THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



Saint Peter's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ST. PETER'S

Ellicott City

3695 ROGERS AVE ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043

> The Rev. Derek H. Miller *Rector*

The Rev. Joy Walton Assisting Priest

Troy Lawson Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Choir of St. Peter's

Stan Brown, Mary Saffell, Cheryl Faber, Tom Hesson, Vanessa Okechukwu, Margaret Pratila, Katherine Schnorrenberg

Assisting at This Service

Ken Robertson	Crucifer
Hal & Lauri Clay	Usher
Patti Shaffer	Intercessor
Judi Mahaffey	Lector
Jonnie Widener	Subdeacon
Stan Brown	Thurifer

December 24, 2021

9:30 pm Carols with the Choir

10:00 pm High Mass

It is our pleasure to welcome you to St. Peter's Church, we're glad you've found home here to celebrate this joyous Christmas Eve! Should you have any questions, our ushers, greeters and members are here to help.

Restrooms are located through the door to the left of the pulpit at the top and bottom of the stairs.

St. Peter's has Wi-Fi available on St. Peter's-GUEST (password: AveMaria!) and we encourage you to check in on Swarm, Facebook, or Twitter @StPetersEC. Let your friends know you are here with us today!

The Nativity of Our Lord

On this night we commemorate the humble and unseemly arrival of the infant Jesus into our world, marking the occasion by time spent with those we love and the singing of carols heralding joy and peace to all.

The whole world turns on this night. It is the time when heaven bends down to touch the earth. And nothing will be the same ever again. It is the night in which every "me" became "us" and every Christian community around the world is united in the life-changing proclamation the Christ the Messiah is born into our lives once more.

We hope that you will have a very Merry and Blessed Christmas.

Carols with the Choir 9:30 p.m.

The congregation may remain seated for choral singing.

Lo, How a Rose e'er B	looming	Hymnal #81
Christmas Night		John Rutter
The Holly and the Ivy		Traditional Carol
I Sing of a Maiden tha	nt is Mateless	Charles F. Waters
In the Bleak Midwinter	<i>Y</i>	Harold Darke
Organ Prelude	Now Sing We, Now Rejoice	J.S. Bach
Matin Responsory	I Look from afar	Palestrina

Solemn Mass of the Nativity of Jesus Christ

Christmas Proclamation (please stand upon the ringing of the bell)

The Twenty-fifth Day of December, when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world, when God in the beginning created heaven and earth, and formed man in his own likeness; when century upon century had passed since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood, as a sign of covenant and peace; in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith, came out of Ur of the Chaldees; in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses in the Exodus from Egypt; around the thousandth year since David was anointed King; in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; in the year seven hundred and fifty-two since the foundation of the City of Rome; in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus, the whole world being at peace,

JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man:

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

Introit

translation below

(Antiphon) The Lord hath said unto me, "Thou art my son; this day have I begotten thee."

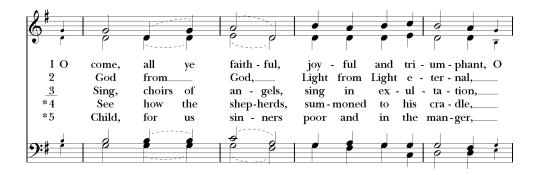
(Verse) Why are the nations in turmoil?

And why do the peoples imagine empty things?

Opening Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Adeste fidelis)

Hymnal 83



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now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

CelebrantBlessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Remain standing as you are able to sing:

Gloria

Collect of the Day

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray.The Celebrant says the Collect.

Hymnal S-202

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The people are seated.

First Reading

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

e

Cantate Domino

1	Sing to the Lord / a new song; * sing to the Lord, / ::all the whole earth.
2	Sing to the Lord and / bless his Name; * proclaim the good news of his sal-/va-tion from day`to day.
3	Declare his glory a-/mong the na-tions * and his wonders / a-mong all peo-ples.
4	For great is the Lord and greatly / to be praised; * he is more to be / ::feared than all gods.
5	As for all the gods of the nations, they / are but i-dols; * but it is the Lord / who made the heav-ens.
6	Oh, the majesty and magnificence / of his pres-ence! * Oh, the power and the splendor of / his sanc-tu-ar-y!
7	Ascribe to the Lord, you families / of the peo-ples; * ascribe to the Lord / hon-or and pow-er.
8	Ascribe to the Lord the honor / due his Name; * bring offerings / and come in-to `his courts.
9	Worship the Lord in the beau-/ty of ho-li^ness; * let the whole earth / trem-ble be-fore him.
10	Tell it out among the nations: "The / Lord is King! * he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the / peo-ples with eq`ui-ty."

