



From the Rector

As we begin the season of Advent, a season of expectant hope and joy, that leads us into our annual remembrance of the birth of our Lord, I'd like to share with you a poem I recently came across. For me it describes the reality of my life in so many ways. I shared this with the vestry at our November meeting, and I offer it to you. I hope it will stir something in all of us as we live into the days and weeks ahead. May you all have a blessed Advent season and a very Merry Christmas.



In Faith, Hope and Love,
Fr. Cliff

Wait

by Russell Kelfer

*Desperately, helplessly, longingly, I cried;
Quietly, patiently, lovingly, God replied.
I pled and I wept for a clue to my fate . . .
And the Master so gently said, "Wait."*

*"Wait? you say wait?" my indignant reply.
"Lord, I need answers, I need to know why!
Is your hand shortened? Or have you not heard?
By faith I have asked, and I'm claiming your Word.*

*"My future and all to which I relate
Hangs in the balance, and you tell me to wait?
I'm needing a 'yes', a go-ahead sign,
Or even a 'no' to which I can resign.*

*"You promised, dear Lord, that if we believe,
We need but to ask, and we shall receive.
And Lord I've been asking, and this is my cry:
I'm weary of asking! I need a reply."*

*Then quietly, softly, I learned of my fate,
As my Master replied again, "Wait."
So I slumped in my chair, defeated and taut,
And grumbled to God, "So, I'm waiting for what?"*

*He seemed then to kneel, and His eyes met with mine . . .
and He tenderly said, "I could give you a sign.
I could shake the heavens and darken the sun.
I could raise the dead and cause mountains to run.*

"I could give all you seek and pleased you would be.

*You'd have what you want, but you wouldn't know Me.
You'd not know the depth of my love for each saint.
You'd not know the power that I give to the faint.*

*"You'd not learn to see through clouds of despair;
You'd not learn to trust just by knowing I'm there.*

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*You'd not learn to trust just by knowing I'm there.
You'd not know the joy of resting in Me
When darkness and silence are all you can see.*

*"You'd never experience the fullness of love
When the peace of My spirit descends like a dove.
You would know that I give, and I save, for a start,
But you'd not know the depth of the beat of My heart.*

*"The glow of my comfort late into the night,
The faith that I give when you walk without sight.
The depth that's beyond getting just what you ask
From an infinite God who makes what you have last.*

*"You'd never know, should your pain quickly flee,
What it means that My grace is sufficient for thee.
Yes, your dearest dreams overnight would come true,
But, oh, the loss, if you missed what I'm doing in you.*

*"So, be silent, my child, and in time you will see
That the greatest of gifts is to truly know me.
And though oft My answers seem terribly late,
My most precious answer of all is still . . . Wait."*

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Deacon's Dialogue - The Approach

It seems to me how well I do anything in life, and the benefits that I receive or don't receive largely depend on the approach that I take.

There have been times in my life when I have thrown caution to the wind and approached something loudly, head on, without giving much thought to the results, and more often than not the consequences. Other times I have approached things quietly, with more caution, thinking things through, planning each step that I would need to take and then carefully implementing my plan of action. I have come to realize that the quiet approach has afforded me much more success and has brought me the greatest joy.

Then there are times when we are approached. How do we respond when we are approached loudly, head on, without much thought being given to what we may need or the impact this approach may have on us? Do we respond more positively to a quiet, thoughtful approach?

As the Season of Advent approaches and then surrounds us, may we choose to embrace it quietly, responding in love and joy during this time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas as well as the return of Jesus at the second coming.

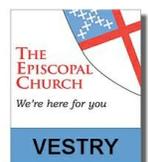
May we all have a very blessed Advent and peaceful Christmas, as we approach all things with quiet confidence, in faith, hope, and love.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Deacon Babs



The Vestry Page



Vestry Members: The Vestry, the parish board of directors, consists of nine elected lay members and the Rector, who is the Chair of the Board. Vestry meetings and Vestry committee meetings are open to all. Vestry members are: Bob Pritchard (Senior Warden), Bruce Hall (Junior Warden), Deanna Frazee, Roy Larson, Mary Circle, Michael Duncan, Larry Sydnor, Shelly Carlson and Elaine Bickford.

