



THE DECEMBER DOVETALE

St. David's Episcopal Church

2020

A Pandemic Advent and Christmas

Just for kicks, I looked back at what I wrote for the cover of the Dovetale last December. What a different time that was!

And yet the basic meaning of Advent hasn't changed. It is a time of preparation to meet our Lord. We prepare ourselves to celebrate Christ's birth come Christmas Eve. And we look forward in hope to Christ's eventual return to establish God's kingdom in all its power and glory.

Normally what I try to stress is that Advent is a season for slowing down (despite the Christmas madness!), for being intentional about our spiritual practices, for making time for God. All that remains true, of course. And our Advent formation program this year is about exactly that.

But this year is different. Many of us are still busy. I know I am. But at the same time, I have an odd feeling of being on hold while I wait for the pandemic to ease up, for a vaccine to be approved, for it to be safe to congregate in our building and to gather with friends and family. This really is a time of waiting.

As another priest in the Diocese pointed out at one of our MANY meetings, that sense of waiting, of being on hold, is actually a big part of what Advent is about. She invited us to imagine what life must have been like for Mary at this time two thousand years ago. Mary is going to give birth to God incarnate. IN NINE MONTHS!! I bet those months seemed to move pretty slowly!

And as Mary waited for Christ to be born, she couldn't know exactly what would happen next. She was too busy working things out with Joseph, travelling to Bethlehem for the census, and then continuing on to Egypt to escape Herod after Jesus' birth. Along the way, she received a prophetic warning that "a sword will pierce your own soul too" (Luke 2:35). I suspect that warning lingered in her mind as she watched Jesus grow up! That was Mary's Advent experience.

Two thousand years later, we find ourselves forced to undergo our own loosely analogous Advent experience. We wait for the next development, and we wonder how long the pandemic will go on, and we live with uncertainty about the ultimate impact of Covid on our nation, our economy, our parish, and our families. Sometimes my soul feels a little pierced!

Ironically, pandemic makes for a real Advent kind of season.

So this year is different. Most years, I encourage people to give Advent its due, not to rush to Christmas too quickly. But in this pandemic/Advent moment, we need to remember where we are heading. We need the good news of Christmas. God is coming. God is with us. And with God's help, we will be OK. Thanks be to God.

Father Harvey

Moving Inside, Fr. Harvey

Last month, I wrote an article with this same title. Unfortunately, I meant something very different than I mean now. Then I was looking forward to congregational worship in our building. Unfortunately, the pandemic intervened, preventing us from moving inside in that way.

Now, as the weather is becoming more unpredictable, we are discontinuing our drive-in worship. But since the pandemic continues to be a threat, we can't gather as a congregation. That means our services will be exclusively online at least for the month of December, including Christmas Eve.

The vestry made this decision at the urging of the Diocese and only after much soul-searching. Unfortunate though it is, I am convinced it is for the best. As we have been told many times, staying safe is a way of loving our neighbors.

Communion During a Pandemic

Even though we can't worship together in person in December, we want to make sure that people have access to Holy Communion. With the Bishop's permission, we can make consecrated wafers available before and after services. Our plan is to do both. Immediately following the 9:00 Sunday service (and also the Christmas Eve service), we'll leave consecrated wafers on a table in the narthex for at least thirty minutes for people to pick up. You can also pick up consecrated wafers during the week on Wednesday from 11:00 to 1:00, Thursday from 11:00 to 12:30, and Friday between 11:00 and 3:00.

Our suggestion is that you consume the sacrament as close to the worship service as possible. So, if you pick it up immediately following the service, consume it right away. If you pick it up during the week, wait until the next service and then consume it just after the prayer of consecration.

One last suggestion: if possible, have someone else give you the host while saying the words, "The body of Christ; the bread of heaven." Ideally Communion is something we all give to each other.

