

TRINITY TIDINGS

FROM THE RECTOR . . .

Dear Friends,

In addition to the annual traditions that are beginning to unfold in preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Savior several other new traditions are being conceived here at Holy Trinity.

A "Men's Club" had sixteen people at its organizational meeting and there is a social gathering planned for January. All men are invited so please keep an eye out for the time and the date. Rumor has it that it will be some sort of pig roast and plenty of socialization and fellowship.

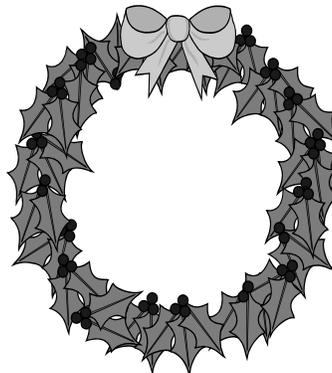
A "Women's Bible Study" is also in the process of organizing and will start meeting in January. This is also something that many have talked about for some time and suddenly appeared two women who were willing to facilitate making it a reality.

A "Strategic Planning Committee" is laying the ground work to put together, with the input of every member of Holy Trinity who would like to participate, a strategic plan for Holy Trinity for the next three to five years. Part of this process will be to review the plan on a periodic basis to incorporate new ideas and to measure the success of accomplishing our dreams. It is hoped that this plan will be presented to the congregation at Easter. In the days ahead please watch for important dates so that you can participate in this effort.

Every year it is exciting to anticipate the coming of the Christ. This year it is especially exciting as this concept of new life expands into ministry and programs to help us share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

May each of you have a blessed Christmas.

Faithfully
Fr. David +



*****REMINDER*****

There will be only one service at 9:00 am on Sunday, December 25th and Sunday, January 1st.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December, 2011

Our Address
211 Trinity Place
West Palm Beach
Florida, 33401
(561) 655-8650
(561)655-6646 FAX
Www.holytrinitywpb.org

THE HOLY TRINITY STAFF

The Rev. David R. Wilt
Rector

The Rev. Charles A.
Browning, II,
Associate Rector

The Rev. Canon Howarth L..
Lewis, Jr.
Deacon

Elizabeth Brown
Director of
Christian Education

Sarah Lidinsky
Youth Director

Mace Graham
Director of Music

Carol A. Provera
Parish Administrator

Brian Nehemias
Sexton

Sunday Services
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
December Evensong
Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
Healing Service:
Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Holy Trinity is called to be a witness of God's love to the people of our community and to the world through our open minds, and our open hearts. All baptized persons are welcome to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. We are a community on a spiritual journey, seeking to grow in faith and service through our worship, education and outreach programs.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2011 CHRISTMASTIDE SERVICES



Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th

5:00 pm Holy Eucharist & Family Christmas Program
10:30 pm Pre-Service Music with Orchestra, Choir, and Bells
11:00 pm Festive Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25th

9:00 am Holy Eucharist

New Year's Day & Lessons and Carols

Sunday, January 1st

9:00 am Service of Lessons and Carols and Holy Eucharist

Epiphany

Sunday, January 8th

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Arrival of the Three Kings

Come and worship with us.

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

Eros Raphael Vallon 10/16/11

Willow Ava Abraham 11/16/11

Noah Evan Coore-Brown 11/6/11

Burials

Renee Kairalla Hamill 11/8/11

Weddings

Kevin DuBrey and Carly Angelina Trudeau 11/04/11

Daniel Scott Perolio and Kimberly McNichol Riggs 11/12/11

DECEMBER OUTREACH PROGRAM

Our "Angel" gifts will be given to foster children from the Children's Home Society.

There will be two Angel Christmas trees: one in the Parish Hall and the other at the main entrance of the Church. Each "Angel" will have a red number, the child's name, age, and the name of the gift the child wishes to receive. \$25. is the limit to be spent on each child. Please note that "Gift Cards" may be substituted for any of the requested gifts.



