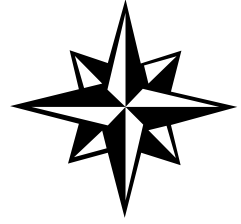


The Epiphany Star



EST. 1846

January 2023.



The Light Shines in Darkness.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany - 225 West Main Street – Laurens, SC 29360 - www.epiphanyoflaurens.org
PriestInCharge@epiphanyoflaurens.org Church – 864-984-7000

Epiphany Beloved,



I really do hope that your Christmas and New Year was great with family and friends.

I wanted to share with you a recent Epiphany that I had. Most of you know that I enjoy laughing and can sometimes seem irreverent. I have even found myself saying that I “cut up” at the altar. However, during an Adult Forum discussion, I realized that is not true. I smile, I laugh, I feel like my heart will burst and it shows in how I act. You see, I love being a priest, I love being your priest. I am filled with such JOY every time I celebrate that it burst out of me in my words and actions. To me, feeling that kind of joy is just as sacred and holy. It is also GRACE because it happens even when my heart is hurt or troubled, I still find JOY in celebrating the Eucharist. My expressing God’s Love for you by reminding you that you are God’s Beloveds and there are no mistakes in God’s house are just as sacred and holy.

In this New Year, what brings you JOY that burst out of you? What Epiphanies have you had this year?

Semper Amaberis ([God says] you are loved, you will always be loved)

Mother Kelly+



Dates to remember:

Jan 8 – Adult Forum returns at 10am and Coffee Hour returns after church. Sign up for coffee hour hosting in parish hall.

Jan 8 -After church, we will be taking down the greens from the sanctuary. Many hands make light work. Please join us.

Jan 10 – Vestry 6:30pm

Jan 17 – Theology on Tap – Senor Garcia at 6pm

Looking Ahead:

Feb 3-4: Icon Workshop in Parish Hall , tell you friends and share with other churches. All are welcome. Tell them to email me directly: motherkelly10@gmail.com

Feb 21: Shrove Tuesday – PANCAKES AND MARGARITAS – 6pm.

Feb 22 – Ash Wednesday Service at 12noon (Interfaith) and then at 6pm Episcopal.

Movie Day: I would like some suggestions on possible dates for showing the movie: A Man for all Seasons 1966 version– its about Sir Thomas More.

Summary:

“When the highly respected British statesman Sir Thomas More (Paul Scofield) refuses to pressure the Pope into annulling the marriage of King Henry VIII (Robert Shaw) and his Spanish-born wife, More's clashes with the monarch increase in intensity. A devout Catholic, More stands by his religious principles and moves to leave the royal court. Unfortunately, the King and his loyalists aren't appeased by this, and press forward with grave charges of treason, further testing More's resolve.”

Please let me know your preferences, on Tuesday afternoon or another time during the day or Saturday or Sunday evening? Looking at the 2nd or 3rd week in Jan.

All movies will be in the Parish Hall, unless otherwise noted.



20 + C + M + B + 23

-Blessing of the Chalk – Sunday, January 1, 2023

20 + C + M + B + 23

- Here's what the chalked letters on the door mean:
 - The 3 letters are the first Initial of each of the kings (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar).
 - The C, M, B also stands for the Latin blessing *Christius Mansionem Benedicat* which means "May Christ Bless this House".
- The Christian custom of chalking the door has a biblical precedent as the Israelites in the Old Testament marked their doors in order to be saved from death. Families also perform this act to represent the hospitality of the Holy Family to the Magi (and all Gentiles); it thus serves as a house blessing to invite the presence of God in one's home.



January 2023 Backpack Ministry Update

Right before Christmas Break at Ford Elementary School, the guidance counselor handed me several Christmas Card thank-you's. I have attached a scanned copy of the inside of the Christmas cards to this update (not all would copy for this newsletter, but some are on the following two pages!).

