

Trinit-E News



Our Mission

*In and through Christ, to
restore people to unity
with God and each other
(2 Cor. 5:14-21)*

For many [Christians](#) unfamiliar with the liturgical year, there may be some confusion surrounding the meaning of the Advent season. Some people may know that the Advent season focuses on expectation and think that it serves as an anticipation of Christ's birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there's more to Advent.

The History of Advent

The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming," which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God's incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus ([Matthew 2:1](#)), his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist ([John 1:29](#)), and his first miracle at Cana ([John 2:1](#)). During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas.

By the 6th century, however, Roman Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ. But the "coming" they had in mind was not Christ's first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas.

Advent Today

Today, the Advent season lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. At that time, the new Christian year begins with the twelve-day celebration of Christmastide, which lasts from Christmas Eve until Epiphany on January 6. (Advent begins on the Sunday that falls between November 27th and December 3rd each year.)

Advent symbolizes the present situation of the church in these "last days" ([Acts 2:17](#), [Hebrews 1:2](#)), as God's people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom. The church is in a similar situation to Israel at the end of the Old Testament: in exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Israel looked back to God's past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis they called for God once again to act for them. In the same way, the church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ's coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ's kingdom when he returns for his people. In this light, the Advent hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" perfectly represents the church's cry during the Advent season.

Blessings

Trinity Episcopal Church
Presents

The Sights, Sounds, and Smells of Christmas

Saturday, December 17, 2016
6 – 8 pm

On Saturday, December 17, Trinity will host the “Sights, Sounds and Smells of Christmas”, a community-wide event designed to allow each of us who are caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season an opportunity to slow down, take a breath, and refocus our hearts and souls back to real reason we celebrate Christmas. Visitors begin in our Sanctuary, where they will view artful displays of nativity scenes while listening to Christmas hymns softly playing in the background. Upon finishing this “sights and sounds” portion, they will be directed to the parish hall where they will enjoy the “smells” of Christmas – wonderful homemade cookies and treats along with traditional wassail and hot chocolate. We’ll even have a crafts table so that families with children (of all ages, from 0 – 100!) can make a holiday craft or ornament. We’re hoping to make this an annual Advent tradition!

In order to make this happen, we need your help! First, we need parishioners to lend us their nativity sets for the evening (we promise to take good care of them!) and to bake cookies or other Christmas treats. We also need to borrow sheets of plywood to create “tables” across the ends of the pews to display the nativities. These will be returned to the owners, as well.

We also will need volunteers for set up and take-down, as well as to take shifts monitoring the Sanctuary (greeting visitors, guiding them to the parish hall, and safeguarding the nativity sets), and in the parish hall to serve treats and supervise the crafts tables.

Sign-up sheets will be in the parish hall. If you have questions or need more information, contact Robi Lasiter at 832-444-4962 or email her at robilasiter@gmail.com.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

06 Bob Bazet
 09 Michael Raymond, Sr.
 10 Dean White
 15 Veeder Bell
 16 Melynda Leleux
 19 Owen Daniel Block
 29 Virginia Claire Rink
 29 Katherine Ross
 30 Ava Grace Berry

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mike and Paula Swiber
 7 Kristyn and Matt Hughes



	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 24	December 25	January 1	
Celebrant/ Officiant	Fr. Travers	Father Doug	Fr. Travers	Father Doug	Fr. Doug	Fr. Travers	
Preacher	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Server	Joshua J	Sean D	Austin B	Tim C		Joshua J	
Chalice	Judy W	Mary H	Tammy C	Charles P Tim C		Judy W	
Lector	Mary H	Elizabeth B	Judy W	Tammy C		Elizabeth B	
Intercessor	Mary H	Elizabeth B	Judy W	Tammy C		Elizabeth B	
Greeters	Ray K Peggy C	Debi B Doug O	Drew M Ben M	Ed Bell Peggy C		Ray K Peggy C	
Altar Guild	Mary H	Cathy B	Judy W Jennie R	Jane W Mary H		Mary H	
Vestry on Duty	Peggy C	Doyle D	Drew M	Tim C		Judy W	

REMINDER

It's not too late to turn in your pledge cards. If you have one to return, please bring it by the church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Frances and Bob, Glen, Ellen and Wayne, Nancy, Astrid, Cathy and Barry, Jeanette, Ed, Rose and B.G., Kay and Mike, Jane and David, Ally, Bridgette, Heath, Zach, Steve, Andie, for all Christians who are persecuted around the world, for members of Morgan City Police Department, those serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, all the flood victims in Louisiana, our partners in mission at the Deaneries of Copan and Maya in Honduras and our sister parish Cristo Salvador; and our prayer partners in the Anglican Diocese of Tohoku, Japan; and the Anglican Diocese of Lango, Uganda



ECW MEETING

TUESDAY, December 6th

9:30 Coffee Social
10 AM Meeting

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Choir Practice 5 pm	2 Alcoholics Anonymous 6 pm	3
4 Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Pot Luck Luncheon	5	6 Bible Study 6 pm	7 Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	8 Choir Practice 5 pm	9 Alcoholics Anonymous 6 pm <i>Christmas Party, Rectorry 6-9</i>	10
11 Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Vestry meeting after the Eucharist	12	13 Bible Study 6 pm	14 Eucharist & Anointing 12:15 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	15 Choir Practice 5 pm	16 Alcoholics Anonymous 6 pm	17 <i>Sights, Sounds & Smells of Christmas 6-8 pm @ Trinity</i>
18 Holy Eucharist 9:30 am	19	20 Bible Study 6 pm	21 Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	22 Choir Practice 5 pm	23 Alcoholics Anonymous 6 pm	24 Christmas Eve, Eucharist with choir 6pm
25 Holy Eucharist 9:30 am	26	27 Bible Study 6 pm	28 Eucharist & Anointing 12:15 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	29 Choir Practice 5 pm	30 Alcoholics Anonymous 6 pm	31



Trinity Episcopal Church

302 Greenwood Street
P.O. Box 1776
Morgan City, LA 70381

PHONE:
(985) 384-7629

Sunday Services
9:30 AM

Fr. Doug Lasiter

Our Vision

Recognizing that we are all one in Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church is an embracing family, growing spiritually, and joyfully serving the community; a home that comforts the spirit; a place where people's gifts for ministry are identified, nourished, and shared; and place of learning where disciples are formed.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.trinitymcla.org

www.facebook.com/trinitymcla

