



THE NEWBORN INFANT  
BRINGS THE  
PROMISE OF LOVE,  
BLESSINGS AND THE  
JOY OF LIFE.

*Merry Christmas!*

# TRINITY CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

Christmas is not a single day of celebration, in the Christian Church, it is the culmination of the Advent Season:

**Advent begins on the Sunday nearest to 30th November (St. Andrew's Day) and lasts until midnight on Christmas Eve. Advent Sunday is the first of the four Sundays before the 25th of December.** The Christmas season lasts from sundown, December 24 through the Epiphany of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ, January 6th. This is sometimes popularly referred to as "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

## **What does Advent Mean?**

**Advent is a term from the Latin word 'adventus' which means "arrival"**

It is a time of waiting for the arrival of Christmas, the coming of Jesus to earth when he was born as a baby at Bethlehem about two thousand years ago.

**Advent is the New Year of the Christian Church and the church season that leads to Christmas Day.** Clergy typically wear royal purple or royal blue vestments during Advent. Many churches also include an advent wreath (sometimes called an Advent ring or crown) in their Advent services.

**The Christian year follows the life of Jesus. It begins with Advent Sunday - which in the Christian church, is 'New Year's Day'. The most important day of the year will be Easter Sunday, the day on which Jesus came back to life - but before that festival, there will be other special days to look forward to. At the end of Advent, there will be Jesus' birthday (Christmas Day).**

## **THE ADVENT WREATH**

The wreath is made of a circle of evergreen branches laid flat to symbolize eternal life. Three candles (traditionally Purple) and one candle (traditional Pink) stand in the circle and each one represents one of the four Sundays of Advent. In the center of the circle is a fifth candle (traditionally white), the **Christ Candle**, which is lit at the Christmas Service.

### **Why is the Advent Wreath so special to Christians?**

The circle of the wreath reminds Christians of God, His eternity and endless mercy, which has no beginning or end. The green of the wreath speaks of the hope that Christians have in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life.

### **Candles on the Advent Wreath:**

Advent worship is like a journey through the Christmas story. Christians use the Advent candles to celebrate this period with one lit every Sunday of Advent so that during the last week before Christmas all four candles are lit. The last central candle (which represents Christ) is lit at the Christmas service.

## ADVENT CANDLES:

### What do the Advent candles stand for?

Candles symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His son, Jesus. The four traditional advent themes for the four advent Sundays are:

**1. God's people** - The Candle of **Hope** ( Purple or Blue ) Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

**2. The old testament prophets** - The Candle of **Peace** ( Purple or Blue ) Peace is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

**3. John the Baptist** - The Candle of **Love** ( Pink ) Love is like a candle shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we we celebrate the love we have in Christ.

**4. Mary the mother of Jesus** - The Candle of **Joy** ( Purple or Blue ) Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

**The fifth candle - The Christ candle** ( White ) represents the birth of Christ. The flame of this candle remind us that He is the light of the world and that if we follow Him we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

### DAYS CELEBRATED THIS MONTH:

**December 01st, Sunday:** First Sunday of Advent.

**December 07th, Saturday:** National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

**December 08th, Sunday:** Second Sunday of Advent

**December 15th, Sunday:** Third Sunday of Advent

**December 18th, Wednesday:** Ember Day

**December 21st, Saturday:** Winter Solace, 1st day of Winter

**December 22nd, Sunday:** Forth Sunday of Advent

**December 24th, Tuesday:** **CHRISTMAS EVE** (The last day of Advent)

**December 25th, Wednesday:** **CHRISTMAS (Feast of the Nativity)**

The most widely celebrated holiday of the Christian year, Christmas is observed as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus. Christmas customs are centuries old. The mistletoe, for example, comes from the Druids, who, in hanging the mistletoe, hoped for peace and good fortune. Comparatively recent is the Christmas tree, first set up in Germany in the 17th century. Colonial Manhattan Islanders introduced the name Santa Claus, a corruption of the Dutch name St. Nicholas.

**December 26th, Thursday:** Kwanza begins, in the United States, ends on Jan.1st, 2025.

**December 26th, Thursday:** Hanukkah (Festival of Lights), begins at sundown and ends on Jan.02,2025.

This festival was instituted by Judas Maccabaeus in 165 B.C. to celebrate the purification of the Temple of Jerusalem, which had been desecrated three years earlier by Antiochus Epiphanes, who set up a pagan altar and offered sacrifices to Zeus Olympius. In Jewish homes, a lamp or candle is lighted on each night of the eight-day festival.

