

January 2012 + Issue 1-12 + Christmas into Epiphany

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Church office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.



**THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 P.M.

Please join us this evening at **7:00 p.m.** for the celebration of **The Feast of the Epiphany, with Holy Eucharist.** The word "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, which means, "appearing" or "revealing." The themes of the Epiphany season focus on God's self-revelation in Christ. Christian traditions continue to pay special attention to the visit of the Magi and on the baptism of Jesus, especially the voice from heaven that identifies Jesus as God's Son. During the Epiphany season, the predominant theme is upon God making God known to the world through Jesus, the divine Son. Please join us as St. George's family continues this Christian tradition.

**+ ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>th</sup>**

St. George's annual parish meeting will take place this **Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30am service.** On this Sunday we will enjoy a potluck brunch together and take care of some church business. The annual parish meeting is the time we elect members of the Vestry, select Diocesan Council delegates, hear reports on various parish activities, and discuss other church business. We hope to see you all there and please remember to bring a dish for the potluck meal!

**+ WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - SATURDAY, JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 3:00-5:00 PM**

For the next Women's Book Group gathering we will be reading "Cutting for Stone" by Abraham Verghese. We will meet to discuss the book on **Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00-5:00pm at Carolyn Moreau's home**. Please contact Carolyn at carolynmoreau@austin.rr.com for more information.

**+ HALLELUJAH HOUR! - TUESDAYS, JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 17<sup>TH</sup>, AND 31<sup>ST</sup>, 5-6:00 PM**

On Tuesdays, **January 3, 17, and 31**, the Evangelism Committee will be hosting a Hallelujah Hour at the **Draught House Pub & Brewery** (4112 Medical Pkwy #100, 78756). This event serves our community as a social gathering to know one another better outside the church walls. All are welcome to attend!

**+ PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL GROUP - THURSDAY, JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 10:00 AM**

The Prayer and Devotional Group will next meet at **Pat Booker's house** (11500 Highview Drive, 78750) on **January 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**. For directions or more information, you can reach Pat at 474-4423 or patter78703@yahoo.com.

**+ FIFTH SUNDAY POT-LUCK - SUNDAY, JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup>**

January has five Sundays, which means we'll have a pot-luck lunch after the 10:30 service on **Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**. This is a great opportunity for extra visiting time with church friends and visitors. Bring something to share if you can, but if you can't bring anything, don't let that keep you away. There's always plenty to go around! Leave food in Kleberg Hall before the service. Bon appétit!

**+ A NEW FLOWER CHART**



The 2012 flower chart is hanging in the narthex of the church. If you would like to give altar flowers on any given Sunday, or candles for any given month, please sign up on the flower chart so you can be recognized in the Sunday service bulletin. Be sure to print clearly and note if you are giving the flowers or candles in memory of someone or in thanksgiving for some blessing in your life. A donation of \$25 (for either flowers or candles) is requested; checks may be made payable to St. George's and placed in the alms basin on Sundays or mailed to the church office. Be sure to note on the memo line that the check is for altar flowers/candles.

**+ PINK CANDLE PARTY - THANK YOU!!**

Many thanks to all the generous donors in our St. George's family who made the pink candle luncheon a success. Our Tex Mex menu raised \$338 for the EYC's summer 2012 mission trip. All the food contributions were very appreciated. A special thanks to Paul Pew for providing music to Christmas carol by, and Chloe Carrera for heading up the arts and crafts table.

## + *Hildegard's Illumination: A New Tradition*

The beautiful banner of the Virgin of Guadalupe was a regal presence on the east wall of Kleberg as about forty people processed into the circle, singing *Los Mañanitas*, carrying fresh red roses to place near her feet. Cindy had created the barren Tepeyac hill beneath her from different shades of fabric and pots of cacti; the offered roses represented the flowers that miraculously bloomed in the wilderness when the Virgin appeared to Juan Diego in 1531. Later during Prayers of the People Kleberg was darkened and candles were lit in silence and placed near the banner. As each candle was lit the Virgin became more radiant. It was the Third Sunday of Advent, December 11<sup>th</sup> and St. Hildegard's was presenting our first Virgin of Guadalupe liturgy and celebration. It was so lovely and well received that we've already decided it needs to be an annual Advent tradition.

