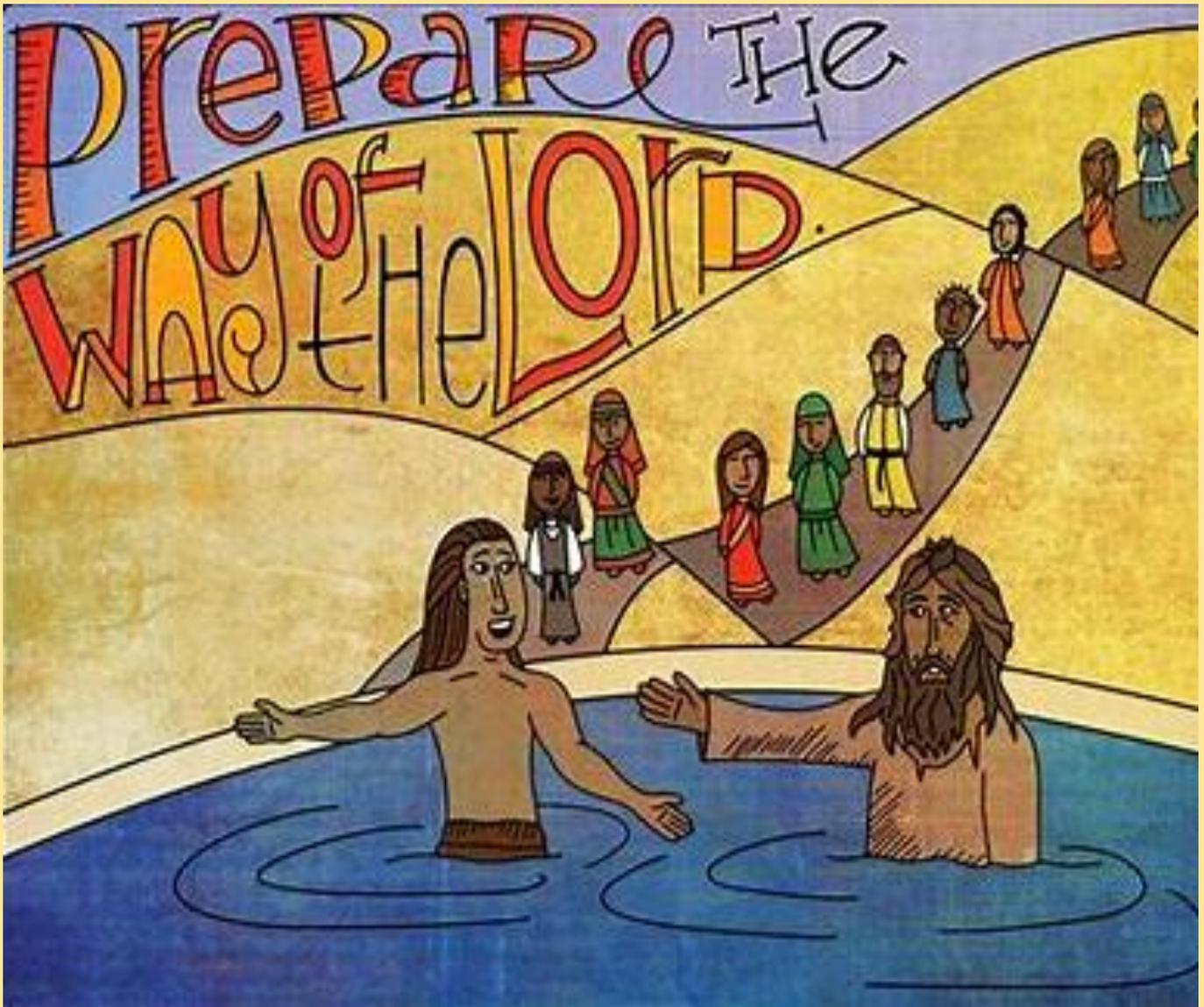


ST. PETER'S KEY

ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

ADVENT 2021



Advent Sundays Dec 5th, 12th & 19th
Saint Nicholas Visit & Cookie Contest Dec 5th
Taizé Service for Advent Dec 15th at 7:00pm
Greening & Decorating the Church Dec 19th
Christmas Eve Services Dec 24th at 4:00pm & 7:00pm
Christmas Day Service: at 9:30am



