



# Newsletter

Here's **What's Happening** in the next few weeks.



**December 11th – St. Lucy Sunday**- Time to make share traditional Scandinavian goodies

- Ornament making class for children\*
- Inquirer-Membership class for teens and adults\*\*



**December 18th—Greening of the church.** Please bring poinsettias or donate money for one if are not able to pick one up.

- Ornament making class for children
- Inquirer-Membership class for teens and adults

**December 24th - Christmas Eve 7:30 pm** Christmas Eve Music and Mass



**December 25th - 9:00am Christmas Day** Eucharist and informal carol sing.

**January 6<sup>th</sup> – Epiphany Celebration** Mark your calendar and we will be sending out more information.



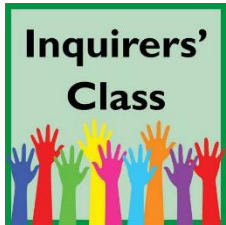
## Christmas Tree Blessing



God, who created all things, bless this tree as we decorate it and make it a joyful symbol for our home. May its branches remind us of the shelter and shade you provide for us and for many creatures. May its trunk remind us of your strength. May its lights bring us peace. May we remember you gift to us this season, the gift of baby Jesus. Amen



**\*Ornament Making for the Children** For the remainder of Advent, (Until Christmas) an activity for kids who would like to help make Christmas Tree ornaments which are Christian symbols, will take place in the Great Hall during the first part of the Sunday Service. The ornaments will then be used on our Christmas tree in the Great Hall.



**\*\*Inquirer-Membership for Teens and Adults** Do you have any interest in learning more about our faith. Are you interested in baptism or confirmation? Even if you haven't thought about these questions, come and enjoy refreshing your knowledge of our Christian Faith and practice at the Coffee Hour Class. Beginning Sunday, December 4, Father Don and Dom Philip-Bernard will be teaching a class which covers basic Christian Faith and practice. Come and bring questions.

### **Amahl and the Night Visitors**

The Opera Workshop, directed by Ian and Joy Dorsch, and featuring several St. Andrews Choir members, will perform Amahl and the Night Visitors (a Christmas-themed short opera) and selections from The Messiah. It will be held Saturday night, December 17 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday afternoon, December 18 at 2:00 p.m. at the Bishop Center at Grays Harbor College. Tickets are \$12.00 and free to children under 12.



**St. Andrew's has a new choir director!** Her name is Alexa Amarok. We will have more about her in the next newsletter when Annette Pinckney can catch up with her to do an interview.

**St. Andrew's Choir also has other new members,** who will be introduced in a future newsletter, also.

**Poinsettias for Christmas.** If you would like to help decorate the church by donating a poinsettia, or the money for one, please notify the church office so we know what we have to work with for the Greening of the Church on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> after the service.



**Food banks need egg cartons and heavy plastic grocery bags.** The food banks receive large quantities of egg and need the regular cartons for handing them out to clients. They also use the heavy plastic grocery bags that Safeway and other stores now have. If you are able to save any of those and drop them off at church, Annette Pinckney has offered to deliver them. They are much appreciated.

**The secretary job opening** has been posted with WorkSource. If you, or anyone else you know, would be interested in a part-time position (12 hours, flexible days), please apply directly through WorkSource. The office elves volunteered to help out for a few months—over three years ago—and are ready to retire.



**The Bazaar** was huge success. It brought in about \$4000 which will be set aside for repairs to the sterilizer and kitchen.



**The Prayer list** will be updated after the first of the year.

***The following is a list of people for whom our prayers are asked. For the sick, lonely, and suffering; for those who mourn, and for those who rejoice, and others:*** Bob P, Betty P, Bill E, Sandi E, Wendy L,

Sally K, Kristin V, Ramona H, Marge M, the members of the AA and NA groups, JoAnne A, Bob A, Mason A, front line medical personnel, essential workers in all professions, Chris H, Shari H, Cheri, Becky, Steve, Ginger H, Bob P, Toni, Pat W, Mellisa S, Jan W, Chip M, Suzie M, Jody M, Katie, Barbara P, Joe P, Gina, Louise, the Rutter family, Sarah, Philip R, Andrea, Dorothy B, Ruth K, Dick K, Donna, Casey K, Harold C, Paul T, Russel S, Margie P, Chris, Peggy C, Louise P, and the family and friends of Skip Kohl.

***Those in current military service:*** Andrew Roth, Breanne Gunther, Ian Gunther, Nicole Hyde, Jordan Bush, Josh Sindorf, and Madison Sylvester.

We have been asked to put the current **birthdays and anniversaries** back in the newsletter as part of the prayers. The following are December and January names.

