

St. Christopher's News Summary

January 2019

“Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.” – Matthew 11:28



Message to St. Christopher's Parishioners

Many of us were surprised by Father Jeremy's departure to become the rector at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Lake Mary, Florida, a northern suburb of Orlando. It is interesting to note that the love of the congregation at St. Christopher's was a major factor in driving him to seek a full-time position as a parish priest. Rather than splitting his time between his parish and the diocese, he wanted to find a place where he could devote all his talents to ministering to and building his parish. Of course, we wish Father Jeremy and his family all the best in that regard.

Our Vestry has been coordinating closely with the diocese to ensure a smooth transition to a new, talented priest for St. Christopher's. They have been working closely with Canon Michael Gilton, the diocese's Canon to the Ordinary toward that end. Father Jeremy related that Canon Gilton takes a special interest in our church and wants to ensure its future health and growth.

In the interim, Mother Virginia Holleman has agreed to serve as our supply priest for Sunday, December 30 and Sunday, January 6. She is well considered and well-known by some in our parish. For the balance of January and perhaps February, Father John Thorpe will serve as our interim. You may remember Father John who served as a supply priest for us during one of Father Jeremy's absences. He currently serves as chaplain at St. John's Episcopal School.

In any case, between the Vestry and the diocese, we are in good hands.

Dates and Activities to Remember

Sunday, Jan. 6 Epiphany Pageant

Sunday, Jan. 27 Annual Parish Meeting
After the 10 a.m. service

Shrove Tuesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday, March 6

Annual Meeting to Offer Important Information and Updates

Whether you are a long-time member of St. Christopher's or have only been here a few months, we hope you will attend the Annual Parish Meeting and Potluck on Sunday, Jan. 27, immediately following the 10 a.m. service.

This will be an important meeting where we will elect new Vestry members, review our 2018 budget and establish the 2019 budget. Madalyn Wells will give us the latest information on the Vestry's discussions with the diocese about a new priest for St. Christopher's.

To accommodate the briefings and meaningful discussions that will likely take place at the Annual Meeting, we would like to continue with the same pot-luck luncheon format we adopted last year. Rather than offering an array of more formal meal selections, we would like to ask people bring sandwiches, fruit, chips and refreshments to feed the parish family. We'll have a sign-up sheet in the breezeway where people can coordinate on the food and drink offerings they will bring.

Looking for Prayer Partners

We have a very small, but faithful, prayer group that meets every Tuesday in our Chapel from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. for Meditation and Intercessory prayer. But, we would like to become a little bigger prayer group and pray for our parish, the people on the Daughters of the King prayer list and other concerns of our members. We have a member who prays with us in her home on Tuesdays.

We believe that God loves and hears our prayers and we thank him for our many blessings. If you could participate in our prayer group, we would be so happy to have you as a Prayer Partner with us or in your home. Try us. You might like us.

Helping Others During the Christmas Season

Outreach activities were in full-swing during December!



Carolers Share Music and Fellowship

Led by members of the choir, a group of enthusiastic singers brightened the day for residents at the nearby Forum and Traditions Senior Living Centers with Christmas carols and good cheer. Residents and their family members appreciated the visit and loved the music so much that many sang along.

The Joy of Giving

Thanks to the generosity of so many, we were able to deliver a “sleigh-full” of gifts to the Ramos family, including clothing, warm jackets, shoes and gift cards to help them each buy “something special”.

Jorge Ramos (dad) could not believe the large number of gifts as they were carried into their home just before Christmas Eve. He was overwhelmed the kindness of the St. Christopher’s family to his family.



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Schedule of Services

Sundays

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite I
- 9 a.m. Sunday School Lessons and Discussion
- 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite II – Rite I on fourth Sunday
- 10 a.m. Children’s Chapel – Ages 3 through 10

Wednesdays

- 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite I - with discussion afterwards

Weekly Readings

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
6-Jan	Isaiah 60:1-6	72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
13-Jan	Isaiah 43:1-7	29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
20-Jan	Isaiah 62:1-5	36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
27-Jan	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21