Pandemic Adjustments

It seems like most of the articles in this issue of the Dovetale are about pandemic adjustments! But this article is specifically about things that we have to cancel this year. Hopefully we can bring back some or all of them next year. With sadness, I say that we can't have Breakfast with Santa; a parish Christmas Party; the Agawam Christmas Project; the Blue Christmas Service; or Greening the Church. Sigh.....

Worshipping at Home on Christmas Eve

We won't be able to gather as a congregation to worship this Christmas, which is a huge bummer. But we can still worship. It just takes a little more effort and creativity.

On Christmas Eve, we plan to livestream Christmas Carols beginning at 3:30. Hopefully we can get booklets with the songs to everyone beforehand so that you can join in the singing. And here is the good news for the non-singers in the crowd. No one will be able to hear you except people you live with! That means you can belt out the carols without embarrassment!

Our service will begin at 4:00. It will be our usual Christmas Eve service, complete with more hymns and our usual fabulous sermon (OK, that was a little self-serving!). We'll mail a bulletin with the complete service to all parishioners so that everyone can fully participate. And here's another bonus to going digital. You can watch it anytime thereafter! Those who prefer a late service can have it!

We can't distribute Communion at the service. But we will make consecrated wafers available the preceding week for those who want to pick it up and then consume the sacrament while watching the service. For a half hour or so after the service, we'll put the wafers we just consecrated on a table in our entryway. You can pick them up then and consume them as the last act of the service.

I do have one Eucharistic suggestion. If you are gathering with others on Christmas Eve, give the sacrament to each other rather than taking it yourself. That is a reminder that communion is something we do as a community. If you are alone, just remember that you are participating in a congregational service even if you happen to be alone at that moment.

We will also livestream a simple Christmas Day service at 9:00. It will be from Fr. Harvey's home and look a lot like Morning Prayer, except with Christmas readings. That, too, will then be available on our Facebook page for the whole day.

A Blue Christmas

We won't have our regular Blue Christmas service this year. But we can keep at least part of that tradition going. During Advent and Christmas, we'll put our little Christmas tree near the altar, with the goal of having it visible when we livestream services. As we have done in the past, we will decorate it with paper ornaments that include the names of people we want to remember at this time. You can mail an ornament to the Church with the name(s) already on it, or just send the names to Fr. Harvey and he will write it/them on an ornament. Either way, we'll get the ornaments with names onto the tree!

A Christmas Collage

A fun idea that is still taking shape as I write this is to create a parish Christmas Collage, or maybe two. The ideas floating around at the moment are: (1) people mail in a picture of their tree, decorations, stockings, etc.; and/or (2) people mail in pictures or other small memento of people they miss. Someone (other than Fr. Fr Harvey!) will create a collage that we can display on our door or perhaps during our services. Be on the lookout for more information about this!

Christmas Flowers

Normally we have a special offering for Christmas Flowers. Things are obviously quite different this year. But we still plan to decorate the altar with poinsettias. If you would like to contribute towards our Christmas flowers, please mail a check for \$15 to the Church, with Christmas flowers in the subject line. If you would like to make the donation in honor of someone, please include a note telling us who.

Friday Healing Eucharist

Our building is closed at least through December, which means we will not have our Friday Healing Eucharist. We will resume that service as soon as it is safe to do so.

Virtual Pastoral Care

As the weather turns cold and we all retreat inside, it is more important than ever that we be sensitive to each other's needs. Isolation can be as harmful as the covid-19 virus, and it is likely to increase. Please stay in touch with your brothers and sisters at Saint David's. Reach out by phone or e-mail or in whatever other way seems appropriate. In this season especially, send cards to people's homes. And if you are struggling, emotionally, financially, or logistically, please let Fr. Harvey know.

Prayer Shawls

This is a great time to make, use, or give someone a prayer shawl. If you have one to be dedicated, let Father Harvey know, and he can include a prayer of dedication as part of our Sunday service. If you would like to pick one up from the Church, please let the office know, and we'll try to make appropriate arrangements. Prayer shawls can be a great comfort to people who need a little boost, and that is a lot of us these days! Thanks to everyone who participates in this wonderful ministry!!!

