

Letters From St. Nicholas'



Heavenly Holidays

November 15th, 10:00 AM



November 26th, 6:00 PM

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Rector

The Rev. James E. Liggett, Jr.

Vestry

Dr. Will Morris, Sr. Warden
Christian Ed Committee Liaison
Mr. Will Porter, Jr. Warden
Physical Plant Committee Liaison
Ms Mary Rogers, Clerk
Fellowship Committee Liaison
Ms Marilyn Bassinger
Worship Committee Liaison
Mr. Jim Brown
Finance Committee Liaison
Dr. Michael Jordan
Outreach Committee Liaison
Mr. Scot Marter
Fellowship Committee Liaison
Mr. Pool Webb
Publicity Committee Liaison
Mr. Nathan Williams
Emergency Preparedness Liaison

Deacon

Deacon Tom Burns

Parish Staff

The Rev. Dr. Bob Bonnington
The Rev. Dr. Malcolm Slayter

Pastoral Associates

Mr. Bob Poer

Parish Administrator

Mr. Darryl Knapp

Organist / Choirmaster

Lay Ministries Coordinator

Mr. Bobby J. Crues

Treasurer

Mr. Corby Considine

Chancellor

Ms Elvira Sebian

Sexton

For Those Who Keep Holy Days

There are some things that we have to do on purpose if we are going to do them at all—they won't happen automatically.

We are beginning what are, for most of us, the two most hectic and intense months of the year—the "Holiday Season." It is worth remembering that the word 'holiday' comes from 'holy day', a day set apart as special time of recalling and making present God's goodness. But the flurry of activity, the pressures and unhealthy expectations, and the sheer burdens of stuff that this time brings all make it very easy to forget this, and to turn this time into an emotional and commercial feeding frenzy.

If we are to keep the holy in holiday, the thanks in Thanksgiving, and the Christ in Christmas, we will have to do it on purpose. The world out there will give us sales, not salvation; a piece of the action, not the peace that passes understanding; and a false view of our selves, not the truth of God's constant and unfailing love.

Now, I have no particular brief against all the secular celebrations that fill these next several weeks. After all, tinsel and turkeys are the very best our culture have to offer. But we Christians know more, we know deeper, we know that behind all of that is the gentle hand of a loving God who is both constantly reaching out to us in love and compassion, and constantly calling us to be his eyes, his hands, and his heart in our generation. But it is easy to forget this.

To keep these truths in mind, we must do a bit more than our culture. We must pause, and pray, and remember, and seek the true richness of the Holy Days that lie ahead of us.

We have to do this on purpose if we are going to do it at all—it won't happen automatically.

God bless you,

Fr. Jim



November will be a full and busy month with lots of things going on. Below is some information about just a few of these. Be sure to check the calendar and weekly e-mail notice to keep current on everything that's going on.



Remember that on Saturday night November 1st, daylight saving time ends. We all need to set our clocks back one hour in order to make it to church on time.



As we all know, Tuesday, November 4th, is election day. To mark this special time, there will be a Eucharist for the Nation at 5:30 PM on Monday, November 3rd. This will be a time for us to pray for our country, to recall God's great goodness to us, and to remember that all our actions are in God's sight.



St. Nicholas' will host a deanery wide time to meet the five Nominees for our next Bishop. This will be on Monday, November 10th, beginning with the dessert at 6:30 PM. The formal time for meeting with the nominees begins at 7:00 PM.



Heavenly Holidays

Be sure to check out the article below on this year's Heavenly Holidays. The Bake Sale begins at 10 AM on Saturday, November 15th. The very popular Wreath-Making Workshop will begin at 1 PM and run until 3 PM. Be sure to mark your calendars for this fun time.



There will be something special going on every Sunday in November.



SUNDAY

November 2nd is All Saints' Sunday, where we remember all of God's saints and celebrate the gift of the Communion of Saints, of which we are all a part.



November 9th is the Sunday closest to Veterans Day. As is our custom, we will recognize and express our gratitude to all of St. Nicholas' veterans. We are deeply grateful for their service and their sacrifice.



November 16th is Acolyte Appreciation Sunday. We will recognize and thank the many young people who so faithfully serve our parish and our Lord during worship.



Sunday, November 23rd will be our fall United Thank Offering Ingathering. This is one of the finest outreach programs in the entire Episcopal Church, and I urge your generous support. UTO Envelopes are available in the Narthex and will be in the bulletins on Sunday, November 16th and 23rd.



November 22nd is the date for the Diocesan Convention for the election of a Bishop. The lay delegates and clergy of the Diocese will meet at 10 AM at St. Paul's in Lubbock for the election. In our diocese, a Bishop is elected when he or she receives a majority of the votes of both all the lay delegates and all of the clergy present. During the adult Christian education class on November 16th I will be talking more about the process involved in electing a new Bishop.



Hall.

Our parish Thanksgiving Service will be Wednesday, November 26th at 6 PM in the Church. A time of prayer and Eucharist can help us keep the "Thanks" in Thanksgiving. Our regular Wednesday Parish Supper will follow the service in the parish