Earlier in November we had chosen Guadalupe's Feast to experiment with offering a public liturgy, one that we publicized, where we focused on welcoming visitors. Gretchen and I designed bookmarks and had them printed to pass out at the 'Chant for Peace' and 'Women and Fair Trade' events held the weekend of November 11-13<sup>th</sup>. We were inspired by The Rev. Virginia Marie Rincon's experience with celebrating the Virgin's feast day in Maine where she had worked in Hispanic Ministry for the diocese and had founded a non-profit for Latina women and their families. She generously let us use her banner and shared copies of the traditional music as well as the Rite II service she had planned. Susan investigated local celebrations and helped with the Space. Mary worked diligently to get English translations of the Spanish songs so that we'd understand the meaning while singing in Spanish. She also prepared the service leaflets that included all the songs. Daphne helped find readings and I created a Rite 3 liturgy based on a Lessons and Carols format. In addition to the Gospel for the Day we included readings about Juan Diego's vision and the significance of the feast day. A reading from Elizabeth Johnson's *Quest for the Living God* explored the theology. Virginia Marie told the story of the artist: The banner had been painted by an immigrant, who signed it "Denny," the American name he chose for himself. He had been referred to her for pastoral care as he was depressed and wounded after a traumatic journey to Maine. In meeting with him she had discovered his artistic talent in numerous small paintings he had done. He had never done a large painting but with her encouragement, and after she showed up with all the art supplies, he agreed. In spite of his trepidation gradually the beautiful *Virgen* emerged. As Denny painted, he gained confidence and also began to heal. His story is representative of the Virgin of Guadalupe's healing presence from the Sixteenth Century onward.

We sung our beautiful Advent Mass – "Into the hush of uncertainty comes a whisper" and concluded with a moving drumming ceremony by Virginia Marie. As we shared homemade tamales and cinnamon cookies, we enjoyed meeting the visitors. A few came because of our bookmarks; more came because someone had invited them personally. Most of us sampled both delicious, traditional hot drinks made by Cindy – vanilla *atóle* and Mexican hot chocolate. We hope some of you will be able to join us next year!

Blessings for this New Year, Judith

# *Servant Leadership School of Austin*

Thursdays January 12, 2012 – March 15, 2012

We gather for dinner at 6:15 and the school begins at 7pm.

Contact the registrar by email at

[SLS.of.Austin@gmail.com](mailto:SLS.of.Austin@gmail.com)

or by phone at 512-524-5145.

Read more about the classes on our website:

<http://www.hildegard-austin.org/grow/our-school.html>

## **Class: Engaging the Powers**

Through this class we will develop a deeper understanding of the delusional system that keeps the world mired in alienation and violence. In his book *Engaging the Powers*, Walter Wink links the wisdom of Scripture, depth psychology and his own experience to invite us into an alternative vision, a “Third Way” based on the nonviolent principles Jesus lived and taught, a new hope for the future. (*This class is part of the Viriditas Curriculum*)

*Francesca Wigle will be teaching the class.*

## **Class: Nature and the Human Soul**

In this class we will study Bill Plotkin's visionary map of the human life-cycle. This map integrates Nature's wisdom, rejects consumerism, and calls upon each person to seek out their deepest talents and passions as gifts to community.

*Greg Futch will be teaching the class.*

## **Class: Mary Magdalene and the Path of Conscious Love**

In recent scholarship Mary Magdalene is emerging with new clarity that sheds light on the path of love that Jesus taught and lived. In this class we will use *The Meaning of Mary Magdalene* by Cynthia Bourgeault, and other resources, to come to know Mary Magdalene as Apostle, Beloved and Unitive Wisdom so that we can know the transforming power of love in our own lives.

