

December 1, 2002

## Advent prayer

The Cathedral is offering Morning Prayer every weekday at 8:30 AM and Evening Prayer every weekday at 5:30 PM. Please join us in the nave from Monday, December 2 through Friday, December 20.



## Christmas Eve Services

5:00 PM, Pageant and Family Eucharist

10:00 PM, Musical Prelude  
10:30 PM, Festal Eucharist

## Christmas Day Service

10:15 AM, Festal Eucharist

## Pageant rehearsals

We are looking forward to a great pageant this year. Sandra Stogsdill has set aside rehearsal time after church at 11:30 AM on Sunday, December 1, 8 and 15 as well as Saturday, December 21 at 10:30 AM. Children should arrive on Christmas Eve at 3:00 PM to be costumed and organized before the Family Service begins at 5:00 PM.

## Deadline for Christmas flowers

Envelopes for Christmas flowers are available in the pews now. You may place your offering in the alms basin or mail it to the office. In any case, be sure that names are carefully printed so we cannot misspell them, and remember that the deadline for names to appear in the Christmas bulletin is **Friday, December 20.**

## Reflection

### Mary's Magnificat Manifesto

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; because he has looked upon the humiliation of his servant. Yes, from now onwards all generations will call me blessed, for the almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his faithful love extends age after age to those who fear him. He has used the power of his arm, he has routed the arrogant of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and raised high the lowly. He has filled the starving with good things, sent the rich away empty. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his faithful love.*

-The Magnificat, Luke 1:46-54, *New Jerusalem Bible*

I for one cannot read these words without singing. The Magnificat is not so much a text to be read but rather lyrics to be sung. It may be the church's original Christmas carol. There are many versions and many tunes for these words. There is even a hard-rock version for guitar and drums that we do in youth group occasionally. As we move through Advent towards Christmas we are invited again into Mary's song of God and the coming Jesus.

As a priest of the church I feel that it is my responsibility to fire a few rounds in the church's annual and ongoing battle to recapture the meaning of Christmas. Each year we bewail the state of our holy day, asserting that Christmas is not about Santa Claus, and railing against the secularization, sentimentalization, and commercialization of the birthday of Jesus. I had classmates in seminary who actually criticized me for putting up multi-colored Christmas lights after Thanksgiving, insisting that it was not Christmas yet, and if I wanted to put up lights, they should all be blue, as blue is the correct liturgical color for Advent. Frankly, the annual histrionics are part of the tradition for me now, and I'd miss them if we gave up the fight.

The problem is that I can hardly wax poetic in the face of Mary's superior insight. If you can read through the eloquence of the words and think through the music playing in your head you'll find that Mary's song is not sweet and sentimental – it's *subversive!* We're not just dealing with a Magnificat here, we're dealing with a manifesto. After Mary sings of her joy and God's greatness, then sings of her humility and soon-to-be enviable position, she seems to recover from her happiness at being selected to bear the son of God and remembers that she is an unwed, pregnant dirt farmer. She then takes a few well aimed shots at the rich and

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## Cathedral clerical staff

The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe, *Bishop of West Missouri*; The Rev. Ben Newland, *Associate Priest*; The Rev. Dr. John O'Hearne, *Assisting Priest*; The Rev. Michael Shaffer, *Deacon*; The Rev. Linda Yeager, *Deacon*; The Very Rev. J. Earl Cavanaugh, *Dean Emeritus*; Mr. John L. Schaefer, *Canon Musician*; The Rev. Carolyn Stockwell Tangeman, *Deacon on Sabbatical*





## Address Changes

Bill & Shirley Lusk  
8619 N. Liston Ave.  
Kansas City, MO 64154  
PH: 816-420-8702

Bruce and Lill Weekes  
13380 Sycamore Dr.  
Platte City, MO 64079  
PH: 816-270-1411

Ed Cullumber  
9009 Kail Rd. #4  
Pleasant Valley, MO 64068

Anna Brous  
2614 N Claybourn Ave. Apt 204  
Chicago, IL 60614-1060

## GHTC's newest members

November has seen a bounty of baptism at the Cathedral, with fourteen receiving the sacrament this month. We welcome the newest members of the household of God: John Halden Cruz, Nathaniel Robert Lowry, Grayson Alexander Garner, Eliza Lynn Johnson, Brian Allen Greene, Elizabeth Anne Wickham, Sawyer Cameron Loomis, Logan Michael Hansen, Jennifer Lisa Hansen, Claire Sophia Wallace, Kristofer John Taylor Kirkpatrick, Harriet Louise Townsend, Rachel Stogsdill and Miriam McDaniel.

