



September 2012

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

Using All Our Senses

I have a book in my office written for children called "How Does God Listen?". Now, truth be told, I have a lot of books in my office and often some of them get buried under other books or files or mail or other stuff that offices accumulate. So when I came across this particular book while looking for something completely unrelated I was drawn to the title and pulled it out to reread. I had forgotten I even had this little gem and I sat right down, forgetting what I had been doing, and read what Kay Lindahl had written for children about how God listens to us.

This short book has just a few words and some wonderful pictures to help children identify with what's being said. It is simple and to the point. It explains, by using examples of each of our five our senses, how God listens. It begins with a short dialogue:

Child: When I talk to God, is God listening to me?

Writer: Of course, my precious one, God is always listening to you.

Child: How do I know that God is listening to me? I can't SEE God.

And off we go. What can't you see but know is real?, the book asks, and then gives an example: the wind. How do we know the wind is there? Well, we SEE the leaves and branches moving in the trees. God is like that, the book says. "We can't see God but there are many signs that God is listening to us."

It continues with ways in which we receive signs of God's presence, God's listening, God's care, God's love, through our senses: touch, hear, see, taste, smell, and the book adds a sixth sense: feelings, like hearts beating, happiness and laughter, sadness and tears, scared and alone.

Touching examples include sunshine on our faces, snow on our tongues, hugs and kisses. Hearing examples included train whistles, sirens, purring of a cat, Mom's whispering love before we fall asleep. Seeing examples included spider webs sparkling in the sunlight, rainbows, birds flying, red and yellow leaves in the fall. Tasting examples include crunchy popcorn, cold ice cream, the sweet and sour of lemonade. Smelling examples included cookies baking, the scent of perfume, roses in the garden.

I wonder if we can find our inner childlike beings even when we get older.

(continued on next page)

I wonder if we can reach over and around our biases, our assumptions, our perspectives, to a place where we once again see, hear, feel, taste, smell, and touch in ways that remind us that God is here, with us, by us, loving us, all the time.

As we begin a new program year at Gloria Dei we will continue to seek our mission calling in this place, at this time. We will continue to talk about how we can be a community that welcomes, encourages, and engages the world around us. We will talk about how we can make God's love known to those who are lost and shine a light of hope into the darkness of a broken world. We will dedicate ourselves to being a place where folks can grow and thrive as we offer the ministries of heart and hand, of mind and voice, of body and soul, to the work God calls us to do in this place - the very Kingdom of God in our midst.

It promises to be an exciting year at Gloria Dei. Come, be a part of it! And remember: we'll need all our senses to do these things. Be prepared to taste, touch, smell, feel, hear and see God working with us, through us, and in us.

Peace,

Joy +



Reading the Bible in a Year

So, what with vacation and other activities this summer I got behind on my "Reading the Bible in a Year." I thought it might be helpful to hear this in case some of you are in the same boat - trying to catch up, or maybe ready to give up you're so far behind. Don't do it! Hang in there! What I found that helped me when I thought "I'll never catch up so why bother" was to just read one day, wherever I left off, and not worry about being behind. So if I'm reading August 1st's reading on August 20th, so what? Not allowing that to discourage me has also allowed me to get back into the habit of daily Bible reading. And I've found that now that I'm back in the habit I can find time some days to read two or even three days worth. So I'm slowly catching up. And you know what - if I don't finish until sometime in January or February, well that'll be okay too. So, keep reading. You can do it!



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



Liturgy Committee – Looking for Volunteers!

The Liturgy Committee will meet on Sunday, September 9th, 12Noon to 2PM, in the Roak Room. Anyone interested in being involved in crafting our fall liturgies is welcome to join us. We will consider hymns, creeds, Prayer of the People, opening and closing acclamations, and Eucharistic Prayers from our own denominational sources and from sources within our common communion partners. Please consider if this may be the way in which you might serve Gloria Dei in the coming year. Lunch will be provided so please let the rector know if you plan to join us for this fun-filled, worship-filled, spirit-filled work.



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.



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.

From the Rector's Warden

When I'm getting ready to write for the Riverside, I always look back to see what was going on the previous year. Wow! What a difference! August of 2011 was the rainiest August on record, August this year (like July this year) was very hot and very dry. I'm a regular farmers' market shopper, and it's apparent that this year's growing season is racing toward an early conclusion.

