



The Eagle's Voice

The Newsletter of St. John's Church, Cohoes, NY

Volume 21 Issue 4

December 2017

Merry Christmas

Dear Friends in Christ,

In seminary my classmates and I were asked to read works by a German theologian named Karl Rahner. We all found his works dense and difficult to comprehend. Then, a few years after ordination, I ran across a brief reflection he wrote on Christmas. I found it both accessible and moving. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, I want to share it with you.

" I am here. I am with you. I am your life. I am the gloom of your daily routine. I weep your tears. I am your JOY. Do not be afraid to be happy, for ever since I wept, joy is the standard of living that is really more suitable than anxiety and grief of those who think they have no hope. When the totals of your plans and of your life's experiences do not balance out evenly, I am the unsolved remainder. And I know that this remainder, which makes you so frantic, is in reality my love that you do not understand. I am present in your needs.

This reality-incomprehensible wonder of my limitless love-I have sheltered safely in the cold stable of your world. I am there. I no longer go away from



this world, even if you do not see me now... I am there. It is Christmas. Light the candles. They have more right to exist than all the darkness. It is Christmas. Christmas that last forever ".
-Karl Rahner SJ

I pray that you have a blessed Advent and that we may all find deep joy in the twelve days of Christmas (December 25 – January 6).

Yours in Christ,

Bill+

Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting of St. John's Church will be held Sunday, December 10, 2017 immediately following the 9:30 Service

Annual Meeting Agenda

Rector's Report

Senior Warden Report

Finance

2017 Budget Comparison
11/30/17 Balance Sheet
Preliminary 2018 Budget

Buildings & Grounds

Building Update

Old Business

New Business

Election of Junior Warden
& Vestry Members

We will have a pot luck breakfast at the meeting. Please join us and feel free to bring a dish to share!

Blue Christmas

For some people Christmas is a difficult time. The joy of the season is overshadowed by the grief over the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, or the end of a marriage. If this is true for you this year or if you know someone for whom it is true, we encourage you to come to our community **Blue Christmas Service** on December 17 at 7:00 PM at St. John's Episcopal Church, 405 Vliet Blvd in Cohoes.

This service is designed especially for you. You are not alone. You are loved.

Christmas Memorials

Please remember that you can honor a loved one or memorialize a relative with a donation to the Christmas Flowers Memorial. Please send your envelope back by December 18th to be included in the list of flower memorials.

Christmas flowers will be on the altar at the Christmas Eve service.



*Our Savior
is Born*

Christmas Schedule

We need your help. Please join us for the hanging of the greens December 23rd at 10AM

There will not be a morning service on Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017

6:45 PM - Carol Sing

7:00 PM - Candlelight service

Merry Christmas!

St. John's Church

2018 Pledge

Name: _____

Envelope #: _____

Pledge Amount: \$ _____ per: _____
Wk/Mo/Yr

Building Fund: \$ _____ per: _____
Wk/Mo/Yr

Please fill out and place in the offering plate