

# St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH · TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

Volume XXXI, No. 51 A parish in the classical Anglican tradition December 10th, 2020

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

Schedule, Dec. 24th, 2020, to Jan. 6th, 2021

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, December 24th

**4.00 PM:** Children's Service & Blessing of the Creche

**7.00 PM:** Family Candlelight Eucharist

**10.30 PM:** Carols followed by  
Solemn High Christmas Eucharist

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, December 25th

**10.00 AM:** Sung Holy Communion

### PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Commemoration of the Feast of St. Stephen

Sunday, December 27th

**8.00 AM:** Holy Communion

**9.15 AM:** Holy Communion

**11.15 AM:** Morning Prayer

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

The Feast of St. Sylvester

Thursday, December 31st, 2020

**11.15 PM:** Holy Communion

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

The Feast of The Holy Name

Friday, January 1st, 2021

**10.00 AM:** Holy Communion

### SECOND SUNDAY AFYER CHRISTMAS

The Commemoration of St John the Evangelist

Sunday, January 3rd, 2021

**8.00 AM:** Holy Communion

**9.15 AM:** Holy Communion

**11.15 AM:** Morning Prayer

### THE EPIPHANY

Wednesday, January 6th, 2021

**6.00 PM:** Holy Communion

FROM THE RECTOR

## Here are our plans for a very merry Christmas

If Thanksgiving was anything to go by, this year we will not be celebrating the Nativity Of our Lord Jesus Christ in the traditional manner but in a style more calculated to appeal to Ebenezer Scrooge, the miserly protagonist in Charles Dickens' novel "*A Christmas Carol*."

To be sure, the watch words are unlikely to be: "Are there no workhouses? Are there no prisons?" But it seems that in some states of the union there will be people asking: "Are there no lock downs? Is there no social distancing? Are there no limits to the number of guests permitted to attend the Christmas feast?"

One hopes that – thanks, in part, to the production of the new Covid19 vaccines – here in Maryland restrictions will continue to be less draconian than they have been in many other places.

In any event, here at St. Stephen's we are planning to celebrate Jesus' birth in as traditional a manner as possible. There will, for example, be no changes in the service schedule.

As in the past, we shall be holding our Candlelight Children's Service at 4.00 PM on Christmas Eve, complete with our annual Christmas story.

It will be followed at 7.00 PM by the Family Eucharist for folks who expect to be awoken at an early hour next day. The traditional Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist will begin at 10.30 PM. On Christmas Day the Eucharist will be celebrated at 10.00 AM.

Musically, it promises to be a memorable Christmas. Certainly the Covid19 restrictions rule out our traditional choir, but our intrepid new organist Kate El-Diwany has created a program that will enable all of us to enjoy the glorious music that makes Christmas the best loved of all the Christian feasts.

In compliance with the social distancing guidelines, Kate has recruited a small group of singers to provide the traditional choral music for both Christmas Eve services. This will be a first for the 7.00 PM Family Eucharist.

Kate and her family started attending St. Stephen's this fall. Her husband, Dr. Ramy El-Diwany, is a surgeon at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. Their two children, Wesley and CeCe are both students in the Sunday School.

By November, after eight months of restrictions that had effectively shut down the music program, the congregation was becoming increasingly restive. St. Stephen's has always been a musical parish and the proposal by Kate to play the organ for us during services was greeted with enormous enthusiasm.

It will mean that although we are still forbidden to sing, we can at least enjoy glorious organ music without which for many of us worship is not complete.

Kate, aged 37, graduated as an organ scholar from the University of Notre Dame. She went on to graduate studies in the organ at the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston.

Here in Baltimore, she has served as assistant organist at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, and organist at St. Marks on the Hill and Old St. Paul's. GPH✱

## Parish Prayer List

Our Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List and guests of the Joseph Richey Hospice. To add a name to the prayer list, or visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the parish office (410) 560 6776.

**FOR RECOVERY:** Duane, Pam, Eileen, Rebecca, Catherine, Bill, Richard✱, Janis, Daniel, Leona, Rachel, Elizabeth, Kim, Dan, Dorothy, Donna, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Heidi, Alan, Terry, Helen, Linda, John, Neal, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, Jan, Bobby, Lee, Cary, Marie, Jim, Joanna, Kendall, Gloria, June, Tom, Michell, Jack, Lewey, Stephen, Pamelan Wade, Sifa, Eileen, Maxine, Theresa, Larry, John✱, Judy, Ian & Scott

**FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE:** Sam, Mavis, Cameron, Jim, Diana, Caroline, Karen, Ardis, Mavis, Michael, Ian, Melba, Vinnie, Doug, Chip, Elizabeth, Lisa, Carey, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Kath, Rebecca, Colin & Christian.

**IN MEMORIAM:** Ardith Curran.

**THOSE WHO MOURN:** Stacey Lindsey & family.

**ON ACTIVE SERVICE:** Lt. Col. Charles Bursi,  
Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN; Lt Col. Harry Hughes; USAF; Cpt  
Fiodor Strikovski, US Army.

# Christmas Memorial Flowers

To make a contribution towards the Church Christmas decorations in honor or memory of a loved one, please complete this form and return it to the church office by Tuesday, December 22nd.

Make checks payable to St Stephen's Church and note for Christmas flowers.

In view of the Covid19 restrictions, this year's decorations will be a little less formal than usual.

We are therefore asking our parishioners and friends to make a freewill offering to defray the costs rather than order specific flowers.

Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

My gift is IN HONOR OF, IN MEMORY OF, IN THANKSGIVING FOR (please circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_

## St Stephen's Anglican Church

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093

Office: 410 560 6776 · Rector: 443 425-2420

Vicar: 717-398-6603 · Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

[www.ststeve.com](http://www.ststeve.com)

The Very Rev. Guy P Hawtin, Dean & Rector

The Rev. John Novicki, Vicar ·

Associate Rectors:

The Rev. C. Daniel Bursi,

The Rev. Dr. Norman Flowers,

The Rev. M. Wiley Hawks & The Rev. Mark Newsome,

Mrs Happy Riley, Director of Pastoral Care

& Wedding Coordinator

### SUNDAY SERVICES

8am: Said Eucharist

9.15am: Sung Eucharist (with Nursery & Church School)

11am: Sung Mattins (1st Sunday: Sung Eucharist)

Choral Services (as announced) – [evensong.ststeve.com](http://evensong.ststeve.com)

### WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6pm: Evening Prayer

Friday, 12 noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5pm: Family Eucharist

## For Our Country.

*ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favour and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honourable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogancy, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth.*

*In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St Stephen's Anglican Church  
11856 Mays Chapel Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

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