Each baby baptized at the Cathedral receives a blanket or a book from the Guild of the Christ Child and two CDs from the choir. Adults receive a *Book of Common Prayer* and the CDs.

## Mary's Manifesto, continued from page 1

powerful.

This is not just my interpretation. A quick surf of the internet yields similar theological musings. William Barclay, a Church of Scotland scholar, says, "There is loveliness in the Magnificat, but in that loveliness there is dynamite." Famous missionary Stanley Jones puts it this way: "The Magnificat is the most revolutionary document in the world." Author Thomas Cahill (featured in our *Reading 'Advent'ure* series) says that Mary is "thanking God for righting all wrongs by making a definitive choice in favor of the powerless over the powerful."

God acts at Christmas not only by raising high the lowly, but also by pulling princes from their thrones. God acts at Christmas in choosing the powerless over the powerful, and by revolution, and by dynamite. And so while the church's annual complaint about what Christmas has become is now tradition, and helps remind people that it's not all about the presents, it is not strictly necessary for God. God can take care of Christmas without our help. We, on the other hand, cannot survive Christmas without God's help. For if Mary is right, Christmas done by God will turn the world upside down. And when the world gets turned upside down, it is easy to land on your head, especially if you are one of the powerful.

So when it becomes your turn this holiday season to sing the Magnificat or to listen to it, remember to sing of the dynamite that is there, and to listen for the revolution.



## Music Notes

*John L. Schaefer, Canon Musician*

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral will be the site of numerous events during December. The annual *Messiah* Singalong will be the featured event on Sunday, December 22 at 2:00 PM. Dr. Arnold Epley of William Jewell College and the Kansas City Symphony Chorus will conduct soloists, chamber orchestra and the audience itself in all of part I and much of parts II and III. The Singalong is free, though the Cathedral welcomes donations. Music is available for purchase. For more information, call 816-474-8260.

Other events: The Friends of Chamber Music present **Chanticleer**, the 12 voice men's ensemble, in concert on Thursday, December 5 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are available by phoning 816-561-9999. A member of Chanticleer, Michael Lichtenauer, was a choirboy at the Cathedral and later became a member of the Mixed Choir and the Kansas City Chorale.

Thursday, December 12 at 12:00 Noon, **William Jewell College** offers its annual service "The City Come Again." Dr. David Sallee is homilist; the handbell and concert choirs perform a variety of beautiful music.

Friday and Saturday, December 13 and 14, the Civic Opera Theatre will once again perform *The Wise Women* by Conrad Susa. The one-hour opera chronicles the experiences of the women the three kings left behind. The times are 8:00 PM on Friday and 2:00 and 5:00 PM on Saturday. Tickets are available by calling 816-235-6222.

Sunday, December 15, the celebrated **Kansas City Chorale** will present its Christmas concert, beginning at 2:00 PM. A brass ensemble and organist I will accompany the Chorale. Tickets are available by calling 816-235-6222.

Friday, December 20, the **William Baker Festival** Singers present an evening of music and readings. The repertoire is quite broad and a delight for everyone. Admission is \$10 at the door.

And then, two days later, it will be time for the **Messiah** Singalong.



# A modern day pilgrim

Hilary Thomas, Parishioner

## Preparation

Growing up in the United States, my image of a pilgrim looked much like an Amish person. The men wore string ties and hat, the women aprons and bonnets, and, but for white shirts with sleeves rolled up for the day's work, all their clothing was black. Generally, they entertained smiling Indians at long picnic tables in a clearing in the woods, farmed and froze to death during long, cold winters. These people were flat, one-line descriptions in grade-school textbooks whose lives hardly seemed enviable.

