

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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Head of the Church Jesus Christ

Our Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.

Interim - The Rev. Canon C. David Evans
cdevanserie@gmail.com (814) 397-6920 (cell)

Director of Music, Danielle Weiser-Cline
Church Pianist, Chris Mead

Parish Secretary, Marguerite Seymour....Sexton, Jim Carlson
Ministers of the church . . . Every Baptized Member!

The Baptism of our Lord January 8, 2012 - Year B

The Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. - Rite One

Opening Acclamation	BCP pg. 323
Gloria	BCP pg. 324
Lessons	(See next service)
Homily	Rev. Canon C. David Evans
Baptismal Covenant	BCP pg. 304
Prayers of the People	BCP pg. 328

Please respond between the paragraphs of prayer with
"Lord, have mercy."

Great Thanksgiving	BCP pg. 333
Prayer after Communion	BCP pg. 339

Dismissal

The Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. – Rite Two

Entrance Hymn *“Songs of thankfulness and praise”* **Hymnal 135**

Opening Acclamation **BCP p. 299**

The Collect

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Old Testament Reading **Genesis 1:1-5**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Reader: *The Word of the Lord*

People: *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 29 *Afferte Domino* **BCP 620**

- 1** **Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**
- 2** **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3** **The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**

- 4 **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 **The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 **He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 **The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- 8 **The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 **And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"**
- 10 **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.**
- 11 **The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

New Covenant Reading

Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied-- altogether there were about twelve of them.

Reader: *The Word of the Lord*

People: *Thanks be to God*

Gradual *"When Christ's appearing was made known"* (Stanzas 1-3)

Hymnal 132

The People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ*

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ*

Gradual *"When Christ's appearing was made known"* (Stanzas 4,5) **Hymnal 132**

Homily **Rev. Canon C. David Evans**

Gathering Hymn

"Borning Cry"

**I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the
Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living
Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,**

**I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the
night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.**

Presentation and Examination of Candidates	BCP 301
The Baptismal Covenant	BCP 304
Prayers for the Candidates	BCP 305
Thanksgiving of the Water	BCP 306
Baptismal Acclimation	BCP 308
Peace	BCP 360

Holy Communion

Anthem	<i>“Spirit Song”</i>	John Wimber
Doxology	<i>“Praise to God”</i> (stanza 3)	Hymnal 380

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer - Rite II - Prayer A	BCP p. 361
Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)	Hymnal S-125
The Lord's Prayer	BCP p. 364
Fraction Anthem	

HOLY EUCHARIST is the best way we know to give thanks and to get strength. All baptized Christians of any denomination are encouraged to come to receive the blessed wine and bread. If you have not yet been baptized, please come with arms crossed to receive the blessing of the Church.

Communion Hymns		
<i>“His name is Wonderful”</i>	Songs of Praise	Page 71
<i>“Spirit of the Living God”</i>	Songs of Praise	Page 116
Post Communion Prayer		BCP p. 366
Blessing		BCP p. 366
	Birthdays and Announcements	
Dismissal Hymn	<i>“All creatures of our God and King”</i>	Hymnal 400
Dismissal & Postlude		

Assisting Today

8:00 a.m. Eucharist: Peter Bean

10:00 a.m.: Chalice 1: Roger Smith; Chalice 2: Lorraine Evans; Lector 1: Lorraine Evans; Psalm: Cantor; Lector 2: Roger Smith; Intercessor: Pam Bean; Crucifer: Pam Bean; Server: Chuck Brockway; Hosts: Rick Balog & Carl Nelson; Breakfast: Grotto Group; Coffee Hour: The Seymours and Carlsons.

We thank those who have served this Sunday and have set the Lord's Table: Cathy Pelton, Diane Box, and Marguerite Seymour.

We give glory to God in loving memory of Juliaette & Harry Sheppard, Herman & Helen Cerbin, Paul & Laura Callender, Harry Robbins, Geraldine Pal, and Ralph Rose for whom the altar flowers have been given.

