



t h e
**CATHEDRAL
MESSENGER**

The biweekly parish newsletter of The Cathedral Church of St. Stephen, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Vol. 9, No.25

December 21, 2003

May We Recognize in Each Other

The Light of the World



Christmas Greetings

From your Cathedral Staff

Daphne *Dona*

WEEKLY LITURGIES AT THE CATHEDRAL

Sunday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	8:00 a.m.
Sunday:	Holy Eucharist Rite II, with Music	10:15 a.m.
Wednesday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	7:00 a.m.
Thursday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	12:10 p.m.

News and Events

Choir Concert this Sunday Dec. 21-4:00 p.m.

Come and usher in the Christmas Season with the Cathedral Choir when they present music for the Christmas Season. Works to be sung will be John Leavitt's "What Child Is This" Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head by Dale Groetenuis, The Little Door by Herbert Howells. and O Come Emmanuel by Daniel Gawthrop. The Christmas Tea follows the concert.

Financial Reality

- **Projections of a serious budget shortfall for 2004 are turning to reality. A \$75,000 shortfall is clearly possible, even likely. This much we know:**
- **There is no fat in the budget**
- **More space, means more expense**
- **People who identify to St. Stephen's should support our enterprise. So far 195 pledging units are giving \$347,555.**
- **55 more pledging units giving at the average pledge so far (\$1,800) would yield \$100,000. This would make a big difference.**
- **St. Stephen's needs you now. EVERYONE!**

Sunday Forums continue through Christmas

December 21 and 28

"Mothers and Sons" The Rev. Gary Harke will draw us to look more closely at two special and holy women, Mary and Elizabeth, and the miraculous births of their sons.

Christmas Flowers

The Cathedral is transformed with beautiful floral decorations at Christmas for which memorial flower donations are being received. A list of those loved ones, honored and remembered, will be published in the Christmas bulletins as long as the parish office receives your names by Sunday, December 21st.

Unidentified Pledges

We are in receipt of two pledges with no names written on them. If you submitted your pledge before November 20 and did not receive a confirmation letter, please contact the church office as soon as possible. We need to be able to correctly record your pledge. Thank you.

The Gathering

The St. Stephen's Book Group's next selection is Empire Falls by Richard Russo. We will meet for our lively discussion on January 14th at 7:00 p.m. In the 2nd floor conference room of the Chapter House. Read it and join us!

Thank You

There are dozens and dozens and dozens of kind friends to whom I would like to say thank you for the growth and prosperity of St. Stephen's Episcopal School. The time, talent, and treasure of many loyal friends and supporters made possible that astounding moment on Sunday afternoon, December seventh, when the old Pennsylvania Garage Building was dedicated as the Patricia B. Cameron Building of St. Stephen's School and Cathedral and former Dean Arnold E. Mintz was honored. Beginning in 1976, when the School was nothing but a dream of the Dean, Vestry, and the Sesquicentennial Committee chaired by Duryea Cameron, hundreds of loyal friends and supporters have done the work, given the gifts, and applied the talents to make all this possible. I would like to say thank you to each one. I am overwhelmed. I am deeply touched. Thank you all. Thank you Carol and Mac.

Yours,

Pat. Cameron

PS And a special thank you to those alumni who presently are distinguishing themselves in institutions of higher learning.

