



Praised be You, my lord,  
with all your creatures.

— St. Francis of Assisi

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# THE PRESS

OCTOBER, 2003

## Lions, Tigers, and Bears Oh My!

“All things bright and beautiful all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.” With those lines from the familiar hymn we claim God as our creator and redeemer. God who created the heavens and the earth and all that is within them is praised for the goodness and grace with which he showers us in the magnificence of His creation. None knew and claimed this better than St. Francis of Assisi. His love of all creatures, great and small, has been an example to all the generations who have followed. He loved all of God’s creation and all of God’s creatures, from sister Sun and brother Moon to the Wolf of Gubio. It is said that he went about everywhere he went walking very tenderly, lest he step upon an insect going about its own work. Francis’ humility, commitment to total poverty, and his love for all those whom he met bore witness to the power of God at work in his life. Francis saw creation as a daily blessing from God Almighty. It was not something to be tamed or harnessed but rather a gift to be treasured and one for which we should be thankful. With the example of his life, Francis has called young and old alike to live as a true stewards of God’s creation. It is through Francis we are taught we must “preach the Gospel always and if necessary use

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words.” His life, and the lives of the thousands of Franciscans to follow, call us to live joyously, reverently, and centered in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. And so it seems fitting that as we find ourselves at this harvest time of year—a time when we bask in the abundance of God’s goodness shown to us in creation—to celebrate and give thanks to our Creator. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Celebration of St. Francis and the blessing of the animals will happen on Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup>. On that day we will focus on God’s creation and remember that on the eighth day God recreated us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Everyone is invited to bring your pet(s) to St. Andrew’s for a blessing of the animal in the Parish Hall 9:30 AM-10:15 AM. During the blessing of the animals we will have goodies for all walks of life: dog biscuits and cat nibbles, along with usual coffee hour fare for the more homo sapien varieties. After the blessing of the animals we will all (two-legged, four-legged, reptiles, and vermin) move to the church for a somewhat diminished service for our regularly scheduled 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Service. Please make plans to join us for this wonderful celebration of God’s creation.

Your servant in Christ,

**Scott+**

Hear our own John Ferrillo in concert on Sunday, November 2 at 2:30 PM at the Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, Route 114, North Andover! John, who is principal oboist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, will be a soloist with the Merrimack Valley Philharmonic. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students, and \$5 for children. See John or Judy Adams for more details.

## Vestry Meeting Highlights - August 13, 2003

- ✘ Discussed current issues facing the Episcopal Church. Scott will hold future discussions for parishioners on the same subjects.
- ✘ Scott thanked Mary Medeiros and Catherine Wheatley for all their work arranging the Parish Picnic at Mirror Lake, on Devens. He also thanked Jack & Millie for the wonderful pool party they had for the Vestry at their home. He also thanked everyone for their prayers for a successful birth for his and Sheryl’s son Ian.
- ✘ Jason reported that we are \$12,000 in the red for the year; pledges came in \$3000 less than expected in the past month. Trimming Outreach budget was discussed as some portion of this substantial budget item is as-yet-unallocated. Will revisit this in the fall.
- ✘ **Facilities:**
  - Doors & locks: Manny Lindo suggested reproducing the doors but replacing the locks.
- Biblical Garden: Jane Rockwell said she’d like to plant the garden, alongside the new Peabody Room walkway, with plants mentioned in the bible.
- ✘ **Ministry Development:** Sept. deadline for submitting report.
- ✘ **LRPT:** Mary handed out the completed report, describing the three options. A Special Meeting will be needed to fully review and make a decision.
- ✘ **Stewardship:** Scott asked Bill to recruit new members. It was agreed that the **Pony Express** has worked well for us. Have a goal to have it up and running by Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- ✘ **Parish Fair/Rally Day** meeting for commissions members – Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. The Fair will be held on Sunday, Sept. 7, between Services.
- ✘ Scott would like to have a **blood drive** held at St. Andrew’s. He’d also like to keep St. Andrew’s in the public eye as much as possible.

