



ST PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PICAYUNE, MS

"WHOEVER YOU ARE, WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR
JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME AT THIS TABLE"

E-Newsletter 1/2/2026

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Blessings to you all in this 1st week after Christmas! With a new year comes fresh news, so read on for more.



Epiphany

Epiphany, celebrated on January 6th, marks the moment when Christ was revealed to the world. The holiday recalls the visit of the Magi, who brought gifts to the newborn Jesus, symbolizing Christ's universal significance for all nations.

Epiphany is a time to reflect on the light of Christ entering the world, offering hope and joy to everyone. It also marks the end of the Christmas season and ushers in Ordinary Time—a season for spiritual growth and reflection.

As we enter this new season, let us celebrate Christ's presence among us and His light that continues to shine brightly. Blessings for the New Year!

This Week at St. Paul's:

Sunday, January 4th - 9:30am - Choir Practice

10:30am - Holy Eucharist

11:30am - Coffee Hour



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Committees

Dear People of God,

You are invited to join one of these committees of prayer & work. The purpose is to pray for ten or so minutes with others who share your area of interest. This needs to be done monthly and the purpose is to put our interests into prayer and listen. The Spirit will show you things from time to time, and your task then is one of reflecting together and putting into action what is shown. If you pray together, the work will emerge. This can be an easy addition to prayer discipline and will enable you to further serve your community and faith.



Signed,

Father Nick+

Vestry Committees

1. Building/Grounds - Chris Petersen
Plans and carries out maintenance of the church property.
2. Christian Education - Rachael Rutherford/ Wendy Bracey
Explores and provides ways to nurture both children and adults in the Lord.
3. Lonnie Smith Memorial - Rachael Rutherford
Establishes repetitive remembrance.



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4. Outreach - Emma Cufr

Reaches beyond the parish/parishioners to render aid.

5. Worship - Father Nick+

Plans & organizes worship under the guidance of the Priest.

6. Parish Life - Craig Hopkins

Plans & organizes parish-wide events that build community and celebrate our life together.

7. Creation Care - Kristin Kingsley

Directs our attention towards activities & literature that will nurture our planet & environment.

Additional Groups

1. Altar Guild - Caleb Petersen, Dolly Kingsley, Kristin Kingsley

Cares for and prepares the altar and sanctuary.

2. Pastoral Care Team - Jason Dean

Includes Eucharistic ministers, Institutional visitors (hospitals, etc.), Pastoral visitors (parishioners, etc.).

3. Office - Rose Schmidt (clerk of vestry), Elizabeth Petersen (e-news and bulletin).

4. Choir - Susan Burns



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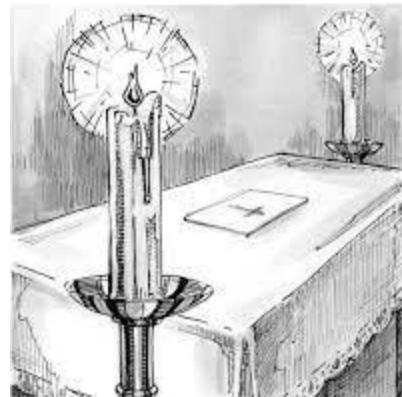
E-Newsletter 1/2/2026

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Lay Ministry

At St. Paul's, our Lay Ministry is a vital part of our worship life. Lay Ministry includes readers, ushers, acolytes, singers, and altar guild in service to God and our congregation. If you feel called to serve in one of these roles, please speak with Jason, who will gladly guide you toward the ministry that best suits your gifts.

Your participation is a meaningful way to share your talents and deepen your connection to our parish community.



Holy Communion

Holy Communion, the sacrament of Our Lord's Body and Blood, is offered to all baptized Christians. While denominations may shape how we govern ourselves, they do not define who we are in Christ. In addition, gluten-free hosts are available for those who prefer them—simply inform Fr. Nick or an usher if you require one.



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Confirmation/Enquirers Class

This class is open for anyone seeking to learn more about the Church, and for those seeking confirmation. Confirmation is the laying of hands by our Bishop and prayer for the Spirit of God to enter that person. It is also the way

to join this branch of the Church if one was baptized elsewhere.

Further, confirmation serves as a right of passage into adult Church membership for those baptized as infants.

The class is free-wheeling with rich discussion of life and religion. It is designed for those who are new to the church or seeking to learn more about being a Christian. **Classes begin January 11th.**

More News!

If you would like to receive news on the diocesan level, scan the QR code to the right! There, you can sign up for both The Mississippi Episcopalian, which focuses on stories of churches and the bishop throughout the diocese, and TME-News, which focuses on events occurring throughout the diocese.

For inspiration. For information.

The MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN
Traditional Episcopal Church | Anglican Church | Protestant

TME-news
An Official Publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



Scan here to sign up!



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Scouts BSA Troop 5/Venture Crew 5



Troop 5 would like to extend a huge thank you to those who have donated to the blessing box in the past week!

Currently, we especially need **feminine hygiene products** and **peas**. For more ideas, check the printed sheets in the back of the church or visit our [Amazon Wishlist](#) to donate! Thanks to your support, we have been able to fill the blessing box multiple times a week, and include fresh produce! If you are interested in assisting further with the blessing box program, talk to Elizabeth.



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Picayune Carver Culture Center



Enrollment in our free afterschool tutoring is officially open! The program is available for children in 1st grade all the way to 12th. The program occurs Mon-Thurs, 4-6 pm.

For more information or to apply, call us at 601-590-8983.

SENIOR CHAIR EXERCISE

Located at the Ed. Building on Tuesdays and Fridays, 10-11 am. Open to all, no prior signup required. We look forward to seeing you!

