

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

# Harmony

December 2010



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	Oct-10	YTD	YTD
	Actuals	Actuals	Budget
Pledge Income	\$28,970.50	\$284,736.40	\$281,420.00
Other Income	4,395.75	52,444.96	58,660.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$33,366.25</b>	<b>\$337,181.36</b>	<b>\$340,080.00</b>
Total Program & Admin Expenses	\$23,432.87	\$230,441.12	\$281,060.30
Total Operating Expenses	8,416.71	100,614.03	111,780.80
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$31,849.58</b>	<b>\$331,055.15</b>	<b>\$392,841.10</b>
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>\$1,516.67</b>	<b>\$6,126.21</b>	<b>(\$52,761.10)</b>

## Harmony

is published monthly by  
**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

2105 W. Market St., Greensboro, NC 27403  
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**Deadline for January 2011 Harmony:**  
 Monday, **December 20**, 10:00 a.m.

Email to:

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### St. Andrew's Vestry 2010

Kathi Lester, Senior Warden

John Frizzell, Treasurer

Chris Berger, Co-Jr. Warden

Sandy Shelton, Co-Jr. Warden

Melanie Carrico

Linda Cumber

Ernie Dishner

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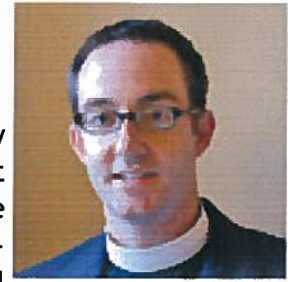
Craig Taylor

Judy Platt, Secretary



## December

## From the Rector:



Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

I knew, from my conversations with the search committee and vestry members this summer, that St. Andrew's was a place of abundant spirit. I knew that St. Andrew's was filled with people who were deeply connected to the life the parish, as well as folks who have arrived in recent years to experience its unique and vibrant welcome. I knew to expect great things even from the very beginning. What I would have never expected was that in a matter of weeks we would see a new digital organ installed in our church. This place is amazing!

The organ sounds wonderful, and we have reason to give thanks. This is the product of some very careful research and preparation on the part of a several lead givers, some faithful work on the part of a few fundraisers, and the great generosity and excitement of all those who contributed. As I write this, 46 households have participated in making our new organ a reality by raising the \$35,000 we needed in less than a month's time. This is truly something to celebrate.

And it is a reminder that the joyful noise we make on Sunday mornings is a reflection of the praise we speak with our lives - in our service to our community, in our care of one another, in our giving of time, in our prayers, and even in our tears - we sing a song of God's abundance and ever-present love. We are fortunate to have wonderful things, from great musical instruments to beautiful altar hangings to fine vestments, that remind us of the richness of a life lived in celebration and praise. These things are given meaning and life when they express the fullness of our faith and the diverse ways that we live out that faith.

And so, perhaps we can view our new organ, and the great generosity that brought it to us, as both a celebration and a challenge. It is a celebration because through it we can be reminded every Sunday of what is possible, what is beautiful, and where God is calling us to sing new songs. But it is a challenge as well to each one of us: what do we do with the gifts we are given? My hope is that this gift will multiply in the form of inspiration and joy, and that our common life together beyond Sunday morning will be infused with a new spirit of abundance and hope.

As we journey into the heart of Advent, may we be ever-mindful of the light of expectation and hope that guides our way.

Peace,  
BJ+



*We cordially invite you to worship with us on Christmas Eve*

*Family Service with Holy Communion*

*A Children's Christmas Pageant*

*An opportunity for the entire family to worship together*

*4:30 p.m.*

*Festival Candlelight Christmas Eve with Holy Communion*

*11:00 p.m.*

## From the Senior Warden:

### THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF LESSONS LEARNED

Over the past month, I've had a few people say to me, "Well you're in the count down, won't you be glad when being Senior Warden will be over?" My answer is what a bittersweet ending to a chapter in my life, but also what a great new beginning in the parish life of St. Andrew's! This has been the most awesome spiritual journey for me and here are some of the gifts I will take with me as lessons learned:



- I'm human, I make mistakes, but I've learned from each one of those mistakes.
- When in a leadership position always keep the greater good for the group as your main focus.
- There is no "I" in TEAM and this Vestry is an amazing group of people who love St. Andrew's!
- Until you've walked in someone else's shoes reserve judgment as you never know what they are going through in their lives.
- Listen when others speak and give them your undivided attention.
- Be passionate about what you believe in.
- Be loving, kind and understanding with everyone even if you are on opposite sides in your views.
- Not everyone will agree with tough decisions you have to make, but have the courage to stand in your truth for making those decisions.
- In tough times, when you ask where God is in all of this that's when you realize that God has been with you the entire time because everything worked out as it should have.
- God's timing is perfect.....always!

