



# Crossings

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✠ EPISCOPAL  
875 COTTON STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA  
JANUARY 2, 2019

## 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

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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)

## Where are the Wise Men?

Everywhere we see Nativity scenes, the wise men are *always* there—except at Holy Cross, and perhaps at a few other churches. The Episcopal Church, and many others, stress the tradition that the sages, Gentiles who came from the East, did not come the night of Jesus' birth, but up to two years later.

Matthew's Gospel (2:1-12) tells us that King Herod referred to Micah's prophecy (5:2-5a) that the ruler of Israel, "the one of peace," would be born in Bethlehem, one of the least, one of the little clans of Judah, and that he sent the wise men to search for the baby there. They were to return to Jerusalem and reveal to Herod the location of the baby.

Matthew's story tells us the wise men found the family and entered "the house," knelt down and paid homage to the baby. However, the wise men were warned in a dream not to travel home through Jerusalem but to take another way, for the king meant to do the baby harm. When Herod issued the order to kill all Jewish boy children "in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi" (Matt. 2:16), Joseph had been warned in a dream, and the family had fled to Egypt.

So the details are unclear as they conflict with one another. But the Church has taught that the wise men came later, perhaps as late as two years after Jesus was born.

Interestingly, the massacre of "the Innocents" is not recorded by the Jewish historian Josephus (@94 CE) or in any non-Jewish historical writings, but this may be because the number of children killed, estimated to be only a dozen or so, could be so insignificant that the massacre was not noted. Some historians, then, see no historical basis for the story and posit that it fits with Matthew's





theology into his wider telling of his Gospel. The story might have developed after the Resurrection and become part of the oral tradition in the community of Believers. Others say the account makes sense in the context of Herod's reign of terror during his last years, in which he killed three of his own sons.

The Gospel of James, an apocryphal account written @145 CE which expands on Luke and Matthew's infancy narratives, relates the story of how Mary, during the massacre, swaddled Jesus and hid him in an ox stall, while

Elizabeth fled to the hills with her child, John. There, the mountains opened up and hid Elizabeth and John, and the angel of the Lord was with them. James, then, puts the emphasis on the child John.

Whether the story of the visit of the Magi is true or not in all its details, we are left with the task of finding its meaning. It's a beautiful story and deeply embedded in our theology. The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ is a Principal Feast of the Church. We celebrate "the manifestation (epiphany) of Jesus to the gentiles" on January 6, the thirteenth day after Christmas Day and the first day of the Season of the Epiphany.

Matthew's theology, and ours, is simple: God's Son is a gift to the whole world, to every person God has created. The meaning of Jesus' coming into the world (Christmas) is that God promises that we do not have to carry the burden of our sin forever. We are forgiven of our sins, of everything that separates us from God and one another (and ultimately from ourselves as God made us to be) and given new life and strength to live together in love for God and one another. The meaning of Epiphany is that this, the Gospel News, is given to all people, as promised in the story of the Magi, Gentiles of faiths other than that of the Jews. God's purpose is that all of humankind know and believe the promise that we are redeemed through God's forgiving, unconditional love.

In the story of the Epiphany, one of God's oldest promises is fulfilled, the promise to Abraham that through his descendants all people of the world will be blessed. The Christmas story tells us Christ was born into a family of the people God had called, the Jews. Epiphany tells us the child, the bearer of God's promises of blessing and salvation, is meant to bless all people and to offer salvation from sin to all people the world over. The messages are different; the celebrations and the feasts of the church are different. Epiphany carries Christmas forward and shares God's eternal promise of salvation for all. This is the reason the wise men wait to come to the crèche. We celebrate their coming separately from that of the shepherds and the angels.

This Sunday, January 6, we will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany at the 11:00 service. The children will process to the crèche with the wise men and their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The homily will be for the children, a telling of the story with a visit from wicked King Herod and the angel. Come celebrate with us!