No outside services this summer but the heat did move us into the Roak Room on a few Sundays. On at least one of those Sundays, we experienced a "good" problem - a scramble for extra chairs because so many people came. No, celebrating the Eucharist in the Roak Room isn't like celebrating in the church but the close quarters do reinforce the fact that our "many parts form one body."

John Carr and his crew have worked in our graveyard several times this summer. Lots of things to see - an obelisk put back where it belonged on an interesting grave at the east end of the graveyard, an urn secured properly (and then planted by the Jenkins family), several stones restored to vertical or leveled, and - perhaps the pièce-de-resistance - the grave just outside the west entrance to Riverside Hall completely restored (including its long-shattered bird bath).

Part of the work on August 11 included a look into one of the family tombs - that of the Sheer family. An amazing experience for me on my birthday - but the elusive Gatling gun managed to elude capture once again.

You've probably guessed by now that the graveyard is one of my favorite things around Old Swedes. Yes, it is. And we should all give ourselves a hand for how much better it looks than it did even four years ago. It's neat, it's clean, and it looks cared for. And it is used and enjoyed. One of the things I saw this summer, this time while I was making my usual Saturday morning delivery of "goodies" for hospitality on Sunday - a young woman sitting and reading under that enormous silver maple (itself cared for regularly) on one of the newly placed benches alongside the cleaned-up Alexander Wilson gravesite, while her two toddler children wandered among the stones. I've never seen her in church, doubt that I ever will see her in church - but certainly God was there for her in that place at that time. And that has to be one of the things "the Swedes" were thinking when they picked this place many, many years ago.

Back to work, folks - church school will start up again in a few weeks with a new approach, the fall Flea Market will be here before we know it, we'll think hard once again about our grateful relationship to this place and the whole church through stewardship, and the 75th year of Lucia celebrations will happen. And we'll do all these things in love and fellowship in our 313th year in this place.

Jerry Buescher

Tutoring at St. James School

Those who participated in the tutoring program at St. James School last year found the experience to be profoundly moving and wonderfully encouraging in so many ways. It is time to consider this volunteer service again. School at St. James begins on September 10th. This year there will be two classes – 5th and 6th grades. If you would like to volunteer to be a tutor for one hour a week, or more, please see the rector and she will coordinate schedules and rides to the school. We'd like to be ready to start tutoring again by the first week in October.



Welcome Back Dinner

Ready? Sing along to the 70s TV sitcom, Welcome Back, Kotter!



Welcome back.

The shore was your ticket out.

Welcome back.

To that same sweet church that we've prayed about.

Well the names haven't changed since you hung around,

Or maybe they have, you'll just have to see us now.

Old Swedes wants to see ya (Old Swedes wants to seeya)

September 21st at 6:30 is where we need ya (9/21 at 6:30 is where we need ya).

Yeah, we feed you a lot, we've got spaghetti in a pot,

Welcome back!

Okay, not familiar with the tune, here's the deets:

Gloria Dei welcomes us back to life, back to reality with the annual spaghetti dinner.

6:30pm on Friday, 9/21/12

See ya there!!

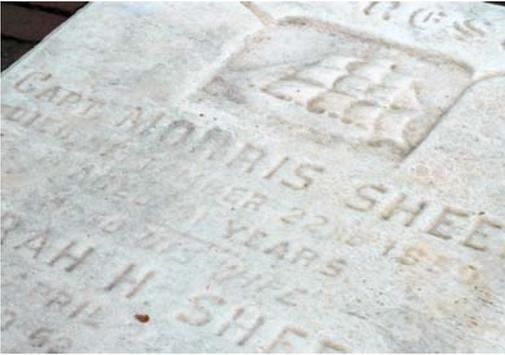
Ring Ye Forth, These Lively Bells!

Those interested in joining our bell group are most welcome to gather with us as we start our regular Tuesday night rehearsals, September 11th after Evensong - at about 7pm. We will aim to offer music for a service once monthly through May, except January. There is no need to commit for the whole season - each monthly musical offering will have its own set of about 4 rehearsals. I look forward to seeing y'all there!!