Technology Update, by Fr. Harvey

We continue to work at upping our technology game, and now the Diocese is offering a little help. We can apply for a grant covering up to \$2000 of technology upgrade expenses. Conversations have begun about what we might want to do next. If you have ideas, please let me know!

Wine-Making Ministry

If you would like a bottle of homemade wine as a unique gift or a way to increase your own Christmas cheer, please contact Mary Moore. The suggested donation is \$10, and the varieties available (while supplies last!) are: Cabernet Sauvignon; Chardonnay; Malbec; Blueberry; and dry and sweet meads. All proceeds go to support our mission and ministries.

Daily Prayer

We (Saint David's) continue to offer Morning Prayer every weekday at 8:00. Deacon Terry leads it on Mondays and Fridays, and Father Harvey leads it on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Saint Mark's is in transition—their rector recently moved to Maine to be closer to family—but I believe they continue to offer Compline each evening at 8:00.

There are two big weekdays this month. We'll offer Morning Prayer on Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve!), but probably without our normal short homily. We'll offer Morning Prayer on Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day!), but *at 9:00* rather than 8:00.

Please take advantage of these services as you are able. And please spread the word!

Annual Meeting and Call for Nominations

I am not at all sure what our upcoming Annual Meeting will look like. It seems exceptionally unlikely that we will be able to gather in person. Presumably that means we will meet on Zoom. But that raises difficult issues of access as well as notification.....

But here is what I can say about our hopes as of now. Our hope is to have our Annual Meeting immediately following the service on the fourth Sunday of January, as usual. In 2021 that means 10:00 on January 24. At the hoped-for meeting, we will receive reports from our ministries; the 2021 budget will be presented; and we'll elect a new vestry as well as Convention representatives.

This is therefore also a call for nominations. The following positions are all one-year terms: Senior Warden; Junior Warden; Clerk; Treasurer; and Assistant Treasurer. We elect people to fill those positions every year. In addition, two members of the vestry complete their three-year terms each year, and so we always need to elect people to fill two regular vestry positions. This year, we also need to elect people to serve out two uncompleted terms: one for a single year and one for two years.

I am happy to say that many of the people who are currently serving have agreed to continue, if elected at annual meeting, and we have already received a couple of nominations for positions that we know will be vacated. But I believe we still need at least one or two more people.

Unfortunately, we cannot simply put out nomination forms and a box for nominations. If you would like to nominate someone (including yourself!), please contact the Church office or Fr. Harvey. If you nominate someone other than yourself, please first make sure they are willing and eligible to serve! Thanks!!

Gifts for Life

Carrie and I will never live in a bigger house than our current home. As a result, from this point forward for the rest of our lives, we have to reduce the amount of stuff we own. And here we are in the Christmas season! One way we avoid accumulating too much more junk is exchanging “gifts for life.” Instead of physical gifts, we make an appropriate donation to organizations like [Episcopal Relief and Development](#), [Heifer](#), or [Food for the Poor](#). If you make the donation early enough, which has never happened in my house, they will send you a card that you can give to your “givee”. To see the catalogs, just click on the links.

The Financial Picture

I am happy to report once again that we remain in remarkably good financial shape. Thanks to the faithfulness and generosity of our people, we have a budget surplus! That is a remarkable accomplishment in the midst of a pandemic!!

Our Vestry and the Budget

Our vestry does many things, but one of the most important is creating our budget. The vestry will begin working on the 2021 budget this month. If you have suggestions about ways to save or spend money in 2021, please let someone on the vestry know. Thanks!!

“They shall name him Emmanuel, which means, ‘God is with us.’”
(Matthew 1:23)

Contemplative Prayer and Lectio Divina

“Lectio Divina” is a prayerful reading of a Bible passage, interspersed with short periods of silence. The basic question we ask ourselves is, what is God saying to me through this passage? Since we are not having our Friday Eucharist in December, we plan to offer contemplative prayer on Zoom every Friday (except 12/25 and 1/1) at 2:30. Contemplative Prayer is good for us anytime, but it is especially appropriate as an Advent discipline. Please join us!

