

WINTER 2016

cathedral life

MAKING CHRIST
MANIFEST

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ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL · LOS ANGELES

WWW.STJOHNSLA.ORG



Meeting Christ in New Places

by Fr. Mark Kowalewski

Pilgrimages to places far away highlight the experience of meeting Christ in new places. Let's think of our whole lives as a pilgrimage, like the Magi who journeyed across many miles to find Christ.

This January I have the exciting opportunity to travel to the Holy land, accompanying other pilgrims from two parishes in the Boston area where friends of mine are rectors. This trip isn't a sightseeing tour, or a vacation. It is a pilgrimage, and as such it's about my ongoing formation as a Christian. Undoubtedly I will learn things about Israel and the Holy Land that I never knew before. I'm sure I will gain new insights and think about the places in which the events in Scripture took place in new ways. All of that is an element of what this trip is all about.

Yet what I'm looking forward

to the most is how this pilgrimage will transform me as a Christian. How will I meet Christ in new ways? Visiting the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized, or the place of the crucifixion and resurrection will I'm sure be sacramental moments — places where the physical connects me to the presence of Christ.

Yet transformative moments don't only come through pilgrimage, the church is a school for the Lord's service. It's the place where we engage the lifelong process of being made into the image of Christ.

Here at St. John's each week we have ongoing Continued on page 11



The Advent Conspiracy

by Fr. Daniel Ade

We exhort one another not to be blinded by the lights of our consumer culture, and selfish desires that can take hold of our hearts, and rather focus on what would warm the heart of our savior the most, sharing what we have with the poor and the vulnerable.

Early on Christmas Eve morning we often listen to the live broadcast of Nine Lessons and Carols from Kings College Cambridge. At the beginning of that magnificent service, echoing through the nave of a chapel where Christians have worshipped for centuries, these words are always spoken:

"because this of all things would rejoice [the] heart [of the Holy Child of Bethlehem], let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him

not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love."

The exhortation given in that service to Christians around the world is the same summons we are invited to live out during the Advent and Christmas seasons at St. John's. Each year we have been participating in the Advent Conspiracy. We exhort one another not to be blinded by the lights of our consumer culture, and selfish desires that can take hold of our hearts, and rather focus on what would warm the heart of our savior the most, sharing what we have with the poor and the vulnerable. That's why every year, as part of our Advent celebration we offer an Alternative Continued on page 11

The Guibord Center

Religion Inside Out

“Now More Than Ever”

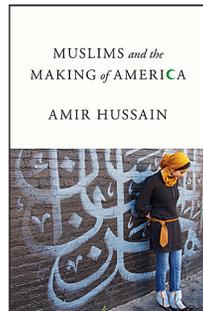
by THE REV. DR. GWYNNE GUIBORD

Long before the recent election, The Guibord Center selected the phrase “Now More Than Ever” as the theme for our programs in 2017. Little did we know just how prophetic that phrase would become. Recently I made the following statement on Facebook:

“Now more than ever The Guibord Center affirms the spirit of compassion and justice that is the heart of all faith traditions. We stand steadfast in our commitment to uphold the dignity and sanctity of all people.”

Please join me in that spirit for the first program of 2017, on Saturday, January 14th from 3 – 5pm at St. John’s Cathedral when I enter into conversation with Dr. Amir Hussain, author of “Muslims and the Making of America.” We can all do something positive by being willing to learn about our neighbors. The more we know about one another, the more we will stand together. The book will be available for purchase and autograph immediately after the talk.

Islam and American Muslims have always been important threads in the fabric of this nation’s life. Dr. Hussain chronicles the history of Islam in America particularly in music, sports, and culture to show the valuable ways



Dr. Amir Hussain

Muslims have shaped and transformed American identity.

This talk could not be more timely!

Dr. Amir Hussain is Professor of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, where he teaches courses on Islam, American Muslims, and World Religions. His own particular specialty is the study of Contemporary Muslim societies in North America. From 2011 to 2015, Amir was the editor of the Journal of the American Academy of Religion, the premier scholarly journal for the study of religion in the United States. In 2008, he was appointed a fellow of the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities. He is the author or editor of five other books, as well as over 50 book chapters and scholarly articles about religion.

