



Annunciation Parish News

for the Week of Sunday, December 8, 2024

Worship Bulletin

The Second Sunday of Advent - Lessons and Carols - St Nicholas Sunday

[Click here](#)

Pledge Cards

This Sunday we will pray and bless our pledge cards. If you have already turned yours in, yahoo! You can also bring them on Sunday and we will bless them all together.

Happening this week: December 8

- Sunday - 2nd Sunday of Advent |9:00am - Lessons and Carols and St Nicholas Service, **Community Meal** |12:30pm, Tamil Palli |1:30pm
- Monday - Morning Prayer |8:30am on Zoom
- Tuesday - Morning Prayer |8:30am on Zoom, Scouts |7:00pm
- Wednesday - Morning Prayer |8:30am on Zoom, Wednesday Study |10:00am, Karate |6:00pm
- Thursday - Morning Prayer |8:30am on Zoom, Friday - Morning Prayer |8:30am on Zoom, Karate |6:00pm
- Saturday - Cookie Walk Set-up |10:00am

Keep on the Calendar

December

15 3rd Sunday of Advent | 9:00am
Cookie Walk | 10:30am-12:30pm
16 Vestry | 6:00pm
18 Project Linus | 10:00am-12:00pm
19 Blue Christmas | 7:00pm
21 Parents Day Out
22 4th Sunday of Advent | 9:00am
Tamil Palli | 1:30pm
24 Christmas Eve | 7:30 pm
25 Christmas Day | 10:00am
29 1st Sunday after Christmas Day | 9:00am

January

4 Community Meal prep | 11:00am
5 Epiphany Sunday | 9:00am, De-greening of the Church | 10:30 am, Tamil Palli | 1:30pm
Community Meal | 12:30pm
7 Social Book Club
22 Lunch Bunch Resumes | Noon



Cookie Walk 2025!!

Sunday December 15, 10:30 – 12:30

It's going to be a Cookie Christmas!! With 60 varieties and bakers working away, it is time to set up for the Cookie Walk. **Please join us on Saturday (12/14) at 10:00am to set up and make ready our parish hall for Sunday's main event!**

Calling All Bakers! The baker cards are available on the communication wall. Please consider filling out one or more cards to provide cookies for the sale. You have until December 8 to submit your cards. If you are concerned about the amount of time this will take close to Christmas, please consider that many cookies can be made ahead and frozen for up to three months.

Volunteer to Help! There are a number of ways you can help to make the Cookie Walk a success. Please look at the signup sheets on the communication wall and sign up to help wherever you can.

Not Able to Bake? Please consider donating ingredients or money to the bakers to lessen some of their costs. A list of ingredients and envelopes for donations will be found on the communication wall.

Promote This Event! In the coming weeks we will be advertising on Facebook and other social media and you can help get the word out by sharing and promoting the posts that will be added to these platforms. Invite your friends and family and let your neighbors know about this great event.

Buy Raffle Tickets Starting November 17, raffle tickets for the 50/50 raffle will be sold during coffee hour. The tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for 5 tickets.

C4K Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who brought wonderful gifts for our sponsored kids! The Caring 4 Kids bags are packed! Big thanks to all for your generosity, you're FABULOUS! Distribution will be on **Thursday, December 12th at 1:30** and there's room for another helper or two if you're interested. Contact me at lindbladandrea@gmail.com for details.



Recycle Your Religious items from home!

A Religious Recycle Group will be stopping by to collect Religious items that need a new home. Items they take are anything Catholic such as Statues, Rosaries (Broken rosaries OK), Crucifixes, Holy Medals, Holy Cards, Framed Pictures, Prayer Books and Bibles as well as used musical instruments.

Items they do not take- Religious Books, Pamphlets, Wax Candles, Angel Figurines (Saint Angels are fine). Please bring your items in no later than Sunday December 8th.



Christmas Poinsettias

Giving toward our Christmas flowers is a lovely way to honor a loved one and/or celebrate a blessing in your life. Donation forms are in the bulletin. A suggested donation is \$25. Thank you!

Blue Christmas

On the longest night of the year...

Some come because they are mourning the death of a loved one. Some are far from home. Some suffer from illness, addiction, or estrangement. Some are lonely, struggling financially, or in conflict with another. Some hurt because of the great pain, need, and violence in our nation and world. The reasons for coming are many.

We gather in the midst of darkness and uncertainty to remember God is good and that the longest night is only so long. God is strong. God is near.

We are not alone, and we have every reason to hold on to hope. Join us December 19, 2024 at 7:00pm.