**December 31st, Tuesday:** **New Years Eve**

**January 01st, Wednesday:** **New Years Day 2025 HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**January 06th, Monday:** **The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**January 12th, Sunday:** **The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ**

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE WILL BE HELD ON CHRISTMAS EVE, AT 7:00PM

### BIRTHDAYS

Peter Sprecher - Dec.9th and Fr. Carl Buxo - Dec.16th

# CHRISTMAS AT TRINITY!

## THE TRINITY CHRISTMAS PARTY: FRIDAY DECEMBER 13TH:

Trinity's annual Christmas Party and sing-a-long will start at 6:30pm. There will be a sing-a-long of Christmas songs suggested by the partygoers. You are invited to sing-a-long or just sit back and enjoy. We will be playing our "New" exciting "Disc Game" There will be the White Elephant Gift Exchange: Bring a wrapped gift or two, of minimal value, the funnier the better. The Dollar Tree has some decent items. What is a "white elephant" gift? To us at Trinity, it means either an amusing gift or be something that you have that is no longer or perhaps never was useful to you. whatever it is, wrap it up and bring it in for the gift exchange game. PS- participating in the White Elephant is not necessary. You can play even if you don't bring an exchange gift. There will be pizza, coffee, tea and water, but feel free to bring your own beverages and a snack to share. Hope to see all of you. We're going to have a great evening of fun and fellowship. The party is open to all Trinity members, their family and friends.

## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA:

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH** we will meet at Cadillac Memorial Gardens Cemetery, to place wreaths on the graves of veterans. The Memorial Service will start at noon. We will be meeting at the church, at 11:00am, if you would like to carpool out with us or you can go directly to the Cemetery. Remember the fallen by teaching our children the value of respect, by honoring those who have served their country. More details on our website or check out wreathscrossamerica.org. there you can pay \$17.00 for a wreath. that will be placed on the grave of a veteran. This is a nation wide event to honor our Veterans. If you would like more information contact Barb Norgan.

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:

The Christmas Service will be held on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec.24th at 7pm The Altar Guild would like to again set the Altar with Christmas Poinsettias, If you would like to make a contribution, please indicate that your donation is for the Altar Poinsettias. The plants will be available for take home, after the service. We need you to make it happen.

**COME TO THE ANTON ART CENTER'S HOLIDAY MARKET!** This is the place to come find that unique gift for your family, friends or for yourself! All items handmade by local artists: paintings, prints, photography, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, textiles, children's items, wood, glassware, cards, holiday decor and decorations AND MORE! November 19- December 22, Tuesday through Saturday 10 am -- 5pm, Sundays 11am -- 3pm. Admission is free and there is free parking after 3 pm and on weekends. This is not your average Christmas crafts show. The Anton Art Center is located at 125 Macomb Place, Mt. Clemens. Go to [theartcenter.org](http://theartcenter.org) for a preview and more information or talk to Connie.

## TRINITY'S HOLIDAY CALENDAR :

- Sunday Dec. 01st:** 1st. Sunday of Advent, Light the "Hope Candle" Holy Eucharist - Rite II  
*Thursday Dec. 7th: "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day"*
- Sunday Dec. 08th:** 2nd Sunday of Advent. Light the "Peace "Candle, Holy Eucharist Rite II  
• *Friday Dec. 13th* Trinity Christmas Party 5-7pm  
• *Saturday Dec. 14th* Wreaths across America, meet at 11am
- Sunday Dec. 15th:** 3rd Sunday of Advent. Light the "love" Candle, Holy Eucharist - Rite II  
Contemporary Service(short) Vestry Mtg, decorate Trinity for Christmas.
- Sunday Dec. 22nd:** 4th Sunday of Advent. Light the "Joy" Candle
- Tuesday Dec. 24th:** ***Christmas Service 7pm.*** Light "Christ Candle", Holy Eucharist - Rite II  
• **Wednesday Dec. 25th** **CHRISTMAS DAY**
- Sunday Dec. 29th:** 1st. Sunday after Christmas, Holy Eucharist - Rite II
- Sunday Jan.05th** 2nd Sunday after Christmas, Holy Eucharist - Rite II  
• **Monday Jan 06th:** " EPIPHANY"
- Sunday Jan. 12th:** Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ, Holy Eucharist - Rite II
- Sunday Jan. 19th:** Holy Eucharist - Rite II, ANNUAL MEETING after service