



# Crossings

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✠ EPISCOPAL  
875 COTTON STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA  
DECEMBER 19, 2018

## Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 9:30 and 11:00 am  
Saturday: 5:00 pm

## Book Study and Eucharist

Wednesdays: 11:00 am

## 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  
Ginger Paul, Jr. Warden  
Steve Snodgrass, Secretary  
Tommie Sue Brooks  
Shirley Enani  
Maggie Fowle  
Anna Grace Madden  
Reid Raymond  
Sara Townsend  
Monty Walford, Treasurer  
(non-vestry)

## Contact Information

Telephone: (318) 222-3325  
Fax: (318) 681-9506

Email:  
[office@holycrossshreveport.com](mailto:office@holycrossshreveport.com)

## 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)

## Advent's Longing

There are several themes in Advent, and each of them grows from our Advent lessons. As we prepare for Jesus' coming, we ponder a *light* shining in darkness; we settle and *wait*; we stretch to understand the "*two comings*" of Christ: first as a babe long ago, and again, triumphant, sometime in the future, in the culmination of God's reign on earth and in heaven. We open ourselves to the "*between time*," the "already and not yet," the questions of what it means to live between the two comings and just how it is God calls us to live.

But the theme that surrounds me this last week of Advent is *longing*. And as we look below the surface of the lessons for the Christmas Season, we see that God's promises from the beginning of time address our deepest longings.

What is it we long for? Longing is universal and timeless. We know we are "missing something;" we know our world is broken. People of all ages and places long for the same things: for peace within themselves and peace in the world; for love given and received; for safety and comfort in trouble; for health and good will and justice for the weak and those most vulnerable. And I think that, knowing we are not capable, ourselves, of turning the world to meet all our longings, we long for a God who will bring peace, bring love, bring safety, comfort, health, good will, and justice to all people. A savior.

**Paul Soupiset, *He shall be the one of peace***



Some of our passages envision a savior who will come with might and power to save us from our enemies. But, read through the lens of the Gospel, we see that we long more deeply for one who will walk the ways of peace. We long for one who will know and stand with the lives of the very young, the very weak, the smallest, the least important of the world. One who understands. One who is one of them.



"He has filled the hungry with good things,  
but has sent the rich away empty" (Luke 1:53)



"You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel . . . And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace" (Micah 5:2).

And Mary sings of the greatness of God: ". . . he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty" (Luke 1:50, 51).

The mighty and the proud have not been kind, have not brought peace and understanding and compassion. Their power will not endure. We long for gentleness, kindness, respect, and plenty for all people. It will be those who have suffered because they are of no importance and have no power who will be lifted up. Justice will rule over pride and power.

"For all the boots of tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire" (Isaiah 9:5).

Can you feel how deep is our longing for peace? Our hatred of war and oppression?

Our longing culminates in rejoicing with the coming of God's Son, the One who, finally, will be our Savior:

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. (Isaiah 9:6, 7)



Isaiah addressed a time of fear eight centuries before Jesus was born. He did not foresee the birth of the son of God. But the longing for a savior who would save his people from oppression, a king who would lead them in paths of righteousness rather than sin—his longing and that of his people was the same as two thousand years ago and the same as ours today. We know we need a Savior to show us the way out of sin. And we know that way to be the way of compassion, peace, love. The longing is universal and timeless.



Our Savior has come. He did not come with might and power to change the world for us. He came to show us the ways of peace and the saving power of God's love.

We live in the "between time," but we do not stand still. Our hope, our ultimate salvation, is not in our perfection but in God's saving, forgiving love. There we find our freedom from sin and guilt and the answer to our longing for inner peace. In inner peace and freedom we are renewed to pray and act, to raise up the lowly, to care for the vulnerable, to share God's love so that the people we meet may know peace and freedom. And our inner sight is renewed to find signs of God's work, signs of hope, in the world.

*The Rev. Mary B. Richard*

The life of "peace" is both an inner journey toward a disarmed heart and a public journey toward a disarmed world. This difficult but beautiful journey gives infinite meaning and fulfillment to life itself because our lives become a gift for the whole human race.

*John Dear*

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

*Louisville: Westminster, John Knox Press, 2012*



## **The Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C December 23, 2018**

*Micah 5:2-5a* ✎ *Hebrews 10:5-10* ✎ *Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)* ✎ *Canticle 15 (or 3) or Psalm 80:1-7*

*(Micah 5:2-5a)* Among the most beloved of Old Testament texts, these extraordinary verses in Micah speak hope to despair with a clarity and power that is nothing less than thrilling. Micah concedes that the situation is grim: the nation is in extreme distress, Jerusalem is under siege, and the king has suffered humiliation. The people see no hope. But Micah sees hope. He sees beyond the current circumstance to what God is promising to do. Our God is a God of promises, and Micah is God's messenger. Despite the evidence of despair and defeat that is everywhere present, the messenger gives speech to the future God has guaranteed.

