



ALL ANGELS BY THE SEA WEEKLY TIDINGS

December 9, 2021

Sunday's service will be held in the Parish Hall
at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

The 10 am service will be on both Zoom and YouTube.



Christmas Schedule

Blue Christmas, a liturgy of prayer, remembrance, healing and hope, December 21, 5 pm

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

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.

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 12](#)



Altar Flowers for Sunday, December 12
are given by Virginia Spitler & her family
in loving memory of the Rev. Downs C. Spitler, Jr.



Scripture Readings, December 12

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Canticle 9

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

[Click Here for this Sunday's Readings](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Last Sunday's Service



OUTREACH

Diaper Drive

You still have time to donate diapers, sizes 5 & 6 only



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. We give you thanks for Debi's recovery from surgery. 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, Andres, 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.

For the repose of the souls of John Marshall and Melvia Cheng.

May their souls and souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

If you would like to help decorate the altar with Christmas flowers,
please fill out the card below and return it to the All Angels Office by
December 16th.



CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

Donations for Christmas Altar Flowers are now being received as Memorials or Thank Offerings. Please make checks payable to "All Angles by the Sea" memo line: ALTAR FLOWERS.

Your name (please print) _____

Choose one of the following categories (please print names).

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

Amount enclosed _____ . Please return no later than Dec. 16th.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

More Precious Than Peace by Justus Doenecke

All Angels parishioners Justus Doenecke, has published a book, More Precious than Peace. The promotional video for it can be found on Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_R30q-w3RdM

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, Hand Bell 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

11 a.m. Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Eve

12:30 Music in the Park

New members are needed in each 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:

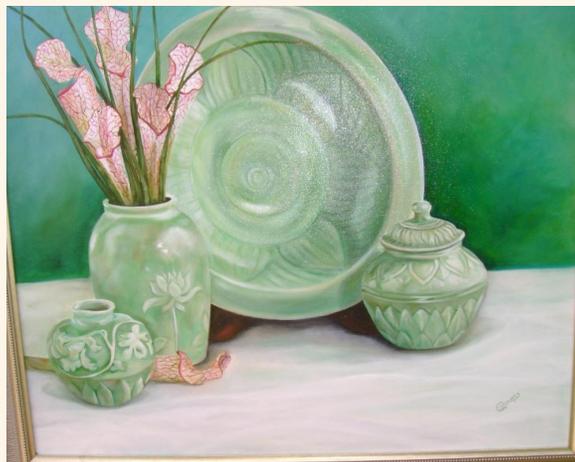
We are now accepting art that is no longer being used for our BIG event in February 2022. Please drop off your art to the church office starting now. Accepting: Framed Art, Statues, Fiber, Clay, Pottery, Mixed Media. Have a friend who has unwanted art? Please donate it to our sale.

Let's make this a Great Event!

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

Our Artist for November 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

You've probably seen the signs - Jesus is the reason for the season. Next week's article will give us a unique look at what it means to have a messiah born as a child. Remembering that Advent is a mini-lent where we engage in a level of self-examination and repentance, this article invites us to look at how we can fall into the trap of becoming our own messiah. I look forward to talking with you about it.

Here's the Zoom link

<https://zoom.us/j/5955701807>

[Reckoning with Our Own Messiah Complexes](#)

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

Miracle on the Key



A Jewish theology professor presented a different way to understand the book of Genesis that famously begins with, "In the beginning, God said, 'Let there be light.'" The professor said, "In the beginning... there was a discussion. The light came later." There certainly is energy in a good discussion. Resolved discussions bring about new understanding, peace and healing – which could easily be described as light.

Rabbi Stephen raised an interesting question before our annual Longboat Key Thanksgiving service. He asked the assembled gathering of the island's clergy this: why is it that we, of different backgrounds and different faith traditions, can gather, talk, work together, and enjoy each other's company while the rest of our community, because of the prevailing political culture, cannot. Good rabbinic questions require thought and not an immediate response. We sat in peaceful, contemplative silence pondering his question that began with *why is it?*

There is a small, but growing, movement on Longboat to foster discussion. Leaders of the Republican Club of Longboat Key and the Longboat Key Democratic Club are meeting together to foster a dialog of mutual trust and respect. What they have discovered is that both groups believe in the importance of truth, non-discrimination, a strong economy, equal opportunity in education, concern for the environment, support of law enforcement, and that personal responsibility is a commonly-held value.

They are not going to solve every problem and they certainly won't agree

They are not going to solve every problem and they certainly won't agree on everything, but the important thing is that they are talking, civilly, with each other. In a joint statement, they wrote the following: Instead of fostering polarization and partisanship, let's embrace our differences, work for consensus where we can, and show our elected leaders that civil conversation makes change possible.

Coming up at some point in our discussion groups, we will talk about this miracle on the Key and discuss the article that coined the phrase in the Bradenton Herald. Speaking of the discussion groups, this sort of "miracle" happens every week. We gather people of different perspectives and listen to one another and the different viewpoints. In typical Episcopal fashion, someone may even share two perspective both of which are believed by the same person!

To answer the Rabbi's question – why is it that we can gather and enjoy one another's company even though we have diverse faith backgrounds – it is because we want to. If we wanted to argue theology and storm out when we get offended, we could do that; but, we choose not to. Instead, we focus on what we all believe – God calls us to be thankful.

The season of Advent – darkness – is followed by the short, 12-day, season of Christmas and is followed by the season of Epiphany – the season of light. It would be fitting that within the seasons of Advent/Christmas/Epiphany, we choose to be together, to work toward a common goal, and to have good discussions along the way. If you have family gathering for the holidays, it might be wise to choose to gather, not to argue or prove some sort of social/political or theological point, but rather to be together to hear stories, and, to share, as the hymn goes, *the hopes and fears of all the years*. May you have peaceful and light-filled gatherings this Christmas season.

*Angels
gather here*