



THE BULLETIN

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
An Episcopal Community in the Heart of Houston, Texas

DECEMBER 2018
CHRISTCHURCHCATHEDRAL.ORG

AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY CARE LINE | 713-826-5332

Cuddly, but still omnipotent

There is a dinner table scene in the lowbrow 2006 Will Ferrell comedy “Talladega Nights,” in which NASCAR star Ricky Bobby’s family pauses before a meal of Domino’s pizza and Taco Bell to say



THE VERY REV.
BARKLEY
THOMPSON

grace. Ricky begins not in customary Episcopal Church fashion, but rather with the words, “Dear Lord Baby Jesus...”

The prayer meanders until Ricky says again, “Dear tiny baby Jesus, with your golden fleece diapers and your tiny balled up baby fists,” at which point his wife interrupts and complains, “You know, Sweetie, Jesus did grow up. You don’t always have to call him baby. It’s a bit odd and off-putting to pray to a baby.”

Ricky, indignantly responds, “Look, I like the baby version the best, you hear me?” and he continues, “Dear eight-pound, six-ounce newborn infant Jesus... so cuddly, but still omnipotent. Thank you for all your power and your grace, dear baby God. Amen.”

It’s a hilarious scene, but, as is often the case in comedy, part of its humor is the extent to which it parodies truth that hits close to home. Like Ricky Bobby, we prefer the infant Jesus. We may not invoke images of golden fleece diapers, but we do wait all year for the nativity pageant. We cherish gauzy images of a cherubic babe in swaddling clothes, nuzzled in Mary’s arms, with Joseph hovering protectively nearby. They remind us sentimentally of our own gathered families, or of the idealized family we always hope for. The baby Jesus is warm, and peaceful, and calming. We want Jesus to have power but also to be a sweet comfort — to be, as Ricky Bobby says, “cuddly, but still omnipotent.”

JESUS, page 2

Morning congregations to join in Las Posadas



Parishioners sing carols and hymns as part of Las Posadas.

Las Posadas, a series of processions that dramatize the journey to Bethlehem by Mary and Joseph, has been an Advent tradition that the Cathedral’s Spanish-speaking congregation has hosted and shared with all who’d like to experience the spiritual, cultural, and community observance.

This year, Las Posadas “opens our arms a little further,” organizers say, because two of the evenings will be co-hosted by members of

the morning congregations.

This “addition to tradition” continues to build community within and across the Cathedral’s entire family, says Canon Missioner for Latino Ministries the Rev. **Simón Bautista Betances**.

A branch between the morning and afternoon congregations, these celebrations present a good opportunity for people to get to

POSADAS, page 6

New Canon for Welcome and Evangelism



REV. REBECCA “BECKY” ZARTMAN

Dean Barkley Thompson is pleased to announce the call of the Reverend Rebecca “Becky” Zartman as Canon Missioner for Welcome and Evangelism, beginning January 1, 2019. Becky presently serves as campus missioner to Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She has also served as assistant rector at St. Thomas Episcopal Church at DuPont Circle in D.C. In addition, Becky has served as a consulting evangelist for the national Episcopal Church’s Evangelism Team, and she is the author of several church curricula, including the “30 Day Evangelism Challenge.”

At the Cathedral, Becky will oversee our welcome, evangelism, and newcomer ministries. She will be the staff liaison with the Welcome and Evangelism Council.

WELCOME, page 3

OUR CATHEDRAL FAMILY

We extend heartfelt sympathy to

- the family of **George Clouette**, who died on October 20, 2018. George is the husband of member **Viridian Clouette**.
- the family of **Dr. Henry Fielding Fromberg**, who died on October 24, 2018. Fielding is the father of the **Reverend Paul D. Fromberg**.
- the family of **Dorothy Knox Houghton**, who died on November 9, 2018. Dorothy is the mother of **Adele Houghton** and **Rowena Dasch**.