THANK YOU to all of the clergy, staff and parishioners of St. Andrew's for your support and the opportunity to serve; it truly has been a rewarding experience that I will always remember with great fondness!

Kathi Lester



Envelopes are in the pews for Christmas Poinsettias donations. Please fill out the envelope and put it in the offering plate or drop it by the church office by Monday, December 20. This is an opportunity to honor or remember your loved ones. Contact the church office (275-1651) if you have any questions.



# Mark your Calendars!

## ECW Chapters

The St. Anne/Donnell Chapter will hold their Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. at the Green Valley Grill. Please RSVP to Catharine Abbitt (726-0180) by Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Reservations are necessary.

Chapman Chapter will meet at Bravo at the Friendly Center on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. for their Christmas lunch (Note the change of time and location). All are welcome.

## EYC—Parents Day Out

The EYC of St. Andrews is hosting Parents Day Out on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 10am - 2pm. Parents are invited to bring their children and a bag lunch to the church to allow them some time to complete their Christmas shopping. There is no cost; however, donations are welcome and appreciated!

## Lunch and Learn

Come join us for our December event with lunch at The Cutting Board in Reidsville and a tour at Chinqua Penn Plantation and Winery on Thursday, December 16. The tickets for the holiday tour are \$25 for adults, \$15 for seniors (62+). The wine room is an additional \$5 if you wish to do a wine tasting. Please visit the websites below for additional information on the Plantation and restaurant. We will meet in the church parking lot (Kensington Street) at 11:30 a.m. if you want to carpool or you may go on your own.

Contact Karen Russell (336-275-1651 or [karenrussell@triad.rr.com](mailto:karenrussell@triad.rr.com)) in the parish office for more information. RSVP with the parish office by Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you at our December event!

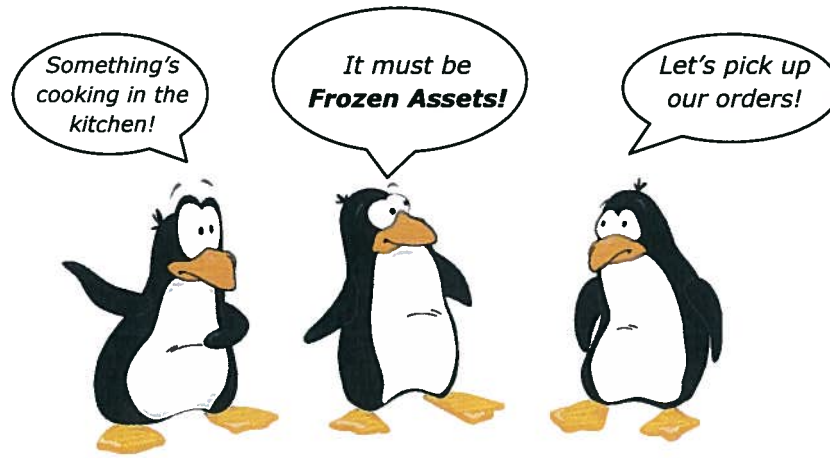
<http://www.chinquapenn.com>  
<http://www.cuttingboard.com>



## Calling All St. Andrew's Children!

Bring your family and friends to this years' Family Christmas Eve Service at 4:30 to see and hear the drama, *A Simple Christmas Pageant*. Who is the unexpected visitor who will visit St. Andrew's during the drama? Composers and arrangers Cindy Sterling and Sheldon Curry have created a lovely pageant with wonderful storytelling and familiar Christmas carols.

Rehearsals for the Christmas Pageant will take place after the 10:30 Sunday services on December 5, 12 and 19. For information, please contact Cynthia Shannon at 272-2951 or [cshannon@standrewsgreensboro.com](mailto:cshannon@standrewsgreensboro.com).



