

Sunday, December 20, 2009

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

THE CHILDREN'S MUSICARE PROJECT FEATURING MUSIC TOGETHER.

Trinity Church West Pittston is pleased to announce the award of a license to operate as a Music Together Center! Feel free to spread the news and share the registration form with families with young children. See Prince of Peace Bulletin Board for more details. **Music Together** is an internationally recognized early childhood music program for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarteners, and the adults who love them. Music Together classes are based on the recognition that all children are musical. By emphasizing actual music experiences rather than concepts about music, Music Together introduces children to the pleasure of making music instead of passively receiving it from CD's or TV. Trinity's ten week Winter Semester begins January 13, 2010. Each **Music Together** semester includes ten weekly 45-minute classes teaching a new song collection every fall, winter and, spring, a complimentary booklet and DVD for new Music Together families, professional recordings each semester [2 CD's: one for home and one for the car!] with new songs, rhythm chants, "play-alongs," and tonal and rhythm patterns, and a beautifully illustrated song book with family activities to enjoy at home. Come experience the joy of family music! The semester is strictly limited to no more than 12 children in each class and classes are filling up rapidly. Don't delay. Register your child today. **For more information visit www.musictogether.com.**

God willing, The Right Reverend Paul V Marshall, Bishop of Bethlehem, will ordain to the Sacred Order of Deacons in Christ's one holy, catholic and apostolic Church

*Brian Alexander Pavlac Christine Marie Sutton
Michelle Denise White*

on Monday, the twenty-first of December, two thousand and nine, The Feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle, at St Stephen's Pro-Cathedral 35 South Franklin Street Wilkes-Barre, at seven o'clock in the evening. Your prayer and presence are requested. Reception to follow.

MINISTERS

Celebrant	The Reverend John Major
Organist	Bernard Gardzalla
Lector / Intercessor	Liz Plashinski
Eucharistic Minister	Linda Shrader
Acolytes	Kelly & Lindsey Jacobs
Ushers / Oblationers	Bev Cushner, Matt Stretanski
Altar Guild	Sandy Sheehan, Megan Palmer, Grace Goeringer
Vestry Counter	Matt Stretanski

The Music

Prelude: Offertoire sur le "Ave Maria".....Alexandre Guilmant
Gathering Hymn: *Creator of the Stars of Night # 60*
Opening Hymn: *O Come Emmanuel #56 vs 7 & 8 ONLY*
Gradual Hymn: *Tell Out My Soul The Greatness of the Lord #437*
Presentation of Offerings: Doxology #380 vs.3
Communion: Advent Fantasia.....B. Gardzalla
Post Communion Hymn: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
(Pew Rack) verses 1,2, refrain, 3
Closing Hymn: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus # 66*
Postlude: Carillon de Westminster.....Louis Vierne

The Lectionary

The Collect of the Day

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (*The people sit.*)

The First Reading: *Micah 5:2-5a*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM: *The Song of Mary Magnificat Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Reading: *Hebrews 10:5-10*

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: *Luke 1:39-55* (Stand & Face the Gospel)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Announcements

WELCOME We are pleased you have come to worship with us today. If you have any questions about our service, please feel free to speak to an Usher or someone seated near you.

PRAYER LIST Please remember to keep those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit in your prayers this week, especially: *Heather, Jack, Sarah, Matt, Debbie, Hennie, Brian, Hans, Karen, Len, Lee, David, Maryann, Bob, Therese, Sandy, Laura, Matt, Greg, Andy, Connie, Shane, Taylor, Ann, Sue, Lisa, Patti, Sherry, Jeanie, Justin, Dan, John, Charlie, Dawn, Christine, Specialist Robert Price & the Lee Family.*

CHRIS SUTTON As you all know our very own Chris Sutton is being ordained as a Deacon. Chris' long journey to this outstanding service has not been without some expenses. In an effort to assist Chris with her journey, during the month of December we will be having a second plate offering. This additional offering will go directly to Chris to help her defer the cost of some of these purchases. A listing of what Chris needs is posted. If you would rather contribute privately and purchase something specific for her please see Lisa Kasarda for arrangements.

HELP!! Several Members of the Parish would like to attend the Ordination on Monday but are unable to drive after dark—If you can help provide a ride for one or more people, please contact Jennifer ASAP!!

ADOPT A FAMILY A few more gift requests remain on the bulletin board in the parish hall, please help as you are able!!! The wrapping party will be on **Tuesday, December 22 at 6:00 pm**—All gifts must be in by then.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S PAGEANT All of those who are participating in the Christmas pageant are asked to be at the church by 3:30 pm on Christmas Eve, Thursday December 24.

CELEBRATION/RECEPTION FOR CHRIS SUTTON On January 3rd we will be celebrating the ordination of Chris Sutton to deacon. Chris will come back to us for this Sunday and we are planning a light refreshment and celebration immediately following the ceremony. If you are interested in helping out or donating some baked goods please see Lisa Kasarda.

2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available in the Parish Hall. Envelopes are made available to all contributors. If you do not see your envelopes, please contact the church office.

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS must be received here in the church or postmarked by December 31 in order to be credited for 2009 and deducted on your 2009 taxes.

2010 STEWARDSHIP If you have not yet turned in a Commitment Card for 2010, it's not too late!! Cards can be mailed into the church or placed in the offering plate. If you need a card, please see or contact Jennifer.

CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Tuesday, December 22th 9 am -2 pm Wednesday, December 23rd as needed The Office will be closed From December 23—January 4. The office will re-open of Tuesday, January 5. In Case of Emergency you can contact Father Major at 654-3261.