INTERNATIONAL  DIOCESE/ ACNA



ST. PETER'S KEY

Saint Peter's Anglican Church **ADVENT 2021**
 Loveland, Colorado 80538
 PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD

FORWARD, ALWAYS FORWARD, EVERYWHERE FORWARD

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 – Bible Study at Church & Zoom 1PM
- 2 - Study-Prayer Group 7AM Zoom
- 4 - Teen Group Hay Ride
- 5 – 2nd Sunday in Advent Service 9:30AM
- 5 – Saint Nicholas arrives after the service
- 5 – Bring your Saint Nicolas Cookies!
- 6 - St Nicholas Feast Day
- 8 - Bible Study at Church & Zoom 1PM
- 9 - Study-Prayer Group 7AM Zoom
- 11 - Teen Group 6-8:30PM
- 12- 3rd Sunday in Advent Service 9:30AM
- 15 - Bible Study at Church & Zoom 1PM
- 15 - Taizé Service for Advent 7PM
- 16 - Study-Prayer Group 7AM Zoom
- 16 - Vestry Meeting 7PM
- 18 - Teen Group Party & Caroling
- 19 - 4th Sunday in Advent Service 9:30AM
- 19 - Greening & Decorating the Church
- 24 - Christmas Eve Pageant Service 4PM
- 24 - Christmas Eve Eucharist Service 7PM
- 25 - Christmas Day Service 9:30AM
- 26 - 1st Sunday of Christmas Service 9:30AM

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

AN ADVENT PRAYER

*God of hope, who brought love into this world,
 be the love that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
 be the peace that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought joy into
 this world, be the joy that dwells
 between us.*

*God of hope, the rock we
 stand upon, be the center, the focus
 of our lives always, and particularly
 this Advent time. Amen.*



SAINT PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH **HEAD of the CHURCH: JESUS CHRIST**

A Biblically-Based Anglican Community
 Sunday Service at 9:30 AM

Mr. Mark Maeda, Senior Warden
 Mr. Dennis Llewellyn, Junior Warden
 Mrs. Elizabeth Baugh, Administrative Assistant
 The Reverend Fawn Corbin, Deacon

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 Thomas Corbin, Assisting Priest
 The Reverend William Easterling, Assisting Priest

Website: stpeteronline.org/

4044 Duffield Avenue, Loveland CO 80538 **970-292-8595**



Advent
PHOTO HAPPENINGS
Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



NOV 7th BAPTISM OF VIVIENNE GRACE RUCKER BY HER FATHER THE REV MATT RUCKER WITH HER MOTHER MADELINE RUCKER.



FIVE CAKES ON NOV 7TH TO HONOR VIVIENNE'S BAPTISM, MARGARET'S BIRTHDAY, ALL NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND THE SAINT PETER'S CHURCH 14TH ANNIVERSARY! MARNIE & FAWN HANDLE PAPERWORK FOR THE NOVEMBER ZETEO BOXES!



THANKS TO DENNY & AARON, AND A POST AUGER FROM AARON, THREE MORE SECTIONS OF FENCE ARE IN PLACE AND HOLES READY FOR 11 SPRING TREES! LIGHTING THE CANDLES FOR THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE WITH FR BILL CELEBRATING.



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT! THE RECTOR'S OFFICE GETS A MAKE-OVER! SNACKS ARE BACK! BE SURE TO SIGN-UP TO HELP OUT!

EAT MY WORD?

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



“Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ.”

The above prayer is the collect for the day on the Second Sunday of Advent. It is original to Thomas Cranmer, and shows with tremendous clarity the central role that Holy Scripture is meant to play in the Anglican way of following Christ. To say that the Bible is important to Anglicans is not a terribly interesting thing to say, nor does it say a great deal about what makes the Anglican way of reading and understanding Scripture unique from other Christian traditions. The core of this prayer about the role of Scripture in the life of the Anglican Christian is the idea that the Bible is like Holy Communion, hearing it, preaching it, and receiving it are all sacramental. Scripture is a gracious gift in which God’s presence dwells, gets in our bloodstream, and nourishes us that we would “hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life.”