Isaiah 9:2-7

IV.1

11	Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all / that is in it; * let the field be joyful and / ::all that there`in is.
12	Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord / when he comes, * when he / ::comes to judge`the earth.
13	He will judge the / world with right-eous^ness * and the / ::peo-ples with`his truth.

Second Reading

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Dominus dixit ad me

Choir

V The LORD said un- to me: Thou art my Son; this day

LE-LU-IA. Al-le-lu- ia.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

All stand as able for the singing of the sequence hymn and procession of the Holy Gospel.

Cantors

Alleluia

All have I be- got - ten thee. Al - le- lu- ia.

The Holy Gospel

All remain standing for the procession and proclamation of the Holy Gospel.

GospellerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

At the end of the Gospel reading, the Gospeller and people say the following responsory:

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Nicene Creed

All stand as able and together say

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. The Reverend Derek H. Miller

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We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Officiant Rejoicing in the love of God that has taken flesh among us in Christ Jesus, let us confidently bring to the Lord the petitions of our heart this Christmas night, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the peace proclaimed by the angels in the shepherds' field might be realized in every field of war and every street of violence, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That the child born to us might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That in this time of gift-giving we might become more responsive to those burdened by injustice and those who mourn, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That the rejoicing of this day might be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who suffer with disease and illness, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

You are invited to offer your own prayers and intentions, either aloud or in the quiet of your heart.

Officiant God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet of this night by the utterance of your Word made flesh. May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace

PriestThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord, and then be seated for the announcements.

Announcements

Holy Communion

The priest says an offertory sentence. Representatives of the congregation bring forth bread and wine to the altar. After the table is set, all stand as able and join in singing the presentation hymn as the offerings are presented and placed on the high altar.

Offertory Anthem

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

David Sims

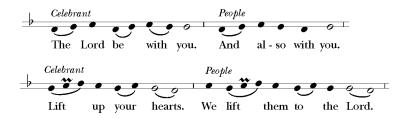


The Great Thanksgiving

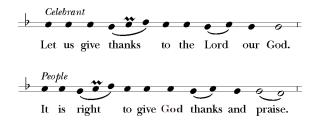
Eucharistic Prayer B

Hymnal S-120

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says



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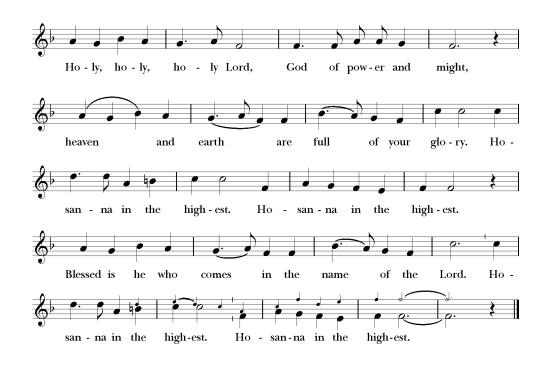


The celebrant then proceeds, chanting the proper preface.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S-125



The priest continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation ... Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

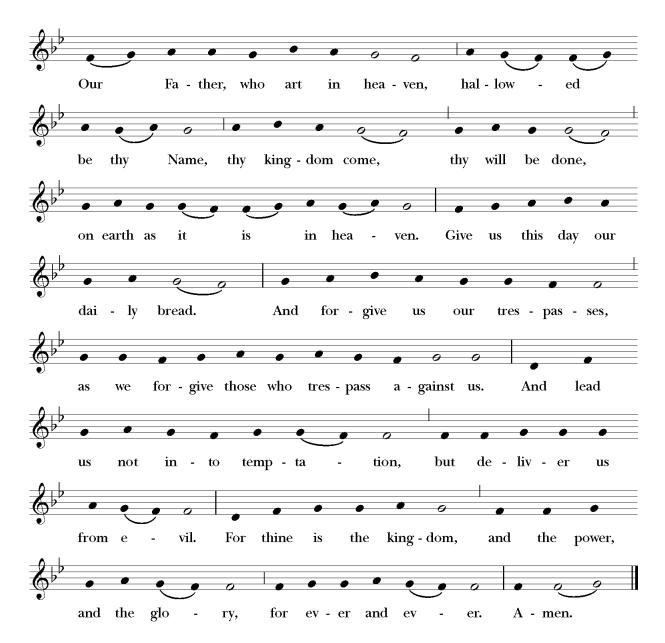
Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

...By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The priest then continues

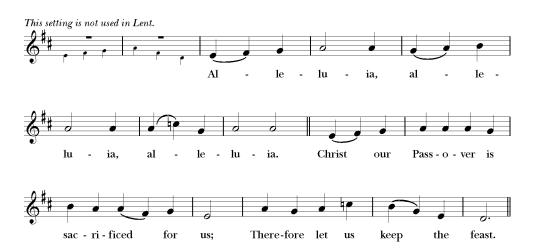
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,



The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-155



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Invitation to Communion

S hould I Receive Communion? All May, Some Should, None Must. The Episcopal Church recognizes baptism as the sign of full membership in the Body of Christ. All those who seek a closer relationship with God in Christ are invited to receive communion at St. Peter's. Those who do not wish to receive may come forward for a blessing and signify this by crossing your arms across your chest. If you desire to be baptized, please speak with the priest after the service.

