

EXCEL
CHRIST AND SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
560 WEST OLNEY ROAD
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23507-2135

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If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please call Frances at 627-5665 ext. 12 or email at frances.csl@verizon.net.

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

A service of Seven Lessons and Carols will be presented by the Choir on **Sunday morning, December 27 at 10:30 a.m.** This special service will serve as the Liturgy of the Word preceding the Holy Eucharist. Special solos will be sung by Peter Simmons, Ingrid Baynes and Bernie Ham. There will be congregational carols as well. Plan now to attend.



EXCEL
THE NEWSLETTER OF
CHRIST AND SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
VOLUME 19, NUMBER 14 DECEMBER 16, 2009

*Thursday, December 24,
2009
Christmas Eve*

**The first Eucharist of Christmas
with Children's Christmas Pageant 4:30 p.m.**

The story of Christmas is told from the Annunciation to Mary to the arrival of the Wise Men in a presentation by the Children's Ministry of the parish. This beautiful hour-long service of the Holy Eucharist is especially appropriate for families with children and those who are young at heart.

Nursery care available for infants.

**Prelude of Hymns and Carols
10:30 p.m.**

The solemn high Eucharist of Christmas is preceded by a choral prelude of choir carols and congregational hymns.

**Solemn Holy Eucharist of Christmas
11:00 p.m.**

We celebrate the mystery and majesty of the Nativity of our Savior in a candle-lit service of the Holy Eucharist with sermon and music provided by choir, organ, and trumpet.

No nursery or child care.

*Friday, December 25, 2009
Christmas Day*

Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.

This quiet Christmas morning service of the Holy Eucharist with homily and hymns celebrates the birth of Christ.

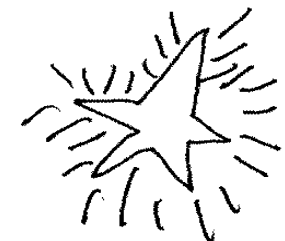
No nursery or child care.

December 27, 2009

First Sunday after Christmas Day

Lessons and Carol Service 10:30 a.m.

Nursery available.





CHRISTMAS COMMUN- IONS

If you or anyone you know is shut-in and wants Christmas Communion, please contact Frances Halcrow (627-5665 x 12) or frances.csl@verizon.net so we can make the necessary arrangements.

ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE 10:30 P.M. SERVICE ONLY

at Ghent United
Methodist Church

Entrance from Raleigh
Avenue between
Colonial and Stockley
Gardens.

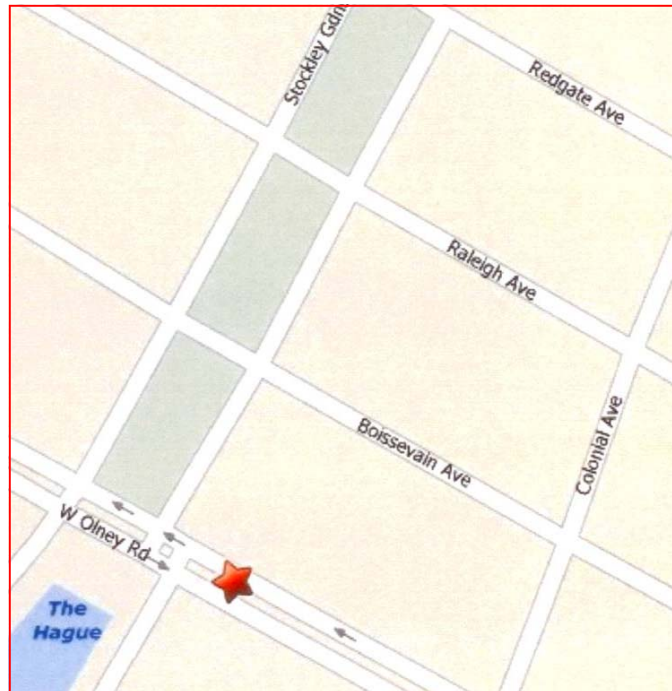
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

KERYGMA
4:30 P.M.