Linda Marsh serves as the non-voting Clerk of the Vestry.

Vestry Highlights*

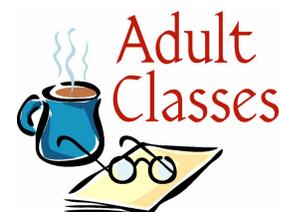
November 28, 2018 meeting:

1. Fr. Cliff read and the Vestry discussed an inspiring poem, "Wait," by Russell Keifer. This poem provides a prologue to the season of Advent.
2. Design plans for the Narthex including a mission statement banner were presented and approved.
3. Fr. Cliff proposed some small listening sessions probably in homes.
4. The date of the annual meeting is January 20. People are encouraged to run for Vestry and/or for the Diocesan Convention.

*Complete minutes of the Vestry meeting are posted on the Kiosk in the narthex. You may also find the 2017 Vestry Minutes binder on the bookshelf in the hospitality room.

Sunday School for Adults in December

"Rejoice in the always, again I say rejoice!" (Looking at Advent Through Paul's Eyes)



December 2- No Class- enjoy a wonderful breakfast and fellowship as we conclude our stewardship campaign

December 9- Michael Adams will explore Paul's ideas of a life pleasing to God and the Coming of the Lord found in 1 Thess. 4

December 16-Fr. Cliff will lead a discussion on Paul's thoughts regarding the living of a humble life as seen in his letter to the Philippians

December 23-Michael Adams and Fr. Cliff will team teach a discussion about love as seen through Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians (The famous 13th chapter!)

December 30- The History of Lessons and Carols

Join us Sundays at 9:30 in the Hospitality Room. All are welcome.

Mid-Week Study from the Rector

Mid-Week Bible Study is back on track! We meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm and Thursday morning at 10:00 am. The same section of the Gospel of Mark will be studied at each session.

The Gospel of
Mark

Ministry Moment

FLOWER GUILD



Members of the Flower Guild arrange flowers each Sunday when they are donated by members of the congregation. Cost of the two arrangements is \$35. On Sundays when no flowers are donated, living plants are placed on the flower stands. Only live flowers are used in decorations inside the sanctuary. Some members of the Flower Guild

will arrange flowers for memorial services when requested. The Flower Guild follows liturgical guidelines which is especially important during Lent and Easter. For example, no flowers are used during Lent. We use various items such as stones and sticks to reflect the solemnity of the season. We have been asked numerous times about the Garden of Gethsemane which appears on Maundy Thursday around the baptismal font. The actual Garden of Gethsemane in Jerusalem is full of centuries-old olive trees and large rocks rather than flowers so we try to give the feeling of that "garden." We do not begin decorating until after the service on Saturday morning before Easter. Then the church becomes a floral celebration of the risen Christ.

The Flower Guild places flowers at the Columbarium each Sunday and leaves live plants there continuously. At Easter there is a special decoration at the Columbarium.

The Flower Guild is always open to new members. An existing member will train a new member about where supplies are kept, where to buy flowers, what containers are available and other tips one needs to know. No one on the guild is a professional florist - just people who love flowers and like to bring beauty to the church.

These are members of the Flower Guild. You may ask them any questions you have: Alena Goins (Chairperson), Linda Mares, Linda Marsh, Joyce Paterson, Karen Schuenemann, and Cynthia Takayama

BAPTISMAL COVENANT - Coloring Update

The Aesthetics Committee has chosen the artwork and it is currently being reproduced on canvas, in preparation to be hung in the sanctuary area. For a sampling of some of the work done by our parishioners, see the display in the narthex. Thank you everyone for your talented

contributions!

Annual Christmas Cabaret

Ruth Ann Lundgren and Claudia Bontragger will again offer a free Christmas Concert for our enjoyment. Save the date: **Saturday, December. 8th, 3:00 pm.**

If you've come to their performances before, you know how much fun these ladies are and how everyone enjoys their concerts. Come join us for seasonal music, sing some favorite songs, enjoy some seasonal treats. Bring your friends and neighbors!