Blue Christmas: Prayers for hope and healing



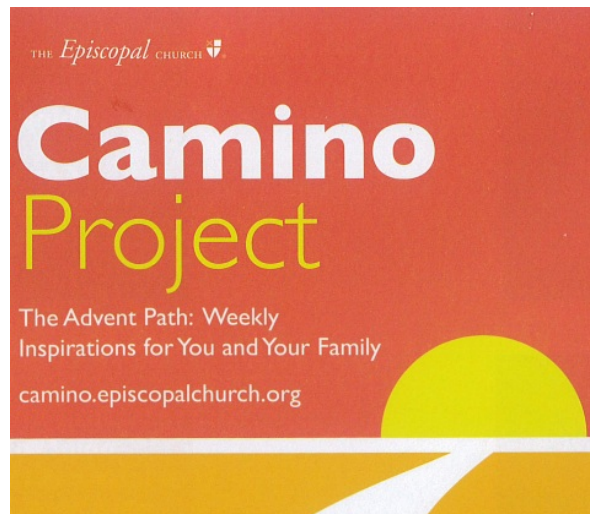
DECEMBER
19th

**7:00
pm**

ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LADY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
5725 STEARNS SCHOOL RD
WWW.ANNUNCIATIONGURNEE.ORG

Camino Project: An Advent Path

The Episcopal Church has put together a family resource and guide for the Season of Advent. This devotional guide is available on the Welcome table.



Ecumenical Advent Service

We warmly invite you to join us for our annual Ecumenical Advent Worship Service on Wednesday, December 11, at First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville (219 W. Maple Ave). This year marks the 20th anniversary of this cherished service led by women in ministry, a beloved tradition that offers a time of peace and reflection amidst the busy holiday season.

In *The Journey to Joy in Three Songs* we'll reflect on the songs of Miriam, Hannah, and Mary—three powerful women of Scripture whose voices point us toward the hope and joy

of Advent. Led by 10 women in ministry from diverse Christian denominations, the service celebrates the richness of faith traditions coming together to honor this sacred time of year. Whether you're joining us for the first time or have been part of this service for years, we look forward to gathering together in worship and joy.

The evening will begin at 6:45 PM with a festive reception in the church social hall, where we'll enjoy the warmth of twinkling lights, delicious sweets, and savory treats. At 7:30 PM, we'll move to the chapel for worship, where we'll reflect, sing, and journey together toward the joy of the season.

ECUMENICAL ADVENT WORSHIP led by Women in Ministry

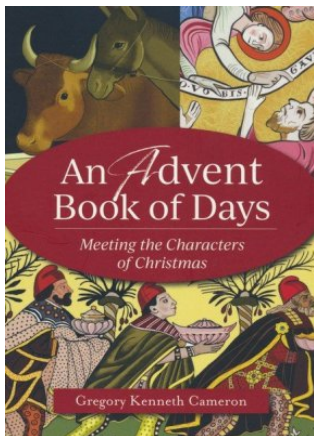
JOURNEY TO JOY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

LED BY WOMEN IN MINISTRY FROM:
Annunciation Episcopal, Gurnee;
First Presbyterian of Lake Forest;
First Presbyterian of Libertyville;
Holy Cross Lutheran, Libertyville;
Legacy Reentry Foundation, Waukegan;
North Shore Mennonite, Libertyville,
and more!

6:45 PM RECEPTION
7:30 PM WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIBERTYVILLE 219 W. MAPLE AVE



An Advent Book of Days

Our Advent book study is going well, we have read and discussed about half of the chapters now. This week, December 4, we discussed St. Nicholas, learned about Nazareth, visited with John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, and almost got to Mary's parents, Joachim and Anna who we will pick up next week.

The book is *An Advent Book of Days - Meeting the Characters of Christmas* by Gregory Kenneth Cameron, the Anglican Bishop of St Asaph in Wales. The book is meant as a devotional with 25 short chapters each focusing on one of the characters of Christmas like those listed above plus the Wise men, Gabriel, Herod, St. Lucia and many others.

Come join us on Wednesday mornings at 10 AM. This is a short class which we will bring to a close on December 18.

We have already had some great discussions and I know we will have more. We also have handouts to expand the chapters and other "show and tell" things plus TREATS.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jenni or Miriam Berry.

ANNUAL ORNAMENT EXCHANGE
THE WAIT IS OVER!!!!



This Saturday, December 7, we will gather in the Narthex at 7 PM for our Annual Annunciation Ornament Exchange. You still have at least one shopping day left to procure THE ornament of the year for this auspicious event. We will fill our plates with tasty snacks provided by all of us, fill our glasses with a drink of choice (wine is certainly allowed), draw a number for selecting an ornament and be instructed in proper ornament exchange etiquette by Debbie Rakestraw. After being

properly instructed, let the fun begin.

So, please come join us for great fun. We will have some extra chairs set up for people who decide on the spur of the moment to join us, so just come. There is always more food than we can imagine and we have a fantastic time. It is amazing the ornament selection you can partake of.

If you have any questions, please see Miriam Berry

1st of Many Blood Drive!

Thank you to the Neighborhood team, for getting the first blood drive up and going last Sunday. There were 24 donors and many volunteers to make people comfortable and welcome.





