

GRACE NOTES

JANUARY 2019

PARISH LIFE ANNUAL COOK OFF will be held on Saturday, January 19 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Parish Life's annual cook-off will be held on January 19 with the theme being "Anything with Rice". Contestants may make any recipe as long as it contains rice. Judging will be based on two categories: "Sweet" or "Savory". You do not need to compete to participate. All are welcome. There is a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Area for both contestants and "judges". We hope you will join us for this fun event.

SOUPER BOWL SUB SALE

Parish Life will be offering subs for sale on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3. The cost will be \$5 with a \$1 discount if you bring in one or more cans of soup for the Baldwinsville Food Pantry. Sign up sheets for your order will be available in the Welcome Area starting on January 13 with payment due on January 27.

SNOW DAYS

The office will be closed when the Baldwinsville school district is closed due to weather.



SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, January 20 - Annual Meeting following a 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist service



Cookie Walk check presentation from Rosanne Parmele to Lauri Bernstein, Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau Coordinator.

It was the tradition in the days long before Google or even the widespread availability of calendars, to announce the date of Easter and the related variable dates of Ash Wednesday, Pentecost and the First Sunday of Advent at the celebration of the Epiphany. These days, most people simply look at the calendar, or perhaps wait until just after Valentine's Day for the banners to appear in the stores selling Cadbury eggs and marshmallow Peeps.

The calculation of Easter is based on the date of the vernal (spring) equinox, as calculated by the church, so it doesn't always match what the meteorologists tell us, or the calculation of the Jewish Passover from which it derives, or even the Julian calendar used by the Eastern Orthodox.

According to this calculation, Easter can fall anytime from March 22 to April 25. We've gotten close to these limits in 2016, when Easter was March 27, and we will be close again this year when Easter falls on April 21, Ash Wednesday 2019 doesn't occur until March 6, giving us two months of Sundays After Epiphany this year. From the first Sunday after Epiphany, also known as The Baptism of Christ (January 13 this year) through the feast of the Presentation, also known as Candlemas (February 2), the focus of our readings and collects is on Epiphany themes of light and showing forth. Following Candlemas the focus shifts toward anticipation of Lenten themes.

It seems appropriate that we hold the Annual Meeting of our church in this Epiphanytide season of Light and Showing Forth. Lacking the visible star that the Magi followed, how might we discern where God is calling Grace Church at this time? How might we make Good News known to all people in our neighborhood, and at the same time manage our inevitable anxiety about change? Please make plans to attend a single service at 9 a.m. on January 20, and the Annual Meeting immediately following.

Mo. Cathy +

P.S. For those who wish to read ahead, a link to the lectionary readings has been added to the Grace Church website.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL COOKIE WALK!

Because of the efforts of many people, we were able to raise over \$4,500 for Grace Church and \$500 for the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau! And we welcomed over 150 community members who were able to experience the wonderful hospitality of our parish.

Special thanks to the Cookie Walk Committee and volunteers for their countless hours of work before and during the event. The committee members have it down to a science, and the event goes off without a hitch each year!

And to all of the following folks, we couldn't do it without you, and truly appreciate your contributions to the success of the event:

Very talented cookie bakers and treat makers

Generous financial contributors

Decorating Day bakers and decorators

Men's Night bakers and rum ball makers

Soup makers

Properties team for set-up and take-down assistance

Crafters for enhancing the holiday experience

Rose Mercer for getting everyone in the holiday spirit with delightful holiday music on the piano

We will have a follow-up/debriefing meeting on January 13 between services. Please join us if you have any suggestions on how we can continue to make the Cookie Walk a great event. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please feel free to email any ideas to roxparmele@twcnny.rr.com

Roxanne Parmele and Kelly Hamilton, Cookie Walk Co-Chairs

DECEMBER VESTRY POINTS

- Our financial position is stable. 52 pledges have been returned. Draft of the 2019 budget is in place.
- A clerk is needed for the monthly Vestry meetings.
- Action on the new NYS Harassment Law is deferred until the diocesan Chancellor has defined policy. We will continue to operate under our Safe Church policy until that time.
- A supply organist Jeff Wise will provide music for most of January.
- The Annual Meeting will be held January 20, 2019.
- Outgoing Vestry members include Paul Diller, Senior Warden, Blaine Fleming, Ruth Frey, and Barbara Reeves.

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