We celebrate with

- the families of **Caitlin Irene Evans**, **Annisten Elise Watkins**, **Gaines Reese Safer**, **Gavin Alexander Retzlaff**, **Vivian Rose Retzlaff**, **Everitt Jason Ellis LaPoint**, **John Allen Monroe Ernest**, **Yvan Nicolas McDonnell Lujan**, and **Erick Julian Pacheco**, who were baptized at the Cathedral on November 4, 2018.
- new members **Jovanni Cleaver**, **Lucia Guerrero** and her children, **Jairo** and **Alessandra**, **Peter** and **Frances MacGregor**, **Patric McCallum** and **Charlotte Drew**, **Wendy Pineda**, **William Zakroff**, **Julian Pacheco** and **Dionra Argueta**, **Luis Arellano**, **Ana Portillo** her daughter, **Jade Portillo**, and **Paola Rodriguez**.
- returning member **Solace Southwich**.
- Susan Reeves** and **Brett McCleneghan**, who were married in the Cathedral on October 20, 2018.

The flowers on the Cathedral Altar

- on Sunday, November 11, were given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for **Charles Tate** on his birthday by his family.
- on Sunday, December 2, are given to the glory of God in loving memory of **Linda Anne Baldwin** and **Dorothy Geiselman Baldwin** by the family of **Robert B. Baldwin III**.
- on Sunday, December 16, are given to the glory of God in loving memory of **Robert C.** and **Madie M. Richter** by **Bob Richter**.
- on Sunday, December 23, are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for **Cherry Gullede** on her 90th birthday by her children and grandchildren.

The flowers on the Golding Chapel Altar

- on Sunday, November 4, were given to the glory of God in loving memory of **Nance Wier** and **Jerry Dale McNiece** by **Enid McNiece**.

World War I Memorial

- on Sunday, November 11, were given to the glory of God in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I by **Evelyn** and **Roy Nolen**.

The greens in both Advent Wreaths

- on Sunday, December 2, are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the life and work of **Jane Brown**, **Judy Drury**, **Mary Clarke Mackenzie**, and **Cindy Dickson**.

The candles on the Advent Wreaths

- on Sunday, December 2, in the Cathedral are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the life and work of **Helen Ann Fisher**, **Norma Jane Hagan**, **Ella Mae Hayslip**, and **Norma Jones**.
- on Sunday, December 2, in the Chapel are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the life and work of **Ardell Ray Jr.**

JESUS, from cover

And that's o.k., to an extent. But as we enter the season of Advent, we need also remember that Advent looks forward to the time when Jesus will return, when all of God's purposes will be fulfilled, when goodness will seismically shift the foundation of the world. Of that time Jesus says in Luke's Gospel, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

That's not cuddly, but it is good. It is the very promise that God will eventually heal our brokenness and insist that goodness reign in our world. Advent intends to ready us for that day: to steel our hearts, trim our wicks, and rouse our attention. It is the season in which we renew our commitment to be about God's good work in the world — even when that work is challenging and difficult — so that we are cooperators with God in the second Advent of his Son.



Volunteers needed for Christmas at the Cathedral

Christmas at the Cathedral has been a beloved tradition for many years, and its success depends on the nearly 200 volunteers who give their time, talent, and treasure to make it special for the students and their families from Small Steps Nurturing Center.

On Saturday, December 8, volunteers can sign up for 2-hour slots anytime between 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. to help with simple tasks such as checking in volunteers to picking up catering items to running Christmas games and crafts. Volunteers, youth included, can also hand out hot cocoa, decorate Reynolds Hall, supervise the snow, run a photo booth, or be Frosty the Snowman, or even an elf.

The event itself starts at 4 p.m., with playtime in the snow, games, prizes, and crafts. Guests then are seated for a family-style meal, and at the end of the celebration, each family leaves with a gift.

Please share in God's love with our local community by volunteering. Says **Richard Adams** of the Mission Outreach Council, "Christmas is a great time to reflect on our good fortune and give back to the local community of the Cathedral." Please sign up with this link <http://tinyurl.com/signupcatc> to volunteer.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Saturday, December 8

Advent in the Bookstore: A chocolate calendar confession

BY LUCY CHAMBERS

When did you begin to understand Advent? My first recollection of the concept was a vague awareness that the aisles of the Piggly-Wiggly were filled with the faint strains of "Rudolf, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" during the month before Christmas.

A few years later, the concept of Advent calendars registered. There were two kinds: boring ones, with pictures of sheep and oxen behind the doors, and exciting ones, with chocolate. My mother had explained that we would open one door every day, but I snuck into the dining room and ate the chocolates from behind the doors without regard to the date. When the real day came to open the door, there was nothing there.