## Frozen Assets

Pick up for Frozen Assets is December 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Please note—the time has changed. (A few extras of each recipe have been set aside and will be for sale after the 8:30 and 10:30 services on December 5; if you didn't order, you may still enjoy a dessert, side dish or entree--several of the small-size chicken pies have been prepared. Tuck one or more of the favorites into your freezer for the busy days ahead.)

A resounding THANK YOU from the Frozen Assets committee to all of the volunteers who produced the dishes. The volunteers comprised a widely representative group, from EYC through young adults to chapter and men's group members, including the choir, as well as a number of individuals who just stepped forward and said "I'll help." An extra thank you to Roger and Nancy Kimbrough, without whose generous contribution of purchasing power and all-important freezer space, Frozen Assets literally would not happen. The parishioners of St. Andrews can all be proud of what our work as a community says about us as a people.

What's next? In the chilly, drizzly days of Greensboro winter...soup! Frozen Assets will present a soup sale, coming soon. Watch for details. After that, the annual Frozen Assets pick-up date will be a spring date, next appearing in Spring 2012, in time to support plans for summer leisure by stocking your freezer--and your friends' freezers. Sales outside the parish are a top priority to make Frozen Assets a fund-raising success. The committee aims to move the Frozen Assets schedule permanently to spring, away from the Bazaar, to accommodate the schedules of the volunteer cooks and to avoid competition.

The Frozen Assets committee would love to hear your ideas about growing this project. There will be a customer survey at pick-up, and a different survey for those of you who have not placed Frozen Assets orders. The website for that survey is:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BBHHMHT>



### When All the World is Rejoicing, Why Do I Feel So Sad?

Christmas is supposed to be a time of joy, but for many people it brings sadness and painful memories. A Stephen Minister can provide extra support and a listening ear during this holiday season. Mary Lou Strohl (545-9027) or June Fulton (643-7477) will be glad to assist you through our Stephen Ministry program.

## YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 2011 BIG EVENT!

A Celebration of the Mission and Ministry of St. Andrew's

January 15, 2011 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

St. Andrew's Parish Hall

Join our parish family to celebrate 2010's accomplishments and look forward in fellowship to 2011.

Delicious Food and Great Music!

Childcare will be provided.

Admission is FREE, but you must RSVP to  
parishadministrator@standrewsgreensboro.com  
or (336) 275-1651 by Sunday, January 9.

If you would like to sponsor a table for \$100 to defray the cost of the Big Event, please let the office know when you RSVP. We need about 25 sponsors!

At this year's Big Event, we will recognize and celebrate all the people and groups who have done BIG THINGS for St. Andrew's and for our community in 2010. So many of our parishioners give their time and talents both inside and outside the church. To help us identify the accomplishments of these people and groups, please take a few minutes to fill out this easy online survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YHTFYMT>

Thanks so much for your help, and we look forward to seeing you on January 15!

## 2010 Crop Walk



Thanks to everyone who participated and contributed to the Crop Walk on October 17th!

# Four Vestry Nominees for the Class of 2011

Election to be held during the Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 9, 2011



Name: *Betty Atwell*

Occupation: *Retired Executive Administrative Assistant*

Year Baptized: *1951*

Year Confirmed: *1963-1964*

Years as a member of St. Andrew's Church: *46*

How many Sunday's a month (on average) do you attend church? *4 to 5*

Are you a pledging member of St. Andrew's? *Yes*

Phone # *292-9587*

Cell # *706-7375*

Email *blmatwell@aol.com*

If you were to describe St. Andrew's to a friend, what would you tell him/her?

*I feel this is an exciting time in the life of our parish with a new rector and that we are on the threshold of building an even stronger and more wonderful community for worship, fellowship, and outreach. I would like very much to become a part of that growth and exciting experience for St. Andrew's.*

Why do you wish to serve on the Vestry?

*This is a very exciting as well as challenging time at St. Andrew's. I would very much like to use my knowledge and skills to help make St. Andrew's more dynamic for its members and a true leader among the churches of Greensboro, North Carolina and the Diocese.*

Do you have previous experience as a Vestry person? When and where?

