

The Evangelist

January 2022

A Newsletter
for Saint John's
Episcopal Church
Friends & Families

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Happy New Year!

And indeed, I pray you have had a blessed Feast of the Epiphany! On that day, we really tie the final bow on Christmastide as we celebrate the Manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am so delighted that Saint John's has a long tradition of observing this day with worship and fellowship! For me, Christmas doesn't really feel complete without one last visit to the creche with the three kings, one last hurrah to send off the season.

One of the ways that I reflect on Epiphany is by considering how good it is that God seeks to show Himself; how good it is that our God chooses not to remain hidden, but instead delights in showing forth His light and love. As I mentioned to you all during Christmastide, Jesus Christ is the surest and most complete sign of God's light and love to all the world. But the Epiphany season also gives us the opportunity to consider the various ways God makes Himself known to us. Of course, the primary way we come to know God is through the revelation of Scripture, and it is within the life-giving words of the Bible where we find God speaking to His people via the Law, via the manifestation of his angelic messengers, from the Holy Presence, and through the words of the prophets of old. Scripture is brimming, shimmering with the comfort that God has long desired to speak with His people, to make present His goodness, righteousness, and grace. And just as our hearts may be warmed by the light of Scripture, the world is warmed by the light of our faithful service to the Christ we meet therein.

So many people out in our community are waiting to meet Jesus, waiting to see the light of our loving God. I pray that the one whom we meet in Scripture would become known by those that enjoy our ministry, and that for each one of us who claims him as our Savior this would be an Epiphany, a manifestation of Jesus.

I am grateful that we will begin this year with an emphasis on learning Scripture together. I hope you will join our guest presenters Matthew Delaney and Dr. Bill Lyons between the services as they begin to help us appreciate how God made Himself known in the Old Testament. I also hope to see you as we begin to read the Gospels on Wednesday nights after the service. My hope is that Scripture will inspire us to greater heights of Christian humility and service, beloved!

Yours,



The Rev. David Bumsted, Rector

A Message from Our Senior Warden



Happy New Year! The arrival of a new year is such a time of reflection – a final farewell to the holidays and then a launch toward the clean slate that a brand new calendar always promises. For some, it's a time for resolutions – a once-a-year chance to examine and re-set our outlooks and priorities. Others look forward to the blank page that lies ahead of them, full of opportunities and surprises. Still others crave a return to the basic rhythms of their daily lives and work, refreshed by the simplicity that January brings.

What will 2022 bring to Saint John's? While we can be certain that the world around us will continue to deal with turbulent times, the future of our beloved parish looks bright. We will soon be celebrating the one-year anniversary of Father David and Beka's arrival in our midst. Our Sunday attendance is steadily increasing, and we see more and more sweet, bright young children joining our chapel activities. Our stewardship theme of "Refresh" inspired a significantly increased level of giving (and there is always time to pledge if you have yet to do so). There is much promise to look forward to in the year ahead.

The start of a new year also means preparation for the Annual Meeting, which will be held in February. I look forward to finalizing the new slate of Vestry candidates and working with our newest members after their election. If you want to know more about what the Vestry does, ask a Vestry member! We would love to talk to you about parish life and the business of the church. Any member of the parish may obtain a copy of monthly meeting minutes by calling Diana in the parish office.

- Susan Walker

Simple Giving by Smartphone

It's easier than ever to make a donation to Saint John's, especially on those days when you don't have cash in your wallet, forgot to write a check, or simply want to give fast but also get a receipt. To donate by scan, hover your smart phone over the QR code to the right and follow the easy instructions.



For the New Year

*O IMMORTAL Lord God,
who inhabitest eternity,
and hast brought thy
servants to the beginning
of another year:
Pardon, we humbly
beseech thee, our
transgressions in the past,
bless to us this New Year,
and graciously abide with
us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.*

The Book of Common Prayer



Treasurer's Update



Hello friends and Happy 2022!

I am pleased to report that as 2021 drew to a close we were seeing a record number of pledges. Upon our last accounting of those commitments received from 139 parishioner households, the pledges of planned support totaled \$854,661. (And more have no doubt come in during the final week of December.) Last year at the same time we had received pledges from 127 parishioner households totaling \$660,484.

