



# The Breastplate

The Newsletter of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

**Epiphany Pageant**  
**“The Feast of Lights”**

Rehearsals will be on Saturday, January 7th at 1:00pm  
and Sunday, January 8th at 4:00pm

Pageant will be held on Sunday, January 8th at 5:30pm.

Scan the QR code to sign up!  
All ages welcome!



SCAN ME

**Inside this issue:**

From the Rector	2	Vestry Candidates	6-8
Adult Forum	3	Inclement Weather	9
Sunday School	3	Grief Support	9
Vestry Highlights	4	Wellness	10
Spiritually Speaking	5	Youth	11
CATCH/Freedom	6	Birthdays & Anniversaries	11
Saturday Knitting	6		



**ST. PATRICK'S****BREASTPLATE****Volume 38, IV**

The **BREASTPLATE** is published monthly by St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
7121 Muirfield Drive  
Dublin, OH 43017  
Tel: 614-766-2664  
Fax: 614-766-4490  
Email: [church@pats-dublin.org](mailto:church@pats-dublin.org)  
Website:  
[www.pats-dublin.org](http://www.pats-dublin.org)  
Facebook:  
St. Patrick's Episcopal  
Dublin Ohio

**The Rev. Dr. Jason Emerson,**  
Rector  
Cell phone: (402)657-0867  
[rector@pats-dublin.org](mailto:rector@pats-dublin.org)

**Sarah Immell,** Editor

Articles and other items for the *Breastplate* should be submitted to:

**Amy O'Neill**  
[administrator@pats-dublin.org](mailto:administrator@pats-dublin.org)

**From the Rector's Desk****From the Rector**

I enjoy the New Year. For me it's often a time of reflection on the past year and hopeful planning for the year to come. I know January 1 is an arbitrary name of a 24-hour period cosmically no different than any other 24-hour period, yet I still find it an energizing season. As the secular holidays pass and we begin the rich journey through Epiphany toward Lent and Easter, it's important to remember that the work of Christmas continues. As the celebration of Christ's birth, the celebration of the incarnation of the Word made flesh passes by, it's important to remember that Jesus grows up. He teaches and preaches, and most importantly shows us how to be human by being human himself. In Jesus we find out that the fullness of being human comes from fullness of love, especially loving our neighbors. So, the work of Christmas continues. I believe Howard Thurman put it best in his poem entitled "The Work of Christmas".

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart.



Fr. Jason Emerson †  
Rector



Invite • Welcome • Connect\*

As we embrace January and 2023, these words from IWC creator Mary Foster Parmer resound with us:

*Every single Episcopal congregation, no matter the size, has within it immense resources for imagination and creativity. We simply need to create an environment in our congregations where creativity is honored, and we need clergy and lay leaders who take the challenge of creativity seriously... We need to be agents of imagination in our communities and empower people to take risks, trying new things for the sake of the Gospel.*



The Episcopal  
Church Welcomes  
You.

## Adult Forum

Adult Forum will **resume on January 15, 2023**, after a break for Christmas, New Year's Day, and the Epiphany pageant. Our Session 4 (Epiphany) will involve a viewing and discussion of the 2005 documentary film "Theologians Under Hitler." We will spend four Sundays (1/15, 1/22, 1/29, and 2/5) on this timely topic, ending just before the Annual Meeting (2/12).

Ed McNulty, in a 2016 review of the film on the site *Visual Parables* (<https://readthespirit.com/visual-parables/theologians-under-hitler-2005-dvd/>), had this to say:

*This PBS documentary, based upon the research of Robert Erickson, Ph.D. (Pacific Lutheran University), introduces us to three respected Christian scholars, well known in their native Germany and also in Great Britain and the US as well: Paul Althaus, Emmanuel Hirsch, and Gerhard Kittel. How in the world could such learned, erudite men have supported Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party? By careful analysis of their lives and teachings the film helps us understand not only this question, but the even the more important one, "Could something similar happen here?" When you see this film the disturbing conclusion probably will be, "Yes, it could."*

Session 4 will be facilitated by Ben Trotter. Come join us for what promises to be a timely and challenging look at how the church can go wrong and how we today and at St Patrick's might avoid doing the same. As we will see, it is easy to condemn those who bought into systems like Nazism that are antithetical to the teachings of the Bible, but it is more difficult to see how we have done, are doing, or might do the same.

