



# THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



January 2017

## Rector's Rambling

Tempus Fugit! Another year is upon us. Opportunities abound, and God alone knows the joys ~ and the challenges each of us will face. This is the time when we so often think of resolutions and changes which will make the new year better than the last. But in the midst of the plans and calculations, I would encourage you to carefully consider those things which remain constant, because they really are the most important realities in our lives.

1. Jesus is Lord! God the Father sent Jesus the Son to meet the demands of justice, to demonstrate his love for us, and to make it possible for us to be the friends of God. After Jesus had accomplished these things, God the Holy Spirit was sent upon the followers of Jesus to bring us unity, and strength to be faithful followers of Jesus. This truth ought to impact our outlook and guide every decision we make.

2. Everyone lives forever. The question is ~ "where?" "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) We have all rebelled and walked away from God. In spite of that, he invites us all to come home to him, and to renew our friendship with him. He offers us the strength, the incentive, and the possibility to respond to his invitation, but we must accept this gift he offers so freely. This truth ought to assure us that we are loved and that we do belong. It should also draw us to follow and love God, and to live with confidence as we experience his promises in our lives.

3. The Bible is God's roadmap for us. He is not in the business of hiding important things from the people he loves. In the Scriptures he tells us what he is like and what he wants us to be like. He gives us what we need to know, be, and do to be a Christian, and to act and think like one. This truth ought to motivate us to read the Bible every day, and to follow its admonitions and examples.

May God grant us all a blessed new year. Whatever our realities may be, may his grace fill us with joy, and love, and confidence that we rest in his arms in this world, and in the next. Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

AMEN  
Bill+

## Coffee Hour

Change is often a reason to complain, use as an excuse, or grow. (Most people do not like changing their routines.) We can use the change of our service time to distance ourselves from our church family. Or it is my thought, it can be a time to come together. And celebrate our life at St. John's instead of drawing apart.



In the new year there will be a coffee hour after the 9 o'clock service. So during these gatherings we will have people tell their families' stories at St. John's. (We have at least one 5-generation family.) It will be interesting and encouraging to find out when those people who sit behind and beside you first came to St. John's.

I have talked to several people already. Let me know if you would like to participate in sharing your walk here at St. John's. Cathy Forbes

## Refresh Your Soul 2017

### “Alzheimer's & Dementia: Overcoming the Struggles and Living Inspired”

The keynote speaker will be John O'Leary, best-selling author of *On Fire* - The 7 choices to ignite a radically inspired life. Loretta Anne Woodward Veney and Teepa Snow, dementia care experts, will also be featured.

The conference will be Monday, March 13, 2017, from 9 a.m.—4 p.m. at the Cintas Center at Xavier University. To register, visit [parishhealthministry.com/RYS](http://parishhealthministry.com/RYS). Please contact 513.979.2246 with questions.



## Prayer Book Replacement

Some of our Books of Common Prayer are in need of replacement. If you would be interested in making a donation to replace one of these books, the cost is \$16.50. Checks may be made payable to St. John's with “prayer book” in the memo.



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## Apartment for Rent

St. John's has a studio apartment for rent. Please call Tom Hammer at 740-503-5575 if you are interested or if you know someone who is.

## A New Year's Challenge

It is a mistake to be always turning back to recover the past. The law for Christian living is not backward, but forward; not for experiences that lie behind, but for doing the will of God, which is always ahead and beckoning us to follow. Leave the things that are behind, and reach forward to those that are before, for on each new height to which we attain, there are the appropriate joys that befit the new experience. Don't fret because life's joys are fled. There are more in front. Look up, press forward, the best is yet to be!

F. B. Meyer in *Our Daily Walk*

## Epiphany

Epiphany is a feast day older than Christmas itself, for it was observed as early as A.D. 194. Celebrated on 6 January by the Church, Epiphany commemorates the revelation to the Gentiles of Christ as Savior, portrayed through the coming of the Three Wise Men.