Based on projections, we are closing in on our target to cover the projected expenses for programs and personnel for the ministries we envision continuing – and growing into – in the year ahead. Please help us get there if you have not yet pledged. The future is looking bright for God's work by the people of Saint John's Church!

- Bill Chevallier



Music News - Joseph Arvett

The team of Saint John's Music Ministry program is working hard to prepare outstanding offerings both during worship times and for stand-alone concerts. We hope you will continue to support the work of music staff and interns. But most important, we hope you will mark your calendars to attend the variety of programs coming in 2022!



Oklahoma Bach Choir

Save the date for the Bach Choir's spring offering! On Friday, April 29 at 7 p.m. this choral group will present Cantatas for the Easter season with trumpet and strings. Admission will be free. This will be a great night to invite friends. Please share social media we will post in the months ahead. Hope to see you there!

Music at Midday

Our midday music series will return for Season Seven on March 9 and run through April 27. These free concerts - some choral, some instrumental, and some both - are always offered on a Wednesday and begin at noon.



Each concert will be followed by a catered, boxed-lunch at 12:30 p.m. in our Common Room. The talented staff at Queenie's restaurant prepares the delicious and convenient boxed meals for us. The cost is \$12 per person (this includes a half-sandwich, a side, a cookie, delivery, and the gratuity). You can reserve a lunch by contacting Diana Carter by phone or email in the church office before noon on the preceding Monday. Some dietary options are available. Because we place the reservation order in advance, we regret that we cannot fulfill late requests. Once the music series launches, advance lunch RSVPs are very welcome.

Schoenstein Shines with New Stops

A new stop has been added to our beautiful chancel organ! In November 2021, three workers from Schoenstein & Co. came to Tulsa and Saint John's Church to install a stop called Vox Humana. This stop creates a special effect using a tremolo (vibrato) and will often be used in conjunction with the string sounds of the organ. The stop will be used in Anglican Chant sung by the choir, and it will get substantial use in the organ music of César Franck (1822-1890) whose bicentennial we will celebrate in 2022.

The funds for this new stop came from a distinct account designated for special music projects. We look forward to it enhancing our worship and recital offerings for many years to come!

Check out the photos from our installation week: 

In photo number one, I am standing next to the fifty-four pipes that comprise the addition. This picture was taken just after the installation was complete and gives you a sense of the size of the cabinetry and pipes.

Photo number two was taken of our organ console and shows the new Vox Humana draw knob.

And in the final photograph, newsletter readers can get a sense of the unique carpentry that goes into the new box in the corner of the chamber where the pipes are placed. Our organ now contains more than 2,250 pipes (wood and metal).

If you are interested in learning more about Schoenstein & Co.'s history, visit www.schoenstein.com. To read more about our Schoenstein chancel organ, nicknamed "Susie," visit www.sjtulsa.org/organs-and-harpsichord.



Acolytes
Our acolyte program continues to grow, and we would like to invite new members to join. This program is something for adults, children, and teens. If you are interested in helping out during the service as an acolyte, please contact Joshua Corsaro at jcorsaro@sjtulsa.org.



Terrific Christmas Tableau
Shout out to all the kids and families who participated in this year's Christmas Tableau! You all did so well and really brought a lot of joy to our hearts. Special shout outs to Diana Carter, who helped prepare the costumes and fit them for kids, and all the parents, who participated either in major roles or supporting their children. We could not have pulled this off without your support!



Children's Chapel and Sunday School Curriculum
Children's Chapel returns January 9 and we will continue with a new Storymakers adventure. As we head out of the Christmas season, we will explore the creation narrative and how God created the Earth! Activities will focus on creating crafts that help children realize they are a part of God's story. To learn more, visit <https://www.storymakersnyc.com/> or email Joshua Corsaro.

Choristers Program Recruitment
Calling all singers, we are looking to start our Choristers group again this February! This will be for children in second grade and up, and will meet Wednesday evenings at 5 p.m. If you want your child to be a part of this, please email Joseph Arndt at jarndt@sjtulsa.org or Josh Corsaro at the email address above. We are so excited to get this off the ground!
- Josh Corsaro

New Classes in Adult Formation
Our Adult Formation courses will resume on January 9 starting with a class on Biblical Narrative, led by Professor Matthew Delaney, followed by an Introduction to the Old Testament, led by Dr. William Lyons. We are really excited to have these professors teach about the Bible and how it has impacted their journey through Christianity.