One of the tragedies of the Anglican tradition is that, in imitation of a polarized world, Anglican churches have always been more polarized than most historic traditions. There are churches with a high view of the Sacraments, or churches with a high view of the Word. No one would state this division in those terms, but when homilies are four minutes of optimistic self-help followed by an intricate, ornate high mass, that speaks for itself. So too when a 45-minute sermon is followed by a hasty communion presided over by a mumbling Priest who looks and sounds like he believes he has better things to do, that also speaks for itself. The Anglican tradition is a tradition of *Word* and *Sacrament*. We believe that both elements of the liturgy work harmoniously with one goal in mind: to provide an encounter with God in the person of Jesus Christ. We meet God in Word and Sacrament.

Cranmer’s language of “inwardly digesting” Scripture is highly illuminating on this point. Just as the elements of the Eucharist quite literally enter our bloodstream so that we inwardly digest them, so too is God’s Word offered to us as holy food. As we hear it, we read it, we mark it, Holy Scripture mysteriously enters into us, transforming us and shaping us through a mystical divine encounter with Jesus Christ. God’s Word is given to nourish us into everlasting life.

Too many Christians read the Bible because they feel guilty about not reading the Bible, or simply do not read Scripture at all. Like everything in the Christian life, the antidote to this problem is grace. We may not think of Scripture this way, but it is a gracious gift, it is a sign of God’s grace, and when God’s people hear, read, mark, and inwardly digest Scripture they are recipients of grace.

Father Matt

○ Come, ○ Come,
EMMANUEL

Rejoice

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

ST NICHOLAS FEAST DAY IS DECEMBER 6th

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



Saint Nicholas, known as *Saint Nicholas the Wondermaker*, served during the fourth century as the Bishop of Myra, which is in present day Turkey in the Province of Antalya. He is known for the many miracles attributed to him, and for being one who would give secret gifts, such as placing coins in shoes left out for him.

It is recorded that from his earliest days that his weekly meals were simply an evening meal on Wednesdays and Fridays. When a young man, his parents died leaving him with a rather large fortune. Nicholas, however, determined to direct his inheritance and his life to works of charity. One story is told of a man who had lost all his money, and who could not support his three daughters. Because of their poverty the three daughters could not find husbands, so their father was going to sell them into immoral slavery. Nicholas heard of this tragedy, and at intervals, he threw a bag of gold through the open window of their

house. This secret gift allowed each daughter to have a dowry, and each was duly married.

Saint Nicholas holds great popularity in Greece and Italy where he is seen as *The Lord of the Sea*. However, it is in Russia that Saint Nicholas is revered with a weekly celebration every Thursday throughout the year. One tradition in England holds that on Saint Nicholas Day the children of each parish dress up as, and perform the duties of, priests and bishops; and they lord over their elders.

The legends and history of Saint Nicholas are many and varied, but it is accepted that he is the *Patron Saint of Children* (as well as sailors, fishermen, merchants and pawnbrokers). In North America Dutch Protestants brought their celebration of Nicholas, who was known as *Sint Klaes* or *Sinterklaas*, and this has evolved over the centuries into our present-day tradition of *Santa Claus*. His feast day is December 6th.

Saint Nicholas will visit St Peter's on Sunday, December 5th, with gifts for the children.

Saint Nicholas Day Blessing of Candy Canes

Gracious God,
In the spirit of Saint Nicholas we turn to
you and ask for your blessing on these
candy canes.
May their flavor sweeten our hearts with
compassion and kindness.
May their shape remind us to be shepherds
of grace and generosity.
May their bright colors attune us to the
delightful sights and sounds of this
sacred season.
Inspire us to be like Saint Nicholas,
who brought comfort and joy to children
and their families.
We ask this in the name of the Holy Child,
Jesus, whose coming we await with
anticipation and love.

Amen.



ST. NICHOLAS PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for
the example of St. Nicholas,
who fed the hungry,
brought hope to the imprisoned,
gave comfort to the lost,
and taught the truth to all.
May we strive to imitate him
by putting You first in all we do.
Give us the courage, love and strength
of St. Nicholas, so that, like him,
we may serve You through loving
our brothers and sisters. Amen.

—by Amy Welborn

THE QUEST FOR THE HISTORICAL SANTA CLAUS

Prepare for the Way of the Lord



The popularity of a figure like Santa Claus among Christians is pretty staggering. A system in which so-called “good behavior” is rewarded by material goods is about as far from the Gospel of Jesus Christ as you can get. Teaching children about an omnipotent figure who keeps a naughty and nice list, can bend the laws of physics, and who is ultimately not real seems to me like a risky proposition when it is connected with the great feast day of the Incarnation. What else may not be real about that great day? Is Jesus like Santa? Will he hang over my head like a threat when I am naughty? Will he withhold gifts if I am bad? Is he real? “Santa Claus knows we’re all God’s children,” the song goes. Except that Baptism is what makes us God’s children.