Age has brought some patience, along with the understanding that preparation is a particularly sweet part of any celebration, never more so than for Christmas. In the Bookstore, we have the exponential pleasure of preparing for preparing. We've stocked up on books and gifts that we hope will increase your understanding and enjoyment of the season, from Advent to Epiphany. We have beeswax candles that once glowed from the altar to light your home over the holidays, special devotionals and educational books, Christmas stories to read with anticipation, choral and brass classics on CD, bright tea towels to wrap around homemade treats, JED's sweet-cured jalapenos to spice up holiday meals, crosses, crèches, and many more items we can wrap up nicely with a bow for your loved ones.

And, of course, we have Advent **SWEET ADVENT**, page 6

WELCOME, from cover

Becky is a graduate of Gettysburg College and the Virginia Theological Seminary. She and her husband, **Josh Easterman**, have a three-year-old daughter named **Pippa**.

Dean Thompson says, "When Becky visited Houston and interviewed at Christ Church, people were bowled over by her experience, insight, and passion for ministry. She has a heart for growing the kingdom of God. Becky and her family will be wonderful additions to the Cathedral."

Reached in Washington, Becky shared, "I am so excited about what God is doing in Houston through the Cathedral, and I can't wait to join in the work. My family and I are looking forward to becoming part of this dynamic community and discovering what God has in store for us."

Becky will arrive in Houston in late December, and her family will join her after Christmas. Her first Sunday at the Cathedral will be January 6.



COMPASS and The Beacon merger: Moving forward together

*"In 1981, COMPASS was founded at the Cathedral, a place that we all know has been visionary and bold when it comes to 'outreach.' Nearly nineteen years ago, I landed at COMPASS, first as a caseworker to our homeless clients and later as the Director. As I prepare for retirement next year, I am so pleased that COMPASS will officially join The Beacon — our neighbor of over 10 years. The Beacon has blossomed and flourished since its inception, and under the direction of CEO **Becky Landes**, I feel certain that COMPASS has landed in just the right place — to offer many more years of service to our neighbors in need."*

— **Cynthia Brannon**

Working together hand in hand

When **Edward** first arrived at the John S. Dunn Outreach Center in the summer of 2013, he was greeted with a smile and a hot cup of coffee. After a few questions, he was signed up for lunch service, a hot homemade meal of his choosing.

An Army veteran, Edward had worked in customer service for more than 17 years until he was

let go at the age of 59. Not quite retirement age, it was very difficult to find work, and he stayed afloat by living with a roommate for many years. As circumstances tend to do, things changed for Edward when his roommate moved into assisted living. Edward was suddenly without a home.

And so he came to be at 1212 Prairie Street in downtown Houston. Admittedly, he wasn't sure what he was looking for, but the meals were a blessing and he was able to wash his clothes. The Beacon was a constant in his life and the community within the day center meant he would always have someone to talk to.

Time moved forward, and in 2015 while Edward was still visiting the day center, he had also found his way to COMPASS's red door, where he signed up to receive his mail. COMPASS quickly became the gateway to the outside world for Edward.

The staff of The Beacon and COMPASS took notice of Edward's pleasant demeanor. Tall and soft spoken, he was always patient and conversational. There had to be more behind his story, but nobody pressed him to disclose more than he was comfortable sharing.

Instead, the focus for everyone at 1212 Prairie was getting Edward into a safe, permanent home. What started with a meal eventually led to a mailing address and then a housing assessment in early 2017 — all under the same roof. A Coordinated Access housing assessor at The Beacon referred Edward to a housing navigator at COMPASS, and so began the process of navigating Edward to his new residence.

The COMPASS navigator ferried Edward to the social security office, the bank, and on a multitude of other errands to get his affairs in order

MERGER, page 6

IN PICTURES



Above: The sunset cruise on the Youth Fall Retreat.

Below: Alternative Giving Market gave parishioners a chance to give to others by giving to worthy organizations.



Below right, right: Youth making a difference by giving their time to The Beacon.



Above: 20s & 30s Plaid and Axe Night.

Below: 20s & 30s Karaoke.



Above: The midweek youth Seed and Root groups are beginning to grow.

S.O.S.!