TAIZÉ SERVICE
6:30 P.M.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Baptisms

The next regularly scheduled baptisms at Christ and Saint Luke's will be on **Sunday, Jan. 10 (Baptism of Christ) at the 10:30 a.m. service**. If you wish to be baptized or have a family member who wishes to be baptized, please speak to either Berkley Ford or Conor Alexander or call the Parish Office at 627-5665.



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
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560 WEST OLNEY ROAD,
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23507-2135
PHONE: 757.627.5665, FAX 757.626.1334
VISIT OUR WEB PAGE AT: <WWW.CHRISTANDSTLUKES.ORG>

STAFF

THE REV. C. BERKLEY FORD, *RECTOR*
THE REV. CONOR M. ALEXANDER, *ASSISTANT RECTOR*
THE REV. JESS H. STRIBLING, *ASSISTING PRIEST*
THE REV. JO TAYLOR, *SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR*
THE REV. WILLIAM WAGNER, JR., *EMERITUS*
THE REV. PATTI DAVIS, *DEACON*
DR. W. ALLEN SHAFFER, *DIRECTOR OF MUSIC*
MS. MARJORIE SETNICKY *ASSISTANT ORGANIST*
MRS. CHARLIE DAVEY, *DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION*
MRS. JOYCE SAFFORD, *BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR*
MRS. FRANCES HALCROW, *PARISH SECRETARY*
MR. DAVID ROBERTS, *SEXTON*

Would you like a **copy of the sermon** sent to your e-mail address? Please email **Frances.csl@verizon.net** and request a copy—weekly or one time. The sermons are also on the website under worship. The full color **Excel newsletters** are on the homepage.

**NEXT EXCEL DEADLINE IS NOON,
Tuesday, January 5, 2010**

Please submit your articles,
pictures or announcements to

Frances Halcrow at
frances.csl@verizon.net
or mail to
Mrs. Frances Halcrow
Christ and Saint Luke's Church
560 W Olney Rd
Norfolk VA 23507-2135.

The Vestry

Mr. Warren Richard, *Senior Warden*;
Mr. William H. West, *Junior Warden*;
Mr. Clifford B. Bussard, *Treasurer*;
Mr. James V. B. Lewis, *Register*;
Dr. Richard A. Beauchamp, Ms. Gail
A. Bernick, Ms. Baylies Brewster,
Mrs. Elizabeth T. Denniston,
Dr. David L. Durica,
Mr. Andrew W. Larkin,
Mr. Peter J. Oberle, Mr. David E.
Phillips, II, Mrs. Traci M. White.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
WOMEN'S AND MEN'S GLEE CLUBS**

**Tuesday, January 5, 2010
7:30 p.m.**

The University of North Carolina Women's and Men's Glee Clubs will perform a concert at Christ and St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Norfolk, VA, on Tuesday evening, January 5, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. The Glee Clubs are directed by Dr. Sue Klausmeyer and Dr. Daniel Huff. The concert includes music from Renaissance choral gems to popular favorites such as "How Sweet It Is to Be Loved By You" and "Danny Boy." A sampling of composers represented on the concert are: Victoria, Josquin, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Strauss, Barber, Elizabeth Alexander, and Mark Hayes. The concert is free but donations will be accepted.

For more information, contact:

Frances Halcrow: 627-5665 x 12 or frances.csl@verizon.net

INQUIRER AND CONFIRMATION CLASS: If you are new to Christ and St. Luke's Parish or the Episcopal Church, there is an educational opportunity that may be of benefit to you. Continuing on Thursdays, **January 7, 14, 21, 28, 2010, at 7:00 PM** the **Rev. Berkley Ford and the Rev. Conor Alexander** will convene classes designed to review the basics of our Christian faith with an emphasis on the Episcopal Church's doctrine and discipline. This course is a prerequisite for reception or confirmation in the Episcopal Church. The **Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick** will be present on Sunday, February 7, 2010. He will celebrate the Eucharist and confirm and receive members into the church. Any adult member sixteen years and older who wishes to be received or confirmed in the Episcopal Church may do so at that time. If you have any questions about establishing your membership here at Christ and St. Luke's please consult the clergy.

