



# the NATIVITY Scene

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*Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida*

September 2022  
Volume 26, Issue 8

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## **Our Wonderful Wednesdays Return on September 14th!**

4:30 pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal

5:30 pm: Church

6:00 pm: Supper is served

6:30 pm: Programs for all ages

*You don't want to miss the most fun night  
of the week!*



## **BUNKO NIGHT!**



All Ladies of Holy Nativity, we are delighted to announce that Bunko is coming back to the church. Mark your calendars for the first Tuesday of every month because this is a fun way to spend an evening with fellowship and friends!

Our first one is Tuesday, September 6 at 6:00 PM. The price is \$30 plus an adult beverage to share. There will be prizes and dinner and lots of giggles.

Please reserve your spot by texting Nina Godwin at 850-814-9282.

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## September Newsletter - - Fr Tom

Still and always a team member! In April 2009, Father Steve phoned me at my office at St Thomas by the Sea, Laguna Beach, where I was finishing up and retiring from five years as their parish priest, and he invited me to return to Holy Nativity as Priest Associate, to share in the ordained ministry here, and to have oversight of adult Christian education programs - - the adult Sunday school class, Education for Ministry, and for some years I offered a mid-week Bible study class. That began thirteen and a half years ago, and I have thoroughly enjoyed serving our congregation here and working with Father Steve.

Not going anywhere now, though I am easing off, scaling back as I come up on my eighty-seventh birthday. The end of May, Dr Dan Finley, who is on faculty at Gulf Coast State College, took over mentoring the adult Sunday school class, which is enormously appreciated. As long as I am able, as long as I can be a competent helper to the rector, I will stay on the preaching schedule however Fr Steve and I agree, and I will continue to fill in as Supply Priest when the rector is away.

One change folks will notice is that I may be here less, when I am not scheduled to preach or supply, as Linda and I plan other things of a retirement nature for our Time. Recently, for example, we had a trip to Apalachicola that involved Sundays. Coming up soon, Hurricane Season permitting, we plan a short drive to Waukula Springs, to stay most of a week at the old Lodge. Waukula Springs is near enough to Tallahassee that we hope to make it also a visit with family there. Some Sunday mornings we may do what folks have been doing off and on since the pandemic started, have a leisurely Sunday breakfast and be present at the Holy Nativity 10:30 service streamed online; when we're doing that, I'll "sign in". Most Sunday mornings we expect to be here for 10:30, and when that happens I'll assist the celebrant at the Altar. Or sometimes I may sit in the congregation with Linda.

Holy Nativity has been an important part of our lives since the summer of 1955, when Linda and I arrived home from our colleges to find that our parents had moved our membership and we were part of the founding families here, coming from St Andrew's Episcopal Church, which my grandfather had helped found in the early 1900s, and where we had grown up. I remember asking my mother as we drove up 3rd Street to Bonita Avenue and parked alongside a new concrete block building on a dirt road in the scrub oaks of The Cove, "What's the name of the new church?", and she said, "It'll be either Nativity or Holy Nativity, we haven't decided yet." Our hearts have been here ever since, and we are committed for life! We're not going anywhere, but we are at a place where it's Time for me to ease off a bit, and with the rector's concurrence, that's what I'm doing!

This comes with blessings, gratitude, and very much love,

Tom+



**Oct. 5th: Blessing of  
the Pets**  
**Oct. 30th: Pig Roast for  
Camp Beckwith**

## Choir News!

We are going to begin rehearsals for Lessons and Carols on Wednesday evening, the 14th of September. I would like to invite anyone who would like to volunteer to sing with us to come to the rehearsal on that date. We will rehearse Christmas music for about 30 minutes at the beginning of our usual rehearsal time, 6:30.

Since our choir has become quite small we really need the extra voices this year. So, If you like to sing and are available on Wednesday evenings at 6:30, please join us. You do not need to be able to read music to be a valuable participant. Please give thoughtful consideration to enhancing our choir with your voice.

