The Weekly: Important Dates for Your Diary!

From: Immanuel on the Green <rector-immanuel@comcast.net>
To: jmea55 <jmea55@aol.com>
Subject: The Weekly: Important Dates for Your Diary!
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The Weekly: December 27th 2019

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January 1, 10am: Sung Eucharist - There will be a 10am Sung Eucharist on January 1 to celebrate the New Year. We hope you will join us as we enter 2020 together.

January 5, 10am: Bishop Brown at Immanuel - Next Sunday, January 5, Rt. Rev'd Kevin Brown, Bishop of Delaware will make his annual Episcopal Visitation to Immanuel, as we observe the Feast of the Epiphany. There will be only one combined service at 10:00 am, at which Bishop Brown will preach, baptize, and celebrate the Eucharist. There will be a reception and coffee hour following the service, after which Bishop Brown will hold an open forum. All are invited!

Nominations are being taken for the next class of the Vestry. There will be three open positions along with a warden position. Nomination forms need to be in by January 8 so the Vestry can approve the roster of candidates at its next meeting. See Fr. Chris, the wardens, or a Vestry member for more information.

Next Movie Discussion Night on Saturday, Jan 11
We will gather together for our next Movie Discussion Night at 6 PM on Jan 11. Our hosts are Suzanne Souder and Glenn Rill at 60 W 4th St in New Castle.

The film to watch before you come is "The Wife". Glenn Close stars as the wife whose husband is about to receive the Nobel prize in Literature. Watch this movie which explores the life choices people make and their consequences. Then bring a dish or refreshment to share and come ready to talk about the social and religious questions raised by the story and the values it highlights.

We look forward to seeing you.

February 8 - 9: Visiting Scholar Weekend with Dr. Esther Lightcap Meek - “The Epiphany of Beauty: Where Art and Faith Converge” is a unique weekend-long event featuring Visiting Scholar Esther Meek, Professor of Philosophy at Geneva College, exploring the connections between music, theology, and liturgy. Not to be missed!

LITURGY AND MUSIC NOTES

The Title of today’s liturgical celebration, “The First Sunday after Christmas Day,” reminds us that the Church is still in the midst of the Christmas season, even if CVS and Walmart have already moved on to Valentine’s Day. The Liturgical Calendar’s focus on the Incarnation begins with Christ’s Nativity, but then continues through the entire Season after the Epiphany with a profusion Gospel stories revealing God’s presence among us in Christ, including the visit of the Magi, Jesus’s baptism, and his first miracle at the wedding in Cana, for starters.

The hymns we sing today begin to take us beyond the manger, the angels, and the shepherds of beloved carols, to reflect on the significance of the Incarnation—more of a theological “bird’s eye view” of the Christmas event.

The Hymn in Procession, “Angels, from the realms of glory,” neatly summarizes the familiar actors—the angels, the shepherds, the wise men—and concludes with a reference to one of the readings for the Presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem, observed by us on February 2 as “Candlemas.”

The Sequence Hymn that precedes the reading of the Gospel, “O Savior of our fallen race,” is an ancient, classic meditation on the meaning of the Christmas Event. The Latin chant melody, associated with these words since the 6th century, is also the subject of the organ voluntary which begins today’s service.

The hymn following Communion eloquently connects Jesus’s birth, and his presence in the Bread and Wine of the Eucharist, to our calling to be his presence in the world—all expressions of Christ’s Incarnation. It is sung to the German chorale tune popularly associated with J. S. Bach’s arrangement, “Jesu, joy of man’s desiring.”
The final hymn, "Joy to the world," is the only popular carol that contains no direct reference whatsoever to the Christmas story! It is actually a free paraphrase of Psalm 98, in which the hymn's 18th-century author Isaac Watts hails the coming of the Messiah as the establishment of God's Kingdom.

