



The Venerable
Bede

St. Bede Episcopal Church
Port Orchard, WA



Our Newsletter

"The Tidings"

DECEMBER, 2020 / JANUARY 2021

Special Events

*Wearing Masks and Social Distancing
continue to be
our Blessing to one another.*

*View St Bede on-line services
on Facebook or Zoom:
Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer
on Sunday mornings
at 10am and Compline:
Sunday and Tuesday evenings at 7pm*

*We are doing our best to keep in touch
with each other, by phone, email,
Facebook, and texting.*

We will get through this together!

Message from our Priest in Charge – Joseph Hickey-Tiernan



Dear People Waiting for Glad Tidings,

This year *Waiting* has become our default experience. It gives a new tilt to Advent and Christmas.

The first Christmas I actually *remember*, as a very small boy, I was waiting for my parents to come back from church, and my Grandfather (Pop-Pop) was watching me wait. When my Mother and Father came in, they were covered with wet snow and talked about walking to and from church in *slush*. ***Snow and slush***, two words for Christmas that were new to me. On the buffet, there was a small white tree with transparent ruby-red ornaments that jingled together when I pulled on the branches. ***Jingle***, I repeated, and now had three Christmas words. Around the tree was a ring of shiny metal, which was being circled by a bright blue ***train***. ***Choo-Choo***, someone said excitedly, and another word entered my Christmas memory. My Father pointed to a spot under the tree, inside the circle for the train, and said, **“Here is the Baby Jesus in his Crib.”** I already knew what a *crib* was, since that is where I had spent the night, but was surprised. This didn’t look like my crib, and had little animals around it, but no Teddy Bear. A Mommy and a Daddy were watching the Baby, waiting for him to do something. My parents were looking first at the Baby and then at me. ***Waiting for something***. My Mother smiled when I pointed and asked, **“What will we call the Baby?”** **“We call him *Jesus*,” my Mother answered, “and today is his *Birthday*.”** **I now had a complete set of Christmas words.**

I suppose many of the words we associate with waiting for Christmas have been gutted by the intrusion of the corona virus this year. ***Joyful, exciting, familiar, long expected***. Like the Mommy and Daddy at the Crib, **we are watching and waiting, but more impatiently, for *Something***. We want something to ***change and for the Better!*** Unlike my teenaged Self, though, we can’t climb on a chair and reach to the back of the closet shelf, pull out the heavy box enclosing a new Lionel switching engine for my train set, and sit it on the tracks. Just before my parents returned home, I used to rush

the engine, or any other hidden early-discovered Christmas gift, back into the box, and loft it up to the shelf. There it would wait to *surprise* me when, wrapped and ribboned, it would appear under that year's tree.

We are being watched as we wait. My Grandfather, Pop-Pop, was known for watching, caring, tucking us children in, but seldom said anything. His watching over me was the important thing. I don't know whether anyone else noticed when Pop-Pop, wrapped in a long black coat and with a little black cap, slipped back into the snow and slush. Going home to watch over Nanny, our Grandmother, I supposed.

While we are *waiting* for better, safer, more hopeful times, all the symbols of Christmas that really matter are assembling around us. Those who care enough for us to shepherd us along the shaky path, those who know our foibles and shortcomings, still stand by us. The wise men and women, living or dead, who have shared their insights and their humor with us, are never far away. Sometimes they simply wait to see what we will do. Sometimes they smile, and sometimes they roll their eyes. Their every breath is a puff of love. They don't mind waiting. Waiting and watching, they give us new words for love. Real love.

Above all, and through it all, God watches over us in love. Our watcher seldom speaks to us out loud. Sometimes he seems to slip away into the slush. **Let us wait with him now, and watch over those entrusted to us, and all who need *our* watching and waiting.** These are perhaps **our** new words for Christmas. In a pinch, they will do, if we put our heart into them.

Waiting for Christmas, along with God and *your* Saints,

Joseph, priest

**ST. BEDE FAMILY
DECEMBER and JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**



Gary Ebbert	Jon Wilson
Aidan Mills	London Mills
Joe McGuire	JoAnn Chance
Ken Hulet	Melaine McCann
Hannah Hopkins	Josh Wilson
Ron McAdam	Denise Cameron
Jean Chynoweth	Justin Brideau
Kelly Hargrave	Pat McGuire
Selena Clements	Arthur Ferguson

**ST BEDE ANNUAL MEETING
will be held
on
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021**



Ministry Leaders and
Chair of Committees
are asked to
**please submit their Annual Reports
to the Church Office**
bedeschurch@gmail.com
as early in January as is convenient,
in order to include them in the
Annual Meeting Booklet.

