



January/February 2014  
Volume 18, Issue 1

# the NATIVITY *Scene*

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*Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida*

## **Bishop's Visit and Confirmations! February 16, 2014**



**8:00 am Service:** Bishop Duncan will be preaching.

**9:00 am: Celebration Bunch!** Please pick up a Brunch Card from Battin Hall beginning January 19th. You can choose from Sausage and Egg Casserole (recipe included), Fruit Salad, or Breads and Pastries. Please have your food at the church by 9:00 am.

**10:30 am Service:** Bishop Duncan will be confirming our members and preaching.

*If you or your youth would like to be confirmed on this day but have not attended a confirmation class, please contact the church office at 747-4000 or [madge@holy-nativity.org](mailto:madge@holy-nativity.org).*

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## Wine, Women, and Backpacks!

The last Thursday of January is the 30th, and that is when we will have our next get-together to stuff backpacks. Please join us at 5 pm to fill 93 backpacks for school kids who would otherwise go hungry over the weekend. You also get to hang out and drink wine with a terrific group of women, so bring your favorite flavor to share. As a special treat, we are having dinner catered this month! Please bring \$10 to donate towards your dinner, and extra wine if you think you will want it.



In February, the last Thursday falls on the 27th. Come and do it again!

Judy/248-6624

## CURSILLO WEEKEND MARCH 13-16, 2014

Cursillo is a three-day weekend that introduces people to simple methods for nurturing and growing their relationships with Christ. It provides an experience of living in a Christian community centered in worship, prayer, study of scripture and interaction with other Christians.

It's mission is to build up our parish churches by encouraging and empowering its members to prepare for doing the work of the church-the spreading of the Gospel.

David and Madge Smith and Stacey Holliday will be serving on the Cursillo staff. Cursillo is truly a wonderful gift in our diocese.

If you are interested in learning more, contact the Smiths at 588-8320/  
madgejsmith@gmail.com  
or Stacey at  
864-525-5095/  
staceyaholliday@hotmail.com.

Holy Nativity's  
Annual Meeting  
January 26, 2014  
9:15 am

The Staff will be  
cooking  
breakfast!



## *The Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast Annual Convention*

February 20-22, 2014  
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church  
Pensacola, FL

Holy Nativity's Delegates are Lori  
Bates, Edyth Brown, Mike Dickey,  
and Brian Leebrick

## *Father Tom: Adult Christian Education*

Exciting event unfolding in adult Christian education at Holy Nativity, as said in this syllabus about our Confirmation Class/Inquirers' Seminar that we are incorporating in our adult Sunday school class. Read, come, enjoy!! And check out the links!!!

Confirmation/Inquirers' Seminar  
Jan/Feb 2014, Holy Nativity Episcopal Church, Panama City, FL 32401

Welcome! These sessions are for everyone who would like to come; for those interested in Confirmation (BCP p.413f) when Bishop Duncan comes for his Visitation on Sunday, February 16; and for folks who just want to learn more about our branch of Christianity, the worldwide Anglican Communion <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/>, the Episcopal Church in the USA <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/>, Constitution & Canons [http://www.episcopalarchives.org/CandC\\_ToC\\_2012.html](http://www.episcopalarchives.org/CandC_ToC_2012.html) our Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast <http://www.diocgc.org/>, and Holy Nativity Episcopal Church <http://holy-nativity.org/>.

We will have five sessions:

- (1) Three class sessions here, Mary Stuart Poole Library at 9:15 on Sunday mornings, January 12, 19, and February 2.
- (2) Sunday, January 26 at this time we will have our annual parish meeting, a major event in the life of the parish: attending the annual meeting will be part of our class.
- (3) Sunday, February 9 will be our final session, when Father Steve will have an Instructed Eucharist in the church. Come to all five sessions with an open mind and expect to have a good time with enjoyable people!

Jan 12, 19, Feb 2 Class Sessions. It's helpful if you arrive by 9:15 but if you need to be late, we can wait a few minutes for you. Bring your coffee and cookie from Battin Hall. First time, please sign in with your name and email address. In an open, informal gathering, we will talk about *theology & worship, history, and organization*. Each session may "specialize," but any and all topics may show up during all three of our sessions. Bible Study. The session being at the same time as our regular adult Sunday school class, we will take advantage of that by devoting part of each class session to enjoying our approach to the Bible in the Episcopal Church. In our class and worship, we use the NRSV translation. Bibles are here for class use, but any Bible translation is fine: bring your own if you wish. If you don't own a Bible, please tell me and I'll give you one to keep for your own.

