



*Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, there is a place for you here.*

---



*. . . And is it true?*

---

*... And is it true,  
This most tremendous tale of all,  
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,  
A Baby in an ox's stall ?  
The Maker of the stars and sea  
Become a Child on earth for me ?*

*And is it true? For if it is,  
No loving fingers tying strings  
Around those tissued fripperies,  
The sweet and silly Christmas things,  
Bath salts and inexpensive scent  
And hideous tie so kindly meant,*

*No love that in a family dwells,  
No caroling in frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells  
Can with this single Truth compare -  
That God was man in Palestine  
And lives today in Bread and Wine.*

Lovely words from the poem "Christmas" by one-time British Laureate John Betjman. As we enter Christmastide, I send my prayers for love, peace and joy to one and all. Looking back on 2010, I am grateful for the love and many kindnesses offered and accepted over the year. My love for the folks of St. Paul's continues to deepen in this, my sixth year, in Benicia. Your generosity of spirit permutes all aspects of life: from a successful 2011 pledge campaign with 19 new pledges to the many times I have been treated as one of your family, and welcomed into your homes. May the light of Christ warm each and every one of you, and know that my prayers for a healthy 2011 go with you.

Jeanne+

*e-Tidings 2010* is a Christmas greeting from St. Paul's Episcopal Church

**STAFF**

**The Rev. Jeanne Forte**

Rector

[TheRevJeanne@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:TheRevJeanne@stpaulsbenicia.org)

**The Rev. Canon John Bogart**

Associate Priest

**The Rev. Dr. Linda Clader**

Associate Priest

**The Rev. Shep Jenks**

Deacon

**Steven Yurosko**

Postulant

**Glenn Walp**

Traditional Music Director

[musicbms@yahoo.com](mailto:musicbms@yahoo.com)

**Mark Sackett**

Contemporary Music Director

[msackett@sfopera.com](mailto:msackett@sfopera.com)

**JoAnn Souza**

Parish Administrator

[admin@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsbenicia.org)

**Madeline Stewart**

Nursery Care Coordinator

**Church Office e-mail**

[admin@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsbenicia.org)

## *Christmas Services*

**December 21**

***Longest night – Blue Christmas (7 pm)***

An interdenominational reflective and quiet candlelight service for those in need of solace—featuring Taizé music and Christmas carols. Fellowship follows

**December 24**

***Christmas Eve Family Service at 4 pm***

Family Christmas Pageant and Holy Communion. Good for all families and friends.

***Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist at 11 pm***

Come early, choral and orchestral music begins at 10:30 pm

**December 25**

***Christmas***

Holy Communion at 10 am

**December 26**

***Christmas I***

Service times: 7:30 (Rite 1) 10 am Christmas Lessons and Carols

**January 2**

***Epiphany Sunday***

Regular Worship times (8:45, Rite I, and 11 am, Contemporary)

**January 30, 2011—Epiphany 4**

10 AM	Lector	Sara Bierman
	LEM	Martha McAfee
	LEM/Inter.	Steve Yurosko
	Crucifer	TBA
	Torch.	TBA
	Ushers	Sara & Mike Bierman, Steve Yurosko
	Altar Guild	Steve & Sue Yurosko
	Flower Guild	Mittie Railsback, Debi Hall
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	TBA
	Office Angel	TBA
	PIE Greeter	Mike Baldwin
	Verger	TBA

---

# And a Little Child Shall Lead Them

---



While Christmas shopping, I saw a sign that said “Such a big Miracle in such a little child.” I bought it. It’s hanging at home as a reminder of that small “aha” moment as I shopped for Christmas gifts instead of preparing for the big Miracle.

I remember feeling that I was experiencing a miracle each time I held a newborn granddaughter. Each child who comes into our lives is a new beginning. Each new life includes the challenge to take on a brand new relationship that will change with time and age, a new opportunity to learn and to teach, a new view of ourselves because of the new roles we fill, and the requirement to live up to new and significant responsibilities.

Every Christmas Day, we have that challenge, opportunity and responsibility presented to us again as we welcome the little child who is to teach us how to be God’s people.