Communion is distributed at the altar rail where you may stand and hold out your hands, one under the other, to receive the bread. **Gluten free wafers are available** - please let the priest know you desire gluten-free when you come to the altar rail.

If you are unable to come forward, please let the usher know and the minsters will bring the Sacrament to you in the pew.

Communion Anthem

In splendoribus



HE dew of thy birth: is of the womb of the morn-ing.

Communion Hymn

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Hymnal 11





After this song, the lights are dimmed and the congregation begin lighting their own candles as the choir begins to sing Silent Night. As the lights are dimmed, all who are able are invited to kneel during this hymn.



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Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All stand or kneel as able. The Priest and People together say

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Christmas Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn

Hymnal 96



Dismissal

PriestLet us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.PeopleThanks be to God.

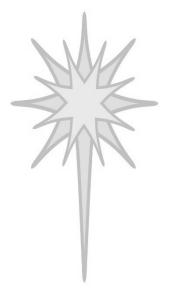
Postlude

March

The clergy, vestry and members of St. Peter's Church welcome you to this most joyous celebration and wish you a very blessed Christmas and joyous New Year.

We hope you will think of St. Peter's as your spiritual home. If you are seeking a faith community, we invite you to learn more about the mission and ministry of St. Peter's Church by speaking to our clergy or members, or by visiting our web site at **stpetersec.org**.

You can connect with us on YouTube at YouTube.com/StPetersEllicottCity, follow us on Twitter @StPetersEC, and like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/StPetersEC. St. Peter's is a community rooted in Christ who welcomes all and serves the world in his name.



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Day • Saturday, December 25, 2021 10:00 AM Mass

Christmas I • Sunday, December 26, 2021 9:45 AM Lessons and Carols with Communion

Holy Name • Saturday, January 1, 2022 7:00 PM Mass

Christmas II • Sunday, January 2, 2022 9:45 AM Mass

Epiphany • Thursday, January 6, 2022 7 PM Mass

Baptism of our Lord • January 9, 2022 9:45 AM Mass

Confession of St. Peter • January 18, 2022 7 PM Mass

St. Peter's Prayer List

The Church: Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; Eugene, Bishop of Maryland; Derek, our Rector, Joy, our Assisting Priests

Recent Needs: Samantha Shaw, Nick McDuffie, Irene & Walter Closson, Sabita Debnath, Nick Temoshok

(Names remain on the Recent Needs Prayer List for 30 days unless notified otherwise.)

Ongoing Needs: Ian Jones, Denise & John Watts, Molly Lyn, Brian & Rick Kneeland George Spencer, John Jordan, Claudia Yanacek, John & Brenda (McDuffie) Tucker, Joe Bagwell, Allie & Dick Suelflow, Ron Brueggeman, Janet McCathren, Keith Dressell, Patrick McDonough, Arthur Ronald Parham

(Names remain on the Ongoing Needs Prayer List for 90 days unless notified otherwise.)

Homebound Members: Frieda Gregory, Earl Elliott, Irene & Walter Closson

Repose of the Soul: Joe Thoma, Indrani Nath, Barbara Hartig, Joette Waters

(Names remain on the Recent Needs Prayer List for 30 days unless notified otherwise.)

Vestry and Officers: Doug Pryor, Katherine Schnorrenberg, Patti Shaffer, Bill Rodney, Stan Brown, Alexa Fair, Greg Busch, Jonnie Widener, John Francis, Katie Shaw

Would you like to add someone to the prayer list or have an announcement featured here? Please submit names/announcements to the church office by email: <u>parish.admin@stpetersec.org</u> BY SUNDAY NIGHT.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED: The church office will be closed December 25 to January 1. Normal hours will resume on Monday, January 2, 2022. Please contact Fr. Derek with any pastoral emergencies, by mobile: 443-756-2766 or via email: <u>rector@stpetersec.org</u>

ST. PETER'S CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX: Please bring your seasonal greeting cards for fellow parishioners. You will be able to drop them in the box outside the sanctuary door. In lieu of stamps, you may make a donation to support our Outreach programs. Look for cards sent to you in the alphabetized box in St. Joseph's hall during coffee hour.