*Yes, St. Andrew's 1998-2000, we were searching for Wendy while I was serving.*

Please tell us about your parish life and community activities.

*Chalice Bearer, Lay Reader, Greeter, CareNet team, Ben's Bells, Usher, EfM participant*



Name: *Margie Baker*

Occupation: *Teacher*

Year Baptized: *1981* Year Confirmed: *2010*

Years as a member of St. Andrew's Church: *4, maybe 3*

How many Sunday's a month (on average) do you attend church? *3-4*

Are you a pledging member of St. Andrew's? *yes*

Phone # *420-2560*

Work # *316-2864*

Email *mbaker@guilford.edu*

If you were to describe St. Andrew's to a friend, what would you tell him/her?

*When describing Saint Andrew's, I mention how welcoming it is to visitors and new members. Our first Sunday we left with a guest bag full of information as well as with the feeling that the parishioners really wanted us to return. I also tell people about its Young Adults group and about all of the opportunities to participate in church life.*

Why do you wish to serve on the Vestry?

*I want to serve on the Vestry because I love Saint Andrew's and want to support its work in whatever way I can. I haven't taken a leadership position in a church before and know that it is an important service to render.*

Do you have previous experience as a Vestry person? When and where?

*I do not have any previous experience as a Vestry person.*

Please tell us about your parish life and community activities.

*At Saint Andrew's, I am a reader, a cantor for the psalm, an EYC advisor, and a member of the Young Adults group. I have led music for Lenten services, Vacation Bible School, and Youth Sundays. I served on the Worship and Music Committee 2008-2009. In the community, I'm an avid runner.*



Name: *Judith A. Platt*  
Occupation: *RN Operating Room*  
Year Baptized: *1950* Year Confirmed: *1965*  
Years as a member of St. Andrew's Church: *2*  
How many Sunday's a month (on average) do you attend church? *3-4*  
Are you a pledging member of St. Andrew's? *Yes*  
Phone # *674-5929* Work # *832-1818* Email *nursediesel49@yahoo.com*

If you were to describe St. Andrew's to a friend, what would you tell him/her?

*The St. Andrew's Church family is just that—a family. I've always been helped to feel welcomed, encouraged to join in, made to feel at home. I would like to think there are no strangers or outsiders here.*

Why do you wish to serve on the Vestry?

*I've been involved with the worship part of church since I began attending. I feel it's time for me to take on some additional responsibilities for the good of the church.*

Do you have previous experience as a Vestry person? When and where?

*I've been serving as Recording Secretary for our Vestry since August, not a voting position.*

Please tell us about your parish life and community activities.

*I sing in the choir and belong to Ben's Bells. I had the wonderful experience of acolyting for a short time. I've taken part in the Bazaar and Fall clean-up.*



Name: *John Covington Overfield*  
Occupation: *Attorney - Managing Member, Coltrane Aycock & Overfield, PLLC*  
Year Baptized: *1970* Year Confirmed: *1994 (Episcopal Church)*  
Years as a member of St. Andrew's Church: *14*  
How many Sunday's a month (on average) do you attend church? *4*  
Are you a pledging member of St. Andrew's? *Yes*  
Phone # *274-2611* Work # *279-8707* Email *overfield@caolaw.com*

If you were to describe St. Andrew's to a friend, what would you tell him/her?

*St. Andrew's is an incredibly friendly and very diverse parish made up of individuals from many different walks of life who join together to worship and to grow spiritually. Our parish is constantly changing and continually evolving as we seek to serve God within this community and throughout the world.*

Why do you wish to serve on the Vestry?

*Having served as the Chairperson of the Rector Search Committee, I am very excited about the future that awaits us at St. Andrew's. I have had the opportunity to get to know Reverend Owens rather well during the search process, and I feel confident that St. Andrew's will move forward in many wonderful ways under his very capable leadership. I want to be a part of the leadership team that helps to guide our parish into this next "phase" in the life of St. Andrew's. It's going to be an exciting time!*

Do you have previous experience as a Vestry person? When and where?