Invitation to St. Bede's Wednesday Bible Study with Joseph Hickey-Tiernan

We meet on Wednesdays, via Zoom, at 11 am-12noon,
to read and discuss the readings for the following Sunday.



We would love to have you join us.

Each Tuesday you will be sent the link to join the
Zoom meeting on Wednesday,
and a copy of the readings.

If you are interested, please contact Karen Bathgate.
360-792-1807; kbathgate@comcast.net

FAMILY KITCHEN



This month Family Kitchen will
happen on Monday, December 21,
2020 at 1pm.



Thank you for all your prayers and support in this
ministry of St. Bede.

Love to all,

Margo Spence



ST. BEDE WOMEN -EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

Looking back on the year, the unexpected has taken over our lives. We have to recreate how we spend our days; our usual is no longer. **The Church has become virtual; our activities nil.**

Almost a year ago at an ECW meeting a group of us put together an email morning check in.



That way, those who want to keep in touch daily can check in and if one is not heard from, can be telephoned or visited. It was a way to stay connected in a sometimes solitary world. Little



did we know how valuable it would become as our quarantine and isolation became a daily and then monthly thing. It has turned into a type of support group. A chance to stay connected.

You are invited to contact me at wm.mab@wavecable.com to get involved in a check-in group if that is something you would like to do.

In July we did have an activity. All women were invited, ten women attended an outdoor, brown bag, socially distanced, mask wearing picnic. It felt so good to be together. Much conversation and good exchanges were the best part of the day.

It is unknown how the rest of the year and next year will develop. **The one thing I do believe is that we are adaptable and creative and we will again assemble and begin again when the way is cleared to do so.**



God Bless and I wish you a good Advent and Christmas Season.

Mary Ann Balyeat



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Who would have guessed in March that we'd spend the majority of the year wearing masks, social distancing, and drastically reducing our interaction with friends and family? But ~so it has been, and with Thanksgiving behind us we find ourselves beginning the season of Advent in much the same way (with little to no end in sight). Though many of us have known people who contracted the Coronavirus, and some may even know some whose lives have been lost, the good news is that, with few exceptions, most of us have remained safe, reasonably healthy and Covid-19-free. **For blessings big and small ~ thank you Lord!**

Though we haven't been able to meet in person, the heart of St. Bede's has shown itself in the form of it's **Wednesday Bible Study** led by Joseph, our Interim Priest; **weekly Sunday morning streamed services at 10:00a.m., Sunday and Tuesday Compline services at 7pm** with our Intern, Chuck Huff; **Zoom Coffee Hours every other Sunday at 11:15 a.m.**; frequent meetings between Kathleen and Joseph, the two people we look to for guidance; periodic contacts by B.C. members with parishioners; **Bishop's and Outreach** committee meetings monthly; and others, including Delegates Mary Ann Balyeat and Judy Wilkin virtually "attending" the **Diocesan Convention in November** ~ one of them did so by using an Ipad and donning earphones while sitting in the backseat of a car as she traveled. **God has been with each of us as we've done our best to adjust to a new way of living and working.**

As noted in earlier Tidings publications, the generosity of the members of St. Bede's Episcopal Church has made it possible for the **Outreach Committee** to help those in need, both in the community of Port Orchard and elsewhere. **The Outreach Committee met on Tuesday, November 10th and sent the following Expenditure Requests to the Bishop Committee: Chaplains on the Harbor (\$250), Salvation Army Red Kettle Bellringers (\$250) and South Kitsap Fire and Rescue (\$500).** Thank you!!!

In addition to these monetary gifts, members of our small church are busy sewing **ditty bags and knitting warm caps for the Seafarer's Mission of Seattle**. I hope that some of you have been able to add a little to whatever you normally give to help with the **H.U.G.S. project** (hats, underwear, gloves & socks) to help the homeless in South Kitsap. The amount is unimportant ~ small gifts given with a generous heart become gifts of warmth and hope to the recipients. **Thank you again for all you have done to help brighten the lives of others!!**

For December, the Outreach Committee will be making the following expenditure requests: **Helpline of South Kitsap (\$1,000)**, **Kitsap Rescue Mission (\$200)**; **Y.W.C.A. Alive Shelter, Bremerton (\$200)** **Seafarers Mission of Seattle (\$200)**

Thank you for helping members of St. Bede Episcopal Church help those in need.