Young Adult's Brunch
The popular Saint John's Young Adult's Brunch will resume meeting January 30. Please let us know if you want to join by emailing Joshua Corsaro or Joseph Arndt at jcorsaro@sjtulsa.org or jarndt@sjtulsa.org, respectively. Feel free to invite friends and family to this as well!

Iron Gate
We would like to thank every volunteer who has given time to help out at Iron Gate these past several months, especially members of the Brotherhood. If you wish to join with us in 2022, we will meet the first Saturday of every month at the church around 7:45 a.m. and then carpool to Iron Gate. After we are done serving, we usually go to Hurts Donut Company. If you want to sign up to be a part of this great community service opportunity, email jcorsaro@sjtulsa.org.

Brotherhood Adopts New Tradition - *Bob Baker*

After more than sixty years of meeting on every Saturday morning at church, or on Zoom, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew has decided that we have been missing a great opportunity in one of our three dedicated areas of ministry: prayer, study, and service.

Beginning the first Saturday of November, the month of Saint Andrew's Day, we started joining other Saint John's parishioners as regular Iron Gate volunteers. This considerably enhanced Saint John's presence in this ministry of service at Iron Gate.

Although we may be missing our Saturday morning aspects of prayer and study, we can take time for this on our own for the first Saturday each month. Over the years, a few of us have left early after our 7:15 a.m. meetings to go to Iron Gate. Now going in a larger group gives a sense of camaraderie, with members of the Tuesday Brothers joining in as well. We are truly blessed with this addition to our men's ministry.



New Saint John's Banner Dedicated Last Month

On December 12 Father David blessed the new needlepoint Saint John's Episcopal Church banner and thanked the talented parishioners that created this gift through investing their talent and time. During mass, Peggy Woods and Barbara Burke presented the completed project that depicts the shield of our church. We thank Dona Morris whose generosity made the banner completion possible, Peggy and Diane Schooley for their needlework, and the Stitches of Tulsa shop owners Esther and Larry Hengst for their assistance throughout the project.

The new banner artwork is based upon our church's traditional Saint John's shield and reflects the vibrant colors of our nave and sanctuary. The shield design represents many historical events and depicts each in formal heraldic terminology. For more details about the symbolism in the design, read on!



The coloring of the coat-of-arms (heraldic: shield) of Saint John's is argent (heraldic: silver) and azure (heraldic: bright blue) on a saltire (heraldic: X-shaped cross) between a mullet (heraldic: star-shaped object) in chief (heraldic: along the shield's top), an arrow head in base (heraldic: the shield's lower part), and two wagon wheels in fesse (heraldic: across the shield's center).

More details include the saltire (x-shaped cross) that contains a shoemaker's awl and a leather knife that are counterchanged (heraldic: opposite, but balanced) symbolizing Saint Crispin and Crispinian (patrons of cobblers and leather workers) near whose feast (October 25) fell all important changes in the Oklahoma Diocese.

Still more symbols are: the star symbolizes the state, the arrowhead for Indian Territory, and the wheels that represent the Oklahoma land runs. The counterchanging of azure and argent symbolizes two equal Episcopal Missionary Districts that united. The eagle is the symbol for Saint John the Evangelist holding the Bible – Gospel according to Saint John.



Mark Your Calendars Now for these Dates and Events

Many dates and news about upcoming classes or music events can be found in the individual ministry articles in each month's newsletter. For some of the important items that you may want on your calendar, but are not highlighted on other pages in the Evangelist, look for them here.

Holy Week & Eastertide

It's not too early to make a plan for attending services, or to invite a friend to take part, during Holy Week 2022. This important season gets truly underway on Sunday, April 10 (Palm Sunday) and concludes on Monday, April 18 (Easter Monday). Watch future newsletters, the church social media pages, your Sunday bulletins, and the weekly emailed e-news for details as the dates get closer. And, it is not too early to think about how or if you might like to make a gift to the Altar Guild or Flower Fund in honor or memory of special people in your lives (or blessings) for Holy Week.