*Yes. I served as a member of the Vestry at St. Andrew's from 2005 through 2008. I fulfilled an unexpired term of a former church member for 2005, and I was elected to a three year*

(continued on page 10)

(Vestry profiles, continued)

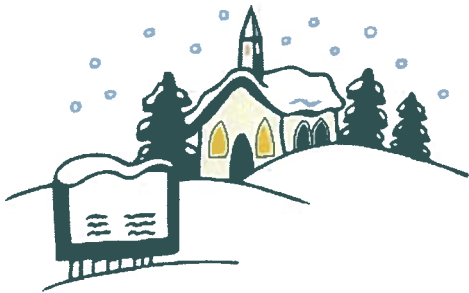
term for the years 2006, 2007, and 2008. I served as the Co-Senior Warden for 2006, 2007, and 2008.

Please tell us about your parish life and community activities.

I served as Chairperson of the Rector Search Committee for 2009 and 2010. I have served as Chairperson of the Education and Spiritual Formation Committee from 2007 to the present. In addition, I serve as a lay reader, primarily at the 8:30 a.m. service. I have taught several Adult Education classes on Sunday mornings as well.

In addition to my work at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, I have served in leadership roles on numerous community boards and committees. I have served as the President of the Young Lawyers Section of the Greensboro Bar Association; President of the Triad Business and Professional Guild; founding Board Member of Triad Equality Alliance; President of the College Park Neighborhood Association; Board Member of North Carolina Gay and Lesbian Attorneys; Board Member of NC Institute for Equal Rights; Chairperson of the North Carolina Bar Association Answering the Call Committee; Chairperson of the North Carolina Bar Association Pre Law Counseling Committee; and, member of the United Arts Council Grant Allocation Committee. In addition, I currently serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Music Festival and the Eastern Music Festival Education Committee. Furthermore, I serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Piedmont Mortgage Lenders Association.

In 2010, I was recognized as one of the "40 Leaders Under Forty" by the Triad Business Journal. In addition, I was recognized as a "2010 Rising Star" in the listing of North Carolina Super Lawyers.



### Holiday Office Schedule

The Parish Office will be closed on the following days:

- Friday, December 24th
- Monday, December 27th
- Friday, December 31st

### Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of inclement weather, any church closings will be posted in the following ways:

- WFMY, Channel 2, digtriad.com
- WGHP, Channel 8, myfox8.com
- WXII, Channel 12, wxii12.com
- On the St. Andrew's voicemail message
- On the St. Andrew's website

December 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### Reminder from the Business Manager

Have your donations to the church postmarked by December 31, 2010 in order for it to be included in the 2010 tax year. Reminder: the church office will be closed on December 31!

## The Nicholas Fragola Art Scholarship

In order to celebrate Nicholas's life and art, we started a Scholarship Fund at Grimsley High School for graduating seniors who were enrolling in an art program at a college, university, or conservatory. Our original goal was to provide a \$500 scholarship to a deserving student and \$500 for enrichment activities for art majors and all students at Grimsley.

As you can see from this recent letter we sent to past donors (printed below), the Nicholas Fragola Scholarship Fund, awarded through the Community Foundation of Greensboro, has been highly successful in providing recognition and incentives to students whose art is a vital and healing part of their lives. We hope that after reading this letter you will consider supporting the fund. Donations can start as small as a dollar. The Nicholas Fragola Scholarship Fund has been successful primarily as a grass roots initiative, and every contribution helps to nurture creative and life-affirming young artists.

### Kickoff campaign for the 2010 Nicholas Samuel Fragola Scholarship Fund

In honor of Anne's retirement after 25 years of service to Chrysalis Counseling, we are starting our 2010 campaign for the Nicholas Samuel Fragola Scholarship Fund with a very generous contribution from the people who worked with Anne all those many years. Chrysalis Counseling wanted to find a way to honor Anne's generosity and giving nature and, towards that end, made a deeply appreciated contribution to the Nicholas Samuel Fragola Scholarship Fund.

When we first started the fund in 2003, our goal was to provide a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from Grimsley High School who intended to major in art in college or in a conservatory. In addition, we wanted to award enrichment funds for all the students at Grimsley to better appreciate the importance and wonder of art and to be able to interact and learn from professional artists/teachers. Because of your generosity, we have far exceeded our goals. To date we have awarded 12 scholarships for a total of \$9,500 and three enrichment awards for a total of \$1,500.