CARING FOR CREATION: CSL's Environmental "Green" Team, is happy to report that Christ and St. Luke's Episcopal Church, recognized as a River Star since 2007, has been awarded Achievement Level for projects accomplished in 2008-2009. Greening practices within our church family and projects affecting the larger community, such as oyster gardening, shoreline planting and commitment to cleaning the Hague, have elevated our contribution to the community and especially to the restoration of our rivers from the initial Commitment Level to that of Achievement Level. While congratulations are in order, let's start reaching for the next goal —Model Level!



An Advent Reflection from the Rector.

Who are these people?

People were intrigued with what this person had to say so they came to hear him. He appeared to be a bit crazy and certainly unrefined. He was too direct for their liking. He asked folks to do self examination and change their ways. There were quite a few who followed him and a few who were uncomfortable with what he said. Consequently they plotted against him. He did not want followers. He wanted to point to a better way of doing things. People so wanted a messiah they projected that on him. He was not the Messiah. But just pointing that out and pointing to the real messiah would have its consequences.

The land of the people to whom he preached had a puppet leader. He was one who got his authority through conniving. And although he had localized police powers over many folks, he had no real authority. He was under the rule of others. He was someone whom might be called a wannabe (want - to - be).

The wannabe was tempted by his desires for power and aggrandizement. The crazy man called him on it. The recourse was to silence his voice. After imprisonment he paid the price for his honesty. People seem to have a hard time with honesty.

This sad story had a happy ending. Despite being killed, the crazy man kept his integrity. Whether it was necessary or not to have it happen that way, he did decrease so the real messiah could be recognized. Most of his followers wound up following the real Messiah. It was a sad and rough road for them as well, but worth the journey for they kept their integrity of Faithfulness to God and now share in the communion of saints.

I am sure by now you have figured out the bulk of the story was about John the Baptist who is one of my favorite characters in the Gospels. He was a man who was very clear he was not the messiah and knew to point to Jesus. He stood fast on his principles regardless of the cost. And he was an equal opportunity prophet. He knew the coming of the Christ was for all people regardless of social status.

The other character was Herod Antipas, who by all accounts was a conniving manipulator bent on procuring power for himself. His authority only reached as far as Rome would allow and he had to pay a price -- both in tribute and his soul.

During this advent season, let us be single minded in focusing on who the real messiah is and reflective of how our own herodian desires have clouded our vision. By doing so we can keep the happy ending to the above story a perpetual reality and truly,

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
"JOURNEY TO THE STABLE"**



The Christmas Pageant will be a part of the First Eucharist of Christmas at 4:30 on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24. Careful thought has been given in planning this service so that it might meet the needs of young families and those who choose not to worship at the later service. We invite you to include this special "telling" of the Luke narrative in your Christmas plans.

December 20 schedule: 10:10 Little Angels rehearse in Church
10:30 K-Grade 5 rehearse in Children's Chapel
10:15 Girls' Christmas Choir rehearses in Lloyd Hall

**Chapel singers need to know "Go Tell It on the Mountain"
All Children need to know the first two verses of "Away in a Manger"**

EYC: JANUARY 2010
2-N.E.S.T. Dinner
TBD-ODU Basketball Game-Sr. EYC

RITE 13: DECEMBER 2009
20-Christmas Activity-St. Nicholas
27-No Sunday School

JANUARY 2010
3-I Am Made in the Image of God Lesson 1—
Just As I Am: God is the Maker, I am the
Made-pg. 157
10-I Am Made in the Image Lesson 2-My
Gifts and Abilities-pg. 162



Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team Time!

NEST NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Breakfast help: 5:00 am – 8:00 am (We can always use help cooking and serving breakfast)

Check-in help: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm (We can always use help with the check-in process and spending some time talking to our guests)

Dinner help: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm (We can always use help cooking and serving dinner)

Overnight watch: 11:00 pm – 5:00 am (It is always nice to have more than one person for the overnight watch)

If you would like to assist with the NEST program this year, please e-mail James Lewis at james.vb.lewis@cox.net or 757-617-4616.

Thanks so much!

James Lewis

NEST Chair



**REPAIRS TO ALL CSL ROOFS
Wednesday, January 6, 2010**

Beck Roofing will mobilize on Weds Jan 6, 2010 to make repairs to all the CSL roofs. They will be using a crane to access the tower. This will require closing Stockley Gardens Rd for 1 to 3 days.

FROM: MOLLIE MCCUNE

