



St. John's Episcopal Church

3507 Pine St. Pascagoula, MS 39567

December 2021

Dear Friends,

I hope all of you are doing well as we begin the new church year and as we anticipate the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child. This year certainly feels different from last year when we were limited to livestream services. I certainly look forward to seeing you in the pew on Christmas Eve this year.

As we begin this new year there are a few new things coming your way. One of them is our pictorial directory. We have not published a pictorial directory since 2016. Our membership has changed and the vestry recognized the need for one. Liz Evans and Jenn Johnson will be working to put one together in the near future. This will be a new type of directory. It will be digital, however you may also request one in a paper format like the one we have had before.

We will be collecting current information from all of you in order to produce the directory. You will have the option to use a photo you already have. For those who prefer, we will also offer times for you and your family to have pictures made for the directory. No one will be trying to pressure you to purchase copies of the pictures so that is a plus for all of us.

The directory will be online and will be secure so that no one can see your information outside of the parish membership. Liz, Jenn and I have all done research on the security

of the system and feel confident that our information will be secure if you decide to use this directory.

We will be able to load an application on a smart device so that we may have the directory in that format. If you would like a traditional paper copy of the directory, you may order it from the parish office. There may be a small fee for a paper copy. We are researching this and will let you know. Liz Evans will be giving us more information about the parish directory at the annual meeting on December 5th.

On Christmas Eve we will have two services. The first will be at 5:30 pm and the second at 10:30 pm. At the early service our children's Christmas Program will be during the sermon. I am excited about our children's ministry and thankful to Amy Baker for organizing the program we are using today, and other activities for the children.

St. John's is in a good place as we continue to come out of COVID days and hopefully are able to continue to move forward in growth this year and in the years to come.

Faithfully yours,

Making our community better

St. John's Food Pantry makes a difference all year

Never doubt that your donations to the St. John's outreach program are put to good use through the food pantry. This year, in spite of COVID restrictions and limitations, St. John's gave nearly 4,800 pounds of food to needy families in the area serving 1,450 people.

These individuals and families are so appreciative of the help we are able to give them. A recent thank-you note from a food pantry client arrived at the church and is directed to all of St. John's members:

"Thank you all so much for all your love, giving, care and concern throughout the years. God bless you, your family and church family."

Just in time for Thanksgiving, Pascagoula Men's Club donated and smoked 60 hams for St. John's Outreach Team to give to needy food pantry clients.



Above, David Minkler, left front, and fellow Pascagoula Men's Club representatives unload hams for Outreach Team members (r. to l.) Connie Belk, Priscilla Battley and Mary Bet Evans. This ongoing relationship with Pascagoula Men's Club has benefited many needy families in and around Pascagoula.

The Outreach Team thanks the St. John's parish for your support and donations to the Outreach Ministry. Our community is stronger because of your generosity.

2022 Pledge boxes are ready for pick-up

You can pick up your new pledge box on Sunday, December 5 or December 12.

The boxes will be in the narthex arranged in alphabetical order for easy identification. Your first and last name will be written on the top of the box.



After that, the pledge boxes will be moved to the Parish Hall and can be picked up there during normal office hours.



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas filled with love and joy.

St. John's Staff

St. John's celebrates the Feast of St. Nicholas

While Advent is a time of waiting with hope and patience for the coming of the Christ Child, celebrating the life of St. Nicholas offers a festive opportunity to focus more on giving than receiving. Nicholas, the 3rd century Bishop of Myra, serves as an example of living out service to Jesus Christ by showing God's love to others through his protection of children, sailors, and all in trouble and need.

St. John's celebrated St. Nicholas Day on Dec. 1 with an evening service, a visit from St. Nicholas during the service and a pizza party afterward.

The children enjoyed listening to St. Nicholas who presented them each with a gift.



Feast of St. Nicholas (cont.)



“In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” ~ Acts 20:35



What are your Christmas traditions?



Priscilla Battley

When I think about our family holiday traditions, two favorites come to mind. We always rode around after Christmas Eve Mass looking at the holiday light displays - everyone picking their favorite one.

The other is Christmas dinner. I love sitting around the dinner table talking, laughing and enjoying our traditional English dinner...Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding. Yum!



Mimm Bilbo

I grew up in Kreole a half block from Int. Paper Co. where my father worked. We enjoyed their beautiful decorations and Christmas carols that we could hear in our home! I had five sisters, and four of us had December birthdays adding to the holiday spirit! We were Catholic and always went to Midnight Mass and back home to eat. My precious mother never went to bed! Santa always had a special place in our living room for each of us! I have many wonderful memories of Christmas in Kreole where most of my friends lived within walking distance!



Charlie Latady

Our longest running holiday tradition is picking out that special Christmas tree from Bozo's since 1958.

