

# Agape

The Newsletter of  
Calvary Episcopal Church  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

DECEMBER 13, 2020

## Christmas at Calvary

This year, we will celebrate the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ on Christmas Eve at 4 p.m. and on Christmas Day at 9:30 a.m. The services will be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

We will offer a musical prelude, briefer than usual, with a choir of four excellent and faithful singers and several well-known carols as part of the worship on Christmas Eve. Words will be printed in the full-text bulletins that will be available online. We encourage you to sing along at home as you worship.

Thanks to your donations for Christmas memorials and the hard work of several members of the Altar Guild, we will have lovely poinsettias, candles, and other decorations for Christmas. The creche (Nativity Scene) greets all who pass by the church.

Wreaths have been placed on all the external doors since the beginning of Advent with purple ribbons. They change color at Christmas. The lovely Advent wreath has been in the nave since the beginning of the season and remains through Christmas.

The celebration will not look like a “normal” Christmas at Calvary but little has been normal about the last year. The worship will still be beautiful and point to God taking on flesh (Incarnation) in Jesus Christ to bring hope and salvation to the world. We may not all be in the same location but can all be together in spirit. ■



## 100th Anniversary of First Worship Service on Radio

On January 2, 1921, the first worship service on radio, in the world, took place at Calvary with KDKA broadcasting.



Thanks to archivists Bob Dilts and Mary Ann Slater, we have numerous documents from that day including the bulletin. That first service was Evening Prayer with some Christmas music and sermon.

**On Sunday, January 3, 2021 at 11 a.m.**, that will be our customary Rite II Eucharist, we will learn the story of that event and hear music from that day. Our current sharing of worship through the latest form of media is simply a new take on something Calvary has embraced for 100 years.

A reproduction of the service bulletin from the January 2, 1921 is available for viewing on the web version of this issue of *Agape*, and has been posted to the Calvary website. –Jonathon ■



## Livestreamed Services at Calvary

### Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24, 2020 at 4 p.m.

### Christmas Day

Friday, December 25, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

### First Radio Service Anniversary

Sunday, January 3, 2021 at 11 a.m. ■



This winter, Calvary will be offering a Discipleship Class. The class is an opportunity to take a closer look at who we are as Episcopalians and more fundamentally who we are as Christians. The class is also an opportunity for those who are newer to Calvary to connect with others and learn more about the congregation.

The Discipleship Class also serves as preparation for those who are interested in the rites of confirmation, reception, or the reaffirmation of baptismal vows in the Episcopal Church. The class will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. The class will take place over Zoom and use breakout rooms for small group discussions. A Zoom link for the class will be included in the Friday email each week. **The first session will take place on Sunday, January 10, 2021 and the last session on Sunday, April 25.**

Each session will include a short talk by a member of the clergy or a member of the parish, small group discussion, and an opportunity to ask questions. Over the course of the class you can expect to hear about prayer, the sacraments, Calvary's buildings, Calvary's history and identity as a congregation, and get to know others who are new to Calvary. If you are interested in attending or have any questions about the class or about confirmation, reception, or the reaffirmation of baptismal vows contact the Rev. Neil Raman at [nraman@calvarypgh.org](mailto:nraman@calvarypgh.org) ■

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## Church Finances: A Reminder

You are encouraged to make every effort to keep up with your pledge payments during this time of the Church not holding public worship. Our expenses continue apace. Every staff member is paid during this time. They are all busy at Calvary in different ways than usual. You may send payments by mail or electronically. The Church office receives mail delivery daily. Many thanks. ■

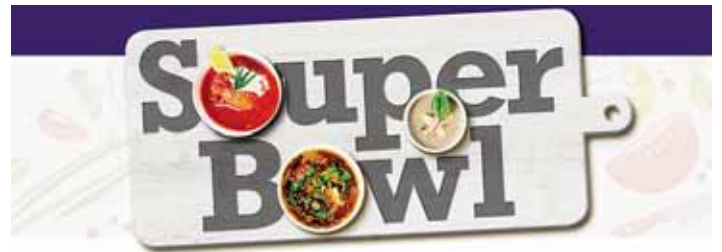
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An expanded version of this issue of *Agape*, with additional content may be viewed on the Calvary website at [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)

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## Home Communion

If you would like to have Communion (bread) brought to your home, the clergy are happy to do so. It will be prepared and placed in a sealed plastic bag and brought to your door. Please contact the clergy or the church office to make arrangements. ■



## Soup Group Sale

On Sunday, February 7, 2021, the Soup Group will be selling dry soup mixes and many of our frozen homemade soups. Pints will be available for \$5 and quarts for \$10. These items will be available in the parking lot if Calvary is not open for worship on that day. Details will be provided next month. If you have a favorite, please let me know.

Although we are not cooking as a group, individuals have been making soups in their homes and taking these soups to Calvary's freezer. We continue to provide soup to our members, friends, family and neighbors free of charge.

If you would like to deliver soup, please call Calvary to check on the times that access is available to the kitchen and the soup. Because of "social distancing," I continue to recommend that the soup be left outside the door of the recipient. Then call to let that person know the soup is there.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support. Go Steelers!

—Adele Eley, [Adele.eley@gmail.com](mailto:Adele.eley@gmail.com) ■

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## Communicating with the Church and Clergy

Each Friday, Calvary will send out an email with some brief announcements and a link to the full-text bulletin for the upcoming Sunday service. The email will have a direct link (one to click on to take you to the page) to the Calvary website and Calvary YouTube and Facebook pages where the service will be streamed. The Calvary YouTube page has an archive of high resolution videos of past services, sermons, and classes. A direct link is far easier than typing the addresses below which also work.

### Calvary YouTube Page

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAsWoq8c-yqHDFay\\_hWtkyQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAsWoq8c-yqHDFay_hWtkyQ)

### Calvary Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch/>

### Clergy Contact Information

Please feel free to contact any of our clergy. We are ready to help.

- The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, [jjensen@calvarypgh.org](mailto:jjensen@calvarypgh.org)
- The Rev. Leslie Reimer, [lreimer@calvarypgh.org](mailto:lreimer@calvarypgh.org)
- The Rev. Neil Raman, [nraman@calvarypgh.org](mailto:nraman@calvarypgh.org)
- Deacon Geoffrey Royce, [groyce@calvarypgh.org](mailto:groyce@calvarypgh.org) ■

## MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



Much as we may value tradition and continuity, it's only fair to admit that no two Christmases are quite alike. Indeed, part of what makes holidays like Christmas important in our lives is that the traditions they represent *do* change as time passes, and those changes offer us milestones along life's path – some joyous, some perhaps neutral, others painful or, at best, bittersweet. A family's first Christmas after the arrival of a child is unlike any that preceded it, and each succeeding year as that child grows is likewise new and different, even if, perhaps, in some ways recognizably the same. And a Christmas with a newly empty seat at the table, or an newly empty pew in the nave, breaks open our hearts to that loss in a fresh way.

I write this, of course, on the way toward a Christmas that will be quite different from all that have preceded it in my lifetime, or in our collective memory. So many treasured traditions are simply on hold, their habitual observance likely suspended in the current circumstances, for our own safety and that of others. Whether your own traditions call for travel, or gathering with family or friends, or simply assembling in church for worship of the new-born King, this is a year that compels us to rethink all of that, and to live with or to make difficult choices freighted with loss.

