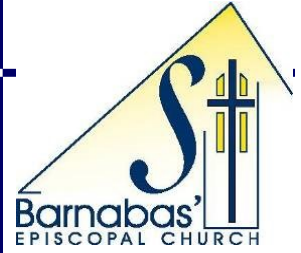


# The St. Barnabas' Reporter



## Good News Incarnate

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito  
Rector

Dear Friends,

It felt like an early Christmas gift to learn of the recent successful results from the coronavirus vaccine development efforts. Dr. Fauci indicated that if final testing and distribution goes as intended, it is likely that everyone who wants a vaccine will be able to get one by summertime. He said the first vaccine doses could be distributed to healthcare workers and first responders as early as this December and January. I felt physically relieved when I heard him say “help is really on the way” and that “metaphorically... the cavalry is coming.”

With this timeline in mind, our objective becomes even more clear: our goal is to continue to stay healthy and strong through the end of 2020 and into 2021, while carefully maintaining COVID-safe procedures and practices in order to protect the vulnerable. We can do this by getting outside, by reading and writing, by engaging our creativity, and by reaching out to our church family here at St. Barnabas', in addition to our family and friends outside of church. We can connect with others through phone calls, emails, and letters. We can recommit to our own spiritual life and the habits of prayer that have fed us in the past. In the meantime, however, I'll be wearing my mask, keeping physical distance from others as much as possible, avoiding large indoor gatherings, and washing my hands more than ever.

God willing, by Pentecost, we'll all have the chance to begin again, living our life in public and in person, as a society and as a church. We won't just be worshipping online or outdoors. We can hold fast to hope that in a few short months we'll be able to gather in our church for worship once more, sharing bread, peace, coffee, and abundant life in person, indoors as well as outdoors.

Usually in Advent we spend intentional time thinking about how we can prepare ourselves for the arrival of the incarnate Good News in our lives—preparing to celebrate the arrival of the word made flesh, preparing for God with us, preparing for the power of the Almighty arriving with the vulnerability of a baby. This Advent, we are preparing for the arrival of the incarnate Good News in an additional way—because this year more than any other, the Word of life that is promised, the Word of Life that is on the Way, is a Word that speaks of the promise of deliverance, not only from sin and death, but also from this virus.

Thanks be to God,  
John+

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *It's Your Birthday*
- *Jesus Is the Reason for the Season*
- *Virtual Epiphany Pageant*
- *Pumpkin Decorating Fun (photos)*
- *Spiritual Coffee Hour/ Bible Study and Forum & Fellowship*
- *Update on Cuba*
- *Holiday Service Schedule (back cover)*

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**St. Barnabas'  
Episcopal Church**

4801 Ravensworth Road  
Annandale, VA 22003  
703-941-2922

~

**Parish Staff**

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito  
*Rector*

Mariel York  
*Dir. of Christian Education*

Stephen Ackert  
*Interim Minister of Music*

Catherine Dubas  
*Parish Administrator*

Maria Bottlick  
*Bookkeeper*

James Harris  
*Sexton*

~

**Vestry & Parish Officers**

Maria Macfarlane  
*Senior Warden*

Grace Robbins  
*Junior Warden*

John Westerlund  
*Treasurer*

PJ Kennedy  
*Assistant Treasurer*

Ann Sayles  
*Register*

Behn Ayala

Jonathan Barber  
Sheena Friend

Art Hamerschlag

Sharon Jones

Alan Phillips

Dawn Schaefer

—  
Catherine Dubas  
*Newsletter Editor*

## \$\$ Treasury Notes \$\$

“May you live in interesting times.” *Chinese Proverb*

Captain's Log - Star Date - 19-NOV-2020

It has been a miserable year. The crew yet survives the deadly plague that ravages the land but at what cost? We have been reduced to staying indoors, limiting social contacts, and watching copious amounts of Netflix. And yet, we must go on -- our mission from above is clear - to persevere, to survive, to shine in the sun after the storm!