Prayerbook. Every Episcopalian should have a personal copy of *The Book of Common Prayer* at home. If you are attending because you are preparing for Confirmation, you will be given a prayerbook of your own to keep. We will spend some time in the prayerbook here, and you should feel free to mark in your copy as you wish. It isn't necessary to take it into church with you, as there are prayerbooks in the pew rack. But you will need it here in class each Sunday, so if you might forget to bring it, please just write your name in yours and keep it here until our course is finished, then take it home.

Welcome! Enjoy!!

Father Tom: The Reverend Tom Weller, [twellerpc@gmail.com](mailto:twellerpc@gmail.com) cell phone 850-532-0114

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Now that you're tired of all the things you got for Christmas, come join us for some real fun in the upstairs room. We meet every Wednesday night following the church supper.

This month we are planning our annual retreat (camping with our smart phones) and beginning the youth room renovation. Speaking of the renovation, here is our "wish list".



If you can recommend an expert in any of these areas, or would like to help us yourself, please tell me!

Build a permanent counter and storage cabinets for our food corner.

Replace the mini-fridge with one that works

Move two electrical outlets to usable locations

Repair and clean the pool table, purchase a hard-top cover

Repair or remove non-functional arcade game

Purchase missing components for our video game sets

Replace or repair the outer door lock, weatherstrip the door frame

Put up our rope lights

Professionally clean or replace carpet

Replace our table with one that is larger and lower

We have gotten some cash donations from youth group families to start the process off, but welcome any additional help you may want to give us. Our goal is to make our room look like we did it on purpose!

Judy/judydickey@gmail.com

### *Happy New Year, dear folks!*

What a joy it is to work ministry in a congregation who know the sense of *agape*' the main word of the gospel. Once again, your loving-kindness of generosity is shown to me in your Christmas gift, which makes me appreciate all the more the privilege of serving our Lord with you. Every day in this parish is a joy for me, and I hope to celebrate and preach and teach here for more years. You certainly make that an honor worth living for. May God bless you throughout our year ahead.

Gratefully and lovingly,  
Father Tom+

### *Many Thanks*

Again this year, Lori and I both thank you all for your many and amazing kindnesses to us over the holiday season. As we begin our 9<sup>th</sup> year with you it continues to be an honor to serve as your rector. I never cease to be amazed at the goodwill and good work that takes place at Holy Nativity. Thank you so much for your generosity, your support, your graciousness and your love. May God continue to bless us all in the coming year.

Steve and Lori



Feb. 1	John Morrow
Feb. 2	Jayden Jarrett, Monica Phillips
Feb. 3	Lenka Doran
Feb. 4	Daniel Melzer
Feb. 5	Elizabeth Ciccarelli, Mary Mittiga
Feb. 7	Dana Ledman
Feb. 9	Samantha Smith
Feb. 10	Michelle Kraut, Brian Leebrick
Feb. 11	Gene Miller, Susan Nelson, Hercules Pettis
Feb. 13	Scott Clemons
Feb. 14	Dawson Gall
Feb. 15	Connie McClellan
Feb. 17	Arthur Kraut
Feb. 18	Nancy Hebert
Feb. 20	Sophia Eaton
Feb. 21	Martin Brust, Bertram Churchill, Eddie San Juan
Feb. 22	Steve Dick, Allen Nease, Mario San Juan, Lauren Stewart
Feb. 23	Suzanne Grossman
Feb. 24	Frank Cole
Feb. 25	Carol Ann Osborne, Nancy Pride, Kevin Wattenbarger, Ann Watts, Sue White
Feb. 26	Edyth Brown, David Burris, Allison Yessman
Feb. 27	Cayden Dunn, David Lithway
Feb. 28	Ashley Doran, Helen Jennings



Feb. 1	Malinda Bates
Feb. 3	Charles and Sue Miller
Feb. 5	Ted and Ina Joy Conrad
Feb. 12	Billy and Ina Joy Wicker
Feb. 16	Martin and Kathy Brust
Feb. 19	Wayland and Glenda Patterson
Feb. 24	Dunkin and Edwina McLane

## INSTRUCTED EUCHARIST FEBRUARY 9, 2014

We are offering an Instructed Eucharist at 9:15 am as part of the Confirmation Classes!  
Have you ever wondered why we do the things we do during our service?

