



# THE ANTIPHON

The Parish Newsletter of  
St Matthias' Church, Dallas, Texas

JANUARY 2019

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Merry Christmas!

The business of the new calendar year is now upon us. The date for our **Annual Congregational Meeting** is set for **Sunday, January 27th**. On that morning we will begin with Matins at 9:00 and then celebrate one Mass at 9:30. Please plan on being in attendance. The occasion is significant enough for us to gather together as one parish family to ask our Heavenly Father's guidance and blessing upon the year ahead.

The Church is God's house. We convene as his People, hopefully, under his guidance, to equip ourselves to better do his will. We are called to glorify him in all that we do and to be his ambassadors to the world around us. So the business of the parish's meeting is actually his business.

We are still within the **12 Days of Christmas**. The **twelfth day is Saturday, January the 5th**. The Feast of the Epiphany is Sunday the 6th. It is a venerable Catholic practice to leave the tree up for all twelve days. And in some places it was the custom to have everyone bring their tree to the church on the twelfth night and pile them up for a bonfire. Sadly, we can't do that anymore! Now the news outlets were promoting places to recycle your tree on Christmas morning! Oh well. In any

event hope you are still plugging in the lights on your house. It is but one small way of witnessing to the world around us that we do indeed have cause to celebrate! And this time around we get to celebrate the Epiphany on Sunday. I am very grateful to all who have given of themselves to make this Christmas a good one. My only regret is that I was not in better voice - Bless you for putting up with my croaking through the Mass. Our thanks to Susan and the choir for their contributions of music, to the adult servers, the acolytes, and ushers, to all who turned out to deck the Great Hall, to the Altar Guild who saw to the decoration of the church, and to Tommye, Don and company who organized the Christmas Toast.

It is helpful to keep in mind that we gather to celebrate the Mass to “do” something, not necessarily to “get” something. Get something we do, but the motivation for being there is to give something. Catholic worship consists of the giving of ourselves to God; “our selves, our souls and bodies,” as the Canon of the Mass has it.

You are a wonderful parish. It has all been very good indeed and I am most blessed to be here as your priest.

God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely of a priest, with a small cross at the end.

*Postscript:* On Friday, December 14th, Susan Williams communicated to me that she had accepted a new position and was therefore tendering her resignation, her last Sunday being the Feast of the Epiphany, January the 6th. Susan was indeed a blessing to us when she came to us after John George's departure. Over her time with us, I have truly appreciated her talent and

efforts at working to make our experience at Solemn Mass the good thing that it is. I will indeed miss her, but I understand that she is called to make this move at this time. So, I bid your prayers and cooperation as we search for her replacement. Matthew Pool has agreed to help us in that endeavor as he is able. Our singers are committed to continuing with us too.

Susan, we wish you all of the best. May God bless you in all that you do in His service!

*Fr. C+*



## NOTE FROM THE PARISH MUSICIAN

Change is rarely easy, especially when the time comes to close the door on one valuable experience when another presents itself. We find ourselves at just such a time. My tenure at St. Matthias has been a highly enjoyable, growing experience; however, the Lord has seen fit to present yet another opportunity equally full of promise. It has been a sincere pleasure to work alongside this very gifted choir in leading this very warm, welcoming, appreciative congregation. As difficult as it is to say farewell, the Lord is faithful and I am confident He has prepared another to come along to move St. Matthias' music program forward. I am on vacation December 30th, but will return to worship with you one last time January 6th, 2019. The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

**BEGIN YOUR NEW YEAR ARIGHT AT GOD'S ALTAR,  
CONSECRATING YOURSELF AND YOUR DAYS TO HIM.**

✦ **The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, Tuesday,  
January 1st**

9:45am      Matins  
10:00am      Low Mass

*and join us as we complete Christmas Season*

✦ **The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Sunday,  
January 6th**

7:40am      Matins  
8:00am      Low Mass  
10:30am      Solemn High Mass



**NEW SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SCHOOL CLASS  
beginning January 6th through February 17th**

**MYSTERIES OF JESUS AND HIS TRAVELS**

*Instructor: Donna Wheeler, Parish Catechist*

Let's face it, if there had been "Frequent Walker Miles" in his time, Jesus would have been Super-plus Platinum level. In this course, we'll follow Jesus on his travels, from the flight to Egypt, his baptism by John in the river Jordan, and through the Galilean ministry. We'll focus on how the major events in the life of Jesus connect with the seasons and feasts of the

Church. We'll read relevant passages from Scripture, so please bring your Bibles.



## THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday, January 27th

Following the ONE Mass of the Day

*Matins 9:00am, Solemn High Mass 9:30am*

All parishioners, long-time and new, are encouraged to be at this important meeting. And those of you presently sharing in our life and considering becoming part of our parish family are most cordially invited; we do hope you will join with us in this most important meeting of the year.

Following Mass, there will be a short break for a continental breakfast. Then we will come into session in the church for the Meeting. At it, we will consider the state of the parish, review the year just ended and look ahead. Also, we will elect three new members to the important offices of Vestry and two members to Diocesan Convention Delegation.



## PRAYERS AND SQUARES MINISTRY

The Prayers and Squares Ministry will meet Thursday, January 10th at 6:30pm. We have given almost 200 quilts and many prayers to those in need. If you know someone who would benefit from extra prayers and support, please consider a quilt for them. Contact [nitahinshaw@aol.com](mailto:nitahinshaw@aol.com) to make a request. A letter from a friend about the quilt

*“My quilting friend Pat died in November but I wanted you to know how much that “Prayer Quilt” meant to her over these past years. She always took it with her to the hospital when she was having a surgery and it was on her when she died. It meant so much to her. She even made “Prayer Quilts” for others who were facing serious health problems. It was such a blessing”*



## ANNUAL COAT DRIVE REPORT

Thanks to everyone for their donations to our annual coat drive that benefits Marcus School. We collected 60 coats and with a \$500 donation from the Outreach Committee and a \$25 donation received from the Evangelism Committee when they sat out in the front yard to try and get coat donations. Thank you, Donna Wheeler and Jim Nugent. With the extra funds, we were able to purchase another 42 coats. We then delivered 102 coats to Marcus School.

# JANUARY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

*Something New for the New Year!*

**Saturday, January 12th, 7:00pm**

January brings us a new year, so why not start the year with something new? Bring a new dish or a new recipe to Fellowship Supper on Saturday, January 12th at 7:00pm. Margaret and Van Neinast invite you to come to the Great Hall with your new food and we'll all share in the experience. The results will be stupendous! Please sign up on the form in the Sunday bulletin.

**If your last name begins with**

A through H

I through P

Q through Z

**Bring either**

Main Dish or Salad

Main Dish or Vegetable

Main Dish or Dessert



## JANUARY COMMUNITY MINISTRY

**Shelter Team:** *Captains* Donald & Susan Conley, Thomas & Cynthia Coughlin, James & Gracie Hamilton, Donna Jarecke, Danelle Harris, Luellen Bassano, Marilyn French. Team meets at church 4:00pm, Sunday, January 20th.

**Sandwich Makers:** Team 1 - Luellen Bassano, Donald & Susan Conley, Richard & Dianne Couch, Lisa Crain, Jo Neese, James & Gracie Hamilton, Donna Jarecke, Kathryn Magruder.

## MEN'S GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

Our December plan to work with Habitat for Humanity was canceled by them due to bad weather making the area unsafe.

In **January**, we will have a private visit to Sam Pack's personal museum of over 200 special antique and one-of-a-kind cars. The museum is normally only open for paid events, but Gene Polson has been able to allow our group to visit. The outing will be later in January and the exact date will be announced after we coordinate with Sam's museum schedule.

In **February**, we will do our day with Habitat which is tentatively scheduled for Saturday the 16th of February.

In **March**, we will do the Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, March 5th.