To seek and serve Christ through service to others.
To manage responsibly the financial resources of our parish as loving and caring stewards.
To welcome and involve all persons into our parish family valuing both diversity and unity.
To enable nurture and learning in the Episcopal heritage of Scripture, tradition and reason.
To foster a community of faith for worship, spiritual growth, ministry and mission.

Please remember a reverent silence and respect for those who wish to pray before mass.
Before Mass, we speak to God. During Mass, we listen to God. After Mass, we listen and speak to each other.

The Rev. Rebecca Myers, LSW - Rector
Rebecca is available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
Her sabbath days will typically be Monday and Friday.
You can reach her via email at nativityrector@pa.net or by phone 433-1556 (cell) or 567-0404 (home).

Michele Neibert - Parish Administrator

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity & St. Stephen
159 South Second Street, Newport, PA 17074

Office: 717-567-6514   E-mail: chnatss@pa.net

www.nativityandststephen.diocpa.org
Commissioning of the Godly Play Teachers and Parlor People

Celebrant: Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which they are called.

The Celebrant asks the sponsors: Are these persons you are to present prepared by a commitment to Christ as Lord, by regular attendance at worship, and by the knowledge of their duties, to exercise their ministry to the honor of God, and the well-being of his Church?

Sponsors: We believe they are.

Celebrant: You have been called to a ministry in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Candidate: I will.

Celebrant: Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Candidate: I will.

Sponsors: We present to you these persons for the ministries of Godly Play Teachers and Parlor People in this parish.

All say:
You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servants whom I have chosen.

V. Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name:
R. Make known his deeds among the peoples.

Let us pray. (Silence)

Have regard to our supplication, O gracious Lord, and confirm with your heavenly benediction your servants commissioned to minister in your Church, that with sincere devotion of mind and body they may offer acceptable service to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you as Godly Play Teachers and Parlor People in this Parish.

Processional Hymn
“Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets” No. 412
THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation and Response  Prayer Book, p.355

Collect for Purity  Prayer Book, p.355

“Glory to God in the highest”  S 280

Collect of the Day  insert

First Reading:  Exodus 12:1-14  insert

Psalm 149  insert

Second Reading:  Romans 13:8-14  insert

Gradual Hymn
“Blessed Jesus, at thy word”  No. 440

The Holy Gospel:  Matthew 18:15-20  insert

Sermon  The Rev. Rebecca Myers

The Nicene Creed  Prayer Book, p. 358

Prayers of the People
Lord, hear us.

Confession and Absolution  Prayer Book, p. 360

The Peace  Prayer Book, p. 360
(Stand and greet each other.)
MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Offertory Sentence  
Prayer Book, p. 376

Offertory Hymn  
“Dear Lord and Father of mankind”  
No. 652

The Doxology  
No. 380, v.3

The Great Thanksgiving  
(Eucharistic Prayer A)  
Prayer Book, p. 361

The Sanctus  
S 125

Consecration  
Prayer Book, p. 371

The Lord’s Prayer  
Prayer Book, p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread  
Prayer Book, p. 364

Fraction Anthem  
S 161

Ministration of Communion

Prayer after Communion  
Prayer Book, p. 365

Recessional Hymn  
“Brother, sister, let me serve you”  
See next page

The Dismissal  
Prayer Book, p. 366
Brother, sister, let me serve you

1 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll
5 When we sing to God in hea - ven, we shall find such
6 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as

Em A G D G A7 D
Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each o - ther
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er
Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to

Em G A7 D
let you be my ser - vant too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
of Christ's love and a - gon - y.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Capo 2, play D

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**Announcements**

**At Church of the Nativity**

Join us for Coffee Hour in the Undercroft after the service.

Parlor People, Sunday, 11am – noon.


Godly Play resumes today.

Choir Practice will resume September 13, 10:15am.

Next Sunday we observe Latina/Latino Heritage Month.

Upcoming Meetings

Today, 11am-Noon, Confirmation Class

Wednesday, September 13, 6:30pm, Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, September 27, 6:30pm, Diocesan Eliminating Racism Task Group

Taize’ Tuesdays, 4pm.

Twenty minutes of Centering Prayer followed by a Taize’ service.

Men’s & Women’s Breakfast, Wednesdays, 9am, Espresso Yourself Café.

Are you being called to serve the parish?

The nominating committee of Miguel Gonzales, Lynne Mitchell and Gail Shull are looking for people who would like to serve on Vestry, Delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention and Delegates to the Harrisburg Convocation. If you are interested, please see one of them.

Let’s read the Gospel According to Mark.

As part of living into our baptismal covenant to "continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers," the confirmands are reading the Gospel According to Mark. I invite you to join us. Mark is thought to be the earliest of the Gospels, written around 66CE. It is thought to have relied upon the oral traditions about Jesus and even was told orally. Today, there are a number of people who continue this tradition. The Gospel is thought to have been a source for Matthew and Luke. The Gospel is mostly about Jesus’ actions and disputes with Scribes and Pharisees. We hear Mark during Year B of our Revised Common Lectionary. Year B begins this year at Advent I – December 3.

Please pray for our confirmands.

O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the Spirit through the teaching of your Son Jesus Christ: Make the hearts and minds of Ethan, Lily and Sophia ready to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that they may be filled with the strength of his presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. 


Please say yes if Lily, Ethan or Sophia asks to interview you during coffee hour today.

They will ask the following questions: When you were little, what church did you go to? Where and how often? When did you start going to church? Why do you think church is important? Why do you worship God?

If you’d like to be baptized, confirmed, or received into The Episcopal Church, please let Rebecca know by October 1.