We normally pick our tree out the weekend after Thanksgiving. We come home and decorate the tree immediately and have a wonderful visit with the whole family.

Great food and drinks are enjoyed by all. Merry Christmas!



Mary Bet Evans

When the children were young, we had many traditions like lining up on Christmas morning, youngest to oldest, to enter the living room where Santa left the gifts. Now, we enjoy the pre-Christmas tradition of making things from ornaments to painted wine glasses. After the Thanksgiving meal, we clean the table and start to create. It's fun to see young and old working together and to see their originality. There's lots of love and laughter each year as we explore a new kind of art.



St. John's Parish Staff

The Rt. Rev. Brian Seage, Bishop
The Rev. Tom Fanning, Rector
The Rev. Ede Plovanich, Part Time Associate Priest
Hope Shotts Steiner, Organist-Choir Director
Terry Willis, Sexton
Jenn Johnson, Church Secretary
Pam Eaves, Nursery Attendant
Alix Thrower, Nursery Attendant

2021 Vestry

Charlie Latady - Senior Warden
Kelly Smith - Junior Warden
Deborah Banahan - Parish Activities
Mary Maner - Inreach
Rhonda Shook - Outreach
Con Lancaster - Treasurer
Kathy Khayat - Vestry Clerk
Bobby Baker - Assistant Treasurer

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. – noon
 Phone: 228-762-1705

E-Mail: office.sjecpm.org
 Web: www.sjecpm.org

If we missed your Birthday or Anniversary please email or call Jenn with the date. Thank you!

[SUNDAY](#)

2021 DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	01 Bruner Bosio Kim Williamson	02	03 Marelyn Doucette Billy Dungan Paul Tristani *Felicia & Charles Busby	04 Kelly Green
05 Bobby Baker	06 Joann Williamson	07	08	09 Garrett Busby Matt Jones	10	11 Blair Ewing
12 Ellen Berry Nita Fuller	13 Philip Doucette	14 Charlie Latady	15 Will Baumhauer Dustin Demouey	16 Scott Taylor	17 Kyle Miller Chris Switzer Ben Thames *Abby & Calen Wills	18
19 Catherine Miller Gracie Tillman	20 Mitchell Cecatiello Jennifer Eaves-Latch Jordyn Oatis Anderson Wills	21 Dianne Sullivan Dianne Waters	22 Hunter Warren	23 Seth Baker *Alice & John Stoudenmire	24 Carol Neal Charlie Williamson *Allison & Toben DuBose	25
26 Mimm Bilbo	27 *Ede & Bob Plovanych	28 Joe Dempster	29 Brandon Lee *Sara & Carl Megehee	30	31 Katie Jordan Jason Williams	01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08

* Anniversary

Lay Ministry Schedule December 2021

	December 1st St. Nicholas	December 5th Second Sunday of Advent	December 12th Third Sunday of Advent	December 19th Fourth Sunday of Advent	December 24th Christmas Eve	December 26th First Sunday after Christmas
Vergers	Dustin Taylor	Bill Nelson	Dale Harkey	Dustin Taylor	Bill Nelson Dale Harkey	Dustin Taylor
Lectors	5:30 pm Carol Hutcherson Anna Stewart	8:00am No Service 10:30 am Karl Steinberger John Banahan	8:00 am Priscilla Battley 10:30 am Charles Shook Monica Donald	8:00 am Bob McDonald 10:30 am Calen Wills Anna Stewart	5:30 pm Carol Hutcherson John Banahan 10:30 pm Mary Mgt Bailey	8:00 am Gina Bardwell 10:30 am Kathy Khayat Bruner Bosio
Acolytes		Gabby Kyzar Fin Battley Jonathan Gates		Gabby Kyzar Fin Battley Jonathan Gates		Gabby Kyzar Fin Battley Jonathan Gates
Ushers	Ted Battley	John Banahan	Leonard Fuller	Calen Wills	5:30 pm John Banahan 10:30 pm	David Minkler
Altar Guild		Amanda Johns Connie Belk	Judy Williamson JoAnne Fontaine	Catherine Miller Mary Bet Evans	5:30 pm Tonya Latady Priscilla Battley Rhonda Shook 10:30 pm Marilyn Boman Len Murray	Anna Stewart Laura Branch
Flower Guild		Jill Bosio	Janet Donald	Stacey Baumhauer	Stacey Baumhauer	Barbie Harkey
Sunday School Teachers	N/A	Taylor Banahan Abby Wills	Dylan Demouey, Kristin Pugh, Deanna Battley	Kristin Pugh Amy Baker	Amy Baker, Kristin Pugh, Taylor Banahan, Deanna Battley, Abby Wills, Cayla Switzer, Kelci Miller, Deborah Banahan, Dylan De- mouey	No Sunday School