

# ST JOSEPH'S

## EPISCOPAL • CHURCH

### Parish News

#### January Alms

January alms will go to Helping In His Name Ministries, Inc, usually referred to as The Food Pantry. Since 1990 this ecumenical, non-profit organization has been providing temporary emergency help to the unemployed and underemployed, the elderly on fixed incomes, and single parents of Henry county on a biweekly or monthly basis. No one with a legitimate need is refused help. All alms will be matched dollar for dollar by the Christopher Harkins Memorial Fund, so please consider giving generously.



Another way to support The Food Pantry is by bringing in donations of food and/or personal hygiene items during the month of January. A friendly competition between the 8:30 and 10:30 services will result in bragging rights and a new title on the esteemed trophy!

#### Blessing of Chalk

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, *Theophany*, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual - adapted for 2019 - is simple: take chalk and write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C + M + B + 19.**



The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi - Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar - who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "19" at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

Offer the following prayer while inscribing the "formula": *Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.*

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## Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will take place Sun. Jan 13 at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall.



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## Unity in the Community

There will be a Martin Luther King Day Ecumenical Service on Sunday, Jan. 13 at 3PM. Many area church leaders, including Rev.

Denise, are participating in this important prayer service. Let's show our community support with many in attendance from St. Joseph's. The service will take place at McDonough First United Methodist Church, 151 Macon St.

prayer

## Episcopalian 101

Our next Adult Sunday School Series is: Episcopalian 101.

Reverend Denise will lead a 4 week discussion about all things Episcopalian. Our policy, beliefs and how we connect to the greater Church will be covered. This is a good class for new inquirers or new parishioners and can serve as a refresher for the "seasoned" Episcopalians among us. The schedule will be:

January 20- *The Anglican Communion*

January 27- *The Diocese*, with guest speaker  
The Reverend Donna S. Mote, PhD

February 3- *The Book Of Common Prayer*

February 10- *Services, Symbols and Other Sacred Things*

We will meet in the Rector's Office at 9:15am.



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## Altar Flowers

The 2019 Altar Flower poster is in the Parish Hall. Sign your name in addition to who the flowers are in honor or memory of.



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## Directory Information

The online church directory can be accessed [here](#). A valid email address must be in the directory to gain access.

To be added to the directory, or to update personal information, please click [here](#) and fill out the online form which is electronically submitted to the church. Within one week, you will receive an email from the church office letting you know your information has been added to the directory. You will then be able to create an account and access the online directory.



## Happy to Visit You!

Message from Rev. Denise:



I want you to know that I'm very pleased to visit all of you -- not just those whose health prevents them from attending church. You don't have to need anything for me to come. The visit is its own reason.

I can be flexible depending on the day and week. Please email [coachfortransitions@gmail.com](mailto:coachfortransitions@gmail.com) or call the church office at 770-957-7517 and we'll find a time to get together.

## Prayer Request? Praise Report?

Prayer Requests, as well as [Praise Reports](#), can now be submitted through the website. The Healing Prayer Team will pray for each submission and will join in praise the answered prayers.



All requests will be kept confidential. If you would like your request to be sent to the Parish, please state this in the Prayer Details section.

Check it out [here](#) and [here](#).

St Josephs Episcopal Church, 1865 Highway 20 E, McDonough, GA 30252

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