Reading the New Testament

We are coming to the end of the New Testament, and you know what that means: the book of Revelation! In weekly e-mail updates, Father Harvey announces the chapters for the week and attaches a link to a helpful video on the material for that week. We also gather once a month for conversation—on Zoom for the duration of the quarantine. In December, our conversation will be Tuesday the 15th at 4:00. All are welcome to join us, whether or not you have been reading the New Testament through the year. This is another good option for Advent, a season when we prepare ourselves for the coming of our Lord.

Mission Statement

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to love God and community, committing ourselves to lives of joyful worship, prayer, and the teaching of scripture.

Closing Our Building—Again!

At the strong recommendation of the Diocese, the vestry voted to close our building at least through December. We are allowed in to livestream services. Office volunteers will continue to check messages and bring in the mail. We are making a special exception to allow our twelve step groups to continue to meet, which we do because the groups are small and have been consistently careful. But we will not be keeping normal office hours. If you need to get into the building for some reason, please contact Fr. Harvey or one of the wardens.

Advent Formation: Spiritual Practices in a Pandemic, by Fr. Harvey

Sundays at 10:30; 12/6, 13, and 20 on Zoom

We will talk together about Prayer (12/6); Silence/Solitude (12/13); and Fasting (12/20). We'll begin and end each session with prayer, look at a couple of short passages of Scripture, and then talk about our experiences over the last year as well as our hopes for the remainder of the pandemic. We'll include the Zoom link in our e-mails each week. Contact me if you would like the log-in information in some other form.

Beloved Community: Sacred Ground

Several of us joined a “Sacred Ground Circle” for serious conversations about race and faith. The circles have met twice so far, and will continue to gather once every three weeks or so for ten sessions. Who knows what the next eight sessions will bring! But so far our conversations have been really rewarding. Hopefully this year's participants will share our experiences when we are a little farther along. If there is interest, we can start another circle when these are finished.

Friday Bible Study at 1:00

The Friday Bible Study continues to meet on Zoom each week at 1:00, with two exceptions this month. We won't meet on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. We are now reading Paul's letter to the Galatians. Next up is First Corinthians. Please join us! And spread the word!

Discretionary Funds, by Father Harvey

This is my regular reminder that Deacon Terry and I both have small discretionary funds which are intended to give people a little financial boost when necessary. If you get in a bind, please talk to me or him. I should add that the conversations and any help from either of our discretionary funds will be fully confidential.

Outreach during a Pandemic by Fr. Harvey

Our Parish continues to reach out to help those in need in really impressive ways. We have delivered the “undies” to the Springfield Rescue Mission and continue regularly to drop off food items for the Parish Cupboard. We mailed off our United Thank Offering, which will be pooled with the offerings of other Churches around our Diocese and the country, and then been used as grants to help people in need.

Under Jim Shields’ wise leadership, we are making a year-end donation to Episcopal Relief and Development, which will be matched by a generous donor. We are also giving money to the Parish Cupboard and to the Springfield Rescue Mission. Our donation to the latter will feed something like 80 people at Christmas time.

We continue to seek creative ways to help. We can’t do our normal Church without walls service and feeding. But I am in conversation with Martha Tighe at the Parish Cupboard about possibly offering home-made goodies to their people at Christmastime. Deacon Terry is in conversation with the folks at the Springfield Church without Walls about ways we might help them. (They are not having services at this point, but continue to offer a free lunch each Sunday.)

I end as I did last month. This is not an easy time for any of us. But your generosity has made it a lot better for a lot of people in our area! Thanks!!!

Young Scholars Program, by Fr. Harvey

This is a request for contributions of time, not money! The Young Scholars Program offers college scholarships to elementary school students. You read that right—elementary students. The idea is that promising but at-risk children benefit from early interventions. The children come from the MLK Charter School and the White Street School, both in Springfield. The schools nominate the children. The Young Scholars Program promises money if/when the children actually go to college. In the meantime, the schools and the program combine to offer enrichment and support.

