



News and Views

Sunday, December 18, 2011

## CHRISTMAS

### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & YOUTH EUCHARIST

On Sunday, December 18 at the 10 a.m. service, the Sunday School will present our annual Christmas Pageant, and many of the liturgical roles will be undertaken by members of the Youth Group. Our children and youth add enormous vitality to our parish life and are the promise and hope for our future.

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Please, see our Advent/Christmas schedule, which is posted on the bulletin board. Take note especially that on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25, we will have a single service at **9 a.m.** On Sunday, January 1, we will observe our normal schedule with services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

### CHRISTMAS GREETERS

Because we usually a number of less familiar faces at our Christmas services, we are enlisting a small corps of greeters to provide some extra hospitality at our three services on Christmas Eve (4 p.m., 7 p.m., 10 p.m.). If you are inclined to help us spread God's grace and Christmas cheer and welcome and assist our Christmas guests, please, call the church office.

### CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

The "Giving Tree" will be back again this year, hung with the names of 75 deserving children whose families are currently involved with the CUPS Family Resource Center. Tags will provide the name, gender, age, and a wish for each child to assist with your shopping. Please return all gifts wrapped by Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> for delivery in time for their Christmas Party.

## ABOUT US

### ROOF REPAIRS

Our new roof is now complete! Please be aware that the cleanup has not been able to be done due to the snow we have had fall on us. We would like to advise everyone to refrain from parking along the Hall side of the parking lot as there could be nails scattered around. We would like to encourage people to park on the fence side of the parking lot until the cleanup can be done. The work done by the roofing company is as follows: removed all old roofing to expose wood decking; installed ice and water shield along bottom perimeters in valleys and around all projections; installed metal in all valleys, ice and water shields over metal flashings extended by 36 inches; DuPont synthetic felt roofliner installed over remainder of roof; replaced all plumbing vents with high dome flashings; removed skylight curbs, framed in and sheeted openings; installed continuous Omni ridge venting (North to South); storm nailed all shingles (five nails per shingle); all flashings fastened with grommet screws; 30 year Malarkey Highlander SBS base laminated shingles in Storm Grey; and cleaup of site, magnetic sweep of lot and grounds.

## **CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR YOUR 2012 PLEDGE CARD**

Our 2012 Stewardship Campaign is concluding. You will find in mailbox, a letter from Jim, a *Prospectus*, and a pledge card. The emphasis of the campaign this year is matching out time, talent, and treasure to our Strategic Plan. In particular, we hope to encourage everyone to step up with a commitment of their talent to the vital role Holy Nativity plays in doing God's work on earth. The Pledge Card, therefore, provides for a pledge of time and talent, as well as financial support. Please, remember that our budgeting for 2012 is much more reliable when we can better estimate what our income will be. Similarly, our ability to go forward with our Strategic Plan will depend on commitments of time and talent. Please, return your pledge card to the church office or place in the box in the narthex.

## **DONATION DEADLINE FOR 2011**

Here in Alberta, we enjoy very generous tax breaks for our charitable contributions. In order to assure that your contributions for 2011 are reflected in your tax receipt, your donations must be made no later than Christmas Day, December 25. The counters will make their final tally and deposit after the 9 a.m. service on Christmas Day. We will not be able to include any donations after December 25 in your 2011 tax receipt.

## **NEWS & EVENTS: NEWS & NOTICES**

### **POINSETTIAS**

Once again we are offering poinsettias for sale for \$15.00 each to decorate the altar for Christmas. The poinsettias can be ordered through the church office by calling 403-278-0001. They can be picked up after the Christmas Day 9:00 a.m. service.

### **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

Please join us on Saturday, December 18, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in the Friendship Room for our Men's Fellowship Breakfast. As many are aware today there is a lot of conversation about the Oil and Gas Industry as it relates to the present and the future. Our speaker this month is our own Dr. Bob Mummery, and he will be doing a very insightful presentation about all aspects of the Industry. We are certain this will be one presentation that you will not want to miss. Guests are certainly welcome to join us if you would like to extend an invitation. The Chefs for this Breakfast come highly recommended in gastronomic circles, so another culinary adventure awaits.

### **N.T. WRIGHT REPRISE**

The Wednesday night Bible Study video series, *Surprised by Hope*, with Bishop N.T. Wright offered some fascinating new insights into our hope of salvation. Because many could not attend the series on Wednesday nights – and because Advent is the great season of hope, as we yearn for and prepare for celebrating the birth of Christ at Christmas, we will be reprising the video portion of the series at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The video will be shown in the church. The series will continue for six weeks, ending on January 15 (with a hiatus on December 25 and January 1). The sessions will last 30 minutes, ending at 9:45. This will allow a brief period for discussion.

## **PROGRAMS & GROUPS: OUTREACH**

### **FOOD BANK REPORT**

Our last delivery to the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank this year will be on December 19, 2011. Our most recent delivery was for 63 pounds of food. To date we have donated 406 pounds for a total of \$812.00. We thank all our parishioners who have donated!

## **LIFE EVENTS**

### **DON'T FORGET TO CALL THE CHURCH**

If you are having surgery or otherwise find yourself headed to the hospital, please, let the church office or Jim know. After hours, please, do not hesitate to call Jim at 403-891-3706. Please, respect that this number should be used only for true emergencies.