### *Editor’s Note:*

*Next Issue: November 2003*

*Deadline: Monday, October 20th*

*Send submissions to: [acahill@hybricon.com](mailto:acahill@hybricon.com)*

*Or, drop off your submissions at the Church Office during office hours or in the Peabody Room on Sundays.*

*Questions? Please call me at:*

*H: (978) 448-4053*

*W: (978) 772-5422 x 323*

*Be sure to include your name and telephone number on all submissions!*

# Habitat for Humanity News

**Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 8, 2003!!!**

This is St. Andrew's day to contribute our time and talent to the completion of the Habitat house at 86 Catherine Street, Gardner. Everyone age 16 and over is invited to pitch-in. No previous building experience is required; there will be folks there to point us in the right direction. This is a wonderful time for fellowship while contributing to this important effort. A sign-up sheet in the Peabody Room will be available shortly with the specifics regarding time, directions and transportation/car pool information. In the meantime, if you are interested or need more information please contact Millie or Jack Mercier, or any other Outreach Commission member – Peggy Braat, Lee Burton, Judy Veno, Pete Wharton or Kris Wile. St. Andrew's has been in covenant with Habitat since 1998; a copy hangs in the Peabody Room.

The following is a brief excerpt from the Habitat website ([www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org)):

## **HABITAT AS A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY**

Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat is founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a simple, decent, affordable place to live in dignity and safety.

Habitat has an open-door policy: all who desire to be a part of this work are welcome, regardless of religious preference or background. Habitat for Humanity has always had a policy of building with people in need regardless of race or religion, and we welcome volunteers and supporters from all backgrounds.

The work of Habitat for Humanity is driven by the desire to give tangible expression to the love of God through the work of eliminating poverty housing. Habitat's mission and methods are predominantly derived from a few key theological concepts: the necessity of putting faith into action, the "economics of Jesus" and the "theology of the hammer."

*Continued next page*

# St. Andrew's Godly Play News—October 2003

We are blessed at St. Andrew's to offer this wonderful gift to children. We are off to a good start this year, and are reaping the harvest of your investment in money and energy.

This year we have new supply shelves for each classroom, housing all the art materials for response time and cleaning materials for the care of our space. There are several new lessons that we look forward to experiencing, and many we have heard before, but will be new again as we have changed and grown a lot in the last year.

## **OPEN HOUSE**

On September 25 we had an open house for parents and other interested people. If you were not able to attend but have questions, we are happy to arrange another time for a guided tour, and an overview of this creative approach to Christian Education. Please contact Kris Wile at (978) 897-1511 or [kwile@stcollab.com](mailto:kwile@stcollab.com).

## **HOW CAN I HELP?**

Several of you have expressed an interest in contributing to the classrooms, for which we are very grateful. There are several opportunities that are available:

- Sign up to **bring the "feast"** for a classroom - typically juice and a light snack. Sign up sheets are outside the classrooms.
- **Sponsor a Godly Play lesson for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade** children. There are at least three lessons focusing on Jesus' parables that would be wonderful for the older children to explore. Please contact Nancy Barringer at [geonan@charter.net](mailto:geonan@charter.net) if this is something you would like to offer.

- **Help with Children's Chapel** once a month. In teams of two, we hope to guide the children in developmentally appropriate worship as they light candles, sing, and read the gospel in the Parish Hall while the big people have their time doing the same. The guides will escort the children back **to the sanctuary for the sharing of the peace**. We hope this time with the children will carry over a feeling of Godly Play - a belief in their ability to know and experience the holy through activities that are natural to them. Please talk to Father Scott or Kris Wile if you have ideas about this.

