



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

The Grapevine

December 2011

Festival of Lessons and Carols

Start the holidays by attending the Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 4, at 3:30 p.m. This popular event, based on the first one at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England, in 1918, retells the Christmas story through seven lessons read by members of the Cathedral community. The Cathedral Choir will sing anthems and the congregation will join in the traditional carols.

Midday Organ Recitals

If you are in downtown Hartford on a Tuesday, walk over to the Cathedral for a free Midday Organ Recital at 12:35 p.m. The 25-minute recitals seek to reach out to the downtown community and provide a taste of the musical gifts available here.

The concerts will be on December 6, 13 and 20. No concerts will be held on December 27 or in the month of January.

Choral Evensongs in December

- Wednesday, December 7, at 6 p.m., Cathedral Choristers
- Wednesday, December 21, at 6 p.m., Cathedral Choristers and Schola Cantorum.

Christmas Angelicus Concert

The Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus choirs will present their always popular Christmas concert at the Cathedral on Sunday, December 10, at 6 p.m. The 70-voice children's choir and adult professional ensemble will

offer new and old arrangements of seasonal music along with carols for the audience. Gabriel Löfvall is the director and Kevin Jones, Canon Precentor, will be the organist. The narrator will be Diane Smith, familiar for her Connecticut Public Television program "Positively Connecticut."

Tickets are \$40 and \$25 for adults, \$20 and \$15 for students, and can be ordered by calling 860-496-8841 or visiting www.chorusangelicus.org

Services for Advent and Christmas

Sunday, December 4 - Advent II

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. - The Holy Eucharist
3:30 p.m. - Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 11 - Advent III

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. - The Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 18 - Advent IV

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. - The Holy Eucharist

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

10:30 p.m. - Nativity Concert "An Old World Christmas"

11:00 p.m. Festival Holy Eucharist with incense
The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Celebrant and Preacher

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. The Holy Eucharist with carols
12:30 p.m. St. James' Holy Eucharist in Spanish

Free parking for Christmas Eve will be available for everyone in the parking lot at Main and Talcott Streets and for the physically disabled in the Cathedral alley.

Feeding Your Spirit in Advent: Attend a Retreat

On Thursday, December 8, there will be two opportunities to slow down during the holiday rush and spend time in quiet reflection and prayer. Come to the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford for a retreat presented by Brandon Nappi that will explore the mystical writings of Meister Eckhart and Thomas Merton.

"We will discover the key insight at the center of all mysticism and ponder why mysticism has such an appeal to our hearts at this

continued...

moment in Christian history,” says Nappi. “Meister Eckhart and Merton’s wisdom illumine a way for us to move through the often hectic seasons of Advent and Christmas with grace and peace.”

The daytime retreat, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., includes lunch. The evening retreat, 6 to 9 p.m., begins with a buffet dinner. The cost is \$20. Contact Debby Van Camp at dvancamp@cccathedral.org or call the office, or let Dean Pendleton know of your interest, preferably by December 1.

Bring a Gift for the Angel Tree!

During Advent there will be a special Angel Tree in the Cathedral House auditorium bearing angel ornaments. Each ornament will have the name, age, size and gender of a child who attends one of two schools in Hartford: Betances School in the Sheldon/Charter Oak neighborhood of Hartford, or the Milner School on Vine Street.

Take a name and buy a toy, game, book or other suitable item. For older children, gift cards from various retailers will be welcome. Wrap the gift, attach the angel ornament to it, and bring it back to the Cathedral by Sunday, December 18. Help make a child happy!

Christmas Altar Flowers

It is a tradition at the Cathedral to have Christmas altar flowers in memory of family members or friends. If you wish to have names listed in the Christmas bulletin, please fill out the Christmas flower envelope that was mailed to parishioners and is also found in the pews. Place it in the Sunday offering plate or mail it to the Cathedral Office, 45 Church St., Hartford CT 06103. Make checks payable to Christ Church Cathedral and earmark them “Christmas Flowers.” There is no recommended minimum donation. Be sure to print names legibly so they will appear correctly in the bulletin. We ask that flower requests be returned to the Cathedral Office by Monday, December 12.

With this issue, *The Grapevine* becomes a monthly two-sided newsletter focusing on timely information for the Cathedral audience. News deadline for the January issue is December 10. Contact Lillian Kezerian by e-mail lkezerian@gmail.com or at 860-242-5239.



Christ Church Cathedral
45 Church Street
Hartford, CT 06103

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