



January/February 2013

Down By The Riverside

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Columbus Blvd & Christian St, Philadelphia, PA 19147 215-389-1513

Thoughts from the Rector

There and Back Again

Those of you who are J.R.R. Tolkien fans and/or fans of *The Lord of the Rings* (books or movies) will recognize the title of this article as the additional title to Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* prequel: *The Hobbit*. I haven't seen the new movie yet but have decided to reread *The Hobbit* as I had not done so since I was a child. I recommend it highly. There is much in it to consider, though set in a time "between Faeries and the Dominion of Man", in light of this age we live in. And it is always wonderful, in any event, to go on an adventure!

Bilbo Baggins, our lead hero for whom the book is named (he is "The" Hobbit of the story) literally falls into adventure, quite against his will. But once in, he finds the experience thrilling, scary, fun, uncomfortable, and in the end, life changing. You cannot go on adventure without being changed.

It is clear to me that God calls us into adventure; calls us to be willing not only to grow but to change, and to recognize that this ability we have to move in new directions as the Spirit calls us is a quality to celebrate. Yes, we are always somewhat fearful to step out into new paths, climb new mountains, enter foreign lands and meet new and different people. But God has encouraged us from the beginning (remember Abraham?) to be ready to move to unimaginable places, trusting that this Creator with whom we share our very being, knows where we are going long before we can see over the hills or through our fear.

And so, as we begin this year, we have much to be thankful for, and much to prepare for. Our many journeys and adventures, individually and together, have gotten us to this place. We can celebrate our accomplishments but cannot assume we are done with the journey. God calls us on and on, reaching for visions and stars seemingly beyond our reach. But we are not alone. We travel the King's Highway.

To begin this new year we will welcome those from St. John's who have lost their church home. We will greet them with joy and a willingness to grieve with them while assuring them that this now is their home. They are not our guests - they are our brothers and sisters. We will accept and reinter the urns of their

(continued on next page)

loved ones in our graveyard and move into new adventures with our family now made new again with these beloved ones.

We will make room for Emanuel Lutheran Church to continue to be an entity themselves. They will worship in our church on Sunday mornings at 8AM beginning January 6th, and they will have fellowship in Riverside Hall following their service. This is a new beginning for them and for us, a new adventure that will be somewhat unpredictable as it unfolds. But we know that these also are sisters and brothers who have lost a home and seek a place to be, a place to grieve, a place to grow into what God has in mind for their new adventure, a place to prepare themselves for a new day.

We are in the very beginnings of conversation with Seamen's Church Institute about the possibility of building a new building on our property and housing that ministry once again at Gloria Dei, where it was first begun. This will present challenges to both ministries. But remember, the adventure is not always easy, but we never travel alone. The One who came to us as an infant, grew up among us and showed us what it means to be fully human continues to be our guide, our companion along the way.

The past year saw many challenges to our identity and we made some hard decisions that changed us and challenged us in new ways. This coming year will have more new challenges as we continue to grow into the people God calls us to be, to do the work of ministry in this place: to live the Gospel in all we say and do, to love those who come to our doors as Christ loves us, to be willing to set out for new and unseen frontiers, trusting that the Holy Spirit will guide us in all we do.

I wish you all a very happy New Year. May it be an exciting, adventurous, faith-based and spirit-filled year for us all!

Peace, *Joy +*



Still need a New Year's resolution? We're here for you!

It's that time of year when I contemplate my New Year's resolutions and choose the ones I will actually keep. Along with "quitting" my usual "vices," I generally resolve to do God's will, get out of the bondage of self, and help others to the best of my ability. This is a tall order on most days.

Hospitality is a great way to be in service toward others. It has helped me forget about myself for at least an hour each Sunday. Everyone is always welcome to join us. Anyone interested, please contact Peggy Buescher at 267-456-4718, or Ree Henning.

A special thanks to all who donated their time, talent, and treasure to help the ministry this past year.

Joy and Peace,

Peggy Buescher



Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for an upcoming Sunday please call the office and let Terry know. You may provide the flowers yourself or you may provide funds for flowers and our volunteer "flower person," Diane Honor, will purchase and place the flowers for you.