## **SAFE CHURCH AT ST. ANDREW'S**

In order to become a safe haven for people who may have experienced abuse, and to prevent any such incidents in our church, the Godly Play classrooms will always have two adults in the classroom, and leave the doors ajar. Because the creators of Godly Play emphasize the importance of the threshold, and the dedication of these spaces exclusively for the children, we ask that adults do not walk into the classroom. The doorkeeper will assist you by calling to your child, or open the door for quiet observation if you desire. To make this a better system, one wish list item is **observation windows for our classrooms**. The St. Andrew's Safe Church Policy is posted in the Parish Hall in the hallway near the classrooms.

Look for this feature periodically in the "The X-Press." It will contain news from the classroom, articles about Godly Play, as well as a schedule of stories. Please call Kris Wile with any questions at (978) 897-1511.

This month's story schedule and wondering questions are continued in this newsletter.

# *Readings for October*

## *Sunday, October 5 – The Seventeenth*

### *Sunday after Pentecost*

First Lesson: Genesis 2: 18-24

The primary theme of the reading today is marriage and the biblical understanding of God's will for marriage.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 2: (1-8), 9-1

In our second reading, we begin reading the Letter to the Hebrews. This early Christian work seems to have been intended particularly for Jewish Christians to assist them in understanding the work of Christ in images familiar to them.

The Gospel: Mark 10:2-9

The Gospel reading focuses also on marriage and Jesus' disapproval of divorce which is clear and uncompromising.

## *Sunday, October 12 – The Eighteenth*

### *Sunday after Pentecost*

First Lesson: Amos 5: 6-7, 10-15

The Old Testament reading, from the prophet Amos, presents a situation in which those who control Israel are so caught up in amassing personal wealth that they ignore the needs of the poor.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 3: 1-6

We are reading the Epistle to the Hebrews during this period. This letter to early Christians presents Jesus as Savior, as high priest, and as a model for Christian living.

The Gospel: Mark 10: 17-27, (28-31)

In today's Gospel, we hear the account of the rich young man who discovers that there is more to salvation than following the Law. Jesus calls for a complete

submission to God, even to the point of giving up everything.

## *Sunday, October 19 – The Nineteenth*

### *Sunday after Pentecost*

First Lesson: Isaiah 53: 4-12

The Old Testament reading is one of Isaiah's poems of the suffering servant of God.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 4: 12-16

Today's passage from the Epistle to the Hebrews expresses the redemptive suffering of Christ as his eternal priestly sacrifice, which replaces the sacrifices of the temple.

The Gospel: Mark 10: 35-45

The liturgy today centers on two themes of the Christian message about Jesus. Both are found in today's Gospel: Jesus' messiahship is revealed not in his power, but in his suffering and death, and he calls us to a like ministry of self-giving love.

## *Sunday, October 26 – The Twentieth*

### *Sunday after Pentecost*

First Lesson: Isaiah 59: (1-4), 9-19

In the first reading we encounter blindness – not a physical blindness, however, but spiritual blindness toward God.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:12 – 6:1, 9-12

In today's reading from the Epistle to the Hebrews, the writer is calling on Christians to continue to mature in their faith and practice.

The Gospel: Mark 10: 46-52

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus heals a blind man. It is the man's faith which gives him his sight.

# *Habitat for Humanity News (continued)*

## **Putting Faith Into Action**

Habitat's ministry is based on the conviction that to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ we must reflect Christ's love in our own lives by loving and caring for one another. Our love must not be words only -- it must be true love, which shows itself in action. Habitat provides an opportunity for people to put their faith and love into action, bringing diverse groups of people together to make affordable housing and better communities a reality for everyone.

## **The Economics of Jesus**

When people act in response to human need, giving what they have without seeking profit or interest, we believe God magnifies the effects of our efforts. Habitat refers to this perspective as "the economics of Jesus." Together, the donated labor of construction volunteers, the support of partner organizations and the homeowners' "sweat equity" make Habitat's house-building possible. By sharing resources with those in need, Habitat volunteers and supporters have made decent, affordable housing a reality for more than 150,000 families worldwide.