If you would like to join this effort, please talk to me. I have served on the Board of the Program for the last few years, and I strongly recommend their work. You can also check them out online at www.youngscholarsfund.org. The Program can always use money, but the real need at this point is for “scholar partners.” Each partner tracks one or more students. At a minimum, that means getting their report card each summer. That has been my own practice. For people with more time, partners are invited to get more engaged in the lives of their scholars. Particularly in this time of disrupted school, children can use a little extra adult support! For most supporters, this is the most rewarding part of the work since it means getting to know the children and their families.

Prayer Cycles

By the end of this month, we’ll put out updated versions of our two monthly prayer cycles, both of which are available in the narthex and on our homepage under the “Worship” tab. One lists all the nations of the world, and the other lists the people and the ministries of Saint David’s. Please take a look particularly at the list of our people and ministries. We want to make sure to include everyone!

Please also give the prayer cycles a try if you are not already doing so. It takes just a few minutes each day, and over the course of a month, you pray by name for every nation in the world, and every member and ministry here at Saint David’s. We could all use more prayers these days!

Prayer Requests

Back in the good old days, by which I mean ten months ago(!), we listed prayer requests in the bulletin each week. We can’t do that now. If you would like us to include a prayer request in the prayers of the people on Sundays or in Morning Prayer during the week, please let Fr. Harvey know. We also have an online prayer chain. To put out a prayer request on it, please contact Father Harvey or Kathy Glista. Do the same if you’d like to receive the prayer requests. If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself, please first confirm that the person would like to be on the list. And don’t forget thanksgivings. It’s good to offer those, too!!

Creation Care - Connecting with Nature by Mary Moore

Did you know that simply taking a walk outside can improve your mood? As you commune with nature, your body releases chemicals that are good for your heart and your state of mind. The exercise (walking) also helps relax you and increase your feelings of well being. This is good news as we deal with the pandemic that has worn down so many of us and that does not appear to be going away any time soon. But cold weather is coming. What can we do?

As a group, the Creation Care Team decided not to limit our nature walks to official Creation Care season. Our goal is to offer these hikes every few months, the most recent being in mid November at Robinson State Park. Don't worry if you don't like trekking through the woods. There are easier trails, such as strolling down the road. Stay informed of our scheduled hikes by checking Father Harvey's weekly newsletter. And remember that a walk around your neighborhood can be just as rewarding as a hike.

If mobility or the weather are problems, there are other ways to connect with nature: put up a bird feeder, watch a sunrise or a sunset, check out the stars. When you do go outside, even if it is simply to get to your car, pause for a moment to look at a tree, a bird, or the sky; smell the air; listen for bird songs. Stay connected.

Creation Care, Kids' Corner: Clouds by Mary Moore

Activity: Over the next week or two, go outside and look at the clouds, maybe even draw pictures of what you see. You might see a few different kinds of clouds. Here are three common types of clouds to look for. Stratus clouds - usually grayish and cover big sections of the sky like a blanket. They usually mean rain or snow, or at least a cold day.

Cumulus clouds - puffy, low-lying clouds that can get pretty tall sometimes. They are usually flat along the bottom. They might remind you of cotton balls. When they are bright white, that indicates good weather. Sometimes they can be very dark. That usually means there's a thunderstorm coming.

Cirrus clouds - These are the thin wispy clouds way up high. They are made up of ice crystals.

Sometimes you will see more than one kind of cloud in the sky at the same time.

FROM THE KITCHEN

BANANA BREAD FROM CAKE MIX.



1 BOX OF YELLOW CAKE MIX
3-4 BANANAS
2 EGGS

MASH EGGS AND BANANAS UP TOGETHER
ADD CAKE MIX (do not use the oil and eggs called for in mix)
MIX ALL TOGETHER UNTIL NICELY COMBINED.