Perhaps I am overthinking this, overthinking is kind of part of my job. The traditions surrounding Santa Claus do have a firm Christian foundation, and one which I would like to take an opportunity to briefly summarize in preparation for the Christmas season, and our own recognition of St. Nicholas’ feast day.

St. Nicholas was a real, historical figure from the 4th century. As Bishop of Myra, in modern-day Turkey, Nicholas suffered greatly during the Diocletian persecution, but also experienced the benefits of the conversion of Constantine when Christianity was legalized. Chief among these benefits was the opportunity for all of Christianity’s Bishops to gather for the council of Nicea in 325, where the first part of the Nicene Creed (the Nicene Creed in the form we know it was not completed until 381) was formulated. There is an apocryphal story about St. Nicholas punching the heretic Arius at the council of Nicea (Arius was a British Priest who championed the popular heresy of Arianism), which has gained far too much traction in a particularly aggressive, uber-masculine style of Christianity found in too many churches. We do not know that this really happened, but we can be sure Nicholas would have been chastised and not praised for such behavior so unbecoming of a Bishop.

What we do know for certain is that St. Nicholas shared our Lord’s great concern for the well-being of children. Through orphanages, the purchase of children who were being sold into slavery by his churches, and a protective spirit over vulnerable little ones, St. Nicholas became a great example of what it meant to live sacrificially for the least of these. Following his death on December 6th, 343, a number of traditions started throughout the Christian world that have transformed into the great feast day of the material-industrial complex that we know and love today.

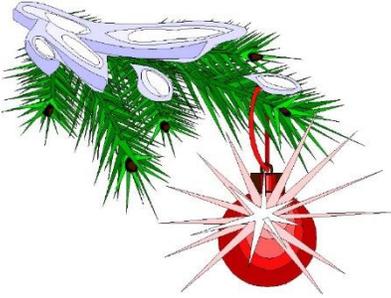
Christians need not and should not buy into the contemporary Santa Claus; that material-industrial task master who looms over the heads of children like a threat throughout the year. St. Nicholas was, at his best, like God. He was a gift giver. Like God, he did not give gifts to deserving people, but to needy people, especially children. When we mark the feast day of St. Nicholas, remember that God is a gift giver who gives gifts to undeserving people, who loves children, and that his greatest gift to his children is Jesus Christ.

Fr. Matt



GREENING & DECORATING THE CHURCH

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



Please join in with the greening and decorating of the church for the Christmas season. The day this year will be the Sunday on the fourth (last) Sunday in Advent on December 19th. The green pine bunting must be placed around the balcony. The wreaths must be hung, and the trees positioned and decorated near the altar area. Also, there will be some outside items to enhance the entrance area, plus the big wreath below the cross in front. Items for the narthex, the entry doors and the all-important manger will need to be ready for Christmas Eve.

The decorating time will take place after the service, and based on past experience, the more workers the faster things will go. Refreshments will be available for those eager to help with this important task of the season, and parishioners are welcome to assist with providing snack items.

ST NICHOLAS COOKIE CHALLENGE!

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



After a period of two years since the last time, it is time again for the annual **St Nicholas Cookie Baking Contest!** Everyone is invited to enter this contest by designing, baking and finally decorating cookies representative of the seasonal Saint Nicholas. The date is **Sunday, December 5th.**

Cookies are to be brought to the church and placed on the cookie table. Each cookie selection will be numbered and following the service and visit by Saint Nicholas, the children will be given a ballot to vote for the best designed cookie. Sorry, not the best tasting cookie. The ballots will be counted, and the winner will be presented with a handsome figurine of Saint Nicholas to keep until next year's contest. After the voting the cookies are available for consumption by those in attendance.

So, get out your recipe books, explore some St Nicholas designs and polish up those baking pans. This is a great project for the children in your home, but it is not limited to children.

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.