The Bishop will be visiting on December 3 and will conduct these rites for us. If you’ve been baptized and confirmed in another Christian denomination, you can be received into The Episcopal Church. Otherwise, you can be baptized or if you’ve been baptized, you can be confirmed. Rebecca will work with you on a convenient time to discuss these rites and provide information and background on The Episcopal Church. If you’ve been a member of an Episcopal Church and would like to transfer your membership, let Rebecca know. To be a member of Nativity, you need to have your baptism recorded in the parish register.

All who have been baptized by water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, are welcome to receive communion.

You may receive bread only or bread and wine. You may receive the wine by common cup or by dipping your wafer into the chalice. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms across your chest.

Notecards of Nativity for sale.

$2 each or 5 for $8. The photo on the 4X5½” cards is of the pews and was taken by Irene VanBuskirk. They are in the undercroft.

Thursday, September 21, 11-1pm, Honaman House, food demo Maryann Smith

Please let Lynne or Wendy know if you are able to help with any items for lunch.

From the Diocese

Donations of backpacks are being collected for refugee children in the Harrisburg area.

This is an on-going project as children arrive throughout the year. If you have backpacks or monetary donations, please see Rebecca.
Parish Music and Liturgy Day, Saturday, October 21, 9am – 3pm, St. Luke’s, Lebanon.
Keynote: Dr. David Hurd. Choir members, Eucharistic ministers, acolytes, readers, prayers and anyone interested in liturgy is invited to attend this day for all ages. Let Michele know if you will attend by email at chnatss@pa.net or calling 717-567-6514.

The Episcopal Home in Shippensburg is refurbishing their heavily-used activity room. Donations in any amount are being accepted for flooring and a new chair donation is $100. Send donations to: The Episcopal Home, 206 E Burd St, Shippensburg, PA 17257. Mark your donation for activity room.

Community Events and Opportunities for Service

Prayer Shawl Ministry of Newport meets September 28, 10am. Bring your projects and also learn how to knit or crochet.

Central PA Youth Ministries Adult Fundraising Dinner, Sunday, October 1, 6pm, Newport Family Life Center.
Let Rebecca know by September 13, if you’d like to attend this dinner to support this ministry in our area. Rebecca and Sue Beamer assist with Newport Release Time, which is one of the ministries sponsored. We support this program each year with Giving To Others (GTO) funds. A free will offering to support the program is taken at the end of the meal.

Volunteers are needed to clean apartments at Linda House.
Apartments would be cleaned when residents leave in preparation for a new resident’s arrival. Currently, this work needs to be done between 8am and 4pm Monday – Friday. Signing a confidentiality statement is required. Please see Rebecca if you are available.

7th Perry County Family Fun Fest and Wellness Day, Sat., September 23, 10am – 2pm, Newport Life Center
Many local Human Service Agencies with free and fun activities for all ages. Free healthy snacks provided.

Other foods are available for purchase from The Tin Cup Food Truck. Free car seat inspections. Sponsored by the Perry County Family Center, 582-3656.

On Thursday, October 19 from 5-7pm, we will host a Perry County Chamber Mixer.
This is an opportunity to showcase our church community, as well as welcome business people in our community. Chamber members network with each other and also learn more about us. Adam Britcher and Miguel Gonzales will provide refreshments for the evening. We need others who will talk about the ministry of our church, give tours and greet people. If you are interested and available, please see Rebecca.

PA Family Support Alliance’s Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse Training for Mandated Reporters, Monday, September 25, 6-9pm hosted by Join Hands Ministry – Training is provided free and is for adults who have contact with children through work, practice of profession or a volunteer position. You must pre-register online at: http://www.pafsa.org/Calendar/view_645/detail/cid_645/846.
A flyer with additional information is posted in the undercroft.

Team Joining Hands for Jeri’s 7th Annual Charity Auction, September 23, 10:30am, Otterbein UMC, Duncannon
Michele is the Team Leader for ‘Joining Hands for Jeri’. The team will participate in their 12th Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk this October. ‘Joining Hands for Jeri’ has donated nearly $40,000 over the last six years, with most of the funds raised through the auctions. Check out our Facebook page, Team ‘Joining Hands for Jeri’, to see all the great items that will be up for bid! Hope you can come out and join us!

The team is also accepting donated items to be auctioned off at the event. If you have an item you’d like to donate, please contact Michele.

Crop Walk, Little Buffalo Main Entrance, Sunday, October 8, Registration- 12:30, Walk- 1pm.
Join other churches and individuals in an effort to end hunger. 25% of funds raised stay in Perry County. For sponsorship envelopes and more information, call 582-6753 or visit crophungerwalk.org to learn more about the program.

Christian Churches United 40th Anniversary Celebration, Tuesday, November 14, 5:30pm, Best Western Premier Hotel.
Join Christian Churches United in their celebration. Keynote speaker is Shane Claiborne, a founding partner of a faith community in Philadelphia that seeks to follow Jesus, rediscover the spirit of the early church, and incarnate the “Kingdom of God.” If you are interested in attending, please let Rebecca know.
Service Participants

Greeters: Bill and Wendy Day
Lector: Wendy Day
Prayers of the People: Dick Price
Acolyte and Eucharistic Minister: Bill Day
Organist: Sue Beamer
Refreshments: Pat Szabo and Gail Shull

Shannon Burns - Sr. Warden
Tootser Davis - Jr. Warden
Kay Cramer
Bill Day
Miguel Gonzales
Becky Gephart-Crup- Secretary
Wendy Day-Treasurer

Lynne Mitchell
Bill Rohm
Gail Shull