## Adult Forum for Winter and Spring 2023

**1/15–2/5:**

Ben Trotter leading a history of Hitler's Theologians

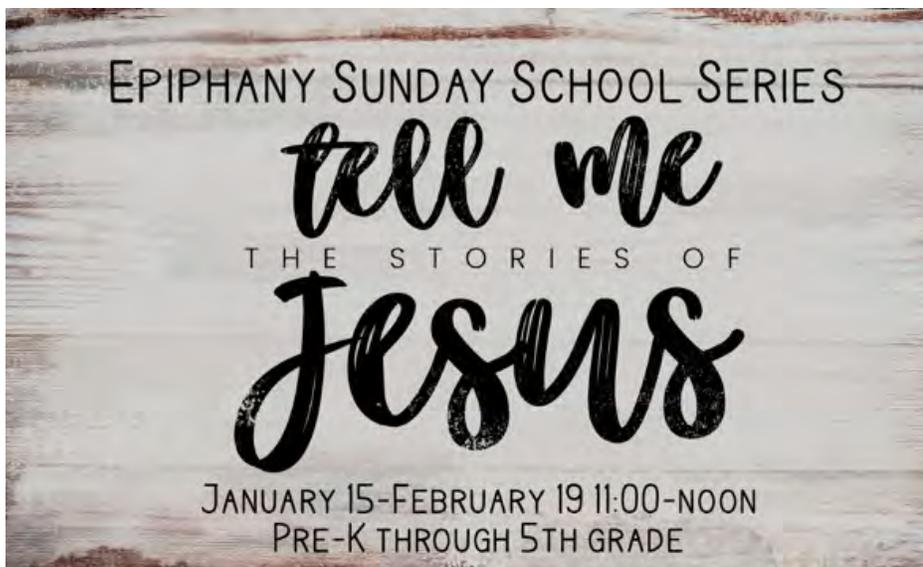
**2/26–3/26:**

Kim Nelson leading an exploration of Ignatian Spirituality

**4/16–5/21:**

Fr. Jason Leading an Bible Study on Matthew's Gospel

Join us from 11:00am-noon  
in the EfM room!



## Summary of Vestry Meeting December 14th, 2022

The vestry meeting started with an opening prayer by Father Jason.

Father Jason's report highlighted the loss of 2 long-time members and one new member and expressed his admiration at how the faith community of St. Patrick's comes together providing support to each other in grief.

He noted that so far 148 pledges totaling \$479,624 had been received, but highlighted that in order to meet the target of hiring a part-time staffer, a minimum of 10 more pledges at our average of \$3,000 was needed. Father Jason reported that the resolution to exclude the PPP loan from the estimate of our 2023 mission share was passed at the Diocesan Council, resulting in a savings of \$20,000. He also mentioned his participation in the Bishop's nominating committee.

Senior Warden, Ed Yuhas, noted that the nominating committee had compiled a great list but only 3 nominees, Vicky Bratton, Blair McGinnis and Ben Trotter, had accepted the nomination. He also reported that the Strategic Discernment team will meet in January to develop goals and strategies consistent with mission.

Roy Barker, in the Junior Warden's report, noted that the repair and painting of the narthex had been completed, the kitchen garbage disposal system had been installed by Tim Carty, and the handicap parking sign was repaired by Greg Bell. Father Jason expressed his gratitude towards both for their help.

The draft of the vision, mission statement and core values developed by the Strategic Discernment team was presented to the vestry and was unanimously approved.

Other items discussed were the development of staff job descriptions, an interest in renting space from a Dublin latchkey preschool, and the 2023 budget was debated

Treasurer Bill Righter, noted that expenses and revenue were down for November. Expenses were \$11,300 under budget while revenue was \$4,500 under budget. Year-to-date through 11 months expenses are \$61,000 under budget while revenue is \$29,000 under budget.

The vestry approved the treasurer's report for the month of November as well as the minutes for the November meeting. The meeting closed with a prayer by Thomas Merton read in unison.

