

There are a couple of times during the Church year that create interesting situations for clergy. One of those is the month that includes Easter and the other is the month of December. You see, writing articles such as this becomes exponentially more challenging when you have one Church season, followed by an entirely different celebration, all in one month. In Easter month, we are writing during Lent, about Easter. And as I write this, we are just about to begin the season of Advent, but I will not have a chance to write again before Christmas. All of that just creates some interesting dynamics.

For instance – the season of Advent is about preparation. We are to spend the four weeks of Advent preparing for the arrival of Jesus; both in the form of the baby, and as the ascendant Christ, when he returns on the

Last Day. But even as we are introspective and thoughtful in considering where we, as individuals fit into Advent preparations; there is Christmas, staring over our shoulder. And Christmas in modern America presents its own challenges.

This Advent we will hear stories from Mark’s, John’s, and Luke’s Gospels, in which Jesus’ arrival (as both baby and Christ) is foretold. And those readings are to make us think about what Jesus’ being on earth means in our lives. It can be pretty weighty stuff to consider at the best of times – like when you can get away for a while and visit a monastery for quiet prayer. But for most of us, that does not happen.

Instead, while we are supposed to be doing our Advent preparation, there are:

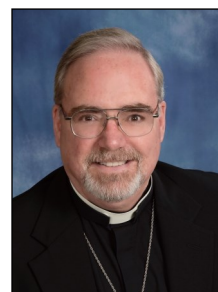
Christmas carols on the radio and in every store; Christmas parties with people who are not interested in discussing Advent; our children making lists and checking them twice; spending more and more time at the mall (or at least on Amazon); and starting to feel the increasing pressure of doing Christmas “right,” so that everyone gets what they want and no one is disappointed with anything or anybody. In other words, the pressure of chasing a “perfect Christmas,” which always manages to allude us.

So here is my suggestion. This year, start and end each day with a little bit of Advent. Just for the month of December, try beginning (and hopefully ending) each day with one of the Daily Offices in the Book of Common Prayer. That is: Morning Prayer and/or Evening Prayer and/or Compline. Spend a few minutes

reading the Scripture assigned for each day and do some form of prayer, where you can take all of the world’s problems and lay them at Jesus’ feet. It will lighten your burden, even if you discover that Jesus gives you a couple of those problems back, because you are the best solution.

Try these websites during December: <http://prayer.forwardmovement.org>, or [www.missionstclair.org](http://www.missionstclair.org), either will provide you a place of needed respite in this hybrid season Advent/Christmas. May God bless you all, now and always.

Fr. John+



## In Brief

Christmas Flowers

*December 24 & 25*  
Advent & Christmas  
Services Times

*December 7 & 21*  
Men’s Breakfast

*December 10*  
ECW Christmas Party

*December 11*  
LGBTQIA Mtg & Social  
EYC Bldg

*December 17*  
Advent Concert

*December 17*  
EYC Advent Concert &  
Christmas Party

EYC & Messy Church  
Events

## The Vestry

Michael Bass, Sr. Warden  
Amy Hackett, Jr. Warden  
Mary Catherine Hager  
Scott Hamilton, MD  
Sam Shuffler, MD  
Teri Stevenson  
Donna Troyanowski  
Wendt Withers  
Etienna Wright

# December at St. Barnabas

## Christmas Flowers



Making a donation for Christmas flowers is a wonderful way to help support our beloved St.

Barnabas financially. Envelopes for your donation can be found on a table in the Narthex. Place your envelope in the offertory plate or return to the church office by Sunday, December 17. Please note "Christmas flowers" in the memo line.



## Sunday, December 10, 6:00p

### Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Christmas Party

Attention, ECW Ladies — and if you're a lady, that means you! We will have our annual ECW Christmas party starting at 6:00p on Sunday, December 10 at Jan Risher's home, 249 Grand Ave. As is our tradition, we ask that



each person bring a wrapped ornament (valued at \$10ish), an appetizer or dessert to share — and a spirit of fun!

Also, as our mission item this year, we're inviting folks to bring canned food items for FoodNet. Our goal is to get at least 217 items at our 2017 Christmas party to send to FoodNet. The food will be distributed during the holiday season. They need canned items especially tuna, peanut butter, pasta and stuffing mixes, etc.