Everyone is welcome to attend!



## CURSILLO REUNION GROUP MEETING

FEBRUARY 5 AND 26, 2014  
5:30 PM FOR WORSHIP AND DINNER  
6:30 PM MEETING IN PARISH HOUSE

## EfM Alumni Meeting

Feb. 4, 2014

6:00 pm



All EfM alumni are invited to attend this monthly meeting and program!

## Coming in March!

**SHROVE TUESDAY  
PANCAKE SUPPER  
MARCH 4, 2014**



**THIS IS ALWAYS A FUN TIME WHERE WE ALL  
EAT PANCAKES, SAUSAGES, AND APPLE  
SAUCE BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF LENT!  
FIND THE "BABY" IN THE KING'S CAKE AND  
YOU WIN RESERVED SEATING AND PARKING  
ON EASTER SUNDAY!**



Ash Wednesday  
March 5, 2014  
Services will be 7:30 am  
and 6:00 pm  
(No Wednesday Night program)

**Lenten Soup Suppers and Program  
Begins March 12, 2014  
More information soon!**



## Steak and Bake For Wilmer Hall!

**March 2, 2014  
Sunday at 5:00 pm**

Steaks, baked potatoes, and fixin's!

Sign-up sheets are also located on the  
welcome table in the church foyer.  
You have to sign-up so we will order you a  
steak!

Wilmer Hall is our Diocesan  
sponsored Children's Home  
located in Mobile, AL.  
Go to [www.wilmerhall.org](http://www.wilmerhall.org) to find out  
more about this ministry!

### STEAK AND BAKE FOR WILMER HALL ORDER/SIGN-UP FORM

**Yes, Sign me up for great food and  
company!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number coming: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost is \$20 per person: checks payable to  
HNEC (note on your check "Steak and  
Bake") Please return to Madge Smith in the  
office or Hercules Pettis.



It always seems appropriate to begin the New Year by thanking all of the dedicated choir members and musicians who helped to make our Advent and Christmas services so special. As their Director, I offer my sincerest thanks to each and every one of them from the bottom of my heart! They did an outstanding job and their hard work and dedication were well worth it.

**The Children's Choir** sang beautifully for their "Lessons and Carols" debut and again on Christmas Eve. These fine young singers are really becoming 'seasoned' and they welcome any and all challenges placed before them. Whether they are robed in their red choir robes or pageant costumes, they sing with complete abandon and delight. They take their music ministry very seriously and love sharing their song! While it is always sounds impossible when I say this, I truly believe that each year their anthems on Christmas Eve surpass previous years' offerings. People continue to comments on their beautiful sound with crisp and clean diction! We work hard on that each week at rehearsal and it shows. I am also blessed with a wonderful group of parents always ready to lend an extra hand. Now we set our sights on preparing to sing for future Sundays in the winter months. If your child has not participated in Children's Choir so far and wishes to do so, this is a great time to start because we begin all new music.

**Lessons and Carols** was an incredibly beautiful evening of music and word – lessons were read and heard, music sung, and word and lessons put into action right before our eyes. Our attendance was nearly a 'full house'. Once again we garnered wonderful publicity prior, along with our 'reputation' for this special service. Special thanks are extended to everyone who participated – from greeters to readers to voices to acolytes to fabulous musicians to soloists and to all who helped in every way – bless you and thank you! Every part of the evening is important – altar preparations, programs printed, flowers arranged, food ordered, tables set, floors swept and areas cleaned. This is a team effort and event and thanks go to all who assisted in any and all ways. Our efforts were well received - it was glorious! I was especially pleased with the dessert reception following the service which allowed choir members a

chance to relax and celebrate a little. If memory serves me right, the delicious and beautiful cake by Mary Ellen Harding weighed 40 pounds and was gone in 15 minutes! Again this year for Lessons and Carols, both of our adult choirs, **The Rite One and Chancel Choirs**, joined in song, making for a large and full choir with 24 voices. We worked on this music for months and it showed.