*The Rev. Mary B. Richard*

## **This Sunday: The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ Epiphany Pageant and Holy Eucharist 11:00 am in the Church Nave**

*Please bring your children to the font at the entrance to the Nave a few minutes before 11:00. We will give them Wise Men and camels, along with gold, frankincense, and myrrh to carry in the opening procession to the crèche at the chancel steps. They will remain in the first pew through the children's sermon and then be seated with their parents during the hymn. Parents who wish to process and sit with their children are welcome to do so!*

This very moment belongs to all living [people] as it belongs to me. We share time; we own space. Through my ownership of space, I am a rival of all other beings; through my living in time, I am a contemporary of all other beings.

*Abraham Joshua Heschel*

# Daily Feast: Meditations on the Word, Year B

Louisville: Westminster, John Knox Press, 2012



FEASTING  
on the WORD™

## The Epiphany of Our Savior Jesus Christ, Year C January 6, 2019

*Isaiah 60:1-6* ✎ *Ephesians 3:1-12* ✎ *Matthew 2:1-12* ✎ *Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14*

*(Isaiah 60:1-6)* . . . [T]his light that has come to Israel is not for Israel alone. “Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.” Throughout the Old Testament, God has used foreigners, outsiders, women, the least expected and sometimes most unsavory characters to fulfill God’s will. Although the people and the authors often missed this crucial truth, God has always been the universal sovereign over all humanity and, from the beginning, intended to bless all the families of the earth through the covenant with Abraham.

*Kendra G. Hotz*

## The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Jesus January 13, 2019

*Isaiah 43:1-7* ✎ *Acts 8:14-17* ✎ *Luke 3:15-17, 21-22* ✎ *Psalm 29*

*(Isaiah 43:1-7)* Who are we? Where do we belong? What makes us worthy? Isaiah 43 speaks not only to us as individuals but also to us as communities of faith. The prophet reminds us that our core identity lies not in our roles as individuals, or in our relative size and wealth as congregations, but in God’s identification of us as “precious in my sight, and honored.” Our sense of belonging comes not from the acceptance of our peers or the status of our communities but from the One who claims us and will never let us go. What makes us worthy is not our individual achievements or the size of our congregational budgets but God’s gracious love.

*W. Carter Lester*

### Calendar for January

Saturdays	Holy Eucharist	5:00 pm	Chapel
Sundays	Informal Eucharist	9:20 am	Rose Garden or Chapel
	Nursery	9:45 am - 12:15 pm	Education Building
	Sunday School	10:30 am	Education Building
	Holy Eucharist	11:00 am	Nave
Wednesdays	Study class and Holy Eucharist	11:00 am	Undercroft
Thursdays	Art and Bible Study	1:30 pm	Fairmont Apartments
Sunday, January 6	Holy Eucharist with Children’s Sermon; music for violin, choir, and organ	11:00 am	Nave
	<i>The Continuing Feast</i>	after the 11:00 service	Undercroft
Sunday, January 20	Annual parish meeting	after the 11:00 service	Church Nave
	Vestry meeting	following the Annual Meeting	Chapel

***The Wednesday study class and Eucharist will resume Wednesday, January 9, at 11:00 am in the Undercroft.***

# Prayer List

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

We pray for those who serve and are served by Holy Cross Villas and Holy Cross Villas West;  
for all people persecuted for the sake of their faith;  
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 Hardtner Camp and Conference Center, Daniel Chapman (Katie); for the  
Episcopal School of Acadiana, Dr. Paul Baker, Headmaster (Lauren), Dr. Andrew Armond, John Campbell,  
the Rev. Brandt Montgomery; for all Parish Day Schools; for all Canterbury ministries and Chaplains:  
Centenary College (Rob Gilchrist), Grambling University (Dr. Lemmy Akoma), Louisiana Tech University (Stephanie  
Carlwile), McNeese State University (Paul White), Northwestern State University (Susan Begnaud), University of  
Louisiana at Lafayette (Katy Lee Campbell), University of Louisiana at Monroe (Venerable Bette Jo Kauffman); for the  
University of the South, Virginia Theological Seminary, and the Seminary of the Southwest.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia, the Most  
Rev. Philip Richardson—Bishop of Taranaki and Primate, the Most Rev. Don Tamihere—Pihopa o Aotearora and  
Primate, the Most Rev. Fereimi Cama—Bishop of Polynesia and Primate; and for the Anglican Church of Australia,  
the Most Rev. Philip Leslie Freier—Archbishop of Melbourne and Primate of Australia.