Please look for instructions posted near each of the trees and fill in the required tracking information which will ask you to match the "Angel" number to the child's name and number on the list, and sign your name in the "Shopper" column.

This year the gifts are to be returned UNWRAPPED with the child's name placed on the front of the gift and brought to either the Church or the Parish Hall by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th.

From: The Rev. Charles A. Browning II , Associate Rector

I grew up a skateboarder. I used to wear pants that were way too big for me, a chain attached to my wallet, and my friends and I would loiter and skate around our neighborhood west of downtown Orlando, primarily at our church. I listened to punk rock and was drawn, like many teenagers, to things that made my mom cringe.

I mention this only to say that I have long held an affinity for what might be seen as “counter-cultural.”

And it is this affinity that, in many ways, draws me to Christian faith and practice. There is something counter-cultural about being Christian, after all.

Take, for instance, the Christmas-shopping season. Stores have decided (to much popular derision) that Christmas starts *now*. Which is why City Place lit its Christmas tree in early November and some radio stations are already playing Christmas music.

We Christians know that Christmas doesn't begin until December 25 and continues for twelve days following. Which also means we know why the song is called “The Twelve Days of Christmas.” Right now, we are in the season of Advent, awaiting Christ's Mass and celebrating the day Salvation entered our world. This time of year is different for us.

It's this sort of thing that satisfies my counter-cultural leanings. I like knowing something that the rest of the world doesn't seem to get. In the oft-mentioned “hustle and bustle” of frenzied shopping, often in a pursuit of capturing something called “the Christmas Spirit,” we Christians can relax a little and soberly remind ourselves that we are in a time of waiting and watching.

For us, it's not Christmas. Not yet.

Sure, we're going to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. And, yes, we're going to sip holiday-themed coffee drinks and listen to the sound of Christmas songs wafting through the air.

But we'll always have our little secret. We'll do all of the above knowing that Christmas is still yet to begin; knowing that December 25 isn't the end of the season, but the beginning.

And then, once the wrapping paper is put away, the toys assembled and the instruction booklets put in drawers (just in case!), we can revel in the Mystery that is God-in-Flesh, singing (with tears, perhaps?) the words: “What Child is this who, laid to rest on Mary's lap, is sleeping? Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and Angels sing; Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary.”

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADVENT PROGRAM AND DINNERS CONTINUE

December 7- December 14 - December 21
6:00 pm-8:00 pm
In the Parish Hall
Child Care Provided



THE PROGRAM

On December 7th, parishioner Josephine Bayard, a licensed yoga instructor, will introduce us to the art of gentle exercising. On December 14th, Fr. David will cover techniques of meditation. On December 21st, there will be a performance of *The Songs of the Season* with the “Trinitones” to get us all into the Holiday Spirit !

THE DINNERS

We are asking our groups, families, and ministries to pool together their resources and culinary talents and volunteer to prepare meals to feed 60 people each week.

Sign-up sheets are posted in the Parish Hall. There will be no charge for the dinners but donations will be accepted.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SERIES

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>2 Mary Layman, Jonathan Paine, Libby Parker, Sienna Ramirez</p> <p>3 Kim Votaw</p> <p>4 Bill Richards, Berte Richards, Carriger Paine</p> <p>5 Lolly Russell</p> <p>6 Ella Woods, Jennifer Bailey, Heide Den Hartog</p> <p>7 Lynne Soldati</p> <p>8 Sissie Meeker</p> <p>9 Kathy Moses</p> <p>10 Nicole Ward</p> <p>11 Robin Gethings</p> <p>12 Brenda Liberti</p> | <p>12 Jane Poston</p> <p>13 Cheryl Grantham</p> <p>15 Kristen Rogers</p> <p>16 Martha Lee, Mary Page McCampbell</p> <p>17 Sue Fan Ferguson, Bill Rogers</p> <p>18 Louise Strauss, Emily Obst</p> <p>20 Chris Wilburn</p> <p>21 Karen Marasco, Patti Hannah</p> <p>22 Rosemary Chase</p> <p>23 Susan Jones, Missy Rovinelli, Tara Puc</p> |
|---|--|



