

EPIPHANY

Church of the Epiphany December 2018

The Little White Church on the Corner

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

Clergy Clatter

I have a thing about being prepared. I want my homily printed out and ready for the pulpit – none of this “notes scribbled on a napkin” for me. I want printed agendas for meetings. I want to know what I’m going to wear to an event. I check my calendar in the morning before I leave home so I’m ready for whatever the day brings. Sounds perfect, doesn’t it? Well it’s not. There is a fatal flaw to the whole thing. I wait until the very last minute to get prepared. Homilies get written Saturday night, sometimes very late. Clergy Clatter is usually the last thing that goes into the newsletter, driving Parish Administrators crazy. Packing for a trip is something to behold. In my head, I know what I want to do or say, but executing it in an organized and timely manner is something else. I seem to always make it, but it’s at the very last minute. And I’ve always been that way. If I had a project due in school, I’d be up all night putting it together the night before it was due.

This brings me to Advent, our great season of preparation for Christmas, when

we prepare to welcome The Christ into our lives again, and begin a new year on the church calendar. The great cycle begins again with the beautiful season of Advent.

Tuesday on Facebook a site called “Episcopal Church Memes” published the following: “But hurry – there’s only four Sundays of Advent before Christmas!” And then in a big red splash it said, “Come to church this Sunday. Avoid the Christmas rush.”



Oh Boy! I am not ready for this! Four weeks to prepare? And I’m not even ready to prepare to be prepared. But I will make it, somehow. I always do.

In spite of everything, Advent is one of my favorite seasons. I love the music, the colors, the lights, and all of the “Advent things” that start appearing in the church as we build to Christmas. And I do slow down, and I do begin to focus, and in my own scattered way, I somehow begin to prepare.

Have a Blessed Advent Season.

Richard +

Vestry Highlights

November 2018 Vestry

- ♦ Reported that new grounds contractor is doing a beautiful job with the bushes and beds.
- ♦ Reported three vestry nominations: Jim Fisher, Joyce Williams, Tommy Gilleland.
- ♦ Set Congregational Meeting for November 18th.

Christmas Open House



*Mike Diaz and John Childers wish to invite the wonderful people of Epiphany to a **pot luck dinner** at their home. Beverages will be provided.*

Friday, December 14th 7 PM
1515 Bordeaux Place Norfolk, VA
23509

Looking ahead

Join us after both services on December 30th for our traditional black-eyed peas & hog jowls to usher in health & prosperity throughout the New Year!



Tucker House Christmas Party



CHRISTMAS

Our Sunday School will host the Angel Tree giving party at Tucker House on December 16th from 1:30 - 3:00 PM. Please take a tag or two from the giving tree and return with a \$10 gift card by December 16th. Our Sunday School welcomes all help in this activity for the residents. We are asking the congregation to provide finger foods for the residents. We need volunteers to make, deliver and/or serve sandwiches, cookies, etc. that afternoon. For information and to volunteer, please call Carol Fernandez at 214-5738.



- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 Julia Ashby | 19 Tommy Gilleland |
| 6 Shane Foster | 19 Beth Cutrell |
| 8 John Childers | 25 Barbara Lester |
| 9 Jonas Porter | Marysharon Melchiorre |
| 17 Devin Noel Fowler | 26 Elizabeth Willis |



- 29 Marcia & Jerry Cronin



- **Christmas Eve** our service begins at 11:00 PM with a brief "Carol Sing" to allow us to enjoy a few verses of our favorite Christmas music. The service is Holy Eucharist and will include a Blessing of the Crèche. Limited incense is used. The service will end with a candlelight recession. Following the service we will have complimentary "Midnight Refreshments" catered by MJ's and served in the Parish Hall. Please join us for this beautiful service. Bring family, friends and neighbors to celebrate the birth of our Lord.
- **Christmas Day** we will not hold a morning service.
- **Christmas Day Evening:** for those unable to attend the midnight Holy Eucharist Christmas Eve service, there will be a 6:00PM simple Eucharist at **Tucker House**. This is an informal service open to the public and it is handicapped accessible.