\*Warning: be prepared to see a different side of several of the women you may have thought were rather mild-mannered in the past. The gloves come off for our Christmas ornament stealing game.

If possible, carpooling is a good idea as parking is limited, but we always find a place for everyone! Come join the fun!  
[janrisher@gmail.com](mailto:janrisher@gmail.com)



## Sunday • December 17 • 2:00p

### Annual Advent Concert & Reception



On December 17 at 2:00p, the adult and youth choir, and members of EYC will present our annual Advent concert. Music will be provided by Piper Naudin, David Spruill, and Shawn Roy. Our guest vocalist will be Miguel Ochoa, bass along

with St. Barnabas' Caitlin Ecuyer, soprano and Thomas Herbert, tenor.

This year's theme will be "Images of Christmas." We hope you will join us for this event and prepare for the coming of Christmas. Everyone is invited to a reception that will follow in Ramsay Hall.



## Christmas Service Times



### December 24 *Christmas Eve*

9:00a

**Holy Eucharist, Rite I \***  
*The Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
*(No Music)*

4:00p

**Holy Eucharist, Rite II \***  
*Family Service with Children's Choir and*  
*music by David Spruill & Shawn Roy.*

10:30p

**Christmas Carol Sing**  
*Adult Choir*

11:00p

**Holy Eucharist, Rite II**  
*Adult Choir*

### December 25

#### *The Nativity of our Lord*

10:30a

**Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Music**

*\*Childcare is available on December 24 at 9:00a & 4:00p. No 8:00a and 6:00p services on the 25th.*

# EYC & Messy Church

## EYC

Katy and I continue to be excited about working with EYC. Since many of you do not know me (John), I wanted to tell you a bit about myself and my journey to St. Barnabas. After completing a PhD in New Testament, I served as a Baptist pastor for 12 years. I then spent 7 years teaching in a university and private schools in Lithuania and Bulgaria. My time in Europe allowed me to widen my theological and spiritual understandings and move toward Anglicanism. Upon my return to the US in 2012, I was received into the Episcopal Church and joined Katy at St. Barnabas when we were married in 2016.



John and Katy Campbell  
Directors of Youth

Love to bake Christmas cookies for a great cause? Join Cookies with Katy in the kitchen on Saturday, **December 9th** from 2:00p to 4:00p where they will bake cookies to send out to the community, **December 10th from 3:45p-6:00p**. On that day, both EYC groups will package the Christmas cookies and prepare Christmas cards to send with our cookies. We will eat at 5:30p.

Finally, on Sunday, **December 17th** the choir is having an Advent concert. Together, we will attend the choir event at 2:00p followed by our White Elephant (gag gift) Christmas party from 3:00p-5:00p. If you signed up to host one of the stops at the progressive dinner, please bring your dish to church as this event will take place at St. Barnabas in the EYC building. Dress in your favorite Tacky Christmas Sweater.

Be on the lookout for our January schedule and ski trip details!

## Messy Church

Advent started December 3, and

we have exciting plans for the kids. All of the children are invited to participate in the St. Barnabas Christmas Eve Family Service at 4:00p on Sunday, December 24th. For the next few weeks, the kids will meet in the choir room at 9:15a to practice songs for the Christmas Eve service. We will then move to the EYC building for our Bible lesson and crafts. Children's Chapel will start at 10:15. Please join us as we learn about Advent and get ready for Christmas! Everyone is welcome to attend.

Note: We will not have Messy Church on December 24 or January 31.

Michael Bass  
([MBass@cocglaw.com](mailto:MBass@cocglaw.com))

Etienna Wright  
([etiennawright@gmail.com](mailto:etiennawright@gmail.com))



## Dear EYC Parents,

Thank you for your warm welcome December 3rd. John and I are truly excited to be a part of this vibrant community! We are dedicated to

guiding our youth in creating a vision for the future of EYC. This is our youth's community, and we are just thankful to be along for the ride.

We will be continuing the EYC ski trip as stated this past Sunday. Due to the necessity of a 4-wheel drive vehicle at Wolf Ridge in North Carolina, we are going to be skiing in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this year.