Please register for this gathering: www.theguibordcenter.org

All programs of The Guibord Center are free and all are welcome to attend. ✕

2017 Event Calendar

Saturday, January 14, 2017

3pm – 5pm

“Muslims and the Making of America”

Dr. Amir Hussain

speaking with Rev. Dr. Gwynne Guibord

Saturday, February 25, 2017

“Beyond the Veil: Life After Death”

10am – 12pm: Jewish, Muslim, Christian Panel
Lunch

1pm – 3pm: Buddhist, Hindu, Sikh Panel

Saturday, March 18, 2017

2pm – 4pm

“Three Great Powers Within Us”

Swami Sarvapriyananda

Saturday, April 1, 2017

7pm – 9pm

“Buddha’s Light Youth Symphony Orchestra”

From Hsi Lai Chinese Buddhist Temple

(Ages 8 – 18)

Thursday, April 27, 2017

7pm – 9:30pm

The Guibord Center’s Fundraising Dinner

Sunday, June 11, 2017

6:30pm – 9:30pm

“If’tar: Breaking of the Fast During Ramadan”

“Faiths that Fast” Panel

Saturday, September 9, 2017

3pm – 5pm

“Ancient Vedic Living in Modern Times”

Sura Das

International Society for Krishna

Consciousness

Sunday, October 15, 2017

3pm – 5pm

Topic to be announced

Diana Butler Bass

Sunday, November 12, 2017

2pm – 4pm

“The Holy Qur’an: Women, Violence, and Peace”

Panel: Edina Lekovic. Others to be announced.

Additional events will be added.

Please check the website for the latest updates.

www.theguibordcenter.org



TIM SULLENS

From Deacon
Margaret McCauley

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

The new church year began on Sunday, November 27th, the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is the season of preparation for the miracle of Christmas Day, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas is a day of happiness for families remembering and celebrating Mary, Joseph and Jesus, the baby born in humble circumstances, yet received with loving joy and worshipped as the long awaited Savior.

Celebrate in your home with an Advent wreath (purple and pink candles), an Advent calendar, and with a day for your family to provide a service for those in our community who need joy.

We invite your children to have an opportunity to explore, expand, and add depth to their knowledge of God our Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

Join us for these events designed especially with our children in mind.

Saturday, Dec. 24, 5pm
A Special Family Christmas Eve Service

Explore the religious symbols of the birth of our Lord Jesus.

Sunday, Jan. 8, 11am
The Baptism of Jesus

Our sins have been forgiven and we have new life in Jesus. How?



Feliz Navidad!
Joyeux!
Ye Dan Kuai Le!

Invitation to Parents

Parents: we'll have a Sunday School event on Sunday, January 8th during the 11am service. We'll discuss the Baptism of Jesus. Following that service parents are invited to meet for discussion of an expanded Sunday School Program. We plan to have Sunday School twice monthly from February through May with a culminating celebration in June. Come join us as we plan to bring the light of Jesus Christ into the lives of our children. ✦

From Canon
Fernando Valdes

A Day in the Life

Managing a facility like St. John's is not an easy task. From the moment the day begins until the end of the day, there are a variety of things that can and will go wrong. My day is spent battling simple tasks from making sure the heat is on and working during these brisk days of fall to "there's a leaky roof at 2626 Figueroa" and everything in between.

However, part of the appeal of my job is the variety of tasks which prevent me from ever getting bored. Among these tasks are planning events, especially weddings, as no two weddings are alike. Once I have

met with the couple and usually a wedding coordinator, I generally have a clear understanding of how they would like their special day to work. Even when couples are on a tight budget, it's my goal to make their wedding day an event to remember for the couple, their loved ones, their family and friends. I try to keep things simple for the couple and work as closely with the wedding coordinator as possible to make their special day stress free.

