



The Wheel

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The Season of Advent and Christmas

Dec. 5 - Second Sunday of Advent

- ✦ St. Nicholas Celebration – Breakfast through lunchtime
- ✦ MUST ingathering—blankets, men's coats, hats, gloves.
- ✦ Christmas Tree order pickup
- ✦ Sewanee Lessons and Carols trip

Dec. 7, 14, 21 - Advent Book Study & Eucharist, Tuesdays, 7 AM

Dec. 8 & 15 - Wonderful Wacky Wednesdays: Dinner at 6 PM, programs for children, youth and adults at 7 PM. Nursery care is available starting at 6:45 pm.

Menu – Dec. 8: *Three-Meat Spaghetti*; Dec. 15: *Lemon Pepper Chicken*.

Please make your dinner reservation by the Monday before, by signing up in your bulletin or contacting the church office.

Dec. 13 & 14 - Preschool Holiday Programs, 7 PM

Dec. 12 - Third Sunday of Advent (last day of Church School)

- ✦ Giving Tree Ingathering

Dec. 19 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- ✦ Children's Christmas Pageant at 8:45 service
- ✦ "Hanging of the Greens," 5 PM

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

- ✦ 5:00 PM - Family Service with Youth Choir, *Polar Express* Party following
- ✦ 10:30 PM - Christ Mass with Adult Choir, reception following

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day – Service at 10:30 AM

Dec. 26 - First Sunday after Christmas – One Service only, 10:30 AM

Jan. 1 - No 5:30 PM service

Jan. 2 - Regular worship service schedule

- ✦ Clergy Open House at the Nixon's, 5-8 PM

The people of St. Catherine's seek to share in the love that Jesus Christ has for us and the world by welcoming, accepting, nurturing, and serving all people through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We Welcome You!

Vestry Elections

DECEMBER 11-12



Please look inside for this year's slate of Vestry candidates. The election will be held at all services on December 11-12. If you cannot attend on these dates, you may obtain an absentee ballot by contacting the church office. Absentee ballots must be returned to the office by the close of business on Friday, December 10.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are in need of two adult volunteers to look after the nursery during the **Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 PM**. Both our regular workers will not be able to cover this time. If you can assist, please call Susan Roberts at 770-578-6634.

Budgets Due Now



Our 2005 budgeting process begins soon! All committees, please submit your budget requests to Rose as soon as possible.

Next Baptism:

JANUARY 9

Please check with the office for more information and to request the customary booklet about Holy Baptism.

All Are Welcome

I have had so many people comment about the joy and celebration of our dedication service on November 21. The Bishop himself commented the other day that he was still glowing. But the one comment that touched me deeply was just made in the last hour before writing this article. (Of course, I'm always writing this article at the last hour. Ask Karen!).

My visitor from another congregation said, "Your dedication was so inclusive. I saw people from throughout the Diocese, from other denominations, I saw young and old involved, the music included traditional and contemporary, there were people from Whiterocks representing our Native American brothers and sisters, black and white, gay and straight, etc. It was all so wonderful." I could not take more delight in his words.

No doubt, we have room to be more diverse, more inclusive, more aware of our differences, and more aware of what unites us in the Lord. But St. Catherine's is a

healthy community that really does try to welcome everyone who comes to our doors and I'm proud to be a part of this tradition. I hope my time away on sabbatical, both for me and for you, will be a time of a renewed commitment to reach beyond these new doors to touch the lives of the many who truly seek to know God in Jesus Christ.

In the words of the hymn we sang on the occasion of the dedication of our new worship space,

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard. And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Prayers of the People

For the Sick

Sharon Parisi, Mary Koenig, Arlene Brooks, James, Dawn Houston, Missi Driussi, Mit FitzSimons, Julie Heath, Jean Pitts, Peter Rowland, Lindy Harrison, Lou Cappiello, Barbara Perry, Mary Lamm, Tefta Karapantso, Jenny Thomas, Diane Stuart, Abby Suskay & Family, Evelyn Wood, Bob Chandler, Jeanette Lawson, Terry Adams, Ann Drake, Toby Hopper, Mark Hogan, Peggy Thomas, Ginger Fant, Olivia McLeod, Marcel Desrosiers, Lorraine Nichols, Bill Newton; Mollie Patton; Ruth Ann Shaw; Cindy

Deceased

Linda Berry, friend of Terri Hogan; Bob Price, friend of Bill & Barb Selby; Carole R., acquaintance of Margaret Shaw; Don Johnson, former co-worker of Margaret Shaw; Tom Snook.