All kidding aside, it is important during dark times to look at the blessings we've received, and what better time of year than Thanksgiving, when the first Pilgrims to America were almost wiped out by cold and disease but were thankfully saved by Native Americans. This year's blessings include:

- \* The Bolin Shellito family
- \* Sunday online worship
- \* The love and prayers of our congregation for one another
- \* A legitimate and orderly presidential election
- \* Safety and health for our parish, our related family, and friends
- \* The generosity of our congregation to help those in need

It's been reported that the number of those seeking food and assistance is the greatest it has been in years, definitely due to COVID-19 and the economic fallout. St. Barnabas' has risen to the occasion by transferring more funding to FACETS, ACCA, and the Rector's Discretionary Fund to help those in need in 2021. Please consider donating to the Rector's Discretionary Fund or adding to your pledge -- these gifts will feed and assist those in our community who have lost their livelihood and income to COVID-19.

Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless!

John W.

## It's Your Birthday!

Looking forward to winter and wanting to publish birthdays in the Reporter or on livestream. If you don't want your name published please let the Parish Office know. If you want to add an anniversary, please let the office know.



- Carolyn Lilienthal

**St. Barnabas' Mission:**  
**Serving our community, the world, and each other through the love of Jesus Christ.**

## Vestry Highlights - November 18, 2020

Upon request from the Endowment Committee, the Vestry approved funding of

- \$3,000 for renovation of closet at bottom of ramp leading to Education Wing. Other needed funding will come from the Memorial Fund. This renovation will conform with the cabinetry in the narthex.
- \$2,000 for a one-time contribution to ACCA

Vestry discussed provisional funding of \$1,000 for solar panels and \$1,000 for a screen to hide the dumpsters in lower parking lot. Final decisions will be made after further information is received.

The Vestry approved the Building and Grounds Committee Charter.

The Vestry approved a new Memorial Garden Burial Policy.

The Hypothermia Shelter week will be February 7-14, 2021.

The Vestry approved the 2021 Budget, including a 3% salary increase for the Staff.

The Vestry approved an increase in our Diocesan pledge from \$45,000 to \$45,500. The Diocese asked for additional funding for college chaplaincy.

The slate for Vestry election at Annual Meeting is Norma Ricketts, Ellen Riddle, and Larry Stark.

Treasurer's Report: Income for October was a bit lower than usual; regardless, our funds are in good shape.

The Governor and Diocese have ruled that participation at outdoor services be "drive-in" to mitigate crowding and limit shared airspace. Further planning for worship is underway.

Ann Sayles, Register

## Reporter Deadline ■ Parish Office Holiday Hours

The deadline for the February 2021 issue of *The St. Barnabas Reporter* is Friday, January 15th. Please submit announcements and/or photos to the Parish Office at [stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com](mailto:stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com). Hard copies of announcements and photos are welcome, as well.

In November, the office will close at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 25th and reopen on Monday, November 30th for the Thanksgiving holiday. The office will close at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 23rd and reopen on Monday, January 4, 2021 in observance of Christmas and New Year's. The office also will be closed on Monday, January 18 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

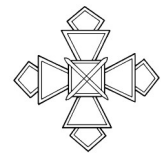
**Next Date for  
Baptisms**

**Easter Vigil**



**April 3, 2021**

*If you or someone you know is interested in Holy Baptism please contact the Rev. John Shellito or the Parish Office.*



**Recently Moved**



**Dottie & John Rogerson**  
6620 Crayford Street  
Burke, Virginia  
22015-4107

*For more information contact the Parish Office.*

## Jesus Is the Reason for the Season

by Mariel York, DCE

**Holiday Activity Packets for Children and Families** were emailed to parishioners before the First Sunday of Advent. If you would like to receive a packet, please contact me at [stbarnabasdce@outlook.com](mailto:stbarnabasdce@outlook.com).

**Youth Group** Rite 13, J2A, and YAC students are invited to join us (virtually) on Sunday, December 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. to make Christmas cards and a Christmas booklet for the elders of our parish. Login information: <https://zoom.us/j/2985834764?pwd=M2p3cUIUYkIvdWgwZ3dRdGhqeG1IQOT09>

Meeting ID: 298 583 4764 Passcode: 2020

Here's a sneak peek at some of the characters you'll see in the Virtual Epiphany Pageant:



## Women of St. Barnabas'

Parish members who have supported the annual bazaar in past years were sorry that we were not able to host the 2020 bazaar, and we missed the fellowship and work together that we would have enjoyed. The Women of St. Barnabas' (WOSB) plan to make a few grants to charities and church inreach in early 2021. Our 2021 funds for gifts will be limited because we did not have the income we would have had from the bazaar.

