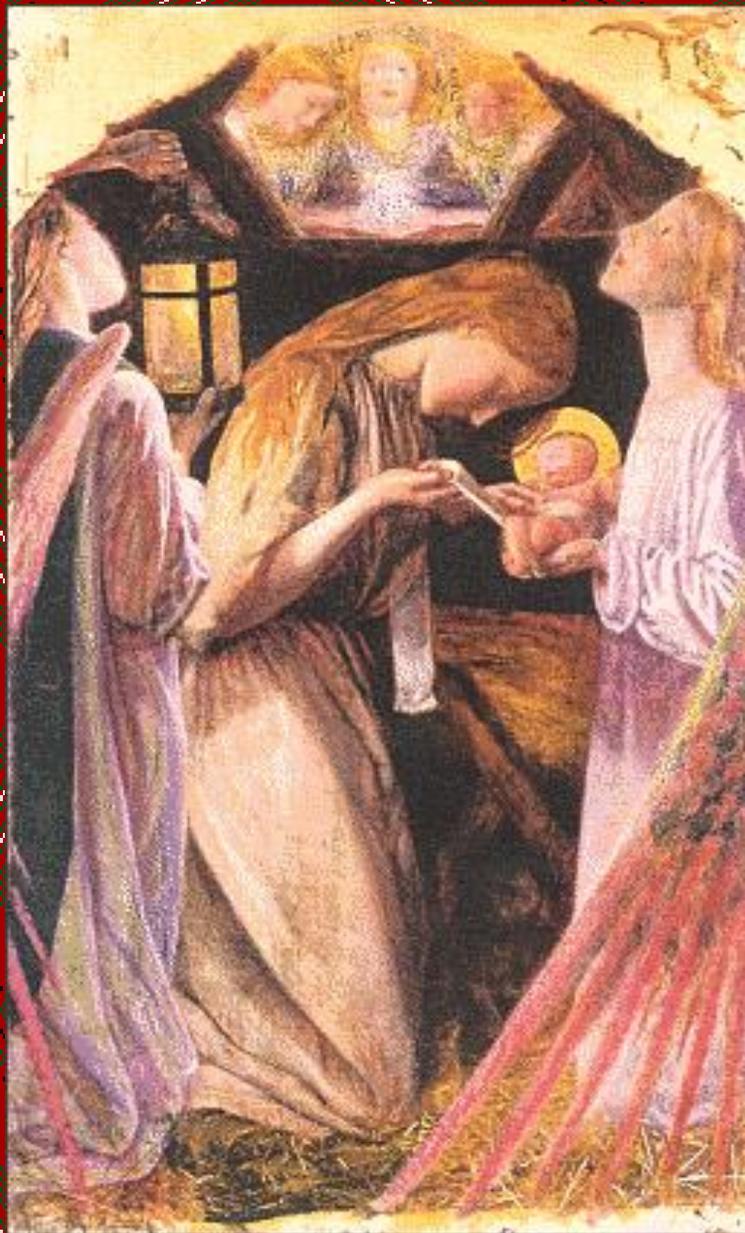


# ST. PETER'S KEY

ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH ADVENT / DECEMBER 2023



*Rejoice*

Rejoice in the Lord always.  
I shall say it again: rejoice!  
Phillipians 4:4

O Come, O Come,  
**EMMANUEL**





INTERNATIONAL  DIOCESE/ ACNA



# ST. PETER'S KEY

**St Peter's Anglican Church** **December 2023**  
**Loveland, Colorado 80538**

*"O wait for the Lord; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart."*

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

- 3 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent Services 8:00 & 9:30AM
- 6 - Fr. Matt's Study Group 1:00PM
- 7 - Study Prayer Group 7:00AM Zoom
- 10 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent Services 8:00 & 9:30AM
- 10 - Saint Nicholas Arrives!
- 13 - Fr. Matt's Study Group 1:00PM
- 14 - Study Prayer Group 7:00AM Zoom
- 17 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent Services 8:00 & 9:30AM
- 17 - Greening of the Church!
- 20 - Fr. Matt's Study Group 1:00PM
- 21 - Study Prayer Group 7:00AM Zoom
- 23 - Christmas Eve Choir rehearsal 9:30AM
- 24 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent Services 8:00 & 9:30AM
- 24 - Christmas Eve Services 5:00 & 7:00PM
- 25 - Christmas Service 9:30AM
- 31 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas Services 8:00 & 9:30AM