ST. PETER'S CRIBBERY/CHILDCARE WORKER NEEDED!: St. Peter's is looking for someone to provide childcare for some of our younger children during our Sunday services. An ideal candidate would love working with younger children (infant-5 years old), be able to pass a background check, and adhere to high standards for child safety and care (including being fully vaccinated against COVID-19). Must be available to provide care from 9:30am-11:30am each Sunday, for \$50/Sunday. Additional days may be available for special services and events. Any interested applicants send an email to <u>church@stpetersec.org</u> with a resume and at least two child-care references.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS: The Nominees are: **Hal Clay, Stacie Parsells & Tom Donohue.** We will be electing vestry members, recapping this ministry year, and discussing next year's ministry plans. We will be presenting bios for each of them in advance of our Annual Meeting. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** The Annual Meeting & Chili Cook-off are on January 23, 2022. Snow Date: January 30th, 2022

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE: A young family of 5 and an elderly couple will have a brighter Christmas, thanks to the generosity of the St. Peter's community. Many thanks to all who were able to participate to make the distribution of the family gifts possible.

PRESCHOOL FALL ENROLLMENT: St. Peter's parishioners may start registering their children for Fall 2022 on January 2022. Contact Rita Wang (director@stpeterspreschool.org) with any questions.

HOSPITALITY HELP NEEDED: Coffee Hour is Resuming! As we resume coffee hour following our Sunday mass, we need people to help prepare and serve coffee and light refreshments. Members of the congregation are asked to serve during the Hospitality Hour each Sunday. It works well to have 2 people (or 2 families) to provide and serve together. Members provide treats, make coffee, serve juice and clean-up. Suggested: 1-2 dozen treats, such as, bagels, pastries, quiche, fruit salad, muffins, cupcakes, donuts, cookies, etc. They can be homemade or store bought. St. Peter's provides napkins, plates, utensils, cups, coffee and other drink items. Please contact Katherine Schnorrenberg kschnorrenberg@gmail.com for more info and to sign up.

2022 FLOWER DONATIONS NEEDED: Thank you to everyone who has graciously donated flowers and continues to donate! Flowers may be given in thanksgiving for, honor of, memory of or celebration of someone or something. We ask for a donation of \$55 to cover the cost of the flowers each week, which are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in the corresponding Sunday Bulletin. Please sign up to donate by emailing the Parish Admin at <u>parish.admin@stpetersec.org</u>. Donations can be made by mailing a check or paying on-line at <u>bit.ly/DonateSPEC</u> If you have any questions or would like to donate please contact Katherine Schnorrenberg: <u>kschnorrenberg@gmail.com</u>.

2022 MINISTRY PARTICIPANTS NEEDED: St. Peter's Sunday worship cannot happen without the ministries of our laity. We are seeking people to serve as Subdeacons, Acolytes, Chalicists, Lectors, Bell Ringers, Ushers, and on the Hospitality teams. We will train you if you are new to any ministry. Pray about where you may be called to serve and contact *Father Derek+* at <u>rector@stpetersec.org</u> and he can discuss which ministry you feel called.

DONATE ONLINE WITH TITHE.LY! Make a one time donation or set up regular giving. Tithe.ly allows for ACH transfers from your bank account, or payments with Debit, Visa, MasterCard, or Discover. If you choose to cover the transaction fees, that is also counted as part of your donation for tax purposes. Scan the QR code from your SmartPhone to access or go to: **bit.ly/DonateSPEC**.



FACEBOOK DONATIONS FOR ST. PETER'S: Many of you have seen requests for donations to charities on Facebook for your friend's birthdays and asked about when we could do this for St. Peter's...well now you can! If you have a Facebook account, you can select St. Peter's as your charity of choice for donations. We also have a donate button on our page.

Christmas Memorials and Honoraria

Katie S. Shaw: In Loving Memory of Parker R. Scott, Pauline Shaw, John Shaw, B.J. Wilson.

Stacie Parsells: In Loving Memory of Paige Parsells, Barbara Baker, Ronald Baker, Dorothy Forsyth, Dorothy Young.

Rick Kneeland: In Loving Memory of Connie Kneeland & Mary Groves.

Kaye Pryor and Doug Pryor: In Loving Memory of Peter and Elizabeth Alfonsi & Charles and Anna Pryor.

Richard and Allie Suelflow: In Loving Memory of our parents, Leila and Clarence Suelflow and Robert and Allie Baker.

Mary and Guv Mitchell: In Loving Memory of Keith Mitchell, Thelma Black, Johnny Drayton and Mamie Cummings.

Kennette and Guv Mitchell: In Honoraria and Thanksgiving for our parents, Richard and Allie Suelflow and Mary Mitchell.

Elizabeth Lewis: In Loving Memory of my sisters Barbara Baker and Dede Young.

ST.PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3695 Rogers Ave Ellicott City, MD 21043



Phone (410) 465-2273 StPetersEC.org

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