## Say Ministries

### The Epiphany of Our Savior Jesus Christ, January 6

Sunday 11:00 am:

Prayers of the People: Sr. Anna Grace Madden  
Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Kay Hunter, Herschel Richard  
Acolytes: Addylaide Evanson, Joe Bob Evanson, Aaron Horton  
Ushers: Laura Wilkerson, Mike Wilkerson  
Altar Guild Saturday 5:00 pm: Edward Cloyd-Baldwin  
Altar Guild Sunday 11:00 am: Ginger Paul, Sara Townsend

### The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Christ, January 13

Sunday 11:00 am:

Lectors: Melissa Fowle, David Richard  
Prayers of the People: Becky Snodgrass  
Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Kay Hunter, Ginger Paul  
Acolyte: Steve Snodgrass  
Ushers: Bill Richard, Herschel Richard  
Altar Guild Saturday 5:00 pm: Margaret Heacock, Edward Cloyd-Baldwin  
Altar Guild Sunday 11:00 am: Sr. Anna Grace Madden, Becky Snodgrass

# Christmas Day with Our Neighbors

Thank you to all who brought socks, hand-warmers, and/or breakfast for our neighbors on Christmas Day! We had a wonderful time visiting with about thirty people who came for fruit, kolaches, biscuits, donuts, and coffee. Nine of our neighbors stayed for the Eucharist, along with Moon, a beautiful puppy our neighbor Cowboy adopted on Christmas Eve. Everyone received a gift, and we took the few hand warmers and pairs of socks that were left over to Hope House the next day. Again, thank you for spreading Christmas cheer to our friends!

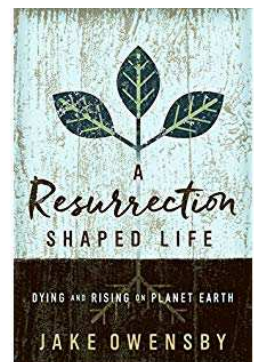


## *A Resurrection Shaped Life: Dying and Rising on Planet Earth* By Bishop Jake Owensby

You probably know that our Bishop has written a new book! It is available on Amazon in hard copy (\$12.46) and on Kindle (\$9.99). Those who have read all or part of the book are raving about it.

In the book "Bishop Owensby leads us through a re-examination of the biblical concept of resurrection and explains how we can begin to experience resurrection in our ordinary life on earth through honest reflection, repentance, and forgiveness to a new life of self-acceptance."

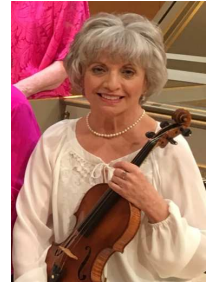
We will read the book together during Lent on **Thursdays at 11:00 in the Undercroft, beginning March 7**. I encourage everyone to buy the book, and, if you are interested in group study and discussion, to come to the study group.



# Service Music

## The Epiphany: January 6 An Epiphany Pageant with the Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Janis Teague, violin

<b>Introit:</b>	<i>The Kings of Tharsis</i> – Tone VIII.2
<b>Mass:</b>	Powell and Hurd
<b>Hymn-Psalm</b>	based on Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (metrical setting)
<b>Hymns:</b>	128 <i>Three Kings of Orient</i> 124 (1-3) <i>Puer nobis</i> 119 Dix 1-3 117 <i>Morning Star</i> 109 <i>The First Nowell</i>
<b>Anthems:</b>	<i>Saw you never in the twilight</i> —anon. 15 <sup>th</sup> cent. French, arr. M. Schweizer <i>Brightest and best</i> —M. Archer
<b>Violin and organ:</b>	Works by Simonetti, von Paradis, and Corelli
<b>Organ:</b>	March of the Three Kings – C. Loret, arr. <i>Prelude in C, BWV 547</i> —J. S. Bach



## The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Christ, January 13 Morning Prayer with the Holy Eucharist, Rite II