*Lynette Palmer*

### THE RECTOR, VESTRY & WARDENS OF ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**The Rev. Jason Emerson** Rector

**Bill Eddy**

**Dick Gehman**

**Ed Yuhas**, Senior Warden

**Beth Landers**

**Lynette Palmer**

**Roy Barker**, Junior Warden

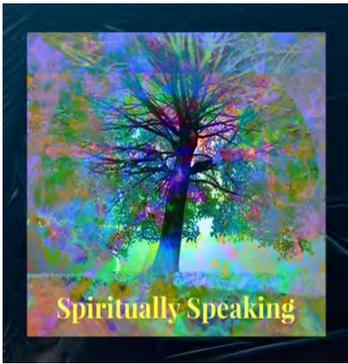
**Alex Carter**

**John Russo**

**Lynne Colcombe**

**Susan Jones**

**Alex Shields**



## Spiritually Speaking

The Good Book Club

As I write this, we are in the third week of Advent, and those who are participating in St. Patrick's reading of Matthew are deep into the Gospel. Participating in this has whet my appetite for daily Scripture because I feel more grounded, stronger in faith, and closer to God when I've spent time reading and

pondering Scripture. Perhaps you have experienced something like that, too, whether it's through your own practice or the Daily Office lectionary readings.

I learned about another way to stay engaged in Scripture through a Forward Movement ministry called the Good Book Club. The Good Book Club extends their invitation to all Episcopalians to read the books of Ruth and Esther between Epiphany and Lent, and they are providing a schedule and additional resources for support. Many of the resources are free- you don't have to buy anything you don't want to buy. Here's what they have to say:

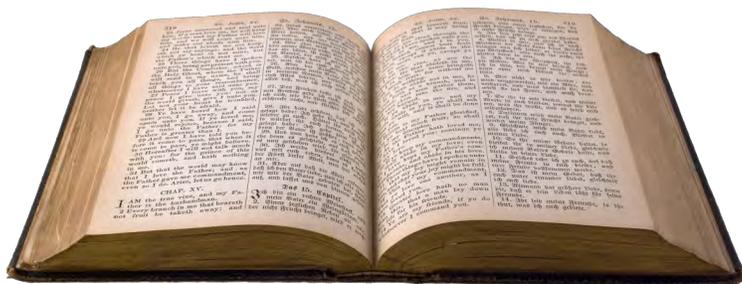
“For our journey through scripture this Epiphany, the Good Book Club will explore *Ruth and Esther*, books that explore the faithfulness and courage of two remarkable women. The stories of Ruth and Esther have much to teach us about the Hebrew concept of chesed, which means sacred kindness, as well as the willingness to be in sacrificial relationship with loved ones and our communities.”

Perhaps this is a spiritual practice that you'll consider in this new year. The daily readings are not long, and the link below has all the information you need. (Feel free to contact me through the church office if you need assistance with the materials.)

Peace and blessings to you in this new year.

*Kim Nelson*

<https://www.goodbookclub.org>



## CATCH/Freedom

CATCH/Freedom ministry thanks all who donated Kroger gift cards for the holiday gift bags. The links below are informative videos that give information about the programs we support.

### Videos of Impact:

[Freedom a la Cart Supports Survivors](#) (Overview)

[Digging Deeper](#) (CATCH Court connection to Freedom)

[Connection After CATCH](#) (Freedom a la Cart's Butterfly Continuum of Care Programs)



## Knitting Circle

**Second Saturday Knitting Circle** will meet on January 14th from 10-11:30am in the library. We will be starting our knitting projects for Columbus City School children. All levels of knitters welcome. Register on Realm so that we can have instructors available if necessary. If you would like to learn how to finger knit blankets, please bring at least one skien of the pre-looped polyester yarn. Bernat is Lina's favorite brand!

Vestry Candidates were asked the following questions:

1. What has been your involvement with St. Patrick's and why are you interested in serving on the vestry?
2. What skills and insights do you bring to the task of serving on vestry?
3. What do you envision for the church in the next three to five years?

### Vicky Bratton



My family and I moved to Dublin in the fall of 2018. We quickly found St. Patrick's and started getting involved. I've enjoyed a year of EfM, helping with VBS and Youth Group, and serving on the rector search committee. I also enjoy being a lay reader and handbell choir member. I am interested in serving on the vestry because it is a way I can give back to this welcoming and compassionate community.

My skills include writing, editing, fundraising, and working as a team member. I have held leadership positions in several educational, religious, and arts organizations. I have gained insight through a wide perspective of involvement at St. Pat's, from planning dinners for the Youth Group, to baking cookies with Freedom a la Cart, to interviewing prospective rectors.

This is an exciting time for St. Patrick's. We have come from a strong base, and are weathering a challenge right now. I think we will emerge on the other side having grown in unexpected ways and with renewed energy. I hope that we will be able to open our doors and hearts to new opportunities -- new people, new ways of reaching them, and new traditions. I envision a very positive future, engaging all those who wish to be part of our church family and expanding our ministries into the larger community.

