



# THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

JANUARY 2018

## BAPTISM *aka Help Wanted*

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday, we celebrated the Baptism of Our Lord. In the Gospel telling of that event, upon emerging from the waters of the Jordan, Jesus sensed the presence of the Holy Spirit as a dove (quite reminiscent of the dove with a twig in its beak, signaling to Noah that it will be safe to start life anew after the flood). Jesus walks up onto dry land, and then never stops walking in his pilgrimage to Jerusalem—teaching, preaching, healing, reassuring any and all people who would come, listen and witness the wonders of God's love. Many of those people were marked and changed in life-giving ways as they went about their daily living. Others among them decided to stay with Jesus and become part of the band of friends who traveled to Jerusalem with him—not knowing what they were getting into but trusting Jesus when he said that starting life anew with God at the center is the way of true life.

Along the way, what at first became clear to Jesus's followers is that life in the Spirit entails being responsive to the ways in which God wants our help. And that is the core of our Baptismal responsibility—to say yes to God's call in Jesus Christ: to worship God with every fiber of our being and to serve fellow humanity just as deeply, giving of ourselves in both instances and discovering our new selves beyond any worry we thought we had about whether or not we have what it takes to love God and fellow humanity. We find out we have more than we need because God supplies our need. We also find out that some of what we had been thinking we needed turns out not to be crucial, or may even be a hindrance, to our truly living. And "truly living" is going to be

centered in love of God and service to fellow humanity at all times and in all places.

For Jesus's band of friends to love God and serve fellow humanity, they found out along the way and certainly after Easter and Pentecost, that Jesus wanted and needed their help—their giving of self, their selfless giving.

Today, for us as Saint Luke's Church, as Jesus's band of friends in the greater Forest Hills area, our help is needed. Jesus is asking us to give of ourselves. In worship, we not only draw closer to God but become more aware of the depth and breadth of God's love for us and for all humanity. And in reaching out to others, in meeting people at the place of both their strengths to give but also their weaknesses and needs, we become all the more aware of how we are called and sent to be like that dove Noah and Jesus both saw. Centered in love of God and service with others, we become clear and unmistakable epiphanies of Jesus. Our flesh and blood presence says to others that they can trust it is possible to live life anew.

As members of the church, there are so many ways we can help to make the Mission of Christ real in our world and right here in the midst of our parish community. But we have to help. We have to give of ourselves in worship, share who we are and what we have with others, and become all the more responsive in our self-giving for the support and growth of this band of Christ's followers known as Saint Luke's Church.

Faithfully yours,



## **THREE KINGS PARTY**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**

**Holy Eucharist at 5:30pm followed by  
Parish Supper (turkey and vegetarian chili)  
and  
Three Kings Cake**

**During the meal, we will crown the Magi!**

**BRING THE FAMILY AND CELEBRATE  
EPIPHANY WITH US!**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7**

**St. Luke's Church School Resumes...**



Our church school teachers are looking forward to welcoming their students again now that the holidays are over...

**...and Choir Returns**



After a well-deserved break, our wonderful choir returns to the 10:30 liturgy to lead us into the New Year with joyous hymns and anthems.

### ***New Eucharistic Minister***

We welcome Doug Crellin as Eucharistic Minister. Doug will be serving primarily at 8:30am on Sunday mornings where the need for additional assistance was crucial. But you will see Doug at 10:30 regularly too, and on special celebration days. Thanks Doug; it's great that you and Carolanne Weik are with us at Saint Luke's!

### ***We Need Other New Liturgy Servers Too! Ushers, Oblation Bearers, Acolytes***

We need to shore up our liturgy servers ranks. **Adult ushers** greet members and visitors, gather the people's offering and direct the flow at Holy Communion. **Oblation bearers** (individual or families) bring the gifts of bread and wine to the altar during the Offertory Procession. And **acolytes** (generally 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade and up) assist the priest at the altar. Interested? Speak with Suzanne Schick, Devin Smith or Father Tom.