Lent

This is a wonderful season to study (attend Bible study on Sundays or Wednesdays!), adopt prayerful new practices, attend worship services you haven't tried before in our church, or observe choices to limit activities or dietary pleasures. However your heart calls you to more contemplation or the solemnity of this time, we are here to support and inspire you. Ash Wednesday is on March 2. Look for more details in all the usual communication channels in the weeks ahead.

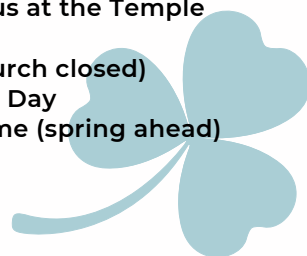
Hopping Into Spring (Already?)

More interesting liturgical dates you might like to read up on, as well as federal or traditional "holidays" to jot on your first-quarter calendar, are:

- Mon., Jan. 17 - Martin Luther King Day (church closed)
- Tues, Jan 18 - Confession of St. Peter
- Tues., Jan 25 - Conversion of St. Paul
- Wed., Feb. 2 - Presentation of Jesus at the Temple
- Mon, Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day
- Mon., Feb. 21 - Presidents Day (church closed)
- Thurs., Feb. 24 - St. Matthias Feast Day
- Sun., Mar. 13 - Daylight Savings Time (spring ahead)
- Thurs., Mar. 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- Sat., Mar. 19 - Feast of St. Joseph
- Fri., Mar. 25 - The Annunciation

Please note: if the parish will be offering any special activities on the dates mentioned above, or if a feast day will be celebrated or "transferred," the church office will share those details in future communication channels.

If parish members would like to step up and offer to plan or lead any fun event or coordinate any meals, be sure to contact Father David as your starting point.





Communication Corner

In this column, we help our readers stay on top of other events and opportunities happening in the life of the parish. Plus, we'll share other news items from across the parish and in church business.

Vestry

The Vestry will next meet on Sunday, January 23. If you have questions about the work and role of the Vestry, please reach out to Father David or our Senior Warden, Susan Walker.

Be Aware of Gift Card Scams

Friends, if you receive a text, email or other correspondence from any address or phone number claiming to be our Rector in need of gift cards (or the like), always assume it is not legitimate. Scammers have been using this strategy to appeal to kind hearts for several years now and unfortunately they sometimes succeed. If you receive a strange request like this, please provide a courtesy alert to Father David. Regrettably, this occurs with some frequency, so the church office will not send out an email notification when the scammers are retrolling email address books under false pretenses.

Confirmation Class 2022

Father David is working on details for the 2022 Confirmation and Reaffirmation Class. If you have an interest in a family member attending (or you!), please reach out to Diana in the church office and ask to be placed on the email list for further information.

Office Closures

Please note that the church office will be closed to observe federal holidays on Monday, January 17 and Monday, February 21. Also, a reminder as we enter the winter season: the church will follow the "closed for inclement weather" policies of Tulsa Public Schools. You can find timely news about the office status by following the Saint John's community Facebook page.

Prayers & Squares

Reminder: the Prayers & Squares ministry meets the first Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. in the Prayers & Squares room on the lower level, north end. Anyone with an interest in this ministry is welcome.

Daughters of the King

Are you interested in learning more about the women of the Bible? Would you like to know more about their continued influence on our lives today? If so, we invite you to please join us February 3 in the library at 11 a.m. for a discussion of Rahab led by Father David.

December Outreach

December was a busy and successful month for outreach initiatives coordinated by church staff in partnership with area agencies or schools. Thank you to all the parishioners who gave generously of their time, or by shopping and bringing in-kind gifts for the causes! Read and see more about our recent community efforts in column two!

Father Bumsted's Truckbed is Filled to the Brim, Twice! After Thanksgiving our church began a supply drive to collect household items that would benefit Afghan refugees settling in our area. The first week of December Father David delivered the "big haul" to coordinating agency, Catholic Charities. Many thanks to the staff that led point on this project and the generous parishioners who donated!