BY KARIANN LESSNER

S.O.S., traditionally an international code signal of extreme distress, used especially by ships at sea stands for Save Our Ship, but at Christmas Camp at the Cathedral the acronym means something totally different: Serve Our Saints packs comprised of Socks, Oatmeal, and Soap, a Christmas gift to our homeless neighbors, clients of The Beacon. A pair of new socks, a packet of oatmeal, a bar of soap, and a message of hope are all tied together with a bow by the loving little hands of our Cathedral kids.

Each year on one of the Saturdays leading up to Christmas Eve, the children of the Cathedral are invited to Christmas Camp. Christmas Camp gives kids a chance to practice for Christmas Pageant, get fitted for their costume, create ornaments for their trees at home, and participate in our annual outreach project for clients at The Beacon (Save Our Saints).

“It is our hope that by giving children a way to see the works of their hands as not only for themselves, but for others, they will begin to cultivate a life of service,” says **KariAnn Lessner**, Minister to Children and Families at the Cathedral.

This year, Christmas Camp will be held on Saturday, December 15, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Children 3 years to 5th grade are invited to spend this morning with us — it’s packed with fun! Meet in the Cathedral at 9 a.m. for a run-through of the pageant; afterward, we will move to the Jones building for activities. Parents are encouraged to pick up their children in Room 206 in the Jones building at 11:30 a.m. (The Christmas Pageant is held at the 4 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.)

“Christmas Camp is one of my favorite events that I inherited from my predecessor and friend, **Lisa Puccio**. Her vision for this beautiful morning of fun, service, and



learning makes it a joy to take the torch and run with it the next leg of this journey,” Lessner says. “I tell the children every year that if we keep our eyes on the baby Jesus, we are helping to tell the beginnings most wonderful story ever told. So, each year I watch their eyes. They first look out to see parents and grandparents, but then their eyes dart to the baby Jesus and they linger over

S.O.S., page 8

Dean’s Book Club selections

The Dean’s Book Club discusses a different book at each meeting, including novels, nonfiction, and books on spirituality and faith. Books are selected by the group and are available for purchase from the Cathedral Bookstore. All are welcome. The club meets in the McGehee Conference Room from 6:30–8 p.m. on the following dates:

Wednesday, January 2

Ordinary Grace, a novel by William Kent Krueger



In this unforgettable novel about discovering the terrible price of wisdom and the enduring grace of God, a man looks back at his 13th summer in 1961, trying to understand a world that seems to be falling apart around him.

Wednesday, February 6

Forgotten Books of the Bible: Recovering the Five Scrolls for Today, by Robert Williamson Jr.



With scholarly wisdom and a quick wit, Williamson shows how these books speak to contemporary issues such as human sexuality, grief, immigration, suffering and protest, ethnic nationalism, and existential dread.

Wednesday, March 6, 7 p.m.

NOTE THE SPECIAL TIME DUE TO ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

A World Lost, a novel by Wendell Berry



Now grown, Andy revisits the summer of 1944, when his beloved uncle was shot and killed by the surly and mysterious Carp Harmon, to understand the two men and their lethal connection.

MERGER, from page 3

so that he could be approved for housing. In all, the navigator completed 30+ tasks and visits on his behalf before Edward moved into his apartment in December 2017.

Edward might not have known exactly what he was looking for when he crossed over that threshold in May of 2013, but he was moving forward. Moving forward out of homelessness because of The Beacon and COMPASS.

In the New Year, COMPASS will join the larger, neighboring umbrella of The Beacon and its programs. A formal merger is planned, and leadership is excited about the opportunity to combine resources for the benefit of Houston's homeless, whose stories like Edward's reveal so much.

The merger will precede the 2019 retirement of COMPASS's Executive Director, **Cynthia Brannon**. Cynthia has led COMPASS for over 15 years and will assist during the transition period as the two organizations combine resources. By moving forward together, each organization is confident that its services will be strengthened, to further enhance the progress toward ending homelessness in Houston. Your ongoing support for this work is greatly appreciated.

POSADAS, from cover

know one another.

More than 800 people attended Las Posadas last year.

Teaming Up

The hosting of each of Las Posadas has always been a team effort among many individuals and families. While many of the teams are repeat hosts, they're joined this year by some newcomers to the tradition — as well as to the Cathedral itself.