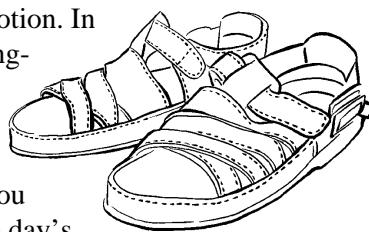
In high school, I took a course in world religions and learned to associate a different image with the word "pilgrim." A pilgrimage became a modern day phenomenon, a religious journey with ancient roots. It became an act. An act of walking great, sacrificial distances in the name of God or Allah. It became a devotion. In the Christian church, the pilgrim arrived in Jerusalem, Rome or Santiago de Compostela, the site where we are told the remains of Saint James are buried.

This past summer, I became a pilgrim. My trek began on June 26 in Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, a tiny village in a shallow valley on the French side of the French/Spanish border on the Pyrenees. For 34 days, I walked west to Compostela, one of thousands of pilgrims who will march the same path this year.

My preparation was slim. I read a few lines on what to bring and what not to bring, recommendations from guidebooks and on-line pilgrims. The month before my departure, I moved in with a friend in Madrid and each day walked one of the many parks in the city. I also spent time pondering what would be my spiritual goal of the journey. It seemed that any pilgrim should have at least one specific topic on which to meditate during all those hours of walking. But what I discovered was that some things just have to be done. That mental and physical preparation is done in the doing.

## On the pilgrimage

Walking with the rising sun so to inch west toward Santiago, the 20 kilometers of each day, so hard, yet only a scratch in the 746 kilometers from the Pyrenees. Your feet are exploding, your knees are strained from the descent to Roncesvalles, and you are sure your back will never straighten correctly again. You are sunburned and tired and beginning to think you are crazy. You're not even Catholic, for goodness sake. But you walk on. And it is your devotion. In each step, a prayer. In the pain of carrying your belongings on your back, a call to God for strength. In every other pilgrim, a companion with a story to share and support to give. In a simple smile from a villager with whom you share no common language, you find all the encouragement needed to push on to the day's destination. You find a connection with nature and humanity that modern living has broken. There is no shelter from the storm; you must simply live it. The chill, the dark, the wet, the loud wildness. And you know now, after five days somewhere in your third week of walking through the wheat field of northern Spain, that those fields, which stretch across Kansas, those you rush by with bored acceleration on your way to the Rockies, actually make an amazing sound when you listen to the wind blow through. Somewhere between crackling fall leaves and a rushing tide. And here in the heat of the Spanish plains, their golden tone across the shifting, undulating horizon gives you an idea of what the Sahara must look like. And you look ahead of you and see a silhouette slowly, methodically bobbing and swaying in the vast gold and blue landscape. A pilgrim. A friend, though a stranger. A comfort. Sharing this storm, this hot sun, this unending field of wheat with you. You learn "communion" is not just a ten-minute portion of the Sunday service.



## Happy Birthday to you!

Grace and Holy Trinity's Social Action Committee/ Foster Care Outreach Group cordially invites you to Celebrate your birthday by making a Kansas City area foster care teenager's birthday special. Please consider making a donation on your birthday, which will allow the purchase of a birthday gift for an area teen on his or her birthday!

There are hundreds of metro area teens who reside in temporary group or foster homes. Limited State financial support does not allow luxuries such as a birthday present. Without your help, these teens may not even have a present to celebrate their birthday.

Donations may be made in any amount you desire, but \$25 Wal-Mart Gift Cards will be given to the young person. This is a great way to celebrate a friend's birthday, your anniversary, your own child's success, any special occasion, or just because you feel like giving to someone who might not have much. If you wish, an acknowledgement letter will be sent to the honoree. Be sure to provide the Cathedral office with the person's name, address and the date and reason for the special occasion you are celebrating.

To make a donation, make your check payable to Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral and write "Birthday Gift Card" on the memo line.

## Thank-you, thank-you

The Cathedral extends a huge thank you to Jim Chappell who provided hot dogs and buns for the Halloween Extravaganza. Jim is just one of many people who donate food and beverages for Cathedral activities. Thanks to *all* of you!