We will leave St. Barnabas early Saturday, February 10th and return on Wednesday, February 14th. The cost of the trip will be \$550 per person. A deposit of at least \$200 is due by January 14th, and the remaining balance will be due on February 4th. We will have trip details December 10, as we are finalizing the plans this week.

As always, should you have any questions, please reach out to us. We are here for you!

God's Peace, Katy

# Calling All Angels...



## *Calling All Angels of St. B for Some Christmas Magic*

Outreach is partnering with TownFolk and the EYC to bring a Angel Tree to St. Barnabas. An Angel Tree is a great vehicle to create an awareness of the specific needs of our neighbors in Lafayette who are less fortunate than most. The purpose of the project is to provide clothing, household items, and maybe even something just for Christmas fun to families and children in need. St. Barnabas is receiving the names of people who benefit from TownFolk's weekly Victory Garden food distribution. The Angel Tree will be available in the Narthex on December 1. Parishioners and friends of St. Barnabas can pick a child's name or choose a family from the Christmas tree. The idea is for the "angel" (that's you) to shop for the person they choose from the tree and bring the gifts to church. If you need help wrapping your gifts, the EYC has volunteered to help wrap gifts. Simply bring the items you purchase and deposit them in the Narthex under the tree (labeled with the name of the family or child you are sponsoring - please). Outreach

will let you know about the distribution date so you can join in the festivities if you are available. Everyone wants to have something special under the tree on December 25. So, make plans to help foster some Christmas Magic by becoming an Angel Sponsor of St. Barnabas this Holiday Season.

## **Outreach Outcomes**

### *Accomplishments Since October*



### **Random Acts Comfort Bags**

Parishioners of St. Barnabas donated items, assembled and distributed 175 kindness comfort bags since October 15. Thanks to all who supported this outreach project and who used the comfort bags to spread kindness throughout Acadiana. Together, St. Barnabas is making a difference by reaching out and offering simple gifts to people in need.

### **"Feed the Hungry" Parc San Souci Meal Service**

Outreach sponsored meal



preparation and service for over 40 homeless people in Parc San Souci on Thursday, November 16. The outpouring of support for this project was overwhelming. There were actually too many parishioners for the number of food items to serve. Additionally, 60 winterized comfort bags were assembled while the food was cooking on November 16. Outreach provided the 60 bags for distribution as part of a special Thanksgiving feast on November 22. Thanks to everyone who purchased items to help winterize comfort bags. The homeless recipients were most grateful. Special thanks to Barbara Savoie and her family as well as Melodi Marchiafava for spearheading this project. Many thanks to Jerry Ernest for purchasing the groceries, expertly organizing the St. B kitchen, and for providing the tried and true tamale pie recipe that was a joy to cook together and that was enjoyed by all who we served.

### **Missio Dei Meal Service**

Outreach helped purchase \$500 of food items that were used by Penn & Simone Tompkins and Eva Guillot to prepare meals for hundreds of Hurricane Harvey Victims and Relief Workers who were in East Houston to help clean up and rebuild homes devastated by the storm.

**Canterbury Ministry Project**

The Outreach Committee offered a gift of \$500 to help fund ULL’s Canterbury Ministry Thanksgiving feast. Canterbury invited often under-recognized support staff employees that keep the campus grounds and classrooms clean and running smoothly. Thanks to Katy Campbell and Keith Dorwick for having this amazing idea and for organizing the meal service.

**Pride Week Offering**

Thanks to M. Christian Green and Keith Dorwick for representing St. Barnabas at a recent Pride Week gathering. They provided sussie bags complete with information about our church community, refillable St. Barnabas water bottles, and actual bottled water. Thanks to Carolyn Kane for assembling the

bags. The gathering was a great opportunity to make folks aware of the welcoming and inclusive St. Barnabas community.

**Our Little Roses Project**



Outreach continues to support Rosa Alba through the Our Little Roses Foreign Ministry Society in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. The annual

donation pays for Rosa’s education, school supplies and uniforms.

**Honduras Medical Mission**

September’s Mission Bingo helped raise enough funds to support two Diocesan medical workers participation in the upcoming January 2018 mission to Honduras. There’s even some additional funds left over to help purchase needed medical supplies for the mission trip.