At a time of year more intertwined with the act of singing than any other, the particular concerns that COVID-19 raises for group-singing seem to pose fresh deprivations, even after the long series of losses of so many sorts that we have faced since March. For what is Christmas without carols? This feels like a reversal of the situation familiar from Psalm 137; when their Babylonian captors demanded songs of the Israelites, the prisoners could only ask, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" Instead, we might find ourselves wondering, how can we traverse this strange landscape without the Lord's song to encourage us? Or, as an old Spiritual poses the question, "How can I keep from singing?"

I'm pleased to report that, at least as of this writing, the annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge, is still "on," the singers "bubbled" together for safety for the duration. Barring a change of that plan, it should air on WQED-FM on Christmas Eve at 10 a.m., and it can also be found via webcast, either live or archived.

Closer to home, our own Lessons and Carols service for Christmas will be offered via livestream on Sunday, December 20, at 5 p.m. This service consists chiefly of choral carols and other music sung at a safe distance by our "quaran-tet," amplifying the lessons tracing the Christmas story. On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, too, our services will be livestreamed (at 4 p.m. and 9:30 a.m., respectively), the former with singers, the latter with

organ music. Familiar carols will predominate the music of both these latter services, in the hope that hearing them may help those listening to sing along in their hearts, from their homes.

It won't, of course, be the same. But I hope and pray that it may be enough to help us all to go, in heart and mind, even unto Bethlehem, to behold once more, yet in a new way, what our God did there two millennia ago, and to receive what the same loving God yearns to bring to birth in our hearts even in the midst of these difficult times.

Stan and Lisa Nevola, longtime section-leaders in our Choir, are taking a leave from our quartet for the sake of safety. Stan, as a transplant-recipient, would be at severe risk of complications in the event of Covid infection, and on the advice of his doctors they have reluctantly decided to withdraw from singing until the risks of outside activity subside. We wish them well, and look forward to their return when that becomes possible. ■

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## Spiritual Reflection – Frederick Buechner



For the Fall/Winter term we are using the writings of Frederick Buechner. Now 94 years old, Buechner is an author of fiction, sermons, daily reflections and memoirs, and recipient of several literature awards and honorary degrees. Buechner's writings on Christianity and spirituality are particularly rich and, according to biographer Dale Brown, encompass these themes: faith despite doubt, hope through grace, searching for meaning, our shared story, meaning of "Christian," and sinners as saints.

Meetings are held using Zoom from 7–8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. **Upcoming meetings will take place on December 15, and January 5 and 19.**

Email Matt Muldoon ([mattmuldoon@msn.com](mailto:mattmuldoon@msn.com)) or Sondra Krimmel ([sskrimmel@gmail.com](mailto:sskrimmel@gmail.com)) for information or to be added to the email list. Please feel welcome to join at any time. ■

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## Holy Baptism

Dates for public celebrations of Holy Baptism will be determined when public worship resumes at Calvary. Private celebrations of the Sacrament can be scheduled by contacting The Reverend Neil Raman ([nraman@calvarypgh.org](mailto:nraman@calvarypgh.org) or 412.661.0120, ext. 112). ■



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Visit the Calvary website at  
[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)

## The Bookstore at Calvary

Get your holiday cards at the Bookstore with Christmas cards displaying the beauty of Calvary Episcopal Church. There is Volume 1 and Volume 2 with each package consisting of seven different cards with matching envelopes for \$10. Each card is imprinted with a Christmas verse and greeting. A project of The Architectural History Committee, the pictures on the cards were taken by Phillip Maye and Ken Smith.

The Bookstore has many items to celebrate Advent including a variety of nativities from around the world, Advent wreaths and candle sets, calendars and daily planners for 2021, decorations for the wall and shelf, music CDs, ornaments, and pins. There are an assortment of Advent calendars for children of all ages including pictures and Bible text, pictures and the Nativity Story, stickers, and many others. In addition, there is a wide selection of books to celebrate the Christmas season for readers of all ages including:

*Light Upon Light: A Literary Guide to Prayer for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany* compiled by Sarah Arthur contains daily and weekly inspirational reading to help the reader prayerfully experience God through the liturgical seasons of winter.

Celebrated author and Benedictine monk Anselm Grün offers a daily reader of very simple and often direct Advent reflections in *Your Light Gives Us Hope: 24 Daily Practices for Advent*.

Melford “Bud” Holland’s *Advent Presence: Kissed by the Past, Beckoned by the Future* offers a new look at Advent by seeing the four weeks through the lens of morning, mid-day, later afternoon and evening, and night. Photographs, stories, and perspectives enrich our travel and invite us to other dimensions of experiencing Advent, as a season and as a resource in our daily living.

*Light of the World: A Beginner’s Guide to Advent* by author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Join her as she traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary’s visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary’s Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt.

Sybil MacBeth writes that Advent and Epiphany are the often-neglected parentheses around Christmas. And they deserve more attention and better publicity. *This Season of the Nativity* sets the stage for the liturgical year, our yearlong journey through Scripture and salvation history.

Episcopal priest Kate Moorehead invites us to enter the story of salvation with our hearts and minds wide open, experiencing the miracle of Jesus through the eyes of witnesses in *I Witness: Living Inside the Stories of Advent & Christmas*.

Christmas is the season most difficult to grasp and understand in all its spiritual richness. Sentimentality and commercialism tend to obscure the profound mystery at its heart: the Incarnation. *God with Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas* edited by Greg Pennoyer

and Gregory Wolfe provides a perfect way to slow down and reconnect with the traditions that illuminate the meaning of Christmas and the Incarnation.

Grown-up literary tastes can find the spirit of the season and originality in format with Robert Sabuda’s stylized paper engineering as the author recalls *The Christmas Story*. This celebration of the Nativity story is a pop-up book constructed almost entirely from plain white paper with gold accents.

For generations, readers have found in the writings of Evelyn Underhill the guidance to help them deepen their own interior lives in the Christian mystical tradition. In *Advent with Evelyn Underhill*, Anglican author and editor Christopher Webber has carefully selected inspirational passages from Underhill’s most significant works, providing readings for every day of Advent and Christmas.

Colorfully illustrated children’s Christmas titles include *This First Christmas Night*, *Jesus is Born*, *The Three Kings: Journey of the Maji*, *The Gift Giver*, *Mary Has a Baby*, *Manger*, *The Nativity*, and *On That Christmas Night*.

**Save the Date:** The Episcopal Booksellers Association will be presenting a Zoom conversation with internationally renowned New Testament and Jewish Studies Professor, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, to discuss her newest book, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner’s Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* on Thursday February 11, 2021 at 7 p.m. EST. This will be a free event and registration will be required. A Zoom registration link will be available soon.



**Alibris** is an online store that sells new books, used books, out-of-print books, rare books, and other media through an online network of independent booksellers since 1997. Calvary has over 200 mostly out of print, donated books which are available online. The collection of offerings includes art, bibles, children’s fiction, comics, and graphic novels, fiction, history, literary collections, literary criticism, nature, poetry, and travel to name just a few. Each title listing includes the edition, binding, publisher, date published, description, and condition. Prices start from as low as \$4. Follow the alibris link from the bookstore page at [www.calvarypg.org](http://www.calvarypg.org).