As we welcome the new baby, Jesus, on Christmas Day, we have a brand new chance to reevaluate our spiritual relationship with God. We have a new opportunity to learn from Jesus and to spread his wisdom and word to others. We can look with fresh eyes at how well we follow the teachings of a loving God. We can renew our commitment to the responsibilities inherent in being a follower of Christ’s teaching – help, share, pray and actively love.

Christmas is another opportunity for rebirth, renewal and revitalization in our relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

May your Christmas be about the big miracle in our hearts that the little child offers to each of us individually and to all of us as the body of Christ.

Wishing you miracles,  
Lee Anne Bundesen  
Senior Warden

---

## Happy Birthday, Jesus

---

As Christmas gets closer and we are rushed to get it all done, our anxiety begins to grow. There is so much still left to do. The craziness of the malls needs to be navigated to get those last-minute gifts. If you are entertaining at home, everything needs to be made just right, menus planned and food purchased, the house tidied up and decorated. It seems as if things get crazier and crazier, instead of quieter, more peaceful.

I would ask us all to find some time this week to take a deep breath and stop just for a moment. Stop and invite Jesus to sit down with us for a minute or two and just listen to that still small voice of the spirit calling to us through the chaos that is Christmas in 2010.

I believe she is calling us to remember that it is love that makes this season real; the love of family, friends, and our neighbors both near and far. A love that we have a tendency to push aside in all our busy-ness. A love that was born in a manger two thousand years ago. Happy Birthday, Jesus.



Grace and Peace to all, from your Seminarian,  
Steven Yurosko

<>

---

# Christmas 2010 Message

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori  
Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church

---

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.* — Isaiah 9:2



That's how the first lesson of Christmas Eve opens. It's familiar and comforting, as the familiar words go on to say that light has shined on those who live in deep darkness, that God has brought joy to people living under oppression, for a child has been borne to us. The name of that child is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace — and God is bringing an endless peace through an heir to the throne of David (vv 3, 4, 6, 7).

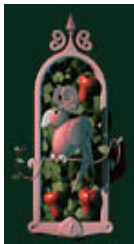
This year we're going to hear a bit we haven't heard in Episcopal churches before, in that missing verse 5. It's pretty shocking, but it helps explain why the hunger for light is so intense, and the joy so great when it comes: "For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire." The coming of this prince of peace will mean the end of all signs of war and violence. An occupied people will finally live in peace, without anxiety about who or what will confront them the next time they go out their front doors.

People in many parts of this world still live with the echo of tramping boots and the memory of bloody clothing. Many Episcopalians are living with that anxiety right now, particularly in Haiti and Sudan. Americans know it through the ongoing anxiety after September 11 and in the wounded soldiers returning to their families and communities, grievously changed by their experience of war. Remember the terror of war when you hear those words about light on Christmas Eve. Remember the hunger for peace and light when you hear the shocking promise that a poor child born in a stable will lead us all into a world without war. Remember the power of light when you go out into the darkness after hearing those words — and pray that you and those around you may become instruments of peace.

*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!*  
— Luke 2:14

# The 12 Days of Christmas

On the 1st day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## A Partridge in a Pear Tree

The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus the Christ, the Son of God, whose birthday we celebrate on December 25, the first day of Christmas. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge that feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, recalling the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered you under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but you would not have it so . . ." (Luke 13:34)

On the 2nd day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## Two Turtle Doves

The Old and New Testaments, which together bear witness to God's self-revelation in history and the creation of a people to tell the Story of God to the world.

On the 3rd day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## Three French Hens

The Three Theological Virtues: 1) Faith, 2) Hope, and 3) Love (*1 Corinthians 13:13*)

On the 4th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## Four Calling Birds

The Four Gospels: 1) Matthew, 2) Mark, 3) Luke, and 4) John, which proclaim the Good News of God's reconciliation of the world to Himself in Jesus Christ.

On the 5th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## Five Gold Rings

The first Five Books of the Old Testament, known as the Torah or the Pentateuch: 1) Genesis, 2) Exodus, 3) Leviticus, 4) Numbers, and 5) Deuteronomy, which gives the history of humanity's sinful failure and God's response of grace in the creation of a people to be a light to the world.