NEW CHURCH BAPTISMAL FONT FROM DEACON LARRY DOYLE

*Advent
Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord*



On Sunday, November, 2021, Deacon Larry Doyle presented to St Peter's Anglican Church a wonderful new baptismal font just in time for its first use at the baptism of Vivienne Grace Rucker. The eight-sided font is constructed of solid oak, and Deacon Larry reports that he probably spent between 200 and 250 hours on the construction. Weighing just over one hundred pounds, it took three St Peter's members to hoist it in and out a truck for transportation to the church.

The font holds a removeable brass bowl inserted in the top portion, and has an oak top cover in place when not in use. One item still remains to be added, and Deacon Larry reports that it is an oak carved cross with a Trinity Celtic knot as an added adornment for the top.

Having constructed the font left behind when the parish vacated St Andrew's Church fourteen years ago, Deacon Larry has had some experience related to this special effort. The baptismal font is dedicated to the memory of Col. Clark O. Holland and Edward C. Doyle, Susie and Larry's fathers. Please give Deacon Larry a special thank you for his wonderful and loving donation to the church.



LISTEN TO BBC CHORAL EVENSONG

*Advent
Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord*



On Wednesdays at 9:00AM you can tune into the British Broadcasting Corporation's (BBC) Channel 3 for a live performance of Choral Evensong. The broadcast is repeated each Sunday, but it is available anytime online for the next 25 days. A listing of recent past performances can also be found. Each Choral Evensong Service is from a different Church of England cathedral performed by their choir. The services with the wonderful music are broadcast all year long, but they seem especially appropriate during the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Also, on Christmas Eve do not forget the annual Lessons and Carols Service from Cambridge College.

Connect with BBC Channel 3 at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006tp7r>

Season of
Advent



Taize Service

DECEMBER 15th, 7:00PM
Saint Peter's Anglican
Church



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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOX REPORT

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



This year a total of thirty-five Operation Christmas Child boxes have been provided by the congregation of St Peter's. A special thank you goes to Becky Claypool, Mercedes Maeda, Grace DeLorme, and Carole DeLorme for making this program happen in what is now fourteen years in a row! Blessings to you all!



ADVENT

The word 'Advent' is from the Latin *adventus* for "coming" and is associated with the four weeks of preparation for Christmas.

Advent begins on the Sunday after the Solemnity of Christ the King and continues for four weeks until Christmas Vigil Mass.

CHRIST CHURCH IN TEXAS DESIGNATED BY ARCHBISHOP AS ACNA PRO-CATHEDRAL

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



ACNA Archbishop Foley Beach announced that Christ Church, located in Plano, Texas, is taking on a new Provincial role: “It is my pleasure to announce that Christ Church Plano has been designated as the Pro-Cathedral for the Anglican Church in North America Province. Christ Church has played a significant role since the beginning of the Province, being the site of the Investiture of our first Archbishop in 2009, hosting

Assembly 2019, and supporting various Provincial initiatives throughout the years. It is my hope that Christ Church can be a model for Biblical teaching, liturgy, evangelism, mission, and ministry.”

The Very Rev. Paul Donison is now appointed Dean of the Provincial Pro-Cathedral, having served as Christ Church Plano’s Rector for nearly six years. Dean Donison commented, “The Lord has continued to grow Christ Church Plano over the years as a flourishing community where people can fall in love with both the liturgical beauty and gospel urgency of our Anglican Tradition. Our parishioners have always believed that the Lord built us not only for our own regional mission but for the sake of blessing the mission of the Province. We are excited about our new Provincial role under Archbishop Foley’s episcopal oversight, and the opportunity to more intentionally and formally partner with others in reaching North America with the transforming love of Jesus Christ.” (Note: A “pro-cathedral” is a “provisional” or “temporary” cathedral and it also a parish church.)

RESCUE MISSION HARVEST FARM DONATION BOX

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



Placed right next to the Zeteo Missions donation box in the church is a new 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!