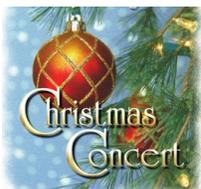
Daughters of the King

From Shelly Carlson, president of our DOK:

Another month has flown by. I am honored to serve as the President for Esther Chapter of The Daughters of The King. I hope we will grow together, love together, support each other and most of all pray and worship together. Our Rector and Deacon have returned to join us in the praying and worshipping, leading us on the path God would have us to go. It will be a very exciting holiday season ahead full of love and blessings throughout our parish and families. I pray the joy of the season runs through our hearts, overflowing with love and that is shared and extended to all we come in contact with. Merry Christmas to all of you.

The Daughters invite all women of the parish to their Christmas meeting, where we will have a potluck luncheon. This will be on Sunday, Dec. 9th after the 10:30 service. (about 12:30)
If your last name begins with A-I, please bring a salad. J-Q, please bring bread. R-Z, please bring a dessert. Please bring 36 cookies if you want to participate in a cookie exchange. We will also have a white elephant gift exchange; limit \$20.

Please RSVP by December 1st to Shelly at shelly.carlson@hotmail.com OR Sandy Sydnor at sandy_sydnor@sbcglobal.net

The word "aesthetics" is written in a stylized, gothic-style font in white on a dark red, textured background.

Stamps (post card and forever)
 Single fold paper towels
 Regular paper towels
 Lysol
 Wide masking tape (1.5" - 2")
 Copy paper (20 lb)
 Pens
 Pads
 Hand Sanitizer
 Large drawstring bags (black 33 gal)
 Large and medium disposable gloves
 Towels
 Wash cloths
 Hand towels
 Travel size soaps, shampoos and conditioners
 Toothpaste
 Tooth brushes
 OTC cold medicines
 Cough drops
 Ziplock bags (quart and gallon)
 Gift cards (Target, Lowes, Home Depot, Kmart, WalMart, Staples)
 Mop heads - commercial

Stephen Minister Training Class



We ask you to keep our Stephen Ministry trainees - Jane Dour, Pat Kuethe, Rocky Stevenson, and Sandy Sydnor - in your prayers as they nurture their gifts and acquire new skills, so that they can bring Christ's love and care to hurting people on behalf of our congregation. Also pray for our

Stephen Leaders who will guide them through their training. Classes will resume after the first of the year.

Ministry With Children -- Godly Play



What is Godly Play? Children have an innate sense of the presence of God. The Godly Play approach helps them to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiral curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle and late childhood and beyond. Come join us Sundays during the 10:30 service!



Our **Tweens** (9-12 years old) have a new Sunday School program just for them! It also is held at 10:30 during the service and the children join worship at the Peace. They are meeting in the empty office with their leader. If you are interested in helping, let Father Cliff know. They are following a curriculum called "Connect".

Youth Group



St. John's Youth Group meet every Sunday from 5-7pm for formation, fellowship and dinner. Grades 7-12. Invite your friends! We are currently reading together and discussing the book, "Can I Ask That?" For more information contact, Michael Adams, Eric Larson, or Bryan Whiteside.

Nursery News



The St. John's Nursery is staffed Sundays from 9:15 am to 12:15 pm with gentle, smiling, child care professionals, and it's equipped with safe and engaging toys for infants and toddlers (3 and

under).

Looking for ways to get involved and help out the church? We are looking for volunteers to help us organize and tidy up the nursery during the week as well as people interested in exploring seasonal decorations for the nursery and

organizing crafts for the children to do on Sunday mornings. The nursery is used all week long by outside groups as well as St. John's ministries and needs our love and attention to make it a hospitable place for our young families.

West Park Book Club

The book club meets in the church on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The book for the next month is distributed at the current month's meeting. There will be **NO MEETING in December**. The next meeting will be on **January 22nd at 12:00 PM**. Contact Pat Cannariato at 916-768-4073 if you are interested in receiving a copy of the January selection: *The Distance Between Us: A Memoir* by

Reyna Grande.