The concluding organ voluntary is by Robert Elmore, esteemed 20th-century organist and conductor who served longtime appointments to Holy Trinity Church, Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia, and Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem. Dr. Elmore was renowned for his virtuosity as well as his imaginative sense of humor, both of which are evident in this charming seasonal sugarplum.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Goody Care Packages For Deployers

The outreach project to support the 200+ Delaware National Guard members deployed continues at Immanuel. A number of Immanuelians have donated care and hygiene packages for our Delaware neighbors, who are deployed to Southeast Asia in support of ongoing military operations.

These deployed soldiers are grateful and appreciative of the support they get from us. Our initiative “Treats for Troops” provides both "goodies" that remind them of home, such as Tasty Cake and Wawa products. We are also providing personal hygiene items that are hard to come by in the area that they are deployed. We are gathering up the first package and sending it to them with our prayers and blessings. Donations will be accepted through January 2020.

A complete list of the items may be found [here](#) and on the church porch. Donations may be dropped off there or at the Parish Office. For any questions, feel free to reach out to Bob Irwin at rjirwin09@verizon.net or at 302-354-4636. Let’s all continue to support our deployed troops.

Food Bank News

After a month or so of not really needing anything for the Food Closet, the stock levels have diminished for a few items. If you are out shopping and would be inclined, please pick up the items listed below. Contributions can be left at the Academy at Coffee Hour, or at the office during the week - we are no longer collecting food on the church porch.

Remember, these are NEEDS and it would be appreciated that you only purchase items from this list.

- Pasta and Sauce - no elbows please
- Rice A Roni
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Entrees - Chili or Stew
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Crackers - Ritz or Saltines
- Instant Potatoes

Also be mindful of the item sizes, bigger is not always better.
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- Unsweetened dry cereal - cheerios, corn flakes, etc
- Instant oatmeal packets

As always, your donations keep this Mission viable. Thanks for your Support.

Gary Burgmuller
NCUMC Food Closet Coordinator

Available Flower Memorial Dates

Memorials can be a Sunday closest to a set date (such as a birthday, anniversary, or passing), or a specific Sunday in the month (such as the 1st Sunday in October), and can be recurring or one time happenings. Please contact the office or Mark if you would like to talk about an offering.

The following Sundays do not have dedicated flower offerings:

2020
- January 12
- February 9
- March 1
- March 29
- April 19
- May 3
- May 31
- June 21
- June 28
- August 13

The parish office will be closed between December 25-January 1.

SERVICES AT IMMANUEL

Schedule of Services

Immanuel's sense of community is firmly grounded in our weekly gathering for corporate worship. You are an essential member of that Community! Do plan to join us every week for one (or more) of these services:

Sunday
- 8am - Said Mass
- 10am - Sung Mass
- 7pm - Compline

Wednesday
- 9:30am - Said Mass (postponed until further notice)

Thursday
- 6pm - Said Mass

Compline continues every Sunday at 7 p.m.

Compline continues every Sunday night at 7 p.m. This brief service of prayer and readings is the final service in the monastic daily prayer cycle. It is less than 10 minutes long, and includes time for private prayer in your pew before and after the service. If you have not yet joined us for Compline, please consider making this a part of your spiritual discipline.
A new signup has been posted with dates available through the spring. If you would like to lead Compline and/or set up the church by lighting 60+ candles, please use this link to do so. Questions? Ask Jo Harney at jo.wharney@gmail.com.

Sign up here

Large print bulletins are available.

December Birthdays
- Week 5 - Matt Kinservik

January Birthdays
- Week 1 - Tom McDowell, Jen Robelen, Ron Vukelich, Carol Vukelich, Clarke Reed Gardener
- Week 2 - Suzanne Souder, Lisa Whitaker
- Week 4 - Michael Brereton, Glenn Rill, Lorayne Titter

January Anniversaries
- Week 1 - Jack and Jeannette Burnam

STAY CONNECTED

The FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out) struggle is real. If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on Twitter and Instagram, for memes like this one:

![Meme](image_url)

Stay up to date on all the latest happenings by visiting our website.
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Immanuel on the Green | 100 Harmony Street, New Castle, DE 19720

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