- 24 Christopher Dunstan
- 25 Liz Hulett, Tom Ferguson, Holiday Tuttle
- 26 Ginger Howard-Smith
- 27 Lucy Donn, Marilyn Hetherton
- 29 Barbara Hadsell
- 30 Christina Hartsock
Beth Walton

As the holiday season approaches, preparations are being made for the Christmas Eve orchestra. This year, I would like to use 17 instrumentalists, each of whom receives \$200.00 for rehearsals and playing the service. Anyone who would like to sponsor an orchestra member in thanksgiving for blessings received or in memory of a loved one, please put your donation in an envelope marked Christmas Eve Orchestra " and place it in the Sunday offering. Contributions of any amount will be welcomed. Currently we have enough donations for 6 1/2 orchestra members !

Names of sponsors will be listed in the bulletin.

Parish Office Holiday Closings

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 23rd and Friday, December 30th.

Annual Meeting Scheduled

The Annual Meeting has been scheduled for
Wednesday, January 18th
At 6:00 pm
in the Church

followed by a Pot Luck Supper in the Parish Hall. Main meat will be provided. Please bring a casserole, a salad, or a dessert.

Committee Heads:

If you have not already submitted your 2011 Annual Reports, please email them to carol@holyltrinitywpb.org by Friday, December 16th.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB
Monday, December 12th
7:00 pm



Selection: *The Perfect Christmas*

Author: Debbie Macomber

Hostess: Jane Sturgis

RSVP to Jane at 586-5947

Obtain books through the library, bookstore or Amazon.com.

Questions concerning the Book Club:
 please call Andrea Thomas at 236-6456

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Meet every second Sunday of the month at 9:00am in the Library. The next Meeting is

December 11th

HTC CRAFT FAIR

Sunday, December 4th after both services
in the Parish Hall

(Questions? Call Joyce Mears 833-5769)

DECEMBER DUTY ROSTER

If you cannot serve, please find a substitute

SUNDAY	DECEMBER 4	DECEMBER 11	DECEMBER 18	DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day
LECTORS	8-TLipscomb 10-JFroyen, NDrevich MFarnan	8-NMaas 10-SHedstrom JRichardson MLewis	8-JLansing 10-MRovinelli BHadsell BWeaver	9-SWilt JLewis CLewis
CHALISTS	8-ADean 10-NDrevich DLewis	8-MMcC Campbell 10-ELee, JRichardson	8-CDorsey 10-MRovinelli BWeaver	9-SBlackwell SWilt
GREETERS	8- MHadley 10- SWilt, JBayard JGuinnessy	8- B/RWalton ADean 10-JSturgis, VScherff, PHannah, NDrum	8- MJohnston, BWalton 10-SBryant, BSmith	9-TLipscomb CWilson PTickner JMaddaford
VESTRY GREETER	JLewis	DMcGurk	PO'Brien	BWalton
COFFEE HOUR	8- SHEaton, MBromley 10- No information	8-B/RWalton 10-No information	8-SMichaelides 10-No information	9- Holiday No Coffee Hour
TELLERS	Teams I	Teams II	Teams III	Teams IV
USHERS	Teams I	Teams II	Teams III	Teams IV
ACOLYTES	SLuttier MCollins NCollins MoMcClure	EHammell BHammell KAdams EDickens	MHedstrom MaPuc LPuc MeNahom	SLuttier SLambert MCollins NCollins

Christmas Duty Roster

December 24th

December 24th

Christmas Eve 5 pm

Lector: no lectors

Chalice Bearer: TBrown

Christmas Eve 11:00 pm

Lectors: JFroyen, AForbes, ELee

Chalice Bearer: JFroyen, CLee

ALTAR GUILD

8am: SBlackwell
SJones, CMcCracken

10am: SWilt, DFarnan,
SFerguson, BRobinson

What Have You Heard And Seen This Christmas?