**Christmas Eve** was also filled with beautiful music by our Chancel Choir and many musicians. The night was filled with the glory of Christ's birth in all of our musical offerings. Last of all, my thanks turn to God for giving us His Son, whose birth inspired such beautiful music and scripture and for our gift of music for sharing that blessed story.

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Some of our adults have vacations planned this winter so don't be concerned when you see fewer people singing on any given Sunday, just know how much we would appreciate YOUR voice joining us! We have much music to sing and Sundays come every seven days! We look forward to seeing you at one of these rehearsals:

The Chancel Choir

Thursday evenings in the church from 6:30 – 8:30 PM  
and  
Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:15 AM

The Rite One Choir

Thursday evenings in the church from 5:30 – 6:30 PM

The Children's Choir

Wednesday afternoons in the Choir Office from  
4:00 – 5:10 PM

May each of you have a blessed New Year and keep a song in your heart!



222 North Bonita Avenue  
Panama City, FL 32401

**(850) 747-4000**

E-mail: [info@holy-nativity.org](mailto:info@holy-nativity.org)

Website: [www.holy-nativity.org](http://www.holy-nativity.org)

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***The Nativity Scene is the newsletter of Holy Nativity Episcopal Church.  
The deadline for announcements and articles is the 15th each month prior to publication .***

## **DIOCESE OF THE CENTRAL GULF COAST**

*The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan II - Bishop*

*The Rev. Steven B. Bates - Rector*

*The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate*

## **CHURCH STAFF**

*Youth Director - Judy Dickey*

*Children's CE Director - Beverly McDaniel*

*Administrative Assistant - Madge Smith*

*Director of Choirs - Marqua Brunette*

*Church Organist - John Durgan*

*Church Bookkeeper - Kathy Mills*

*Sexton - Lawrence Long*

*Weekend Sexton - James Rahn*

*Nursery Attendant - Callie Mills*

## **THE VESTRY**

*Fr. Steve Bates - Rector*

*Henry Breland 13-16*

*Edyth Brown 12-15*

*Joe Ciccarelli 13-16*

*Carolyn Cramer 12-15*

*Mike Dickey 11-14*

*Richard Doran 11-14*

*Mark Godwin - Treasurer*

*Michele Hahn 12-15*

*Mike Harding 13-16*

*Jim Hixson 11-14*

*Betty Grammer 12-15*

*Chris Mills 13-16*

*Mary Ellen Pettis 11-14*

*Madge Smith - Clerk*

## **SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES**

**8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite I \***

**9:15 a.m. - Adult and Youth CE, Children's  
Sunday School (Sept. - May)**


**10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II\*\***

**\*Nursery Provided**

**\*\*Children's Church and Nursery Provided**



# february 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2 The Presentation of our Lord in the Temple</b>  8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - Christian Ed Confirmation Class 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel	3  Back to School!	4  11:30 am-Mary Martha Circle Meeting  6:00 pm-EfM Alumni Dinner	5  11:30 am - Healing, Eucharist, Lunch, Bible Study  4:00 pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal  5:30 pm - EfM 5:30 pm - Youth Group 5:30 pm - Wed. Night Program 5:30 pm-Cursillo Reunion Group	6  5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7	8
<b>9 The 5th Sun after the Epiphany</b> <b>DoK Bake Sale</b>  8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - Christian Ed Confirmation Class <b>Instructed Eucharist</b> 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel	10	11	12  11:30 am - Healing, Eucharist, Lunch, Bible Study  4:00 pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal  5:30 pm - EfM 5:30 pm - Youth Group 5:30 pm - Wed. Night Program	13  2:00 pm - 8:30 pm Supper at Grace volunteer work  5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14  	15
<b>16 The 6th Sunday after Epiphany</b> <b>BISHOP'S VISIT AND CONFIRMATIONS</b> 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - <b>Celebration Lunch</b> 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel	17  <b>President's Day Holiday</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	18	19  11:30 am - Healing, Eucharist, Lunch, Bible Study  4:00 pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal  5:30 pm - EfM 5:30 pm - Youth Group 5:30 pm - Wed. Night Program	20  5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<div>           21   <b>Diocesan Convention in Pensacola</b> </div>	
<b>23 The 7th Sunday after Epiphany</b>  8:00 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite One 9:15 am - 9:15 am - Christian Ed 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist/Rite Two with Children's Chapel	24  5:30 pm-Book Club at Panera Bread 6:30 pm-Book Club at the Parish House	25	26  11:30 am - Healing, Eucharist, Lunch, Bible Study  4:00 pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal  5:30 pm - EfM 5:30 pm - Youth Group 5:30 pm - Wed. Night Program 5:30 pm-Cursillo Reunion Group	27  5:00 pm - Wine, Women and Backpacks  5:30 pm-Rite One Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm-The Chancel Choir Rehearsal	28	

# Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for February 2014

Feb. 2, 2014	Feb. 9, 2014	Feb. 16, 2014	Feb. 23, 2014
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Phyllis McLawhorn, Kaew Sump-ton, Jane Burkett, Inge Churchill	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Max and Joyce Dannecker, Gene and Kathleen Wicker	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Phyllis McLawhorn, Kaew Sump-ton, Jane Burkett, Inge Churchill	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Nancy Bre-land, Victoria Williams, Rhonda Miller
<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Dorbre McMullen and Laura Johnson <b>10:30 am:</b> Sandy Ciccarelli and John Hutt	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Dawn Johnson <b>10:30 am:</b> Tom and Donna Hairston	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Betty Heminway <b>10:30 am:</b> Sue White	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Ursula Hixson <b>10:30 am:</b> Joe and Peggy Ferrante
<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Dan Johnson and Parker McClellan <b>10:30 am:</b> Mark and Nina Godwin	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Terry Jangula and Tim Pride <b>10:30 am:</b> Dick and Nancy Hebert	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Susan Nelson and Jerry Darnell <b>10:30 am:</b> Bret and Katie Fisher	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Tim Phillips and Jim Hixson <b>10:30 am:</b> Joe and Peggy Ferrante
<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Suzanne Grossman and Theresa Townsend <b>10:30 am:</b> Mike Dickey and Todd Williams	<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Inge and Lou Churchill <b>10:30 am:</b> Scott Clemons and Jan Burkett	<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Karen Tucker and Byron Matthews <b>10:30 am:</b> Joe Ciccarelli and Stewart Sumpton	<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Gayle Ahrens and Gene Wicker <b>10:30 am:</b> Brian Leebrick and Edyth Brown
<b>Acolytes</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Eric Stewart and Lauren Stewart <b>10:30 am:</b> Drew Dickey, Sean Dickey, Beka Leebrick, Kate Leebrick, Camryn Commander	<b>Acolytes</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Wes McClellan and Madelyn Reeder <b>10:30 am:</b> Kyle Fisher, Claire Fisher, Shelby Roberson, Stevens Roberson, Katie Marie Hutt, Ginny Leebrick	<b>Acolytes</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Eric Stewart and Lauren Stewart <b>10:30 am:</b> Jack Thompson, James Thompson, Michael Watts, Paul Brust, Jacob Brock, Joseph Thompson, Ben Bradford	<b>Acolytes</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Wes McClellan and Madelyn Reeder <b>10:30 am:</b> Trevor Mad-den, Morgan Williams, Ashytn Williams, Hannah Hickman, Ryan Nelson
<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Rich Doran	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Don Hodges	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Tom Ledman	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Michael Lovchuk
<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b> Judy Bennett	<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b> Teresa Durgan	<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b> Mary Frances Hutt	<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b> Mary Bonham



**Only if you are unable to find a replacement** for the day you are scheduled, please call your lay ministry leader.

Acolytes: Mike Harding - 747-0601  
 Altar Guild: Inge Churchill - 265-6744  
 Chalice Bearers/Lectors: 8 a.m. Gayle Ahrens 235-4265  
 10:30 a.m. Edyth Brown - 265-4009  
 Greeters/Ushers: Terry Jangula - 874-2382  
 Sunday Sweets: Edyth Brown - 265-4009  
 Tablecloth Ministry: Madge Smith—588-8320