



# Crossings

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✠ EPISCOPAL  
875 COTTON STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA  
DECEMBER 21, 2016

## Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 9:30 and 11:00 AM  
Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Wednesday 12:15 PM

## Nursery

Sunday  
9:45 AM – 12:30 PM

## Choir Rehearsal

Sunday: 9:45 AM

## Sunday School

Sunday: 10:00 AM

## The Vestry

Reece Middleton, Senior Warden  
Gerry Brooks, Jr. Warden  
Steve Snodgrass, Secretary  
Greg Criddle  
Melissa Fowle  
Jo Ann Horton  
John Hughes  
Meredith Lucius  
Kendall Raymond

Monty Walford, Treasurer  
(non-vestry)

## Contact Information

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## Please visit our website

[www.holycrossshreveport.org](http://www.holycrossshreveport.org)

## Deadline

Material for *Crossings* must be received by **12:00 Wednesday**.

Please send to

[lynn.walford@lsus.edu](mailto:lynn.walford@lsus.edu)

## Presiding Bishop Michael Curry Christmas Message 2016

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

*From Isaiah Chapter 9: For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

These words of Isaiah are often seen as words that foretell and foreshadow the coming of Jesus of Nazareth, born of Mary. The truth is, these words befit Him because this child changed the world. This child changes lives. This child changes us.

I remember when our oldest daughter was a baby. My wife and I were young. We were footloose and fancy-free. It was just the two of us newlyweds, so if we wanted to go out to eat dinner, we went out to eat dinner. If we decided to go to a movie at the last minute, we just went. We actually felt like we had money back then. And we did have a little bit of discretionary income. We could pretty much do what we wanted to do, within reason, and we didn't have to think too much about the consequences or impact of a spontaneous decision and what we had to do to make that happen.

And then, all of a sudden, this little, innocent human being, a little child, came into our lives, and literally gained control over our entire world. Before we could do anything else we had to think about, "Who's going to keep the baby?" or "Is this a good time for us to go without the baby?" We soon learned that we were not in control of our lives anymore. Even our sleeping patterns became very different. We would stay awake when the baby was awake and we went to sleep when the baby went to sleep. Literally this child began to control our lives and the child didn't even know she was doing it. And when we had a second one she did the exact same thing. And I've since learned that that's what babies do. When they arrive they take over! And their parents begin to develop their lives around this child. To mold their entire lives around this precious needy baby.



Isaiah wrote, “Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given . . . and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” This child who was born of Mary changes everything. This child born in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes, changes how we live. This child to the sound of angels singing Gloria in excelsis Deo—this child to whom the wise ones came bearing gifts—this child, changed the way the entire world works.

And this Jesus, born into a world torn by strife and hatred and division and pain and poverty, this child is born anew wherever men and women say, “I’ll follow Him. I’ll follow Him as my Savior. I’ll follow Him as my Lord.”

When this child grew up, He said His reason for coming, again quoting Isaiah, from the 61<sup>st</sup> chapter, he said, “The spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach Good News to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty all those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

This child, when He grew up, came to show us the way to live lives of love, lives of compassion, lives of goodness, lives of kindness, lives of justice. This child came to show us how to change the world. So this Christmas, make room for Him to change us. This Christmas help us change the world. And make a new commitment, to go out from this day, to let this Christmas Day, be the first day of a new world.

God bless you. God keep you. Have a blessed Christmas. A Happy New Year. And go on out and change the world!

The way to Christmas lies through an ancient gate. . . . It is a little gate, child-high, child-wide, and there is a password: “Peace on earth to men of good will.” May you, this Christmas, become as a little child again and enter into His kingdom.

*Angelo Patri*

## ***Daily Feast: Meditations on the Word, Year A***

*Louisville: Westminster, John Knox Press, 2012*



### **The Eve of the Nativity, Year A December 24, 2016**

*Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20*

*(Titus 2:11-14)* What a wonderful call to worship for Christmas Eve. “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all” (v. 11). It echoes the angelic announcements found in the reading from Luke. However, the text takes a turn we are not used to taking on Christmas Eve: “training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly” (v.12). The reading from Titus reminds us that the salvation being announced has direct and immediate implications for our lives. The offer of a good life is intrinsic to the appearance of this grace.

***David J. Wood***

### **The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, Year A December 25, 2016**

*Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97  
Titus 3:4-7; John 1:1-14*

*(John 1:1-14)* This text reminds its readers that amid life’s chaos, the world belongs to God. The prologue asserts that Christ always was, as if to reveal that God’s love and intention for humanity was not simply the result of human sin, but part of God’s intention and love for the world from the start. That news and that person are here called “light.” Even at Christmastime, which in much of the Northern Hemisphere is cold and dark, Christ’s light shines. How do we see and show that light to others? It may be as simple as welcoming the stranger who appears in church around the holidays; it may mean buying a cup of coffee for a homeless person on the street; it may mean protesting an injustice at a rally.