**This is a reminder that the Bookstore is still available to meet your needs.** If you are interested in obtaining any items, contact the Bookstore at 412.661.0120 ext. 133 (please leave a message) or by email – [bookstore@calvarypg.org](mailto:bookstore@calvarypg.org) and we will contact you. In addition, we can arrange for contactless pick-up of your items. ■



## Planned Giving



“Life is not like navigating through an open field. It is committing oneself to a few institutions that were embedded on the ground before you were born and will be here after you die. It is accepting the gifts of the dead, taking responsibility of preserving and improving an institution and then transmitting that institution, better, on to the next generation.” These are David Brooks’ words in “The Road to Character” as he talks about those who serve in the military, a field of science, the priesthood, as police officers, educators and more because most of us step into institutions that help us to become who we really are inside.

I was moved by Brooks’ words and realized that they apply to most, if not all, Calvary parishioners. We are drawn to Calvary’s intelligent preaching and incredible music. In addition, our robust outreach programs provide the opportunity for us to serve our greater East End community and sometimes communities as far away as Kenya and South Africa. In addition, the warmth and kindness exhibited by our church community as we care for one another - even after witnessing and experiencing this for 25 years - never ceases to amaze me and many others.

David Brooks is saying that once we join these old established institutions, we become part of them and they change our lives. Please spend some quiet time during Advent reflecting on how Calvary has changed your life:

- Maybe one of our many classes or groups from Bible study and Spiritual Reflection to Coventry Circle and EFM has helped you through a difficult time.
- Perhaps you’ve moved furniture for our partner, Off the Floor Pittsburgh, and witnessed a formerly homeless veteran shine with pride that he/she now has a bed, sofa and basic needs in their apartment. (Yes! In case you’re not aware, we have people living in this city with no beds.)
- Or possibly, it was having Leslie Reimer pray with you at the hospital when your child had surgery and letting you know that God is with you.

Calvary has tremendously impacted my life and that of my husband Satya. We will be forever grateful to have found our beloved church home and want to help ensure it will be there for future generations. This is why we have included Calvary in our estate plans. We ask you to please join us by leaving a gift in your will for Calvary Church.

If you have questions about Planned Giving, I’m happy to meet with you. Please contact me at 412.688.9299 or dc1kelly@gmail.com. Our Planned Giving brochure is in the tract rack near Kim Pieratt’s desk, across from the Bookstore, on the left, as you enter from the parking lot. Please take one. If you don’t see any, let me or Kim know.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a healthy, happy new year!

–Deborah Kelly, Planned Giving Chair ■

Support the Women of Calvary this Holiday Season



**Help support the Women of Calvary with our Christmas Candy Sale from Sarris Candies!**

Go to [SARRISCANDIESFUNDRAISING.COM](http://SARRISCANDIESFUNDRAISING.COM)  
Click On-line Ordering, Enter our Group ID# 10-3596  
Then shop the Christmas List for all your favorites  
**Click the direct link on the Calvary website at**  
[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)

FREE SHIPPING to your home!  
No minimum purchase is required  
**Please place orders by December 21, 2020**



Ten Thousand Villages in Pittsburgh is a fair trade retailer of artisan-crafted home decor, personal accessories and gift items from across the globe. Featuring products from more than 130 artisan groups in some 38 countries, we are part of a network of over 390 retail outlets throughout the United States selling Ten Thousand Villages products.

**SHOP IN THE STORE, BY PHONE, OR ONLINE**  
Use the “coupon code” of **FUNDCALVBZ**  
**Sale Dates**

**November 27 – December 15, 2020**

View the on-line Catalog and a direct link to ordering  
on the Calvary website [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)

The Women of Calvary will receive a portion of all sales,  
which will be used for grants to organizations  
that help those in need in our community

## The Day Before Thanksgiving

As COVID-19 numbers have begun to rise again, our public health officials have issued new measures to mitigate the spread of the disease. Many among us would prefer a different foe. This preference is so strong it blinds some to the critical impact of the disease, choosing to blame any other culprit that could be a satisfactory target for their violence. The disease has revealed many things about our culture. As already mentioned, we have a tendency towards not seeing things as they are. This is often coupled with a tendency to make things up to accommodate the way we want life to go, rather than as circumstances demand.

Public health officials have begun to limit business operations, reducing public gatherings and asking people to stay home. This is especially focused on bars and restaurants which ordinarily do a lot of business around the Thanksgiving holiday. Ordinarily, families would be gathering and there would be football games to watch. Even though health officials have limited the hours bars can be open, many have intentionally announced alternative specials that circumvent the limits that have been set.

Many people are boiling over like steam from a kettle. Our culture is very much like a pressure cooker. The tolerances for sustaining balance in our society have become too close, too tight, and under such high pressure can go far out of balance. There are many forces exerting pressure even on the best of days. There is underemployment in an economy that on the best of days is difficult to sustain. Many if not most of the jobs do not pay enough to maintain stability. Even if you had the wherewithall and support to start a business, all it would take in many cases would be a massive infrastructure failure (like one that could swallow a transit bus) and your business might fail. A major weather event could do the same.

Gradually over a period of decades more and more Americans have slipped into food insecurity. During the pandemic one in three Americans could go hungry. On the best of days before the pandemic things were still dire. Hunger is not a good enemy. It opens the door to other enemies. Before the pandemic there were school systems that hesitated to close for weather events because their students would miss the only meal they would get on that day. One in four children in our country go to bed hungry.

Further pressure resulting from our unemployment abyss includes there being no benefits such as healthcare for many. Fair housing practices have historically not operated at scale with existing housing deficits. The temporary shelter system which began in our country in the mid-19th century to provide rooms for vagrants at local police stations has never been at scale with the existing population of homeless people.

Most of us live with the illusory aspiration that all people are created equal. There have always been holes in that dream.

It was originally conceived to marshal a movement to throw off various economic and political forms of the tyranny wrought by kings born of divine right into a position of power. It also spoke to the problem of a privileged aristocracy that maintained its position on the backs of a permanent underclass (Mudsill Theory). Sadly, we know that a true equality was never in the minds of our founders. Women, slaves, and eventually a long list of migrants, as well as indigenous people, were not to be considered equal. Today this ancient human tendency still prevails throughout the world.

It is therefore not an accident nor at all surprising that God sets salvation history in motion by interrupting the enslavement of God's people, Israel, in Egypt. Moses leads God's people out of slavery. They become God's own people, made in God's image.

Equality in an ultimate sense, even in a social sense cannot be calculated by possessions or status. In God's image we are created as extensions of God's power in potential and purpose. In other words, we are created as "possibility." This is why envisioning the Kingdom of God or the Reign of God requires an act of the imagination. In a similar way a work of art that is hidden in a locked room is not functioning as a work of art. It has to be perceived and in that perception the process is never final. It is always becoming.