After all, this historical space that we call St. John's is a place for all people. ✦



TIM SULLENS

Life in Christ: Exploring the Basic Episcopal Christian Formation Program

For the past several years at the Great Vigil of Easter, we have enacted an ancient rite of the Church by baptizing new Christians, confirming and receiving new members into the Episcopal Church, and reaffirming the baptismal vows of others. All these people, along with parents seeking baptism for their children, spend several weeks studying and thinking about making this commitment to life as a disciple of Jesus Christ, or reaffirming this commitment in the context of the Episcopal Church. This year we are describing this class as Basic Episcopal Christian Formation, because we will focus on how our Episcopal tradition frames how we view the basics of the Christian faith.

You may be someone who hasn't studied their faith very much — or maybe it's been a long time since you have — or if you have never been baptized, or you're a seasoned believer, but never have been officially received into the Episcopal Church you might want to become part of this community of lifelong learners this year. We have found that this is an ideal way for people new to St. John's to be formally integrated into the community.

The program brings together people from very different faith traditions (or none) in a time of mutual sharing and learning. This year, in addition to Bible readings, we will be using a new book Fr. Mark is writing specifically for the program. The first week of the program will be Sunday, February 26, at 9:15am, and will meet every week until Easter.

During Lent, participants sit together during the 11am mass and receive the prayers of the congregation each week.

The program culminates in Holy week, especially Maundy Thursday, and, of course, the Great Vigil of Easter, where we will be joined this year by Bishop Diane Bruce. If you want to know more, please ask Fr. Mark and come to an informational session after the 11am mass on Sunday February 5. Chris and Jessica Lopez participated in the program last year and write about their experience in this issue of Cathedral Life, (see story, below). ✦

Chris & Jessica Lopez talk about their Formation Program experience

This past March, we participated in the Basic Christian Formation program at St. John's. We had only been attending St. John's for a couple of weeks, so we weren't sure if we wanted to dive right into the program since it also prepares participants (if they'd like to proceed) for baptism, confirmation, and/or reception into the Episcopal Church. However, we loved the services we had been attending and wanted to grow in our faith by learning more about the church so we went ahead.

Jessica: I first encountered St. John's through attending their Advent silent retreat in 2015 and was immediately drawn to the eclectic blend of social justice traditional liturgy, along with the

diversity I found in the congregation. Much of my identity and self-worth as a Christian had been tied up in my active participation in my previous church, but my continued involvement there was becoming increasingly incongruous with my growing relationship with Chris. We needed a new place to grow together as a couple. I had also been searching for a community where I could ask tough questions and be challenged by the sermons — something that had been lacking in other communities I had participated in. In the formation program, I learned about the rich Episcopal tradition of having a "big tent" that accepted not only both Protestant and Catholic thinking but even welcomed other faith traditions

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The first week of the Basic Episcopal Christian Formation Program will be Sunday, February 26, at 9:15am, and will meet every week until Easter.



Chris and Jessica Lopez on their honeymoon in Seville, Spain.

ADVENT CONSPIRACY

It has now become an Advent tradition here at St. John's to invite everyone to participate in the Advent Conspiracy, a global movement of people and churches resisting the cultural Christmas narrative of consumption. Think about new ways to celebrate Christmas, not based on consumer driven craziness, but on spiritual preparation and deepening personal relationships.

Once again during Advent we will have an alternative Christmas fair where you can make a donation to a good cause in the name of a family member or friend. Instead of spending a lot of money on a gift, give them a card telling them you have given a gift in their name to the St. John's Food Pantry, the Laundry Love initiative, the All Saints' Highland Park Winter Shelter, or to the Episcopal Relief & Development Clean Water program.

The St. John's Food Pantry serves families and persons in need on the first and third Saturdays of each month, from 10:30am to 11:30am in the Parish Hall. It also offers school supplies at the beginning of the fall and spring terms. www.stjohnsla.org/food-pantry

The Laundry Love initiative consists of regular

opportunities to help people who are struggling financially by assisting them with doing their laundry. www.laundrylove.org

The Northeast Los Angeles Community (NELA) has opened a homeless shelter for the winter season with All Saints' Episcopal Church in Highland Park. The "All Saints' Highland Park Winter Shelter" is open for the homeless every night from now through February 28. The pews in the sanctuary are converting into padded beds, and visitors receive sleeping bags and pillows when they arrive. The shelter is also offering an evening meal and assistance for obtaining permanent housing and social services. It is open from 7pm to 6am. www.recycledresources.org