***Aaron Klink***

## Calendar for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany

Sundays	Informal Eucharist	9:20 AM	Rose Garden or Chapel (depending on weather)
	Choir Rehearsal	9:45 AM	Nave
	Nursery	9:30 AM – noon	Education Building
	Sunday School	10:00 AM	Education Building
	Holy Eucharist II	11:00 AM	Nave
Saturdays	Holy Eucharist	5:00 PM	Chapel
Wednesdays	Holy Eucharist	12:15 PM	Chapel
Saturday, December 24	Music for Violin, Harpsichord and Organ	4:30 PM	Nave
	Christmas Eve Eucharist	5:00 PM	Nave
Sunday, December 25	Christmas Day Eucharist	9:20 AM	Rose Garden or Chapel (depending on weather)
	Christmas Day Choral Eucharist	11:00 AM	Nave
Friday, January 6	The Feast of the Epiphany Evening Prayer followed by supper	5:30 PM	Nave and Undercroft
Sunday, January 8	<i>The Continuing Feast</i>	12:15 PM	Undercroft

## Prayer List

Wanda Allen  
Michael Breedlove  
Evelyn Corley  
Janice Crawford  
Tricia Davis  
Ron Dean  
Jean Dooley  
Elizabeth Eglin  
Shirley Enani  
Floyd “Buzzy” Farrar  
Ed Finuf  
Reggie Gant

Lady Martha Garner  
Ken George  
J. M. Hardwick  
Christine Hennigan  
Mary Hill  
Terry Hutchinson  
Kenneth Jordan  
Flo Little  
Kenneth Lowe  
Sherry Lowe  
Chris Lowery

Mim McCoy  
Paige McCranie  
Melody Mhyre  
Doug Meshell  
Randy Piedrahita  
Ila Riggs  
Linda Robinson  
Sandra Robinson  
Jenni Scarce  
Brady Sessions  
Tommy Simrall

Jack Theuerkauf  
Jennifer Theuerkauf  
Robert Todd  
Cliff Townsend  
Mattie Washington  
Molly Wilkinson  
Roger Wilkinson  
Bill Wright  
Larry Wright  
Mary Wright

We pray for those who serve and are served by The Philadelphia Center;  
for the people of our country, that we may listen with compassion to those who feel forgotten  
and work with renewed purpose to overcome our fears and prejudices;  
for people of Aleppo and in all places where there is war and fear, and for those who seek peace;  
for migrants in Africa and Europe, for all immigrants seeking acceptance and safety;  
for people elected to office this year, and for our President and Congress, that they may work together  
to pass legislation to end violence and injustice in our country and provide for the needs of the most vulnerable.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for Retired Clergy: the Very Rev. M. L. Agnew (Patty), the Rev. Jane Alexander, the Rev. Sue Bell, the Rev. Canon Joseph Bordelon (Grace), the Rev. Canon William Bryant (Judith), the Rev. Dr. Wayne Carter, the Rev. Dr. Peter Cook (Nancy), the Rev. Robert N. Cooper (Sallie), the Rev. Robert Dandridge (Evelyn), the Rev. William Dennis, the Rev. Kathi Doherty-Ogea (Herman), the Rev. James Fetterman, the Rev. Walter Friese (Paulette), the Rev. David J. Greer, the Rev. Paula Claire Hall, the Rev. Donald D. Heacock (Margaret), the Rev. Edward M. Head (Mary Nell), the Rev. Leon Jaster (Margaret), the Rev. Wayne Johnston (Mary Catherine), the Rt. Rev. Bruce MacPherson (Susan), the Rev. James A.

Mock, the Rev. Deacon Diane Moore, the Rev. Roy Myers (Benetta), the Rev. William Newby (Deborah), the Rev. Kenneth Paul (Ginger), the Rev. John Raish (Peggy), the Rev. Canon Gregg Riley (Carlene), the Rev. Geoff Schmitt (Brenda), the Rev. Frank Swindle (Gloria), the Rev. Richard Taylor (Mele), the Rev. James Theus (Caroline), the Rev. Fred Tinsley (Judy), the Rev. Richmond Thweatt (Josephine), the Rev. Guido Verbeck, III, the Rev. Edwin Webster (Carol).