Special Prayers

Defend all the men and women of our armed forces at home or abroad especially in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kuwait that they will have a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

For All Saints' Church in Florence, South Carolina.

Rick Buckalew, re job decisions @ Delta

Parish Cycle of Prayer

(12/12/04)

Michelle, Richard & Jordan LaGarde; Jerome Laux, Lynne Joynes; Victor, Sara, Victor & Christopher Ledoux; Dianne & Stephen Lee; Bill, Ginney & Erika Linstrom

(12/19/04)

Fred, Elizabeth, Isabel & Olivia Lopez; Scott & Ginny Lummus; Charles, Tammy, Noelle & Justice Mace; Todd Magill; Paul, Karen, Laura & Kevin Manno

Folding Party

Join us for a great time on **Friday, December 17** as we gather together to fold the mountains of Christmas bulletins, beginning at 10:00 AM and ending with a scrumptious lunch around 11:30-noon. It promises to be a great morning filled with great stories and laughter! Interested? Please sign up in your bulletin or email Rosemary Wolfe at rosewolfe@bellsouth.net.



Habitat Continues!

Build Dates:
Dec. 11, 18
Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29

Come out and enjoy the cool work weather! Look for signup sheets at church every weekend. We are also responsible for food for the workers on **Dec. 18 and Jan. 15**. For information please contact Tom Snead (build) or Connie Bergeron (food).

St. Nicholas Celebration

Sunday December 5



St. Nicholas Breakfast *Family Eucharist*
Surprises for everyone during the Church School Hour
Crafts *Story Telling by Mary Felts* *Songs*
A visit from St. Nicholas *Festive Lunch*

Mark your calendar for a morning of fun, good works, and fellowship! Activities will take place from 8:15 AM until lunchtime.

In the spirit of St. Nicholas we will be having a one-day ingathering for MUST Ministries right before lunch on the 5th. Please bring **blankets and men's coats, gloves, and hats** to the Parish Hall.

Advent Study and Eucharist

We are meeting **each Tuesday morning during Advent at 7:00 AM** for our early morning Eucharist and Study. We gather in the dawning light to celebrate the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. We listen to a little Advent music, greet one another in the peace, and break bread together as the start to our day. We then share a cup of coffee, something sweet (although the Rector's low-carb diet has put a dent in "sweet") and study an Advent reading from *Watch For the Light*. The readings can be found on the resource table in the foyer. Won't you join us!

'Twas the Year Before Christmas Christmas Pageant

December 19 - 8:45 Service

All children and youth are invited to come and perform in the annual Christmas pageant. There are several speaking roles and many non-speaking actor roles. We have a place for everyone, please come and find yours!

We will have two rehearsals, **Sat., December 11, and Sat., December 18**. Both rehearsals will run from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM.



Advent Blessings, The Christmas Pageant Committee

Christmas Pageant

Child's Name _____

Parents' Name(s) _____

Phone # during Sat. rehearsals: _____

Help needed! I can help in the following way:

___ Setting and Props ___ Set-up

___ Clean Up

___ Rehearsal on Dec. 11 ___ Rehearsal on Dec. 18

___ Reception (No Sunday School on the 19)

Christmas Decorating Donations

We are collecting donations for Christmas flowers and decorations. If you would like to donate in thanksgiving or memorial for a loved one, please use the manila envelopes found in the pews or on the greeter's table. Please print on the outside of the envelope your wishes. All donations need to be in by **Sunday, Dec. 12** in order to be listed in the Christmas bulletins. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Catherine's Christmas Ornament

A fabulous addition to your Christmas tree and a great gift idea for your family members. Custom made brass ornaments with a picture of our new church on them will be for sale this Sunday after each service. Cost is \$15 each. Any questions, please contact Maureen Donoghue, 770-973-9776.