We are sharing our resources with a global project through Episcopal Relief & Development to provide clean water for people in developing countries who are in tremendous need. The Clean Water program is part of an integrated strategy that focuses on preventing the spread of disease while promoting overall community health and well-being. Donations to the Clean Water program contribute directly to helping people worldwide gain access to safe water for drinking, washing, and cooking, and promotes sanitation and hygiene education. www.episcopalrelief.org/what-we-do/our-programs/clean-water

Let's conspire to change the way we celebrate Christmas. www.adventconspiracy.com ✦



Worship fully

by allowing ourselves the time and space of personal prayer and coming together as a community, not just on Christmas but throughout the Season of Advent.

Each day, spend a few moments in quiet with Scripture, or say the Daily Office.



Spend Less

by being more thoughtful about the gifts we give to those we love. Flashy and lavish does not equal love.

**Light an Advent wreath with your family.
Spend time with each other.
Give presence.**



Give More

by participating in our alternative Christmas fair and sharing with those who have less than we do.

Pick up a gift at our alternative Christmas Fair table on Dec 4, 11 or 18.



Love All

by transforming the way we think about Christmas, maybe we can focus on the headline message of Christmas: *God so loved the whole world that God became one of us in Jesus.*

Volunteer with one of our good causes, and live Jesus' commandment to care for the poor.

Advent & Christmas

at St. John's

Advent

■ Advent I, November 27

Christian formation class on using the advent wreath.

■ Advent II, December 4

11am: Advent Carol Service. Hear and sing familiar favorites.

9pm: Compline at the Cathedral

A 30-minute service of candle-light, stillness, prayer, and song, followed by simple food and fellowship.

■ Advent III, December 11

Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete, the Latin word for "Rejoice" is used in this service as we light the rose candle on the Advent wreath and wear joyful rose-colored vestments.

■ Advent IV, December 18

11am: A celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Special music will be provided by *Mariachi Tesoro*, and coffee hour celebrating the Latino community at St. John's.

Christmas

■ Friday, December 23

5pm: Greening of the Church
Dinner will be provided.

■ Christmas Eve, December 24

5pm: Family Service with Children's program
Familiar carols followed by a Christmas party and piñata.

10:30pm: Solemn Christmas Mass

All the fanfare and pageantry of Christmas Eve at the Cathedral Traditional hymns and carols sung by all, with special offerings sung by the Cathedral Choir, accompanied by The St. John's Baroque Ensemble.

■ Christmas Day, December 25

No 8 am Mass this day

11am: Quiet Christmas Mass
Traditional carols.

New Years Day

No 8 am Mass this day

11am: Holy Eucharist
Begin the New Year celebrating the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, with Traditional hymns and carols.

4pm – 7pm: Open house

Come to a Parish-wide open house at Clergy House. Please sign up during the Coffee Hours following each mass, or call/email the Church Office so that the cooks will know how much food to prepare:

213.747.6285/churchoffice@stjohnsla.org.

We invite you to look around and get a feel for our community.

We hope to provide a space that welcomes both the spiritual seeker and the seasoned disciple so that people from many starting points can find their home in God with us.

Mid-Week Services:

Tuesday Morning Prayer services: Every Tuesday at 10am

Tuesday Evening Prayer services: Every Tuesday at 6:30pm

Wednesday evening Contemplative Eucharist: A quiet service held in the back of the Cathedral at 6:30pm

Upcoming Events, Activities & Announcements

Women of St. John's: Let's Sing, and Eat, and Sing!

Mo. Gwynne Guibord and Dr. Lo Sprague invite the women of St. John's to their home for a Christmas celebration of song and the sharing of a meal.

When: Sunday, December 18

Time: 5:30pm Dinner followed by Christmas Carol Singing

Where: 146 South Beachwood Drive, Los Angeles, 90004

Dress: Comfortable

RSVP: Please sign up at the back of the church. We are eager to have you all back ... it's time to celebrate!