### Blair McGinnis



Our family started attending St. Patrick's back in 1990 and we attended till 2001. We returned to St. Patrick's around 2012 after spending time attending other Episcopal churches here in the Columbus area. But my history in the Episcopal church started in the 1970's, attending several churches ranging from small mission sized churches to large program churches. I have served as a lay reader, chalice bearer, middle school Sunday school teacher, a member of a discernment committee, 2 search committees, 3 terms on various vestries and as a delegate to the diocesan convention.

Currently, I am involved with the men's groups as a member and leader, a garage sale minion, as well as making class materials for the Godly Play Sunday School curriculum.

I feel that my varied church background gives me insight into the workings of the church. I have seen problems as well as successes and have witnessed how the interactions of the congregation, lay leaders, rectors, vestries, the diocese and the greater national church can have on the success and growth of a church. I feel that St. Patrick's has a opportunity to expand our community presence here in Dublin

## The Breastplate

---

and the surrounding area allowing a greater exposure to the church which would assist in the growth of our congregation and the mission of spreading God's word.

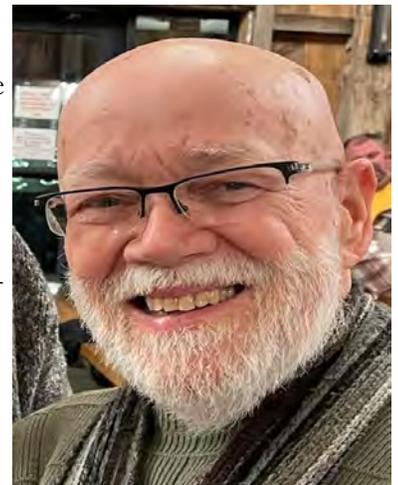
I retired from Ohio State University, College of Dentistry where as the building superintendent, I dealt with building mechanical systems, and short and long range building projects.

My vision for the church over the next three to five years is one of increased growth, not only in congregation size, outreach programs and spiritual aspects but to include a cultural footprint where we can include more community based programs and services. As we have now entered into the era of improved social media presence, we need to insure continued growth in that aspect of our outreach as well.

### Ben Trotter

Having grown over the years increasingly uncomfortable in and alienated from the evangelical church and "brand" of Christianity I had long embraced, I came to a point where I doubted my faith altogether. But then I decided to check out the church near our home I had long driven past to see if it was more in line with what I was seeking in my encounter with God. I came to St. Patrick's, where I found a Bible-soaked liturgy, a focus on loving service to others, and a vibrant, reflective spiritual life. I immediately felt at home! But I arrived in 2019 only a few weeks before COVID ended all in-person activities! I was able, nevertheless, to engage in the life of the church through Zoom, beginning with Wednesday "Fun with Saints," Sunday worship, and the Adult Forum.

That Fall my involvement with St Pat's increased as I began my first year of EfM (Education for Ministry), exploring my faith, sharing perspectives and experiences with others, and forming fast friendships. When Mother Cameron left the following summer, she asked me to facilitate the Adult Forum's year-long "Celebrating the Saints" curriculum, which I did with Alex Carter's help in our weekly Zoom discussions. As we looked at the lives of past saints, I came to know and admire the saints in our congregation as we shared our own faith journeys. I have also participated in a Foyer group, the Tuesday Morning Men's Group, the Wednesday St. Arbucks group, and recently joined a monthly Sacred Circle exploring the "Spirituality of Aging." All provide me with fellowship, laughs, and wisdom. Along with Alex Carter and Father Jason, I continue to facilitate the Adult Forum, and am in my third year of EfM. The Pancake Supper, Fish Fry, and Garage Sale have all allowed me to serve the community while working alongside the many active St. Pat's parishioners I have come to know, including their talented and organized leaders before whom I stand in awe. Recently, my participation in the liturgy took on new a new dimension when I joined those assisting with Sunday worship as a Server.



I received my bachelors, masters, and PhD from OSU, specializing in European history, and have done archival research and historical writing. I am an historian by vocation and outlook. I see the past as where we have been, but as also where we can never fully remain or return to; the future, however grows out of the past and is always, even if imperceptibly, connected with it. That connection cannot be ignored and should not necessarily be scorned. I spent forty-five years as an educator at the secondary and college levels, and have taught a wide variety of history and social studies classes, including a course on world religions and a Holocaust seminar.