December

**Birthdays:** Kris D, Bobbi M, Charles C, Regna C, Mary K, Bruce R, Robert B.

Anniversaries: Eric & Sherri H.

January

**Birthdays:** Ray A. W, Pablo M, Sue W, Marlene C, Sammantha C, Erin C.

Anniversaries: None



**Thank you to:**

**The Lectors**, who faithfully read, and carefully pronounce the biblical names in the lessons to us on Sunday.

**Lynne and Alice B** for heading up the Holiday Bazaar. They had many helpers providing sewn, kitted, and crocheted items, art work, food, plants, books, help with the tea, and the very important parts of set-up and clean-up

**Mert** for recycling the bulletins, which also benefits the Lions Club paper drive and recycling cans and donating the money to building maintenance fund.

**Phil M, Rene' M, JoeLeanne H, Alice B, Ann M, Sue M, and Nancy M and all who donated food** for helping with the service and reception for Skip Kohl.

**Colin M** for getting the furnace, sanitizer, and kitchen repairs in the works.

**Chris H.** for getting the breezeway leveling in the works.

**The Yard Gnome** for raking leaves.

**"Noah"** for checking the water level in the dungeon on rainy days.

**Doug and Merry Jo Z** for changing out incandescent lights to LED.

**Sue M** for being an *indispensable* member of the Office Elves.

**Kerry T** for keeping up the Facebook page.

**Glenn D** for keeping up the webpage.

**Mary L** for volunteering to help with office duties.

**From Mary V** at the clothing bank:

Thank you to the parishioners of St. Andrews for "Undie Sunday" donations. You gave the following items to the clothing bank:

- 72 pairs of women's sox
- 42 pairs of men's sox
- 20 pairs of women's undies
- 43 pairs of men's undies
- 1 sweatshirt
- 1 thermal top

Sincerely, Mary V. Keinath, Co-manager, Grays Harbor Community Clothing Bank

**From Barbara Bennett Parsons:**

Dear, dear St. Andrews Family & Elves,

Joe and I have been overwhelmed with the outpouring of kindness from St. Andrews this past week!

Thanks to Father Don and Annette Pinckney, my brother-in-law's family has received an unprecedented Christian love in the form of meals during a terrible time.

My dear Joe's brother, John, was suddenly diagnosed with terminal cancer just 2 weeks ago. No one was prepared for this news. Joe and John come from a family of six siblings, all but one much older and mostly infirm. John's wife, Tricia, is hardest hit with this news of John's imminent passing. Neither John nor Tricia have ever been church people. Every day that another meal is delivered to the family from St. Andrews, she bursts into tears, saying- but I don't even KNOW these people!!

Each day there are siblings, children, nieces, and nephews at Johns house. None of them have ever experienced this degree of Christian charity. Ever. It is the most intense experience of what St. Andrews 'is', as a people of God. You have touched lives which will always and ever remember your kindness.

Annette Pinckney has organized this phenomenal effort, galvanizing such loving offerings from; Father Don and Carolyn, Annette X2!, Mary, Sue Marrs, Phil, Suzanne, and Laura.

I honestly was at the end of my abilities last week. Cancer has taken a terrible toll on me, as have the treatments to eradicate it. Providing lunch and dinner for a large group every day had worn me down to a frazzle. And I don't often 'frazzle'!!

We all go through times of discouragement and doubt about our chosen church. I have to admit that right before covid hit, I was at a low point. My fragile immune system kept me away from being able to attend services, and longer that went on, the more distanced I felt. When Father Don discovered that I was going through cancer, he began calling me at regular intervals, always offering support and hope.

Now, more than ever, I feel the abiding love of my St. Andrews Family.

With prayerful thanks,  
Barbara & Joe Parsons

### **From Merry Jo Zimmer**

Sunday, November 20 we gathered our annual pledges for St. Andrews. Thank you, people of St. Andrews, for your generous support of our church! If you haven't yet turned in your pledge, you can mail it to St. Andrews or put in the offering plate. Pledge cards are available at the church. And thank you also to the Stewardship Committee who worked on the pledge campaign: James Ihrig, Betty Paulsen, Lynne Schmidtke, Ray Wasson and Merry Jo Zimmer, and to the people who kindly spoke in church on what stewardship meant to them: Betty and Bob Paulsen, James Ihrig, Suzanne Hierholzer, Josh Browning, Kerry Tadique, and Shari, Chris, Noble and JoeLeanne Hyde.

Please Notice This



***Please let the office know if someone has been left off the "Thank You" list. It takes many people to make everything happen and we want everyone to know how much help is appreciated.***