Anglican Communion Online Advent Calendar

Christians across the world are being invited to celebrate the season of Advent through an interactive, multilingual online calendar. The website www.adventword.org went live on Advent Sunday (Nov. 27) in nine languages including, for the first time, Arabic. It allows people

around the globe to create together an advent calendar with images shared by their mobile phones.



Help decorate the Cathedral for Christmas!

The annual Greening of the Cathedral will take place on **Friday, Dec. 23**, beginning at **5pm**. Volunteers are most welcome, and very much needed! A dinner follows. Sign up during the Coffee Hour. Please see Matt Leum for details.

Our Music Ministry and Flower Guild

Please consider a donation for Christmas flowers and music. Our Music Ministry and our Flower Guild depend on your gifts for your generosity. Envelopes are available for your donations (you can also donate online via the Cathedral website). We invite you to make a gift in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for a special person or occasion. Include this information in your gift (texts received will be printed in Christmas bulletins), and please ... give generously! ✦

St. Lucy's Day Cookie Sale

To benefit the Food Pantry, Laundry Love, and the All Saints Highland Park Winter Shelter

All the women of St. John's (and all men, too!) are cordially invited to donate at least two dozen cookies for the sale (home-made, if possible).

On Saturday, December 10, at 10am, come for breakfast! Then help prepare assorted cookies on festive plates for the Sunday sale.

Please sign up for the event!



FORMATION PROGRAM

Continued from page 5

to share their beliefs and worship practices with us, such as the Guibord Center. The formation program sparked an interest that has continued to grow in us as we've become more involved in the life of the church.

Chris: I'm a bit introverted by nature, so it's a little hard for me to just jump right into a group social setting where I feel like I may be pressured to talk or do something. However, the formation program was not like that at all. You don't have to talk or share if you aren't comfortable. You don't have to be or become a member of the church. You can just sit back, listen, and learn — and I found that very comforting. You can simply come as you are.

In the program we were assigned readings from scripture and chapters from two books: *New Clothes* by John Newton and *Unabashedly Episcopalian* by Andrew Doyle. During our Sunday morning group meetings, Father Mark led the group discussion on the readings we had for the week. He encouraged us to share any thoughts or questions we had. We could be critical. We could ask "dumb" questions (which are never dumb and often the most important ques-

tions). We could ask about things that bothered us. Overall, this created a supportive environment for great discussions and growth.

Jessica and I both come from different Christian backgrounds. I was raised Roman Catholic in a very traditional family. Jessica was raised in an agnostic home, but was later baptized and became very involved with an evangelical Protestant college ministry and church in South Los Angeles. So in a sense, finding St. John's was a prototypical via media (or "Middle Road") response to our melding of faiths. However, our coming to St. John's and joining the church was not some calculated compromise. Rather, it was truly based on faith, community, and a love of God. And it was through the Basic Christian Formation program that we started to realize that this was the place for us to grow in faith.

Jessica: Growing in faith as a couple requires examining long-held assumptions about God and community. The formation program gave us the forum to ask questions about theology but also to nurture our own spiritual growth through studying scripture and learning to pray individually and together. If you're questioning whether you should participate, we highly encourage you to take the risk. ✦

Ongoing Christian Formation 4-class series

Advent: Preparing for the Christmas Feast
November 27,
December 4, 11, 18
9:15 am

Advent is a Season of Preparation that gets lost often outside of church because of all the busyness of the season. During this time, we will provide tools for keeping Advent in your home with practices such as the Advent wreath and Advent Calendar. Ned Tipton will help us explore the theology of beloved Christmas hymns and carols, and we will examine the specific themes of the church during this season, like waiting, watching, interior "house-cleaning," and the words of the prophets.



The Vestry Nominations Committee is currently accepting names for four positions for a three-year term on the vestry of St. John's Cathedral, in accordance with our bylaws. If you have an interest in serving on the Vestry, or would like to nominate someone else, please read the statement of qualifications on the welcome table and give the name to one of the members of the committee listed below. All nominations are reviewed by the Vestry who determines the final slate at its December meeting. There are no nominations from the floor. Aveline Kimbell avelineck@att.net; Ron Hartwig hart4452@yahoo.com; Lurelean Gaines Gaineslb@elac.edu; Matt Leum matthewleum@hotmail.com.