<b>Introit:</b>	<i>And when Jesus had been baptized</i> —Tone VIII.2
<b>Canticles:</b>	<i>Jubilate</i> —377 <i>The Third Song of Isaiah</i> —R. N. Kennedy <i>The First Song of Isaiah</i> —679
<b>Mass:</b>	Proulx and Hurd
<b>Hymns:</b>	121 Caithness 120 (1-3) <i>Solemnis haec festivitas</i> 296 Engelberg
<b>Anthem:</b>	<i>The Baptism of Christ</i> —R. Aarons
<b>Hymn-Anthem:</b>	<i>This Endris Nyght</i>
<b>Organ:</b>	<i>Christ our Lord, to Jordan came, BWV 684/684</i> —J. S. Bach <i>Preludio: The Baptism of Christ</i> —Derek Healey <i>Fantasy and Fugue in Am, BWV 561</i> —J. S. Bach

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## Our Annual Parish Meeting



Please mark your calendar for Sunday, January 20. After the 11:00 service we will meet in the nave to hear reports from the Rector, the Treasurer, and the Junior and Senior Wardens. We will also elect three new Vestry members to serve three-year terms. Retiring Vestry members are Reece Middleton, who has served as Senior Warden; Steve Snodgrass, our faithful secretary; and Shirley Enani. *Holy Cross is very grateful for their ministry on the vestry. Thank you, Shirley, Steve, and Reece!*

Vestry members must be in good standing at Holy Cross, which means that they have received Communion at least three times in the past year, are active in and supportive of the church's ministry, and have contributed at least \$1.00 to our operating budget and ministry during the past year, as documented by the church office. Please think about whom you would like to represent you on the Vestry, speak to them to be sure they are willing to serve for three years, and call Laurie in the church office (222-3325) to give her the name(s).

The Vestry meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm in the Undercroft. The Vestry consists of nine members, one third of whom are elected each year. They meet with the Rector to make decisions regarding policy, monetary matters, and ministry in the community for our church. We welcome the input and ideas from all Holy Cross members and encourage you to consider prayerfully if you would like to serve or nominate someone to serve.

**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? Here are a few of the things we value:

- œ The organist and choir.
- œ The congregation.
- œ The excellent sermons.
- œ The wonderful people!
- œ The best sexton!

## Ministry Updates

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

**Our Sunday School** continues—with more children! **David Richard** and **Marie Boudreaux**, both parents of children in the class, are our teachers. We have for three years used a curriculum authored by Gretchen Wolff, who is well known in the church for her lessons and pageants following the church lectionary and seasons. This year we will expand with children's books that bring the teaching of the lessons into stories relating to the children's lives and those of their parents.

**Our community garden** continues to serve our neighborhood. The garden was established several years ago as a joint effort with the Occupational Therapy class at LSU Medical School and **Donna Earnest's** study and fun group. **Laurie Connell** volunteers, along with some of our neighbors, and the vegetables are there for anyone who wants to harvest and enjoy them. With three plantings each year, there is almost always something to be picked. At present, we are waiting on a bid for a watering system, which will greatly reduce the amount of time and labor required to keep the plants hydrated. If you like to garden and want to volunteer once a week (or whenever you can), please call the church office, 222-3325.

**The Daughters of the King** continues under the leadership of **Jo Ann Horton**. In 2018 they visited the children's floor at LSU Health Sciences Center twice, with gifts and prayers for the children and their families. During the hot summer months, the women also distributed water to people at Hope House, the bus station, and the lawn in front of the Caddo Parish Courthouse. When the Daughters meet we share communion, a spiritual lesson, and make plans for future ministries.

**Bread or Stones covenant church:** We have joined with other churches in the Louisiana Interchurch Conference to find ways to improve the lives of children in our communities. We are meeting with Bread or Stones, the VOA, and Step Forward, and will continue to explore ministry opportunities. Several times a year, in the Prayers of the People we include specific prayers for children and their families, and in the fall we collect school supplies for the schools in Caddo and Bossier served by VOA volunteers and staff.

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**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  
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**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 **January** and **February**, 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