

will build my Church

THE LEAFLET

1712 St. Peter's Church 2023

107 STATE STREET ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207 (518) 434-3502

*THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 17, 2023 ~ 8:30AM*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light these three candles of Advent to proclaim
the great humility of God our Savior.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest and People:

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Priest: Our King and Savior draweth nigh.

People: O come, let us adore Him.

ADVENT HYMN #56 (stanza 6)

O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Thou art Peter & upon this rock I

and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 17, 2023

8:30 A.M. • HOLY COMMUNION and SERMON

+ OPENING ACCLAMATION	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 323
+ KYRIE ELEISON	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 324
COLLECT FOR THE DAY	SEE INSERT
THE FIRST LESSON	ISAIAH 65:17-25
THE PSALM	PSALM 126
THE EPISTLE	1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-28
+ THE HOLY GOSPEL	JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

SERMON ~ THE REV. CHRISTINA HUNTER, PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

+ THE NICENE CREED	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 327
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 328
THE GENERAL CONFESSION	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 330
ABSOLUTION	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 332
THE PEACE	
OFFERTORY	
SANCTUS/BENEDICTUS	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 334
PRAYER OF CONSECRATION	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 334
PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 337
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 339

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sins. *Amen.*

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

(+ALL STANDING)

THE GREENS ON THE MAIN ALTAR are given to the **Glory of God**
and in thanksgiving for God's Blessings

~ Parish Notes ~

Newcomers: If you are interested in receiving more information about St. Peter's Church please feel free to call the church office or fill out an information card that is located in your pew. If you would like to be added to the church directory please call the church office.

Pledge Cards: Pledge cards for 2024 have been mailed out to all parishioners. If you did not receive a pledge card please call the church office or you can grab one from the back of the church. It would be greatly appreciated if you could please take a minute to complete your card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate during the service. Pledges can also be made on the St. Peter's website at www.stpeterschurhalbany.org by clicking on the "Get your pledge card" button. You may also call the church office and we would be more than happy to complete a card for you. Thank you to those that have promptly completed and returned their pledge card or pledged online.

Advent Early Morning Prayer on Zoom: Please join Mtr. Christina for Morning Prayer on Zoom, Monday through Friday at 6:30AM from December 4th through December 22nd. The service takes about 20 minutes. Coffee and pajamas are just fine. Bring your Prayer Book and Bible or just come to listen. All are welcome to prepare with prayer for the arrival of the Lord! Zoom Meeting ID: 837 6018 1434. Password: 027098.

Hanging of the Greens: The decorating of the church will take place today immediately following the 10:30AM service and the traditional ham luncheon will be served at 1PM. We hope that you will stay for this long-time festive tradition.

Christmas Poinsettia/Hanging of the Greens Donation Form: The deadline to submit your requests is today, Sunday, **December 17th** (See Insert).

Christmas Giving Tree: Today is the deadline to return the gifts for the South End Children's Café. If you took an ornament from the Christmas tree please give your wrapped gift, with the paper ornament attached, to Laura Saffares, Pat Shortall or Janice Chenot. Thank you for giving these children a very 'Merry Christmas'.

ADVENT IV SUNDAY: Next Sunday morning, December 24th, please note that there will only be one morning service offered to celebrate Advent IV. This service will be a regular Sunday morning 8:30AM Holy Communion "said" service. The 10:30AM service will not be held. Christmas Eve services will be held later that day at 4:30PM and 10PM.

Christmas Eve Choral/Family Service: Next Sunday, December 24th at 4:30PM. All the children of St. Peter's are invited to join in the procession of the Crèche. Each child will carry a piece of the manger to be put together before the service. Please meet in the Pumpelly Room for your piece. Questions? Give Laura Saffares a call at (518)368-4284.

Christmas Eve Choral Service: Next Sunday, December 24th at 10PM. Prior to this service the choir will sing a choral prelude at 9:30PM.

Christmas Day Service: Monday, December 25th there will be a Holy Communion service at 9AM.

Church Office Closed: In observance of Christmas and New Year's, the church office will be closed on Monday, December 25th, Tuesday, December 26th and Monday, January 1st, 2024, respectively.

Children's Chapel: Children's Chapel will be held on Sunday, December 31st during the 10:30AM service (and on every 5th Sunday of the month). Please join Mother Christina in the Sunday School Room on the second floor of the Guild House. We hope you will bring your children to participate in this children's ministry. Dr. John Davis will be preaching at both the 8:30AM and 10:30AM services.