The United Thank Offering ingathering will be celebrated December 6, when the Rev. John Bolin Shellito will give a blessing of the offering. Donors attending the drive-in service on December 6 can place their UTO envelopes in the collection plate. UTO donations also can be mailed to St. Barnabas' or delivered to the church. Please make checks payable to St. Barnabas' and designate UTO in the memo line, and use the UTO envelope if you are able. Contributions also can be made online through the parish website ([www.st-barnabaschurch.org](http://www.st-barnabaschurch.org)). (Please call the parish office if you need instructions.) UTO grants in the 2021 giving cycle will focus on COVID-19 relief projects.



WOSB continues to collect money for Miles of Pennies. This is a project of the Church Periodical Club, which is affiliated with the Episcopal Church. Its ministry is to provide grants for books, tapes, CD's and software to persons all over the world who have no other way to get them. Funds are distributed through grant applications received each year, and there is strong demand for the grants. To support Miles of Pennies, you can make a check payable to WOSB, designating Miles of Pennies in the memo line, and mail it to St. Barnabas', or you can put donations in the jar when you come to the church. "

- Camille Mittelholtz & Gertrude Jones

## Virtual Epiphany Pageant

by Theresa Merchant

I'm so excited to introduce to you our Virtual Epiphany Pageant for this year called "Do Not Be Afraid." It won't be the same as seeing the children in person, but I do think it will be fun for everyone who participates. What we are going to do is called a voice-over with puppets. The children will be recording their parts and making character puppets to act them out.

The way it will work is an adult will record the child saying their parts and then that recording will be sent to Jessica and Andy Riddle. The recording can be done from a cell phone's voice memo or camera video. For the puppet part, I will be giving each child a Flat Stanley (paper doll) which they will decorate as their character; these puppets will be used in the video to act out their part. The recordings and Flat Stanley's need to be back to Jessica and Andy by December 4<sup>th</sup>.

If your child is interested in being part of our virtual pageant this year please send me an email or give me a call. We would love for all the children to be included. Below is a list of the parts and some guidelines for doing a recording and decorating the Flat Stanley. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or ideas for the pageant. I would be happy to hear from you.

### **Character Parts:** \* = *main character*

Grown Up*	Elizabeth	Shepherd 1	Magi 1
Child*	Angel	Shepherd 2	Magi 2
Mary*	Caesar	Shepherd 3	Magi 3
Joseph*	The Angel Messenger	Sheep	King Herod
The Angel Gabe	The Angel Chorus	Star	

### **Recording Guidelines:**

1. Go to a room where there will be no background noise. Banging dishes, barking dogs, and noises like that are hard to cut out when doing a voice over.
2. If doing the recording outside please make sure there is no wind.
3. When recording feel free to let the children be over the top and silly if they want to.
4. Record the session twice to make sure Jessica and Andy have what they need.
5. When your child is reading, have them pause between lines.
6. If they mess up on one of their lines, they can just start the line over. The voices will be cut out and put in place by Jessica and Andy.
7. There are a couple of scenes where there is several people talking at the same time or close to the same time. Don't worry about this. It will be cut out and placed where needed.

*(continued next page)*

## Virtual Epiphany Pageant *(continued from previous page)*

8. Don't be too close to the recording device. Arm's length is good.

9. If your part has background noise, Jessica and Andy will add this to the video. For example, there is a part where there is the clatter of pots and pans and then Mary is startled. The "clatter of pots and pans" will be added.

### Flat Stanley's Puppet Guidelines:

1. First and foremost please have your child write their name on the back of their Flat Stanley puppet.

2. Have the children create their Flat Stanley's in character i.e. if your child is a shepherd have them create their Flat Stanley as a shepherd.

3. The more texture they add to their Flat Stanley, the better it will look on screen.

4. Hair can be drawn on or made out of yarn, straw, fake hair from the craft store, etc.

5. Clothes can be drawn on with markers, pens or crayons or they can be made out of material from an old towel or something like that.

The children have great imagination and I'm sure they will come up with their own ideas. Please let them be creative and have fun with it. They can even use googly eyes! We look forward to seeing their creativity when the Pageants is premiered at our 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. online worship services on January 10th.