Nora and Paul Rycroft, for example, asked if they might host one of the evenings in their neighborhood near downtown. New to the Cathedral after moving here from Austin a year ago, the couple want to get to know people from all its congregations, she says.

Having grown up in South Texas, she has enjoyed the tradition of Las Posadas. "It is a great opportunity to get to know other parishioners as we share in the tradition celebrating the birth of Christ."

In hosting one of the observances, she says, they are extending to others an opportunity to connect in a city known for its diversity.

Another couple eager to host are **Melissa and Michael Jacobs**, who live near Texas Medical Center. An attorney, he has come to know the Rev. Bautista through his work on the 2017 immigration clinic at the Cathedral and on the other legal needs of the 1 o'clock congregation.

With one of Bautista's core goals to establish more interaction between Cathedral congregations, the couple would like to support that objective: "Opening our home is a hospitality of the heart which reflects the spirit of hospitality which the Cathedral extends to all."

They consider Las Posadas "a mechanism for connecting, as part of the existing need to blend our communities." That's something the couple has learned in their respective spiritual lives; she's a life-long Episcopalian, and he is Jewish.

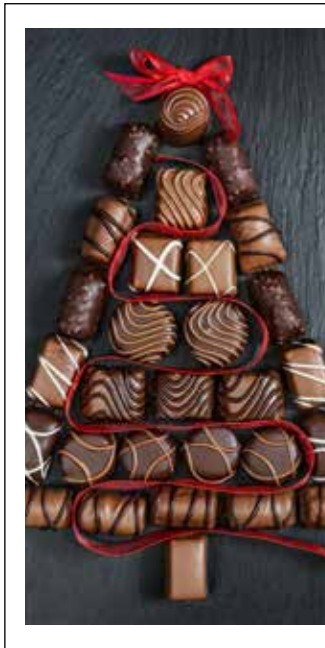
Morning parishioners **Joan and Ed Sachnik** have very much enjoyed attending Las Posadas in the past, and they are looking forward to this season as well. Joan got to know some of the Latino/Hispanic community as volunteers at Kids Hope. The Sachniks occasionally attend the 1 p.m. service and find it warm and welcoming.

Even without speaking any Spanish, the Sachniks have made several friends in the Latino/Hispanic congregation. As Joan says, "I get hugs — and I return them." She has come to admire Latino/Hispanic culture and feels privileged to be able to celebrate it with the congregation.

She hopes, along with Canon Bautista, that someday, someone will donate the funds to have a mariachi band at every night of Las Posadas.

Another newcomer to Las Posadas is the curate, **The Rev. Gregory Seme**. He's looking forward to his celebrant role in Las Posadas, a tradition he has not previously experienced but considers an opportunity "for the church to be the church," meaning God's beloved people. "God calls us to be part of the community," he says. Las Posadas is an opportunity to "go outside of our beautiful building and meet our brothers and sisters in the neighborhoods. Las Posadas is an avenue through which we can start building community, and indeed we can begin building God's kingdom on earth."

Culture and tradition are precious and a vehicle to reinforce fellowship, Rev. Seme adds.



SWEET ADVENT, from page 3

calendars — all exciting to me now — that you can use to teach your children the joy of anticipating the birth of the Christ child or to remind yourself to be patient as you wait for the return of the Light.

Whether your Advent experience to date has been filled with spiritual richness or has felt hollow as an empty chocolate calendar, come by the Bookstore. We'll help you find a book to inspire you, suggest a gift to delight a friend, or just share a cup of tea and visit with you. Advent's promise is new each year, so let's savor each day and make this countdown to Christmas the best one yet.

More on Las Posadas

Las Posadas occurs on nine consecutive evenings, starting Dec. 16 and ending on Christmas Eve. Each procession, whether held in a hosting parishioner's neighborhood or at the Cathedral (the 2018 lineup is pending) recreates the journey by the Holy pilgrims as they searched for shelter until an innkeeper granted access to a simple stable before Christ's birth.

Each presentation features costumed youths chosen to portray Mary and Joseph. Carrying a small manger with them, they lead participants in a procession from door to door, seeking refuge. Participants follow in procession, singing traditional hymns and carols (such as "Noche de Paz"/"Silent Night"), and carrying candles.