*The Anglican Digest*. Used by permission.

**Birthdays**

- 5 Sebastian Burton
- 7 Camille Martens  
Ellen Taylor-Allen
- 9 Fr. Bill Pursley
- 10 Judie Miller
- 11 Dick Babcock
- 12 James Sutter
- 16 Caitlin Hurdley
- 17 Alan Palo
- 21 Jack Warnett
- 22 Cecilia Davidson
- 23 Bill Young
- 25 Sam Hurley  
Zachary White

**Wedding Anniversaries**

- 9 Alan and Ruth Palo (71)

**Baptismal Anniversaries**

- 1 Muriel Breining (25)  
Don Eager (47)  
Doug Snyder (62)  
Laura Wright (93)
- 4 Chris Hurdley (95)  
Bob Wright (53)
- 8 Charlotte Tipton (34)
- 24 Camille Martens (54)
- 30 Carol Uhl (47)
- 31 Ora Miese (31)



**Annual Parish Meeting**

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be Sunday, January 29th following the 9 a.m. service. Mark your calendars.

**Bishop Breidenthal** will be with us on January 8th at 9 a.m. for his visitation. If you would like to be confirmed or received, please contact Fr. Bill at 740-215-3900.

**Parish Health Ministries Luncheon**

The January Parish Health Luncheon will be on Wednesday the 18th after the noon Eucharist.

**Fellowship Breakfast**

Light snacks will be provided during the coffee hour time for January 1st rather than a breakfast. Fellowship breakfasts will resume in February.



**Choir Members Always Needed**

Please call Doug Carr (740-385-1356) or email [dugkar@gmail.com](mailto:dugkar@gmail.com) if you are interested in singing in the choir.

**STOSPAS Sign-up**

Sign-up sheets will be at the back of the church at the end of January asking for your help for our STOSPAS (Shrove Tuesday on Sunday Pancakes and Sausage) breakfast.

**Committee Chairs, Etc.—Please Note**

Reports from committees, music, wardens, treasurer, etc. are due electronically, if possible, by January 16th, 2017, so that the Annual Report booklet may be prepared for the meeting on January 29th.

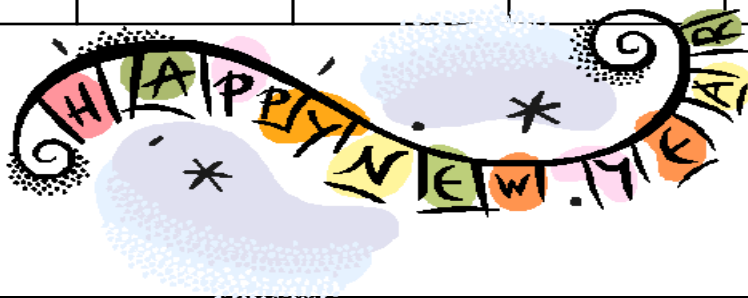
**Altar Guild—Please Note**

Christmas decorations will be removed and stored on Saturday, January 7, at 10 a.m. Please plan to help.

# St. John's Episcopal Church

## January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour	<b>2</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>3</b> 3:30 Pizza and God Talk, Logan 8:00P AA Meeting	<b>4</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 4:45 Pizza and God Talk at Nick's	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 HC <b>Bishop Brei- denthall</b> 10:00 Recep- tion	<b>9</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>10</b> 3:30 Pizza and God Talk, Logan 8:00P AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 4:45 Pizza and God Talk at Nick's	<b>12</b> 6:30 Touchstone Discussion Grp. Hocking Hills Winery	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour	<b>16</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>17</b> 3:30 Pizza and God Talk, Logan 8:00P AA Meeting	<b>18</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 12:30 Luncheon 4:45 Pizza and God Talk	<b>19</b> 1:00 Eagle and Lamb deadline 7:00 Vestry	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour	<b>23</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>24</b> 3:30 Pizza and God Talk, Logan 8:00P AA Meeting	<b>25</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 4:45 Pizza and God Talk	<b>26</b> 6:30 Touchstone Discussion Grp. Hocking Hills Winery	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 <b>Annual Parish Meet- ing</b>	<b>30</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>31</b> 3:30 Pizza and God Talk, Logan 8:00P AA Meeting				