On the 6th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## Six Geese A-laying

The six days of creation that confesses God as Creator and Sustainer of the world (*Genesis 1*).

On the 7th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## Seven Swans A-swimming

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: 1) prophecy, 2) ministry, 3) teaching, 4) exhortation, 5) giving, 6) leading, and 7) compassion (*Romans 12:6-8; cf. 1 Corinthians 12:8-11*)

On the 8th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



## Eight Maids A-milking

The eight Beatitudes: 1) Blessed are the poor in spirit, 2) those who mourn, 3) the meek, 4) those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, 5) the merciful, 6) the pure in heart, 7) the peacemakers, 8) those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake. (*Matthew 5:3-10*)

(Continued on page 6)

---

# The Reason for the Season

---

Christmas is a busy time: buying presents, wrapping them, putting up the Christmas tree, preparing a feast for family and friends. But let's not forget the reason for the season: the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. For this we are always thankful. He is the source of all our happiness.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

John Bogart



---

## The Twelve Days of Christmas *continued from pg. 5*

On the 9th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



### Nine Ladies Dancing

The nine Fruit of the Holy Spirit: 1) love, 2) joy, 3) peace, 4) patience, 5) kindness, 6) generosity, 7) faithfulness, 8) gentleness, and 9) self-control. (*Galatians 5:22*)

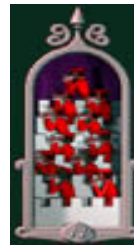
On the 10th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



### Ten Lords A-Leaping

The ten commandments: 1) You shall have no other gods before me; 2) Do not make an idol; 3) Do not take God's name in vain; 4) Remember the Sabbath Day; 5) Honor your father and mother; 6) Do not murder; 7) Do not commit adultery; 8) Do not steal; 9) Do not bear false witness; 10) Do not covet. (*Exodus 20:1-17*)

On the 11th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



### Eleven Pipers Piping

The eleven Faithful Apostles: 1) Simon Peter, 2) Andrew, 3) James, 4) John, 5) Philip, 6) Bartholomew, 7) Matthew, 8) Thomas, 9) James bar Alphaeus, 10) Simon the Zealot, 11) Judas bar James. (*Luke 6:14-16*). The list does not include the twelfth disciple, Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus to the religious leaders and the Romans.

On the 12th day of Christmas my true love gave to me...



### Twelve Drummers Drumming

The twelve points of doctrine in the [Apostles' Creed](#): 1) I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 2) I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. 3) He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. 4) He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell (the grave). 5) On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 6) He will come again to judge the living and the dead. 7) I believe in the Holy Spirit, 8) the holy catholic Church, 9) the communion of saints, 10) the forgiveness of sins, 11) the resurrection of the body, 12) and life everlasting.

## January 2011 Lay Ministries Schedule\*

### January 2, 2011—Feast of Epiphany

8:45 AM	Lector	Kitty Griffin
	LEM	Steve Yurosko
	LEM/Inter.	Sue Yurosko
	Crucifer	TBA
	Torch.	TBA
	Prayers	Nancy Jenks
	Ushers	Bob & Debbie Varson
11 AM	Lector	Ski Smiglewski
	LEM	Steve Yurosko
	LEM/Inter.	Mike Baldwin
	Ushers	Robin Silver, Carole Johnson
	Altar Guild	Susie Bonstin Katie Scott
	Flower Guild	Maggie Smith Edie Lockman
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	TBA
	Office Angel	Ginny Altice
	PIE Greeter	Mike Baldwin
	Verger	TBA

### January 16, 2011—Epiphany 2

8:45 AM	Lector	Anne Seed
	LEM	Jackie French
	LEM/Inter.	Judy Furlong
	Crucifer	TBA
	Torch.	TBA
	Ushers	Tom & Edna Aldinger
	11 AM	Lector
LEM		Mark Sackett
LEM/Inter.		Barbara Jewell
Ushers		Kim & Steve Rodekohr
Altar Guild		Sandy Voorhees, Edie Lockman, Nancy Jenks, Martha McAfee
Flower Guild		Lee Voorhees
Lay. Euch. Visit.		TBA
Office Angel		Betty McIntosh
PIE Greeter		Jennifer Jarvis
Verger	TBA	