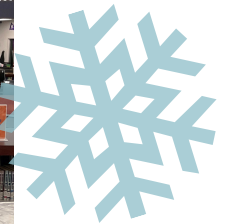
Daughters of the King Bring Joy through Baking

Members of the Daughters of the King ministry gathered and baked last month to lovingly provide more than 300 cookies for the staff and faculty of Edison Preparatory School. This was a part of a larger lunch menu to provide holiday cheer to the hard-working Eagle staff during finals week. Some ladies baked at home and others met throughout the day on December 14 to whip up the treats.



SJC Brings Cheer to Edison Eagle Teachers & Staff

On December 15 Father David and Josh Corsaro helped serve a barbeque buffet to Edison middle and high school's 180-member teaching and support staff. This initiative grew out of a renewed relationship with our neighbor school and an inquiry by the principal. SJC staff quickly coordinated a few details and is tremendously grateful to Rib Crib for extending a big financial assist to make this happen. Faculty and staff came through the Edison Library in shifts and the left-overs were boxed up to send home with Edison Eagle students experiencing food insecurity at home.



Boy Scout Troop 153 Marks Sixty Years!

Thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of our troop! We so appreciate all the support we continue to receive from Saint John's Church. You are the reason we are in our sixth decade! We could not have done it without you and are truly blessed to partner with such a wonderful charter organization.

Mark your calendars and prepare your tastebuds for our upcoming Troop 153 Chili Cook-Off on Friday, February 18, from 5-7 p.m. Tickets will be sold in advance. We hope you will join us for a fun evening of food and fellowship.



By the time you read this, our Troop 153 will have just completed a new experience. We had fifteen scouts and adults pack up their long johns to attend Winter Camp at Camp Garland, near Locust Grove. This was an extended camping experience between Christmas and New Year's, and much like Summer Camp included advancement, skill building, and fun. The campfires were toasty and the hot cocoa flowed freely.

Congratulations to Troop 153's newest Eagle Scout, Will Bayles. We are proud of you Will!

- Carolyn Davis

Caring Through Common Sense

As we continue to love each other by caring through thoughtful actions during the pandemic, we offer these simple reminders:

- Consider getting all COVID-19 vaccinations you're eligible for.
- If you or a guest is unvaccinated, wear a mask in the building at all times.
- Before coming to church, wash your hands.
- Use the sanitizer stations at the church often.
- Respect that not everyone wants to hug hello or shake hands.
- Be mindful of distance in pews between non-family/same-household members.
- Remember that not all our precious kiddos are "jabbed" yet.
- Don't bring children to the nursery with running noses, fever, etc.
- If you've been potentially exposed, stay home and get tested.
- For some at-risk parishioners, avoiding crowds during variant surges is wise.
- If you or a close family member is ill, enjoy worship from home (with hot tea!).

Wash Up - Wear a Mask - & Consider the Option to Watch from Home

Milestones

Birthdays

Jenna Byers, Tammie Kolker,
 Michael Morrison, Michael O'Shea
 Linda Arrington, Dutch Prather
 George Lyons
 Jon Cinocca
 Jack Coon
 Mary Mason, Linda McAninch
 Chris Fields, Jim Mulcahy
 Clark Phipps, Nancy Westfall
 Anne Gillingham, Jan Schweiger
 Conor Cummings
 Nick Bradford, June Marie Campbell,
 Meghan Joiner, Jim Landrum
 Susan Lyons
 Christine Payne
 Nancy Ellis
 Suzanne Pierson
 Debbie Carder, Emma Cinocca,
 Nancy Paul
 Bard Moss
 Betty Briney, Paul Schroedter
 Gayla DeLay, Jerry Lee,
 Harper McIntyre, Morgan McIntyre,
 Don Perry
 Jo Anna Dossett-Barber,
 Nathan Cinocca
 Chris Osburn
 Jo Farrimond, Emily Termin
 Jeanette Hughes-Willey, Bill Moore,
 Will Phipps, Susan Slattery
 Nina Lipe, Robert Reed
 Jane Cowdery, Dianne Schroedter
 Doug Burgess, Susan Walker
 Ellen Atkins, Kelsey Burgess,
 Owen Cowdery, Robert Johnston,
 Courtenay Tetrick

Passings

Martha Moore
Cheryl Lieberman



Do you need weekly pledge/giving envelopes for your contributions to the church? If so, please contact Debbie in the church office at dainley@sjtulsa.org.

This Month at Saint John's Church
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Saint John's Episcopal Church
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