*Nancy S. Taylor*

## **Christmas Eve, Year C December 24, 2018**

*Isaiah 9:2-7* ✎ *Psalm 96* ✎ *Titus 2:11-14* ✎ *Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)*

*(Psalm 96)* To people who live in an ever-changing world in uncertain times, the good news of Psalm 96 is that God's presence is unchanged and eternal. Come what may, the Lord of hosts offers strength in times of trouble and comfort in times of sorrow. In the midst of desperation, God brings hope; in the face of oppression, God promises justice. And because the mighty One is also the Creator, "the world is firmly established; it shall never be moved" (v. 20). I am reminded of the last line of Isaac Watson's hymn "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need": "There would I find a settled rest, While others go and come; No more a stranger, or a guest, But like a child at home." Looking out upon a sea of new faces on Christmas Eve, there is no better word: Welcome home!

*Shawnthea Monroe*

## **Christmas Day, Year C December 25, 2018**

*Isaiah 52:7-10* ✎ *Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)* ✎ *John 1:1-14* ✎ *Psalm 98*

*(John 1:1-14)* The lectionary's move from Christmas Eve to Christmas Day is stunning. On Christmas Eve worshipers go home having pondered the human arrival of the Messiah, who was born to a poor, unwed mother and laid in a manger because there was no room in the inn. These same worshipers return on Christmas Day (actually the first day of the twelve-day Christmas season) to hear the proclamation that this child is the Word become flesh, the Word who "was with God" and "was God," and who participated in the creation of "all things" (vv. 1-3). The child born in Bethlehem is the preexistent divine Word, one with God, who brings into being light and life.

*Charles L. Campbell*

## **The First Sunday after Christmas Day, Year C December 30, 2018**

*These are the lessons we will read at Lessons and Carols on this day.*

*Isaiah 7:10-15* ✎ *Luke 2:1-20* ✎ *Luke 2:21-36* ✎ *Hebrews 1:1-12* ✎ *John 1:1-18*

*(Hebrews 1:1-12)* This passage begins with the words "Long ago . . ." (1:1a). The writer starts by remembering. Let us look back to see what God has done, so that we can lay claim to what God is continuing to do. . . . But the writer to the Hebrews makes a shift: "In these last days [God] has spoken to us by a Son" (1:2a). How has God been speaking to us? Where do we lay claim to that story? The danger of Christmas is leaving it in the "long ago." The danger is leaving it back there, where it is safe, not intrusive, doesn't ask anything of us, makes no changes. It is easier for us to forget how controversial this old Christmas story is.

*Steven P. Eason*

## Calendar for December

Saturdays	Holy Eucharist	5:00 pm	Chapel
Sundays	Informal Eucharist	9:20 am	Rose Garden or Chapel
	Nursery	9:30 am - 12:15 pm	Education Building
	Sunday School	10:30 am	Education Building
	Holy Eucharist	11:00 am	Nave
Tuesdays through Fridays	<b>NO</b> Daily Office of Morning Prayer in December		
Wednesdays	<b>NO</b> study classes and Eucharist in December		
Thursdays	Art and Bible Study	1:30 pm	Fairmont Apartments
Sunday, December 23	Decorating the church for Christmas Lunch afterwards	after the 11:00 service	Narthex and Nave
Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve	Music for strings and organ	4:30 pm	Nave
	Holy Eucharist	5:00 pm	Nave
Sunday, December 30	Lessons and Carols and Holy Eucharist	11:00 am	Nave

***UPCOMING: Sunday, January 6, The Epiphany  
The Holy Eucharist with Children's Sermon; music for violin, choir, and organ***

## Prayer List

Wanda Allen	Sara Lou Coyle	Maureen Locke	Jack Theurkauf
Margaret Boudreaux	Ron Dean	Eleanor Mangum	Robert Todd
Marie Boudreaux	Shirley Enani	Mim McCoy	Sara Townsend
Patti Brabham	Floyd "Buzzy" Farrar	Reed Nations	Barbie Nations Tyler
Cary Rhea Brooks	Ed Finuf	Evelyn Powell	Jimmy Wise
Mikey Carlisle	Maggie Fowle	Jim Santa Ana	Larry Wright
Georgia Cook	Christine Hennigan	Brady Sessions	Mary Wright
Hugh Coyle	Barbara Hughes	Mary Ann Shemwell	

We pray for those who serve and are served by Hope House; for all people persecuted for the sake of their faith; for the people of California suffering from the fires; for those who died and those who grieve; for refugees fleeing disaster, war, abuse, and famine and hoping for a new life, especially those at our borders; for families separated, that they may find compassion and be reunited; for all who grieve or suffer in any way, and for those who care for them; for teachers, parents and children, that our homes and schools may be places of learning and safety; for the people of our country, that we may work in unity to overcome our fears and prejudices; for people in all places where there is war and fear; for those who seek peace and justice; and for our leaders as we seek solutions to violence and injustice.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for Holy Trinity, Sulphur, The Very Rev. Ally Perry (Lowry); and for St. Paul's, Shreveport, The Rev. Paul Martin (Christine), and The Rev. Deacon Sean Duncan (Amber).