Fej



Them Bones, . . . but no Gatling Gun





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

Sponsored by:

 **LPL Financial**

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

PFCU
PHILADELPHIA
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
pfcu.com | **better. honest.™**
K. Biederman: 215-934-3582

Alan Segal Quartet

alan@alansagal.net 215-208-7314

Eddie Etkins – George Sinkler – Alan Segal – Leon Jordan

Thursday 9/27 & 10/25
7:30 to 9:30 - Riverside Hall



United Thank Offering (UTO)

If you have a UTO “Blue Box” (thank you!). I am asking that you bring it to church, as I will be collecting them for the next 2 weeks.

There are special UTO envelopes on the table at the rear of the church if you care to contribute for a one-time donation.

Giving to the United Thank Offering is a special way to offer thanks for blessings and answered prayers you receive.

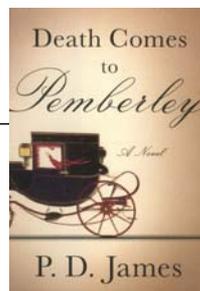
Thank you so much for your support –

Doris Connor



Calendar

- Sept 3** Labor Day - Holiday, Church and Office Closed
- Sept 4, 11, 18, 25** Evensong 6:30PM - 7:00PM church
Bells - 7:00PM
Yoga - 7:15PM, drop in class, all levels welcome
\$8.00 a session
- Sept 5, 12, 19, 26** Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10-11:00AM
All levels welcome
- Sept 9** Sunday School Registration & First Class 11:15AM
(Immediately following 10:00AM Service
Liturgy Committee Meeting - 12-2:00PM - Roak Room
- Sept 11, 12** Welcome back YCCA children and parents
7:30 - 9:00AM
- Sept 16** Sunday School Begins today 9:00AM - 10:30AM
Swedish Service in Church - 4:00PM
- Sept 19** Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room
- Sept 20** Swedish Colonial Society - Riverside Hall
- 1:00- 3:00PM
- Sept 21** Welcome Back Dinner - Riverside Hall- 6:30PM
- Sept 23** Lucia Organizational Meeting - Roak Room - Noon
- Sept 24** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
Death Comes to Pemberley •
By P.D. James
- Sept 27** Jazz & Joe - Riverside Hall - 7:30PM
- Oct 4** Blessing of the Animals - 6:30



The Lectionary for September

September 2nd, The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalm: 15(1)

2nd Reading: James 1:17-27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

September 9th, The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm: 146(2)

2nd Reading: James 2:1-10(11-13)14-17

Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

September 16th, The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 19

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm: 116:1-9(9)

2nd Reading: James 3:1-12

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

September 23rd, The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 20

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm: 54(4)

2nd Reading: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

September 30th, The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 21

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24=29

Psalm: 19:7-14(8)

2nd Reading: James 5:13-20

Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

Highlights from the August 6th Vestry Meeting

- Several members of Gloria Dei continue to attend trainings and conferences in an effort to improve our ability to reach out to our neighbors in a loving, faithful way.
 - Julie Daye attended the “Children, Youth, and A New Kind of Christianity” conference in Washington D.C. The workshops she attended focused on what/how we’re teaching children about God and spirituality. Jill Duink, Sarah Eisenstein, and Julie Daye will teach Sunday School this year from the “Godly Play” curriculum, which helps children cultivate their relationship with God. Everyone is encouraged to check out online videos of “Godly Play” to get an idea of what it’s all about.
 - Ann Blackstone participated in the Diocesan Anti-Racism Training and has applied to further her training.
 - The “Transforming Congregations” group (mentioned in the July/August issue) plans to provide donuts and coffee sometime the first week of class to the parents of children returning to YCCA (our tenant in the Roak House). This group also put plans in place for Rev. Al Holland to speak on Stewardship on Saturday, 10/27 at 6pm in Riverside Hall. A catered dinner will be provided and all are invited.
- There are two new groups starting!
 - Dave Hammond has offered to convene the new “Stewards of Creation” (environmental concerns) group and will be looking for others who are interested in making sure Gloria Dei “goes greener”. See Dave if you’re interested.
 - Lisa Reeves has offered to convene the “Welcoming Committee”, which will help us be more relational and invitational with visitors and people seeking a church home. See Lisa if you’re interested in joining.
- There are 5 upcoming weddings and 2 baptisms to be held at Gloria Dei.
- Several gravestones were repaired this summer. Take a look around the churchyard!
- A small committee will be repairing the pew kneelers on 9/29. See Carol Jenkins, Barbara Potts, or Dave Hammond if you’re interested in helping.
- We are in need of more funding for our mission with our two sister churches in Guatemala. Would you prayerfully consider donating money

towards these children's educational and/or medical expenses? If so, please submit your money in an envelope designated "Guatemala". Thank you!