Upcoming Concerts

✦ A concert by the newly-formed, but already highly-acclaimed chorus, Tonicity.

✦ Another concert by the USC Thornton University Chorus, followed a week later by the USC Thornton Chamber Choir.

✦ A concert of works by two extraordinary women composers of the early 20th century – Marie-Madelaine Duruflé-Chevalier and Amy Marcy Cheney Beach, in collaboration with the Sorel Organization of New York City.

More information forthcoming.

Arts at the Cathedral

by NED TIPTON,
CANON FOR MUSIC MINISTRY

Our 2016-2017 season is in full swing! So far, we've seen: **The Chalk Repertory Theater's *Flash Festival*** – 15 fascinating one-act plays written to be performed only at St. John's; ***Jazz Vespers*** by our ensemble-in-residence, **N2K**; and a deeply-moving ***Concert for All Saints/All Souls*** sung by our **Cathedral Choir** in memory of those killed by gun violence (in collaboration with our Social Witness Committee); and the **USC University Chorus** in concert.

What's to come? Although our Christmas Eve late service is not exactly a production of the Cathedral Arts Guild, I would like to mention the special music included for that service: the **Cathedral Choir** will be joined by the **St. John's Baroque Ensemble** to offer, during the service, beautiful and festive music by the unchallenged master of Baroque music, J. S. Bach. (The "St. John's Baroque Ensemble"

Cathedral Arts Guild Mission Statement

The Cathedral Arts Guild at St. John's serves its congregation and welcomes others from every community by celebrating God's message of love and beauty through the arts. We believe the Creator has given us artistic gifts of music, literature, art, drama and dance that enable both participants and listeners, performers and observers alike to comprehend more fully the beauty of holiness" and the "holiness of beauty." Our mission is to share our talents and to engage audiences by providing a wide array of performances for an equally wide array of people that lift the spirit and open the heart to a better understanding of God's grace.

— from Canon Ned, Artistic Director and Walter Killmer, Cathedral Arts Guild chair

is simply a name I've given the group of instrumentalists — I decided not to use "The Adams Ensemble!"

In January, N2K (Katherine Cash, violin; Norm Freeman, vibraphone) will offer an unusual event called a *Soul Break*. Basically, there will be no "service," per se, in that the event will be entirely instrumental. Neither will it be a concert. Katherine and Norman are deep believers in the Continued on page 12



The Cathedral Choir performs *A Concert of All Saints & All Souls*, in memory of those killed by gun violence.

FR. MARK

Continued from page 2

Christian formation every Sunday morning at 9:15am. The forums we have each week of course give us new information and insights about the Bible and our faith, but far more central are the opportunities to engage the living Christ through the Scriptures, through one another and through thoughtful reflection on theological and social issues we explore week by week.

So as I prepare to go to the Holy land on pilgrimage, I invite each of you to make a pilgrimage to St. John's each week at 9:15am. It may be earlier than you are used to, but I think you will find a community of people who are seeking to know Christ more deeply in their lives

and to help one another on that journey. Upcoming events include preparing ourselves for meeting Christ at Christmas, the focus of our Advent forums. During the Season of Epiphany, we will welcome Sister Greta and Brother Dennis from the Community of Divine Love. See the weekly updates and bulletins for a complete listing of topics.

Pilgrimages to places far away highlight the experience of meeting Christ in new places. Let's think of our whole lives as a pilgrimage, like the Magi who journeyed across many miles to find Christ. May we also see him more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly, day by day. ✦

FR. DAN

Continued from page 2

Christmas Fair. Cards are available so that when you make a donation to one of our social witness ministries, you can give that card to a friend or family member and let them know you gave a gift in their name to help those in need. We all have a lot of stuff and maybe we don't need so much more of it. What about giving a gift that connects you with the one who we celebrate this season, the one who loves and is present in those who have little of this world's goods?

