



## St. Agnes' Episcopal Church

65 Union Avenue  
Little Falls, NJ 07424  
973-256-5020

[www.StAgnesLF.org](http://www.StAgnesLF.org)

## January 2018 Newsletter

### Christmas Eve 2017



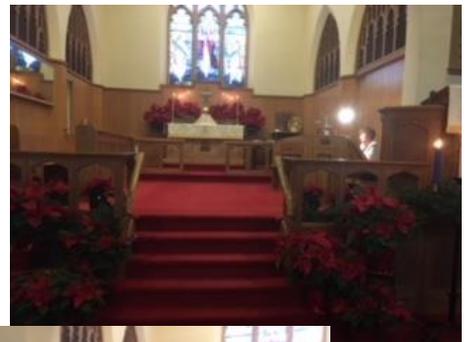
Organist: Evelyn Oberndorf



Altar Guild Ladies: Beth Siedel, Janet Ceriani, Jackie Remy, Beverly Kalinowski, Eileen Wilson, Winnie Holleuffer, Carol Hordyk, and Lynn Dowling. Not pictured Gene Young and Andrea Dransfield.



Pianist: Alex Qassis  
Soloist: Danielle DePietro



“HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING! St. Agnes celebrated the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve with joyful music, singing and each other — celebrating the joyful connection between us and God made real through the gift of Jesus! MERRY CHRISTMAS!”

## Epiphany and Blessing of the Chalk

The Christmas season ends with Epiphany, the threefold 'discovery' and manifestation of the divinity of Jesus Christ; by the three Magi who came to worship Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. The feast of the Epiphany is either the first Sunday after January 1<sup>st</sup>, or January 6th, twelve days after Christmas. It officially ends the "twelve days of Christmas" and the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Among other things, Epiphany celebrates the arrival of the Wise Men from the East to the Christ child in Bethlehem and the spread of the good news to the wider world. Epiphany means "manifestation" or "revelation" or "appearing". In the Christmas story that St. Matthew tells us, wise men from the East study the stars and the prophecies, and detect the birth of the Savior. They travel to Bethlehem to pay homage to Jesus Christ, and they bring with them gifts of frankincense, gold, and myrrh. The Gospel account doesn't say that there are three magi, nor that they are kings. Over the years, they have been described as three kings named Balthasar, Melchior, and Caspar (although in different cultures they have different names!)

One Epiphany tradition observed in the Episcopal Church is the Blessing of Chalk at Mass for Epiphany. Pieces of chalk are blessed by the priest at the end of mass on the feast of Epiphany, and the faithful then take home the chalk to mark a blessing over the doors of their houses for the New Year. The home blessing can be done as follows:

Use the blessed chalk to write 20+C+M+B+18 above the doorways: 2018 for the year; C, M, B for the 3 Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, Latin for "May Christ Bless this House."

As you are writing, pray one of the following prayers:

*May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.*

*Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Lord our God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your law. We give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.*



## Dates for Table to Table Food Truck Delivery

Help us to unload the rescued food from the Table To Table truck to be used at our Food Pantry on Saturdays. Please arrive at 11:30 AM to help unload.

**Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**



## Please volunteer at The Food Pantry.

Volunteers needed for greeting, registration, food bin management, etc. Please arrive at no later than 9:15 AM.



**Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**



**Lynn Dowling's Birthday**



**Supply Clergy** Please welcome the following clergy to St. Agnes over the following weeks:

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>: Rev. Paul Young Yoon  
February 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>: Rev. Paul Young Yoon



**Coat Drive.....**St. Agnes' Episcopal Church is having its annual winter coat drive starting November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please drop off your gently used coats in the front drop off box. Any questions, please contact Eileen Wilson at 973-997-5994.

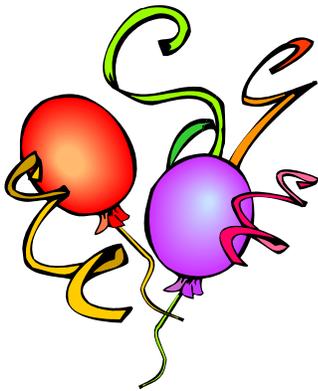


## Prayer Requests



*Andrea Dransfield, George Carpenter, Dave Healy, Nick Sauter, Joe Bivona.*

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Lisa Conti in the Office. E-mail: [stagneslf@verizon.net](mailto:stagneslf@verizon.net) or 973-256-5020.



## Birthdays for January

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Winifred Holleuffer
12 <sup>th</sup>	Valerie Lucas
21 <sup>st</sup>	Carol Hordyk

## Calendar of Events

January	5 <sup>th</sup>	Table to Table, 11:30am
	6 <sup>th</sup>	Food Pantry, 9:30-11:30am
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Vestry Mtg., 7:15pm
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Table to Table, 11:30am
	20 <sup>th</sup>	Food Pantry, 9:30-11:30am