**Meals on Wheels**

Outreach re-up’d sponsorship to provide funds for one year of meals for Ms. Rutha Bean through Meals on Wheels. Outreach is currently considering an additional sponsorship for the coming calendar year.

**Contributions for 2017 Tax Year**

Please note that the IRS code states that contributions for the 2017 tax year must be made by December 31, 2017.

The office will be open December 28 and 29 if you wish to drop off a contribution. Questions: Contact Carolyn Kane at 984-3848 or [carolyn@saintbarnabas](mailto:carolyn@saintbarnabas).

Thank you.



**Summary Analysis of Operating Revenues and Expenses  
Totals as of November 30, 2017**

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance %
<b>Revenues</b>			
Pledged Contributions	377,669	292,472	-23%
Non-pledged Contributions	41,133	59,579	45%
Other Revenue	104,242	123,717	19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>523,044</b>	<b>475,768</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Personnel	311,856	311,625	0%
Buildings / Maint	54,476	52,502	-4%
Other	140,428	127,409	-9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>506,760</b>	<b>491,535</b>	<b>-3%</b>

# December 2017 Calendar

Unless otherwise noted –

## All Sundays

- 8:00a...Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:15a...“Messy Church”—All Ages
- 9:15a...Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15a...Adult Christian Formation with Fr. John
- 10:30a.Children’s Chapel
- 10:30a...Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- 6:00p.....Holy Eucharist, Rite II

## First Sunday of Month

- 6:00p.....Contemporary Worship Service

## All Tuesdays

- 10:00a.....Tuesday Morning Bible Study & Prayer Group

## All Wednesdays

- 6:30p.....Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00p.....AA Meeting and Al-Anon Meeting

## All Thursdays

- 5:15p.....YOGA Class, Ramsay Hall
- 6:00p.....Healing Eucharist

Please see Calendar for Events.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>December 3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>9:15a</b> Adult Study, Messy Church, & Children’s Choir Rehearsal <b>10:30a</b> Children’s Chapel <b>5:00p</b> EYC & Parent Meeting & Dinner <b>6:00p</b> Contemporary Eucharist		<b>10:00a</b> Bible Study <b>6:00p</b> Outreach Ministry Mtg	<b>6:30p</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>8:00a</b> Men's Breakfast, Hub City Diner <b>5:15p</b> YOGA <b>6:00p</b> Healing Eucharist		<b>2:00p-4:00p</b> EYC: Cookies with Katy in St. B.’s Kitchen
<b>December 10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9:15a</b> Adult Study, Messy Church, & Children’s Choir Rehearsal <b>10:30a</b> Children’s Chapel <b>3:45p-6:00p</b> EYC Community Outreach <b>6:00p</b> ECW Christmas Party	<b>6:00p-8:00p</b> LGBTQIA Mtg & Social EYC Bldg—Meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month. 	<b>10:00a</b> Bible Study	<b>6:30p</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>5:15p</b> YOGA <b>6:00p</b> Healing Eucharist		<b>10:00a-11:00a</b> Bingo @ Lady of the Oaks Nursing Home
<b>December 17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>9:15a</b> Adult Study, Messy Church, & Children’s Choir Rehearsal <b>10:30a</b> Children’s Chapel <b>11:45p</b> Vestry Meeting <b>2:00p ADVENT CONCERT</b> <b>2:00p-5:00p</b> EYC: Advent Concert & Christmas Party		<b>10:00a</b> Bible Study	<b>6:30p</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>8:00a</b> Men's Breakfast, Hub City Diner <b>5:15p</b> YOGA <b>6:00p</b> Healing Eucharist		
<b>December 24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>9:00a..Advent IV Holy Eucharist</b> <b>4:00p..Holy Eucharist (Family Service)</b> <b>10:30p..Christmas Carol Sing</b> <b>11:00p..Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>10:30a..Holy Eucharist with Music</b>	Men’s Group Cancelled		<b>5:15p</b> YOGA <b>6:00p</b> Healing Eucharist		
<b>Sunday, Dec. 31: Holy Eucharist at 8:00a, 10:30a, &amp; 6:00p</b>						