**A REMINDER . .
TO THOSE WHO SUPPORT
EPIPHANY
FINANCIALLY:**

All cash or asset contributions for 2018 must be received by the church or postmarked by December 31, 2018 in order for you to deduct the gifts on your 2018 tax return. Any financial gifts received after December 31st will be recorded on your 2019 quarterly giving statement.

Thank you for your financial support and your gifts of time to the Epiphany family.



New Vestry Members for 2019

Congratulations to the following members who were elected to serve three year terms as the class of 2019 on Epiphany's Vestry: Jim Fisher, Tom Gilleland and Joyce Williams!

Bob Everett, Ariel Fernandez and Jackie Rochelle will rotate off Vestry at the end of this year. Both the 2018 Vestry and the 2019 Vestry are asked to attend the Vestry meeting on Thursday, December 13th at 6:30 PM. for dinner followed by the meeting at 7:00.

We are grateful for all of our Vestry members, each of whom dedicates time to serve the congregation of the Church of the Epiphany.



Poinsettias will be placed around the altar on Christmas Eve and stay through our Epiphany celebration. If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one, fill out a form and return it to the office by December 19th. They are \$15 each.

Epiphany Prayer List

*Kevin LaPointe
Ray Steckman
Nell Steckman
Linda Armstrong
Roger Bolen*

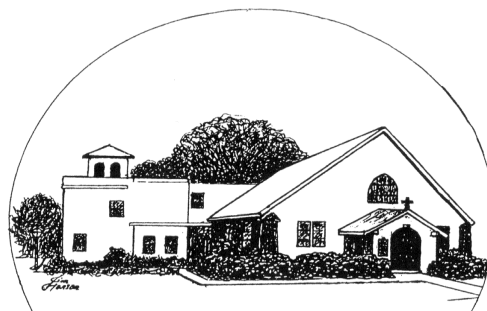
*Sheila Brinck
Jerry Cronin
Patty Poore
Mike Pipis
Rachel Ward*



A sincere thank you to all who helped with our annual Thanksgiving Dinner in the Parish Hall. This list includes those who provided the turkeys, cooked the turkeys, set the tables so beautifully, prepared and brought their goodies from home and last but not least, those who stayed after to help clean up the kitchen after the feast!

Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia

"Friend" the diocese at www.on.fb.me/diosova.
Visit the Diocese website at www.diosova.org.






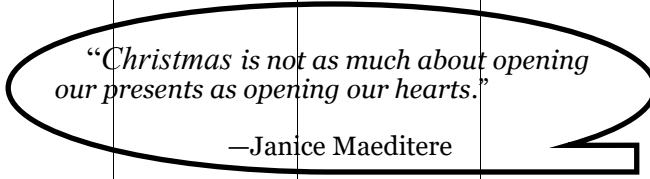
Church of the Epiphany,

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
The Epiphany Star is published monthly.

December 2018



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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|---|---|--|--|---|--|----|
| |  | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 am <i>1st Sunday of Advent Sunday School</i> | 3 | 4 <i>Office open 9-noon</i> | 5 <i>Office open 9-3</i> Choir 7:00 | 6 | 7 Al-anon noon– 1 PM | 8 |
| 9 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 am <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> | 10 | 11 <i>Office open 9-noon</i> <i>HRRC 6 PM</i> | 12 <i>Office open 9-3</i> Choir 7:00 | 13 Vestry 6:30 PM <i>Both old and new Vestries</i> | 14 Al-anon noon– 1 PM <i>Advent Open House at John & Mike's 7 PM</i> | 15 |
| 16 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 am <i>Tucker House Christmas Party 1:30PM</i> | 17 | 18 <i>Office open 9-noon</i> <i>LWCL Holiday Potluck 6:30 PM</i> | 19 <i>Office open 9-3</i> Choir 7:00 | 20 | 21 Al-anon noon– 1 PM  | 22 |
| 23 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 am <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> | 24 Festival Eucharist 11 PM <i>Midnight refreshments follow in the parish hall</i> | 25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Tucker House Eucharist 6 PM | 26 <i>Office open 9-3</i> | 27 | 28 Al-anon noon– 1 PM | 29 |
| 30 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 am <i>Sunday School</i> | 31  | |  <p>“Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts.” —Janice Maeditere</p> | | | |