

EPIPHANY STAR

Church of the Epiphany January 2018

1530 Lafayette Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23509 * www.epiphanynorfolk.org
epiphany.norfolk@earthlink.net * (757)622-7672

Clergy Clatter

I write this as I wind down from our beautiful Christmas Eve Service at Epiphany. Somewhere in the middle of a Christmas carol, I realized that this was my 50th Christmas Eve as a priest. And there were many more as an acolyte, choir member, and organist. I guess that makes for a lot of Christmas services. But I still get as excited about them today as I did as a kid. Forget all of the other trappings of Christmas. Give me the Christmas Eve service, and I know it's Christmas. Christmas Eve and Easter are two very special times for any of us who live in the church. They set the cycles by which we live out the rest of our year.

This year seemed especially special. The music was fantastic with Jim Kosnick's playing, and our wonderful choir showing Joe Ritchie's hard work at rehearsing and directing. The church looked absolutely beautiful, thanks to the special efforts of Jim Fisher and Kevin LaPointe. The meal after the service was unbelievable, thanks to Mary Shaffer. Julia Ashby's homily drove the Christmas message home, for me. And so many other people made special contributions to our celebration.

Christmas Eve was as it should have been, even with a few snafus that seem to be part of our Epiphany DNA. When I went to bless the crèche, the Baby Jesus wasn't there, again. We forgot to put Baby Jesus in the procession. When I asked, "Where's Baby Jesus?", down the aisle came a five year old Santa's elf, carefully carrying Baby Jesus. Baby Jesus was tenderly placed in the crèche by Santa's elf. It could only happen at Epiphany. Other places

would have called the bishop, but not Epiphany. I forgot the "carol sing" at the beginning of the service, almost giving the organist a heart attack, as he later told me. But I've done that before, too. So at least I can be comfortable that it's not senility, despite Bob Everett's assurance to the contrary. The two clergy sang a "thank you duet" for their Christmas purses during announcements. We were applauded. That might be considered irregular, but it was Christmas at Epiphany.

So, it was a wonderful midnight service, and we welcomed the newborn Jesus into our lives with prayer, song, scripture, food, and merriment. No other church would do it quite as we did. But it felt so right. It's just Christmas at the corner of Versailles and Lafayette, in Norfolk, Virginia. Have a wonderful Christmas Season, one and all.

Richard +





Vestry Highlights

2017 VESTRY

- ♦ Reported a new format for the Epiphany Name Day Celebration, since it falls on Saturday night this year (see separate article).
- ♦ Reported that our bulk mail is now being sent using “intelligent mail,” which means we no longer have to pay for a permit.
- ♦ Reported that we have exceeded \$100,000 in pledges.
- ♦ Reported that Dominion Energy reimbursement for converting to LED lighting has been received in the amount of \$4,405.
- ♦ Requested that youth bake cookies for first responders again in the spring.
- ♦ Requested an inventory of choir and acolyte vestments for replacement, as necessary.

2018 VESTRY

- ♦ Elected: Co-Wardens: Mike Scott
and Jackie Rochelle
Register: Monique Matuskowitz
Treasurer: John Childers
- ♦ Agreed to continue meeting on the second Thursday of each month at 7 PM preceded by dinner at 6:30.

Vestry Thank yous:...

As the calendar year draws to a close, we say good bye to a few vestry persons who are rotating off and a welcome to new vestry persons who will take their seats on January 1st.

First a big welcome to Mary Shaffer and Monique Matuskowitz who are beginning their three year terms on the Vestry. Normally, there would be three new members, but Todd Bissonnette completed an unexpired term for Arden Porter who went off to school. Todd opted to stand for election to his own three year term. Thank you, Todd, for sticking with us. Your voice is much appreciated.

Now, we say good-bye to two members. Nancy Reynolds who served a three year term as treasurer,

then co-warden, and just all round great vestry person. She knows more about the finances and overall operation of the parish than any of us. If you have a question about anything, go to Nancy. She also represented Epiphany at Diocesan Council in Williamsburg. Thank you, Nancy, for many jobs well done.