## January 2017 Serving Schedule

January 1	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Hall & Shawn Dyer	Numbers 6:22-27
Acolytes	Nicole Sutter & Libby Garbrandt	Psalm 8
Lectors	Charlie Voss & Sarah Perlow	Galatians 4:4-7
Ushers	Steve Messerly & Mike Whiley	Luke 2:15-21
Altar Guild	Sarah Perlow, & Bobbi Beebe	Set-up: Mid Hall & Janet Kling
January 8	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Marc Conrad & Ann Rickson	Isaiah 42:1-9
Acolytes	Will Eyman & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm 29
Lectors	Holly Coffill & Ivan Smith	Acts 10:34-43
Ushers	Steve Wood & Robin Leonard	Matthew 3:13-17
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
January 15	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton & Ivan Smith	Isaiah 49:1-7
Acolytes	Asher & Joanna Carr	Psalm 40:1-12
Lectors	Mark Conrad & Joan Ream	I Corinthians 1:1-9
Ushers	Steve Messerly & Mike Whiley	John 1:29-42
Altar Guild	Peggy Merton & Gita Sadoni	Set-up: Judie Miller & Mid Hall
January 22	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Isaiah 9:1-4
Acolytes	Libby Garbrandt & Nicole Sutter	Psalm 27:1-13
Lectors	Ivan Smith & Frankie Mathias	I Corinthians 1:10-18
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Robin Leonard	Matthew 4:12-23
Altar Guild	Reda Kittle & Sally Stallsmith	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
January 29	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Harris & Frankie Mathias	Micah 6:1-8
Acolytes	Hannah Hurdley & Joanna Carr	Psalm 15
Lectors	Caitlyn Hurdley & Sarah Perlow	I Corinthians 1:18-31
Ushers	Steve Messerly & Steve Wood	Mathew 5:1-12
Altar Guild	Judie Miller, Jessie Smith & Janet Kling	Set-up: Judie Miller & Gita Sadoni

\*\*If you are listed on a Sunday that won't fit your schedule, please call the church office to let us know.

**Please remember to find a substitute if you are unable to serve.**

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

134 North Broad Street  
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

**ST. JOHN'S CHURCH STAFF**

PRESIDING BISHOP: The Most Rev'd Michael B. Curry  
BISHOP OF DIOCESE OF SO. OHIO: The Rt. Rev'd Thomas E. Breidenthal  
RECTOR: The Rev'd Mr. G. William Pursley  
DEACON: The Rev'd Mr. Nick England  
CHOIRMASTER: Dr. Doug Carr  
ORGANIST: Thurlow Weed  
ALTAR GUILD PRESIDENT:  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Janet Kling  
FINANCIAL CONSULTANT: Lowell Stallsmith  
TREASURER: Robin Harris  
VERGER: Jim Hall  
MISTRESS of ACOLYTES: Caitlin Hurdley  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jean Hammer

Parish Office (740) 653-3052  
Rector (740) 654-5274 (home)  
(740) 215-3900 (cell)

**Members of Vestry**

Mark Conrad (Senior Warden)	740-243-4933
John Eyman (Junior Warden)	740-503-6817
Doug Carr (18)	740-385-1356
Catherine Dyer (19)	740-277-3830
Michael Garbrandt (19)	740-409-4123
Chris Hurdley (18)	740-654-7831
Steve Messerly (17)	740-653-4427
Mary Oehler(17)	740-689-1202
James Sutter (17)	740-652-9124

For daily & Sunday readings & Fr. Pursley's  
sermons, visit St. John's website  
[www.stjohnlancaster.org](http://www.stjohnlancaster.org)