

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church

January 2025

The Reverend Suzanne Mollison

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Dear Parish Family,

On Sunday January 5th we will celebrate Epiphany with the traditional Epiphany Cake and remove the Christmas decorations from the church.

On Saturday, January 18th at 4:00pm our Diocesan Bishop Poulson Reed will ordain our own David Braddock to the Sacred Order of Deacons at Saint Paul's Cathedral, reception to follow.

Mark your calendars for JANUARY 26th. On that Sunday we will have our ANNUAL PARISH MEETING immediately after services. We will have reports from various groups reviewing 2024 and conducting important business of the parish by electing one vestry member, electing two delegates and two alternates for our 2025 Diocesan Convention which will be held at St. Crispin's on October 3-4. The 2025 Budget will be presented by our Treasurer, and I will request your approval of my nomination for Senior Warden. The agenda and the 2025 Budget will be published and copies available at the meeting. Those required to provide a written annual report are: Treasurer, Priest-in-Charge, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Pledge Clerk, Altar Guild, and the Columbarium and Memorial Committee. Those reports must be submitted by January 19th, and copies will be available at the meeting. It is a very important meeting, so please plan to attend.

This year's Vestry nominations will be announced at a later date. Be on the look-out for them. If you are interested in serving on the Vestry, please notify Mother Suzanne.

After the ANNUAL MEETING we will adjourn to the Parish Hall for a covered dish lunch and fellowship. The meat will be provided but everyone is asked to bring their favorite side dishes and desserts.

This year Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. The traditional pancake supper will be on the 4th.

Happy New Year---and blessings always,
Mother Suzanne

Birthdays:

Jan. 7th Falynn Jeschke Jan. 8th The Rev. Buddy Dugan

Anniversaries:

Jan 14th David and Candace Braddock

Epiphany Season

A season of four to nine weeks, from the Feast of the Epiphany (Jan. 6) through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The length of the season varies according to the date of Easter. The gospel stories of this season describe various events that manifest the divinity of Jesus. The coming of the Magi is celebrated on the Epiphany. The Baptism of our Lord is observed on the Sunday after Epiphany. The gospels for the other Sundays of the Epiphany season describe the wedding at Cana, the calling of the disciples, and various miracles and teachings of Jesus. The Last Sunday after the Epiphany is always devoted to the Transfiguration. Jesus' identity as the Son of God is dramatically revealed in the Transfiguration gospel, as well as the gospel of the baptism of Christ. We are called to respond to Christ in faith through the showings of his divinity recorded in the gospels of the Epiphany season.

The Epiphany

The manifestation of Christ to the peoples of the earth. The winter solstice was kept on Jan. 6 at some places during the first centuries of the Christian Era. In opposition to pagan festivals, Christians chose this day to celebrate the various manifestations, or "epiphanies," of Jesus' divinity. These showings of his divinity included his birth, the coming of the Magi, his baptism, and the Wedding at Cana where he miraculously changed water into wine. The day was called "The Feast of Lights." Celebration of the Son of God replaced celebration of the sun. Baptisms were done, and a season of preparation was instituted. It was later called Advent.

The solstice was kept on Dec. 25 by the fourth century. Jesus' birth was celebrated on this day in both eastern and western churches. The western church commemorated the coming of the Magi on Jan. 6. The eastern church continued to celebrate the Baptism of our Lord and the Wedding at Cana on Jan. 6. In the east the day was called "Theophany" (manifestation of God).

The coming of the Magi is celebrated on the Feast of the Epiphany, Jan. 6, in the BCP. The Baptism of our Lord is celebrated on the First Sunday after the Epiphany.

January

| DATE | READINGS | MINISTERS | LECTORS | USHERS Crucifer | ALTAR | ALTAR FLOWERS | HOSPITALITY/ LOCK-UP |
|--|--|---|---|---|---------|-------------------------------|---|
| January 5 Epiphany 10:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite II | Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7,10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12 | Celebrant Rev Mollison LEM Womack Sermon Rev Mollison | First Reading Womack Epistle Craighead J | Craighead D And Kidwell Braddock | Kidwell | ***** OPEN ***** | Epiphany Cake Lock-Up: Kidwell |
| January 12 1st Sunday after Epiphany 10:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite II | Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 | Celebrant Rev Mollison LEM Bowers A Sermon Rev Mollison | First Reading Bowers A Epistle Bowers V | Robison And Sharp Howard | Womack | ***** OPEN ***** | Lock-Up: Womack |
| January 19 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany 10:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite II | Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11 | Celebrant Rev Mollison LEM Braddock Sermon Rev Mollison | First Reading Braddock Epistle McAskill | Bowers A And Howard Womack | Howard | OPEN ***** | Lock-Up: Bowers |
| January 26 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany 10:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite II | Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21 | Celebrant Rev Mollison LEM Braddock Sermon Rev Mollison | First Reading Braddock Epistle Kidwell J | Kidwell And Sharp Bowers A | Bowers | ***** OPEN ***** | Annual Meeting Parish Lunch Lock-Up: Howard |

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O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*