Each year we are gratified to see first hand the major impact these scholarships and enrichment funds have made on these teenagers. Our family has lunch with the award winners and their families each year, and we often have past scholarship recipients join us. Listening to the students talk about how their art makes a difference in their lives is not only gratifying, but has become a tremendously moving and healing tradition for us. Last year, because we saw a need and met so many deserving students, The Fund awarded four \$1,000 scholarships. Our goal this year is to raise sufficient funds to award \$5,000 in scholarships, a tenfold increase in our original goal and to resume our enrichment program.

We know there is great need in the community and in the world. Yet we also believe in supporting our local community and see first hand the immediate and positive impact your contributions make in the lives of young people. We truly appreciate your past support of the Fund - it has meant a great deal



to us and to the students who benefit from the scholarships and enrichment activities that the Fund makes possible.

We hope you will consider making a gift to the Fund at this time. Please remember that your contributions are tax deductible and that 97% of your contributions go directly to the recipients. The other 3% is for administering the funds through the Community Foundation. The Fragola family takes care of all other costs, including printing, mailing, and the annual luncheon with past and present recipients and their families.

Checks should be made to:

The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro (please indicate that your gift is for The Nicholas Samuel Fragola Scholarship Fund), and mailed to:

The Community Foundation of  
Greater Greensboro  
330 S. Greene Street, Suite 100  
Greensboro, NC 27401

Or you can give securely online through the Community Foundation's website at [www.cfgg.org](http://www.cfgg.org). Please designate that your gift is for the Nicholas Samuel Fragola Scholarship Fund.

Thank you for your support and nurturing of these fine and most deserving young people.

## Scripture Readings for December 2010

### Revised Common Lectionary

#### December 5, 2010 (Second Sunday of Advent - Year A)

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Old Testament	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12

#### December 12, 2010 (Third Sunday of Advent - Year A)

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Old Testament	Canticle	Epistle	Gospel
Isaiah 35:1-10	Canticle 15	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11

#### December 19, 2010 (Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A)

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Old Testament	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Isaiah 7:10-16	Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25

#### December 24, 2010 (The Nativity of Our Lord - Years ABC)

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Old Testament	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Isaiah 9:2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-20

#### December 26, 2010 (First Sunday after Christmas - Years ABC)

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Old Testament	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Psalm 147:13-21	Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7	John 1:1-18

## December Saints & Holy Days

Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon (12/01)  
Channing Moore Williams, Missionary Bishop  
(12/02)  
John of Damascus (12/04)  
Clement of Alexandria, Priest (12/05)  
Nicholas, Bishop (12/06)  
Ambrose, Bishop (12/07)

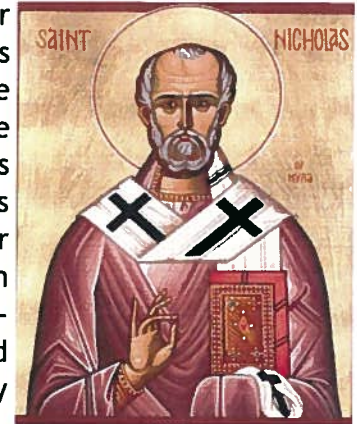
St. Thomas, Apostle (12/21)  
St. Stephen, Deacon & Martyr (12/26)  
St. John, Apostle & Evangelist (12/28)  
Feast of the Holy Innocents (12/29)  
Francis Joseph Gaudet, Educator and Prison  
Reformer (12/30)

### Saint Nicholas

Saint Nicholas, the 4th century saint who inspired our modern figure of Santa Claus, was born near Myra, a port on the Mediterranean Sea serving the busy sea lanes that linked the seaports of Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Ships sailing these waters, laden with grain and all kinds of goods, found safety in the port from raging storms and menacing pirates. Nicholas came from one of the city's wealthy merchant families, but he was not spoiled by his family's wealth. His mother and father taught him to be generous to others, especially those in need. So Nicholas came to see that helping others makes one richer in life than anything else.

