

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS: WHAT IS IT?

By The Rev'd Canon Matthew Wilkins, Canon for Worship

The service of Nine Lessons and Carols began all the way back in the year 1880. It was started by Bishop Edward White Benson (Bishop of Truro in Cornwall) as a way to attract the crowds of Christmas revelers around the city away from the pubs and into the Church. This new idea was a smashing success, with the first formal service of Lessons and Carols drawing a crowd of over 400!

After Bishop Benson was appointed as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1883, the service began to gain wide popularity around England, but thanks to King's College Cambridge, Lessons and Carols has become popular the world over, even outside of Anglicanism. In 1918 the Dean of King's College Chapel, Eric Milner-White, employed the excellent Chapel Choir to offer the service every year. In 1928, the BBC began broadcasting the service annually on the radio, and later in 1954 began to televise the service, making Lessons and Carols a tradition not just in England but across the world.

Here at St. Peter's Lessons and Carols has long been a part of our Advent and Christmas traditions. In the service, where Scripture, hymns, and choir anthems work together to tell the story of the coming Messiah, our hearts are prepared to welcome our newborn King at Christmas. For me, Lessons and Carols is one the most moving services of the entire Church year, and one of my favorites.

I also find that Lessons and Carols is one of the easiest services of the year to invite people to come to (be it those who go to other churches or those who are not Christians). Though the world continues to change, there's still something about the Advent and Christmas season that even the most staunch skeptics are still receptive to. When you combined the Good News of Jesus as heard in Scripture and song with the always incredible reception that follows the service, you get a perfect opportunity to bring someone along with you! Maybe it's a neighbor, maybe it's a longtime friend, or maybe it's someone who isn't too sure about Jesus or the Church. If it's the latter, invite them so they can see how good Jesus is, and that we church folks aren't all that weird.

So come to Lessons and Carols to prepare yourself for the coming King, but also think and pray about who God might be asking you to bring along with you next Sunday evening.

Don't forget—next Sunday, 4 December!

Advent Lessons & Carols at 5pm!

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

DISCIPLED EVANGELISM: CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

Saturday, 17 December | 3pm | In a world where everything seems to be Covid or social media related, we are breaking free and going Christmas Caroling! Let's join together and sing in the joy of Christ during this holiday season. Please join us at the Youth House where we will divide into three groups: Hope, Joy, and Love; and then venture out to the homes of homebound St. Peter's parishioners and their neighbors. There will be a time of caroling and praying at each of the homes. We need LOTS of volunteers to join in caroling and 3 musically talented individuals who can play guitar and start us all on a great singing note! We will have a designated route for each group of carolers and carol/pray until we return for MOVIE ON THE LAWN! We will regather at the Cathedral for hot chocolate, cider, and Christmas cookies for our MOVIE ON THE LAWN! We hope that in following the Parish Rule of Life, this will become a cathedral tradition Please contact Susan Newhouse-Burton, Discipled Evangelism Core Captain, (850.251.3418) or Newhouse590@gmail.com for more information.

LIFE: MAKING MIRACLES GROUP HOME

Those of us at St. Peter's who've had any contact with MMGH have been touched beyond measure. These women, who have come from difficult beginnings yet have chosen life, need our support—our love for Jesus and His promises, and hope for a better life for their children. Please consider becoming a mentor, leading a Bible study, making an end-of-year gift to help them pay down the mortgage on the Home, or joining us at their Advent Banquet Fundraiser on *Thursday, 8 December from 6:30pm–8:30pm* at the Golden Eagle Clubhouse. Above all else, please continue to pray for this ministry. For more information on MMGH, please visit makingmiraclesgrouphome.org or contact LIFE Core Captains Elizabeth Carrouth at ecarrouth@gmail.com or Beth Medley

PARTNERED EVANGELISM: CHRISTMAS ON THE COURT | *Saturday, 10 December | 10am*

Please plan to join us for *Christmas on the Court* at New Destiny Church. This annual event focuses on interacting with youth and parents from the surrounding neighborhoods through basketball, other games, food, and gifts. It is a great way to share the love of Christ during this joyous Advent season! All ages are welcome. For more information, please contact Partnered Evangelism Core Captain, Michael Thompson, at michaelthompson43@gmail.com

CSI LAY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY TEACHING VIDEOS AVAILABLE ONLINE

During the Easter Semester, the Lay School of Theology offered *The Faith of the New Testament: God, Gospel, Mission* taught by Fr. Michael Petty. Videos of these class sessions are now available at

CharlesSimeonInstitute.com/laypersons.