SPRAY 2 BREAD PANS WITH PAM AND COVER LIGHTLY WITH FLOUR
FILL PANS WITH MIX AND BAKE AT 350 FOR 45 MIN UNTIL DONE.

Communion During a Pandemic

Even though we can't worship together in person in December, we want to make sure that people have access to Holy Communion. With the Bishop's permission, we can make consecrated wafers available before and after services. Our plan is to do both. Immediately following the 9:00 Sunday service (and also the Christmas Eve service), we'll leave consecrated wafers on a table in the narthex for at least thirty minutes for people to pick up. You can also pick up consecrated wafers during the week on Wednesday from 11:00 to 1:00 and Thursday from 11:00 to 12:30.

Our suggestion is that you consume the sacrament as close to the worship service as possible. So, if you pick it up immediately following the service, consume it right away. If you pick it up during the week, wait until the next service and then consume it just after the prayer of consecration.

One last suggestion: if possible, have someone else give you the host while saying the words, "The body of Christ; the bread of heaven." Ideally Communion is something we all give to each other.

The Book of Common Prayer and The Daily Office

One of the great, and often neglected, resources of our tradition is the Prayerbook. Now more than ever we all need to be cultivating a regular practice of prayer at home, and the Prayerbook can help. Our livestreamed services come from the Prayerbook and are intended at least partly as an opportunity for folks to use these prayer services themselves. We have also copies of a specifically Advent version of Morning Prayer, along with the schedule of readings for December. We can mail them to anyone on request. Just call the office or send Fr. Harvey an e-mail.

There are lots of other options in the Prayerbook as well. The result is something that will work for even the busiest people.

If you need a Prayerbook, let Fr. Harvey know and we can arrange a time for you to pick one up at the Church. You can also order one for yourself, of course. An easy-to-navigate online version is available here: [Online BCP](#).

Prayers in the Church Building, by Fr. Harvey

One of the things the Bishop allows, indeed encourages!, us to do is open our building for times of private prayer. We can't simply open the building up because we don't want people to unintentionally gather. But if you are interested in some private time in the sanctuary, let me know. One easy option is Fridays between 11:00 and 3:00, when I am there anyway, the Church is unlocked, and nothing is happening in the sanctuary. Other times are possible, too. But please don't just come unannounced. Let me know in advance what time (s) you would like so that I can make sure you have the sanctuary to yourself.

Advent Retreat with the Diocese: Space for Jesus December 12, 10:00-12:00, with Rev. Margaret Bullit Jonas

In these tumultuous times, what better way to welcome Jesus than to set aside a quiet morning to make room for his birth in our hearts and minds? During this Advent Quiet Day, we will step away from our daily tasks and concerns so that we can listen with full attention to the Spirit's movement within us. Our intention will be to awaken to the divine Presence being given to us, moment by moment, breath by breath. Our time together will include presentations and guided meditations, with options for solitary reflection (indoors or out) or small group conversation.

Please bring a candle and matches, if you can. For the periods of free time, you may wish to have a journal or art supplies nearby, or a good warm coat so that you can head outside. Together, let's create a space for Jesus to be born again in our lives. **This online retreat is open to all, free of charge.** But you need to register to receive the Zoom link. If you are interested, you can register through the Diocese' homepage. Fr. Harvey can help with that if need be.

Advent at Home

Advent Wreath: This is an easy and rewarding devotion for use at home, often at suppertime. You can find LOTS of suggestions online. You can also use a form we developed from the Episcopal *Book of Occasional Services* and the Church of England. Contact Fr. Harvey if you would like to receive it.

A Jesse Tree: This is an ancient idea that is increasingly used as a fun way to observe Advent. The idea is to add a decoration symbolizing a biblical character to the "tree" each day (or each week). A helpful website giving a little background and suggestions for biblical characters is:

<https://www.whychristmas.com/customs/jessetrees.shtml#:~:text=But%20now%20Jesse%20Trees%20are,is%20hung%20on%20the%20tree>.