Retirement has offered me new opportunities to serve God, others, and the causes I

*Vestry candidates continued on page 8*

*Vestry candidates continued from page 7*

believe in. I have found St. Pat's to be a gathering of people lovingly serving God and others, and I want to grow further into that purpose. Joining the vestry would provide another opportunity to serve St. Pat's mission and to be stretched personally in the process.

What initially struck me as a mark against my standing for the vestry was pointed out to me as, in fact, a reason in its favor: my relative newness as an Episcopalian and member of St. Pat's might make me more open to new ideas and directions. Indeed, my spiritual journey has run the gamut, which allows me to see matters from many different perspectives; my years and style of teaching have done the same. As a life-long learner and reader, I know that there is MUCH that I still do not know (and never will—not to mention all that I have forgotten!), which I hope has made me open to the ideas of others and willing to change my mind when there is good reason to do so. Even when I have an opinion, I prefer to have it examined and tested in candid discussions with others whenever possible.

St. Patrick's currently offers a wide variety of programs and opportunities for service and holistic spiritual growth. This is a congregation open to the moving of the Holy Spirit! But the human context and human endeavors never remain the same, nor do they continue, even when effective, to operate without adaptations and effort. The old and the new must be in on-going dialogue. If our numbers grow because of the witness of our acts of love and faith, great; however, merely increasing Sunday numbers should not be our primary goal. Ever more faithful and ever more loving service to God and others should be our true aim. How we accomplish that is something for us all to work together to envision and accomplish. These are tasks not just for the clergy and vestry, but for all who call St. Pat's home. In fact, during the interim between Father Stephen's and Mother Cameron's departure and Father Jason's arrival, I marveled at how smoothly and vibrantly the church continued to function, thanks to a large and highly engaged group of lay leaders and workers. This is one of our great assets!

I have no agenda other than continuing along paths already being traveled: educational and spiritual growth opportunities for all age levels; intergenerational events and activities; and service to those surrounding us and to needy communities. Rather than a plan, I offer only a prayerful willingness to hear and to consider ideas from all members of St. Pat's and to work at realizing the initiatives that result from that process.



## Many Thanks

Many Thanks for the generous donations to the FCCS Holiday Wish Program this year. St. Patrick's over-filled 2 huge rolling carts of toys and collected \$355 in gift cards, cash and checks to donate to the children in the care of Franklin Count Children's services this holiday. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this wonderful program. ~Jo Yubas



## St. Patrick's Men's Groups

Well, it is January. It is the height of winter, and it can be a season of feeling isolated. A blessing we have at St. Pat's is multiple groups of men who gather for conversation, comradery, and perhaps some discussion. The prime thing all these groups offer is an opportunity to gather either in person or online with some other men and be part of a community. There are four groups, Tuesday AM at 7:00, Wednesday AM at 10:00, Thursday AM at 10:00, and Thursday PM at 7:00. There are a lot of new faces I see at Sunday worship services. I encourage new folks, and present members of St. Pat's to seriously consider joining a group. Contact me, Doug Pittsenbarger, at [pittsenbarger@gmail.com](mailto:pittsenbarger@gmail.com) or call the parish office to get connected.



## Inclement Weather

Yes, it's that time of year and living in Ohio we must have an inclement weather policy. Please be advised, if the weather is bad and Dublin City Schools cancel school, we will not open the church office. If you have a scheduled meeting or group gathering at the church and you do not have a key, please call if the weather is bad to make sure we are open.

We may be able to schedule a Zoom meeting for you ahead of inclement weather.

Thank you!



## Grief Support

The Grief Support gathering will be Monday, January 16, 2023, at 6:30 pm in St. Patrick's library. Please consider joining us if you have lost your spouse or another significant member of your family for love, support, and understanding as we travel together this road called grief. If Dublin schools are cancelled due to inclement weather, we definitely will not meet. Please contact Angel Cinco or Becky Stains for more information.

## Wellness Words

**Transformation** and **Transition** two words that we seem to be hearing about more and more these days. Transformation deals with changes that come about during times of significant alterations, or losses, in our lives.

Background: Elizabeth Kubler Ross first described the **Stages of Grief** (listed below) in the late 60's when death and dying was still a very hush-hush topic. It still is in some ways.