An eye-opening memoir about life before and after illegally emigrating from Mexico to the United States. When Reyna Grande's father leaves his wife and children behind in Mexico to make the dangerous trek across the border he promises he will soon return from "El Otro Lado" (The Other Side) with enough money to build them a dream house. But months turn into years. When his wife joins him, Reyna and her siblings are deposited in the already overburdened household of their stern, unsmiling grandmother. Grande vividly captures all the confusion and contradictions of childhood, especially one spent torn between two parents and two countries.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Team has its regularly scheduled meetings on the first Saturday of the month. The December meeting has been canceled due to other activities decorating the church. The next meeting will be on **Saturday, January 5th, 2019 at 10:00 am**. If you need yarn in the meantime, Jenny has a great supply. New to knitting or

crocheting? Please join us. We will get you started and on your way to making your first shawl. The demand is many! We have been giving out much of our supply. Please keep making shawls so that we are never without a shawl for someone who is in need.

Not a knitter? Don't crochet? You can join our prayer team who prays for those who receive the shawls. Call Jenny for more information.

To request a prayer shawl for a loved one, friend or yourself, please contact Jenny at 771-9566 or call the church office at 757-6137.

Kitchen Stewardship

In an effort to be good stewards of our space and supplies; There is now a cupboard in the kitchen that holds a variety of paper plates, plastic silverware and assorted cups and napkins. It is on the right side above the microwave. These supplies are for any and all who need them for a meeting, snack, coffee hour, etc. Mary Circle or Dela Duncan will refill the cupboard when supplies run low. So if you are going to need a few items you can check in advance to see if there is enough for your event, or let us know if you used something up. Thank you so much for joining with us in this work.

Recyclables for Youth Group

Please donate both aluminum cans and individual plastic water bottles for our recyclable program for our Youth Group. Some heavier plastic and the milky colored plastics are not accepted, nor can we take tin cans or glass bottles.

You do not need to wash the aluminum cans or plastic water bottles, but please be certain to empty them.

Separating cans and plastic water bottles into separate bags would be appreciated.

Thank you again.



There are a few folks from our 10:30 a.m. service that are not able to drive to church. If you are available to pick up and drop off fellow parish members, please give the office a call.

Prayer Book



You are invited to write your prayer concerns in the Burgundy Prayer Book located on the pedestal as you enter the sanctuary. These intercessions are presented at the altar each Sunday.



Weekday Morning Prayer

We offer morning prayer Monday through Friday every week at 9:00 am. For those who are able to join us, we welcome you! Share our newest service with friends and neighbors.

St. John's Episcopal Church - December 2018

Address
 2351 Pleasant Grove Blvd.
 Roseville, California 95747
 Phone 916-786-6911 * Fax 916-786-6403 * Email stjohnsroseville@surrest.net

[Click here for our December Calendar of Events](#)

<u>Sun</u>	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thu</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat</u>
						<u>1</u> <u>Decorate the Trees</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> <u>Alanon</u> <u>10:00 AM</u>
<u>2</u> <u>Eucharist</u> <u>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</u> <u>Stewardship</u> <u>Brunch after both services</u> <u>Eucharist</u> <u>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</u> <u>Youth Group Meeting</u> <u>5:00 PM</u>	<u>3</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>House Groups</u> <u>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</u> <u>FA</u> <u>7:00 PM</u>	<u>4</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Eucharist</u> <u>9:30 AM - 10:15 AM</u> <u>Tuesday Bible Study Group</u> <u>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</u> <u>Alanon</u> <u>6:30 PM</u> <u>Mid-Week Bible Study</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> <u>House Groups</u> <u>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</u>	<u>5</u> <u>St. John's Feeds the Homeless</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Spiritual Journey Program for Men</u> <u>7:00 PM - 8:45 PM</u> <u>FA</u> <u>7:00 PM</u>	<u>6</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Mid-Week Bible Study</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> <u>Musicians Practice</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	<u>7</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Alanon</u> <u>10:00 AM</u>	<u>8</u> <u>Praise Musician Practice</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Alanon</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> <u>Christmas Concert</u> <u>3:00</u> <u>Free!</u>
<u>9</u> <u>Eucharist</u> <u>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</u> <u>Adult Ed</u> <u>9:30 AM - 10:15 AM</u> <u>Eucharist</u> <u>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</u> <u>Daughters of the King</u> <u>12:00 PM - 1:30 PM</u> <u>Youth Group Meeting</u> <u>5:00 PM</u>	<u>10</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>House Groups</u> <u>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</u> <u>FA</u> <u>7:00 PM</u>	<u>11</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Eucharist</u> <u>9:30 AM - 10:15 AM</u> <u>Tuesday Bible Study Group</u> <u>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</u> <u>Daisy Troop Brownies</u> <u>3:30 PM - 4:30 PM</u> <u>Alanon</u> <u>6:30 PM</u> <u>Mid-Week Bible Study</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> <u>House Groups</u> <u>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</u>	<u>12</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Outreach</u> <u>Committee Meeting</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> <u>FA</u> <u>7:00 PM</u>	<u>13</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Mid-Week Bible Study</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> <u>Aesthetics Meeting</u> <u>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM</u> <u>Musicians Practice</u> <u>6:30 PM</u>	<u>14</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> <u>Alanon</u> <u>10:00 AM</u>	<u>15</u> <u>Alanon</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> <u>Life-Line Screening</u> <u>All Day</u>