DISCIPLESHIP & PARISH LIFE

PASTORAL CARE: STEPHEN MINISTERS

Going through a tough time, emotionally or spiritually? Struggling with a crisis in life? Or simply feeling down? Consider letting a Stephen Minister help. A Stephen Minister is a member of St. Peter's who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. It's confidential, free, and very helpful. To learn more email us at StephenMinistry@StPetersFL.com or speak with one of our Stephen Ministers. They will be in the Narthex wearing a blue Stephen Ministry name tag.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY! | *Sunday 11 December*

Support our confirmands as they make a public profession of faith in front of our congregation. Bishop Alex Farmer will confirm them into the Anglican Church with a blessing and the laying on of hands.

POINSETTIAS AND MUSIC DEDICATIONS

Our lovely Christmas services will be even prettier with donations for brilliant poinsettias and special instruments to accompany our glorious choir! Look for the special envelopes in your pew or complete your dedication online at StPetersFL.com/Give

Send your submission on or before *Friday, 16 December*. Suggested minimum donations are \$25 for poinsettias and \$25 for music. Please print your dedication *legibly*.

ACOLYTE MINISTRY

Interested in being an acolyte and helping to lead the Cathedral Congregation in worship on Sunday mornings, at weddings, at funerals, and other special services throughout the year? Learn more about our excellent acolyte ministry and how you can be part of it by contacting Acolyte Master, Cal Melton at 850.570.0208 or DrCalMelton@gmail.com.

PARISH VISITORS GUILD OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

| The Parish Visitors Guild is a group of parish members who are passionate about coming alongside those who need encouragement. It could be the loss of a loved one or job, illness, or any number of difficulties we all face. They reach out in several ways. This is a great opportunity to offer encouragement to those who truly need it.

If you are interested in being part of this vital ministry, please contact Alice@StPetersFL.com for more information.

Advent Tree

AT ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL



Today begins the season of Advent! Once again, we have set up two Advent Trees in the back of the Nave. They highlight a few of the ministries we partner with in our community, near and far, to “come alongside” and provide encouragement, acts of service, and resources. They are decorated with ornaments describing specific ways you can help these ministries.

During Advent, we are reminded what it means to wait, and to think of others. Please take the time to learn more about these ministries and how you can be a part of them. **You can take an ornament off one of the trees, follow the specific instructions on the back, and return the wrapped gifts with the ornament attached to the Cathedral by Sunday, 18 December.** Thank you for your support and for spreading the light of Christ, near and far!

BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.” ACTS 1:8

DURING THE ADVENT SEASON, WE INVITE YOU TO REFLECT ON THE MISSIONS & EVANGELISM CORES AND THEIR MINISTRIES WITHIN ST. PETER'S.

LIFE | UNDER-RESOURCED | PARTNERED EVANGELISM | DISCIPLED EVANGELISM | PRISON | HUMAN-TRAFFICKING | CAMPUS | INTERNATIONAL

ways to GIVE



Life 

MAKING MIRACLES GROUP HOME
Purchase listed practical necessities and gift cards to be given to women served by Making Miracles.

A WOMEN'S PREGNANCY CENTER
Purchase listed baby care items such as thermometers, bath towels, and Jesus Storybook Bibles to be given to young women and families served by AWPC.

Life 

Partnered Evangelism 

TARMAC BASKETBALL
Monetary donations for camp fees.

Under-Resourced



E.C.H.O. & GOOD NEWS OUTREACH
Provide the listed gift cards, bus cards, and laundry cards!

TALLAHASSEE CLASSICAL SCHOOL
Gift donations to provide uniform assistance, shoes, sweaters and fleece jackets for students. Checks payable to Tallahassee Classical School.



Campus

Life



PHI CENTER
Purchase toys in a selected age range to be gifted to children served by the PHI Center.

CAPITAL CITY YOUTH SERVICES
Various clothing items and gift cards



Human Trafficking

International



WINGS FOR CHANGE
Provide a gift of \$60 to cover hygiene management and health education for children and young adults in Uganda. Checks payable to Wings for Change.

3lb Cans of Coffee (ground)



Prison



Human Trafficking

HOPE COMMUNITY
Bed sheets and pillows. Monetary donations.