*Judith Liro will be teaching the class.*

*If you would like to share this information with friends, please use this link to our colorful brochure:*

[https://docs.google.com/open?id=1GVAo28gAad\\_mv45toBPW68ghayTOKGpeObGW2hLyuNhC KPV3OIZzT\\_Ry1d2a](https://docs.google.com/open?id=1GVAo28gAad_mv45toBPW68ghayTOKGpeObGW2hLyuNhC KPV3OIZzT_Ry1d2a)

## + NEWS FROM ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL



Happy New Year! We are so excited to be back at school again after a wonderful, restful break. The teachers and I couldn't wait to see the sweet faces of our students again!

Advent was a special time at St. George's Episcopal School. The entire school gathered twice a week in the library to have advent chapel together. We started by decorating a Christmas tree with handmade ornaments. On the first day of chapel, a very large wrapped box was sitting on the table. The children guessed what might be in the box, and we open it to reveal a large advent wreath! We talked about how advent means "the coming" and that we are spending this time together and lighting one candle at a time to wait for "the coming" of a very special baby named Jesus. We sang the song "Light One Candle" as we lit the advent wreath each time. The chapel services that followed focused on a gift of the season including love, family, light, grace, hope, peace, patience, strength and joy. We unwrapped a gift each morning that symbolized one of these spiritual gifts. You should have seen the excited faces when they guessed what might be in the box and when the gift was revealed! It was such a special time to be together during this season that is filled with messages of hope and love.

Our fall semester chapel services culminated in two outreach projects that benefit organizations close to St. George's heart. Before Thanksgiving break, we collected non-perishable food items for St. George's Court and before Christmas break, we collected unwrapped toys for Foundation Communities. We blessed these items at the altar and talked about why we give to others, especially during this time of year. This year, the amount of food and toys that were donated was overwhelming! The school families responded in a huge way to this opportunity to give back to the community.

Speaking of blessings, another big thank you so much to all of the parishioners who have donated to the school Annual Fund. A formal thank you note is going in the mail next week, but we want you to know how much we appreciate your constant and generous support over the years! We surpassed our goal of \$10,000 with a total of \$12,968! Almost \$13,000! Amazing! We will have that outdoor theater on the playground in no time, as well as funds available for curriculum and improvements to our wonderful school!

And finally, thank you so much for your patience and good humor as we all learn how to use the new gate locks that were installed over Christmas break. The gate code is C4455. All gates are permanently locked except for the east and west gates (by the playground and by my office) with signs directing visitors to the church and school offices. The locks were too expensive (\$1,000 a piece - thank you Annual Fund!) to add a third to the Crestwood gate, and since that gate was closer to the street, we decided to go with the safer gate farther from the street by the playground. I had our first visit and tour of 2012 yesterday, and the mom commented that it "felt like Fort Knox" - in a good way! Since what we are protecting is far more valuable than gold, I am taking that as a huge compliment. If you are having trouble with the gates during the week, please stop by my office and I will gladly help you out!