Giving Tree

Ingathering: Sunday, Dec. 12

There are a few more ornaments and socks on our tree in the church lobby. If you would like help give Christmas joy to a child



in our community, please take an ornament and follow the directions on the display. For questions please contact Paige Schlenker at 770-993-4507, psaskins

ATbellsouth.net or

Nadine Pope, 770-973-9057, ronaza AT-mindspring.com.



Cookie Dough Sale!

Order through Dec. 5 after services in the church lobby

Delivery on Saturday, Dec. 18, 12:30-3 PM

All proceeds benefit our Youth programs.

Visit Explorefaith.org

I discovered a website the other day which I want to share with you. Explorefaith.org is a rich site of spiritual resources that I find to be balanced and theologically consistent with Anglican theology. I encourage you to visit it. I believe you will find it to be a wonderful resource. We have added a link to the site on our own website (www.stcatherines.org).

Jim †

Here are some of their own words from the website:

Who we are.

We are a community of faith dedicated to sharing our beliefs and experiences with anyone seeking answers to spiritual questions. Launched in 1999, Explorefaith.org is a non-profit organization with a growing list of Partner Churches that support its mission and development. Explorefaith.org and its associates are deeply committed to ongoing spiritual formation for people of all ages and all backgrounds, living in countries around the world.

What we believe.

We believe in an embracing, forgiving and merciful God whose chief characteristic is love. We believe God is constantly reaching out to us and that we can experience the heart of God through Jesus Christ. We believe that Christ bridges the chasms that separate us

from God, and we seek to follow Christ's teachings in faith and action.

Why are we doing this?

Our sole reason for being is to provide an open, non-judgmental, private place for ANYONE interested in exploring spiritual issues. Our simple goal is to help you move along your journey in faith by providing rich and varied material about God, faith and spirituality. We celebrate diversity and respect the insights that can be gained through the wisdom of different denominations and religious traditions. Modeled upon the Episcopal approach to Christianity (open, experiential, ecumenical, emphasizing grace, forgiveness, and God's love), Explorefaith.org displays an openness to, and appreciation of a broad range of ideas, and a concurrent belief that through Jesus Christ we can experience the heart of God.

Most importantly, Explorefaith.org was conceived and is dedicated to the glory of God. Following the model of Christ's ministry, we hope to engage you where you are in your own distinct and separate yearnings for God, without barriers, preconditions or exclusions. We strive to be companions on your journey, offering food for thought and a community of fellow seekers. We hope that Explorefaith.org will, in some measure, help you experience God's love for all humanity.



➤ Women's Reading Group

The fascinating book, "The Five People You Meet In Heaven" by Mitch Albom was the book discussed at the November meeting. The group is now enjoying "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamante during the month of November. The next meeting will be held on December 14 at 7:00 PM. Please join us!

Love and Peace to all!
Mary Koenig

➤ Men's Book Study

Second Monday each month at 6:30 PM

Next meeting is December 13
All are welcome!

➤ Women's Bible Study

Third Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM — next meeting is December 16. All women are invited, and please bring a friend.



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, Dec. 19, 5 PM

We will gather on Sunday evening, December 19 to decorate the church for Christmas. This is always a very special time filled with laughter, joy (and, yes) a little work. This year, however, will be extra special as we decorate our new Sanctuary and Parish Hall for the first Christmas in these wonderful facilities. We will need every hand to accomplish all that must be done in preparation for our Christmas celebrations.

We will meet at 5:00 PM to decorate the church, parish hall, atrium, and outside. We'll break at 6:00 for a supper of soup and sandwiches, then gather back in the decorated church to sing some carols (maybe Brian will lead us in some rousing renditions), listen to a story, and perhaps some special music on our new organ (Jana, oh, please!). We'll then return for dessert, coffee, milk, and some hot cider if it's cool enough.

This is an evening for every member of the congregation from young to old. Be sure to bring your friends. Bring your visiting family. Bring a finger dessert. Bring your joy and laughter. We will have activities for all ages and a good time is sure to be had. All this will happen and you'll be done by 8:00 PM.