## Pumpkin Decorating Fun!



## Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study - 9 a.m. ▪ Forum & Fellowship - 11 a.m.

Sponsored by the Adult Christian Education Committee

Spiritual Bible Study/Coffee Hour, which meets at 9 a.m., uses the appointed lectionary for discussion. Please see [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net) for those readings. We also invite you for Forum & Fellowship at 11 a.m. Following are the upcoming topics:

<b>November 29, 2020</b>	The First Sunday of Advent ( <i>Thanksgiving Weekend</i> )
Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study	Forum & Fellowship: <i>Christmas Music</i> - Stephen Ackert, session leader
<b>December 6, 2020</b>	The Second Sunday of Advent
<i>No Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study</i>	<i>No Forum &amp; Fellowship</i>
<b>December 13, 2020</b>	The Third Sunday of Advent
Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study	Forum & Fellowship: <i>Outreach Ministries: The Mission in Cuba</i> - Cricket Camp, Norma Ricketts, and Len LeRoy
<b>December 20, 2020</b>	The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study	<i>No Forum &amp; Fellowship</i>
<b>December 27, 2020</b>	The First Sunday after Christmas
<i>No Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study</i>	<i>No Forum &amp; Fellowship</i>
<b>January 3, 2021</b>	The Second Sunday after Christmas ( <i>New Year's Weekend</i> )
Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study	<i>No Forum &amp; Fellowship</i>
<b>January 10, 2021</b>	The Feast of the Epiphany ( <i>transferred</i> ) ( <i>Epiphany Pageant</i> )
Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study	<i>No Forum &amp; Fellowship</i>
<b>January 17, 2021</b>	The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study	Forum & Fellowship: <i>Hymnal Revisions and the Reasons Behind Them, Part 2</i> - Stephen Ackert, session leader
<b>January 24, 2021</b>	The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study	Forum & Fellowship: TBD

Neither Spiritual Coffee Hour & Bible Study nor Forum & Fellowship meet on Sundays when there is in-person worship scheduled. Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study WILL meet Thanksgiving weekend.

Please remember that in-person services are livestreamed, as well. In case of inclement weather, the service will be livestreamed from within the church with no congregation present.

For questions please contact Mariel York, Director of Christian Education at [stbarnabasdce@outlook.com](mailto:stbarnabasdce@outlook.com).



## ACCA News – Annandale Christian Community for Action

**Challenge Campaign** – ACCA’s major fund-raising project continues through January 31, 2021. Donations support ACCA’s emergency assistance to neighbors in need, the Child Development Center and other ACCA programs. The “COVID Challenge Campaign” seeks to restore the ACCA treasury after significantly increased requests for help earlier this year. To donate, please make your check payable to ACCA (please note Challenge Campaign in the memo line) and mail it to 7200 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA 22003. You can also designate ACCA in a check payable to St. Barnabas’ or gift through Realm.



**Workplace Giving** - If you give through a workplace giving campaign, please consider designating ACCA to receive your donation. The designation numbers for ACCA are: United Way Work Place Campaigns- #8058 and Combined Federal Campaign: #58934.

**Clothing Drive** – ACCA will collect winter outerwear for homeless men and women and day laborers in December and January. Items needed include jackets, heavy sweaters, hooded sweatshirts, gloves and hats. You can arrange with Camille to get donations to her or leave donations at St. Barnabas by arrangement with the parish administrator. Please donate items by December 4 for December distribution and January 8 for January distribution.

**CROP Walk** - Thanks to everyone who donated to the Annandale CROP Hunger Walk and to our St. Barnabas’ team of walkers. The walk raises funds for Church World Service and ACCA to fight poverty, hunger and disaster around the world and in our community. If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to CWS/CROP and send it to the church. You can also designate CROP Walk in a check payable to St. Barnabas’ or gift through Realm. As of mid-November, St. Barnabas’ had raised \$3,520.

**Family Emergency Assistance and Food Pantry.** The economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have greatly increased requests to ACCA for emergency assistance. Food Pantry requests for assistance also continue at a high rate and donations of nonperishable food and hygiene supplies are needed. Donations can be brought to the pantry at 7200 Columbia Pike (weekdays 1-5 p.m. and December 5 and 19, 9-11:30 a.m.), or brought to St. Barnabas.