In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for Kubwa (Abuja, Nigeria), The Rt. Rev. Duke Akamisoko; for Kuching (Southeast Asia), The Rt. Rev. Danald Jute; for Kumi (Uganda), The Rt. Rev. Thomas Irigei; and for Kyushu (Japan), The Rt. Rev. Luke Ken-ichi Muto.



**If you wish to honor or remember your loved ones with a poinsettia**, please call the church office. All orders must be received by Thursday, December 20 to be placed in the Christmas Eve service leaflet.

# Day Ministries

## The Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 23

Sunday 11:00 am:

Lectors: Maggie Fowle, Herschel Richard

Prayers of the People: Herschel Richard

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Kay Hunter, Anna Grace Madden

Acolytes: Jan Jones, Lydia Boudreaux Alena Soliz

Ushers: Sr. Anna Grace Madden, Edward Cloyd-Baldwin

Altar Guild Saturday 5:00 pm: Edward Cloyd-Baldwin

Altar Guild Sunday 11:00 am: Deacon Kay Hunter, Sara Townsend

## The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve - December 24

Sunday 11:00 am:

Lectors: Melissa Fowle, Reece Middleton

Prayers of the People: David Richard

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Kay Hunter, Sr. Anna Grace Madden

Acolytes: Addylaide Evanson, Hannah Wallace, Joe Bob Evanson

Ushers: Laura Wilkerson, Mike Wilkerson

Altar Guild Saturday 5:00 pm: Edward Cloyd-Baldwin

Altar Guild Sunday 11:00 am: Sr. Anna Grace Madden, Ginger Paul

## The First Sunday after Christmas - December 30: Lessons and Carols with Eucharist

Lectors: Maggie Fowle, Deacon Kay Hunter, Ginger Paul, Herschel Richard, Steve Snodgrass

Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Paul, Kendall Raymond

Acolytes: Lydia Boudreaux, Alena Soliz, Herschel Richard

Ushers: Edward Cloyd-Baldwin, Bill Richard

Altar Guild Saturday 5:00 pm: Edward Cloyd-Baldwin

Altar Guild: Tommie Sue Brooks, Becky Snodgrass

We await your coming, Lord, with eagerness and thanksgiving and a fair amount of fear. Shine your true light in the corners of our hearts and in the vast wastelands of our society that we might see more clearly the glory of the creation you have come to redeem. *Amen.*

*From The Book of Common Prayer*

## Christmas Day with Our Neighbors



Again this year we will bring breakfast to our neighbors early on Christmas Day. Charles will make coffee, Mary and Herschel will buy donuts, and Monty and Lynn will bring warm breakfast food. If you would like to come, please do, and bring something for breakfast if you want to.



We will also give our neighbors gifts of socks, so if you would like to contribute please bring socks to the church next Sunday or during the week, or give a financial donation so we can purchase the socks. Other welcome gifts are the pocket hand warmers that can be bought at sporting goods stores. Please come if you can. Our neighbors enjoy the fellowship as much as the breakfast and gifts.

Christmas morning, 9:00 am

# Service Music

## The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23

- Introit:** *O come, thou Key of David* – Plainsong, Mode I  
**Mass:** *Trisagion* – Archangelsky, Schubert, and Hurd  
**Psalm 80:1-7:** Responsorial – Tonus Peregrinus; *Veni Emmanuel*; arr. B. Power  
**Canticle:** *Magnificat* – R. N. Kennedy  
**Hymns:** 66 Stuttgart 437 Birmingham 278 Rustington 56 *Veni Emmanuel*  
**Anthem:** *Ave Maria* – Vierne  
**Organ:** *Veni Emmanuel* – Sowerby *Magnificat I* – Dupré *Maria tender, of noble being* – Schlick  
*Fugue on the Magnificat, BWV 733* – J. S. Bach

## The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve, December 24

### 4:30 pm: Music for Violin, Viola, and Organ with Mary and Zackery Grant, strings

- Carol prelude on *In dulci jubilo* – Sowerby *Duo in C, JS 66* – Jean Sibelius  
*Where are these happy shepherds going?* – M. Corrette  
*Concerto for Two Violins, BWV 1043* – J. S. Bach

