



St. Stephen's E-NEWS

WHERE GOD IS SEEN, LOVE IS FELT, LIVES ARE CHANGED.

December 24, 2021

Christmas Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE : FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021

- Children's Pageant/Holy Eucharist Rite II - 4:30 P.M. in the Parish Hall - Our traditional Christmas pageant led by our children with communion following. Special guest musicians The Missing Goats, who will be playing familiar Christmas hymns in bluegrass style!
- Carol Vigil - 10 P.M. in the Nave
- Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10:30 P.M. - This will be a "high" church celebration of Christmas with choral music and incense. Please Note: **We will be using incense.**

CHRISTMAS DAY : SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2021

- Holy Eucharist Rite I - 10 A.M. - Come in your pajamas if you wish! A good hour on Christmas Day to help keep the focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

FEAST DAY OF ST. STEPHEN : SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021

- Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 A.M. only (no early service) - December 26 is the feast day of our patronal saint, Stephen. We will sing Christmas music, but our readings and sermon that day will focus on the life of Stephen and keep us mindful of the contributions of the saint whose name we bear.



OFFICE CLOSURES

The Parish Office will be closed on the following dates for Christmas and the New Year holidays:

- Friday, December 24, 2021
- Monday, December 27, 2021
- Friday, December 31, 2021
- Monday, January 3, 2022

WEEKLY PRAYERS

WE PRAY FOR NEW* PARISH MEMBERS

Teresa Potter
 Mary Shepard
 Lonnie & Lois Thurston
 Charles Wareing
 James and April Welch, Arwyn
 Kevin Young
 Ashton Sims & Anna Davis

Please include these people in your prayers.

**In the final weeks of the calendar year, we recognize visitors and new members to St. Stephen's!*

SAYING GOODBYE TO SHARON THOMAS

We are sad to announce that Sharon Thomas, our Nursery Coordinator, will be leaving St. Stephen's at the end of December. Her last Sunday with us will be December 26th. Sharon will be able to travel more and visit her grandchildren who live all across the country. We celebrate this new opportunity with her while recognizing that she has been a tremendous gift for our children and families over these last several years.

A tradition at St. Stephen's has been to collect a purse for departing staff members. If you would like to make a donation, please mail or drop off a check to the church. Make sure it is designated for "Sharon Thomas" in the memo.

As we send her away, we are in the process of putting together a renewed job description for this position. We are especially looking for candidates who have certification or training in early childhood development. If you know of anyone who might be a good candidate or who would like more information, please contact Fr. Bailey (revnorman101@gmail.com) or our Children/Youth Christian Ed Director Sherry Burchfield (mommaburch@gmail.com).

Lastly, during the interim period as we search for a new Nursery Coordinator, we will be looking for some extra volunteers to help staff the nursery beginning in January. Besides the hours of being in the nursery and having a love of children, the only other requirement is that any volunteer must complete Safeguarding God's Children (if they haven't done so already). If interested, please contact Sherry Burchfield at mommaburch@gmail.com.