## Members in the ordination process

The Cathedral currently has several people in the ordination process for both deacon and priest.

Congratulations to Andrew McMullen, who has recently been accepted as a postulant for the priesthood in the Diocese of West Missouri. Andrew, his wife Yvette, and their three daughters, Hannah, Rachel and Abigail, will leave Kansas City in August to attend seminary for three years. Andrew is currently considering which seminary to attend. At the completion of seminary, Andrew will be assigned to serve in a congregation in this diocese, at the discretion of the bishop. Andrew is the son of Marilyn and Larry McMullen, also Cathedral members. He has attended the Cathedral for most of his life and served as an acolyte in his youth and as a Lay Eucharistic Minister in recent years. He is an attorney in the Kansas City area.

David Myers is finishing classes in the West Missouri School for Ministry and will be ordained to the diaconate at the Cathedral in February. He is currently serving a residency in the chaplaincy program at Health Midwest. He works as a chaplain at both Baptist-Trinity Hospital and Overland Park Regional. After his ordination, David and his wife Susan will be assigned by the bishop to serve as a deacon in this diocese.

Bruce Hall will return to classes in the West Missouri School for Ministry in January after a year's leave of absence. He has one more year before his ordination as a deacon. Bruce is completing his master's degree in social work and currently works as a social worker.

The Rev. Mark McGuire, who serves as vicar of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Lee's Summit, will be ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral on Saturday, December 7, at 10:00 AM. Mark and his wife Donna are former members of the Cathedral.

## December Adult Forum

### 9:10 AM, Founders' Hall

#### December 1: Gems of the Bookstore

The Bookstore staff is here to help. Whether it is a special gift, just the right book or a unique item, you are sure to discover some real 'gems.'

#### December 8: Living Testimonies of the Christian Faith

Ellen Goheen, formerly of the Nelson Atkins Museum, will discuss a variety of images of Chartres, the Pilgrimage Church of Vezelay and Ste. Chapelle, Paris, sharing how they are living testimonies of the Christian Faith.

#### December 15: "Healing Grace"

Deacon Michael Shaffer will help us recognize the presence of God's grace in our daily lives and learn to accept this gift in difficult and uncertain times, despite our shortcomings and unworthy nature.

#### December 22: "Aging in Place"

The Very Rev. J. Earl Cavanaugh, Dean Emeritus, will share thoughts about the road ahead and getting ready for the next society.

#### December 29: No Adult Forum

## Women's retreat

Because of the interest expressed, plans for two women's retreats are in progress for 2003. The first retreat will be held February 21-23; the second will be held May 16-18. Both will take place at the Franciscan Prayer Center in Independence. The theme for the retreats is "Healing, Humor and Hope." The cost for the weekend is \$85 per person. Some scholarships are available. Committee members include Lenette Johnson, Leona Schaefer, Marnell Sparks, Whitney Kretsinger, Kristy Moore, Dianne Logan, Bunny Reefer and Joyce Morrow.

The women customarily gather at 5:00 PM on Friday evening and leave after brunch on Sunday. All women are welcome to participate. Please call Linda Yeager at the cathedral office, 816-474-8260, if you would like to come to one of the retreats.

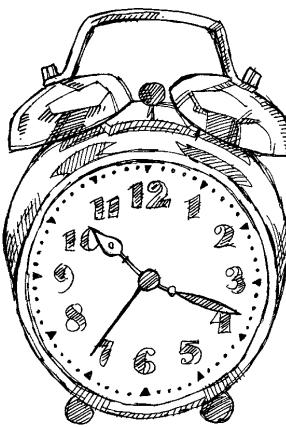
## New support groups forming

If you are interested in being part of a small group that emphasizes support for people who are divorced or a group that emphasizes support for those who are dealing with cancer, please call the Cathedral office, 816-474-8260. Also, several people have suggested forming a small group that centers on contemplative prayer. If you would like to be a part of that group, please call the office as well. In addition, an evening Bible Study is forming for men and women on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. For more information on any of these groups, contact Linda Yeager.