*Donate to Gloria Dei
Make a pledge payment
Purchase books
Make Amazon purchases*



Now all these things can be done online at Gloria Dei's website!
Just visit us as www.old-swedes.org and find out what else we're doing.
Check out our Facebook page while you're there.

Rector's Warden Report

I usually look back to the previous year's *Riverside* before starting to write for this year's *Riverside*. It seemed especially important to do that this year because all of us have to write for two months and not just one.

Lucia – ah yes. Done for another year. But this year had the extraordinary attraction of letting us see the staid, sober adults we know from church reprise their Tomte and Starboy roles. I'm pretty sure the children taking part in this year's "real" Lucia Fest would have been absolutely open-mouthed astonished and shocked to see their mentors and disciplinarians recreating those roles! There are incriminating pictures, folks ...



The Christmas celebration that began for the commercial world sometime between Labor Day and Halloween will be over. But in our corner of God's Kingdom, we'll celebrate until the first Sunday in January–the feast of the Epiphany. Nice to have it occur on a Sunday this year. Something I remember from my boarding school days was a procession sneaking around in the pre-dawn darkness of January 6 (à la Lucia and her buns and coffee girl on a different day) chalking the legend "20 + C + M + B + 13" over every door in commemoration of those mysterious men (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) with their scary gifts who came through a door 2013 years ago to see the king. I've thought more than once of doing that over the doors of the houses on my street–and listening for the buzz of "What's that mean? What's that for?" that would run up and down the street. Since 9/11, it's probably not a good idea.

My point, though–the Epiphany shows us that the Jesus whose birth we celebrated among ourselves moved out to the whole world, not just to us, not just to those in the know, but to EVERYONE. And we have to follow him out there, or we'll be left here with our memories and nothing but our memories.

Last year we, as a parish, made a three-year commitment to taking our heritage here, a good part of it our inherited or adopted Swedish heritage, and moving out with it: out to Queen Village, out to Pennsport (that's the uncharted territory below Washington Avenue), out to the enclave of Central Americans below the Italian Market–out to wherever the wind of the Spirit blows.

We've worked on that, we've struggled with that, we've resisted the temptation to say it's just too hard and give up on it. I'd never say I know the

mind of God but God has certainly given us a “hint” (how about a good hard shove between the shoulders?) with the dissolution of the parish that was St. John the Evangelist at 3rd and Reed, the sale of their building, and the displacement of Emanuel Lutheran. We gulped (because we thought we had four months to figure something out but God had another idea, as he often does) and said “let’s see what we can do together.”

We’ll start “doing together” on Epiphany Sunday when Emanuel will begin worshiping here at 8:00 on Sunday mornings at least for the next several months. We’ll rub elbows with each other at fellowship, we’ll probably check out each other’s services, we’ll keep following Christ, no longer the child of Christmas but the adolescent who gave his parents heart failure by staying behind in the temple, where he shows us to go.

I’m looking forward to 2013–the 375th year Swedes have had a presence along the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, the 336th year people have worshiped on this property, and the 313th year we’ve worshiped and shared the body and blood of Christ in this building. Is it going to be a picnic? I doubt it. Remember–before the next *Riverside* we’ll be in the season of Lent. And we all know where that goes before it gets to the resurrection, right?

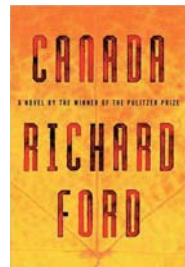
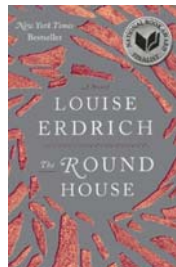
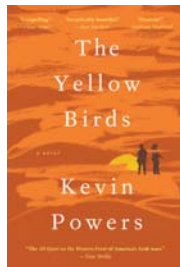
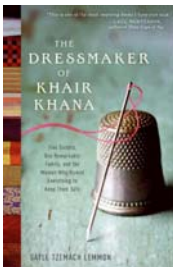
Jerry Buescher



THE BOOK CLUB

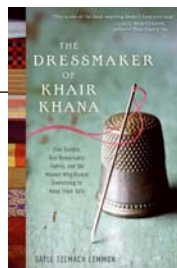
Gloria Dei (Old Swedes’) Church

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|-------------------|--|
| January 28, 2013 | The Dressmaker of Khair Khana
by Gayle Lemmon |
| February 27, 2013 | The Yellow Birds by Kevin Powers |
| March 25, 2013 | The Round House by Louise Erdrich |
| April 22, 2013 | Canada by Richard Ford |