One day, by chance, Nicholas heard about a rich man in Myra who lost all his money when his business failed. The man had three lovely daughters, all wishing to get married, but he had no money for their marriage. Besides, who would marry them, he thought, since their father is such a failure? With nothing to eat, the man in desperation decided to sell one of his daughters into slavery. At least then the rest of them might survive. That night before the first daughter was to be sold, Nicholas, with a small bag of gold in his hand, softly approached their house, and, tossing the gold through an open window, quickly vanished into the darkness. The next morning, the father found a bag of gold lying on the floor next to his bed. He had no idea where it came from. "Maybe it's counterfeit," he thought. But as he tested it, he knew it was real. He went over the list of his friends and business associates. None of them could possibly have given

him this. The poor man fell to his knees and great tears came to his eyes. He thanked God for this beautiful gift. His spirits rose higher than they had been for a long time because someone had been so unexpectedly good to him. He arranged for his first daughter's wedding and there was enough money left for the rest of them to live for almost a year. Often he wondered: who gave them the gold?



But by the end of the year, the family again had nothing, and the father, again desperate and seeing no other way open, decided his second daughter must be sold. But Nicholas, hearing about it, came by night to their window and tossed in another bag of gold as before. The next morning the father rejoiced, and, thanking God, begged His pardon for losing hope. Who, though, was the mysterious stranger giving them such a gift? Each night afterwards the father watched by the window. As the year passed their money ran out. In the dead of one night he heard quiet steps approaching his house and suddenly a bag of gold fell onto the floor. The father quickly ran out to catch the one who threw it there. He caught up with Nicholas some distance away and recognized him, for the young man came from a well-known family in the city.

"Why did you give us the gold?" the father asked.

(continued on page 14)

(continued)

"Because you needed it," Nicholas answered.

"But why didn't you let us know who you were?" the man asked again. "Because it's good to give and have only God know about it."

When the bishop of Myra died, the priests and leading people of the city along with the neighboring bishops came together in their cathedral to select a new bishop. They prayed and asked God to point out who it would be. In a dream, God said to one of them that they should all pray together the next morning. Someone would come through the cathedral door as they prayed. He should be their choice. It was Nicholas who entered the cathedral the next morning. Immediately, the people of the city named him their bishop, for they knew that this unassuming person, whose good deeds they had learned about, was meant by God to lead them.

As bishop of Myra, Nicholas seemed more aware than ever of people's needs. He would appear all over the city offering help to anyone in difficulty, then quietly disappear

without waiting for thanks. He shunned publicity. Still, his reputation as a holy man grew and grew, even spreading to distant cities that had never seen him. He was especially interested that families had enough to eat and a good place to live, that children got ahead in life, and that old people lived out their lives with dignity and respect. And he always loved the sailors living so dangerously on the sea. Without their ships, people everywhere would be without food and other goods they carried for trade.

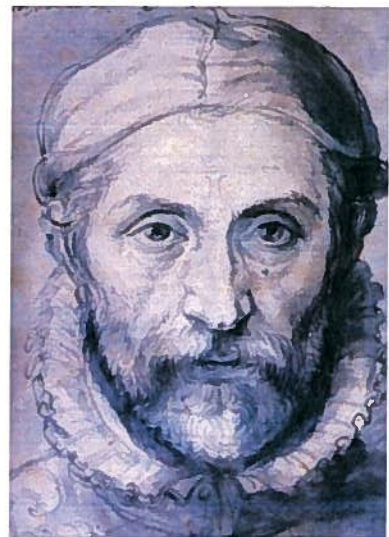
Yet it is as a lover of children that Nicholas is best remembered today. While he lived, he gave the little ones he met small gifts-- some candy, a toy. His kindness, which always managed to surprise them, touched their hearts, and they learned from this holy man what a beautiful thing giving is. In the figure of Santa Claus, whose name and activity Nicholas inspired, we have this saint with us today.

by Victor Hoagland

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## December Hymn Notes

Comfort, comfort ye my people (hymn 67) was first introduced in Episcopal hymnody in Hymns III, a supplement to the Hymnal 1940. Johann G. Olearius, the chief court preacher and chaplain at Halle, wrote the text in 1671 as a meditation on Isaiah 40:1-8. The French Renaissance composer, Claude Goudimel, wrote the tune in 1551 for an edition of the Genevan Psalter. The completed Genevan Psalter was a monumental accomplishment in Christian history. This was probably the first time in history that all the Psalms were collected together and set in manner simple enough for the average person to sing. Although Goudimel did not convert to Protestantism until 1557 when he moved to Metz and joined the Huguenot cause, the Genevan Psalter helped spread Calvinist ideas and theology throughout Europe and beyond. Goudimel was murdered in Lyon some time in late August, 1572, during the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre, along with much of the Huguenot population of the city.