## EPIPHANY CALENDAR

- 1 - Holy Name of Jesus Christ (New Year's Day)
- 3 - Fr. Matt's Study Group 1:00PM
- 4 - Study Prayer Group 7:00AM Zoom
- 6 - Epiphany Sung Eucharist Service 9:30AM
- 7 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Epiphany Services 8:00 & 9:30AM
- 10 - Fr. Matt's Study Group 1:00PM
- 11 - Study Prayer Group 7:00AM Zoom
- 14 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Epiphany Services 8:00 & 9:30AM
- 17 - Fr. Matt's Study Group 1:00PM
- 18 - Study Prayer Group 7:00AM Zoom
- 18 - Vestry Meeting 6:00PM
- 20 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Epiphany Services 8:00 & 9:30AM



**DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> SERVICES**  
**ADVENT MORNING SERVICES**  
**8:00 & 9:30AM**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE - Dec 24<sup>TH</sup>**  
**5:00PM - Sung Eucharist**  
**7:00PM - Lessons & Carols Eucharist**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY - DEC 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
**9:30AM - Sung Eucharist**

**SAINT PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

A Biblically-Based Anglican Community  
 Sunday Service at 8:00 & 9:30 AM  
 Dr. Russel Thys, Senior Warden  
 Mr. Dennis Llewellyn, Junior Warden  
 Mrs. Sharon Jacobs, Administrative Assistant

**Website: [stpeteronline.org/](http://stpeteronline.org/)**

4044 Duffield Avenue, Loveland CO 80538

**HEAD of the CHURCH: JESUS CHRIST**

The Most Reverend Dr. Foley Beach, Archbishop  
 Anglican Church in North America  
 The Right Reverend Dr. Bill Atwood, Bishop, International Diocese  
 The Reverend Matthew Rucker, Rector  
 The Reverend William Easterling, Assisting Priest

970-292-8595



## PHOTO HAPPENINGS



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY GOODIES! PACKING THE ZETEO NOVEMBER SHIPMENT BOX. THANK YOU MAEDAS FOR THE MARTINMAS!

## JOIN THE CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR

A Christmas Eve Choir for the 7:00PM service is being formed by Music Director Emily Maeda. Choir rehearsals will be held each Sunday in Advent following the 9:30AM service but before the education programs begin. There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 in the morning. If you desire to join the choir, please contact Emily at: [emilym@stpetersloveInd.org](mailto:emilym@stpetersloveInd.org)

## ST. LUCY FEAST DAY DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>



Saint Lucy was a Christian martyr who was reared in the city of Syracuse, Sicily, in a wealthy yet pious family. Following the death of her father her mother arranged for the marriage of Saint Lucy to a pagan nobleman even though she protested the arrangement. She prayed to Saint Agatha to have her mother change her mind, and requested that the dowry given to the poor. When her mother was cured of a long-term illness, she canceled the marriage. However, the bride groom who was rejected reported Saint Lucy to the pagan authorities because she had devoted her life to Christ. Following this she was tortured, burned, and finally killed by having a sword or dagger thrust through her throat.

The name Lucy means "light" and is why Saint Lucy is the patron for eye ailments. She is also the patron for authors, epidemics, salesmen, peasants, throat infections, dysentery, and martyrs. Saint Lucy is often pictured in paintings holding a dish with eyes. Saint Lucy's feast day is celebrated on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Her Prayer is:

***Relying on Your Goodness, O God, we humbly ask you, in the intercession of your servant, Saint Lucy, to give perfect vision to our eyes, that we may serve for your greater honor and glory. Saint Lucy, hear our prayers and obtain our petitions. Amen.***

# HAVE YOURSELF A SACRAMENTAL THANKSGIVING: A Thanksgiving Sermon



Is blessing ever good for us? Our Thanksgiving Day reading from Deuteronomy 8 spells out the big problem with receiving blessings: that God's blessings can ironically become the worst thing to ever happen to us as God's people, since blessing can cause us to forget about God. Blessing can breed self-sufficiency, blessing can create the illusion of independence, the notion that we don't really need God to sustain us and uphold us every moment of every day. So our Old Testament lesson warns us: "Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock, who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end. Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.'" So, I ask again, is blessing ever really good for us?