Advent Calendar: We use a homemade calendar from my childhood along with cheap ones we buy filled with chocolate. If you want to make your own, one helpful website is:

<https://www.housebeautiful.com/entertaining/holidays-celebrations/g22715715/diy-advent-calendar-ideas/>

Advent Devotionals are all a little different, but typically have a common format: a short passage of Scripture, a meditation, and a brief prayer. We have lots at the Church. Give one a try!

Greening your Home: We normally "green" (i.e. decorate) the Church on the Sunday before Christmas Eve in order to mark the transition from Advent to Christmas. Consider doing something similar at home. Hold a few special Christmas ornaments, particularly Christian ones, until sometime after Sunday, December 20. Then put them out while listening to Christmas music.

AIR FRYER

CHEAT SHEET

VEGETABLES

Asparagus	200C / 400F	5 mins
Beets	200C / 400F	40 mins
Broccoli	200C / 400F	5-8 mins
Brussels Sprouts	200C / 400F	15 mins
Cauliflower	200C / 400F	10-15 mins
Corn on the Cob	200C / 400F	15 mins
Green Beans	200C / 400F	5 mins
Kale Chips	200C / 400F	3-5 mins
Mushrooms	200C / 400F	5 mins
Capsicum / Peppers, whole	190C / 380F	15 mins
Potatoes, cut	200C / 400F	30 mins
Potatoes, whole	200C / 400F	50 mins
Pumpkin / Squash	200C / 400F	30 mins
Sweet Potato, whole	200C / 400F	30 mins
Tomatoes, halves	180C / 350F	10 mins
Zucchini, sticks	200C / 400F	10 mins
Carrot, sticks	180C / 350F	20 mins

LAMB

Loin Chops	200C / 400F	10-12 mins
Rack of Lamb	180C / 350F	20-30 mins

PORK

Bacon	180C / 350F	10 mins
Pork Chops	180C / 350F	10-15 mins
Pork Loin / Shoulder	200C / 400C	30 mins
(then for every 500g / 1.1lbs)	180C / 350F	30 mins

CHICKEN

Whole Chicken	180C / 350F	50 mins
Breasts, boneless	180C / 350F	10 mins
Drumsticks	180C / 350F	10 mins
Thighs, bone in	180C / 350F	15 mins
Wings	180C / 350F	8-12 mins

FISH AND SEAFOOD

Calamari	200C / 400F	5 mins
Fish Fillet	200C / 400F	10 mins
Salmon	180C / 350F	10-12 mins
Scallops	200C / 400F	5-7 mins
Prawns / Shrimp	200C / 400F	5 mins

BEEF

Meatballs	180C / 350F	10-15 mins
Burgers	180C / 350F	20 mins
Corned Beef / Silverside	180C / 350F	60+ mins
Sausages	180C / 350F	15 mins

VEGETARIAN

Tofu	190C / 370F	20-30 mins
Tempeh	180C / 350F	15-20 mins

FROZEN

French Fries	200C / 400F	15 mins
Tater Tots	200C / 400F	15 mins
Sausage Rolls	200C / 400F	15 mins
Chicken Nuggets	200C / 400F	10-15 mins
Egg Rolls / Spring Rolls	200C / 400F	8-10 mins
Mozzarella Sticks	200C / 400F	8 mins
Onion Rings	200C / 400F	8 mins
Chicken Tenders	200C / 400F	15 mins

SNACKS AND SWEETS

Roasted Nuts	180C / 350F	5-8 mins
Chickpeas	200C / 400F	15 mins
Baked Apples	200C / 400F	15 mins
Muffins	160C / 320F	15 mins

AIR FRYING TIPS

- Times will vary depending on your air fryer model and other variables like the size of your cut of meat. Use the suggested times as a rough guide to get you started.
- Always preheat the basket either through a preheat setting or running the air fryer on the temp specified.
- Only use a little oil. You really don't need much.
- Don't overload the basket. Fries, tater tots etc can overlap but for meats make sure they are in a single layer.
- Shake the basket regularly for more even cooking.
- When cooking something for the first time check on it 5 mins before the time specified to see how it's tracking.
- Invest in a meat thermometer - takes out the guess work!
- It's safe to use oven-safe accessories in the air fryer, like silicone muffin cups, as well as aluminium foil & baking paper (as long as they are weighed down or covering food so they don't fly up).