### January 9, 2011—Baptism of Our Lord

8:45 AM	Lector	Katie Scott
	LEM	Dale Kilbourne
	LEM/Inter.	Charlie Kilbourne
	Crucifer	TBA
	Torch.	TBA
	Ushers	Susie Bonstin, Katie Scott
	11 AM	Lector
LEM		Sue Yurosko
LEM/Inter.		Steve Yurosko
Ushers		Don & Maggie Smith
Altar Guild		Nancy Bauschinger, Linda Tremain, Jean Wigand
Flower Guild		Suzanne McDowell
Lay. Euch. Visit.		TBA
Office Angel		Jeanne Brown
PIE Greeter		Bob & Betty McIntosh
Verger		TBA

### January 23, 2011—Conversion of Paul

8:45 AM	Lector	Frank Shoemaker
	LEM	Fred Railsback
	LEM/Inter.	Mittie Railsback
	Crucifer	TBA
	Torch.	TBA
	Ushers	Tom & Chris Mader
	11 AM	Lector
LEM		David Sells
LEM/Inter.		Steve Yurosko
Ushers		Robert & Melody Avant
Altar Guild		Cyndi Hardy
Flower Guild		Julia Ritter
Lay. Euch. Visit.		TBA
Office Angel		Kay Barnard
PIE Greeter		Jane Samuelson
Verger	TBA	

\*Subject to change

*Continued on pg. 2*



# January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>FIFTH SUNDAY FOOD BAG COLLECTION MONTH</b> Look for bags in the church on Sunday, Jan. 23; return on Sunday, Jan. 30 at 10 am service</p>		<p><b>January Birthdays:</b> Bob Whitehead Maggie Smith Ginny Altice Betty McIntosh</p>	<p>Nayda Guerin Neal Mulholand Minnie Anson Blanche Hilman Andrew Urban Alvin Emmanuel</p>	<p>Rosalie Sackett Chris Markley Michael Connor JoAnne Craig Mark Sackett Kristine Mietzner Barbara Jewell</p>	<p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Bob &amp; Ellen Whitehead J.C. &amp; Cyndi Hardy</p>	<p><b>1 New Year's Day</b></p>
<p><b>2 Feast of Epiphany</b> 8:45 Rite I HE† 11 am Contemporary HE†</p>	<p><b>3</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>4</b> 9 am MP† 7 pm Kerygma</p>	<p><b>5</b> 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal</p>	<p><b>6</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>7</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>8</b> 7:30 am Brotherhood Meeting</p>
<p><b>9 Baptism of our Lord</b> 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary HE† &amp; Baptism 12:30 pm CnC 7 pm Adult Forum</p>	<p><b>10</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>11</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>12</b> 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal</p>	<p><b>13</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>14</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>
<p><b>16 Epiphany 2</b> 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary HE†</p>	<p><b>17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>18</b> 9 am MP† 7 pm Kerygma</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal</p>	<p><b>20</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>21</b> 9 am MP† 2-4 pm Friday Activities for Kids</p>	<p><b>22</b> 10 am LEM/Lector Training</p>
<p><b>23 Conversion of Paul</b> 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary HE†</p>	<p><b>24</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>25</b> 9 am MP† 7 pm KVA Meeting</p>	<p><b>26</b> 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal</p>	<p><b>27</b> 9 am MP† St. Margaret's Symposium at CDSP</p>	<p><b>28</b> 9 am MP† St. Margaret's Symposium at CDSP</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>
<p><b>30 Epiphany 4</b> 10 am All-parish service Rite II HE† 10 am No Sunday School Brunch and Annual General Meeting</p>	<p><b>31</b> 9 am MP†</p>	<p><b>GROUP MEETINGS</b> AA: LifeRing: Girl Scouts: Meditation: NA:</p>		<p>7 am Mon– Fri; 8 am Saturdays, 6 am &amp; 8 pm Sundays 7 pm Tuesdays 4:30 pm 1st/3rd Wednesdays 6 pm Sundays 8 pm Fridays</p>		