<p>16 <u>Eucharist</u> 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM <u>Adult Ed</u> 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM <u>Annual Bake Sale</u> <u>After Both Services</u> <u>Eucharist</u> 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM <u>Meditation Group</u> 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM <u>Youth Group</u> <u>Meeting</u> 5:00 PM <u>Gathering Inn--</u> <u>Feed Homeless</u> 5:15 PM - 7:00 AM</p>	<p>17 <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>House Groups</u> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <u>FA</u> 7:00 PM</p>	<p>18 <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>Eucharist</u> 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM <u>Tuesday Bible</u> <u>Study Group</u> 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM <u>Alanon</u> 6:30 PM <u>Mid-Week Bible</u> <u>Study</u> 7:00 PM <u>House Groups</u> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</p>	<p>19 <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>Vestry Meeting</u> 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM <u>FA</u> 7:00 PM</p>	<p>20 <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>Mid-Week Bible</u> <u>Study</u> 10:00 AM <u>Musicians Practice</u> 6:30 PM</p>	<p>21 <u>First Day</u> <u>of Winter</u> <u>Morning</u> <u>Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>Alanon</u> 10:00 AM</p>	<p>22 <u>Praise</u> <u>Musician</u> <u>Practice</u> 9:00 AM <u>Alanon</u> 10:00 AM</p>
<p>23 <u>Eucharist</u> 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM <u>Adult Ed</u> 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM <u>Eucharist</u> 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM <u>Youth Group</u> <u>Meeting</u> 5:00 PM</p>	<p>24 <u>Christmas Eve</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>Family Service</u> 5:50 PM <u>Christmas Music</u> 10:30 PM <u>Midnight Mass</u> 11:00 PM <u>House Groups</u> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <u>FA</u> 7:00 PM</p>	<p>25 <u>Christmas</u> <u>Holy Eucharist</u> 10:00 AM <u>No Bible Study.</u> <u>No Book Club</u> <u>Meeting in Dec.</u> <u>Alanon</u> 6:30 PM <u>House Groups</u> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</p>	<p>26 <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>FA</u> 7:00 PM</p>	<p>27 <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>Mid-Week Bible</u> <u>Study</u> 10:00 AM <u>Musicians Practice</u> 6:30 PM</p>	<p>28 <u>Morning</u> <u>Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>Alanon</u> 10:00 AM</p>	<p>29 <u>Alanon</u> 10:00 AM</p>
<p>30 <u>Eucharist</u> 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM <u>Adult Ed</u> 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM <u>Eucharist</u> 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM <u>Youth Group</u> <u>Meeting</u> 5:00 PM</p>	<p>31 <u>New Year's Eve</u> <u>Morning Prayer</u> 9:00 AM <u>House Groups</u> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <u>FA</u></p>					

Note: To see a particular month of the year, use the arrow keys on the website.

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Would you like to submit an article for the Newsletter?

Email Fr. Cliff at haggenjos@comcast.net or stjohnsroseville@surewest.net
Items should be submitted by the 20th of each month.
If possible, please submit articles in Microsoft Word or similar format. Thank you.