ANSWERING THE CALL (by Ted Zern)

By the time you read this brief message, we will have partially concluded the first piece of the stewardship campaign for 2021, i.e. a gathering of our financial gifts to the glory of God. I say partially since monetary pledges for 2021 continue to be joyfully accepted. So, if you were still considering how and why to give, or perhaps have simply forgotten to do so, rest assured it is not too late. It is easy to make your pledge; just an email to tzern@comcast.net with the amount and frequency of giving serves that purpose.

In early February, we will be asked to consider the next segment of how each of us might be willing to give of our time and talent to advance the mission not only of St. David's but also living out the call to make this world just a little better in the coming year. With God's grace, there is renewed hope of a COVID vaccine that will prayerfully lead us back to communal worship and a return to life as we once knew it. There is no question that the last 9 months have been challenging. Yet we remain grateful to Fr. Harvey and the Vestry and the yeoman's dedication of the worship leaders, parking lot ushers, music techs, and a host of others for maintaining our focus on worship and service. We are blessed to be among the faith community of St. David's.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I wanted to share a perspective offered by Davey Gerhard, Executive Director of The Episcopal Network for Stewardship. He speaks to the representation of the Epiphany and what it means in a year of Faith Filled Generosity.

"Jesus begins his ministry by gathering others — it is nearly his first public act after his baptism. Peter, Andrew, James, and John are the first to hear Jesus' invitation to follow. It is a call so clear, so convicting, that they drop everything to follow it. Jesus leads them, as he leads us, through countryside that is native and into wilderness that is wild. As Jesus moves through Galilee, beginning his three-year ministry, he is extravagant with his generosity, inspiring faith and growing his following. We take note that Jesus does not hold back anything from those to whom he ministers, proclaiming the good news, healing every disease, and teaching everywhere he went. This is the model he sets for us: to inspire faith and generosity in those we meet through our own acts of sharing and love.

As the Epiphany continues to demonstrate examples of faith and generosity in the months of January and February, we encounter the familiar words of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The direct teachings of Jesus point us toward looking beyond law and tradition and finding moments of grace that break through our routines and our daily lives. We find this collection of teachings so inspirational because they are at the same time about the basic elements of our lives and our greatest aspirations and challenges. Epiphany calls us on a journey, and by faith we will arrive at the Transfiguration. This is how we begin a year of faith-filled generosity."

Our gifts of time, talent, and treasure makes this faith journey possible. In the words of Tiny Tim, God Bless Us, Each and Everyone!

“God loves a cheerful giver”

Second Corinthians 9:7



Christ replaces
fear and
despair with
hope and joy.
DALE G. RENLUND

***HAPPY
HOLIDAYS
ALL.
STAY HAPPY AND SAFE***

**DOVETALE Deadline
BY JO JOUBERT**

The deadline for the January Dovetale
Articles are due December 23rd.
Please submit your articles early to joubertjo77@comcast.net
Thanks!!



“Kind words can be short and easy to speak,
but their echoes are truly endless.”

Mother Teresa (1910 – 1997)

***St. David's Episcopal
Church***

**699 SPRINGFIELD STREET
FEEDING HILLS, MA 01030**

PHONE: (413) 786-6133

FAX: (413) 786-4682

EMAIL:

saintdavids@comcast.net

**WE'RE ON THE WEB @
WWW.STDAVIDSAGAWAM.ORG**

Mission Statement

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to love God and community, committing ourselves to lives of joyful worship, prayer, and the teaching of scripture.