Each procession incorporates a brief bilingual worship service, to be led this year by rotating clergy, and culminates at the house where Joseph and Mary are finally welcomed, which is also where the party takes place. The reception features homemade, traditional food, music, and games.

How to participate in and attend Las Posadas (December 16–24)

A map of locations and participating sponsors will be available to congregation members shortly and will be available online. The Grand Posada will be held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 22, at the Cathedral, with the **Rt. Rev. Hector Monterroso**, assistant bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, as celebrant. The final posada, held on Christmas Eve at 6 p.m., is the only one to include the Baby Jesus in the manger.

It's not too late to join a hosting team, organizers say. For information, please contact **Yency Bermudez**, assistant for Spanish Ministry: yencyb@christchurchcathedral.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Visit christchurchcathedral.org or call **713-222-2593** to learn more about these and other events at the Cathedral.

● Registration recommended ▲ Registration required ✕ Registration closed ★ Childcare available (3 mo. to 12 yrs.) 🧑👤 Bring a friend!

DECEMBER

DECEMBER 2 SUN

Lord of the Streets

6:15 a.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, 1015 Holman St. Volunteer to serve breakfast to the 250+ people who attend the Lord of the Streets service.



DECEMBER 2 SUN

Advent Lessons and Carols ★

5–6:15 p.m., Cathedral. Traditional Episcopal music celebration of Advent, with a reception to follow.

DECEMBER 5 WED

Dean's Book Club ★

6:30–8 p.m., McGehee Conference Room. The group will discuss *The Soul of America: The Battle of our Better Angels* by Pulitzer-prize-winning author Jon Meacham. See the Cathedral Bookstore for the edition.

DECEMBER 7 FRI

Bridge Night

6:30–9:30 p.m., McGehee Conference Room. Enjoy a few hands of bridge with Cathedral friends. Bring a dish to share.

DECEMBER 8 SAT

Christmas at the Cathedral

3–8 p.m., Reynolds Hall. The Cathedral family opens its doors to those in need, serving hundreds of hot meals.



DECEMBER 16–24 Las Posadas

7–9 p.m. Celebration with singing, prayers, and traditional refreshments. In Reynolds Hall on Dec. 23.

DECEMBER 15 SAT

Christmas Camp ★

9–11:30 a.m., Cathedral. Crafts, costumes, carols, and Pageant practice.

DECEMBER 16 SUN

Sunday Carol Practice ★

10–11 a.m., Jones Basement. The companion practice to Christmas Camp for those participating in the Christmas Pageant.



DECEMBER 24 MON

Christmas Eve

4 p.m. Family Service, Holy Eucharist, Rite II, and a Christmas Play. ★
6 p.m. Festival Eucharist, Rite II, in Spanish. ★
7:30 p.m. Organ prelude. ★
8 p.m. Choral Eucharist, Rite II, with the Parish Choir, brass, timpani. ★
10:30 p.m. Cathedral Choir prelude.
11 p.m. Festival Eucharist, Rite I, with the Cathedral Choir, brass, timpani.

DECEMBER 25 TUE

Christmas Day

10 a.m. Eucharist and carols.

DECEMBER 21 FRI

The Longest Night

6 p.m., Golding Chapel. Service on the solstice for those grieving a loss.

Youth Progressive Dinner ▲ 🧑👤

6–10:30 p.m. High-school students visit three different homes for a spectacular holiday meal. (\$)

DECEMBER 24–25 MON–TUE

Christmas Holidays

Cathedral offices will be closed.



DECEMBER 30 SUN
Pastorela
1 p.m., Cathedral. Christmas Pageant in Spanish.

DECEMBER 27–29 THU–SAT

Midwinter ▲

Camp Allen. Diocesan high-school retreat. (\$)



DECEMBER 30 SUN

Annual Gingerbread Contest ★

10 a.m., Reynolds Hall. Join us for the third annual Cathedral Gingerbread Contest. This year, we're returning to our roots. 3-D models of Christ Church (contemporary or historical) will be judged by a panel of experts.

DECEMBER 31 MON

Last Day for 2018 Donations

Donations must be received or post-marked by 12/31/2018 to be credited for 2018.

WEEKLY

SUNDAYS

Dean's Hour, Adult, Youth, and Children's Sunday School Classes ★

10–11 a.m., various locations.