This year, we highlight four different ministries for our Christmas Fair. Two of these are St. John's ministries: Laundry Love, helping those who are poor to have the dignity of clean clothes; and our Food Pantry, helping to provide nutritional groceries for the needy in our

neighborhood. We also will give to a regional ministry, the Winter Shelter at All Saints, Highland Park. During Winter they open their doors to the homeless on winter nights. They also provide a meal in the evenings and our support will help with the work. Finally, we are sharing our resources with a global project through Episcopal Relief and Development to provide clean water for people in developing countries who are in tremendous need.

Many of the people in our local ministries are poor immigrants, among the most vulnerable in our communities. Those across the world are among the poorest on the globe. By caring for them we care for Christ himself who came among us in vulnerability. ✦



We invite you to join us as we gather as a community to pray in the candlelight that shines in the darkness

Compline at the Cathedral

Compline at the Cathedral is a worship opportunity geared towards students and young adults, although all are welcome to attend. This 30-minute, candlelit service of prayer and song takes places at St. John's every 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month at 9pm. Food and fellowship always follow the service. We invite you to join us as we gather as a community to pray in the candlelight that shines in the darkness. To sign up to receive the Compline E-news, please visit www.stjohnsla.org/compline or email Liz McQuitty at churchoffice@stjohnsla.org.

Please Note:

Compline will be on Winter break from Dec. 18 through Jan. 1. The last Compline service of the calendar year is Dec. 4. We will resume services again on Jan. 15. ✦



Engaging in matters of Life & Spirituality

by LIZ McQUITTY,
CANON FOR YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The Flipside young adults group at St. John's has enjoyed opportunities to gather in homes during the Fall season, once on the patio outside of Deacon Fernando's apartment, and once at the home of Liz and Beth. These gatherings have been casual, centered around food, wine, and conversation. Our last gathering featured a lively discussion on the topic of evil, and engaged questions such as where we see evil in the world, and what a faithful Christian response might be to it. These events have been enriching from a spiritual standpoint because we have benefited from the generosity of those willing to share of their own faith and spirituality. They have also been enriching from a relational standpoint, helping us all to know each other a little bit better than when we first walked through the door.

This Advent Season, we look for-

ward to gathering together once again to celebrate the Christmas season. We will gather this time at Clergy House for a festive Christmas party! We also have the unique opportunity to move from engaging avenues of fellowship and discipleship into an act of service at the Alternative Christmas Fair, which will run for three Sundays in December: 4, 11, and 18. Members of the Flipside will staff the tables and help parishioners make purchases to benefit one of four different causes: the Cathedral Food Pantry, Laundry Love, All Saints Highland Park's Winter Shelter, or the Episcopal Relief and Development water project.

If you are someone in your 20s or 30s and you're looking for a community to engage matters of life and spirituality, please contact Liz McQuitty at **church.office@stjohnsla.org** for more information on how to get involved. We would love to get to know you! ✦

CATHEDRAL ARTS

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healing, restorative, and binding power of music. We'll be seated in the Choir stalls of our beautiful cathedral church, which will be lit by candles only (with the exception of stronger lighting for the musicians). The music performed will have been chosen to take us for a moment "elsewhere" besides our sometimes-troubled world.

Other events, later in the season:

✦ A concert by the newly-formed, but already highly-acclaimed chorus, *Tonality*.

✦ Another concert by the **USC Thornton University Chorus**, followed a week later by the **USC Thornton Chamber Choir**.

✦ A concert of works by two extraordinary women composers of the early 20th century — Marie-Madeline Duruflé-Chevalier and Amy Marcy Cheney Beach, in collaboration with the **Sorel Organization** of New York City.

These events would not be possible without the efforts of our Cathedral Arts Guild. Members give their time and talent to many tasks, and new volunteers are always welcomed. Please see the mission statement of the Cathedral Arts Guild **on page 6**. ✦

cathedral
life

THE MAGAZINE
OF ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

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On the cover: "A Forest of Stars" by
wallpercave.com.
"Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness."
— Fauxbourdons, The English Hymnal 1933