Letters

Thank You to St. Catherine's -
Words cannot express the deep thanksgiving I have for each of you. The dedication of our new worship space was a day I will never forget. The grace and love you have shown throughout this process has in large measure deepened my faith and trust in God. The Vestry's gracious decision to award me the St. Catherine's Cross took me completely by surprise and, frankly, I cannot think of a greater honor. I was and am humbled by their generosity. I have said repeatedly that our work has just begun and I truly believe it. This congregation is of a generous heart and it is seen in so many ways: the day of the dedication and ongoing, including our commitment to our tremendous outreach beyond this community. The best days lie ahead of us. I am grateful that I can share some portion of those days with you.

Jim †

Dear Rev. Nixon,

It is with deepest joy that I commend your community on the successful completion of your renovations and embarking on this new era in your faith community. Even as you have faced the challenges of building and the trauma of the fire, it is to the credit of you all that now is the time to celebrate.

On behalf of the parish community of Holy Family Catholic Church, I share these words of commendation for you all and wish you well. As your friends in the Christian faith, we have shared much in the past with you and remain deeply appreciative of what you have meant for us at our own beginnings. We have shared the intention of your community within our general intercessions at Mass and pray that this is the beginning of even greater moments for your church.

Please be assured of our continued remembrance of St. Catherine's and I look forward in the future to some occasion when we can have a shared event.

Sincerely in the Lord, Jesus,

*Rev. Edward J. Thein
Pastor, Holy Family Catholic Church*

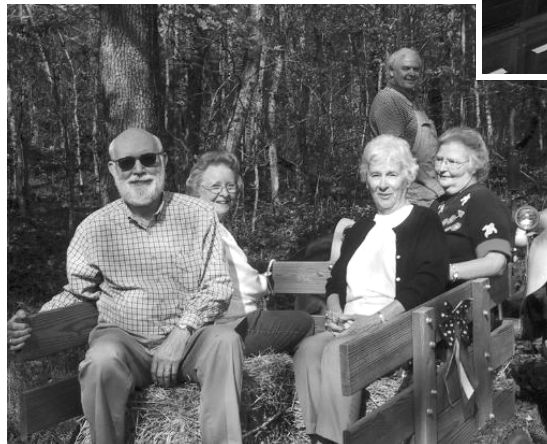
Apple Run with Seniors on the Go

North Georgia, October 27

Top: Visiting Holy Family Episcopal in Jasper, GA — *Ralph Patrick, a parishioner from Holy Family, Joan Thurston, Bill Linstrom*

Below, left: John Martin takes the group on a hay ride! — *Ralph Patrick, Lucy Hilley, Marilyn May, Bella Hutto with driver John*

Below, right: The group presented Susan Martin with a bear statue for her hospitality — *Lucy Hilley with Susan*



Flower/Candle Schedule

The schedule to sign up for 2005 Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candles is now available in the church lobby. For 2005 flowers are \$40 and candles are \$10. Thank you.

Communion Wine Donations

We are getting low on our supply of communion wine. If you would like to help by donating some wine, you may leave it in the church office. We use Taylor Tawny Port, either size bottle. Please leave a note if you are donating in memory of, or in thanksgiving for someone. Thank you.



MEL PARIS
ANNUAL POTTERY SALE

SATURDAY, DEC. 4 — 10:00 TO 5:00
SUNDAY, DEC. 5 — 12:00 TO 5:00

2937 GANT QUARTERS CIRCLE, MARIETTA 30068
770-509-0161

COME CHRISTMAS SHOP AND BRING A FRIEND
All Pottery is Oven, Microwave, and Dishwasher Safe.

Youth

Check the Youth page of the church website often for news!

Send materials, photos, ideas or suggestions for the youth newsletter via email to stcatsyouths@bellsouth.net.

Next Youth Council Meeting

Wed., Dec. 8

Parents:

Help still needed on Wednesday nights to assist as discussion leaders and/or end-of-evening crowd exit controllers. Please contact Brian if you can assist in either capacity.