Readings for this Sunday, 12/15

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

Canticle 9

[Click here for the Lectionary Page](#)



Community Meals

Our service at Community Meals is today at 12:30pm. We have a wonderful group of volunteers today. Thank you to everyone who serves in this ministry.

Signing Christmas Cards

This Sunday, please join in signing the Christmas cards for the Community Meal guests during coffee hour.

Update Military Prayers

Please take a look at the Active Military list in the Prayers of the People. We will be updating the list. Please let us know names we can remove or names we can add. Email Pastor Jenni - rector@annunciatingurnee.org

Book Club December gathering and gift exchange

A wonderful evening was had by many of our Book Club members. They gathered to celebrate another year of wonderful books and fellowship!



Parish Life

Thank you to the Hagan's and Andrea Lindblad for a terrific football coffee hour last Sunday. It was a relocated coffee hour since the blood drive was using the Parish Hall and you all rolled with the punches and created a very nice area.

This Sunday, the Gallingers will be hosting coffee hour and the treats will certainly be yummy. Thank you ahead of time, Deb and Stan.

Thank you to Bob Coates and Tom Crafton for hosting the Christ the King coffee hour. Everything was delicious and sure went fast. Congratulations to Sandy and Dale Sander as they celebrated their 65th anniversary with us. Your cake was so very, very good.

Our mighty puzzlers will have their puzzle back this week only to lose it again for the Cookie Walk next week!!! I hope you get quite a bit done on it this week but be of good cheer, it will be back out on December 22 and December 29 for you.

If you haven't checked out the puzzle swap table, go on over. We are approaching Christmas and there are a huge number of really nice Christmas puzzles there.

I have completed the coffee hour signup sheets for 2025 and they will be available on the signup wall hopefully next week. Look for a blue clipboard and pen.

If you have questions about coffee hour or other Parish Life events, please see Andrea Lindblad or Miriam Berry.

Spring Tulip Planting

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped plant our new bed of tulips and other bulbs by the front sign!
What a sight it will be in the spring!



News from Fort Dauphin and the Friends of Toliara

According to my sources (Sue and Simon Babbs), the standing committee met at the end of November with some people in person and some on Zoom. They have agreed that there is need for an assistant bishop to work for Bishop Samy. The next step now is to get approval from all the provincial bishops then open the field for candidates. Please pray for this process and that they find someone

who will work well with Bishop Samy.

The archbishop of the Province of the Indian Ocean will be retiring this month so there will be an election of a new archbishop. Happily to my way of thinking, Bishop Samy has declined to stand for the position. He seems to be extremely busy in his current role and is doing wonderful things for the Diocese so he needs to stay where he is. Just my opinion but....

I included this in last week's article and I am repeating it this week since no one indicated yay or nay for washing and ironing. I'll not be getting the fabric until January so we'll get the opportunity to do the washing and ironing in the dark days of Winter. Not much else to occupy our time.

I received the following from our good friend, Sue Babbs, at St. James the Less:

"The North Suburban Needle Arts service group gave me permission to shop to my heart's content. So I have spent nearly \$1000 of their money on DfG (Days for Girls) fabric in the Black Friday sales - saving several times that amount! Yippee!!

"Will Annunciation be up for washing and ironing in the New Year, do you think?"

I hope you all don't mind, but I said YES.

So, I will have the usual bags of fabric available for the taking in January. This is such a wonderful partnership we have with St. James the Less and I know I speak for Sue as well when I tell you how fantastic you all are.

If you have questions about the "Great Red Island", please see Miriam Berry.

Annunciation Book Club

The schedule for the new year of book club gatherings is here!

[Click here to see the schedule and book list.](#)

We meet most months on the first Monday of the month, moving to the second Monday in holiday months. A highlight of our year is the book exchange and potluck in December. The book list and schedule can be found on the communication wall at church, on the website or in the parish news. If you have any questions, please email **[Deb](#)**.

Links to Zoom Worship for this Week

Sunday Worship | 9:00 am

[Join Sunday Worship](#)

Meeting ID: 829 7113 4278

Passcode: 087501

Monday Morning Prayer | 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 854 3455 6030

Passcode: 429149

Tuesday Morning Prayer | 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 812 3791 9123

Passcode: 832106

Wednesday Morning Prayer | 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 828 3206 9054

Passcode: 528453

Thursday Morning Prayer | 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 871 5804 8836

Passcode: 001151

Friday Morning Prayer | 8:30am

[Join Morning Prayer](#)

Meeting ID: 897 1519 6205

Passcode: 424496

Visit our website

Annunciation is a place...

To be included

To be honest



*To be empowered
To be challenged
To find hope*

Staying Connected



Parish News and Prayer Requests
Submissions due Thursday morning.
Email the Parish Administrator:
[Click here](#)

Website Updates
Email our webmaster, Mark:
[Click here](#)

During the week:
Pastoral emergencies: 847-336-3730
The Church office is open Monday -
Thursday, 8:30am to 2:30pm.

Donate



Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church | 5725 Stearns School Road | Gurnee, IL 60031 US

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