### ***Wings of Song***

**presents**

***The Long Island Mandolin  
and Guitar Orchestra***

**Sunday, January 14 at 3:00pm**



***featuring Soprano Lucille Bjorneby and  
Tenor Jonathan Goodman in a program  
of Popular and Classical Songs.***

Suggested donation is \$12, \$10 for seniors, students and groups of 6 or more. For information and reservations, call 718-268-7772 or visit [www.gingerbreadplayers.org](http://www.gingerbreadplayers.org).



**All Teens Are Invited to  
START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT  
with  
YOUTH GROUP GAME NIGHT  
Friday, Jan. 19, 7:00 to 10:00pm**

The young people of the parish and their friends are invited to meet in the Parish Hall for food, fun and fellowship. If you have an amazing board game you'd like to share, bring it along. If you don't, come anyway -- you're sure to enjoy playing the games others bring!



**Saint Luke's Annual Parish Meeting –  
Sunday, January 28th**

Saint Luke's Annual Meeting begins with the 10:30am Holy Eucharist and the Rector's Annual Report. The meeting continues in the parish hall with Vestry elections and all other business. This year a special presentation followed by discussion will take place on Resources for the Ministries of Saint Luke's Church. Following the meeting, a potluck luncheon will be shared. Please sign up. All members of the parish are strongly encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting.

**Nominating Committee**

At the Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee will present the Slate of Candidates to fill the following offices:

- 1 Warden (two-year term)
- 4 Vestry (three-year terms each)

The Warden and four current Vestry members whose terms expire are:

Brian Percival, Warden (ineligible for re-election, having served three consecutive two-year terms); Vestry members Audrey Lamadieu and Terri O'Rourke (ineligible for re-election, each having served two consecutive terms); and Maggie Del Rosario and Wolf Kripfgans

(eligible for re-election). This year's Nominating Committee is comprised of Chairperson Jean Tessier (Warden), Audrey Lamadieu (Vestry), and Pamela Grazette (Parishioner at large). Pamela had worked with the committee during most of their deliberations before she became ill and hospitalized. Our prayers are with her for a full recovery.

Please speak with a member of the Nominating Committee if you have parishioner recommendations for Vestry service. Qualifications include being at least 18 years of age, baptized, and active in and supportive of parish life and ministry for at least the past year.

**LOOKING AHEAD....**

You are invited to  
**CHORAL EVENSONG**  
**-- A joyful service of sung prayer --**  
**Sunday, February 11, 2018**  
**at 4:00pm**

*Music from J.S. Bach*  
*Agnus Dei* from the Mass in b minor  
Olivia Smith-Grugan, *Mezzo Soprano*  
*Dona nobis pacem*, St. Luke's Choir

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*Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis* In G - Herbert Sumsion; Psalm 150 - Stanford  
*Preces and Responses* - William Smith  
*Fantasie in E Flat major* - Camille Saint-Saens

**William J. Stokes,**  
**Organist and Choir Director**

Join us afterwards for Afternoon Tea  
Savory and sweet items by Earl Liao  
\$15 per person

**\*All proceeds benefit Sacred Music  
at Saint Luke's\***



*January Birthdays and Anniversaries*

- 1 Elizabeth Reynolds
- 2 Christopher and Claire Dippel (A)
- 5 Tess Conte
- 5 Tyson Ho
- 6 Titcha Ho
- 7 Devin Smith
- 8 Michele Kasper
- 11 Alex Torstriew
- 13 Anthony Lenti
- 14 Alice Chodkowski
- 15 Zaden Zacarias
- 16 Karun George
- 19 Anne Chamberlain
- 19 Andrew Dinan
- 21 Zoe Smith
- 21 Michael Riley
- 22 Lara Wang
- 22 Helen Wang
- 24 Kai Laatikainen
- 24 Christian Anthony Young
- 27 James Jonah
- 27 Kassiana Rivera

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[www.stlukesforesthills.org](http://www.stlukesforesthills.org)

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The Very Rev. Thomas F. Reese, Rector