—The Rev. Geoffrey Royce ■

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## 2020 Women of Calvary Grant Recipients

The results of the 2019 Bazaar included a significant sum of money that the Women of Calvary annually awards to many deserving organizations. As is our tradition, we try to prioritize those organizations which help women and children in the East End, and Pittsburgh in general. With the many challenges of this past year, our help was needed more than ever. Here is the list of the grant recipients for 2020:

- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) – \$2,000
- Casa San Jose – \$2,000
- Diocesan Garden Grant Program – \$500
- Holy Cross Church – \$1,000
- Homeless Children's Education Fund – \$1,500
- Jeremiah's Place – \$1,000
- Jubilee Association – \$2,000
- Off The Floor Pittsburgh – \$2,500
- Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute (PPI) – \$2,000
- Shepherd's Heart Fellowship – \$1,500
- Shepherd Wellness Community – \$1,500
- Sojourner House – \$500
- Western PA Diaper Bank – \$1,000
- YMCA (Homewood) – \$2,000
- Calvary Clergy Discretionary Fund – \$3,000

*A description of each organization may be viewed on the calvary website or the online version of this issue of Agape. ■*



### Happy Holidays from Beginnings!

It was so much fun returning from our Thanksgiving break with snowy, wintry weather. Our teachers brought sleds to school and pulled their students around the playground. Our Orange Team brought some snow inside and made snowballs and little snowmen after reading *Snowball Soup* by Mercer Mayer, *Ten on the Sled* by Kim Norman, and *Snow Dance* by Lezlie Evans.

Our Blue Team began their new unit called “Love and Celebrations.” The students are learning about the holidays of Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa by exploring the customs and traditions involved in each. They are making Kwanzaa Quilts, Kwanzaa Unity Cups, Popsicle stick Menorahs, Christmas wreaths, and Baby Jesus in a Manger. Because kindness and giving are ways we show love, the Blue Team has a Kindness Blitz taking place this month, with their goal being “Pay Kindness Forward” to raise \$50 for the East End Cooperative Ministry’s Holiday Toy Drive. One of our Blue Team families shared their son’s kindness acts toward his sister – he let her choose a movie for their family movie night and allowed her to lead the family on their hike in the woods. They have already exceeded their goal!

Our younger teams began their unit called “Traditions and Lights.” The Purple Team began with a reading and literacy study of *Gingerbread Baby* by Jan Brett in preparation for their shadow show in our upcoming Holiday Program. The story follows an old American tradition of making gingerbread houses this time of the year. They will make their own gingerbread houses using cardboard boxes, icing, graham crackers and candy pieces. Advent calendar activities are planned to help our students with their math skills.

Our teams have been practicing for our annual Holiday Program that will be performed virtually this year on Thursday, December 17. Our performances will include “Jingle Bells” (Orange Team); “Powwow” (Green Team); “This Little Light of Mine” and a Shadow Show of *Gingerbread Baby* (Purple Team); and “What a Wonderful World” (Blue Team).

We continue receiving words of appreciation from our parents for keeping Beginnings safe for their children during the pandemic. A quote from one of our parents to a teacher: “You are role modeling so much for Beginnings children and families: kindness, perseverance, resilience, gratitude

and strength. We would be so grateful that our child is in your class under the best of circumstances, and given that Covid has taken us very far from that, we feel a unique gratitude that’s difficult to adequately express. These kids are first and foremost safe at school, but also engaged, excited, growing and expanding their hearts and minds. All of the pictures of those masked and happy little preschoolers warm my heart on a daily basis.”

Our Winter Break will be from December 18 until January 4. Beginnings will reopen on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

–Tammy Lewis, *Director* ■

## CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### Christmas Pageant

Our children and youth will present this year’s Christmas pageant virtually. We originally planned to provide the link to our pageant in this month’s *Agape*, but filming was rescheduled due to inclement weather. It will now be available on **December 20**, the Sunday before Christmas. Watch for the video link in the Friday email blast and on the front page of Calvary’s website ([www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)). If you would like to be involved in the pageant, please email [TLewis@calvarypgh.org](mailto:TLewis@calvarypgh.org).

**Age 3 - K:** Children in this age group are welcome to join our Sunday morning Zoom sessions with Grades 1 – 6 from 9:50–10:50 a.m. You are also encouraged to join our Children’s Christmas Eve Zoom session. (Meeting IDs and Passcodes are listed below.)

**Grades 1-6:** Sunday school Zoom sessions will be held from 9:50–10:50 a.m. until further notice. (Meeting ID: 878 8224 3941, Passcode: 116060). Led by Tammy Lewis.

**A Children’s Christmas Eve Zoom session** will be held from 5–6 p.m. (Meeting ID: 972 894 4881, Passcode: 049360) If you plan to participate, please email Tammy Lewis at [TLewis@calvarypgh.org](mailto:TLewis@calvarypgh.org).

**Youth, Grades 7+:** Sunday school Zoom sessions will be held during Advent from 10–10:45 a.m. (Meeting ID: 812 6517 4553, Passcode: 839660). Led by Laura Marchl.

–Tammy Lewis, *Director of Children’s Christian Formation*,  
[tlewis@calvarypgh.org](mailto:tlewis@calvarypgh.org), 412.661.0120 ext. 116 ■





## An Open and Shut Case

**Yes You Can, No You Can't:** After weeks of cautious assembly, virus surge judged sufficient to force return to internet-only events. After weeks of streaming from Sanctuary only, then moving to

Crossing Altar for communal celebrations of the Eucharist (ala nine o'clock), services now morph into semblance of fondly remembered eleven o'clock format. Clergy and Lectors learn to bravely address ever-attentive, un-blinking cameras and Nave of seeming oaken vacancy, occupied in spirit only.

**A Nebby Nod To:** Patrick, Liz, Fred, Katie, Charles, Karen, and Jamie - uncredited masking Lectors over the past month, reading on Sunday mornings, Thanksgiving, and the Service of Lessons and Carols.

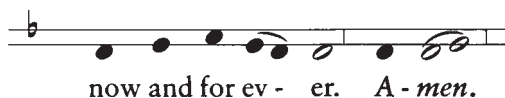
**Extra-Ordinary Evening:** About that service – live-streamed only. Always amazing how our quartet of choir members blend to make such a lovely, transparent, and moving sound. It's still out there for listening and viewing on ubiquitous YouTube.

**Matthew Moves On-Line:** No live Sunday morning event for now. Rector records, YouTube distributes, YouChoose your class time.

**Anticipatory Decorations Appear Nevertheless:** Purple-ribboned wreaths of Advent adorn church exterior. Bookstore lit in purple lights and open for business both on new Calvary website link and for limited in-person shopping. The season is upon us no matter what.

**Fun Facts Around the Facility:** 1 – Failed 40-year-old, 219-gallon parish house water heater finally replaced. 2 – Furnace fans fixed in south church transept. 68+ degrees now easily attained. 3 – Figures in for city's electronics/hazardous materials drop-off event held in Calvary parking lot in October: 16,364 pounds of material collected! Heavy! Well recycled, Y'all.

**Always On Sundays:** The Church building may have been re-closed Sundays, but Worship Services and support services go on. Mostly on-line but available, nonetheless. Situation expected to continue in some degree or other for an unknown while. Even when over, that remote internet thing likely to be with us...



## Christmas Memorials

If you would like to have your loved ones remembered in the Christmas Eve Order of Service, please fill out this form and return it, with your donation, by Monday, December 14, 2020.

Name (as you would like it to appear): *please print*

Donor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the Church office

or mail to: Lynda Kennedy

Calvary Episcopal Church,

315 Shady Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206

You may also email Kim Pieratt at [kpieratt@calvaryppgh.org](mailto:kpieratt@calvaryppgh.org) with your information, and then mail your donation to the church office. ■

## EECM Food Pantry

East End Cooperative Ministry Food Pantry is still operating during the pandemic, with appropriate plans to protect those receiving food. Donations can be dropped off at Calvary during office hours: Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday mornings from 10 a.m. until Noon. Below is a list of items particularly requested at this time. Thank you to all who have continued to donate to the EECM food cart. Your support is greatly appreciated.