## **The Theology of the Hammer**

Habitat is a partnership founded on common ground -- bridging theological differences by putting love into action. Everyone can use the hammer as an instrument to manifest God's love. Habitat Founder and President Millard Fuller calls this concept "the theology of the hammer," explaining, "we may disagree on all sorts of other things... but we can agree on the idea of building homes with God's people in need, and in doing so using biblical economics: no profit and no interest."

Habitat for Humanity welcomes all people to build with us in partnership. "The Bible teaches that God is the God of the whole crowd," explains Fuller. "God's love leaves nobody out, and my love should not either. This understanding drives 'the theology of the hammer' around the world, steadily building more and more houses in more and more countries."

# St. Andrew's Godly Play News—October 2003

## October 2003 Schedule of Stories and Wondering Questions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pre-school – K</u>	<u>1st—3rd</u>
<b>Oct. 5—No church school</b>	<i>Blessing of the Animals</i>	<i>Blessing of the Animals</i>
Oct. 12	The Exodus	The Exodus
Oct. 19	The Ten Best Ways	The Ten Best Ways
Oct. 26	The Ark and the Tent	The Ark and the Tent
<b>Nov. 2 — All Saints' Day</b>	<i>Holy Baptism</i>	<i>Holy Baptism</i>

### **The Exodus** (*Exodus 11:1-15:21*)

*God was with the People as they "went out" from slavery into freedom through the water. The People of God have looked back to this time to sustain them when God is hidden and they felt lost. In this story, we continue to evoke God's elusive presence. There moments of high drama reveal the complexity of such experiences. This not only gives children an appropriate language to express their experiences, but also permission to talk aloud about them.*

I wonder what part of the story you like best? I wonder what part is most important? I wonder where you are in the story or what part of the story is about you? I wonder if there is any part of the story we can leave out and still have all the story we need?

### **The Ten Best Ways** (*Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:1-21*)

This lesson tells the story of Moses experiencing God's presence and receiving the Ten Commandments. For the younger children, we emphasize the three summary tablets: Love God, Love people, and God loves you. The older children will reflect on all Ten Best Ways. They are so named to allow children to know that they are not always easy, sometimes very difficult indeed, but they are the best ways for the People to live. The desert box is used with Mt. Sinai, and the People of God to play out this story. I wonder which of the Ten Best Ways you like best? I wonder which one is most important?

I wonder which one is especially for you? I wonder if there are any we can leave out and still have all we need? I wonder which part of the story you liked best? I wonder what part is most important? I wonder where you are in the story or what part of the story is about you?

**The Ark and the Tent** (*Exodus 25-31, 35-40*)  
Moses also experienced God's presence in the tent of meeting. There are two words in Hebrew that translate into English as "ark." One refers to the ark of the covenant, a box or chest that contained the tablets of the commandments. When Noah received the commandments, God also told him how they were to be kept. We use the desert box, and build a tabernacle to those specifications in this lesson.

I wonder what part of the story you like best? I wonder what part is most important? I wonder where you are in the story or what part of the story is about you? I wonder if there is any part of the story we can leave out and still have all the story we need?

### **Holy Baptism** (*Exodus 25-31, 35-40*)

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into the Church. In this lesson we ask the children to remember or look forward to the day of their baptism by lighting candles from the light of the Christ candle, since this is also the day they receive their "light." I wonder how so much light can come from one light?

# St. Andrew's Apple Pie Day

Can you imagine it's time to think about making apple pies again with all this heat and humidity? But before we know it October and its cool days will be here.

Pencil in this year's date: Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9AM to 2PM at the Parish Hall. For those new to St. Andrew's, this is an event for all ages and sexes, knowledgeable about pie baking or novice with interest to learn. We make 60 - 70 pies and have FUN in the process. There are jobs for everyone. We need apple washers, peelers, slicers, pastry makers and pie assemblers. Stay as long or as short a time as you can. If so inclined bring your paring knife, peeler and rolling pin to try out various tasks. A light lunch will be served.