**Denial:** shock and disbelief that the loss as occurred

**Anger:** that someone we love is no longer there

**Bargaining:** all the what-ifs and regrets

**Depression:** sadness from the loss

**Acceptance:** acknowledging the reality of the loss

David Kessler worked closely with Elizabeth Kubler Ross for many years. She agreed **Finding Meaning** should become the **Sixth Step** and he wrote the book. *Finding Meaning* is not just related to death of a loved one. It can be experienced by anyone following a significant loss. We know that grief will lessen in intensity over time. Finding Meaning in loss empowers us to find a way forward. Kessler writes “grief does not get smaller we get bigger.” Finding meaning, is coming to terms with a new reality, acknowledging changes, and reconstructing a new life without forgetting our previous one. Transformation: learning more about our gifts and how to use them. Kessler calls it “becoming the architect of our lives.”

### Winter Wellness Tip

Covid, the flu, RSV are on the move and may combine to form a triple epidemic. These viruses are spread through the air. Remember to cough or sneeze into your elbow when possible. Have a tissue or handkerchief nearby.

Respiratory viruses can also spread if we rub itchy noses, or the area around our mouths, and then fail to wash our hands afterwards. Fingers and hands can spread the viruses too. Be vigilant.

**Transitions** are described as changes in the more orderly progression of life experiences which we were used to or were expecting. At one time transitions were linear: Graduate, get a job, fall in love, get married, family, retire. Now many of these events have become nonlinear, rearranged, and done again and

again. Following an extensive research study, Bruce Feiler\* wrote the book *Life in the Transitions. Mastering Change at Any Age*. Many transitions are minor, but “Lifequakes” (sudden job changes, unexpected losses, winning a major prize) can also occur. Life is full of plot twists these days. This nonlinearity helps explain why we feel so overwhelmed at times.

\*Feiler's name will be familiar to those of us who have read his book *Walking the Bible*.

Lissa and I hope your transformations are managed easily and your transitions are few.

~Rose Walker

# Youth Group

**Youth Group** continues to “Do Good for Goodness’ Sake” as we meet weekly for formation, fellowship, and fun! We kicked off Advent with an Ugly Christmas Sweater Party with games and silliness. We continued our community building and Peer Ministry by learning to ask deepening questions. For our study on the book of Job, we invited guest speakers to teach us about their prayer practices which bring them closer to God. Thank you Lissa Barker, Ben Trotter, Mary Kay Arbogast, and Dick Gehman for joining us and offering your wisdom! We finished the year with an adventure to Homestead Park to see the lights and have a pizza party. We will start back up in the new year with the Epiphany Pageant on January 8th and a Twelfth Night Party with white elephant gift exchange starting at 5:30—EAT BEFORE the pageant—only desserts served at the Twelfth Night Party. Bring a gift to exchange. We will still be finished by 7:30. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## January Youth Calendar

- Jan 1st - Off for Family Time
- Jan 8th - Epiphany Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange after pageant till 7:30
- Jan 15th - Service: Dublin Food Pantry Birthday Bags
- Jan 22nd - Peer Ministry and Rite 13
- Jan 29th - Job Lesson #5



## Celebrating January Anniversaries

Jeff & Phyllis Beuter

### IN MEMORIAM

Bob Elliott

Angel Cinco, Sr.

*(Angel Cinco's father)*



*May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, by the mercy and grace of God, rest in peace.*

## Celebrating January Birthdays

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Amelia Bath        | Drew Landers     |
| Eloise Bath        | Randy Leite      |
| Andy Bethune       | William Lewis    |
| Gunnar Carlson     | Mike Machesky    |
| Debbie Cline       | Mark MacKenzie   |
| Rich Colvin        | Grace Mayo       |
| Kennedy de Bear    | Devin McGinnis   |
| Emily DeAngelo     | Caroline Niekamp |
| Ryan DeAngelo      | Wade Purcell     |
| Pyper Fairweather  | Katie Rich       |
| Fred Graff         | Evan Richard     |
| Corinne Hallermann | Theo Righter     |
| Mary Horton        | Don Ritchey      |
| Mim Jester         | Carolyn Shubert  |
| Aaron Jordan       | Grayson Smith    |
| Ann King           | Janet Snapp      |
| Larry Lab          | Ayla Stains      |
| Casey Landers      | April Turner     |



**St. Patrick's  
Episcopal Church**

7121 Muirfield Drive

Dublin, OH 43017

Tel: 614-766-2664

Fax: 614-766-4490

**A Joyful Community of Faith**

---

**Inside this issue**

*Epiphany Pageant*

*Vestry Nominees*

*Adult Forum for Epiphany*

*Sunday School for Epiphany*

*And much, much more...*