- All are welcome to attend vestry meetings. Next meeting is Wednesday, September 19th at 7pm in the Roak House.



Sunday School

Registration and First Class

September 9, 2012

11:15 AM – Noon (After Church Service)

All children ages 3+ are welcome!

To All Parents and Children:

On September 9, 2012, Sunday School will begin again. This year we are beginning a new curriculum called Godly Play. Godly Play tells stories from the Bible in a new way, inviting the children to look for their own answers to faith questions.

We would like to invite you and your child(ren) to a special Sunday School class on September 9th at a special time. We will gather in the Sunday School room in Roak House after the church service at 11:15 AM until 12:00 Noon.

Beginning on September 16th, Sunday School will start at 9:00 AM.

**Older children will attend church and younger children
will join the service at 10:30.**

We hope to see you there!

Jill Duink, Sarah Eisenstein, & Julie Doye



Gloria Dei Timeline: 1751-1799

1750-1757 Olaf Parlin - Rector

1758 Permission requested for the pastor to preach occasionally in English.

1759-1768 **Carl Magnus Wrangel**, was perhaps even more influential and made an even greater contribution to the religious and cultural life of the community. He was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society, in 1769, the only foreign pastor so honored at that time.

1760 He is known to have baptized over 20 Africans as members of Gloria Dei, making it one of the first multiracial congregations in the country.

1768-1779 Anders Göransson - Rector

1774 The first legislative assemblies of Pennsylvania met here. John Morton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence was a communicant of this church during his residence in Philadelphia.

1776 The ancient bell in the tower was 134 years old when Independence was declared. The church building was used as a hospital during the Revolution by the British. Some pages were ripped from the record books during the Revolution. Captain George Ord, brought shiploads of gunpowder to the colonies from Bermuda.

June 15, 1777 There occurred the marriage of Betsy Ross to Captain Joseph Ashbourn.

1780-1786 Matthias Hultgren - Rector

1786-1831 Nicholas Collin was the last Swedish pastor of the Church.. He was a celebrated linguist, writing articles on Comparative Philology and the History of Language. He was a botanist and zoologist and sent “innumerable specimens of skins, plants and flowers to Swedish Museums.” He was an outstanding meteorologist, a century ahead of his time, and he made, like many of his contemporaries, systematic observations on the weather and other phenomena. He was a student of medicine, “generations ahead of his time in his medical thinking”, and was one of our first “patent judges”, appointed by President Jefferson to pass on patent claims. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, a charter member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and was one of the most faithful and active members of the American Philosophical Society. He married 3,375 couples averaging 84 a year for 45 years. Benjamin Franklin, a friend of Rev. Collin, supplied lightening rods.

1795 Nicholas Collin married 199 couples.

1796 Nicholas Collin married 179 couples.

Philadelphia Timeline

- 1751 Pennsylvania Hospital established. Bell cracks
- June 15 1752** Benjamin Franklin flies a kite during a lightning storm.
- 1753 Pennsylvania Steeple lottery tickets sold. Pass & Stowe made for the State House the first bell ever cast in this country. First expedition for Arctic exploration sailed from Philadelphia in the schooner Argo with Captain Charles Swaine.
- 1759 First American life insurance company is incorporated.
- 1760 Philadelphia population 25,000.
- 1762 District of Southwark created. Boundary, Delaware River, Cedar Street (South Street), Passyunk Road to Moyamensing Road, by Keeler's Lane to Greenwich Road to Delaware River.
- 1766 First permanent theatre house in America was built in Southwark.
- 1770 Continental congress meets in Carpenter's Hall
- 1774 Philadelphia philanthropists formed the first Anti-Slavery Society.
- July 4, 1776** Declaration of Independence adopted.
- Sept. 26, 1777** British enter Philadelphia. Redcoats sleep in Carpenter's Hall
- 1780 Pennsylvania Bank, the first public bank was organized by Robert Morris.
- 1782 First Hebrew Synagogue built, Cherry Street above Third.
- May 1784** Episcopal representatives meet
- 1786 First steam vessel navigated the Delaware River by John Fitch. Assembly grants space to American Philosophical Society. Negroes protest segregated worship. Bishop White entertains the Washingtons
- Sept. 17, 1787** Constitution drafted, delegates to depart tomorrow.
- 1789 Philadelphia named temporary capital. First Congress of the United States met here in Congress Hall. First election of President of the United States.
- 1790 Philadelphia population 54,391
- 1791 US Supreme Court to convene in City Hall. Bank of North America abandoned system of accounts in pounds, shillings, and pence and adopted dollars and cents.
- 1792 First Mint of the United States established
- 1793 Yellow Fever Deaths in August - November 4,002
- Dec. 26, 1799** National Funeral Procession for George Washington

