



Epiphany Wonder

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, humanity in God, God in humanity, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look ... their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die.

—Peter Chrysologus (5th century)

Christian Symbols ΧΡΙCΤΟC



This set of letters spells "Christ" in Greek. It may be written using the Roman alphabet (from which the English alphabet descended), but is also often presented in Greek characters, as shown here.



StJohnsEpiscopalChurchKissimmee

Please Mark the Date!

The Reverend Canon Timothy C. Nunez will be at St. John's on **Sunday, January 7th**. He will preach the 8:00am and 10:30am services, and briefly attend the 12:30pm Hispanic service.

Canon Nunez will present the Calling Committee Members for installation at all three worship services. Please continue to prayer for God's guidance as we begin our search for a new Rector.

From Your Sunday School

Sunday School class resumes **January 7th at 10:30am** in the Parish Hall.

Annual Parish Meeting

Our annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 14th** at 3pm in the Sanctuary. Please plan to attend.

From Your Vestry

We are very pleased to announce, due to very generous member donations, we have met the "Float Our Boat" goal of \$18,000. We are grateful to everyone for participating and helping St. John's.

Thanks to God for answering our prayers.



Prayer Ministry Our prayer team's next meeting is Sunday, January 7th at 9:30am between services in the Chapel. Our Mission is to pray for our Church and our Community. We are praying for the future of St. John's and *What* and *Where* God is leading us to go and to be. Some of the questions we are dealing with and Praying about are: What are we called to do? What is our next Step? Being open to letting God use us, and work through us.

If you would like any special prayer, **Come and join us!** Contact Person Joanne Sinanan

Prayer For St. John's Rector Search Process

Please pray daily

God of abundance and grace, you have gifted the members of St. John's church with love for one another and with joy in our community. Help us to discern your will and be open to your guidance as we seek a new rector

Give us wisdom and patience, courage and calm, mutual respect, and clarity of vision that we may receive a priest who serves with warmth and humor, enthusiasm and faithfulness, and who challenges us with the demands of love. In Jesus' name we pray. *Amen.*



The Freedom of Forgiveness

Martin Luther King Jr. called forgiveness "a permanent attitude," as opposed to "an occasional act." Maintaining a forgiveness mind-set leads to peace and freedom.

Author and pastor Max Anders experienced that freedom in seminary. After cheating on a Hebrew final, he was distraught and confessed his sin to God and the professor. "I felt deeply cleaned. Pure. Holy," Anders writes in *21 Unbreakable Laws of Life*. "I wanted to laugh and cry at the same time. I wanted to run and jump and dance. The burden was lifted. ... I was free!"

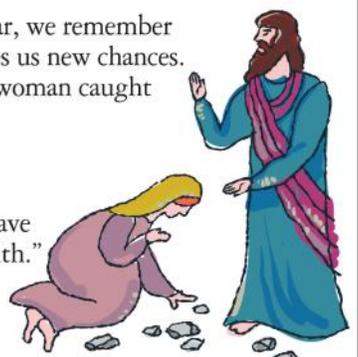
By contrast, he writes, "If we don't ask for forgiveness when we wrong someone, we lose our moral authority; the debris of sin begins to accumulate in our hearts, choking our conscience Others know when we sin against them, and if we don't make it right, it hurts our reputation as well as God's."



Bible Quiz

At the start of a new year, we remember that God continually gives us new chances. What does Jesus say to a woman caught in adultery?

- A. "Go, and from now on sin no more."
- B. "Not even in Israel have I found such great faith."
- C. "Peace be with you."
- D. "Tell no one what I have done for you."



Answer: A (See John 8:11.)