Announcements

The Liturgical Assistants schedule is now posted on the web page www.stpetersashtabula.org as the last item under "Worship Bulletins."

Offering envelopes are in the back of the church.

We need help with coffee hour after the later service. If you're willing to help, please see Marguerite.

Prayer Group is held between 8am and 10am services on Sundays, at 9:15am, in the Library. Everyone welcome! Fr, David has asked that we pray for all who falter, and for our church and for special needs in the church every Sunday.

Phyllis Shimko, our childrens caregiver, is currently seeking part-time employment as a receptionist, clerical worker, or secretary. She has some computer skills and is willing to learn more. Contact Phyllis at 964-0564 or at the rocking chair in the Chapel.

Please make note of the Mitten/Hat tree in the Narthex. More 'ornaments' are needed to help keep little fingers and ears warm during the winter.

Are you willing to read a chapter of Mark? See Father David.

**Attendance January 1: 8:00 a.m. – 20 10:00 a.m. - 58
Offering: - \$2,824.90**

Upcoming Events

Please watch for the arrival of the January/February Epistle in the mail.

January 9 th	3-5pm	Sewing (every Monday)
January 10 th	2-4pm	Yarning
January 12 th	6pm	Choir Practice
January 16 th	3pm	Sewing
	4-5pm	Seekers
	6:15pm	Bible Study
January 17 th	2-4pm	Yarners
January 19 th	3-9pm	Dining Hall and Parish Hall Reserved For Community Action, Imagine Ashtabula And St. Peter's Neighborhood Dinner(6pm)
January 20 th	6pm	Pot Luck & Movie - Open to Public
January 21 st	10:30	Funeral Assistant Training
January 29 th	11:30 a.m.	Annual Meeting in Parish Hall with light lunch

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

Judy Andersen.....	04	Chris Shippy	12
Bill Jenner.....	05	Ernestine Bush.....	14
Bill & Jill Jenner	05	Todd Van Allen	15
Chelsea Mooney.....	05	Elinor Herzog	16
Christopher Cobb.....	09	Connie Dixon	25
Rick Balog.....	10	Jeff Mooney	25
Carrie Dickey.....	10	David & Gayle Erickson	27
Emily Green.....	10	Pat Hazeltine.....	29
Raya Shaffer	10	Damon Butler	30
Shianne Shaffer	10	Benjamin Cobb.....	31
Roberta Benedict.....	12		

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. At the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called mana, formed in his grave. This liquid substance, said to have healing powers, fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day, December 6th (December 19 on the Julian Calendar).

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector of children and helper of those in need

One of the oldest stories showing St. Nicholas as a *protector of children* takes place long after his death. The townspeople of Myra were celebrating the good saint on the eve of his feast day when a band of Arab pirates from Crete came into the district. They stole treasures from the Church of Saint Nicholas to take away as booty. As they were leaving town, they snatched a young boy, Basilios, to make into a slave. The emir, or ruler, selected Basilios to be his personal cupbearer, as not knowing the language, Basilios would not understand what the king said to those around him. So, for the next year Basilios waited on the king, bringing his wine in a beautiful golden cup. For Basilios' parents, devastated at the loss of their only child, the year passed slowly, filled with grief. As the next St. Nicholas' feast day approached, Basilios' mother would not join in the festivity, as it was now a day of tragedy. However, she was persuaded to have a simple observance at home—with quiet prayers for Basilios' safekeeping. Meanwhile, as Basilios was fulfilling his tasks serving the emir, he was suddenly whisked up and away. St. Nicholas appeared to the terrified boy, blessed him, and set him down at his home back in Myra. Imagine the joy and wonderment when Basilios amazingly appeared before his parents, still holding the king's golden cup. This is the first story told of St. Nicholas protecting children—which became his primary role in the West. To learn more about Nicholas, log onto www.stnicholascenter.org.

PRAYER FOR THE RENEWAL OF OUR BAPTISMAL COVENANT

O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the spirit through the teaching of your son Jesus Christ: Make the hearts and minds of your servants ready to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that we may be filled with the strength of his presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*