# December 2017 Schedule of Ministers

Dec. 10 The Second Sunday of Advent	Dec. 17 The Third Sunday of Advent	Dec. 24 & 25 The Fourth Sunday of Advent The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Church	Dec. 31 The Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ
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## Ushers

Carolyn Kane Emile Lege Tommy McGinnis Lee Williamson	Jim Bolling Scott Chrysler Pat Stokes Luke Walker	Please volunteer for the 24th <b>9:00a</b> <b>4:00p</b> <b>11:00p</b> Emile Lege Dec. 25 at 10:30a	Jack Ferstel Carolyn Kane Tommy McGinnis Lee Williamson
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## Worship Leaders and Eucharistic Ministers

<b>8:00a</b> Leslie Alwell - EM	<b>8:00a</b> Virginia Stokes - EM	<b>9:00a on 24th</b> Leslie Alwell - EM <b>4:00p on 24th</b> Jan Risher - Lector (1) Reese Fuller - Lector (2) Paula Trcalek - EM (sub req.) NOT FILLED - EM <b>11:00p on 24th</b> Donna Bedingfield - Lector (1) Quinten Dronet - Lector (2) Katy Campbell - EM John Campbell - EM <b>10:30a on 25th</b> Dan Bloomer - EM	<b>8:00a</b> Virginia Stokes - EM <b>10:30a</b> Jack Ferstel - Lector (1) Michael Bass - Lector (2) Toni Bennett - EM Eric Stevenson - EM <b>6:00p</b> Claire Ward- EM
<b>10:30a</b> Kate Lobdell - Lector (1) Mary Lobdell - Lector (2) Toni Bennett - EM Quinten Dronet - EM	<b>10:30a</b> Donna Bedingfield - Lector (1) Scott Hamilton - Lector (2) Sabrina Beach - EM Mary Catherine Hager - EM		
<b>6:00p</b> Elaine Ardeneaux - EM	<b>6:00p</b> Jack Ferstel - EM		

## Acolytes

<b>8:00a</b> Anna Lee - 1st Server <b>10:30a</b> Nicholas Begneaud - Crucifer Eric Stevenson - 1st Server Luc Begneaud - 2nd Server	<b>8:00a</b> Henry Fuller - 1st Server <b>10:30a</b> Taylor Bedingfield - Crucifer Annelise Smith - 1st Server Alexandra Smith - 2nd Server	<b>9:00a on 24th</b> Please volunteer <b>4:00p on 24th</b> Please volunteer <b>11:00p on 24th</b> Please volunteer <b>10:30a on 25th</b> Please volunteer	<b>8:00a</b> Bird Fuller - 1st Server <b>10:30a</b> Nicholas Begneaud - Crucifer Luc Begneaud - 1st Server Laney GP - 2nd Server
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## Greeters

<b>8:00a</b> Cindy Guillory <b>10:30a</b> Mark Smith	<b>8:00a</b> Teri Stevenson <b>10:30a</b> Karri Martin	<b>9:00a on 24th</b> Cindy Guillory	<b>8:00a</b> Heather Fuller <b>10:30a</b> Quinten Dronet
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## Altar Guild

<u>December 2</u> Lambert LeBlanc Madison	<u>December 9</u> Bloomer Thom Vincent	<u>December 16</u> McKnight Sterling Stika	<u>December 23</u> Armbruster Guillot Bolling-Mikhael	<u>December 30</u> Lambert LeBlanc Madison
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A PLACE AT THE TABLE



**St. Barnabas**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## "Images of Christmas" Advent Choir Concert December 17 • 2:00p

On December 17 at 2:00p, the adult and youth choir, and members of EYC will present our annual Advent concert. Music will be provided by Piper Naudin, David Spruill, and Shawn Roy. Our guest vocalist will be Miguel Ochoa, bass along with St. Barnabas' Caitlin Ecuyer, soprano and Thomas Herbert, tenor.

This year's theme will be "Images of Christmas."

We hope you will join us for this event and prepare for the coming of Christmas.  
Everyone is invited to a reception that will follow in Ramsay Hall.

Saint Barnabas Episcopal Church is a Christ-Centered Community, which exists to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ by proclaiming the Gospel, worshiping together and celebrating the Eucharist, consciously committing our whole selves, ministering to our parish family and to others while growing spiritually through prayer and study.