### 5:00 pm: The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

- Introit:** *Light shall shine today upon us* – Tone VIII.2  
**Mass:** Hymn 96 (*Gloria*) – Schubert and Hurd  
**Psalm 96:** Responsorial – Robert L. Simpson  
**Anthems:** *Resonet* – B. Power *Divinum mysterium* – Plainsong, 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> c.  
**Solo:** *The Wexford Carol* – anon. Irish  
**Building of the Creche:** Carol by the children of Holy Cross: Joy to the world  
**Hymns:** 83 *Adeste fideles* 79 *St. Louis* 89 *Carol* 111 *Stille Nacht* 87 *Mendelssohn*  
**Organ:** *God among us (from The Nativity)* - *Messiaen*

## The First Sunday after Christmas, December 30

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

- Mass:** Hymn 96 *Gloria*, Schubert, and Hurd  
**Anthem:** *Resonet* – B. Power  
**Hymns:** Carols of the season  
**Solo:** *The Wexford Carol* – anon. Irish  
**Organ:** *What child is this?* – arr. Purvis *In dulci jubilo, BWV 729* – J. S. Bach *Noel X* – Daquin  
*Divinum mysterium* – arr. Candlyn

## Upcoming: January 6

### Janis Teague, violin, performs festive music for the Feast of the Epiphany



Mary Grant



Zackery Grant



Janis Teague

**More love notes to Holy Cross:** What do you love about Holy Cross? Why do you come every Sunday? What do you value about Holy Cross' ministry? On Sunday, November 4, at our All Saints' Day Continuing Feast, we asked these questions and collected the answers on sticky notes. Each week we will include a few of the answers in *Crossings*. We are so fortunate to be together with God in our midst! Here are a few of the things we value:

- ☞ The Message.
- ☞ The inclusiveness.
- ☞ The outreach.
- ☞ The history of the church and the beautiful architecture.
- ☞ Childhood memories of going to Sunday School, Easter egg hunting, and the Christmas plays.

It's important to realize that we are making memories each week as we gather to worship God, to celebrate the Church Seasons, the festivals, the ways we commemorate various days, and, of course, the Eucharist!

## Ministry Updates

Each issue of *Crossings* will contain an update of a few of our ministries in the community and within the church.

**Hope House**, our primary ministry outside our walls, continues under the inspired and dedicated leadership of **Donna Earnest**, **Larry Murff**, and **Hoyo**. We are so fortunate that these people found Hope House and continue to share their hearts with our neighbors who come for comfort and companionship as well as to have mailboxes, showers, laundry facilities, and phone availability.

The rent increased a bit on the Port-O-Let outside Hope House (does anything ever go *down* in cost?), but we are glad we can provide it for our neighbors, since when Hope House is closed, there is no place in the neighborhood with an available public restroom.

Many of our Hope House friends come to Holy Cross on Sundays for coffee and donuts at 9:00 am. Some stay for the Eucharist at 9:20, which is usually in the Rose Garden. We move to the Chapel in rainy or cold weather. Each Sunday anywhere from three or four to fourteen or fifteen neighbors share the Eucharist, prayer, and anything they want to bring to the community. One of our greatest blessings at Holy Cross is the love and fellowship of our neighbors.

**The Episcopal Church Women of Holy Cross** continue to work as hard as ever, raising funds for ministries both within and outside Holy Cross. Last year they increased considerably the amount of pickles they made, and again this year the numbers went up. All jars were sold, and Soup Days were packed again!

**Art and Bible Study**, organized and led faithfully by **Laura Wilkerson**, takes place at the Fairmont Apartments on Thursday afternoons. We have several "regulars" who enjoy conversation and creativity—again, the fellowship is as valuable as the ministry. **Deacon Kay Hunter** joins us there, and continues to serve at Hope House, and to offer communion at Holy Cross Villas.

---

**Thank you from the Holy Cross kitchen crew to those who stepped in and took care of the food at the December 2 *Continuing Feast*. As luck would have it, the crew (Monty and Lynn Walford) will be out of town again for the January 6 feast. We'll be very, very grateful to anyone who takes over the kitchen duties, and we'll try not to be such slackers in the future!**

Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal  
P. O. Box 1627  
Shreveport, LA 71165-1627

Website: [www.holycrossshreveport.com](http://www.holycrossshreveport.com)  
E-mail: [office@holycrossshreveport.com](mailto:office@holycrossshreveport.com)

Non-Profit Organization  
U S Postage PAID  
SHREVEPORT, LA  
Permit No. 1197

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.). Please take your donations to 762 Austen Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

**Forward Day by Day** for **December** and **January**, 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. Kay Hunter  
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  
Deacon  
Rector Emeritus  
Director, Holy Cross Child Placement  
Organist-Choirmaster  
Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus  
Office Administrator  
Sexton