



The church is prepared...are you?



Red bows, poinsettias and greenery adorn the Nave of the church at St. Timothy's in preparation for one of the biggest Feast days of the Christian calendar. Worshippers will celebrate two services at the church on Christmas Eve.

Immediately following the final 'Amen' today at the last Advent service, Altar Guild members and their friends began the celebratory tradition of greening the church for the Christmas Eve masses.

It's a thankless job, but a fun one nonetheless for those who spend a lot of hours behind the scenes preparing the church, particularly the altar, for worship every Sunday of the year.

Our Altar Guild works hard to make sure that the vessels are prepared as

well as the linens and all that is involved in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

There were a lot of jovial spirits today as the crew examined the final, glorious product.

Christmas is a family event and the family at St. Timothy's is expecting you tomorrow night for their family affair. Please make an effort to be here for one of the two services that will be offered.

At 7 p.m., there will be 14 young

people celebrating their first communion at a Christmas Eve Family Service.

Later at 10:30 p.m., the traditional service will feature special music by the Chancel Choir and their friends, along with the spectacular candlelight ceremony at the end with the singing of Silent Night.

Then join us for hot wassail and cookies in the Parish Hall.

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow night as we enjoy the sights and the sounds of the season.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 24

SERVICE SCHEDULE. Christmas Eve family and children's service at 7 p.m. and Candlelight Christmas Service at 10:30 p.m. There will be special music by the choir, and musicians.

DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 30

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

JANUARY 1

HAPPY NEW YEARS. Holy Name Day

JANUARY 6

THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 13

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY.

JANUARY 20

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY.

PARISH LIFE. Annual Parish Meeting following the Holy Eucharist, Rite II service. The meeting will be held in the Parish Hall and everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch. Bring enough to share!

JANUARY 26

VESTRY. The Annual Vestry Retreat will be held on Saturday. Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. All Vestry members, church staff, and directors

of church ministries are encouraged to attend.

JANUARY 27

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY.

FEBRUARY 15-16

The Annual Diocesan Council is scheduled to meet in Galveston on this weekend. Please pray for our diocese and our parish delegates, David Taylor and Mike Sproat.

APRIL 12

BBQ WEEKEND. The Vestry voted last week to move up the date of the Annual St. Timothy's BBQ Fundraiser to the weekend of April 12. There are some exciting plans being made for this great weekend so stay tuned!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Episcopal Church Women

In January, the Daughters of the King will begin a new time of preparation for all interested Episcopal Church Women at St. Timothy's. We meet monthly and have a time of prayer and discussion of our study program.

"We are a group of dedicated Christian women who are trying to follow a life of Prayer and Service to our neighbors. We are women to whom parishioners can look for love and for help in time of need, loneliness, or strangeness. We seek to walk with God as our guide and try to draw those with whom we come in contact into the Church. We are women who try to spread Christ's Kingdom

here on earth. We can never forget that Prayer is the foundation from which our service grows."

*"Prayer without work is empty words,
Service without prayer is labor lost."*

"We find the Order of the Daughters of the King to be a 'safe place' in a busy world where we can be together and support each other in Christ's love." (DOK Handbook)

Sometimes a woman says she is not "good" enough to become a Daughter. We are neither unusually good, not unusually pious. We are women who find that committing ourselves to the Order, find a "safe place" in a busy world where we can be together and

support each other in Christ's love.

For more info, contact Barbara Adams or any of the women wearing the silver cross.

Calling ALL Veterans

We want a 8X10 picture of you in your uniform to place on the Wall of Honor in the Parish Hall. It will be placed on the bulletin board next to those who are serving in a branch of the service today. Dig out your military picture along with your rank and branch of service and bring it to Lois Cooper for framing. All of you who have been in the military deserve to be acknowledged for the service you have given for our country.

Nominations for Vestry Members for 2008

The Vestry is currently seeking nominations for qualified members for the 2008 Vestry. If you know of someone who would be interested in serving, please consider the following expectations and then offer their name to our Senior Warden, David Taylor, for consideration.

EXPECTATIONS FOR A ST. TIMOTHY'S VESTRYPERSON

The responsibility of being a vestryperson is not to be undertaken lightly. Although one should feel honored to be elected to the Vestry, it is not an honorary position. It is a position of servanthood.

The job involves important activity in the following areas:

- *Provide the leadership for the parish.
- *Actively communicate with the parish

about its activities.

*Responsible, with the rector, for the efficient administration of the programs of the parish.

*Expected to form an environment of mutual trust and loyalty with the clergy, staff, and parish.

In light of the above responsibilities, a committed Vestryperson should have certain qualities:

- *A sound personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- *An active participant in the ongoing church life of St. Timothy's
- *A conscientious, regular Sunday attendee of church, including Christian Education.
- *Demonstrate outstanding Christian stewardship of time and talent as well as striving to achieve and exceed the biblical standard of financial giving (10% tithe)

*Willing to make a sacrificial commitment in the following areas: serve a full three-year term; attend all meetings (if more than three regularly scheduled meetings are missed in one calendar year, the Vestryperson will tender their resignation); attend significant parish and diocesan events and conferences; greet newcomers and help them feel welcome.

No person shall serve on the Vestry until he or she shall have subscribed to the following declaration:

"I am persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all doctrine required as necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ; and I accede to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church." (Diocesan Canon 9, Section 9.1.60)