Linda Beetz, Fran Valley, Sarah Yergin, Judy Drummond



MUSIC at ST. BEDE

Greetings, St. Bede's congregation.

I hope you are singing your way through pandemic. There are so many beautiful pieces I want to present in praise. I would have loved to hear you singing "All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice"(Old Hundredth) and "Let us break bread together"(Spiritual) in the past months.. When we were expecting to hear Isaiah on December 6th, I had plans to play a CD performance for two minutes from Handel's Messiah. It is a tenor aria that repeats those very Biblical words, "Every Valley Shall be Exalted".

So listen to music when possible, remember our wonderful past high holy days with children, bells and choirs and have faith that we will once again be together physically in St. Bede's church building.. Join us on Zoom from St. Antony's or St. Bede's on Facebook when it is again possible; let us sing out while in our own homes.

**"Ring, Christmas Bells" and "Hallelujah" with love from
Mary Ferreira**





This Is the Proper Way Paper Should Be Put on the Holder

Odds are you've probably asked yourself whether or not you put the toilet paper roll on the holder correctly. Don't worry; you're not alone! While you might decide it's all based on personal preference, unfortunately, it's not.

Here is the final answer to that age-old question.

According to Inc., this controversial topic "was allegedly the topic that generated the most letters to Dear Abby on a single subject."

"The moment when a restroom user's hands are most likely to carry bacteria is when they reach for toilet paper," Geoffrey James stated after sharing results from a study conducted at the University of Colorado, which found "19 groups of bacteria on the doors, floors, faucet handles, soap dispensers, and toilets of 12 public restrooms in Colorado."

Shocking, right? Just imagine: you're in the bathroom and reach for the TP, and the end is loose and dangling under the roll. When you reach for it, your fingers, hand, and toilet paper touch the wall behind it. Now picture EVERYONE who uses that same roll of toilet paper touching those same spots before you did.

When the toilet paper is "dangling under," you are forced to touch more of it than you would if it were otherwise flipped the correct way. And since not everyone's hands are as clean as we'd all hope, all the germs getting on you and the tissue you're about to use is...disgusting. Now just imagine a public restroom. Yikes!!



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juddidemannvectors.org

The correct way? Hang the toilet paper with the loose end flapping over the top.

SELF-CARE BINGO

Strategies to support yourself

Fall/Winter Edition



Write down what you are grateful for	Take a nap	Decorate your home for the holidays	Listen to a new podcast	Spend a day (or more!) without looking at news
Take some time to stretch your body	Create a playlist with your favorite songs	Write a poem	Take a day off and use the day to recharge and rest	Sleep in!
Catch up with friends or family over the phone	Stay hydrated	free space	Sit by a fireplace or fire pit	Host a recipe exchange with your coworkers
Take a day off from social media	Get your flu shot	Write a letter to a close friend	practice hygge- the art of coziness	Cozy up with a blanket and read a book or watch a movie
Try some new tea or coffee	Do something you loved as a kid	Bundle up and take a nature walk	Bake something yummy	Shop small and support a local business



PLANT HOPE, GROW RESILIENCE

Olympic
COMMUNITY of HEALTH

Stay safe and healthy.

Ken and Mary Hulet, Parish Nurses



Dear St Bede's Folk,

Please be careful. Covid 19 seems more ordinary now, and many people are coming out of the routines that moderated its earlier ferocity. Suddenly, fast

moving outbreaks, **traceable to rather small gatherings**, are raising infections and deaths.

We like to believe none of OUR friends could be a carrier.

Just one may be ... without the symptoms that could warn you or that friend. **Please be careful.** You are dear to us at St Bede's. You are Beloved of God.

In hope and trust,

Joseph, priest

**MAY WE EVER REMEMBER
THE REASON FOR THE SEASON**



TIDINGS

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Joseph Hickey-Tiernan –
Priest in Charge
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Services:

*Times of our Sunday and Wednesday
Services may (or will) be reviewed
when the Covid-19 restrictions are
lifted.*

*On-line services and videos may be
viewed on www.facebook.com and
enter St Bede Episcopal Church Port
Orchard, or St Antony Episcopal
Church Silverdale, or St Mark's
Cathedral saintmarksSeattle*



St. Bede Episcopal Church
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In the love of Jesus Christ, St. Bede joyfully welcomes you
and seeks to serve and to nurture spirituality in all