Jeanette Woehr

Would you like to receive *Down by The Riverside* via email?

It's very simple, navigate to www.old-swedes.org, scroll to the form on the home page, fill in your contact information and you will be subscribed to our monthly newsletter. We will send you a link to download or view the PDF version of *Down by The Riverside*. (It's really more of a news source! Complete with stories about the congregation activities and the occasional history lesson. We are over 300 years old after all!)

And we will never, ever share your information with third parties or bother you in any way. This will simply keep you apprised of events like Jazz 'n Joe, the bi-annual Flea Market, the Sexton SideShows and all the community programs happening at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes' Church)



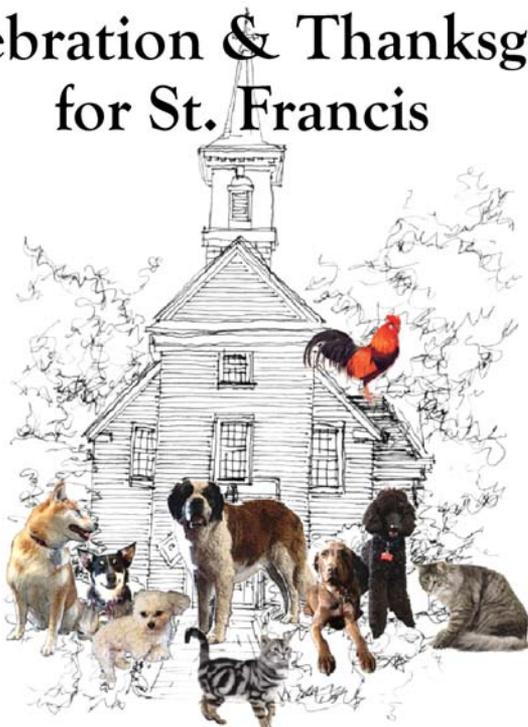
Guatemala 2013

Lives have been changed with our trips to Guatemala and we are planning on our next trip in 2013 – Are you interested? Have you always wanted to go and said next time – well this is the “next time”. We are in the beginning stages. We will definitely visit our two sister congregations but what else? Sight seeing, community service, historical tours, what part of the country interests you? Let us know your thoughts, keep an open mind and be ready for a trip that will enlighten, strengthen and bond you with others at Gloria Dei and beyond.

Please contact Heather Myers, via email: Moosefamily@comcast.net or phone 215-512-0363



A Celebration & Thanksgiving for St. Francis



“ . . . renew our covenant with these
creatures in our care . . . ”

October 4 - 6:30 pm

Gloria Dei Church

(Old Swedes')

Columbus Blvd. & Christian Street
Philadelphia, PA. 19147

●
All animals are invited and welcome in church,
but please be sure to leash or cage them for everyone's safety and comfort.

●
Light Refreshments in Parish Hall
Following the Service



**Memorial Cards in loving memory of
John Johnson, IV**

By: Barbara Turner

Bob Curtin

By: Barbara Turner

Michael Kinsler

By: Cathy (McGill) & Jim Ufheil

In REMEMBRANCE of:

John Gregory Ryan

June 11, 2012 - age 22

Judy Parsons

August 25, 2012



**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

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
Florence Brook
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



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 (1/8/12); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/8/12); Pentecost (5/27/12); and All Saints Sunday (11/4/12). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.