A few Postscripts to the Dedication

- A wonderful day it was for the almost 200 people who attended the Dedication of our newly renovated facilities. Snow tried to threaten us, but fair weather prevailed. It posed a few problems for Judy Clemmer and her refreshment committee; but what a spread of food was available to all in the Undercroft and the Uppercroft. Thanks so much Judy.
- Caldwell, Heckles and Egan, our building contractors, graciously provided a gift to cover the costs of the refreshments.
- Extra program booklets were intentionally printed for those who missed the dedication and for those who want to send a copy to a friend or relative. Copies are available in the Dean's Office. In addition to the Dedication Service, background information and a history of the project are included. This was provided by Jim Elliott and Lee Van Valkenburgh.
- Thanks to Fox Channel 43 and CBS Channel 21 for providing TV coverage. Look to the Patriot-News for an article real soon. Also, in the near future, expect something in the Episcopal News Service, possibly an article in Episcopal Life
- Work continues on the project as we continue to proceed toward a "Gold" LEED (Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design) designation from the US Green Building Council. That will be a big event sometime in the spring.
- We're looking for a "rich uncle"!! Someone who will help with the mortgage, estimated to be \$900,000. Mortgage payments begin in 2005. Hello Uncle . . . !!

- Look in your Dedication Program and turn to the page that lists all those who had a hand in bringing this huge project to fruition. Count the names; over 140. The list of donors is even longer. And somewhere we should have a plaque celebrating the vision of a Vestry, who, 75 years ago, built the parking garage that now has become a bustling activity center for the parish and school. The “thank yous” are endless, the gratitude so profound.

Thank you for Giving the World a Present

Thanks to all of you who included gifts for the world in your Christmas giving. Your generosity will send money to many charities the Cathedral supports. These are preliminary numbers as some gifts may still be coming in.

Heifer Project	\$1,105
Habitat for Humanity	\$245
El Hogar project in Honduras	\$315
Bishop Masereka Aids Ministry	\$1,105
Downtown Daily Bread	\$1,155
St. Stephen’s School	\$270
Bricks for the Cloister	\$500

Music Feeds The Soul

As another November passes by, I sit and reflect on a month that brings to me a mixture of both sadness and joy. My beloved son Eric Heckard passed from this, his earthly home on November 22, 1989. In that year it was the day before Thanksgiving. This holiday had always been a good time for all the family before that fateful year.

My son Eric sang in St. Stephen’s Men and Boy’s Choir for nearly nine months beginning in 1987 and ending late summer 1988. He made a lot of good friends in the choir and admired Michael Shoemaker’s wonderful musical talent as choirmaster and at the organ. Eric had just completed his Masters in Music at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana before joining the choir in 1987. He was a composer and a musician. He was home in Harrisburg on a temporary basis while waiting to start teaching music theory at Indiana University in the fall of 1988.

Eric had a heart problem since his birth and in the fall of 1989 it became apparent that he would need to undergo his third open heart surgery for his ongoing problem. He returned to Harrisburg for his operation. Many of his friends at St. Stephen’s were praying for him and were very saddened when he died. I shall never forget the sacrifice of Michael and the members of the Men and Boy’s Choir giving up a good part of their Thanksgiving weekend to participate in his funeral service in the Cathedral. The wonderful music they provided that day touched my heart and soul very deeply.

Ever since that time I’ve listened to the choirs sing many, many times and never do I hear them sing that I do not think of Eric singing right along with them. To this mother the choir singing is the music that feeds my soul and keeps me going. May God Bless the Cathedral’s Choirs as they certainly bless my soul every week.

Rosemary Webber

Christmas Schedule

December 24

7:00 a.m.

There will be no service at 7:00 a.m. today.

5:00 p.m.

Children’s Christmas Pageant with Eucharist and Carols û a child friendly service.

8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with the Cathedral Choirs and the preacher will be The Right Reverend Michael Creighton, Bishop of Central PA. A 1/2 hour prior to each service there will be organ music and carol singing.

December 25

11:00 a.m.

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Sermon and Christmas Carols.

Christmas Hopes

I left the palm trees and sunshine behind as my plane took off for Charlotte. It was still light enough outside to watch the sparkling water and beaches disappear beneath me as we veered northwest and settled on our way. I don’t think about the technicalities of flying much when I’m up there. I’ve found that my fears are better calmed if I read or snooze expressing to myself the trust I must place in pilot and machine and handing over my control of the next few hours to God.