Calendar

- Jan 1, 2** Church and Office closed
- Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10 - 11:00AM. All levels welcome
- Jan 6, 13, 20, 27** Emanuel Lutheran Church service at 8:00AM
- Jan 8, 15, 22, 29** Yoga - 7:15PM, drop in class, all levels welcome \$8.00 a session
Evensong - 6:30PM - 7:00PM Church
Bells - 7:00PM
- Jan 13** Swedish Service - 4:00PM - Church - Reception Riverside Hall
- Jan 16** Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room
- Jan 17** Swedish Colonial Society - Riverside Hall - 1:00 - 3:00PM
- Jan 24** *Jazz & Joe* - Riverside Hall - 7:30PM
at Gloria Dei
- Jan 28** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
The Dressmaker of Khair Khana •
By Gayle Lemmon



Prayer
Chain

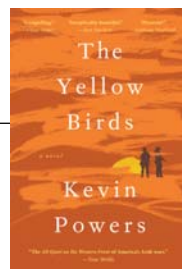
Requests For Prayers Are Always Welcome

Please contact the church office (215) 389-1513
or Florence Brook (267) 273-5175,
fbrook529@hotmail.com

Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need

Calendar

- Feb 3, 10, 17, 24** Emanuel Lutheran Church service at 8:00AM
- Feb 5, 12, 19, 26** Yoga - 7:15PM, drop in class, all levels welcome \$8.00 a session
Evensong - 6:30PM - 7:00PM Church
Bells - 7:00PM
- Feb 6, 13, 20, 27** Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10 - 11:00AM All levels welcome
- Feb 10** Sweetheart Breakfast - 9:00AM - Noon - Riverside Hall
Prices: \$7 adults - \$4 children
10:00AM Service with Renewal of Marriage Vows
Swedish Service - 4:00PM Church - Reception Riverside Hall
- Feb 13** Ash Wednesday - Simple meal in Riverside Hall 6:00PM
Services following in Church - 7:00PM
- Feb 20, 27** Lenten Soup & Study - Riverside Hall - 6:30 - 8:30PM
- Feb 21** Swedish Colonial Society - Riverside Hall - 1:00 - 3:00PM
Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room
- Feb 25** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
The Yellow Birds •
By Kevin Powers
- Feb 28** *Jazz & Joe* - Riverside Hall - 7:30PM
at Gloria Dei



The Lectionary for January

January 6th, Epiphany of Our Lord

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm: 72:1-7, 10-14

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

January 13th, Baptism of Our Lord

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm: 19

2nd Reading: Acts 8:14-17

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20th, Second Sunday after Epiphany

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm: 36:5-10(8)

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

January 27th, Third Sunday after Epiphany

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm: 19

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21



The Lectionary for February

February 3rd, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm: 71:1-6(6)

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

February 10th, Last Sunday after Epiphany

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 34:29-30

Psalm: 99(9)

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:12

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

February 13th, Ash Wednesday

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalm: 103:8-14

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 17th, First Sunday in Lent

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm: 91:1-2, 9-16

2nd Reading: Romans 10:8b-13

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

February 24th, Second Sunday in Lent

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm: 27

2nd Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

Pay It Forward!

Two hours into a four hour marathon parental doctor's appointment at University of Pennsylvania, I went down to a coffee kiosk to get a couple of sodas. Without turning around, the woman in front of me told the cashier that she wanted to pay for my diet cokes, as well as her latte. I was flabbergasted, and asked her "why?" She said "because I believe in paying it forward." The gesture cost her \$3.00 and it brightened my entire day! This morning I paid it forward, by picking up the tab for the car behind me at the Dunkin Donuts drive thru.

Paying it forward is an act of kindness, and not charity. It is an incredible feeling, both for the recipient and the one giving. There is something about doing something nice for a specific person who is a total stranger, maybe because it reminds us that most people are good and giving and caring~ but that small acts of kindness simply are not newsworthy, according to our mass media. For me, it is a totally different feeling than donating to a charity~ also a good thing to do, but much more remote.

