



December 2018
Greetings,

Christmas comes this time each year—every 25th of December. It comes whether we observe it or ignore it. It comes whether we sing “Alleluia!” or shout “Bah Humbug!”

But *Christ’s coming* is another matter altogether. Christ’s coming into our lives demands our involvement. Our celebration of the Incarnation Season not only recognizes the birth of the historical Christ, but it is also a celebration of the risen, cosmic Christ and a promise of His coming again.

Luke’s Gospel account of the Incarnation event is full of activity...And yet, in the middle of the frenetic action, here is this woman wrapped in mystical silence...She demonstrates the necessity of a quiet place within ourselves during Advent—that place where we are most ourselves in relation to God. It is a place of silence, not because it is untouched by all the activity of our lives, but because it is capable of wonder.

A holy celebration of the Incarnation Season does not mean we need to separate ourselves from the world around us. The Incarnation is our call to recognize the sacredness of the world into which Christ was born. We are called to recognize the sacramentality of our everyday lives.

Being busy during the holidays is not contrary to the spirit of the season. The very complexity of our lives helps us realize that the busier we are, the more we need prayer and meditation to sustain us. Please know that your vicar prays for all of you daily. May you have a blessed Incarnation Season.

In Christ,

Vicar Kim Roberts+



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	Office Open		Office Open			Order Flowers
Pew Candles Up		Put Advent Wreaths on Doors		Hang Advent Wreath		
						Put up Greens
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Advent 1	Office Open		Office Open			Order Flowers
Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 2nd Table Advent Study	Teen Parents 11 AM - Noon 		Teen Parents 11 AM - Noon 			
						Put up More Greens
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Advent 2	Office Open	Taize Compline 6:30 PM	Office Open			Order Flowers
VESTRY 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 2nd Table Advent Study	Teen Parents 11 AM - Noon 		Teen Parents 11 AM - Noon 			
						Put up More Greens
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Advent 3	Office Open		Office Open			Get ready to switch from Advent to Christmas
Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 2nd Table Advent Study	Teen Parents 11 AM - Noon Lay out Christmas Decorations		Teen Parents 11 AM - Noon Lay out Christmas Decorations			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Advent 4		Christmas Day	Office Closed			
Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year						
Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Advent Down Christmas Up	Christmas Eve 6:30 PM 					
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Christmas 1	Office Open	NOTES				
Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year						
Christmas Carols and Eucharist	New Years Eve	Epiphany January 6, 2019 * Annual Meeting January 20, 2019				
						
Decorating Theme 2018 is The Twelve Days of Christmas						

Servers for December 2018

	2-Dec	9-Dec	11-Dec	16-Dec	23-Dec	24-Dec	30-Dec
	Advent 1	Advent 2	Taize Compline	Advent 3	Advent 4	Christmas Eve	Christmas 1
Wreath	Paul, Judith, Jim Rita	David, Connor	xxxx	Mincers	Hughes	All Ushers and Children	Acolytes
Altar	1-Chambers	2-Kowalski	2-Kowalski	3-Mincer	4-Hughes	ALL	1-Chambers
Acolyte	TBA	TBA	Volunteer	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Chalice	Deacon Mark	Steve	xxxx	Patrick	Steve	TBA	TBA
Lector	Paul	Stephanie	Volunteer	Beth	Patrick	TBA	TBA
Preacher	Vicar Kim	Patrick V.	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim	Vicar Kim
Usher	Steve M	Bill R.	Volunteer	Steve M	Bill R.	Bill R.	Steve M
						Remy P.	
Thurifer	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	Steve M.	xxxx

PRAYER REQUESTS * PRAYER CHAIN

You may make prayer request additions, deletions, and modifications via Vicar Kim Roberts at bkeroberts@msn.com or through the Parish Administrator Ann Chambers at stmartinoftoursomaha@gmail.com (402)-733-8815.

