

November 28, 2025



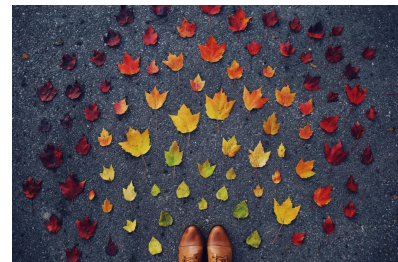
Advent Begins This Sunday

Happy Thanksgiving! The Advent Season -- and a new church year -- begins this Sunday. **We welcome Advent as a time of waiting and quiet preparation** for the Light of the World to come among us. As we light the Advent wreath each week, we will remember the gifts of Christ that remain among us: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

"The Lesson of the Falling Leaves"

by Louise Clifton

*the leaves believe
such letting go is love
such love is faith
such faith is grace
such grace is god
i agree with the leaves*



Sunday Hymns Preview

Click on the title to listen

#56 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

#60 Creator of the Stars

#68 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

#61 Sleepers, Wake!

Contemplative Prayer in the Chapel

Wednesdays, December 3, 10, and 17 at 5:30

As part of our Advent preparation for Christmas, come join a small group on three Wednesdays for a **30-minute service of Contemplative Prayer**. The centerpiece will be a 20-minute session of silent Centering Prayer, led by John Terauds. Centering Prayer is increasingly recognized and practiced across Church denominations as an effective means to learn to still our own inner voices so that we may better hear God's voice and know the Spirit's movement in and around us.



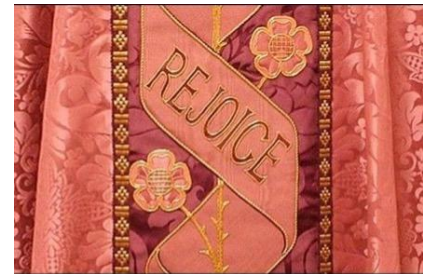
Walking in Faith: Sacramental Living
December 7, 11:30 am in the Parish Hall



At our final forum on Exploring Episcopal Identity, we will consider **sacramental living** -- how our practice of noticing the holy in daily life makes all we do sacred. We will reflect on the sacramental rites of the church in **preparation for confirmation, reception and reaffirmation of baptismal vows** on the Feast of St. Stephen (transferred to December 28, when Bishop Phil will visit our parish). See the materials from previous forums on **Faith and Episcopal Spirituality and Ethics** [here](#).

Gaudete Sunday -- Soup Lunch
December 14 at 11:30 in the Parish Hall

On the third Sunday of Advent, we anticipate the birth of Jesus with Joy. Jennifer Gary is organizing a **Soup Lunch** for the parish after church. Please contact her [here](#) if you'd like to contribute.



Christmas Eve Services

4:30 pm Carol Sing

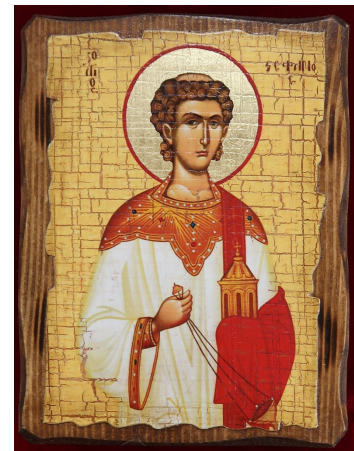
Welcome the birth of Christ as we sing our favorite Christmas carols

5:00 pm Celebration of the Nativity and Holy Eucharist

Hear the Christmas Story and share in Holy Communion

December 28: Feast of St. Stephen with Bishop's Visitation

On Sunday, December 28, we welcome **Bishop Phil LaBelle for a rich time of celebration and blessing**. We will honor our **patron saint's** feast day (December 26), **bless our new preschool, Laurelhurst Early Learning, give thanks for the leadership and generosity of Cloud 9**, and offer the **sacraments** of confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation of faith. Learn more at the Sunday forum on December 7 at 11:30 in the Parish Hall, when we reflect on **Sacramental Living!**



Sock it to Homelessness!

Socks are critical to the comfort and well-being of homeless people and can open the door to hopefulness. Operation Nightwatch has made many friends by offering a new,

SOCK IT TO HOMELESSNESS

dry pair of socks. Imagine what it must be like to have the same pair of nasty, wet socks on your feet, 24-hours a day. Not good. Socks won't solve our community's homeless crisis. But socks can keep homeless people hopeful, knowing there are neighbors like you, who care.

Bring in as many pairs of new men's athletic socks as you can. Place them in a red bin and Outreach will deliver to Operation Nightwatch on Sunday, December 7. Thanks so much for helping! Questions? Jack Irby 206.214.7219

Renewal of Ministry with the Welcoming of a New Rector Wednesday, February 25, 6:30 pm

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 25, when Bishop Phil LaBelle will be present at St. Stephen's as we institute Rev. Jennifer as the next rector of the parish and renew the mutual ministry of all the people in our community. More information to come in the months ahead!



Coming Up at St. Stephen's

Sundays 10:00 am Holy Eucharist and Coffee Hour (Nave and Parish Hall)
Sundays 3:00 pm. Youth Group Food Program (Narthex)
Wednesdays 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Parish Hall)

December 3 5:30 Contemplative Prayer (Chapel)
December 7 11:30 Forum on Sacramental Living (Parish Hall)
December 10 5:30 Contemplative Prayer (Chapel)
December 14 11:30 Gaudete Sunday Soup Lunch (Parish Hall)
December 17 5:30 Contemplative Prayer (Chapel)
December 24 4:30 pm Carol Sing (Nave)
December 24 5:00 pm Feast of the Nativity -- Holy Eucharist (Nave)
December 28 10:00 am Bishop Phil Labelle Visitation (Nave)
February 25 6:30 pm Renewal of Ministry with Welcoming of a New Rector (Nave)

The Rev. Jennifer King Daugherty, Rector
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