If you have any questions you can call or text me at 229-393-3336 or email me at [jrdurgan@gmail.com](mailto:jrdurgan@gmail.com)

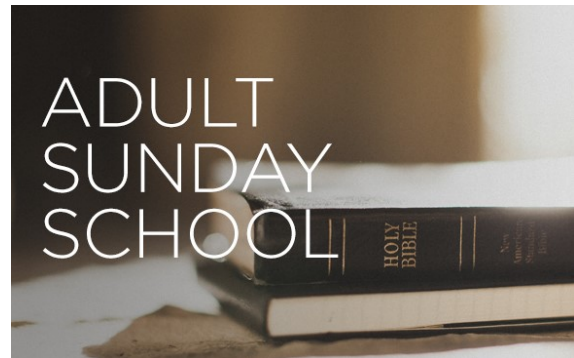
We hope to see you at rehearsal

John Durgan  
Choir Director

## Adult Sunday School Sunday's at 9:15 am

All are invited to join Dr. Dan for our Adult Sunday School Class at 9:15 am every Sunday in Battin Hall. Have a cup of coffee and tune in to what the current Bible topic is for the day. Currently discussing the book of Isaiah.

Note: Starting in September, the class will be held in the Church Library.



School is back in session and so are Backpack Buddies! We will make our first delivery on September 2, just in time for the long Labor Day school break. TEAM NINA, thanks for taking the first week!

This year we will changing up a bit, adding a variety of different foods and drinks. As the cost of groceries has increased, please consider adding something for our kids to your grocery list and being generous with your checks.

### SEPTEMBER PACKING SCHEDULE

Week of September 5-9 TEAM SCOTT

Week of September 12-16 TEAM TREY

Week of September 19-23 MARY MARTHA CIRCLE

Week of September 26-30 DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH

Interested in being part of this vital ministry? Talk to any of these TEAM leaders, sign up to be on the e-mail list or contact Barbara Knowles or Marla Churchill.

IT'S EASY, IT'S FUN AND YOU DO NOT HAVE TO COMMIT TO A SCHEDULED TIME!

## YOUTH IS BACK!!

After a summer break and return to school we are all long forward to getting back to programs.



We will be running our usual Wednesday Night fun and fellowship, as well as planning some activities. Trivia Nights, community outreach and of course Backpack Buddies.

LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE A STUDENT INTERESTED IN COMING TO YOUTH GROUP!

**Do you have a new driver in your family?** As a church we would like to offer a blessing of the car keys to protect new drivers and all who travel with them. Please let the church office know.

### **Livestream Assistant**

Everyone enjoys the livestream services, but help is needed maybe once a month. Training provided and recognition in the weekly bulletin!

### **Ideas for youth ministry?**

Do you have an idea for youth ministry or a passion to lead an activity? Let us know.

*A. J. Jeffery (Youth Director)*

850-319-1953

[aussie\\_aj@holy-nativity.org](mailto:aussie_aj@holy-nativity.org)



### **Children's Ministry** September 2022 By Beverly McDaniel

It is so good to hear the children telling about their backpacks getting blessed, and about the water slide antics, and about the goodies in the giftbags that they received, and about the fun they had at the church on Rally Day. Holy Nativity is a church that welcomes and involves children in worship, in study, in outreach, and in play. We want them to want to be at church having experiences that are meaningful and memorable throughout their lives. Our volunteers care about this, and they work in Children's Ministry to make it happen. We are so grateful to Liz Ward and Karen Shores for chairing The Blessing of the Backpacks, and to Mandy Lark and the lovely Leebrick girls, in particular. Our thanks go to all of you who helped with this favorite tradition at Holy Nativity Church.

We are looking forward to resuming Wonderful Wednesdays on September 14<sup>th</sup>. I am hoping to include the younger children in a couple of "service projects" like the youth do. Speaking of great volunteers... let me know your best ideas. Try to call me before I call you. I do welcome your comments and suggestions. Cell phone or text: 850-832-8324, or email: [bmcdaniel@holy-nativity.org](mailto:bmcdaniel@holy-nativity.org).