If you cannot attend but would like to help in some way, donations for supplies or freezer space would be appreciated. Pies are pre-ordered and paid for in advance. There will be sheets in the Peabody room in early October for ordering pies and working the day of.

Call Rhonda Cotton (978.456.8680), Barbara Kamb (978.486.4360) or Peggy Bratt (978.456.8701) with questions or suggestions.

# Parish Clean-Up Day

If you think St. Andrew's buildings & grounds are looking a lot brighter/cleaner, you're right!

On Sat. the 13<sup>th</sup> – Parish Clean-up Day, the following dedicated parishioners washed the parish hall windows, inside and out, installed new shades, washed Sunday school and kitchen floors, defrosted and cleaned refrigerators, cleaned oven and stove and counter tops, pruned rhododendron, shoveled and swept sand from parking lot and sidewalk, cleaned Peabody Room and church; Fr. Scott, Jack & Priscilla Andrews, Nancy and Ned Barringer, Lynn and Vivian Ferrillo, Mary Medeiros, Jack & Millie Mercier, Alan & Louise Rogers, Jason Salter, Catherine Wheatley.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!! Your Buildings & Grounds Committee ?

# *Safe Church Training (continued)*

Archdeacon's Office  
Attn: Sr. Olga (Tel: 617 482-4826 x492)  
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts  
138 Tremont Street  
Boston, MA 02111

Participants may also register under "Safe Church" on the [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) website.

The diocese offers the following information regarding "Safe Church Training:"

In an effort to increase the physical, emotional and spiritual safety of parishes, the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts provides "Safe Church Training" for adults.

The purpose of this training is to:

- Increase awareness regarding sexual misconduct and abuse of power
- Outline steps to take in preventing abuse
- Offer ways to intervene when misconduct occurs
- Equip anyone in positions of parish leadership with ways of healing and rebuilding the body of Christ

The training is comprised of one six-hour module outlining prevention and intervention in cases of abuse of children and intervention in situations of misconduct regarding adults.

The training is required of all clergy and diocesan employees. The diocese invites the following people to take this training:

Wardens  
Vestry members  
Lay Eucharistic visitors (LEM B)  
Pastoral visitors  
Youth leaders  
Acolyte leaders  
Choir directors  
Church school teachers  
Volunteers working in the parish on a regular basis  
All employees of congregations

# Adult Christian Formation Calendar

As we begin this new Christian formation cycle, the adult Sunday school will be covering two very interesting topics. This Advent semester (a.k.a. September to December), we will spend the first session on the controversial actions taken at our 74<sup>th</sup> General Convention. In particular we will discuss human sexuality and the Bible, and how the Episcopal Church is grappling with sexuality in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This issue has been at the forefront of our denomination's consciousness. Regardless of where you stand, conservative or liberal, or somewhere in between, all are invited and encouraged to come and participate in the discussions. The second session of the Advent semester will be spent exploring Spiritual Gifts and the church. We will discuss types of community, take a Spiritual Gifts inventory, and discover the many avenues we as individual Christians can use our God given Spiritual gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ.

Adult Christian Formation:

## **Sexuality and the Episcopal Church**

September 14—Introduction to Human Sexuality  
September 21—What the Bible has to say about sex  
September 28—Actions taken by General Convention  
October 12—Responses and reactions to General Convention  
October 19—Wrap up or Guest Speaker

## **Discovering your Spiritual Gifts**

October 26—Community and you  
November 9—Spiritual Gifts in the New Testament  
November 16—Spiritual Inventory  
November 23 – Spiritual Inventory Continued  
November 30— No Sunday School: Advent Wreath Making  
December 7 -- Don't hide your light under a bushel—exercising your Spiritual gifts for the Church  
December 14—Employing your spiritual gifts  
December 21—Spiritual Gifts and stewardship

# Puppet Show at Groton School

On Friday, Oct. 3rd "Das Puppenspiel," a professional puppet company, will give a free performance at Groton School, in the Schoolhouse Hall, at 7:00 p.m. The show is called THE PUPPET TREE, and will show the development of various kinds of puppets and marionettes throughout the world. The show is free and open to everyone. The performance will last approximately 50 minutes. The show is appropriate for all ages. Open, unreserved seating -- as available!!!!