This is the exercise of Advent . . . Yes, Christmas is on the horizon but we sense that it’s coming is out of our control. The hours and days keep ticking away and there is so much to do. Stop, I say to myself, time is not in my hands. Just do what you can the best you can and trust the rest. So-God will be born here, in us in due time. We will perceive the presence of the Divine, the Light, the Peace, the Holy Challenge as we open our eyes and trust.

Worshiping, celebrating and learning together aids in the opening of eyes (and hearts and hands) and in the growing ability of Christians to deepen the trust in God that we long for an hope in. May this Advent/Christmas be an occasion for your increasing trust in God’s love for you and God’s gift of Jesus to us all.

PS As you know, two days after Christmas Ed Messersmith and I will be married. We stock your prayers for us as we begin a new adventure together and for our children as new configurations of family unfold. I will be taking his name (!) and moving into his house(!). Our address will be: 909 Alison Ave, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Peace,
Daphne

Leave your Mark at the Cathedral on an Engraved Brick!

Take a look at the new Cloister area between the Cathedral House and the Cathedral. YES, your name (or a friend or relative) can be inscribed on a brick for \$100 per brick. Forms are available in the back of the church. Think “Christmas Gift”!

Visit our Web Site:
www.ststep.org

the **CATHEDRAL**
MESSENGER

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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Bishop	Michael Creighton
Dean	Malcolm McDowell
Canon Pastor	Daphne Killhour
Parish Nurse	Liz Fite
Deacon Emeritus	Paul Williams
Facilities Manager	Skip DeMarkey
Organist-Choirmaster	Michael Shoemaker
Office Manager	Sami Lytle
Bookkeeper	Donna Osborne
Senior Warden	John Dernbach
Junior Warden	Craig Wilson
Vestry:	Donna Burkholder
Gordon Arnold	Cathy Jones
Ann Elliott	Lynn Schadle
Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt	Rosemary Webber
Gerald Garber II	Helen Delano
Warren Gillam	Bill Davis
Parish Treasurer	Paul Nickalls
Vestry Secretary	Jane Bartholomew
Worship Ministry	Chris Prior
Education Ministry	Pat Strohl
Evangelism Ministry	Betsy Howell, Bill Ilgenfritz
Outreach Coordinating Ministry	Helen Hendrickson
Parish Health Ministry	Mort Hendrickson
Property Ministry	Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt,
Stewardship Ministry	Gerry Garber
Finance Ministry	Thomas Schmidt III
Environmental Stewardship	Jeff Spangler
St. Stephen's School	Carol Lopus
Acolyte Warden	Greg Penny
Church School Coordinator	John and Ellen Harles
"Seeds of Faith" Manager	Kathyann Corl-Rodeheaver
Altar Guild	Margaret Messner
Flower Guild	Sandy Strohl
Ushers	Michael Frascella

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

December

21 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 21 Greening the Cathedral, 12:00 p.m.
 21 Christmas Concert, 4:00 p.m.
 21 Helping Hands, 4:00 p.m.
 21 Chrstmas Tea, 5:30 p.m.
 24 No service 7:00 a.m.
 24 Children's Christmas Pageant with Holy Eucharist and Carols, 5:00 p.m.
 24 Christmas Eve Services with Holy Eucharist, Sermon and Choirs, 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
 25 Christmas Day, Holy Eucharist, Sermon and Christmas Carols, 11:00 a.m.
 25-26 Office Closed
28 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
 28 Celebration of the Holy Eucharist and Carol Sing
 28 Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
 28 Wedding Reception Killhour/Messersmith, 2:00 p.m.
 28 Helping Hands, 4:00 p.m.
 31 Ecumenical Afternoon of Quiet Reflection and Prayer, 1:00 p.m. – The Chapel of Cathedral Parish

January

1-2 Office Closed
4 THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
 4 Blood Pressure Screening, 8:45 a.m.
 4 Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
 4 Helping Hands, 4:00 p.m.