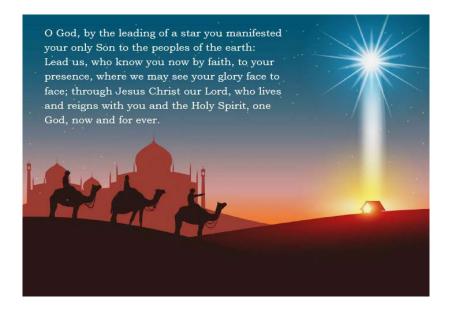


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We welcome all to live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ



Epiphany

"When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy."

Our church loves feasts. We should do more feasting, not less. And our feasting should be informed by the life of Christ, which is best and most historically represented to us in the church year.

The church year is an embodied re-enactment of the story of our salvation. Beth Bevis writes, "In the holy days and seasons of the church year, the life of Christ and the entirety of human history are recapitulated. The eternal is aligned with the here and now." The church calendar is anything but empty tradition. It is life at its fullest.

Epiphany is one more opportunity to say that January 6th is not merely part of your monthly earnings and pay cycle. It's a day in which we are mystically connected to the magi! This is important, friends. People wonder how to be more fully connected to Christ—and certainly there is mystery there. Communion! But, it's not unknowable. It's not confusing. It is done in faith, which has some unsettling—and again, mysterious—pieces. But there is a way to know this stuff.

Our religious imagination is so completely overwhelmed by Christmas with its lights and trees and gifts and traditions, that the same religious imagination fails us by the time we get to Epiphany. Emilee Griffin reminds us, "We need big mental pictures of kings who parade before us on camels; they would be large, exaggerated, gorgeous figures."

The zodiac alone should be as much fuel for us as it was for the ancients whose lives were lived accordingly. For after all, the Magi were astrologers who followed a star. Epiphany is a reminder, as one author has written, that "the star that guided that Magi was governed, not merely by gases and gravity, but by God's desire to convey a message to his people."

When I still taught, I would take weeks on the stars in charting them and became decent at finding my way through the night sky. There are few things as proto-Christian as looking up in hopes of visualizing the life of the Divine, which is exactly what the ancients did. When I see Betelguese hanging out in Orion, I suddenly believe in Orion. It works! And these magi found Jesus, the one who made the stars.

Join us this Epiphany season as we revel afresh in the self-revealing nature of Jesus to all!

Nate+

Evening Services and Events for Season of Ephiphany

St. John's Church now holds a service each Wednesday evening at 5:30 pm, beginning with the First Wednesday Evening Eucharist (on the first Wednesday of each month), and including Feast Days; and Evening Prayer on all other Wednesdays.

Please review the list below for all dates in the Season of Epiphany through Feb 19, with special attention to the dates/times for weekday services during this season.

NOTE: Please remember that all services and activities are listed on the St. John's OKC "Calendar" (under "Connect") at <u>Events Calendar | St. John's Oklahoma City (stjohnsokc.org)</u>



Important Dates to Note for January 2023

Saturday, January 7, 5-7 pm - Family Epiphany Event

Sunday, January 8 - Sunday School Resumes

Sunday, January 22, 6-4 pm - Reception for Deacon Jaron Hill

Wednesday, January 25, 6:30-8:30 pm - Confirmation and Reception - Bishop Poulson Reed presiding

Sunday, January 29 - Acolyte Sunday Service

Sunday, January 29, 11:30-1:30 - Annual Meeting and Luncheon in Wade-Dalton Hall, immediately following Sunday worship

Please watch for further information on the above events in the weekly Fab Friday announcements.



Recurring Events - Winter Schedule

Second Sunday of Month - following service - Daughters of the King Healing Service with Holy Unction - Nave

Second Sunday of Month - 11:30 am Daughters of the King Meeting - Parlor
Fourth Sunday of Month - 11:30 am Bishop's Committee Meeting - Parlor
Mondays and Wednesdays - 11:00 to 4:00 CAIR Refugee Resource Center - School Annex
Tuesdays and Thursdays - 9:30 to 3:30 Hickman Music School in session - School Annex
Wednesday Evenings - 5:30 pm Wednesday Eucharists or Evening Prayer Services

Wednesday Evenings - 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday Evenings - 6:30 pm Tai Chi

Second Saturday of Month - 8:00 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew - Parlor

Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00

(or by appointment)

(If you have a recurring event that you would like added to this posting, please contact Nancy at stjohnsokc@yahoo.com or 405-943-8548.)

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

4 - Nancy Jones

8 - Esther Carr

12 - Angela Hooper

16 - Lura Owen

23 - Chase Morgan

26 - Denise Whitehead

27 - Colleen Rock

28 - Lauren Walters

29 - Ian Carr

30 - Cynthia Walters

30 - Judy Barr

Anniversaries

There aren't any anniversaries in the month of January.

Bishop's Committee

Ron Pierce, Sr. Warden ronjpierce@yahoo.com Michael Grissom, Jr. Warden boomersoonerou1@gmail.com Alan Dobbs, Co-Treasurer alan5313@att.net Glen Fields, Co-Treasurer grf63@att.net Aaron Mooney, Clerk aaronseanmooney@gmail.com Alaina Chai alaina.noel@cox.net Stuart Chai stuart.chai@juno.com Pat Greaves greavesp3@gmail.com Sarah Greenley sarah@trueskycu.org Kim Jackson krmjackson87@gmail.com **Emily Mooney** mooneyemily44@gmail.com



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