Oh, you say, had I been there at Bethlehem that night I would have seen. I would have understood. I would have known it was the Christ child. Would you? There is one way of knowing:

Ask yourself what you have seen and heard this Christmas Season.

When you watched the 6:00 news did you see chaos and strife, or did you see sheep without a shepherd. When you went out to do your shopping did you see only hordes of people in the stores, or did you notice the worried expressions on some of their faces--worried because they are facing this Christmas without employment or enough money and they don't know how they are going to make ends meet.

What did you hear this Christmas?

Did you hear only the blast of music and carols, or did you hear the silent sighs of the lonely and the bereaved who may be dreading Christmas because it accentuates their loneliness. And in the midst of the sounds of honking horns and people arguing over parking places, did you hear faint sounds of laughter coming from Asbury Church missions projects because you furnished food and toys for families and children.

You see, so often what you see and what you hear is not dependent upon the event but upon you. If you did in fact hear the cry from the lonely, the laughter of poor children, if you saw the sheep without a shepherd, then, and only then, might you have noticed the events that took place in Bethlehem that night. If you lacked that spiritual seeing and hearing then you probably would have been with the 99% who were present but who saw or heard nothing out of the ordinary.

In the end perhaps one of our carols words it best: No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin. Where meek souls shall receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

Amen.



**From the desk of Elizabeth Brown,
Director of Christian Education**

The season of advent is upon us at Holy Trinity and I pray that each of you are reading your Advent meditation booklet along with your Bible to learn more about this special time of the year. Thank you to all our writers who spent hours reflecting on their scripture of the day and for taking the time to share their thoughts with all of us. This is the first time we have printed our own edition of a devotional Advent booklet and I thank you for sharing your spiritual gifts.

By the time you receive this issue of Trinity Tidings we will be well on our way in the observance of the season of Advent. We begin this time of waiting and expectation—waiting upon the Messiah, expecting God to burst into our lives in dramatic ways. We begin this liturgical season at the same time we start our own real Advent period of expectation at Holy Trinity Church. As a church community we all have expectations, and we all must wait and see how these expectation will be fulfilled.

The founder of the Order of the Holy Cross, James Huntington, used to travel all over the country to preaching missions. Before he arrived, the participating parish would pass out leaflets advertising the event and inviting people to attend. At the bottom of the leaflets was printed, “Expect great things!”

I can't tell you what to expect in the coming year. What we can do is pledge our faithfulness to each other as we serve God together in this place. We can promise to be open and honest in our ministry and life together. What we are called to do is wait patiently upon the Lord and then step boldly into whatever calling we receive. And- expect great things!

Expectations are always high during the Christmas season. We look forward to spending time with family and friends, decorating homes, cooking special foods, sharing traditions, and celebrating the birth of Jesus. When the season ends, we often feel let down and tired. Our list of things left undone seems longer than our list of things done. It helps to put Jesus in the center of the holiday through Advent wreaths and attending church weekly. It helps me to focus on Christmas Eve and the calmness of midnight and the knowledge that Christ has arrived and I enjoy the Peace that brings my family and home.

Christmas brings joy and light to mankind during the darkest month of the year. Though the days are short and the nights are long, children count the days, the weeks, even the months that precede the happy event that brightens the season. The Christmas star remains a reality, God not only loved the world two thousand years ago, He continues to love us in 2011 and beyond.