Something else is clear from our Old Testament lesson: the significant role of remembrance in receiving God's blessing correctly. "You shall remember the Lord your God." Remember that it is he, not ourselves who gives us all good things. But is it enough just to say that we should try to remember? I forget things that I want to remember all of the time, so why not forget God too? I think the answer to receiving God's blessing without letting God's blessing become a way to forget God is found in the Eucharist.

You have no doubt heard me say before that the Greek word "Eucharist" means "Thanksgiving." Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday, and one reason why is that, intentionally or not, of all the holidays it is the truest presentation of Christian life and Christian celebration. The whole Christian life is supposed to be Eucharistic, a life of Thanksgiving to God for everything that God has already for us in Jesus Christ. For life to be Eucharistic does not mean that we are constantly generating an "attitude of gratitude" for having the niceties of life, but that we are always looking through every experience in our life to see Jesus Christ. We look through everything to see Jesus Christ. And this is why the Eucharist is truly how we receive God's blessings without allowing God's blessings to become the way that we forget God.

The Eucharist itself is a Sacrament, and the classic definition of a Sacrament is that of an inward, intangible grace taking an outward, tangible form. So, to view our blessings Sacramentally means that we do not receive them as an end in themselves, but we receive them as something pointing to Jesus Christ. To live Eucharistically means having eyes to see Jesus Christ in and through our blessings, to view the gifts of life as a Sacrament.

What does this mean for us, practically speaking, as we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday together? It means that as we gather together for a great feast, we do not view the feast as an end in itself, but as a foretaste of the great feast to come in the marriage supper of the Lamb. It means that as we gather with loved ones who are with us, and lament the loss of loved ones who are not with us, we see our perfect and imperfect love bearing witness to the love of God in the Trinity, and in the fellowship of the Saints. It means that as we take time to count our blessings, we do far more than count our blessings, because counting our blessings is not enough, and it isn't really all that Christian. We do not count our blessings, as if they are an end in themselves to be acquired, we look through our blessings to the God who has done everything for us in Jesus Christ. Remember the Lord your God. Amen.

In Christ,  
Fr. Matt

**Our Daily Bread**  
DECEMBER | JANUARY | FEBRUARY 2023-2024

Why do you worry about clothes? ... Hasn't even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of the flowers of the field.  
MATTHEW 6:28-29

**COPIES OF OUR DAILY BREAD FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX. PICK-UP YOUR COPY TODAY!**

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA  
- CHURCH YEAR GUIDE -

**St. Peter's Anglican Church**  
4164 Duffield Avenue  
Loveland, Colorado 80538  
Telephone: 970-222-8595  
Website: www.stpetersloveland.org

**JANUARY 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21

**THE 2024 ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA LITURGICAL CALENDAR IS NOW AVAILABLE. PICK-UP A COPY TODAY IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX WHILE LIMITED SUPPLIES ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE TRIFLING COST OF ONLY \$3.00!**

## RESCUE MISSION DONATION BOX

Placed right next to the Zeteo Missions donation box in the church is a box for the Denver Rescue Mission Harvest Farm at Wellington. The Denver Rescue Mission is a non-denominational Christian organization with a branch operation in Fort Collins. They are committed to following essential truths of Biblical Christianity. Their New Life Program is a one-year, immersive, foundation-building, life-changing program for men at the Harvest Farm. While in the program, some participants even go on to higher education. Some qualifying participants also receive a vehicle when they finish the New Life Program.

St Peter's parishioner Seth Forwood is the director for the Fort Collins branch of the Rescue Mission, and he suggests that these types of donations are most helpful: winter coats, trousers, shirts, winter hats and more. Also, check the list posted on the bulletin board near the box for donation needs for the male participants. Used items are okay, new ones are best! Also, please check the list to see what types of items are not acceptable. Blessings, and thank you!

**REMEMBER THE HUNGRY DURING THIS SEASON!**

Food donations each Sunday are very important and they are delivered to the Larimer County Food Bank weekly.

Note: if you donated garden vegetables and fruit during the summer and fall months would you please give Mary Anne Paul an estimate of the poundage weight of these items for data for the annual report.