## There is still time

The Advent Reading Adventure will allow you to take time for yourself, enjoy a great book, fellowship and lively discussion. It begins on Wednesday, December 4 and continues December 11 and 18. The evening will begin with prayer at 5:30 PM, followed by a light supper in Founders' Hall and book discussion from 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

Two book discussions will take place. The titles, which are available in the Cathedral Bookstore, are *Skipping Christmas*, by John Grisham; and *Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The world Before and After Jesus*, by John Cahill. Childcare and children's activities will also be available. Call the office to register, 816-474-8260.



# Calendar

## Sunday, December 1

9:00 AM, Adult Forum, FH  
 9:15 AM, Choraliers, CR  
 10:00 AM, Church School, HH  
 10:15 AM, Holy Eucharist, N  
 11:30 PM, Advent Workshop, N  
 11:30 AM, Greening of the Church, N  
 11:30 AM, Pageant Rehearsals, HH  
 11:45 AM, Music Committee, CR  
 5:00PM, Order for Evening and Eucharist, N

## Tuesday, December 3

1:30 PM, Women's Bible Study, HH  
 6:30 PM, Needlework Group, Conf. R

## Wednesday, December 4

5:00 PM, Bldg & Grnds, CF  
 5:30 PM, Evening Prayer, N  
 6:00 PM, Advent Adventure, Nave, FH & CR  
 7:00 Youth Group, HH  
 7:30 PM, Choir, HH

## Thursday, December 5

7:00 AM, Men's Bible Study, CR  
 6:00 PM, Bells, HH  
 6:30 PM, EFM, CF & YR  
 7:00 PM, Concert, N

## Friday, December 6

9:30 AM, Moms' Bible Study, HH

## Saturday, December 7

9:15 AM, Youth Choir, HH  
 10:00 AM, Ordination to the Priesthood, N

## Sunday, December 8

### Blood Pressure Sunday

9:00 AM, Adult Forum, MP  
 9:15 AM, Choraliers, CR  
 10:00 AM, Church School, HH  
 11:30 AM, Pageant Rehearsal, HH

## Monday, December 9

7:00 PM, Quilting Small Group, CF

## Tuesday, December 10

1:30 PM, Women's Bible Study, HH  
 6:30 PM, Gardening Group, HH

## Wednesday, December 11

5:30 PM, Evening Prayer, N  
 6:00 PM, Advent Adventure, FH & CR  
 7:00 Youth Group, HH

## Thursday, December 12

7:00 AM, Men's Bible Study, CR  
 12:00 N, "The City Come Again," N  
 6:00 PM, Bells, HH  
 6:30 PM, EFM, CF & YR  
 7:00 PM, Couples' Bible Study, MP  
 7:30 PM, Choir, HH

## Friday, December 13

9:30 AM, Moms' Bible Study, HH  
 8:00 PM, *The Wise Women*, N

## Saturday, December 14

9:15 AM, Youth Choir, HH  
 2:00 PM, *The Wise Women*, N  
 5:00 PM, *The Wise Women*, N

## Sunday, December 15

9:00 AM, Adult Forum, MP  
 9:15 AM, Choraliers, CR  
 10:00 AM, Church School, HH  
 11:30 AM, Pageant Rehearsal, HH  
 12:00 N, LEM Lunch, MP  
 2:00 PM, KC Chorale, N  
 6:00 PM, Caroling Party, Johnson's,  
       5241 N. Baltimore, Gladstone

## Monday, December 16

5:15 PM, Stewardship, CR

## Tuesday, December 17

1:30 PM, Women's Bible Study, HH  
 6:30 PM, Guild/Christ Child, YR  
 7:00 PM, Blakesley Reading Society, ??