Lord, remove from us any desire to act in bigotry, so that what remains will be the love you placed in us before you sent us into this world. *Amen.*

## Lay Ministries

### The Eve of the Nativity December 24, 2016

Sun. 11:00 AM:

Lectors: Josh Boyte, David Richard

Prayers of the People: Greg Criddle

Eucharistic Ministers: Herschel Richard, Kendall Raymond

Acolytes: Hannah Wallace, Joe Bob Evanson, Patrick Raymond

Ushers: Tommie Sue Brooks, Bill Richard

Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: Tommie Sue Brooks, Becky Snodgrass

### The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ December 25, 2016

Sun. 11:00 AM:

Lector: Maggie Fowle, Melissa Fowle

Prayers of the People: Reid Raymond

Eucharistic Ministers: Jo Ann Horton, Ginger Paul

Acolytes: Aaron Horton, Herschel Richard

Ushers: Becky Snodgrass, Steve Snodgrass

Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: June Kirkland, Ginger Paul



## Service Music

### The Eve of the Nativity: December 24

4:30 PM: Music for Violin, Harpsichord, and Organ

Mary Eileen Grant, Violin

*Works of Ralph Vaughan Williams, Glazunov, and Handel*

5:00 PM: The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Introit: Tone VIII.2

Mass: 96 *Gloria*, Schubert and Hurd

Psalm 96: Responsorial, R. L. Simpson

Hymns: 83 *Adeste fideles* 89 *Carol* 115 *Greensleeves* 111 *Stille Nacht* 87 Mendelssohn

Anthems: *Resonet*, anon. German tune/J. Handel; arr. Power *Divinum mysterium*, anon. 11<sup>th</sup> century

Solo: *Invitation to the Manger*, Ledger

Violin: *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming* anon. 16<sup>th</sup> century German

Organ: *In dulci júbilo*, BWV 729, J. S. Bach, *God among us*, Messiaen

### The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ: December 25

Introit: Tone VIII.2

Mass: Hymn 96 *Gloria*, Schubert and Hurd

Hymns: 87 Mendelssohn 82 *Divinum Mysterium* 99 *Go Tell It on the Mountain* 101 *Cradle Song* 102 Irby

Anthems: *Resonet*, anon. German tune/J. Handel; arr. Power *Divinum mysterium*, anon. 11<sup>th</sup> century

Organ: Two settings of *In dulci júbilo*, J. S. Bach/Sowerby *From Heaven above to earth I come*, Pachelbel *God among us*, Messiaen

# The Holy Name: January 1, 2017

## Lessons and Carols with the Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Mass: Schubert and Hurd  
Anthems: Dyson, Ledger, and Power, with Plainsong  
Solo: *Invitation to the Manger*, Ledger  
Traditional carols of the Christmas Season and Feast of the Holy Name  
Organ: *Noels*, Dandrieu    *What child is this?*, arr. Purvis    *Joseph is well-married*, Guilmant



### Mary Eileen Grant: Violinist on Christmas Eve

Mary Eileen Grant plays violin in area symphonies and ensembles. With her husband Zack, she is co-owner of All Strings for Granted. Ms. Grant, a Shreveport area native, is the part-time music teacher at Ascension Classical School, and a full-time mother.

Ms. Grant graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in Music Therapy. She worked as a music therapist around the country prior to returning home in 2008, and then worked at Willis Knighton Hospice until the birth of her first child.

Mary Eileen and Zack Grant



Friday, January 6: The Epiphany  
5:30 P.M. - Evening Prayer, followed by supper



Sunday, January 8: The Continuing Feast  
after the 11:00 service

Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal  
P. O. Box 1627  
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Return Service Requested

**Mission Statement:** *The Church of the Holy Cross, Shreveport, Louisiana, strives to be the presence of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond, through worship of Almighty God, open inquiry, sharing fellowship, valued diversity, genuine inclusiveness, and servant leadership—encouraging all to exercise God's gifts and calling as we share the Gospel of Hope in programs, to serve without regard for religious affiliation, race, or economic status.*

**Hope House:** There is an ongoing need for coffee, sugar, creamer, laundry detergent, disposable razors, and personal size hygiene products (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.). Donations can be taken to 762 Austen Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

**Forward Day by Day** for **November and December**, in both standard and large-print editions, is available in the Narthex and the Undercroft.



The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ph.D.  
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jacob Owensby, Ph.D., D. D.  
The Rev. Mary B. Richard  
The Rev. Sally M. Fox  
The Rev. Kenneth W. Paul  
The Rev. Donald D. Heacock  
Mr. Bruce Power  
Mr. Ron Dean  
Mrs. Laurie Connell  
Mr. Charles Alford

XXVII Presiding Bishop  
IV Bishop of Western Louisiana  
Rector  
Assisting Priest  
Rector Emeritus  
Director, Holy Cross Child Placement  
Organist-Choirmaster  
Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus  
Office Administrator  
Sexton