Peace,
Elizabeth Brown



“The Little Shepherd Boy “

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Rehearsals for our Family Christmas Musical, “*The Little Shepherd Boy*” have been very exciting, with as many as 49 children and adults in attendance. The script features Grand Poppa telling his granddaughters, Sarah and Naomi, the story of the birth of the Christ Child from the perspective of the shepherds who heard the glad tidings from the angels, with a surprise twist from one little shepherd boy. It is set in the time period several decades after the Baby Jesus’ birth. This year we are featuring traditional Christmas hymns and carols with revved-up accompaniment including, “O come, all ye faithful”, “O come, O come, Emmanuel”, “How great our joy”, “O little town of Bethlehem”, “It came upon the midnight clear”, “Angels from the realms of glory”, “The first noel”, “Away in a manger”, “Silent night”, “Hark

the herald angels sing”, and “We wish you a merry Christmas”. It has been amazing to observe how quickly the children have learned the many songs. They are truly awesome! We will continue to rehearse on Sunday mornings immediately after the 10 am service in the Choir Suite, with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 17th from 9 to noon in the church. “*The Little Shepherd Boy*” will be presented in the church on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18th, following the 10 am service. It will be repeated on Christmas Eve at the 5 pm Family Service. Come and be a part of this wonderful event!

“The Mystery and the Majesty”

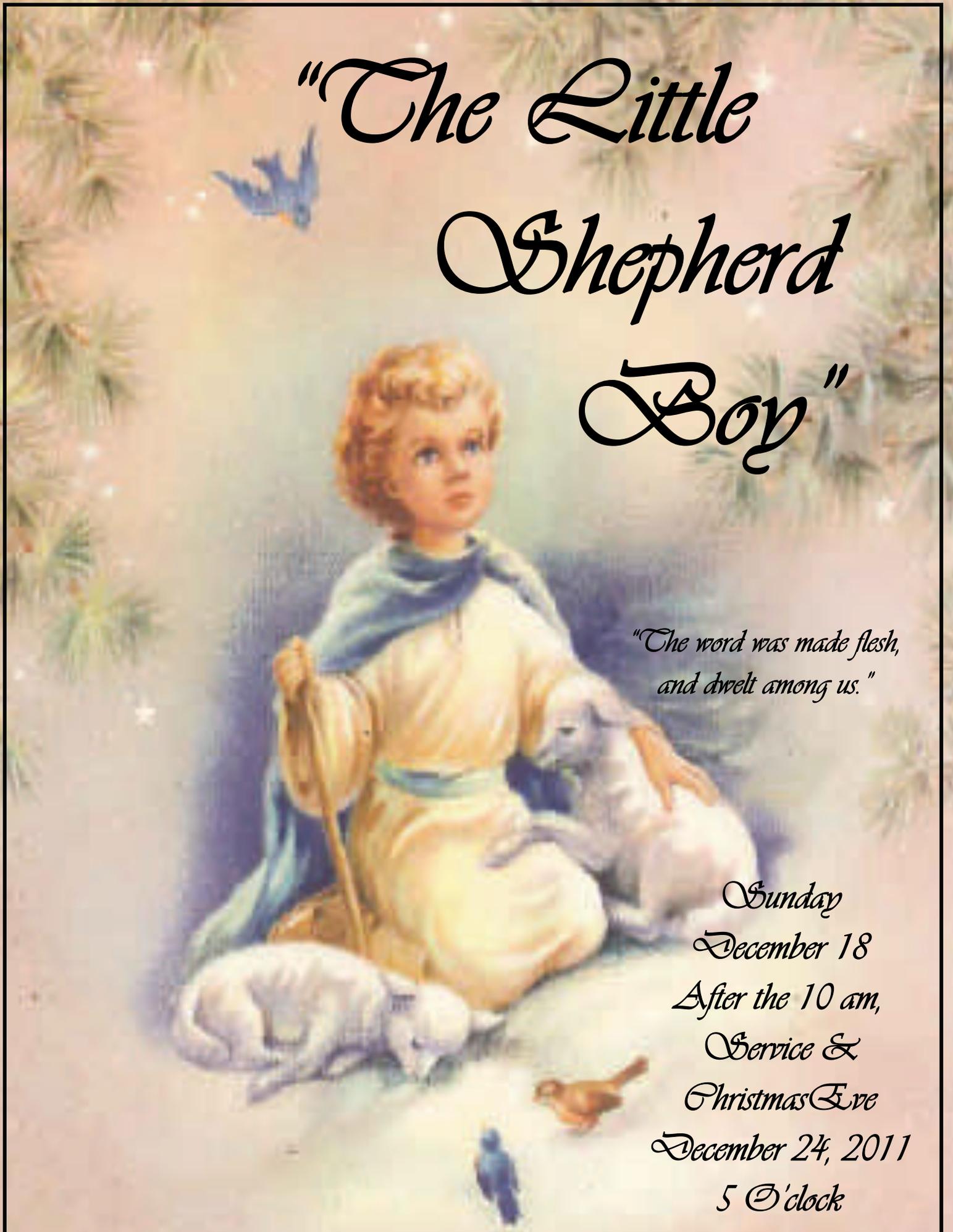
Beginning at 10:30 pm on Christmas Eve, the Partington Bell Choir will ring traditional seasonal favorites and the Holy Trinity Parish Choir, will present music from Joseph M. Martin’s, “*The Mystery and the Majesty*”, with an orchestra consisting of piano, recorder, violins, viola, cellos, flutes, piccolo, clarinets, oboe, bassoon, percussion and harp! Ron Naroff, a professional woodwind player, will be playing clarinet along with his granddaughter Maddie on flute and his grandson Dylan on violin, both of whom are on Christmas break from Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. Bob Davis, who played with the Lawrence Welk Orchestra for 17 years will be playing flute and piccolo. Our double bass player, Dave Tomasello is the strings teacher at Lynn University’s School of Music. Alexandria