Claude Goudimel



**PRAYER LIST**

Chris Ball  
 Greg Barrett  
 Charlie Benson  
 Muriel Bland  
 Reid Brannan  
 Kay Brown  
 Terrie Brown  
 Ingrid Bullock  
 Ann Clark  
 Beverly Clark  
 Jeff Cummer  
 Virginia Dozier  
 Zac Engle  
 David Foster  
 Henry Gabriel  
 Neil Galloway  
 Phil Geygan  
 Mike H.  
 Herbert Hendrickson  
 Kathy Hiner

Lillian Hodgkin  
 Jane Hutchko  
 Charlotte Kostecki  
 Shane Leach  
 Karen Long  
 Robert Louise  
 Virginia Lowe  
 Len Lucas  
 Jo May  
 Elaine McKenzie  
 Kellie Weekley Mills  
 Jane Nelson  
 J. Nohlburg  
 Elaine Odenwald  
 Jimmye Olivey  
 Leota Osborne  
 Kay Overfield  
 Peggy & Barbara  
 Larry Phillips  
 Olivia Phillips  
 Bob Popick  
 Lou Pruitt  
 Dorothy Rierson  
 Evelyn Roe  
 Monica Root  
 Jerry S.  
 Teresa S.  
 Sam  
 Wes Schwab

Bobbie Skinner  
 Anna Stalter  
 Lib Stockard  
 Alex Thompson  
 The Rev. Sue Vickers  
 Josh W.  
 Shirley Ward  
 Barbara Welch  
 Susan Wessells  
 Jack Westervelt  
 George Wigglesworth, Jr.  
 Jeanne Wilkerson  
 Sandy Wimbish

*Our Seminarian:*  
 Ches Kennedy

*Missionary:*  
 Norm Middleton

*Expectant mothers:*  
 Tasha Agruso  
 Hannah Carter  
 Kristen Fulton  
 Lauren Havard  
 Emily Hendricks

Prayer requests are listed alphabetically and will remain on the list for 30 days, unless the parish office is notified otherwise.

**PRAY FOR OUR**  
  
**MILITARY**

Petty Officer J. Thomas Baker, IV, Navy  
 Lt. Craig Bardsley, Navy  
 Lisa Brackett, USAF  
 Derek Cole, Navy  
 Curt Cousins  
 Jay Cousins  
 Wes Durham  
 Drew Hollingsworth, USAF  
 LTCDR Stephen Johnson, Navy  
 Mike Kimball  
 Major Robert W. Newsom, IV  
 Perry Nunn, Jr.  
 T.J. O'Connor  
 Master Sergeant Thomas "Chip" Raybon  
 Col. G. C. Ritchie, US Army  
 Capt. Ben Shepherd  
 2nd Lt. Tom Stauffer, US Army  
 2nd Lt. Taylor Stowe  
 James Williams, US Navy  
 Paul Zeigler



◆ Caroline Michelle Caviness



- ◆ Cleo Osborne
- ◆ Andrew Sutton
- ◆ Shirley Rizzuto
- ◆ Linda Gaspar

Thank you for your support of the United Thank Offering. You shared your blessings and have given the gifts of \$558.28 in the Spring and \$540.99 in the Fall In-Gatherings. Thank you in your generosity in remembering the needs of others.





St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
2105 W. Market Street  
Greensboro, NC 27403

## *Giving Tree*

Our annual "Giving Tree" project for teens in foster care has started, and the tree is set up in the Parish Hall, decorated with tags showing the name and age of kids who would love to receive a \$25.00 gift card from you or your family for Christmas. Please take a tag from the tree, purchase a gift card from Target or Wal Mart, and place the gift card with tag in the box under the tree, or return to the church office. We are also helping a number of needy students at nearby high schools - your generosity is so helpful to parents of teens with limited resources, and foster parents receiving limited assistance, in providing a joyful Christmas for their kids. Please return your gift card by Sunday, Dec. 12, so we can get the cards to our families - they and we are most grateful! Questions - call Marcia Moore at 202-6516 or 288-6264

