



Christmas Eve Sunday: We will have one combined service on *Sunday, December 24 at 10:00am.*

Christmas Eve Evening Services: *Sunday, December 24, services at 5:00pm (with inclusion of all children in the service) and 10:30pm.*

Church Offices will be closed: *Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26 for the holiday.* We will reopen on December 27 at 8:30am.

Laymen's League: The Laymen's Steak Fry will be held on *Friday, December 8 at 6:00 pm* in the Parish Hall. The menu is steak, potatoes, a vegetable and a dessert. See you then.

Sunday, December 10: Special visitors at the 10:30am service: celebrating St. Nicholas and St. Lucia.

"Blessing Bell" Tree: Wrap gifts, and *return by Dec. 10.* Youth will wrap if needed.

SPECIAL SPEAKER- DEC. 11: Sabrina Tavernise: A New York Times reporter tells the story behind her story of vandalism at a mosque called Peace in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Her talk will begin at *6:30 pm on December 11* in the Windgate Theater, on the UAFS campus, corner of Waldron and Kinkead.

Here is the link to the article:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/08/26/us/fort-smith-arkansas-mosque-vandalism-and-forgiveness.html>

Good Samaritan Clinic Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon: *Thursday, December 14,* at noon in the Skinner Building.

Saints Alive: Holiday fun is in the air! Come join in the celebration on *Friday, December 15th,* at *5:30 pm* in **St. John's Parish Hall.** Bring your favorite "pot luck" dish and beverages of your choice. This would not be a Saints Alive December party without playing Silly Santa! If you would like to participate in this traditional event, please bring a "white elephant" or even a nice gift. Hope to see you there!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: December 17, 10:30 Service: "Creatures at Christmas" adapted A "Beastly" Christmas by John. O. Eby.

- Dec. 10 – after 10:30 Service/Chambers Hall: Roles and Costumes assigned
- Dec. 16 (Sat.) - 10:00-12:00 Dress Rehearsal
- Dec. 17 – 9:45 Dressed and Ready for Pageant in Parish Hall



Poinsettias for Christmas: If you would like to contribute toward the Christmas Flowers, complete a form from the Sunday bulletin or Holy Babble the and leave it along with your check (marked “Christmas Flowers”) in the church office or place it in the alms basin on Sunday. Deadline for turning in your information is ***Sunday, December 17.***

Bicentennial Book Update: This much-anticipated book has left the printing plant and is on its way to the states. We expect the books to reach Los Angeles December 2. We are still anticipating delivery to you near the end of the first week of December. This important and entertaining book, celebrating Fort Smith’s bicentennial, is gorgeous.

An advance copy was sent to Mayor Sanders, and he says, “The bicentennial commemorative book is terrific. It truly shows the depth and breadth of our city and people.
Happy Thanksgiving!

Cards for Others: Please bring your unwanted all occasion cards so that our new coordinator - Mrs. Barbara Burgess can get the cards to the proper places in time for the holidays. See the basket in front of the Skinner building reception desk, or the basket in the Parish hallway.

Remember to sign up to host Saints’ Alive for 2018: There is a new signup sheet on the bulletin board. The host provides the place, dishes, silverware, ice and an entrée, with everyone bringing a dish and beverage of choice. The host chooses what weekend and what day to have it that month and the time. Please call Karen Rouse at 479-763-1050 if you have any questions.

Did you know? You can make a secure donation to St. John’s using your PayPal account or your Debit Card. Just click the link to go to our website <http://stjohnfs.org/giving/> it’s that easy!



CONNECTIONS GROUPS: For Service, Social, or Study opportunities: Online Sign Up- www.stjohnfs.org Home Page. Or Forms are on the Hallway Bulletin Board.

- **Rector’s Classes** – Story of the Church in America. *Wednesdays at 5:00pm* in the Skinner Building and *Sundays at 9:15am* in Chambers Hall.
- **Sallisaw Stitches:** ***Dec. 8, 12:00 noon*** at the home of Jeanne Reddick, 1011 S. Dogwood, Sallisaw, OK. (ph: 817-475-1979). Small group in Sallisaw. Bring your own needle work and your own lunch.
- **VINO LEAUGE:** ***Friday, Dec. 9, 7-9:00***, St. John’s Skinner Bldg. This month’s Vino League will be hosted by Beth & Jody Carson. December is our CHAMPAGNE league, in celebration of Christmas and New Year. Please bring a bottle of champagne (or a couple of splits), and a dish that pairs well with your champagne selection.

- **“First and Third Thursdays” Bible Study:** *Thursday, Dec. 7 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.* you are invited to be a part of a new Bible study group that is forming at St. John’s. Bring your lunch and we will provide the drinks. The study will begin in Genesis and work through the Story of the Old Testament. Contact Emily Zeigler 462-2366 or Father Mike 221-4030.
- **Casserole of Life:** *8:30am, Dec. 8,* Parish Hall Kitchen – prepares hot meal for Next Step Homeless Services clients. Serve meal at 11:30. Contacts are Mariko Clifton (479) 461-9417, Betsy or Jeff Champlin (479) 353-1316.
- **Enneagram:** Meet *5:30pm-6:45pm, 2nd & 4th Monday, next meeting Dec. 11* in the Youth Room/Skinner Building. Group meets 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month.
- **Creative Bible Journaling:** *6:30pm, 3rd Mondays, next meeting Dec. 18* in the Skinner Building.

YOUTH:

STARFISH– 6th-12th grades: 2017-18: Hope & Worship Meet: 2nd & 4th Sundays; 12:00-2:00 pm with lunch provided.

- **Dec. 10, 16, 17 – Christmas Pageant**
- **Dec. 10** – Shop for Blessing Bells after pageant prep.

Dolphins – (3rd-5th grades) – Pageant preparation – Dec. 10, 16, 17.

Girls Scouts: Meeting will resume on *Jan. 23*. Meetings are first and third Mondays from 5-7 at St John's in the classrooms by the nursery (church side of campus). Everyone please bring a snack, its potluck! As always, guests are always welcome. Leader: Natalie King-Hyman.

WORSHIP MINISTERS – Advent 2, Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017

8:00 service:

Usher: Rick Hayes.

Lay Ministers: *1st Lesson*, Chris Glasco; *Psalm & 2nd Lesson*, Helen Harper; *Prayers*, Muggy Murray; *Chalice*, Helen Harper & Becky Ibison.

Altar Guild: Muggy Murray.

Hospitality: Muggy Murray.

Announcements: Eden Buergler.

10:30 service:

Ushers: Ron & Karen Lawson.

Lay Ministers: *1st Lesson*, Karen Orite; *Psalm /2nd Lesson*, Steve Kilpatrick; *Prayers (Special)* Jeannie McCabe; *Chalice*, Irene Willbanks & Mike Orite.

Acolytes: *Server*, Mattie McLellan; *Asst. Server*, Gregory Alan; *Crucifer*, Ian McLellan; *Clergy Crucifer*, Alanna Contreras; *Torches*, Sam Cloninger & Walker Cloninger; *Parent helper*, Smith.

Children's Chapel: Lori Burton.

Altar Guild: Everyone works for Advent & Christmas.

Hospitality: Becky Dunn.

Announcements: Pat Klahr.