For information, contact Susan Clark, English & Theater Depts., 978-448-7677.

# Christmas Fair Planning

DATE TO REMEMBER!

**St. Andrew's Christmas Fair**  
*Saturday, November 15th*

Coordinators - Lynn Ferrillo, Jill Colburn, and Barbara Kamb

All the usual opportunities will be present - the Silent Auction Table, Crafts, Bakery, Jewelry, Raffles, and Kitchen!

Please think about where and how YOU can help out this year with YOUR time, talent, and treasure!

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QUOTING MAY SARTON ...

"It is a mellow day, very gentle. The ash has lost its leaves and when I looked up at it, I rejoiced. It is all a rich farewell now to leaves, to color.

I think of trees and how simply they let go, let fall the riches of a season, how without grief (it seems) they can let go and go deep into their roots for renewal and sleep - keep busy with survival. Imitate the trees. Learn to lose in order to recover, and remember that nothing stays the same for long, not even pain. Sit it out. Let it all pass. Let it go"

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# Safe Church Training

The following is the next scheduled *Safe Church Training*:

**Trinity Church, Concord**  
(Concord River Deanery)  
81 Elm Street  
Concord, MA 01742

**Saturday, October 4, 2003**  
8:30 a.m. -- 3:30 p.m.

**Fee: \$20.00 per person**  
**Please bring a brown bag lunch**

This training is required for all parish employees within a year of date-of-hire. Church volunteers are also encouraged to take the course. If you or someone in your parish needs to meet these requirements, please register or obtain information by e-mailing [gelson@diomass.org](mailto:gelson@diomass.org) or call Grace Elson at 617-879-6309.

**Schedule for the remainder of 2003:**

- ✘ Saturday, October 4, 2003 at Trinity Church, Concord (Concord River Deanery)
- ✘ Saturday, October 25, 2003 at Emmanuel Church, Braintree (South Shore Deanery)
- ✘ Saturday, November 1, 2003 at The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (Boston Harbor Deanery)
- ✘ Saturday, November 15, 2003 at Trinity Church, Topsfield (North Shore Deanery)
- ✘ Saturday, December 6, 2003 at Christ Church, Plymouth (Cape Cod & Islands Deanery)

All training sessions begin at 8:30 and end at 3:30.

Participants are welcomed at any training session. To register send your name, parish affiliation, your address, phone number, e-mail address and the date you wish to attend along with the \$20.00 fee payable to the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts to—

# October 2003

## St. Andrew's Church

Tel: (978) 772-2615

Office Hours: Monday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Tu - Fri 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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<b>5</b> 8:00 AM HE I 9:30 AM Christian Formation for all 10:30 AM HE II Blessing of the Animals	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 12:30 PM Holy Eucharist and Uncction 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting	<b>9</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 5:00 PM Newman/Hughes Wedding																																																																																											
<b>12</b> 8:00 AM HE I 9:30 AM Christian Formation for all 10:30 AM HE II	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 12:30 PM Holy Eucharist and Uncction	<b>16</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>																																																																																											
<b>19</b> 8:00 AM HE I 9:30 AM Christian Formation for all 10:30 AM HE II	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Apple Pie Day	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 12:30 PM Holy Eucharist and Uncction	<b>23</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>																																																																																											
<b>26</b> 8:00 AM HE I 9:30 AM Christian Formation for all 10:30 AM HE II 3:30 PM Acolyte Festival at the Cathedral	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 12:30 PM Holy Eucharist and Uncction	<b>30</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b>																																																																																												