As most of you are probably aware, Atonement Lutheran has closed because of the decline in membership. Atonement Lutheran actually began the Backpack program in 2012. That leaves the parishioners in 3 churches funding the Backpack Ministry. Because the price of food items has increased significantly, and it doesn't appear that the price will drop in the near future, we are seeking another church to join in this ministry at Ford Elementary School. We have been fortunate in receiving grant funding for milk, but that is only 1 item of 10 items included weekly for the 60 food insecure students. These are the most needy food insecure students of many needy students at Ford. As always, please contact Connie Daniels if you have any questions, comments or suggestions for the Backpack Ministry. We meet in the basement of First Methodist on Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. to pack the backpacks and deliver them to Ford Elementary. Come join us if you wish. Thank you for your donations and prayers for this ministry. Stay well and Happy New Year!

Thank You for my
Snack bag.

Love Ximara

JOYFUL WISHES TO YOU
AND YOURS THIS SEASON

Thank You
from zoeanna
Zoeanna

HOLLY JOLLY WISHES
TO YOU!

Thank
You
♥ Rorah

* * *
MAY YOUR DAYS
BE WARM AND
* YOUR HEART BE *
* MERRY. * *

Prayer Requests

Pray for healing and comfort: Donna and Daniel Babineau, Alice Cato, Dale Davis Roth, Deven Champaneri, Jennifer Cooper Gravley, Jearl Hall, Bev Kennedy, Barbara Barbary Mann, Megan McCartney, Jayne Elmgren, Breanna Revis, Jackie Vincent, Those Unemployed, The Armed Forces of Our Country, and Those Affected by Covid-19.

Prayer requests can be sent to the church in many ways: Our website at <http://epiphanyoflaurens.org/find-us> or by e-mail to PriestInCharge@epiphanyoflaurens.org or by phone at 864.984.7000 (leave message) or drop a note in the basket at the church

January & February Schedule ***LEM ATLAR GUILD***

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jan. 01: | Lois Love | Harriet Barksdale & Base Smith |
| Jan. 08: | Donna Babineau & Ed Taylor | Loren Taylor & Base Smith |
| Jan. 15: | Loren Taylor | Loren Taylor |
| Jan. 22: | Graham Duncan | Graham Duncan |
| Jan. 29: | Mark Adams | Graham Duncan & Harriet Barksdale |
| Feb. 5: | Lois Love | Harriet Barksdale & Base Smith |
| Feb. 12: | Donna Babineau & Ed Taylor | Base Smith & Loren Taylor |
| Feb. 19: | Loren Taylor | Loren Taylor |
| Feb. 22 (Ash Wednesday) | Graham Duncan | Graham Duncan |
| Feb. 26: | Mark Adams | Graham Duncan & Harriet Barksdale |

Want to learn how to set up the altar for communion? Then, the Altar Guild is looking for you! If you are unable to be a regular part of the guild, but you are willing to fill in for someone on an occasional basis, we also want you. We are in the process of making detailed notes for guild members to use for preparing for services. If you are interested, please contact a guild member. This is an important and rewarding way in which to serve God and his church.

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

| | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| Jan. 4: | Bill Ladd |
| Jan. 7: | Don Ross |
| Jan. 7: | Hunter Power |
| Jan. 11: | Hugh Brownlee |
| Jan. 23: | Pontheolla Mack Abernathy |

Facebook

If you have a Facebook account, please like Epiphany's page and posts and share them. Our Facebook page is updated regularly and can be found at www.facebook.com/EpiphanyOfLaurens

Likewise, visit Epiphany's website, www.EpiphanyOfLaurens.org. It is updated weekly with service information and includes links to newsletters and other pieces of information about Epiphany and the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

Miss Lucy's Garden

Hugh Brownlee has started an Instagram page for Miss Lucy's Garden. It is under the name gardenepiphany. Instagram will be easier than the blog. Hugh plans to keep the blog site, WWW.GARDENEPIPHANY.WORDPRESS.COM, up for now because of the old content. If he eventually deletes the blog, he will let us know.

Send Items for future editions of the Epiphany Star to Bill Cooper at mthappy@prtcnet.com, telephone 864-969-2707 or mail to PO Box 400, Enoree, SC 29335. Let me know of additions or changes to the birthday and anniversary list.