



ALL ANGELS BY THE SEA WEEKLY TIDINGS

December 23, 2021

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

a joyous celebration of the Nativity,
December 24, 5 pm

Bulletin for Christmas Eve

Scripture Readings, Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

Luke 2:1-20

[Click Here for the Readings](#)

Christmas Altar Flower Dedications

To see the list of Christmas altar flower dedications,
please click *here*.

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 and 10:00 am

To live-stream - go to [AllAngelsLBK.org](https://www.allangelslbk.org), click on the "All Angels Enter Here" picture and you will be routed to our YouTube channel.

Zoom - go to <https://zoom.us/j/5955701807> and watch and listen live. Be sure to stick around after the service for our coffee hour chat-with-your-neighbor time.

The 10am service will begin with the lighting of the altar candles. If you are participating at home, you are invited to light a candle with us to create a sacred space of worship at home.

The bulletin can be found on the All Angels Website:

[AllAngelsLBK.org](https://www.allangelslbk.org)

or at the following link: *Bulletin for Sunday, December 26*

Scripture Readings, December 26

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 147:13-21

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

John 1:1-18

Coffee Hour, Sunday December 26

Coffee Hour on Sunday, Dec. 26th, is "*Bring your Christmas Treats to Church Sunday*". For coffee hour, we will provide the coffee and if you have any Christmas treats - cookies, candies, even fruitcake - that you would like to share, please leave them in the kitchen before the 10 a.m. service.

The Marshalls are leaving on December 30th and returning on January 3rd. Fr. Fred will be celebrating the 8 and 10 am services on January 2nd. The All Angels Office will be closed from December 28 to January 3rd.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Last Sunday's Service

12-19-21



Blue Christmas

12-21-21



PICTURES OF THE WEEK

From All Angels Blue Christmas Service



SPECIAL REPORT

Support Tornado Victims and Other Global Needs

You can make a donation online to the Episcopal Relief & Development [HERE](#) or you can send relief checks to Episcopal Relief & Development at P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. You can also send your check to the Diocesan House, 8005 25th Street East, Parrish, FL 34219 and we will send it to Episcopal Relief & Development.

PRAYERS

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer invites you to pray with them, every day, at 8 am, wherever you are. When you enter into prayer at 8 am (Eastern), you will know that others are praying at the same time.

We Pray for our People

We pray on behalf of all whose needs of body, soul and mind are great. Especially we lift before you the needs of: Downs IV, Holden, and Brian. Grant healing and recovery for Beverly and Bill. Give peace and strength for those going through cancer treatments, especially Jane, Downs III, Victoria, Alex, Connie and Douglas. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy and Barbara. Be near to all who are in hospice care, especially Stan.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

One of the most important things we do is gather after the service for coffee hour. If you are interested in hosting, the sign up sheet is on the Gallery table. If you would like help, sign up and we will find someone to show you how it is done.

Choir Rehearsals and Music in the Park

Please note the schedule for Thursday morning music rehearsals and Music in the Park.

10 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

12:30 Music in the Park

New members are always welcome in the choir.

Contact Dale for more information: 941 896 5541,

or dhooey@verizon.net. This schedule will change after the new year begins.

Art Gallery

New to YOU Art Sale 2022 Update:

We are now accepting art that is no longer being used for our BIG event in February 2022. Please drop off your art to the church office starting now. Accepting: Framed Art, Statues, Fiber, Clay, Pottery, Mixed Media. Have a friend who has unwanted art? Please donate it to our sale.

Let's make this a Great Event!

Not sure if we will accept it? Call Linn at 941-383-8161

Our Artist for December is Chris Connors

Please stop by and enjoy the work of this talented artist. Checks should be written to All Angels by the Sea.



Discussion Groups

Discussion Groups will return in January, 2022.

Online Giving

If you would like to give to the offering plate electronically, you can find the online giving link on our All Angels website by clicking the link below:

AllAngelsLBK.org

Masks are highly recommended for indoor events.

REFLECTION

O Tannenbaum

On my route to take Ethan to preschool, there was a house with a large picture window. Every year, on the day after Thanksgiving, their gorgeous real spruce Christmas tree would go up. And then like clockwork, on December 26th, it would come down and wait by the curb to be picked up by the yard waste truck. Year after year, I wanted to tell the owners of the tree that Christmas is twelve days long starting on Christmas Day. But, in typical Episcopal fashion, I kept to myself.



The Church calendar does not mind when you put up your tree; it does,

however, specify when it should come down. With the setting of the sun on the Eve of Christmas, we leave the season of Advent and enter into the joyous celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. The Church calendar prescribes that we celebrate Christmas until the middle of the first week of January. For a variety of reasons, Christmas music and decorations have crept into the season of Advent, and more recently, the Nativity accoutrements are competing with Thanksgiving. The secular acknowledgement of Christmas, as shown by my neighbor with the picture window and yearly spruce tree, is that it concludes on December 25th; which is, ironically, when Christmas actually begins.

All Angels will be celebrating Christmas with the singing of Christmas carols, the displaying of poinsettias, and, of course, Christmas trees. The Christmas tree is the most iconic image of my favorite season. Originally used in ancient Egypt and Rome as symbols of year-round life, plants that remain green during the winter solstice were displayed over doors and in windows. It was believed that the sun god became sick and weak during the winter and displaying evergreens or palm rushes would help. Germany is credited with starting our modern-day Christmas tree tradition. Starting in the 16th century, it is recorded that Christians decorated indoor evergreen trees. In other communities where saplings were scarce, the communities would build Christmas pyramids of wood and decorate them with boughs and candles.

In America, German settlements in what is now Pennsylvania had community Christmas trees as early as 1747. Nevertheless, because of our puritan history, many American Christians saw the tree as a pagan symbol. Oliver Cromwell preached against "the heathen traditions" of Christmas carols, decorated trees, and really any other joyful expression that, in his view, desecrated the sacred event of Christ's birth. In 1659, the General Court of Massachusetts enacted a law making any observance of Christmas – other than a church service – a penal offense with fines for people who

hang decorations.

Queen Victoria and her German Prince (Albert), were sketched in the London News with their children around a Christmas tree in 1846. Suddenly, the Christmas tree became fashionable; not only in England but also in New England. By the 1890s, the popularity of American Christmas trees is evident in the rise of imported German ornaments during that time. Episcopalian Franklin Pierce was the first President to bring the Christmas tree tradition inside the White House. Teddy Roosevelt (not an Episcopalian) banned the Christmas tree from the White House for environmental reasons. That ban ended under Taft's administration; who, oddly enough, was a Unitarian.

From this brief summary, it would seem that German-Americans and Queen Victoria saved Christmas from the American puritans. History is certainly more nuanced than that, but, this year, when I sing the famous German hymn, O Tannenbaum, I will appreciate the line, "we learn from all your beauty." The Church calendar simply asks that we learn from it all twelve days of Christmas.

-Rev. Dave

The logo features the word "Angels" in a large, elegant, cursive script. Below it, the words "gather here" are written in a smaller, simpler, lowercase font. The entire logo is centered within a white rectangular box that has a subtle drop shadow.