- Bottled Water
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Canned tomato sauce, vegetables, beans
- Spaghetti and macaroni pasta
- Canned soups
- Mac & Cheese boxes
- Oatmeal and whole grain cereals
- White and brown rice
- Disposable utensils (fork, spoon, knife)
- Disposable plates
- Disposable bowls
- Ziploc bags, any size
- Napkins
- Paper Towels
- Sugar
- Salt ■



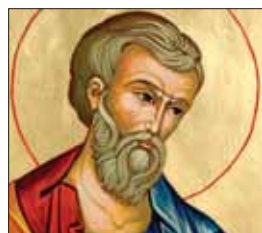
## Plastic Recycling

**Thank you** to the many people that are recycling plastic film to the collection box located just inside the Parish House doors across from the reception desk. We will continue our practice of recycling here at Calvary. ■





The services will be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube then posted for later viewing ■



## GOSPEL OF MATTHEW CLASS

The Rector leads a weekly class on the Gospel of Matthew on Sundays at 10 a.m. which are recorded and posted to the Calvary website and YouTube. The Calvary bookstore has resources available. Follow the link from the Calvary website: [www.calvarypg.org](http://www.calvarypg.org). ■



## An Advent Evening Meditation

Leslie Reimer will offer a meditation for this season of light and expectation on Tuesday evening, **December 15 at 8:30 p.m.** Please join us for a time of quiet reflection and prayer at the end of the day. Watch for the link on the Calvary website. ■

## January 6 is The Epiphany



The Holy Eucharist will be livestreamed on **Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.** via Facebook and YouTube. Follow the link on our website.

Epiphany commemorates the Magi's visit to the baby Jesus and the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. ■

## Have you completed and returned your 2021 Annual Appeal Pledge Card?

If you need a pledge card, please visit the Calvary website or contact Kim Pieratt in the Church office at 412.661.0120 extension 111 or email her at [kpieratt@calvarypg.org](mailto:kpieratt@calvarypg.org)

### Stewardship of All Our Gifts

Thank you to all who have made a commitment to support Calvary in this upcoming year. Giving from parishioners constitutes the majority of our income. We appreciate your generosity and commitment during these difficult times.

Twenty-three families have made new pledges this year. About 30% of those who have pledged have raised their commitment from last year. If you are able, please join us and make a pledge to support Calvary's mission and ministry. ■

## CALVARY YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

If you are in your 20s or 30s and new to Pittsburgh, Calvary, or CYAM, welcome! For more information, or to be added to our email list, please contact The Rev. Neil Raman at [nraman@calvarypg.org](mailto:nraman@calvarypg.org) / 412.661.0120 ext. 112.

**Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 5:45 p.m.**

Holy Happy Hour over Zoom

**Wednesday, January 13 at 7 p.m.**

Bible Study over Zoom

**Wednesday, January 20 at 7 p.m.**

Bible Study over Zoom

**Thursday, January 21 at 5:45 p.m.**

Holy Happy Hour over Zoom

**Wednesday, January 27 at 7 p.m.**

Bible Study over Zoom ■



Find us on: **facebook®**

[www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch](http://www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch)

## Altar Flowers

Help us keep the church in full bloom by donating flowers in memory of, or in honor of, someone special. If you would like to place a memorial listing, please contact Kim Pieratt in the church office at 412.661.0120, ext. 111. ■

## 2020–21 Holidays & Observances

Friday, December 18: **Last Day of Hanukkah**

Monday, December 21: **First Day of Winter**  
(December Solstice)

Thursday, December 24: **Christmas Eve**

Friday, December 25: **Christmas Day**

Thursday, December 31: **New Year's Eve**

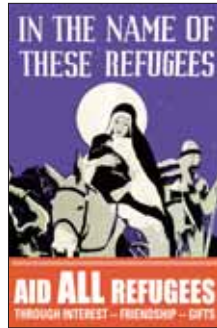
Friday, January 1: **New Year's Day** [Federal Holiday]

Wednesday, January 6: **The Epiphany**

Monday, January 18: **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
[Federal Holiday] ■

## Who is a Refugee?

"Refugee" is a legal term used to define an individual who: "...owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it."



### Episcopal Migration Ministries History

The Episcopal Church has served immigrants new to the U.S. since the late 1800s, when the Church opened port chaplaincies to minister to sojourners on both coasts. In the 1930s, local parishes collected donations to provide steamship passage for those fleeing Nazi Europe.

### The Road to Establishment

Out of this effort, the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief was born, the forerunner organization to Episcopal Relief & Development and Episcopal Migration Ministries. Through the mid- and late 20th century, we partnered with other faith organizations to resettle those oppressed by the Iron Curtain and the genocides of Southeast Asia. In the 1980s Episcopal Migration Ministries was formally established and, in partnership with a network of affiliate agencies, dioceses, churches, and volunteers, is today one of only nine national agencies through which all refugees enter the United States. To date, Episcopal Migration Ministries has helped more than 95,000 persons resettle and thrive in this land.

(The illustration is a reprint of a poster produced by the Diocese of Ohio from 1938. The poster depicts Mary, with the baby Jesus clutched in her arms, mounted atop a donkey. Joseph looks behind to see if he is being followed.) ■

## Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, January 8, 2021**. Please e-mail your text to [calvary@calvarypgh.org](mailto:calvary@calvarypgh.org) or deliver it directly to the church office.

*Agape*, the newsletter of Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is published monthly (except July), and is mailed to active members and friends of the Parish. You may opt out of receiving a printed copy and read each issue online at [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org). Contact the Parish office at 412.661.0120 for details. ■

Please remember Calvary Church  
in your will.



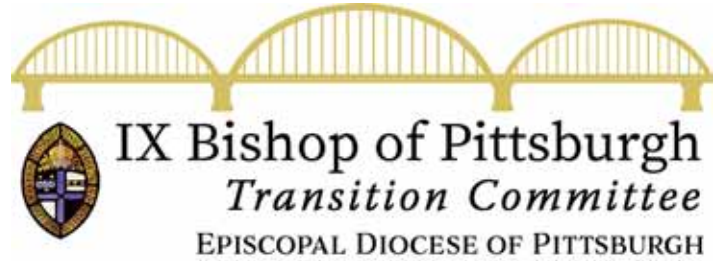
315 Shady Avenue ■ Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206  
email: [calvary@calvarypgh.org](mailto:calvary@calvarypgh.org) ■ [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)  
telephone: 412.661.0120

The Reverend Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*  
The Reverend Leslie G. Reimer, *Senior Associate Rector*  
The Reverend Neil K. Raman, *Associate Rector*  
The Reverend Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*  
The Reverend Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Dr. Moni McIntyre, *Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Geoffrey Royce, *Deacon*  
Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan, *McNulty Intern*  
The Reverend Dr. Harold T. Lewis, *Rector Emeritus*  
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*  
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*  
Jamie McMahon, *Senior Warden*  
G. Frederic Roth, *Junior Warden*  
Robert Eley, *Treasurer*  
Lynda Kennedy, *Director of Finance*  
Tammy Lewis, *Director, Beginnings;*  
*Director of Children's Formation*  
Kim Pieratt, *Parish Administrator*  
Louise Wells, *Special Assistant to the Rector*  
Kenneth Smith, *Director of Communications*  
Jim Gubash, *Head Sexton*  
Adam Augustine, Ron Johnston,  
James Knight, Mary Ann Packer, *Sextons*  
Sherry Bloom, *Manager*, The Bookstore at Calvary  
Robert Dilts, Mary Ann Slater, *Archivists*