**Baylights!**  
**Madge Smith has tickets for**  
**the Last Ticket Draw!**  
**madge@holy-nativity.org or**  
**850-747-4000**



**BAYLIGHTS**  
 AT BECKWITH  
**SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 2ND**  
 MUSIC, FOOD & FUN ON WEEKS BAY

Register and Purchase Tickets @  
[www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights](http://www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights)

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**Friday, Sept. 30th**  
 6:30pm - \$25.00  
 Music by Casey Kearney  
 (with Fr. Richard Proctor on the drums)  
 Includes dinner, beer & wine  
 Bring a lawn chair  
[www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights](http://www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights)

**Sat. - Oct. 1st**  
**Live ticket draw down**  
**\$100**  
[www.TuscanResort.com](http://www.TuscanResort.com)  
[www.AntiguaCaribbeanBliss.com](http://www.AntiguaCaribbeanBliss.com)



**Weekend Includes**

**Friday Sept 30th**  
 6:30pm Music and dinner

**Saturday Oct 1st**  
 12:00pm Bishop's BBQ  
 2:00pm Diocesan Ultreya  
 5:00pm Music by Robert Sully  
 6:00pm Low Country Boil  
 8:00pm Last ticket drawn  
 Fun activities for the family  
 Football games shown in Wilson Hall



**Last ticket drawn wins**

Win a trip to Tuscany, Italy  
 or Antigua for 2 or 4 people  
 \$100 ticket  
 Purchase tickets at  
[www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights](http://www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights)  
 You do not have to be present to win

Trips can be taken at any time in 2023 or later  
 Winner chooses their destination

## LAUNDRY LOVE MINISTRY REPORT

*By David Smith*



Since the beginning of this year, the Laundry Love Ministry - lovingly being staffed monthly by volunteers from both Holy Nativity and St. Andrew's Episcopal Churches - has been blessed in being able to **serve 146 families and assist 325 individuals** to have clean clothes. Also, we are just beginning to track the number of loads washed, and to date we are **just over 200 loads total!**

On average, we are spending around \$400 on each event and inflation has raised its head, so increased costs are on the horizon. Laundry Love asks for your continued prayers and financial support. Any monetary donation will make a huge difference in the life of someone in our community.

We would love to see you every other month, at one of our events. Come join us. It's only a 2 1/2 hour commitment out of your day, but the impact and results of your presence are priceless.

Please feel free to contact David Smith at (850) 774-6475 or by email ([david@sandoakfinancialpartners.com](mailto:david@sandoakfinancialpartners.com)) to learn more about how you can help bring "a smile ... while ... doing laundry".

# Birthdays

Sept. 1 John Durgan  
 Sept. 3 Jo Bruhn, Julia McLane  
 Sept. 4 Liam Cramer  
 Sept. 5 Phyllis Hunt  
 Sept. 6 Stevens Roberson, Shelby Roberson  
 Sept. 7 Maggie Shuler, Pat Spangler  
 Sept. 8 Casey Cole, Susan Young  
 Sept. 10 Bill Ethridge, Gene Wicker  
 Sept. 11 Emma Crelling  
 Sept. 12 Sydney Fuller  
 Sept. 13 Grady Oenbrink  
 Sept. 16 Chad Barton, Victoria Williams  
 Sept. 18 Richard Bruhn, Jennifer Gailfoil, Carmen Shuler  
 Sept. 19 Rob Doll  
 Sept. 20 Lucy Dozar, Anne Harris  
 Sept. 22 Eric Berry  
 Sept. 23 Powell Ennis  
 Sept. 25 Donna Jangula  
 Sept. 26 Liam Cantrell, Jameson Duffy, David Smith  
 Sept. 29 Mia Carroll, Laurel Duffy, Denis Healey, Carson Shores  
 Sept. 30 Judi Lawrence

# Anniversaries

Sept. 1 Greg and Leigh Gladden  
 Sept. 8 William and Monica Cramer  
 Sept. 11 A.J. and Emma Jeffery  
 Sept. 12 John and Susan Messer  
 Sept. 16 Aaron and Karen Shores  
 Sept. 17 Greg and Amy Russell  
 Sept. 21 Trey and Angie Hutt  
 Sept. 27 Henry and Nancy Breland  
 Sept. 29 Dan and Robin Finley  
 Doug and Caroline Smith  
 Sept. 30 Terry and Donna Jangula

Ladies Cooking Class!  
 More photos on  
 Facebook!



## Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for September 2022

September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Amy Russell, Max and Joyce Dannecker	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Tim and Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga and David Burris, Katy Bradford	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Dan and Robin Finley, Kaew Sumpton, Tricia Berry	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Gene and Kathleen Wicker, Barbara Knowles
<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Dan and Laura Johnson <b>10:30 am:</b> John Thompson and Chris Mills	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Tim Pride and Tim Phillips <b>10:30 am:</b> Max and Joyce Dannecker	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Jim Hixson and Parker McClellan <b>10:30 am:</b> Linda Weller and Lori Bates	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Bert Churchill and Jerry Darnell <b>10:30 am:</b> Charles and Mary Bonham
<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Phyllis Hunt <b>10:30 am:</b> Mary Ellen Pettis	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Monica Phillips <b>10:30 am:</b> Jai Smith	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Ursula Hixson <b>10:30 am:</b> Michael Fuller	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Marla Churchill <b>10:30 am:</b> Jenny Collier
<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Joanne MacPhee and Theresa Townsend <b>10:30 am:</b> Scott Clemons and Lisa McLendon	<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Dan and Laura Johnson <b>10:30 am:</b> Nancy Breland and Joe Ciccarelli	<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Gene and Kathleen Wicker <b>10:30 am:</b> George McInnis and Joyce Dannecker	<b>Chalice Bearers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Gene and Kathleen Wicker <b>10:30 am:</b> Ian Crelling and Brian Leebrick
<b>Acolytes for 10:30</b> Kate Leebrick, Jackson Lee, Esteban Pereira, Laney Lee	<b>Acolytes for 10:30</b> Brody Fuller, John, Alex, Tom Moore	<b>Acolytes for 10:30</b> Beka Leebrick, Isaac Ward, Evan Ward, Mathison Crelling	<b>Acolytes for 10:30</b> Tyler Shores, Nicolas and Esteban Pereira, Will Melzer
<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Jenny Collier	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Michael Lovchuk	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Ivan Pereira	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Tom Ledman

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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. Russell Kendrick - Bishop*  
*The Rev. Steven B. Bates - Rector*  
*The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate*

## **CHURCH STAFF**

*Youth Director/Video Production- AJ Jeffery*  
*Director of Music - John Durgan*  
*Administrative Assistant - Madge Smith*  
*Children's CE Director - Beverly McDaniel*  
*Children's Choir Director - Leigh Gladden*  
*Church Bookkeeper – Kathy Mills*  
*Sexton - Deana Gailfoil*  
*Nursery Attendant - Kaew Sumpton*

## **THE VESTRY**

*Fr. Steve Bates - Rector*  
*Tricia Berry 2023*  
*Joe Ciccarelli 2024*  
*Ian Crelling 2022 Sr. Warden*  
*Anna Eberhard 2024*  
*Tiffany Ennis 2022*  
*Mark Godwin - Treasurer*  
*John Hutt 2024*

*Joanne MacPhee 2023*  
*Ivan Pereira 2022 Jr. Warden*  
*Kelly Roberson 2022*  
*Karen Shores 2023*  
*Madge Smith - Clerk*  
*John Thompson 2024*  
*Gene Wicker 2023*

## **SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES**

<i>Sunday 8:00 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite I</i>
<i>9:15 a.m. -</i>	<i>Adult Sunday School</i>
<i>10:30 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite II with Children's Chapel</i>

<i>Wednesday 5:30 pm -</i>	<i>(Sept.-May) five-thirty casual service followed by supper and programs</i>
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