**Sunday school classes – youth and adult, will begin for the new year on February 4<sup>th</sup>!**

# ZETEO MISSIONS UPDATE

Director Kate is out of the hospital and doing a little better. She is trying to make up for almost six weeks in the hospital. She is adjusting to “ever changing” meds and she is also going to physical therapy. Rest has never been one of her strong points so this is all a challenge. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

The older children at Zeteo are all now being home schooled at the mission. This includes Anna, Bart, Charlie, Daisy, Ruby, and Samantha. They are part of Homeschool Global which was “A pioneer in the Philippine homeschooling space” (<https://ph.homeschoolglobal.com/>). Kate is teaching some of the classes as are Zeteo’s two certified teachers, Christian and Alicia. There has already been one trip with the kids to Manila where they met other home school kids. For kids who have spent their entire lives at the mission, this was quite a trip.

Our four Christmas boxes shipped in September have arrived at Zeteo. This is wonderful news as the boxes did not make it in time for Christmas last year!

Marine





# Advent Wreath

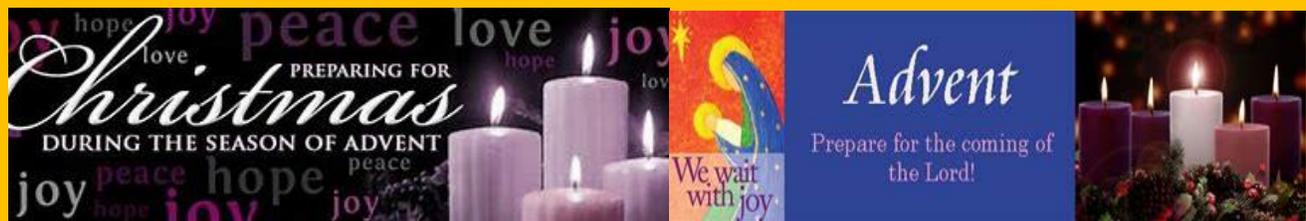
**1st CANDLE** – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

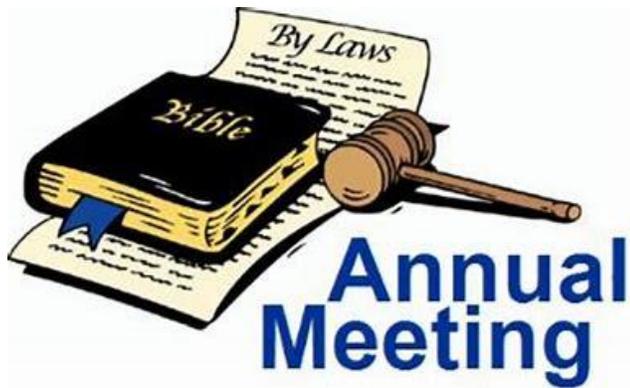
**2nd CANDLE** – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

**3rd CANDLE** – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

**4th CANDLE** – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angles announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

**5th CANDLE** – (white) **“CHRIST CANDLE”** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)





## Annual Meeting

The 2024 Parish Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 28th. Please place the date on your calendar!



## CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY SCHEDULE

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> 5 pm Family Service

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Evening Service

Dec 25<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 am Sung Eucharist Service

YOUR ZETEO MISSION SUPPORT IS REALLY IMPORTANT



ZETEO MISSIONS

Passionately Seeking

You are encouraged to make a cash contribution to Zeteo via the **Servants of Christ International (SOI)** website at:

[www.servantsintl.org/missionaries/berg-kate-philippines/](http://www.servantsintl.org/missionaries/berg-kate-philippines/)



Please remember to support our own Robert Serunjogi's African "Robert's Village and School" in Uganda with your financial support. Donations to help with this orphanage in Robert's home town can be forwarded to this address:

REACH %Brian Jones  
222 West Street  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A

*Saviour, WHICH IS Christ THE Lord*

BELIEVERS4EVER.COM | LUKE 2:11

# THE JOY OF GREENING THE CHURCH



Everyone in the congregation should join in for the “Greening of the Church” on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, after the 9:30AM Eucharist service. This is the time when the all the Christmas decorations, greenery, ribbons, manger, and lights are taken from storage to be placed in the church sanctuary, narthex, and outside in preparation for the celebration of Christ’s birth on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Your help, skills, and talents are needed for this event as there are many tasks to do that require your creativity.