Annual Parish Meeting: On Sunday, January 28th, 2024 the Annual Parish Meeting will be held immediately following the 10:30AM service. We invite you to grab a cup of coffee and join us in the church.

Please remember in your prayers: Mari Bennett, Fred Buse, Inga Carpenter, Gina Chenot, Ann Collins, Bill Collins, Morris Daly, Anne deVos, Moriah, Marie Dolan, Hunter Dolbert, Donald Fahd, Donna Hershey, Fred Hershey, Doreen Johnson, Mark Lundberg, Diana Martin, Kevin Mastro, Ed Murphy, Sonya, Lindsay Norville, Grant Ohlman, Donna Ohlman, Deej Patterson, Vicky Pautler, Bill Purdy, Liam, Cyndy Shaffer, The Rev. Dr. Brad Smith, Eileen Smith, Sherrell Smith, Susan Smith, Carol Stafford, Earl Stafford, Dean Tessitore, Carol Tripp, Christina Wright.

Birthdays: 12/17 ~ Raymond Perricone; 12/19 ~ John DeBonis; 12/21 ~ Nancy Guest

Anniversaries: 12/19 ~ Raymond & Dorothy Roohan; 12/22 ~ Terrence & Barbara Kelly

OFFICE HOURS

MON. - FRI. 9:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM
TELEPHONE: 518-434-3502
FAX: 518-462-4419

ST. PETER'S CHURCH WEBSITE
WWW.STPETERSCHURCHALBANY.ORG

VESTRY

James Chenot.....Sr. Warden
Deborah Spath.....Jr. Warden
George Scala.....Treasurer
Christie Gordon.....Clerk

Pete Benson, Ashley Closson,
Sharon DeBonis, Samuel Hartt,
Fred Hershey, Maria Holden,
Mark Lundberg, and Jeff Russom

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INTERIM BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALBANY

The Rt. Rev. Michael G. Smith

Scan here to give to St. Peter's
Church. This will bring you to
our website and you will then
need to click on "Donate".
Any amount is appreciated.
May God bless you for your generosity!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 17th

8:30AM Holy Communion and Sermon
10:30AM A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, Sunday School and Child Care
11:30AM Hanging of the Greens immediately following the service
1:00PM Ham Luncheon in the Parish Hall

Wednesday, December 20th

12:05PM Noonday Prayer
12:30PM Lectionary Lunch

Thursday, December 21st

5:30PM - 7:00PM Full Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 24th ~ Advent IV / Christmas Eve

8:30AM Advent IV Holy Communion and Sermon
4:30PM Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion with Crèche Procession
9:30PM Choral Prelude
10:00PM Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion

Monday, December 25th ~ Christmas Day

Office Closed
9:00AM Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS AT THE DAMIEN CENTER: Thanks to all who signed up early, we have our basic menu for Christmas Day covered. We welcome any additional side dishes or desserts that you may be moved to provide – perhaps something that is special to you. There are disposable pans available in the back of the church to make your presentation and delivery as easy as possible. Please take what you need. We will be collecting and delivering dishes for Christmas Day after each service on Christmas Eve – if you could put your dish in the Pumpelly Room refrigerator, or just hand it off to Laura Saffares (4:30) or me (10:00) at one of the services, we will make sure it is at the Damien Center on Christmas Day. If it's easier to bring your dish in before Christmas Eve, just let us know. Thank you for your ongoing support. Sharon DeBonis scdebonis@verizon.net, 518-669-5054 (cell and text).

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

- **Lessons and Carols:** Today during the 10:30AM service
- **Hanging of the Greens:** Today following the 10:30AM service with ham luncheon served at 1PM.
- **Advent IV Service:** Sunday, December 24th at 8:30AM
- **Christmas Eve Service with Crèche:** Sunday, December 24th at 4:30PM
All children participating in the Crèche procession should arrive by 4PM
- **Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion Service:** Sunday, December 24th at 10PM
Prior to this service the choir sings carols beginning at 9:30PM
- **Christmas Day:** Monday, December 25th ~ 9AM Holy Communion
- **Children's Chapel:** Sunday, December 31st during the 10:30AM service
- **Annual Parish Meeting:** Sunday, January 28th, 2024 following the 10:30AM service