The other amazing thing about paying it forward is that the news spreads like wildfire by word of mouth. I told everyone about the stranger who bought my diet cokes, and I expect the lady at Dunkin Donuts (and perhaps the cashiers as well) will tell their friends and family about it as well.

I truly believe that "paying it forward" is Christ working through and in us. My New Year's resolution this year is to pay it forward on a regular basis. Just last night, I saw a news story about 26 Acts of Kindness in memory of the children of Sandy Hook Elementary and about the Layaway Angels who pay off random layaways at big box stores. Let's keep it going all year, not just at Christmas or in the wake of a tragedy.

Happy New Year and God Bless!

Lisa Reeves



Lenten Soup and Study

Please join us for our Lenten Soup and Study each Wednesday in Lent from 6:30p.m. to 8:30p.m. in Riverside Hall. We will come together around a simple meal of soup and bread followed this year by a variety of events. We will watch movies, discuss books, and consider our life together as family, as Old Swedes' historic site, as an Episcopal Church, and as part of the Queen Village neighborhood. Dates are 2/20, 2/27, 3/6, 3/13, and 3/20. Information about each week's event will be on our website a week ahead of time. Please plan to join us for as many of these dates as possible.

Ash Wednesday

February 13, 2013

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, and the Church recognizes this with a special liturgy. At Gloria Dei we will come together for a simple meal, beginning at 6:00PM, in the Parish Hall on that evening. Following the meal we will move together into the church for the Ash Wednesday Liturgy which will include Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. Please join us as we begin our Lenten journey together.



The Jazz Sanctuary, Inc. presents a Jazz & Joe event:

Sponsored by:

 **LPL Financial**

member FINRA/SIPC. : Kevin.supka@lpl.com; 215-572-4300


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K. Biederman: 215-934-3582

Alan Segal Quartet

alan@alansegal.net 215-208-7314

Eddie Etkins – George Sinkler – Alan Segal – Leon Jordan

Thursday 1/24 and 2/28
7:30 to 9:30 pm - Riverside Hall

Gloria Dei Timeline: 1950-1999

- 1950** In October, Revolutionary soldier's bodies from Lafayette Cemetery was interred in the Revolutionary Corner of the graveyard.
- 1958** \$6,800 for painting of Church
- 1959** Kitchen installed in Parish Hall. Sunday School has 12 teachers and 55 pupils average.
- 1960** I-95 was constructed between Front and Water Streets. \$238,000 for the complete acquisition of Christian Street block. Government takes over Christian Street properties.
- 1961** \$2,020 to install gas heat in Church building.
- 1963** Prince Bertil of Sweden visit. Kevin Bacon was a tomte in Lucia Fest.
- 1968** Guild House razed for a new Sunday School building.
- 1969** Roak House built and dedicated in honor of Dr. John C. Roak. In October, Angel Gabriel arrived and was hung in the Church
- 1972-2004** David B. Rivers – Rector
- 1976** In April, King Carl Gustav of Sweden visits Gloria Dei
- 1999** Kitchen redesigned.
- 1998-2000** In preparation for the 300th Anniversary of the Church, the Church's exterior and interior was restored

Philadelphia Timeline

- 1930** Philadelphia population 1,950,961.
- 1933** The Philadelphia Eagles founded. Blue Laws overturned allowing Sunday sports.
- 1940** Philadelphia population 1,931,334.
- 1946** First large-scale fully operational electronic computer is completed at the University of Pennsylvania.
- 1950** Philadelphia population 2,071,605
- 1951** Home Rule Charter fully merged city and county offices.
- 1959** With the admission of Alaska as the 49th state, the 49-star flag debuts in Philadelphia.
- 1960** Philadelphia population 2,002,512. With the admission of Hawaii as the 50th state, the 50-star flag debuts in Philadelphia.
- 1964** Race riots in Philadelphia.

- 1967 Philadelphia Flyers founded. The 76er's become the National Basketball Association champions.
- 1970 Philadelphia population 1,948,609
- 1974 Philadelphia Flyers win the Stanley Cup.
- 1976 Legionnaire's Disease killed 29.
- 1980 Philadelphia Phillies win the World Series. Philadelphia population 1,688,210
- 1985 Mayor Goode orders police to storm the radical group's MOVE headquarters to end a stand-off. 11 MOVE members killed and 61 city resident's homes destroyed by fire.
- 1990 Philadelphia population 1,585,577
- 1995 23 rare gorilla, orangutans, gibbons, lemurs killed in fire at Phila. Zoo.