UGANDA
Support 2023 Uganda Mission Trip.

International



International



TWELVE CHURCHES—NICARAGUA
\$240 to feed a child for one year at a feeding center



ways to **SERVE**

TALLAHASSEE CLASSICAL SCHOOL
Tutor a student.

Bring special treats to teachers and staff.



Campus

Life 

MAKING MIRACLES GROUP HOME
Take a resident to church and lunch, dinner and a movie, get a pedicure, etc...

PHI CENTER
Provide snacks for clients at Joy of Giving Event (12.14-15)
Volunteer to clean up at Joy of Giving Event.

Life 

Prison



Write a letter or two addressed to 'Dear Brother in Christ' to provide encouragement to an inmate who has participated in Kairos or Celebrate Recovery.

GOOD NEWS OUTREACH
Pressure washing 2hrs/week
Deck repair 2hrs/week

Under-Resourced



Under-Resourced



E.C.H.O. & GOOD NEWS OUTREACH
2hrs/week organizing closet
2hrs/week offering childcare

Partnered Evangelism



NEW DESTINY CHURCH
Participate in Christmas on the Court (12.10)

CHRISTMAS CAROLING
Come caroling on 12.17!



Disciplined Evangelism

Evangelism



THE FELLOWSHIP
Bring a friend on Tuesday evenings to E.C.H.O. (6-8pm)

Advent Lessons & Carols

St. Peter's Anglican Cathedral
Sunday | 4 December | 5pm
**RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
ON THE LAWN**



WORSHIP

VISITING THE CATHEDRAL?

Welcome—we're so glad you're worshipping with us today! Our nursery is available during Sunday morning services for children newborn through Kindergarten. We hope you'll join us on the lawn for coffee & other refreshments between morning services! Whether today is your first time or you've been coming for awhile, we are so glad you're here!

CATHEDRAL PRAYER LIST & CARE MINISTRIES



If you have any pastoral needs or know of someone who needs pastoral care and prayer, please contact Care Ministries Coordinator, Alice Sanderson at Alice@StPetersFL.com

Please call the Cathedral Office at 850.701.0664 or email Alice@StPetersFL.com to be added to the Cathedral Prayer List. **YOU CAN ALSO SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST OR CARE MINISTRY NEED AT [STPETERSFL.COM/PRAYER](https://StPetersFL.com/PRAYER)**

Military: Lucas Bell, Jose Betancourt, Lt. Col. David Chichetti, SSG Corey Daws, Lt. Col. Daniel Dean, Capt. James Dilworth, Capt. John Easterbrook Jr, Airman Drew Edwards, Sgt. Michael Gaskins, SSgt Corey Owen, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Savannah B. Jax, 1st Lt. Parker Jax, Capt. Chandler B. Jax, 1st Lt. Carson Jax, 1st Lt. Rebecca Jax, Gabriel Melendez, Col. Burt Newman, Major Gen. John Richardson, Capt. Oliver Rushing, Spc. Andrew Sanderson, Lt. Cmdr. Chris Smith, SFC Dewey Spence, Lt. Patrick Swain, Capt. Parry Thomas, Lt. Cmdr. Blake Van Brunt Jr, Tommy VanLandingham MM3, Seaman Benjamin Waddill PFC John P. Warren

Parishioners, Relatives, and Friends: Greg Dean, Brady Jax, Allen Sears, Roberta & George Boyer, Courtney, Marian, Joan, Reedi Massey, Connie

FORGOT TO SUBMIT YOUR PLEDGE? THERE'S STILL TIME!

PLEASE VISIT StPetersFL.com/GIVE TO MAKE A PLEDGE, OR EMAIL ACCOUNTING@STPETERSFL.COM TO CONFIRM THAT YOU'D LIKE YOUR RECURRING GIFT TO CONTINUE AND/OR INCREASE.

OUR NEW BUDGET YEAR BEGAN NOVEMBER 1ST AND WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED PLEDGES FROM ABOUT HALF OF OUR ACTIVE PARISHIONERS. ST. PETER'S ONLY EXISTS BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE GENEROSITY OF HIS PEOPLE!



FINANCIAL MINUTE—WE WILL HAVE AN UPDATE TOWARD THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR

Total Operating Budget: TBA | % Collected YTD: TBA | Debt Retired in November: TBA

For more information about making a pledge, visit StPetersFL.com/Give