And then we have Marcia Cronin. As a professional editor, Marcia could reorganize all of the confusion of a vestry meeting into minutes that made it appear that we knew what we were doing. And in some mysterious way, Marcia was able to write about one thing and talk about another thing at the same time. This was not Marcia’s first term on the vestry and hopefully will not be her last. Sorry, Marcia, but you are now “The Corporate History.”



If you haven’t already turned in your pledge card, please sign it and return to Bob Everett as soon as possible.

Happy New Year! As we worship God together, let us pray for a fruitful year of ministry to the glory of his name.



Feast of the Epiphany



Please join us Saturday, January 6th at 6:00 PM for the Feast of the Epiphany. We will do things a little differently this year. Our service will be Compline (pg. 127 in the Prayer Book) by candlelight. We will sing our Epiphany hymns, light the star, and put the Magi in the crèche. There will be no Eucharist or homily. The service will be followed by an Epiphany Pot Luck supper. Please join us Saturday for our Name Day observance.



7th Brian Pritchard
 Sarah Ann Chacon
 10th Jaylah Newsome
 10th Ray Steckman
 11th Joe Turner
 12th Amy Fernandez
 20th Jim Fisher
 21st Mike Scott
 27th Sheila Brinck

Epiphany Prayer List

Linda Armstrong Kevin LaPointe
Clint Turner Sheila Brinck
Jerry Cronin Grace Strid
Patty Poore



A Special Christmas Thank You ...

for your generous purses. It is truly a joy to be with you all during every season of the year, BUT this type of \$joy\$ is a special treat and greatly appreciated!

Richard+ and Julia+

Epiphany wonder



Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, humanity in God, God in humanity, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look ... their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die.

—Peter Chrysologus (5th century)



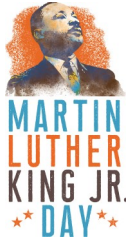


The Epiphany Star

The monthly newsletter of
 Church of the Epiphany,
 1530 Lafayette Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23509
 Priest in Charge: The Rev. Richard Bridgford
 Assisting Priest: The Rev. Julia Ashby
epiphany.norfolk@earthlink.net
www.epiphanynorfolk.org or (757) 622-7672

January 2018

Happy New Year & Happy New Year & Happy New Year

	1 	2 Office open 9-12	3 Office open 9-3 Choir 7 pm	4	5 Al-anon noon– 1 PM	6 Epiphany Name Day Celebration & Potluck 6 PM 																																																																																																								
7 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM	8	9 Office open 9-12	10 Office open 9-3 Choir 7 pm	11 Vestry 6:30 pm	12 Al-anon noon– 1 PM	13																																																																																																								
14 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM	15 	16 Office open 9-12	17 Office open 9-3 Choir 7 pm	18	19 Al-anon noon– 1 PM	20																																																																																																								
21 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM Pre-Council meeting St. Andrews 2 PM	22	23 Office open 9-12	24 Office open 9-3 Choir 7 pm	25	26 Al-anon noon– 1 PM	27																																																																																																								
28 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM	29	30 Office open 9-12	31 Office open 9-3 Choir 7 pm	<table border="1"><tr><th colspan="7">December 2017</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	December 2017							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<table border="1"><tr><th colspan="7">February 2018</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	February 2018							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
December 2017																																																																																																														
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																								
					1	2																																																																																																								
3	4	5	6	7	8	9																																																																																																								
10	11	12	13	14	15	16																																																																																																								
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																																																																																																								
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																																								
31																																																																																																														
February 2018																																																																																																														
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																								
					1	2																																																																																																								
3	4	5	6	7	8	9																																																																																																								
10	11	12	13	14	15	16																																																																																																								
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																																																																																																								
24	25	26	27	28																																																																																																										