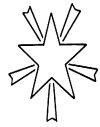


The Server

Published for the Acolytes of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Kingwood, Texas



*The Holy Name
of our Lord
Jesus Christ*



The Epiphany



*St. Vincent
of Saragossa
Deacon & Martyr*

Epiphany

January 2018

This month I draw your attention to our Patron, **St. Vincent of Saragossa**. He is the patron of all those who serve at the altar and this is his emblem. You will also see it in our Guild processional banner and our letter head. St. Vincent is remembered especially for his *faith, steadfastness and loyalty*. Sound familiar? We will process our banner on the 22nd which is the actual feast day this year.

Christmas

Looking back at Christmas I would have to say we had a GREAT Christmas as far as the Acolyte Ministry is concerned. EVERYONE was on time and ready for action. I must admit to you I was not looking forward to the late (10.00) service as I felt that there would be a small attendance and the acolytes would be grumpy because it was late. Boy! Was I WRONG! We not only had a nice turnout but the acolyte team was phenomenal. They were smiling and really on the ball and they were just a delight to watch. So much maturity and experience really showed. And all the Christmas Eve teams were awesome. I was just SO proud of everyone. WELL DONE!

Christmas Day

We had no scheduled acolytes for Christmas Day (a tradition) but I can tell you we had a FULL TEAM, all "volunteers". Team Onyeme (Franklin, Meredith and Stephanie) did a repeat of last year plus we had Daniel Boyd adding to the senior ranks. Amazing! We are SO blessed at Good Shepherd.

This is what YOU are about as young ministers who make a special place in your lives to serve the Lord at the High Altar. Making a "special place in your lives" means putting a high priority for this work among all that you do in your busy lives. By giving it that high priority and keeping it there is what makes you exceptional young people. We talk about this at training when you are about 10 years old and it is a difficult concept to totally grasp at that age but as you grow up and, of course, change through your teenage years you will start to feel the challenge of keeping the priority there. The first year is exciting

but after that you must rely on your ability to really understand how special it is keeping this priority item in your lives. There is so much to distract you and so many apparent "high priorities" but you must somehow set this apart and keep it in a special place in your lives. Doing so will shape the rest of your life. It's THAT important!

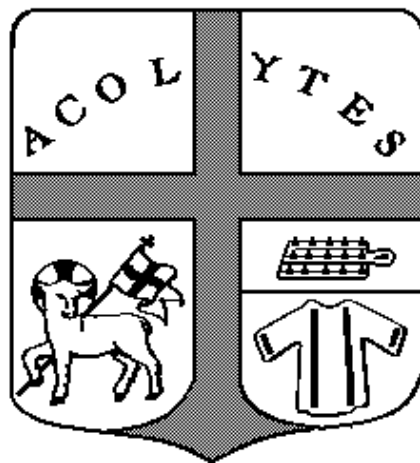
Finding subs

Just a reminder that if your plans change it is YOUR responsibility to find a sub. In this digital age it is easy to do. I keep the email list up to date for you.

We now do NOT show a fully typed out "sub list" which means you must scan the new schedule when it arrives. **If you are not a "scheduled" acolyte then you are automatically on the sub list.**

If a scheduled acolyte suddenly finds they need a sub (it does happen!) then we need members to do their best to respond ... "yes". You support your brother and sister acolytes by doing so.

This is a part of your "keeping commitments" and "giving high priority". It is how you grow as a person who can be relied upon as a part of our overall ministry. It is a part of what makes you special people. And YOU make Good Shepherd a special place.



Our Acolytes are admired and so appreciated at Good Shepherd and YOUR ministry is known well beyond Good Shepherd throughout our diocese and by our Bishops. This is true because of who you are and who you are becoming as you grow. It is because of your skill, commitment and dedication as young ministers. And, oh! how we saw that on Christmas Eve!! So steady, so mature. You are always loved and appreciated by our people. Please remember that.

And, finally, a BIG THANK you to **Mrs. Roberts** and **Mr. Stephan** who stood by you and supported our teams for ALL of the Christmas Eve services AND served as acolytes in the morning so you didn't have to. It was weird having 4th Advent in the morning and Christmas Eve in the evening. A lot of church for one day!

And so we enter another new calendar year with 85 truly special members. We thank God for you and your families who support you EVERY Sunday. You delight us as we see you quietly going about your ministry with skill and poise, learning new things and meeting challenges as you grow in knowledge. THIS is what we are about.

The leadership team wishes each and every member and their families a wonderful, safe and successful new year.

Stay focused troops! Mr.B.

Amusing Grace



WWW.YOURCHURCHINTHENEWS.ORG
 JUST OCCASIONALLY, REV'D MORGAN WONDERED IF HE HAD GONE TOO FAR IN HIS QUEST FOR PUBLICITY

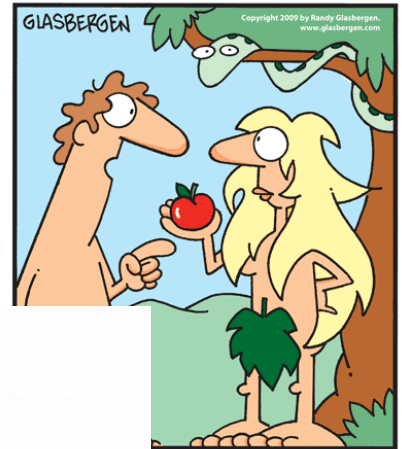


©DANSCARTOONS.COM
 "No Gerald, it was NOT Willie Nelson on the road to Damascus."

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



© Randy Glasbergen
 www.glasbergen.com
 "You need a virus, you have a computer."



© Randy Glasbergen
 www.glasbergen.com
 "I'm supposed to eat the apple because the apples have carbs and carbs are evil!"



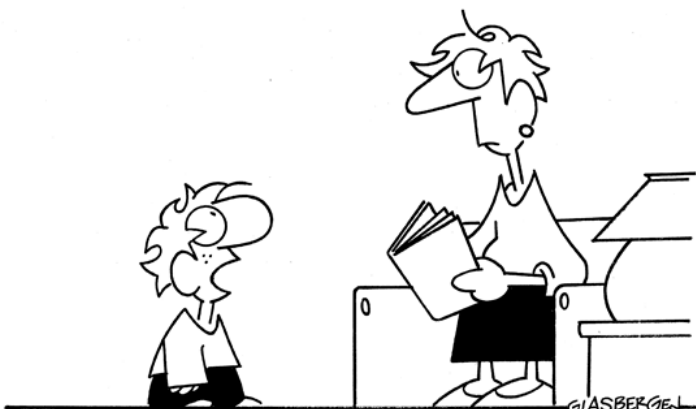
Campbell
 "Ed moves that we buy new choir slickers and adjourn for pizza. Do I hear a second?"
 (see Exodus 14)



04-20-1999



Campbell
 "Which mouse are we hearing?
 The church mouse or the mouse in the church?"



© Randy Glasbergen
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 "Our pastor says all men are brothers. Does that mean all men want to pull my underwear up over my head?"