[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)



# News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh



## Bishop's Visitation Schedule

- December 13** Advent, Brookline
- December 20** Nativity, Crafton
- December 24** Trinity Cathedral (*Christmas Eve*)
- December 27** *No Visitation* ■

## Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

- December 13:** Church of the Advent, Brookline
- December 20:** Church of the Nativity, Crafton, and the Rev. Shawn Malarkey; and St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Crafton, and the Rev. Doug Kinsey
- December 27:** Diocesan staff including Rich Creehan, the Rev. Canon Natalie Hall, the Rev. Canon Kim Karashin, Andy Muhl, Marlene Rihn, and Canon Kathi Workman ■



Find us on:  
**facebook**®

[www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh](http://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh)

## Stay in Touch with the Diocese

Visit the diocesan website at  
[www.episcopalpgh.org](http://www.episcopalpgh.org)

Submissions for publication on the diocesan web site, calendar, and the *Grace Happens* weekly e-newsletter should be sent electronically to  
[info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org).

Please be sure to include your complete contact information with any submission. ■

**The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh mailing address:**  
325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412.721.0853 | [info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org)

**The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Bishop**  
412.721.0853 ext. 252 | [dmccconnell@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:dmccconnell@episcopalpgh.org)

**Andy Muhl, Executive Assistant**  
412.721.0853 ext. 251 | [amuhl@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:amuhl@episcopalpgh.org) ■

## Members Named to Bishop Transition Committee

*November 17, 2020*

The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh announces the appointment of 11 individuals who will serve on the committee that will offer incoming hospitality to individuals called to serve as our next Bishop, and outgoing hospitality to our retiring Bishop.

The charge of the Transition Committee is to handle planning, logistics and hospitality for the final slate of candidates for Bishop, including the "walkabouts" prior to the electing convention in April 2021; farewell gifts and celebrations for Bishop McConnell and Betsy; and the consecration of the new Bishop in September 2021, pending consent from a majority of the Bishops and Standing Committees of the Episcopal Church.

The Transition Committee will be chaired by Jon Delano, a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon. Jon is the outgoing Chair of Diocesan Council and was chair of the successful Project CREED and its subcommittee on Diocesan Governance. Jon has also served on our Standing Committee and has been a deputy to General Convention. Florence Atwood, a member of Calvary Episcopal Church, East Liberty, will serve as Vice Chair of the Committee. Florence has been a vestry member and Senior Warden at Calvary and was a member of Calvary's Search Committee in 2013.

The Transition Committee will begin its work with an all-day retreat on Saturday, January 9, 2021.

The Rev. Don Youse will serve as Chaplain to the Transition Committee, a post which he held during the last bishop search in 2011-12. His responsibility will be to help Committee members keep their focus on the spiritual nature of the transition process during meetings, public events and in private conversations.

The Standing Committee has also named Judy Stark as the consultant to the Transition Committee. Judy is a lay leader in the Diocese of Southwest Florida and has consulted on 19 bishop searches over the past two decades. She is currently serving as a consultant to the Nominating Committee and was recently a consultant to our Project CREED.

*—continued on the back*

**The Transition Committee**

Jon Delano, Chair, St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon  
 Florence Atwood, Vice Chair,  
 Calvary Episcopal Church, East Liberty  
 The Rev. Canon Dr. Catherine Brall,  
 St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Canonsburg  
 Gerald W. Dalton, St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg  
 D. Maximillion Elliott-Quinerly,  
 Emmanuel Episcopal Church, North Side  
 Kathleen Farrington,  
 Calvary Episcopal Church, East Liberty  
 Thomas Moore, Trinity Cathedral  
 Mary Ann Slater,  
 Calvary Episcopal Church, East Liberty  
 The Rev. Julie Smith,  
 St. Brendan's, Franklin Park  
 The Rev. Luke Zerra,  
 St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon  
 Dr. George Zitnay,  
 St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier

**Chaplain**

The Rev. Don Youse, Jr., M.D.,  
 Emmanuel Episcopal Church, North Side

**Consultant**

Ms. Judy Stark, Cathedral Church of St. Peter,  
 Diocese of Southwest Florida

**Prayers Requested**

At our meetings this year, the Standing Committee has offered up the following prayer, taken from the Book of Common Prayer (p. 818, with slight modification), and we ask that all of the congregations of the Diocese continue to incorporate this prayer into their regular worship through the period of search and discernment up to the Special Convention in April 2021:

*Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, and those who offer themselves as candidates, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Faithfully yours in Christ, **The Standing Committee:**

Russell Ayres, President  
 Lisa Brown, Secretary  
 The Rev. Noah Evans  
 The Rev. Jonathon Jensen  
 Robert A. Johnston  
 The Rev. Eric McIntosh  
 The Rev. Annis Rogers  
 Stephen Stagnitta ■



Patricia Allen, director of communications at St. James' Church in New York City, protects a sheep from coronavirus while recording a virtual Christmas pageant.

*Photo by Robert Bredvad ■*



The 2021 session of SUMMA Theological Debate Camp is scheduled for July 20–28 in beautiful Sewanee, Tennessee. Applications will open soon.

The Summer Camp brings together high school students from across the country to one of the largest and most beautiful college campuses anywhere – the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee.

Each day at SUMMA begins and ends with prayer in the beautiful Chapel of the Apostles at the School of Theology. In between stimulating lectures and discussions, campers enjoy hiking, play sports and music, and engage in arts and crafts and other activities.

Read more at <https://summa.sewanee.edu> ■

# Calvary Church in Pittsburgh

The Second Sunday After Christmas.

JANUARY 2, 1921.

- 8:30 A. M.—THE HOLY COMMUNION.  
9:30 A. M.—MORNING PRAYER AND SERMON.  
Mr. Whittemore preaches  
9:30 A. M.—THE CHURCH SCHOOL.  
11:00 A. M.—THE HOLY COMMUNION AND SERMON.  
Mr. van Etten preaches

## The Collect

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word; Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Hymns

49, 418, 324, 540.

## The Anthems.

Joseph, tender Joseph mine,  
Help me rock this babe divine.  
Son of God in lowly stall,  
Bringing peace on earth,  
Good will to all.  
Rejoice! to us is born this day,  
In Bethlehem, Christ the Lord,  
His praise be everlasting,  
Sleep, sleep,  
Son of God in lowly cradle,  
Sleep, Oh Lord, Jesus Christ.

—Christmas Song XIV Century

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
As men of old have sung.

It come a flow'ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When halfspent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind,  
With Mary we behold it,  
The Virgin Mother kind.

To shed God's love aright  
She bore to men a Saviour,  
When halfspent was the night.

—Praetorius

# New Year's Service.

7:45 P. M.

Mr. Whittemore preaches

Processional Hymn 321.

Evening Prayer (Prayer Book p. 16)

## ANTHEM CAROLS—

Came Three Holy Kings.....Russian  
Carol of the Russian Children.....White Russia  
The Angels and the Shepherds.....Bohemian  
Bethlehem.....Folks Song of Italy

## OFFERTORY CAROLS—

Jesu Bambino.....Italian  
We Three Kings.....English  
The Shepherd's Story.....Morris

## KNEELING CAROL—Holy Night, Peaceful Night.

Recessional Hymn 51.