Everyone is also invited to bring their special Christmas cookies as refreshments. Drinks will be provided and there may even something special to give hard working elves a special Christmas feast. Join in the fun! Remember, our service at St. Peter’s is never a chore, but always a blessing!

**What does Santa Claus call reindeer that don't work?**

Answer: Dinner.

**When is a boat like a pile of snow?**

Answer: When it is adrift.

**How do snowmen get around?**

Answer: On their icicles.

**What do lions sing at Christmas?**

Answer: Jungle bells!

**What do you call the fear of getting stuck in a chimney?**

Answer: Santaclaustrophobia



# WHO IS ARRIVING ON SUNDAY DEC 10<sup>th</sup>? SAINT NICHOLAS!



Although St. Nicholas Day is on December 6<sup>th</sup>, which is a Wednesday this year, so the jolly old saint will delay his visit to St. Peter’s until Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – the Second Sunday in Advent. Will he again bring that bag of gold coins for the parish’s children, or will this year be the year of coal? Well, we will have to wait and see what happens after the service on that Sunday. Children should be prepared for this special annual treat as in this inflationary economy gold coins just do not go as far as they used to go!

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SAINT PETER’S ANGLICAN CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF THIS CHRISTMAS WITH  
A GENEROUS GIFT OF THANKS!**



Thanks to Mikel Rice (See Matthew 2:1) 12-16-1!

OH I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT GETTING LOST ... WISEMAN #1 TOLD ME THAT HE HAS SOME SORT OF GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



The sensible see danger and take cover; the foolish keep going and are punished. Pr 27:12 and.. my dog chewed our Christmas Tree lights.

## ANGLICAN CHRISTMAS BLESSING

O God, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting.

The Epiphany: O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



JOIN US ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> IN CELEBRATION OF EPIPHANY WITH A 9:30AM SUNG EUCHARIST

### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

After serving the Lord and St. Peter's Parish for the past sixteen years as editor of the *Key Newsletter*, I have arrived at the decision that this will be my last issue. Thank you for this opportunity and blessings to all! Terry Dunn

# VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE (Liturgical Year - B)

Please find a replacement if you are unable to serve, and let Sharon in the office know by Wednesday of your assigned week.

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE (Liturgical Year - B)

Please find a replacement if unable to serve,  
and let the office know by Wednesday of assigned week.

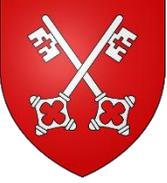
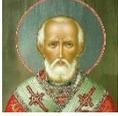
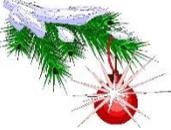


