6963.

Sign Up to Save a Life

St. John's will host an Oklahoma Blood Institute blood drive on Sunday, December 5 from 8:30 to 12:30 in the Parish Hall. If you would like to sign up to donate, please email Carol Upp at carolupp65@gmail.com.



Youth Schedule in December

Kids from grades 6-12 are welcome to join the St. John's youth group for Advent and Christmas celebrations this December! Here's the schedule:

-  December 4: City of Norman Christmas Parade
-  December 5: Caroling
-  December 12: Santa Ministry Shopping
-  December 19: Youth Christmas Party! (after pageant)
-  December 26: No Youth

For more information, please email Emma Brown at ebrown@episcopalnorman.org.

Sponsor Poinsettias for the Altar at Christmas



Name of Donor(s) _____

In loving memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

Please submit your donations and dedications to the church office by Sunday, December 19. Dedications will be in the Christmas Eve bulletins. You may also call the church office at 321-3020 to make arrangements to sponsor poinsettias.



SPREAD GOD'S LOVE THIS
CHRISTMAS!

SANTA MINISTRY

BRIGHTEN THE HOLIDAYS FOR NEIGHBORS
IN NEED

**VOLUNTEER TO SHOP, GIVE
BLOOD, RING THE BELL, &
SERVE FOOD**

OR

**DONATE AND LET OUR YOUTH
SHOP FOR YOU!**

**HTTPS://ONREALM.ORG/STJOHN
SEPISCOPA87669/-/FORM/GIVE/
NOW**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**NOVEMBER 28TH: TREE LIGHTING IN PARISH HALL
SELECT A NAME OFF THE TREE OR SHOP FOR A SENIOR IN
NEED**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4CA5AC29A5F58-2021>

DECEMBER 5TH: GIVE BLOOD

https://www.yourbloodinstitute.org/m/donor/schedules/available_drive_slots/365751/1638662400/1

DECEMBER 11TH : RING THE BELL

Contact Steve Warren at 823-7052 or swarren@supplyone.com

**DECEMBER 19TH: ST NICHOLAS VISIT & DEADLINE TO
RETURN WRAPPED, LABELED GIFTS**

DECEMBER 21ST: GIFT DELIVERY

DECEMBER 21ST: PREPARE & SERVE A MEAL

Contact Andrea Marler at aamarler@me.com or 808-4435

THANK YOU FOR SPREADING LOVE AND JOY THIS YEAR!

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR
LISA SCHADE laneconsult@yahoo.com OR
ANDREA CONWAY andreag51893@gmail.com**

Scout News

November was a busy month for the scout units at St. John's. Pack 233 held their annual Rain Gutter Regatta in the courtyard of the church Saturday, November 13th. Scouts built and raced their boats by age group earning prizes for speed and design. The older Cub scouts participated in Webelos Woods campout learning about Troops in the area that they might want to join. Additionally, the Pack collected almost 300 pounds of food that was donated to Food and Shelter for Friends.

The Troop went camping at Webelos Woods where they taught first aid to younger scouts. We canvassed the local neighborhood around the church and collected almost 200 pounds of food that was also donated to Food and Shelter for Friends. The Troop held a Friendsgiving event sharing Food and Games at a leader's home to ring in the holiday season.

Both the Pack and the Troop marched in the Norman Veteran's Day Parade with other Troops in the campus area honoring those who serve our country. We are thankful to all those willing to serve and protect our freedoms. We will also be Marching in the Norman Christmas Parade on December 4th.

As the year winds down, we wish all the members and families of St. John's a happy and peaceful season hoping that you get to spend quality time with family and friends. If you would like more information about scouting, please email Kyle Hamburger or Jeffrey Boles at pandt233@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support of scouting.



St. John's at a Glance

Online Church Service Options

Sunday Mornings: These videos will continue until the live stream is up and running. The videos are available on the St. John's website, <https://episcopalnorman.org/videos.aspx>.

ADDRESS: 235 W. Duffy, Norman, OK 73069

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2088 Norman, OK 73070

PHONE: 405-321-3020

WEBSITE: www.episcopalnorman.org

EMAIL: staff@episcopalnorman.org

OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Tues, Thur 9am-4pm

Wed 9 am-6pm

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests may be submitted to the church by calling the office, sending an email to staff@episcopalnorman.org, or online at www.episcopalnorman.org/prayer-request. Requests will be added to the Prayers of the People, unless you would like your request kept private.

Pastoral Care

The church is committed to the well-being of its members through caring relationships and kind actions. The Congregational Care committee has resumed home Eucharist for parishioners unable to attend church. The rector is also available for pastoral care via phone or email. If you or someone you know need care from the Congregational Care committee, please contact the church office at 321-3020, or staff@episcopalnorman.org.

Online Giving

Many of you have recently taken advantage of the ease of making pledge payments online. If you are interested in doing so as well, go to episcopalnorman.org and click on the DONATE button in the upper left corner. There is a simple form to complete; be sure to also complete the memo with what the donation is for. You can use this to pay for altar flowers, make memorial donations, etc. We use a secure program facilitated by our bank. Questions? Contact the office at 321-3020.

STAFF

The Congregation

Ministers of the church

The Rev. Dr. James Detrich

Rector: (405) 321-3020

The Rev. James Tyree

Deacon

Catherine Wilson

Christian Formation Director

Merrie Beard

Parish Administrator

Dr. Olivia Burke

Organist/choirmaster

Emma Brown

Youth Minister

VESTRY

Holly Cole

SENIOR WARDEN

Pat Welch

JUNIOR WARDEN

Martha White

Chuck Palm

Greg Taylor

Ulli Nollert

Owen Mills

Roshni Robert

Susie Laird

Jona Kay Steed

George Elassal



ST. JOHN'S

Episcopal Church

235 W. Duffy, Norman
405-321-3020

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 2088
Norman, OK 73070

OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tues, Thurs

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesdays

9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sundays-9 a.m. to noon

staff@episcopalnorman.org • www.episcopalnorman.org

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St. John's Evangel

USPS 424550

Published monthly by

St. John's Episcopal Church

235 W. Duffy

Norman, OK 73069

Periodical class postage

paid at Norman, OK

EVANGEL DEADLINE

December 15 for the

January issue

Postmaster: *Send change
of address to*

St. John's / P.O. Box 2088 /

Norman, OK 73070

Christmas Eve Services: 4 p.m., 8 p.m, and 11 p.m.

Christmas Day Service: 11 a.m.

The Church Office will be closed from December

23rd through January 2 and will reopen on

January 3, 2022.

COMING UP AT ST. JOHN'S

**Knit Night, December 2, 6:30 p.m*

**Caroling with Youth and Fledglings,
December 5*

**Daughters of the King Martha Chapter
Meeting, December 11, 9:30 a.m.*

**Lessons & Carols, December 12, 6 p.m.*

**Christmas Pageant, 5 p.m. December
19th in the Nave (w/St. Nick Visit)*

** Christmas Eve Services—see above*