

**Rector's Reflections...“I'll have a Blue Christmas without you...”**

Elvis Presley's hit song rings true for many people during the extended holiday period (from Thanksgiving Day to New Year's Day). This Blue Christmas often overshadows the holiday period because we recall the loss we have experienced in our lives: deaths of loved ones and friends, job terminations, or hurricane destruction.

We usually associate the holidays with family get-togethers, and with their death we now have an empty seat around the Thanksgiving table or Christmas tree. The recollection of that absence often results in a very Blue Christmas.

With those holiday blues in mind, St. Mark's Episcopal Church will host a Blue Christmas Vigil (followed by a time for food and fellowship) on Sunday, December 9, 2018 during our 6:00 p.m. celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

This Blue Christmas Vigil will offer us all the opportunity to honor and remember the friends and loved ones we miss during the holidays, seek the Lord's healing for our grief and learn ways to cope with the challenges of a Blue Christmas. And perhaps you know a friend or coworker who would benefit from the Spirit's healing touch during this holiday season.

Warmest regards,

Fr. Tony Clark

**The Weekly Word**

December 9, 2018

**St. Mark's Calendar**

**This Week:**

December 9

**Ornament Making**

9:00 a.m.

**Blue Christmas Vigil**

6:00 p.m.

**Save the Date:**

December 16

**LaPosada Rehearsal**

9:00 a.m.

**LaPosada**

6:00 p.m.

December 23

**Advent Lessons and Carols**

10:15 a.m.

**Jerome Wells' Farewell**

**Reception in the Cloister**

11:30 a.m.

December 24

**Christmas Eve Services**

6:00 and 10:00 p.m.

(Christmas Carols begin at 5:45 and 9:45 p.m.)

December 25

**Christmas Service**

10:00 a.m.

December 25 and 26

**Parish Office Closed**

December 31

**New Years Eve**

Parish Office closed

January 1, 2019

**New Years Day**

Parish Office Closed

**Family Advent Events:**

December 9 at 9:00 a.m.

**Ornament Making and Tree Decorating**

All ages are welcome to come make Christmas ornaments and help decorate the tree in Payne Hall.

We will have a special visit from St. Nicholas that morning as well!

December 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us as we gather under the porte cochere for **La Posada**. Travel with Mary and Joseph on their journey to find lodging before the birth of Jesus. After, we will head upstairs to Payne Hall for dinner, live music, and piñatas!

The Some Other Place Angel tree is up and located by the office. There are names of boys and girls from our area. Please write the number and the name of the child on the sheet along with your name and number. All presents need to be at the church by December 12. If you would like to donate but don't have the time or patience for shopping this time of year, please put a check or cash in an envelope marked Angel Tree and put it in the offertory plate and I will do the shopping. Please make checks out to me so the bookkeeping is less for the church. Please remember it is the Season of Sharing. Thank you, Cynthia Harland



**Please Pray For...**

Margo Abshire	Carol Bayard	Michael Boyer	Wilbur Butler	Angela Broussard	Tom Broussard	Gabriel Carreon
John Clark	Richard Clark	Hal Clarke	Ann Cobb	Howard Cobb	Rebecca Couverette	Marty Craig
Brenda Davis	Chris Dobson	Nicholas Edwards	Carleen Faucett	Chad Ferguson	Tracy Mabry Fink	Katherine Gardner
Mary Anna Glasgow	Elizabeth Gwin	Cherie Ball-Harding	Cindy Harland	Margie Nell Harris	Pryce Haynes	Brittney Henslee
Bridget Hoke	Jessie Hoke	Jeannie Hood	Harrison Jordan	Kevin Kabelle	Betty Kirwin	John Lavergne
Wanda Lawhorn	Eileen Monte	Emilie Neild	John Nelson	Neal Nielson	Clare Parker	Sherry Perkins
J. T. Richard	Joyce Richardson	Rachael Risch	Dale Robinson	Shirley Salisbury	Chris Sherman	Sue Simcox
Melissa Miller Sitos	Katie Smith	Sheila Smith	Larry Talley	Millisent Taylor	Charlie Thompson	Sharon Wagner
Margaret Wheelus	Joyce Williams	Melinda Williams	Kelly Wilson	Ben	Beverly	

**For those who have died...**

**For those serving in the Military...**

Joe Alexander	Danny Anders	Christian Bornefeld	Justin Clark	Tony Clark+	Stephen Davis	Travis Goodwin
Isaiah Grant	Brad Holton	Jimmy Howell	James Fredericks	Kaffrey Jacobs	Erwin Jasmin	Madison Johnsen
Michael Kobilijak	Lucas Low	Joseph Lynch	Joshua Lynch	John Matlock	Colton Means	Collin McBride
Logan Nunez	Will Odham	Tony Ogden	Stephen Ricker	Gavin Ritchie	Donnie Romero	Jesse Russell
Grady Salisbury	Adam Schlegal	Brian Shajari	Daniel Lee Smith	Matthew Smith	Morgan Smyth	Gary Tipton
Tim Uncapher	Stuart Williams	Roland Zech				



## Happy Birthday!

Dec 9 – Frank Hogan, Beverly Silloway, Ninette Teel  
 Dec 11 – Catherine Birdwell, Della Rising  
 Dec 12 – Marcia Crone  
 Dec 13 – Frances Rouse, Kaye Shepherd  
 Dec 14 – Marvin Bullard, Seanna Stinebrickner  
 Dec 15 – Charles Campbell, Jo Ellen Lavergne, Connie Smith

### Parish Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday  
 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
 Friday  
 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

### Weekday Worship:

Holy Eucharist -  
 Tuesday 12:00 Noon  
 Thursday 9:45 a.m.  
 Friday 7:00 a.m.

Morning Prayer -  
 Monday-Thursday  
 9:00 a.m. (The Abbey Room)

### Sunday Worship:

Holy Eucharist at  
 8:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m. and  
 6:00 p.m.

### Contact us:

409-832-3405  
 409-832-8045 fax  
 info@stmarksbeaumont.org  
 Facebook and Twitter  
 @stmarksbeaumont  
 www.stmarksbeaumont.org

### The Treasure House

409-832-0253  
 treasure\_house@yahoo.com  
 Monday – Friday 10:30 a.m. -  
 6:00 p.m.

## Christmas Poinsettias and fresh green wreaths

will adorn the Church on Christmas Eve.

Please sign up with the insert  
 in the Sunday bulletins.

Your dedication will be listed in the  
 Christmas Eve Bulletin.

Cost: \$30 poinsettias, \$40 wreaths.

**The deadline is, Dec. 17.**

St. Patrick's Guild's annual Christmas party and gift exchange will begin at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec 11 at Amelia Farm and Market, 8600 Dishman Rd. Please RSVP to Alice Nolan, 866-3120.

Although frozen chili is sold out, spice packs and St. Mark's Christmas ornaments are still available for sale at \$5.00 each. They make great Christmas gifts for family and friends near and far!