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## NOTES AND COMMENTS

### A Happy New Year to You All!

I want to write a word of thanks to you all for making our Christmas such a good one. The music was never better. The church is lovely with Christmas greens. The Children's Festival and Tree was the best we have ever had—with some 700 children in the church. The services were attended by large congregations both on Christmas Day and on the following Sunday. Mrs. Groff tells me that more contributions were sent for the Christmas baskets than she remembers in many years.

One of the gracious kindnesses of the season was the thoughtful remembrance of your parsons with many tokens of Christmas cheer. Mr. Whittemore and I are very appreciative of your constant courtesies.

I wonder if you know what the Choir men and boys do on Christmas Eve? It is a time when families most gladly stay at home together. At considerable sacrifice, our choir take each year a list of sick and shut-in persons and go to sing carols at their houses. This year again I gave Mr. Gaul a list of such persons. His only comment was that they could visit more places than I had suggested! So we added to the list.

The regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held Thursday, January 6th, at 10:30 A. M. in St Peter's Parish House.

---

## THE EPIPHANY

Thursday of this week (January 6) is the Feast of the Epiphany or Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. This is the supposed time of the visit of the Magi or Wisemen to the new-born Christ child. The Holy Communion is at ten o'clock.

## EPIPHANY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Next Sunday night (January 9) we plan the Epiphany Candlelight Service with its impressive symbolism of the spread of the Light. From the great Candle burning for our Lord, are lighted lesser candles for the Apostles and Bishops of the Church. From them the light spreads to clergy and choir.

"Come ye and let us walk in the light of the Lord. And He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths."

---

## BASKET BALL LEAGUE

The Boys' Club is entered in the Episcopal Church Basket Ball League with the following Churches: St. Thomas, Oakmont; St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg; St. James, St. Peter's, Ascension and Calvary. Our games up to date have resulted in the following scores:

Calvary—St. Thomas.....	35-36
Calvary—St. James.....	30-13
Calvary—Ascension .....	27-25
Calvary—St. Stephen's .....	28-19
Calvary—St. Peter's .....	41-13
Calvary—Ascension .....	32-34

Any young men in the parish who are interested in playing basket ball are invited to come to the gymnasium on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

---

## CLERGY CALLS

Unless prevented Mr. Lang and I plan to call on Tuesday afternoon, January 4, (2-5) on parishioners whose addresses we have on the following streets:—Penn to Negley, Broad, Dearborn, Kincaid, Rosetta, Breedshill, Colombo, Breedsport, Schenley, Warble, Winebiddle, Evaline, Pacific, Atlantic, Rebecca, Graham, Fairmount, and Roup.

And on Thursday afternoon, January 6 we hope to visit on these streets:—Woodland, Murrayhill Ave., S. Negley above Fifth Ave., Dunmoyle St. and Place, Fair Oaks.

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## TONIGHT'S SERVICE

An interesting arrangement has been made for tonight's service. The International Radio Company (Westinghouse) has installed wireless telephone receiving apparatus in the chancel, and tonight's music, sermon and service will be flashed for a radius of more than a thousand miles through space! There will be special Christmas Carols and Gounod's magnificent Credo by the choir. Mr. Whittemore will preach a New Year's sermon.

Is it not wonderful to think that wireless receivers for hundreds of miles around us may hear tonight the incomparable service of the prayer book; the lovely carols of Christmas; the tremendous Nicene confession; and the spoken sermon's word of cheer for the New Year!

## NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the Sunday in the week or "octave" of the Epiphany Festival. In the morning I hope to preach on "The Three Kings." In the evening we plan our Epiphany Candlelight Service.

### MRS. HARRAH COMES TO CALVARY

It is a great satisfaction to tell you that Mrs. Ella M. Harrah, for the last six years the Medical-Social Worker at the Homeopathic Hospital in Pittsburgh will come to us in January for a month's trial of the position of our Parish Nurse. Mrs. Harrah is well known to many of our parish people who are interested and informed in community work. She has had a wide and varied experience in nursing and in social work. More than this for the past nine years she has been working here in our own city. I am indeed glad she will make trial of working here with us. And I bespeak for her most cordial welcome and co-operation from you all!

### THE CHRISTMAS MANGER

It is always a delight to see so many people each year coming with their children to see the Christmas Manger. The church is open each day until five o'clock. Everyone is welcome to come in to the beautiful quiet church, fragrant with balsam greens, and see the Manger and pray a prayer to the dear Christ of Christmas.

### THE NEW YEAR

"He came to my desk with a trembling lip,—  
The lesson was done,—  
'Dear teacher, I want a new leaf,' he said;  
'I have spoiled this one.'  
I took the old leaf, soiled and blotted,  
And gave him a new one all unspotted,  
And into his sad eyes smiled,  
'Do better now, my child.'

"I came to the Throne with a trembling soul—  
The old year was done,—  
'Dear Father, I want a new leaf,' I said;  
'I have spoiled this one.'  
He took the old leaf, stained and blotted,  
And gave me a new one all unspotted  
And into my sad heart smiled,  
'Do better now, my child.'"

Edwin J. Van Etten



THE WOMEN OF CALVARY'S  
*Christmas Candy Sale*

Please place orders by December 21, 2020



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**Help support the Women of Calvary with our  
Christmas Candy Sale from Sarris Candies!**

**Go to [SARRISCANDIESFUNDRAISING.COM](https://SARRISCANDIESFUNDRAISING.COM)  
Click On-line Ordering and Enter our Group ID# 10-3596**

Shop the Christmas List for all your favorites

**FREE SHIPPING to your home!  
No minimum purchase is required**

The Women of Calvary will receive a portion of all sales,  
which will be used for grants to organizations that help those in need in our community



## THE WOMEN OF CALVARY BAZAAR FUNDRAISER



Ten Thousand Villages in Pittsburgh is a fair trade retailer of artisan-crafted home decor, personal accessories and gift items from across the globe. Featuring products from more than 130 artisan groups in some 38 countries, we are part of a network of over 390 retail outlets throughout the United States selling Ten Thousand Villages products.

**SHOP IN THE STORE,  
BY PHONE, OR ONLINE**

Use the "coupon code" of **FUNDCALVBZ**

**Sale Dates**  
**Nov. 27 – Dec. 15, 2020**

View the on-line Catalog and a direct link to ordering  
on the Calvary website

**[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)**

The Women of Calvary will receive a portion of all sales,  
which will be used for grants to organizations  
that help those in need in our community

## 2020 Women of Calvary Grant Recipients

Can you remember last fall, when life was normal and we hadn't started to quarantine yet? Many of us enjoyed attending or volunteering at Calvary's annual Holiday Bazaar. As usual, it was a festive and happy time. The results of that event included a significant sum of money that the Women of Calvary annually awards to many deserving organizations. As is our tradition, we try to prioritize those organizations which help women and children in the East End, and Pittsburgh in general. With the many challenges of this past year, our help was needed more than ever. Here is the list of the grant recipients for 2020.

Thank you to everyone who contributed time and talent and treasure to the bazaar, to help these organizations. And, although we were unable to hold our Holiday Bazaar this year, please be generous in donating to the WOC Bazaar Fund for 2020 so that we can again grant awards to organizations such as these.

### Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

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Allegheny County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) train community volunteers who work with the complex child welfare system to advocate for the best interest of abused and neglected children. WOC's grant of \$2,000 provides the funds to support the costs of advocacy for two children for one year.

### Casa San Jose

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Originally begun by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Casa San Jose provides support to recently arrived Latinos who are immigrants or refugees. WOC's grant of \$2,000 will provide funds for emergency needs such as doctor appointments, shoes, DACA renewal, etc.

### Church of the Holy Cross

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The Church of the Holy Cross is a sister church in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. To counteract growing food scarcity, Holy Cross has established an Annual Vegetable Garden project, turning a vacant lot into a community garden. WOC's grant of \$1,000 supports the annual vegetable garden, providing much needed fresh produce to the community.

### Diocesan Garden Grant Program

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The Diocese supports Episcopal parishes that create or sustain functioning vegetable gardens to supply locally grown produce for our neighbors who have limited access to fresh produce and healthy food supplies. WOC's grant of \$500 will support one new parish sponsored garden.

### Homeless Children's Education Fund (HCEF)

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The HCEF is a non-profit agency solely dedicated to providing educational opportunities and experiences for children and youth residing in 27 of Allegheny County's homeless shelters. WOC's grant of \$1,500 supports the emergency fund for material educational supplies.

### Jeremiah's Place

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Jeremiah's Place is a 24/7 crisis nursery serving children ages birth to six years old when families are experiencing a crisis or emergency, having served over 1,000 children since opening in April, 2014. WOC's grant of \$1,000 will assist in the purchase of a new security system.

### Jubilee Association

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Originally begun as the Jubilee Soup Kitchen, for over 30 years the Jubilee Association serves countless homeless and near-homeless with meals, medical clinic, pantry services and assistance in social services such as housing, healthcare and early child development. WOC's grant of \$2,000 provides needed resources to the John Heinz Child Development Center Scholarship Fund.

—continued

### Off the Floor Pittsburgh

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Off the Floor is a local Christian ministry dedicated to supporting families who cannot afford basic furniture for their homes. They delivered needed furniture to over 500 households this year, including over 1,700 children, with a waiting list of 125 families. WOC's grant of \$2,500 provides funds to assist at least 10 families on the waiting list.

### Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute (PPI)

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The Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute is Western Pennsylvania's oldest interfaith counseling center providing mental health services to over 1,000 persons annually. The WOC grant of \$2,000 supports the Client Aid Fund, which provides funds for over 100 sessions for women who need PPI's counseling services especially given the additional stress in the time of Covid, but who cannot afford the fee.

### Shepherd's Heart Fellowship

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Shepherd's Heart provides multiple services for veterans and others who are homeless, providing temporary shelter, drop-in center, food pantry, community gathering and worship center. WOC's grant of \$1,500 supports the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to help vulnerable homeless veterans.

### Shepherd Wellness Community

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Shepherd Wellness Community is the only HIV/AIDS community in Western Pennsylvania, offering a safe, compassionate community accepting and empowering people affected by HIV/AIDS to live with dignity. Unable to hold their in-person Wellness Dinners, WOC's grant of \$1,500 will support the Frozen Wellness Meals Program during this time of Covid quarantines.

### Sojourner House

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Sojourner House is a local organization that provides housing and mentoring to women who, with their children, are in recovery and homeless. The WOC grant of \$500 will support the Charity Care needs of women who need a place for recovery and independence.

### Western Pennsylvania Diaper Bank

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The Western PA Diaper Bank ensures that every baby in need has clean diapers and wipes to remain healthy and dry. No government assistance is available for these basic needs. WOC's grant of \$1,000 will support the basic needs of families with infant children.

### YMCA (Homewood)

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The YMCA for the Homewood-Brushton neighborhoods has established a Community Learning Hub for children to participate in online learning within pods of 11 children each. This Hub ensures that children have access to virtual learning within their own space, as well as supplies such as headphones, crayons, pencils, etc. The WOC's grant of \$2,000 will support scholarships to the YMCA Community Learning Hub for Homewood-Brushton.

### Calvary Clergy Discretionary Fund

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Throughout the year, our clergy minister to and counsel many people, and support a myriad of pastoral needs. As the Women of Calvary have done for many years, the annual grant of \$3,000 provides monetary support to the clergy for the unanticipated needs of those who come to them for solace and support.

**Deadline (Friday):**

**Publication Date (Sunday):**

January 8 ..... January 17  
 February 5 ..... February 14 [Lenten Issue]  
 March 5 ..... March 14 [Easter Issue]  
 April 9 ..... April 18  
 May 7 ..... May 16  
 June 4 ..... June 13 [Summer Issue]  
 August 13 ..... August 22  
 September 10 ..... September 19  
 October 8 ..... October 17  
 November 5 ..... November 14 [Advent Issue]  
 December 3 ..... December 12

## 2021 CALENDAR

January	February	March	April																																																																																																																																																																																		
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315 Shady Ave.  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15206-4388  
 412.661.0120  
 www.calvarypgh.org  
 email: calvary@calvarypgh.org



## 2021 Holidays and Observances

Jan 1	Friday	New Year's Day [Federal Holiday]
Jan 6	Wednesday	The Epiphany
Jan 18	Monday	Martin Luther King Jr. Day [Federal Holiday]
Feb 7	Sunday	Super Bowl
Feb 14	Sunday	Valentine's Day
Feb 15	Monday	Presidents' Day [Federal Holiday]
Feb 16	Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday
Feb 17	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
Mar 14	Sunday	Daylight Saving Time Begins
Mar 17	Wednesday	St. Patrick's Day
Mar 20	Saturday	First Day of Spring [March Equinox]
Mar 28	Sunday	Palm Sunday
April 1	Thursday	Maundy Thursday
April 2	Friday	Good Friday
April 3	Saturday	Holy Saturday
April 4	Sunday	Easter Sunday
May 2	Sunday	City of Pittsburgh Marathon
May 5	Wednesday	Cinco de Mayo
May 9	Sunday	Mother's Day
May 31	Monday	Memorial Day [Federal Holiday]
June 19	Saturday	Juneteenth
June 20	Sunday	First Day of Summer [June Solstice]
June 20	Sunday	Father's Day
July 4	Sunday	Independence Day
July 5	Monday	Independence Day observed [Federal Holiday]
Sept 6	Monday	Labor Day
Sept 22	Wednesday	First Day of Fall [September Equinox]
Oct 3	Sunday	St. Michael & All Angels [Observed]
Oct 11	Monday	Columbus Day [Federal Holiday]
Oct 31	Sunday	Halloween
Nov 1	Monday	All Saints' Day
Nov 2	Tuesday	All Souls Day
Nov 2	Tuesday	Election Day
Nov 7	Sunday	All Saints' Sunday [Observed]
Nov 7	Sunday	Return to Eastern Standard Time
Nov 11	Thursday	Veterans Day [Federal Holiday]
Nov 25	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day
Nov 28	Sunday	Advent 1 [Start of Year C]
Dec 6	Monday	St Nicholas Day
Dec 21	Tuesday	First Day of Winter [December Solstice]
Dec 24	Friday	Christmas Eve [Christmas Day observed - Federal Holiday]
Dec 25	Saturday	Christmas Day
Dec 31	Friday	New Year's Eve [New Year's Day observed - Federal Holiday]

Please email your notices and announcements to [calvary@calvarypgh.org](mailto:calvary@calvarypgh.org)