Warwick will be returning from Florida State to play violin. Also home on Christmas break are Christopher Carl, bassoon, George Washington University; Carly Gordon, oboe, Eastman School of Music; Michael Villar, flute and piccolo, University of Central Florida. Instrumentalists returning from Dreyfus School of the Arts are Arian Shaw Obassogie, viola; Clyde Kelker, cello; Mary Fortino, clarinet; Michelle Villar, harp; and our fabulous percussionist, Kimberly Edelstein. Last but definitely not least, our own wonderfully talented Julian Davies, a graduate of the Royal College of Music in London, will add to the beauty of the evening with his recorder. Returning from college to sing with the Parish Choir will be Aryn Eldridge, Jackie LaLonde, Amanda Tiefenthaler and Canton Winer. What a beautiful evening of music in celebration of the birth of Christ Child! In the words of Joseph M. Martin:

“Each year during the Christmas season we pause to consider the miracle of Christ’s birth. We are swept away by the wonder of it all, thrilled and amazed at the magnificent grace that brought God’s perfect light into our world of darkness. From the grandeur of angelic glories serenading simple shepherds to the whispered prayers of a young mother cradling the Creator of life, the marvel of that night is truly profound. Our music and art reaches out and with every note and brushstroke it can assemble, it expresses these great signs that dazzle the mind and delight the spirit. And yet we must acknowledge that no canvas can capture it and no voice can fully sing its beauty. And now we gather once again to celebrate the “beautiful impossible” of the incarnation. We lift our carols and light the candles of our faith in obedience to the hope that lives within us all. We assemble to decorate our sacred spaces with the music of faith and once again with the angels we proclaim the birth of Jesus. As we worship together may the chapels of our hearts overflow with... the mystery and majesty of Christmas.”

Merry Christmas!

Mace Graham

Director of Music



*"The Little
Shepherd
Boy"*

*"The word was made flesh,
and dwelt among us."*

*Sunday
December 18
After the 10 am,
Service &
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2011
5 O'clock*

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
211 Trinity Place
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

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