# December 2023



Date	Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023	Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023	Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023	Sunday, Dec. 24, 2023	Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023
Proper	First Sunday In Advent	Second Sunday in Advent	Third Sunday in Advent	Fourth Sunday In Advent	First Sunday of Christmas
8AM Reader Intercessor	Lynda Stoops	Marnie Dent	Terry Dunn	Anthony Alvarado	Larry Doyle
1st Lesson (OT) Reader	Leslie Erickson <a href="#">Isaiah 64:1-9a</a>	Phil Fisher <a href="#">Isaiah 40:1-11</a>	Doug Edmiston <a href="#">Isaiah 65:17-25</a>	Will McKamie <a href="#">II Samuel 7:1-17</a>	Gary Eifert <a href="#">Isaiah 61:10-62:5</a>
Psalm	<a href="#">Psalm 80</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 85</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 126</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 132:8-19</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 147:12-20</a>
2nd Lesson (NT) Readers	Thomas Maeda <a href="#">I Corinthians 1:1-9</a>	Andrea Smith <a href="#">II Peter 3:8-18</a>	Scott Cook <a href="#">I Thessalonians 5:12-28</a>	Mercedes Maeda <a href="#">Romans 16:25-27</a>	<b>Ron Stoops</b> <a href="#">Galatians 3:23-4:7</a>
Gospel	<i>Deacon or Priest</i> <a href="#">Mark 13:24-37</a>	<i>Deacon or Priest</i> <a href="#">Mark 1:1-8</a>	<i>Deacon or Priest</i> <a href="#">John 1:19-28</a>	<i>Deacon or Priest</i> <a href="#">Luke 1:26-38</a>	<i>Deacon or Priest</i> <a href="#">John 1:1-18</a>
Intercessor	Not Needed	Johnny Moore	Kathleen Edmiston	Mary Anne Paul	Lynda Stoops
Usher / Greeters	Andrea Smith	Denny Llewellyn	Russ Thye	Mary Anne Paul	Lynda Stoops
	Scott Erickson	Mary Ann Llewellyn	Scott Cook	Mike Bertolette	Ron Stoops
Chalice Bearer	Thomas Maeda	Adam DeLorme	Lander Hultin	Phil Fisher	Mark Maeda
Crucifer	Janner Forrester	Esther Alvarado	Titus Maeda	Asa Forwood	Theo Maeda
Acolytes/ Gospeler	Rosie Moore	Wade Horlings	Jack Moore	Libby McKamie	August Hultin
Flowers	No Flowers - Advent	No Flowers - Advent	No Flowers - Advent	Christmas Eve Poinsettias	Christmas Eve Poinsettias
Altar Guild 8am	Lynda Stoops	Marnie Dent	Lynda Stoops	Sam Alvarado	Mary Ann Llewellyn
Altar Guild 9:30	Kristi Bertolette	Mary Ann Llewellyn	Kathleen E.	Kristi Bertolette	Marnie Dent
Live Stream	Ben DeLorme	Rourke Alvarado	Adam DeLorme	Sam Alvarado	Lander Hultin
Children Minstry Younger	Sophie M. (LT) Lydia A. (AT) Esther A. (AT)	Mercedes M. (LT) Sophie M. (AT) Grace D. (AT)	Anthony (LT) Irene T. (AT) Lydia A. (AT)	No Classes	No Classes
Children Ministry Older	Barbara C. (LT) Zinnia (AT) Abby E. (AT)	Thomas M. (LT) Carole D. (AT) Rourke A. (AT)	Eli D. (LT) Franny A. (AT) Abby E.(AT)	No Classes	No Classes

# St. Peter's Anglican Church Calendar: December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	♥ Wedding Anniversary	★ Birthday			1  Rector's Day Off	2  
3 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 & 9:30AM  ★ Isaac D.	4  <b>ST DAMASCUS</b> ★ Abbey E.	5  <b>ST CLEMENT</b>	6  <b>ST NICHOLAS</b> Fr Matt's 1pm Bible Study	7  <b>ST AMBROSE</b> 7AM Bible Study Group via Zoom	8  Rector's Day Off	9
10 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 & 9:30AM <b>ST NICHOLAS ARRIVES</b> ★ Bonnie W.	11 ★ Irena T.	12 ★ Rev Thomas C.	13  <b>ST LUCY</b> Fr Matt's 1pm Bible Study	14  7AM Bible Study Group via Zoom	15  Rector's Day Off	16 ★ Seth F.
17 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 & 9:30AM <b>GREENING OF THE CHURCH!</b> 	18 ★ Zinnia A. & Esther A.	19 	20 <b>EMBER DAY</b> Fr Matt's 1pm Bible Study ★ Henry E. ★ Madeline R. 	21  <b>ST THOMAS the APOSTLE</b> 7AM Bible Study Group via Zoom	22 <b>EMBER DAY</b>  Rector's Day Off	23 <b>EMBER DAY</b>  ♥ Al & Elizabeth Schorre
24 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 & 9:30AM <b>Christmas Eve</b> 5:00 (Sung) & 7:00PM (Lessons & Carols)	25 <b>Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ</b> Service 9:30AM	26  <b>ST STEPHEN</b> ★ Andrew Forrester	27  <b>ST JOHN the APOSTLE</b> Fr Matt's 1pm Bible Study	28  <b>The HOLY INNOCENTS</b> 7AM Bible Study Group via Zoom	29  Rector's Day Off  ♥ Anthony & Samantha Alvarado 	30 ★ Clifford C.
31 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of CHRISTMAS</b> 8:00 & 9:30AM ★ Leslie E.	1 January 	2	3	4  	5	6 <b>EPIPHANY SUNG EUCHARIST SERVICE</b> 9:30AM