Celtic Eucharist, "The Well" ★ 🧑👤

5 p.m., Cathedral. Drawing inspiration and music from the Celtic tradition, this service focuses on prayer, silence, meditation, and grace.

More Holy Mysteries ★

6:30 p.m., McGehee Conference Room. This popular whodunit class returns for two bonus sessions on December 9 and 17. See the Bookstore for books.

The Vicar's Road Show:

Monasticism ▲

6:30–8 p.m., meets monthly at a choice of locations. Canon Callaham takes a look at the history and meaning of Monasticism in Christianity.

Thu., Dec. 6, at Town & Country

Tue., Dec. 11, in Tanglewood

Wed., Dec. 12, in the Heights

Tue., Dec. 18, in Montrose

MONDAYS

Centering Prayer ●

11:15–11:45 a.m., Hines Center.

Healing Service

12:05 p.m., Golding Chapel.

Bible "By the Glass" 🧑👤

6:30–8 p.m., OKRA, 924 Congress. Fellowship at 6:30 p.m. and Bible study at 7 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Gospel Parallels

7 a.m., Mellinger Room. Join the Vicar for a look at the ways in which New Testament images of Jesus are modeled on Old Testament figures.

Education for Ministry (EFM) ▲ ✕

6:30–9 p.m., Mellinger Room. Comprehensive adult theology program. (\$)

Bible by the Glass North 🧑👤

7 p.m., Brixology in the Vintage; 110 Vintage Park. An extension of our popular downtown bible study, hosted in Spring Cypress.

WEDNESDAYS

Men's Morning Bible Study

7–8 a.m., Jeffers Conference Room.

Women's Morning Bible Study

9:30–11 a.m., Jeffers Conference Room.

Bilingual Eucharist

6–6:30 p.m., Golding Chapel.

Cathedral 20s & 30s ★

6:30–8 p.m., BYC (Treehouse). Weekly discussion group and social gathering of young adults.

Buscando la Luz ▲

(Second, third, and fourth Wednesdays) 6:30–8 p.m., Bride's Room. Spanish-language discussion group.

THURSDAYS

Gospel Parallels

12 p.m., Mellinger Room. This is a repeat of the Tuesday morning bible study by the same name.



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

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Parish Retreat: New date, same great fun

BY KAREN KRAYCIRIK

After more than a decade, the Annual Parish Retreat has moved to a new date! All are welcome to join your Cathedral family on a weekend retreat at Camp Allen, Friday, January 18, through Sunday, January 20. You spoke and we listened; December has become so full of holiday celebrations

PARISH RETREAT

January 18-20

that a weekend away was becoming troublesome. The decision to move the retreat to mid-January takes advantage of the MLK Jr. holiday weekend, giving families an extra day at home upon returning from the weekend getaway.

Each year, a fun-filled schedule offers time to rest and relax away from the hustle and bustle of city life, as well as a chance to meet new people or hang out with old friends. A variety of activities are offered that are fun for all ages, such as a chili cook-off, horseback riding, nature walks in the woods, roasting marshmallows, and playing board games.

Neil Giles will once again serve as "pit boss," manning a large wood-fired smoker to prepare delicious brisket for Saturday dinner.

Formation is also an important part of the retreat, as we welcome Rachel Jones (former CCC CUSE Director) and Hugo Olaiz, members of the editorial staff of "The Forward Movement." Rachel and Hugo will share their perspectives on the value of story-telling in the life of the church and its members; this program will be offered in both English and Spanish.

Adventures are had, friendships are forged, and souls are fed during the Parish Retreat. Make sure to register early as space is limited. Registration is open on Sundays in the Cloister — Dec 2, 9, and 16 or online through January 10th. Contact Karen Kraycirik at kkraycirik@christchurchcathedral.org or 713-590-3338 with questions or to learn more.



S.O.S., from page 5

the newness. And every year my eyes get leaky."

For families who aren't able to make it to Christmas Camp, fear not. We supply "pick-up pageant" costumes on Christmas Eve. If your child still wants to join the angel band, or be a cow, donkey, or camel, we've got you covered! You will find the bins in the east transept and in the belltower on December 24; come before 4 p.m. to find a costume and get ready.

If you have questions regarding Christmas Camp or the Christmas Eve Pageant, please contact KariAnn Lessner at kalesner@christchurchcathedral.org