Laura Colangelo, Head of School



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Jan. 2 - Ashley Carrera

Jan. 8 - Sarah Kerver

Jan. 11 - Randy Parker

Jan. 18 - Paul Paschall

Jan. 22 - Evan Sayer

Jan. 25 - Angela Pires

Jan. 30 - Bonita Snyder-Jones

Jan. 3 - Betsy Wilbur

Jan. 8 - Andrea Sparks

Jan. 13 - Jan Phillips

Jan. 18 - Lisa Wagner

Jan. 22 - Vanamala Manohar

Jan. 26 - April Sikes

Jan. 4 - Jenny Sahs

Jan. 11 - Rebecca Brackin

Jan. 17 - David Boston

Jan. 21 - Tom Hayes

Jan. 25 - David Steven Cowick

Jan. 30 - Rick Price



## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS



**January 1** - Lay Eucharistic Ministers

**January 15** - Lectors & Intercessors

**January 29** - Parish-wide Potluck

**January 8** - Choir

**January 22** - Ushers

## + CHRISTOPHER HOUSE BASKET DELIVERY SCHEDULE +

*Jan 1-7:* John & Frances Rickard

*Jan 15-21:* Jan Phillips & Carolyn Moreau

*Jan 29-Feb 4:* Chuck Webb

*Jan 8-14:* April & Ben Sikes

*Jan 22-28:* Ellen Thibodeaux & Kelly Chester

*Feb 5-11:* Kevin Schubert

## LINKS

<http://www.sgchurch.org/worship4.asp> Lay Ministry Schedule

<http://www.sgchurch.org/events3.asp> The Banner (including past electronic issues)

[www.stgeorges-austin.org](http://www.stgeorges-austin.org) St. George's Day School

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/> The Lectionary - a calendar of current scripture readings

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/> The Episcopal Church

<http://www.epicenter.org> Episcopal Diocese of Texas

<http://www.campallen.org/> Camp Allen

<http://www.stgeorgescourt.org/> St. George's Court

[www.hildegard-austin.org](http://www.hildegard-austin.org) St. Hildegard's Community

[www.ctcinternational.org](http://www.ctcinternational.org) Comfort the Children International

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| January 1  | Lessons & Carols Service, 10:30am (Church)                     |
| January 3  | Hallelujah Hour, 5-6:00pm (Draught House Pub & Brewery)        |
| January 6  | Epiphany Service, 7:00pm (Church)                              |
| January 7  | Women's Book Group, 3-5:00pm (Home of Carolyn Moreau)          |
| January 8  | Annual Parish Meeting, after the 10:30am Service               |
| January 12 | Servant Leadership School begins, 6:15pm (Kleberg Hall)        |
| January 17 | Hallelujah Hour, 5-6:00pm (Draught House Pub & Brewery)        |
| January 19 | Prayer & Devotional Group, 10:00am (Home of Pat Booker)        |
| January 19 | Servant Leadership School, 6:15pm (Kleberg Hall)               |
| January 26 | Servant Leadership School, 6:15pm (Kleberg Hall)               |
| January 29 | Fifth Sunday Potluck, after the 10:30am service (Kleberg Hall) |
| January 31 | Hallelujah Hour, 5-6:00pm (Draught House Pub & Brewery)        |
| February 2 | Servant Leadership School, 6:15pm (Kleberg Hall)               |

**The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert**  
*Rector*

**The Rev. Judith Liro**  
*Associate Rector and Minister to  
St. Hildegard's Community*

**The Rev. Josephine Robertson**  
*Curate*

**Susanna Brosseau**  
**Seth Olson**  
*Seminarians*

**Paul Pew** *Music Minister*  
**Becca Meaders** *Office Administrator*  
**Laura Colangelo** *Day School Director*

*Vestry*  
**Herb Dickson**  
**Hollie Gordon**  
**Ralph Hausser**  
**Scott Hoffman**  
**David McGhee**  
**Ramón Treviño**

**Frances Rickard** *Senior Warden*  
**Jan Phillips** *Junior Warden*  
**James Wall** *Financial Secretary*  
**Stephen Linam & Rob Blech**  
*Treasurers*  
**Hal Stevens** *Clerk*

**The Church Office will be closed  
January 16<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin  
Luther King Jr. Day.**

### Sunday Schedule

8:00am - Holy Eucharist Rite I  
8:00am - Contemplative prayer  
9:45am - Choir rehearsal  
10:30am - Holy Eucharist Rite II with Kids Word (Nursery available)  
4:00pm - St. Hildegard's Worship

The next issue of THE BANNER will go out on **Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>**. Deadline for news is **Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>**. Please e-mail information you would like included in next month's edition to [stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com).

*Worshiping God and sharing our faith through word, action and service.*