**Furniture Ministry** – The furniture program is continuing, with health protocols. Furniture volunteers deliver furniture to households in need and pick up donations. Gently used mattresses, tables and chairs, sofas, dressers, lamps and bedding are needed. To donate, please contact Ken or Camille or email [ddmld@verizon.net](mailto:ddmld@verizon.net). The dates for St. Barnabas’ to volunteer for the program have not yet been set for 2021.

**Rebuilding Together** – We are hopeful that Rebuilding Together Arlington-Fairfax-Falls Church (RT-AFF) will hold its National Rebuilding Day on April 24, 2021. St. Barnabas’ will participate with other ACCA volunteers in making repairs for a lower-income homeowner or a nonprofit group home if repairs are able to proceed safely at that time. RT-AFF is now organizing smaller home repairs through its “Rebuilding Together Express” program.

For more information about ACCA or the CROP Walk, please contact Ken or Camille Mittelholtz at 703-573-0074 or [kcmittelholtz@gmail.com](mailto:kcmittelholtz@gmail.com).



## Update on Cuba

by Len LeRoy

Early last year as we began planning our mission trip to Palma Soriano, Deacon Noel informed me that there had been an accident with the church truck, a 1990's Toyota. It was in the repair shop and he hoped, but doubted, that he could have it ready for our trip there in late summer. Vehicle parts are very scarce in Cuba. Two members of St. Barnabas' sent Noel money to get the truck repaired.

In mid-October Noel informed me that the truck was finally back in service. Things can take a long time in Cuba! Below are two "before" photos that we took on July 20, 2019. You can't see it in the photos, the bed of the pickup is rusted through so that you can see the street through it. The mechanic had brought the truck for us to see but he had to bring it under cover of darkness because it was not legal to drive in its condition. There also are two "after" photos that Noel sent. Motorized transport is scarce in Palma Soriano. Noel uses the truck to transport people from the neighborhood to the medical clinic and other errands, and to visit his other parish in Bayamo, about 50 miles away.

Noel tells me that there is no coronavirus at his end of the island because of the government's strict measures when the pandemic broke out. They now have worship services and community activities with no masks and no restrictions. However, food is scarce and life is very difficult with the loss of tourist revenue and the embargo. I hope that things will get better for them in a few months and that we may be able to visit again late next summer.

Please join us for Forum & Fellowship at 11:00 a.m. on December 13th for more details.

Before



After



## Thanks and More Thanks...

- To Stephen Ackert, Norma Ricketts, Cricket Camp, Len LeRoy, and all who have enriched the Forum & Fellowship sessions.
- To Jeff Schaeffer for facilitating the Spiritual Coffee Hour & Bible Study.
- To Alan Phillips, Art Hamerschlag, and Maria Macfarlane for their faithful and wise service on the Vestry.
- To Norma Ricketts, Ellen Riddle, and Larry Stark for saying “yes” when they were each asked to stand for election to the Vestry. It is generous and kind of each of them to agree to serve God and the church in this way.
- For Maria Macfarlane’s inspiring leadership as Senior Warden .
- For Grace Robbins’ wise and grounded leadership as Junior Warden.
- For John Westerlund’s powerful service as our Treasurer.
- For Ann Sayles’ faithful and excellent service as our Register.
- To Beth Harper and the Stewardship team for their dedicated work in the midst of the pandemic.
- To George Sinclair, Beth Harper, Jess Riddle, and Andy Riddle for helping to lead our livestreamed service for All Saints Day on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- To James Harris for his care for our church.
- To Maria Bottlick and Wayne Bottlick for their fortitude and generosity in service.
- To Theresa Merchant, Special Events Coordinator, for coordinating the Virtual Epiphany Pageant, and to Jess Riddle and Andy Riddle for their technical expertise in making the pageant come to life, and for their support of our children and youth in other ways also.