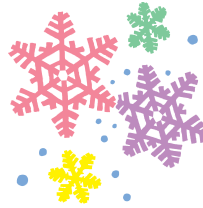
Wednesday Nite Live

Now at 7 PM— **NEW TIME!** (to match up with Wonderful Wacky Wed.) See you there!

Youth Ski Trip!

Feb. 18-21 — Valle Crucis in west NC— sign up now!!

Space is limited so register fast! A \$100 deposit (nonrefundable) saves your space. Trip cost includes everything for a three-day adventure including food, transportation, lodging, lift tickets, and ski rental: just \$280! Look for the ski trip brochure at church or ask Brian for details!



-> Thanks For Dinner!

What a great turnout! Thank you to all who helped out at the Elizabeth Inn on Oct. 28!

Youth Schedule

Winter 2004-5

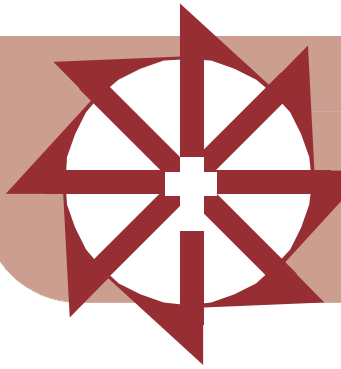
Dec 5	Christmas tree pickup
Dec 8	Youth Council at 6 pm WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Dec 15	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Dec 22	NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE! (we'll miss you!)
Dec 29-30	Winter Lock-In (stay tuned!)
Jan 5	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Jan 7-9	Senior DYC
Jan 12	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Jan 14	Ski Trip deposit due
Jan 19	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Feb 2	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Feb 5	Valentine's Day Dinner Dance and Silent Auction
Feb 8	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Feb 9	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Feb 16	Lenten program starts
Feb 18-21	SKI TRIP!
Feb 25-27	New Beginnings



Rite 13 Celebration Nov. 7, 2004

Front — Rachel Bagby, Shannon Jablonski, Julian Seneviratne, Sally Paris

Back — Allen Jablonski, Susan Jablonski, Brian West, Reuel Kaighn (Shannon's grandfather), Sherry Coulter, Bill Bowden, Amelia Seneviratne, Keith Muckerman, Fr. Jim, Michael Paris, Mel Paris



ST. CATHERINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
571 Holt Road
Marietta, GA 30068
Phone: 770.971.2839
Email: stcats AT bellsouth.net

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 58
MARIETTA, GA
30060



Mark Your Calendars

- 12/5.....St. Nicholas Party; Christmas Tree pickup; Sewanee Lessons & Carols
- 12/7,14,21 .. Advent Study & Eucharist
- 12/8,15,22.. WWW
- 12/11,18..... Habitat build
- 12/11-12..... Vestry Elections
- 12/11,18..... Pageant rehearsals
- 12/13..... Men's Book Study
- 12/14..... Women's Reading Group

The Wheel

Publication:
1st & 3rd Fridays
Deadline for Articles:
Wednesday before
Editor: Karen Manno
Email:
KAREN AT
DBLEGL.ATL.GA.US
Phone: 770-973-8668

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• **Everything For Good 2005**

• **Stewardship Update**

• **Pledges received as of 12/1 113**

• **Total dollars pledged \$330,380**

• **Pledge Plus \$21,270**

• **2004 total pledges 183**

• **2004 total dollars \$530,831**

• If you have not yet had an opportunity to pledge to the congregation please do so as soon as possible. Forms are available at church, or contact the office to have one sent to you. Your Vestry is committed to a balanced budget for 2005 based on the pledges received.

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Christmas Tree Pickup — SUNDAY, DEC. 5



In the back parking lot after 8:45 & 11:15 services

Advent Lessons and Carols Trip

A few seats left!

Sunday, Dec. 5 -- If you would like to join us this Sunday, please come. We will depart following 11:15 service on our deluxe motorcoach (with bathrooms!). Cost for the bus ride is \$20, the service itself is free. Please bring a sack lunch for the ride up (we'll provide drinks) and \$8.50 for dinner. Approximate return time is 10:00 PM.