PRAY FOR: Judith, Patty, Lisa, Lynn & Jim, Peggy, Frank, Emily, Greg, Benji, Duane, Jan, Lynn, Frank, Elizabeth, Teresa, Helen, Joy, Patrick

PRAY FOR immigrants, victims of violence and war, victims of gun violence, victims of sex trafficking; people with HIV/AIDS; members of the armed forces, especially those deployed overseas and/or in war zones and their families; people dealing with natural disasters and those in recovery.

PRAY FOR: Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev Michael Curry; Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Scott Barker, our sister parish Church of the Holy Spirit, Bellevue NE; St Martin of Tours, Copperas Cove TX; the South High School Teen Parent Program; The New Beginnings Ministry, Thistle Lights, and Magdalene Omaha. Familias en Accion,

PRAY FOR: immigrants, the poor and the hungry; the unemployed; the uninsured and underinsured; prisoners and their families; the homeless and near-homeless; shelters and food pantries; visitors and newcomers to St Martin of Tours.

PRAY FOR the growth of this baptismal community and for peace in the world and in our hearts.

PRAY FOR those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS NEWS

VESTRY NOTES

The Vestry of St. Martin of Tours will meet on **Sunday, December 9th at 8:00.**



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



The Altar Guild of St. Martin's invites you to help adorn our church with poinsettias for Christmas Eve. Please offer \$15 for each plant. Fill out the form below and place it in the collection plate by **Sunday, December 16th.** If paying by check, please note that the offering is for Christmas flowers.

Thank you.



TAIZE/COMPLINE

Taizé worship service involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation, a period of silence, and readings. Compline, also known as Night Prayer, or the Prayers at the End of the Day, is the final church service of the day in the Christian tradition of canonical hours. St. Martin of Tours will observe a Taize/Compline Service on **Tuesday, December 11th at 6:30 pm.**

ADVENT STUDY

This Advent we will do something different during Second Table. On Advent I, we will discuss a small part of the Book of Common Prayer—Morning Prayer. We'll have an Instructed Eucharist on Advent II. On Advent III we will enjoy fellowship and watch some of the "Vicar of Dibley" series. Advent IV will be the traditional "Greening of the Church". And, as always, we will eat well.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Annual Meeting of the Parish of St. Martin of Tours will be held on **Sunday, January 20, 2019.** The meeting will follow the 9:30 am Eucharist and we will, of course, have an amazing Potluck.

A NOTE OF THANKS

St. Martin's has become a small concert venue. To date, we have hosted the Omaha Justice choir, the Capital Avenue Baroque Choir and our own Benefit Concert. Our Benefit Concert was a huge success, combining a variety of music and people that filled our little church with hope, love and joy. We are already thinking and praying about future events, which may give us a new way of being church.

Ann Chambers deserves our gratitude for planning the concert and keeping us all engaged and informed. Thank you Concert committee: Rita Murphy, Judith Barnes, Beth Mincer and Stephanie Russell-Heller.



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

FRICKE PANTRY IF YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE UNITED WAY

Please help the food pantry supported by Episcopal churches in the Omaha area financially by designating your United Way giving to the "Dean Fricke Memorial Episcopal Food Pantry, Inc., Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 113 No. 18th St., Omaha, NE 68102," phone 342-7013. We are not on the list, so ask your United Way volunteer for a Donor Designation form. Fill in the space for a non-affiliated agency indicating Episcopal Food Pantry. You do not need an ID #, even though the form may ask for it. To ensure proper credit, please check the box to receive acknowledgment of your contribution.



THANK YOU

St. Martin of Tours church has had a busy and productive year so far in South Omaha. But of course, we can always do more.

Please consider inviting a friend to worship with us. Please prayerfully consider your pledge to St. Martins and what it means to do God's work in this community. Many people give a gift through their will. Would you consider leaving a gift to St. Martin's? Most especially, thank you for your faithful witness.

@StMartinOfToursEpiscopalChurch

www.stmartinoftoursomaha.com