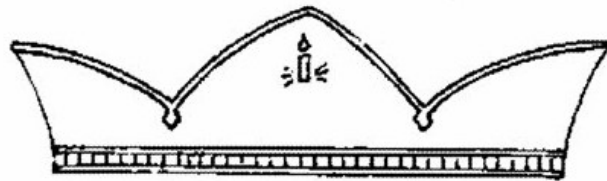
## In the Presence of God

*We pray for God’s strength and healing for ...* Bernard Blair, Emma Blevins, Ginger Braddon, Jean Anne Braddon, Tracy Braddon, Margot Donnelly, Frank Donnelly, Rotha Frye, Preston George, Lee Gibbs, Roger Hefferan, Sharon Jones, Tom Lyles, Bob Macfarlane, Phyllis McKoy, Cindy McLaughlin, Marion Meany, Barbara Metz, Aliyah Phillips, Beth Phillips, Anne Radway, Barbara Rigden, Ann Sayles, Frank Spink, Kathleen Stark, David Steidel, Dana Wiseman, Ann Woodle, and Mary Yeaman.

*For the Church ...* the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby; our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry; and our Diocesan Bishops, the Rt. Rev. Susan Ellyn Goff, the Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, the Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, the Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick, and the Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones and their families. For our Rector, the Rev. John Bolin Shellito, and his family; for Cindy McLaughlin (in discernment); for our vestry, wardens, and staff; and for the work and ministry of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Palma Soriano, Cuba.

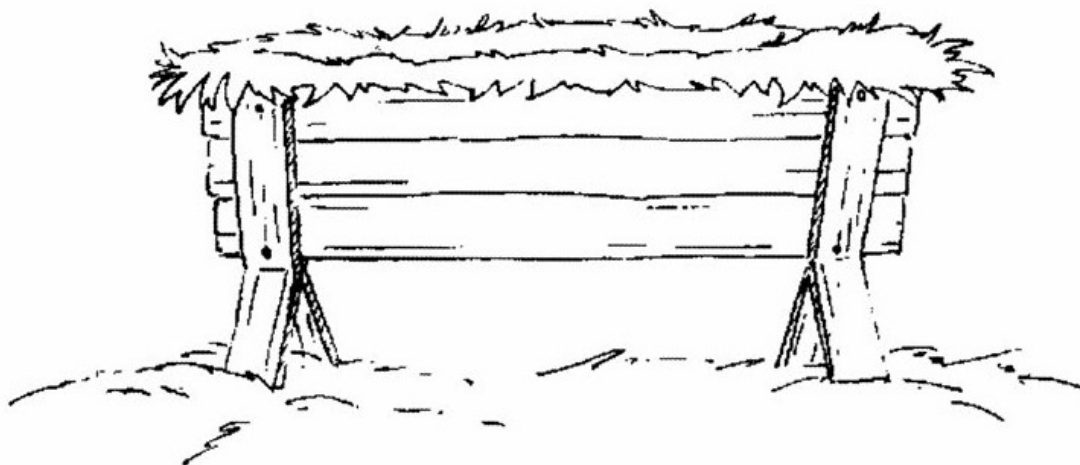
## KIDS PAGE

# The Season of Advent



The word Advent means \_\_\_\_\_. During the Season of Advent we \_\_\_\_\_ for the coming of Christ. We look forward to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the baby Jesus. We also expect the return of Christ our \_\_\_\_\_.

the coming      birth      King      prepare





**ST. BARNABAS'  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

4801 Ravensworth Road  
Annandale, VA 22003

Phone: 703-941-2922

E-mail:

stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com

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**We're on the Web!**

[www.st-barnabaschurch.org](http://www.st-barnabaschurch.org)

**The Feast of St. Nicholas - Sunday, December 6, 2020**

**10:15 a.m. "Drive-In" Service of Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion**  
*(weather permitting; livestreamed)*

**Christmas Eve: The Nativity of Our Lord - Thursday, December 24, 2020**

**3:30 p.m. "Drive-In" Service of Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion**  
*(weather permitting; not livestreamed)*

**5:00 p.m. Livestreamed Traditional Prelude Music**

**5:30 p.m. Livestreamed Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion**  
*(not in person)*

**Christmas Day - Noonday Prayers**

**Friday, December 25, 2020 ▪ 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.**

**Join us by calling 301-715-8592 (Passcode: 2020 - Meeting ID: 298 583 4764)**

**The Feast of the Epiphany *(transferred)***

**Virtual Epiphany Pageant at the Start of Online Worship**

**Sunday, January 10, 2021 ▪ 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.**