## Wednesday, December 18

5:30 PM, Evening Prayer, N  
 6:00 PM, Advent Adventure, FH & CR  
 7:00 Youth Group, HH

## Thursday, December 19

7:00 AM, Men's Bible Study, CR  
 5:00 PM, Vestry, CR  
 6:00 PM, Bells, HH  
 6:30 PM, EFM, CF & YR  
 7:30 PM, Choir, HH

## Friday, December 20

9:30 AM, Moms' Bible Study, HH  
 8:00 PM, Wm. Baker Festival Singers, N

## Saturday, December 21

9:15 AM, Youth Choir, HH  
 10:30 AM, Pageant Rehearsal, HH & N  
 2:00 PM, Singalong rehearsal, Nave

## Sunday, December 22

9:00 AM, Adult Forum, MP  
 9:15 AM, Choraliers, CR  
 10:00 AM, Church School, HH  
 2:00 PM, *Messiah* Singalong, N

## Tuesday, December 24

1:30 PM, Women's Bible Study, CR  
 3:00 PM, Children arrive/Pageant, HH  
 5:00 PM, Christmas Pageant, N  
 10:00 PM, Choral Prelude, N  
 10:30 PM, Festal Eucharist, N

## Wednesday, December 25

10:15 AM Festal Eucharist, N  
**Offices Closed**

## Thursday, December 26

**Offices Closed**

## Friday, December 27

9:30 AM, Moms' Bible Study, HH  
 6:30 PM, Parenting, HH

## Saturday, December 28

9:15 AM, Youth Choir, HH

## Tuesday, December 31

1:30 PM, Women's Bible Study, CR

## Church Chuckle

I MAY NOT BE A "WISE MAN," BUT AT LEAST I NEVER GOT SO LOST I HAD TO ASK HEROD FOR DIRECTIONS.



# Memorial and thanksgivings

## Sunday, November 3, 2002

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harriet Minty Russell and Frederick Forsha Russell; also in thanksgiving for her daughter, Beverly Sloan, by Mrs. Herbert A. Sloan.

At the baptismal font in thanksgiving for their daughter, Eliza Lynn Johnson, by Jeff and Valerie Johnson.

## Sunday November 10, 2002

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charline Schmelzer by Bill Fisher; and in loving memory of Lillian Cozzi Pellet by her daughter, Tricia Pellet Lyddon.

At the baptismal font they are given in thanksgiving for Carl Ryder; and in loving memory of her parents, Muriel and Harry Hall, by Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Walker, Jr.

At the chapel altar, the flowers are given in loving memory of Helen Curdy by Isabel Curdy.

## Sunday, November 17, 2002

The flowers at the Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of his sister, Mary-Scott Kaiser, by Leo Crabbs, Jr. and in thanksgiving for her daughter, Linda and husband David, by Clint Haberland.

At the chapel altar, the flowers are given in loving memory of Charles Culloden Chapple by his wife, Sally Chapple.

## Sunday, November 24, 2002

The Harvest Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her father, William H. Shackelford, Jr., by Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Seidlitz, Jr.

At the baptismal font, the flowers are given in thanksgiving for their granddaughter, Amanda Tilley, by Bud and Candy McDowell.

At the chapel altar, the flowers are given in thanksgiving for Phyllis Ryder.

## Thanksgiving Day

In memory of David Reifschneider and in thanksgiving for his life, by Alan and Phyllis Ryder.

## December Youth News

The Youth Group begins December with a Nomadic Dinner on the first. This annual tradition is a multi-church event in the form of a progressive party. We gather at St. Thomas in Overland Park for salad and appetizers plus ice-breaker games. Then we'll travel to St. Andrew's for our main course. Last stop: St. Paul's on Main Street for dessert and a closing worship.

In other news, the Youth will be customizing their space this month in a great Youth Group Tradition: Painting the Youth Room! Only God and the kids know what it will look like when they're done, so poke your head in if you're curious. Merry Christmas!

## Family caroling party

St. Amand's Chapter invites all families at GHTC to come join them for an evening of good food and singing Christmas carols. We will gather at 6:30 PM at Steve and Lenette Johnson's new house at 5241 N. Baltimore, Gladstone. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. The main dish will be provided as well as the beverages and "kid foods."

Childcare will be available for the littlest ones, but this is a family outing, and we encourage the participation of any children who wish to sing. Please call the office, 816-474-8260, to make your reservation and arrange for childcare.

## Births

**Emily Cecilia Morrison** was born September 5, 2002, weighing 8 pounds, 5 ounces. She is the daughter of Chris and Christine Morrison.

Robert and Jodi Culp have a new baby boy. **Tyler William Culp** was born on September 26, 2002.