Jeanette Woehr



Sweet Heart Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, February 10th

Renewal of Marriage Vows
10 am Service

Breakfast starts at 9 am
and will serve till 12 pm

\$7 - Adults \$4 - Children under 12

**Includes pancakes, sausage,
fruit and coffee/tea/juice**

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

Columbus Boulevard & Christian Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147



For information (215) 389-1513 www.old-swedes.org

Where Were You 12/12/12

We will never forget where we were on this most special date - the Riverside Hall!!!

It was there we gathered with over 100 of our friends and neighbors to celebrate the music of The Rolling Stones "Exile on Main St." as performed by the North Lawrence Midnight Singers and friends. In addition to the great music, there was sushi available from 6pm - 7pm provided by our friends at Kisso located at 4th & Race. A full Turkey Dinner was prepared by Chef Nancy Kroll (3 turkeys) and our Friends at Stephies Catering on 11th St. next to Vikings Hall.

Financial support to pay the bands was provided by our very good friends at For Pete's Sake, Richard & Kelly Wolfington, and the law offices of Zarwin, Baum, DeVito, Kaplan, Schaar, & Toddy located at 1818 Market St., 13th floor.

As always, beverages were provided by Philadelphia Brewing Co. Thank you for your continued support Bill and Nancy.

This event could not have been possible without the help, support, and guidance of Mark and Candy Roberts. It is so enjoyable and fun to bounce around this life with you two. Thanks also to Re Henning, Barb Potts, Barb Turner, Steph Gradel, John Paul, Brent Allen, and Marilyn Lowney-Johnson.

Lastly, thanks to our resident genius Paul Fejko who ran the sound and recorded the event. How great it is to work and play with you.

Sexton Sideshow is the idea that we can attract people from our neighborhoods and host an event where we eat, drink, and make merry, and fund-raise for the betterment of our community. Please join us.

For more information and pictures and such, like us on Facebook at Sexton Sideshow. See you in May for Memorial Day Family Picnic.

Your Sextons,

Jim and Paula Minacci





CLERGY

The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director

Terry O'Brien, Parish Administrator

Paula & James Minacci, Sextons

Deirdre Flint, Dir. of Comm.

Mark Roberts, Treasurer; O.S.C.A.R.

VESTRY

Megan Bartlett, Secretary

Ann Blackstone

Jerome Buescher, Rector's Warden

Robert Dieters, Acct. Assistant

David Hammond, Acct. Warden

Carol Jenkins

Dolores Kromchad

Barbara Potts

Lisa Reeves

Mark Roberts

Jeanette Woehr



A Statement of Purpose of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

We the Congregation of GLORIA DEI (Old Swedes') CHURCH, existing by and for the Glory of God, knowing that God, through this Congregation, helps us to find our way and to use our gifts, gather together

- To honor and celebrate the acceptance of our differences and uniqueness;
- To be an inviting, welcoming, sustaining, loving community;
- To respond to the needs of others;
- To preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition, and heritage of this sacred place.



Sunday Service:
10:00 AM
Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM
Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday 9:30-2:30

STANDING NOTICES

Weddings

Weddings at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church must be scheduled with the clergy at least three months in advance. All weddings in the church will be governed by the Canons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Book of Common Prayer. Pre-marital counseling is a prerequisite. No weddings will be conducted during Lent.

Funerals

When death occurs a family member is asked to contact the clergy so that timely arrangements for a funeral may be made. It is appropriate for the funeral of a Christian to take place in the church. It is also appropriate that funeral arrangements be made in advance and kept in a file in the church office. Burial plots are available for members of the parish in the church's cemetery. Consult the church office for costs and details.

Baptisms

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during one of the principle Sunday liturgies and is governed by the Canons of the church and the Book of Common Prayer. Baptism is normally celebrated on one of the four appropriate feast days designated in the Book of Common Prayer. These are: The Baptism of Our Lord (1/13/13); The Great Vigil of Easter (3/31/13); Pentecost (5/19/13); and All Saints Sunday (11/3/13). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advice of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.