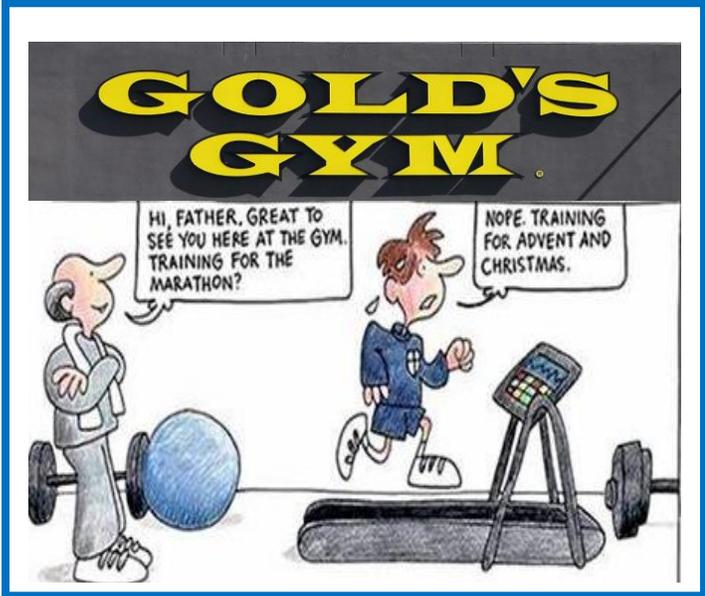
WHAT IS A TAIZÉ SERVICE?

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord



Taizé is an informal service that usually takes place in a candlelit church, and it is quiet and reflective. Normally there are no spoken words, just music and periods of silence for each person's own private prayer and contemplation. When chants are used, they are usually set out in a service booklet, and individuals can just listen or feel free to join in.

The Taizé service was founded by Brother Roger in France in 1940 as a community involved in both sheltering refugees and those trying to escape persecution during World War II. Today, the Taizé Community is made up of over a hundred Brothers, from various Anglican, Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant traditions, coming from well over thirty different countries. The Taizé Fraternity states that, by their very existence, the "Brothers" are a *'parable of community'* that want their lives to be a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples. Please join us on December 15th at 7:00pm for the next St. Peter's Taizé service.



ANGELICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA
— CHURCH YEAR GUIDE —

St. Peter's Anglican Church
Loving Fellowship Welcome
Loveland, Colorado 80538
Telephone: 970-442-8099
Website: www.stpetersna.org

JANUARY 2022						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

THE 2022 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!

THE ST PETER'S TEEN GROUP WILL BE CAROLING IN THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 18TH!

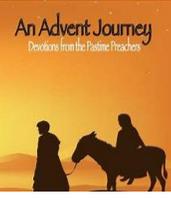
REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY

Thanks to John Sanders 12-20-2006

PASTOR JONES COULD SENSE THE CLOSE PRESENCE OF CHRISTMAS AS HE SLOWLY MADE HIS WAY THOUGH THE JUNGLE OF POINSETTIAS



St. Peter's Anglican Church Calendar: December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 Wedding Anniversary  Birthday	1 Fr Matt's 1pm Bible Study	2 7am Bible Study Group via Zoom Teen Girls Bible Study 6:30pm	3 RECTOR'S DAY OFF  Isaac DeLorme	4 6pm Teen Group  Abby Erickson
5 2nd Sunday in Advent 9:30pm St Nicholas Visit and Cookie Contest 	6  St Nicholas Teen Boys Bible Study 2pm 	7  St Ambrose	8 Fr Matt's 1pm Bible Study	9 7am Bible Study Group via Zoom Teen Girls Bible Study 6:30pm	10 RECTOR'S DAY OFF  Bonnie Webb	11 6pm Teen Group  Irene Thye
12 3rd Sunday in Advent 9:30am Teen Boys Bible Study 2pm 	13  St Lucy   Fr Corbin	14 	15 EMBER DAY Fr Matt's 1pm Bible Study Advent Taizé Service 7pm	16 7am Bible Study Group via Zoom Teen Girls Bible Study 6:30pm  Seth Forwood	17 EMBER DAY RECTOR'S DAY OFF	18 EMBER DAY Teen Group Christmas Party and Caroling  Esther & Zinnia Alvarado
19 4th Sunday in Advent 9:30am Teen Boys Bible Study 2pm 	20  Henry Erickson	21  St Thomas the Apostle  Madeline Rucker	22  RECTOR'S DAY OFF	23 7am Bible Study Group via Zoom	24  Christmas Eve Services 4pm & 7pm	25  The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Service 9:30am
26 1st Sunday of Christmas 9:30am  St Stephen	27  St John the Apostle	28  Holy Innocents Day	29  Samantha & Anthony Alvarado  Olivia Knaus	30 7am Bible Study Group via Zoom	31  Leslie Erickson	